

Let's develop new friendship and widen your perspective through photography!



The 4th International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange

(HIGASHIKAWA Youth Fest)

AUGUST 3.2018(fri)-AUGUST 8.2018(wed)

<The International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange Executive Committee Office>

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URL: <http://i-hsspf-e.hjk.ne.jp> (Official website) URL: <http://town.higashikawa.hokkaido.lg.jp> (Website of Higashikawa Town) Facebook: www.facebook.com/higashikawa.hokkaido Email: kouryu@town.higashikawa.hokkaido.jp



What is the purpose for the festival?

Higashikawa was declared as "The Town of Photography" about 30 years ago, and later, the "culture capital of photography." Since then, Higashikawa has been working towards a future in harmony between the town's nature and culture. As the center of photography culture, in 2015, the town started organizing a festival for young photographers to encourage high school students to develop friendships through photography and to promote international understanding. In addition, this festival is expected to promote tourism and international exchange.

What is the outline of the festival?

There is a preliminary selection to select one participating team from each countries and areas with which we have established relationships. The preliminary selections are held in each country and area. The 18 selected schools from overseas and 3 selected schools from Japan participate in the festival. During the festival, all schools meet in Higashikawa, the "Town of Photography" to compete in the Photo Sessions in the uniquely beautiful places around the town. During the festival, there are 3 days of photo sessions; one on each day. Each team of 3 students is required to take photos referring to the assigned theme, place, and time of the day. After the Photo Session 3, students will individually select 2 photos. The selection for the festival awards are made by a group of 7 judges, consisting of photographers and other specialists in the field from overseas and from Japan.

- [Organizer]** International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange Executive Committee
<Affiliated group>
Higashikawa Town / Higashikawa Tourism Association / Higashikawa Board of Education / Educational Foundation Hokko Gakuen / Higashikawa Development corporation Inc. / Nishikawa Foods Inc. / Toko Hire Co., Ltd.
- [Support]** Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan / Council of Local Authorities for International Relations / THE MINKYOKYO / Korean Cultural Center, Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Japan / Sapporo Branch, Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in Japan / Embassy of the Kingdom of Thailand in Japan / Embassy of the Republic of Uzbekistan in Japan / Embassy of the Socialist of Vietnam in Japan / Embassy of the Indonesia in Japan / Embassy of Australia in Japan / Embassy of Canada in Japan / Embassy of the Republic of Latvia in Japan / U.S. Consulate General Sapporo / Embassy of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar in Japan / Embassy of Japan in Malaysia / Embassy of the Republic of Singapore TOKYO / Embassy of Finland, Tokyo / Embassy of the Republic of the Marshall Islands in Japan / Embassy of Mongolia in Japan / Consulate-General of the Russian Federation in Sapporo / Hokkaido Government / Board of Education Hokkaido / Public Interest Incorporated Association All Japan Senior High School Cultural Federation / Photo Department of All Japan Senior High School Cultural Federation / Hokkaido Senior High School Cultural Federation
- [Technical support]** Canon Marketing Japan Inc. / SanDisk Corporation / "The Month of Photography Tokyo 2018" Committee / H.J.K. Inc.

You are a judge for the "Special Award"!



Join us and vote for the one you like!

A Special Award is selected by online vote. You can submit 1 vote for the school or student you like per photo session. Find your favorite and vote!

■ Festival Awards

| Awards | School | Individual | Prize |
|---|-------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| The Higashikawa "Town of Photography" Award | One school | One person | Award certificate and prize |
| Higashikawa Tourism Association Award | One school | One person | Award certificate and prize |
| Hokko Gakuen Award | One school | One person | Award certificate and prize |
| Students and Teachers' Choice Award | Two schools | Three people | Prize |
| Special Award (Online vote) | Two schools | Three people | Prize |

- The vote for the Photo Session 1 (August 5) will start at about 7 p.m. Japan time on August 5.
- The vote for the Photo Session 2 (August 6) will start at about 8 p.m. Japan time on August 6.
- The vote for the Photo Session 3 (August 7) will start at about 7 p.m. Japan time on August 7.

The vote for the Photo Session 1 and 2 will be for teams, and the Photo Session 3 will be for individuals. The voting deadline is at noon Japan Time on Wednesday, August 8th.
★The International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange website:
<http://i-hsspf-e.hjk.ne.jp>

The 34th Higashikawa International Photo Festival

東川町フォトフェスタ2018 August 4(sat)-29(wed)

Higashikawa, the Town of Photography, will be awarding five prizes to the photographers for their works.

The 25th National High School Photography Championship

写真甲子園 July 31(tue)-August 3(fri)

19 high school teams which are selected through preliminary selection out of 513 entries will compete for the best team in Japan!



20th Anniversary of Partnership between Hokkaido and Sakhalin



Supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs Government of Japan in the fiscal 2018

China

The Affiliate High School of Peking University



We have been to Japan several times before, but this is our first time hearing about Higashikawa Town. When we heard that it is located in Hokkaido, the image of a red shrine gate in a white field came up in our minds. Although at first we couldn't get the first image out of our minds, we are now looking forward to the summer scenery. "Trying to be a better person" and "Being modest" is the common teaching in both China and Japan. However, we think anyone would want to win awards when entering competitions such as this international photo festival. As high school students who love art, photography, and enjoy our lives, and as representatives from the Affiliated High School of Peking University, we will aim to get the best award and to create friendships with our new friends through photography

Korea

Yeongwol High School



It was a great pleasure to win the preliminary selection with a photo of the night view in Yeongwol, which we have long thought is beautiful. We have heard that Higashikawa is a beautiful, photogenic town like Yeongwol, so we are thrilled to go there for the festival. We will give our best efforts in taking beautiful photos of the scenery in Higashikawa in order to achieve the best results at this photo festival.

Taiwan

Taipei Municipal Song Shan High School of Commerce and Home Economics



I am very happy to be able to participate to the final competition in Higashikawa, Hokkaido, Japan. I think that Higashikawa is suited to photography thanks to its scenery, people, etc. Furthermore, Higashikawa is making efforts to preserve nature in order to drink the water from the Daisetsu mountain range. I am looking forward to seeing Higashikawa's scenery with my own eyes. **(Lin Bo-Kai)** Thank you to my teammates and teacher who helped us select the photos. I tried to relax while shooting photos because, I think that too much pressure can sometimes kill photos, and we were rewarded with a gold medal. It is my honor to be a delegate of Taiwan. Higashikawa seems similar to Hualien, a place in Taiwan. **(Tai Ching-Ying)** I tried to carefully observe the world around me to catching love-filled scenes while taking photo for this competition. I am very honored and full of joy for this opportunity. **(Liao Ming-Yu)**

Let's connect the world with Friendship through Photography!

Participating Teams

Thailand

Satriwitthaya 2



We're extremely excited and glad to be able to attend the International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange held in Higashikawa, Japan. During the qualifier round in Chiangmai, Thailand, we noticed that every team's—including ours—major flaw was focusing too much on eye candy techniques, which resulted in the pictures' meaning being poorly communicated. Our main goal of attending this festival is to improve on our weaknesses and become better storytellers. We know that there is still a lot to see and learn, so we believe that by participating in the event and sharing our culture with diverse teams from various countries, we will be able to shorten our, and everyone else's, focal length of the lens that we currently see the world through to a degree that we've never experienced before.

Vietnam

Team HAI YEN



For three of us, it is the first time travelling abroad. We are extremely excited and very honored to be selected as the 3 members of HAI YEN Team (Vietnam) to participate in the 4th International Photography Festival in Japan, a wonderful and dreamy land of photography. The festival is a good chance for us to improve our photography skills, and have cultural exchange with other participants from various countries. We believe that we will get a lot of experiences and memories that we will miss forever.

Uzbekistan

International House Tashkent Lycuem



Thank you very much for letting us participate in the 4th Photo Fes. We have an idea of Japanese culture and customs, because exchange students from a Japanese high school and university introduced them to us.

Our teacher was once an exchange student in Japan, and she loved the people in Japan from bottom of her heart. She told us about Japan and we are now very interested in the country. Then, Hokkaido became one of the places we wanted to visit in Japan. What touched us the most about Japan is that people preserve their traditions and culture very well. We are very much looking forward to going to Higashikawa.

Indonesia

SMK INFORMATIKA FITRAH INSANI



Thank you for giving us the opportunity to go to Higashikawa and take place in the 4th International High School Students' Photo Festival. To be honest, we still can't believe that our school passed the screening process and will go to Japan as the representative of Indonesia. By taking part in the festival, we hope we can improve our photography skill, learn a lot of new things and meet new friends from all over the world. We are very excited and looking forward to going to Higashikawa and being part of the festival.

Australia

Canberra High School



None of us have ever been to Japan before, so having the opportunity to visit there, and represent Australia no less, is something of a dream. We look forward to the trip and have high hopes for what is to come. This trip, regardless of whether we win or not, will be one none of us will forget. We will forever cherish it, as we are sure great memories will be created there. Photography is something we all enjoy so we hope that we will have a lot of fun competing internationally while doing something we all enjoy. This will be a great experience and we look forward to seeing Japan and meeting the other international students.

Canada

Canmore High School



Photography has been a part of my life since day 1: my father, a photographer, captured everything. I have always loved to follow him around with a camera. I am very excited to get to put this love of photography into action this summer in Japan. I know that my eyes, and my camera lens, will be opened up to new culture and new skills throughout this trip. **(Sena Odyakmaz)** All throughout my life I have been interested in photography so I can share where I've been with other people. I am extremely excited to attend the photography festival in Higashikawa to meet people from all over the world and gain a better understanding of the importance of photography around the world. **(Tait Carison)** It is my hope that this experience will help fuel my passion of photography and travelling, as well as make new connections, friends and relationships. My goal of photography is to represent my values, passions and life throughout a camera. Capturing a moment with my camera brings me joy and helps me create memories of special moments. **(Jaiden Webster)**

Latvia

Rujiena High School



We are looking forward to participating in the festival because it is a great opportunity to gain new experience, learn about new culture and traditions, meet peers from all over the world and share knowledge not only about photography but also about our countries. Higashikawa has been Rujiena's sister city for 10 years already, therefore we are beyond excited to see it with our own eyes. Also, this festival gives us an opportunity to visit a country we would possibly not otherwise have been able to visit.

USA

Bronx Collaborative High School



As a group, we believe participating in the festival would be a wonderful opportunity to not only showcase our talents, but also to witness and enjoy the work of other young photographers like ourselves, and enrich ourselves culturally while indulging in our passion for the art of photography! In addition, we look forward to learning more about Higashikawa and its history as the Culture Capital of Photography!

Myanmar

STATE HIGH SCHOOL OF ARTS YANGON



We have heard a lot about the town of Higashikawa from last year's participants in our school. Through the stories, our image of Higashikawa formed. It seems that while it's only a small town, its people have a strong capacity for international communication. Our minds are full of anticipation to see the town of Higashikawa through our own eyes. We would like to grow as people and become bridges between Myanmar and Japan in the future by communicating with people at this event. We would like to thank to the mayor and the people of Higashikawa for inviting us to participate in the 4th International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange.

We are looking forward to seeing the people in Higashikawa and high school students from all over the world.

Malaysia

SMK Convent Bukit Nanas



In our general knowledge sessions in school, Japan was one of the countries we had discussions on. We learned about the country's history, culture, people, customs and mannerisms, nature, Zen, and of course modern Japan. When the contest was introduced to us, we worked on it, almost daily. With the help of our teacher we made our selections to fit the requirements of the contest and the theme we were working on – A Malaysian Point Of View. When the results came and we were declared the winner. It was a prayer answered. This trip will not only open us to Japan but also to meet students from other countries. There will be a lot of exchanging of ideas, values and culture. In turn we will be able to promote our country - Malaysia.

Singapore

Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)



The three of us, YiYi, Joash, and Akash, are extremely humbled to have been given this rare and worthy opportunity to represent our nation and school in this Photo Exchange. We would like to sincerely thank the organizers of the 4th International High School Students Photo Festival from the bottom of our hearts for selecting us. We hope to gain insights to other photographers' perspectives and also to share our knowledge in photography to widen the horizons of others along the way. Once again, Thank You!

Finland

Kangasala High School



We are very grateful for this opportunity to take part in The Photo Festival in Higashikawa. This project offers us an excellent opportunity to learn and improve our skills in photographing and we are prepared to work for better results. Good Photos are nice to watch and once can convey different messages through photos to awaken people to ponder upon several issues. We are looking forward to get to know more about Japanese culture. Japan is also a wonderful place for photographing. It's nice to make new acquaintances with foreign students of our age who are interested in photographing.

Marshall Islands

Majuro Cooperative School



Iakwe, is the way we say hello in our country Majuro. We are excruciatingly excited to be a part of this wonderful opportunity presented to us on a very tiny island we call home. Our island is like a fish in a fishtank submerged in the vast pacific ocean. It is our honor to be able to travel out beyond our comfort zone to a place unknown. This is without a doubt an experience that will be tattooed in our minds for a very long time. We can't wait to be exposed to the cultural aspects of Japan. We will make the best out of this once in a life time opportunity and take memorable photos of the beautiful country of Japan.

Mongolia

The Laboratory High School of Young Inventors



We study at laboratory high school of young inventors in Ulan-bator, Mongolia. We are so happy and go to Hokkaido with our teacher. We are so excited to participate this festival and meet many country's skillful students. This photo festival will help grow skill and knowledge about photographs.

Russia

The High School of Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk



Higashikawa town is located in Hokkaido, and the climate is almost the same as Sakhalin's. Even though the climate is almost same, there are some differences, too. I want to see the beauty of nature in Northern Japan and know how the people live in harmony with nature. **(Larisa Ivanova)** Every participant, including us, has two purposes: making new friends and taking pictures of the nature, sculptures and people. In addition, we also want to gain photography skills and experience a wonderful custom and culture. We strongly believe it will be a memorable time. **(Daria Grosheva)** I was very glad to learn that we would be able to participate in the festival. We can all know our levels through this festival. This is also unique opportunity for dreams to come true. It is our honor to participate in the festival. **(Arina Milokhina)**

Japan

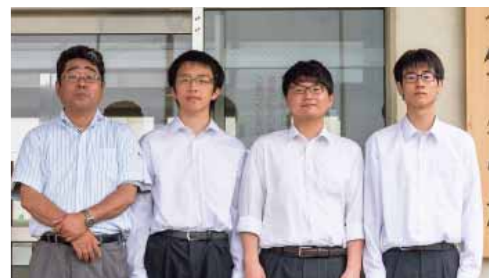
Hokkaido Higashikawa High School



I hope that this festival, which will allow us to interact with foreign high school students through photography, will be a fun memory. I am expecting to discover a brand new side of Higashikawa's beauty, the scenery that I see every day while going back and forth between home and school. I am also looking forward to communicating with foreign participants and exchanging about our cultures. **(Kanae SATO)** I will try to learn techniques from others, as I am a photography beginner. I would like to introduce Higashikawa's rich nature communicating with other participants. I will do my best to take a attractive photos of Higashikawa which differ from the usual scenery I see every day. **(Runa SHIRAKI)** I am looking forward to seeing the scenery of nature-rich Higashikawa. I want to express my feelings directly on the photos when I see the beautiful scenery. This will be a very good experience, and I will make many wonderful memories with friends of Higashikawa high school through interacting with high school students from all over the world. **(Misaki KOSAKA)**

Japan

Hokkaido Ooasa High School



We are honored to participate in this International Photo Festival. We will make the most out of this opportunity, and hope to gain something for our school life even after the festival. **(Ryota YAMAMOTO)** I hope to learn something through this opportunity to meet high school students from abroad, and to enjoy taking photos with all the participants in Higashikawa's great nature. **(Kakeru KITASE)** I look forward to meeting other high school students from foreign countries in Higashikawa, the Town of Photography. I would like to share our perspective with them through photography and to broaden my horizons. **(Tomoya KIDA)**

Japan

Miyagi Shiroishi Technical High School



We are very happy to be able to participate in this wonderful festival. Our school is a technical high school located in Southern Miyagi, next to Fukushima. We will try hard to win the prize and at the same time, to take a pictures which move people's hearts. Also, we would like to learn about other countries' cultures and convey Japan's culture while communicating with international students. We will do our best to take beautiful pictures and to be able to make wonderful memories in the town of Higashikawa.

Participating teams of the International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange

All Submitted works



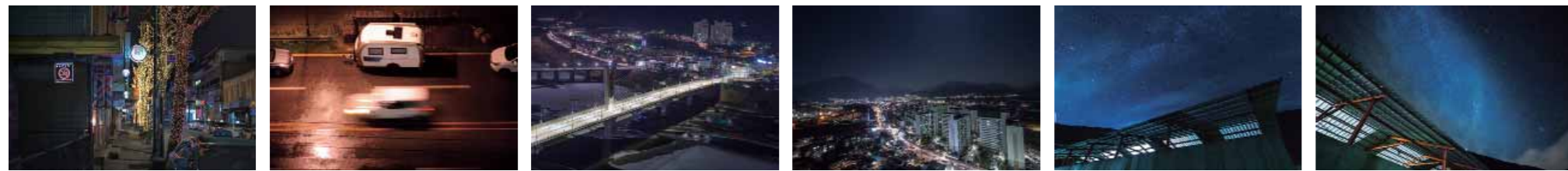
China / The Affiliated High School of Peking University

Title Reflection



Korea / Yeongwol High School

Title Night in Yeongwol



Taiwan / Taipei Municipal Song Shan High School of Commerce and Home Economics

Title Picture Our Heart



Thailand / Satriwitthaya 2

Title The Unique Chiang Mai



Vietnam / Team HAI YEN

Title NHA TRANG-MY LOVE



Uzbekistan / International House Tashkent Lycuem

Title Bright Colors of Uzbekistan



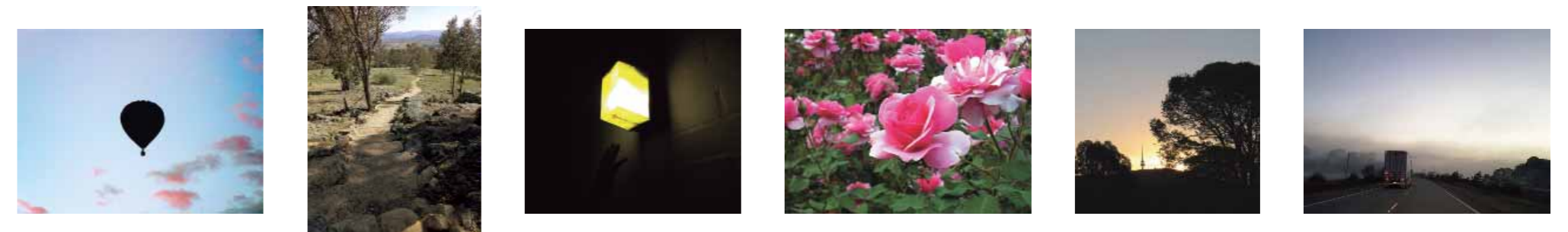
Indonesia / SMK INFORMATIKA FITHRAH INSANI

Title The Fabulous Natural View of Bundung



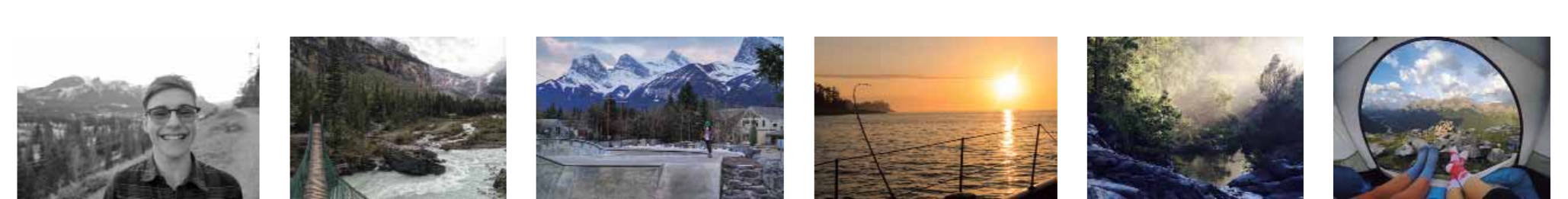
Australia / Canberra High School

Title Journey through the hues of Canberra



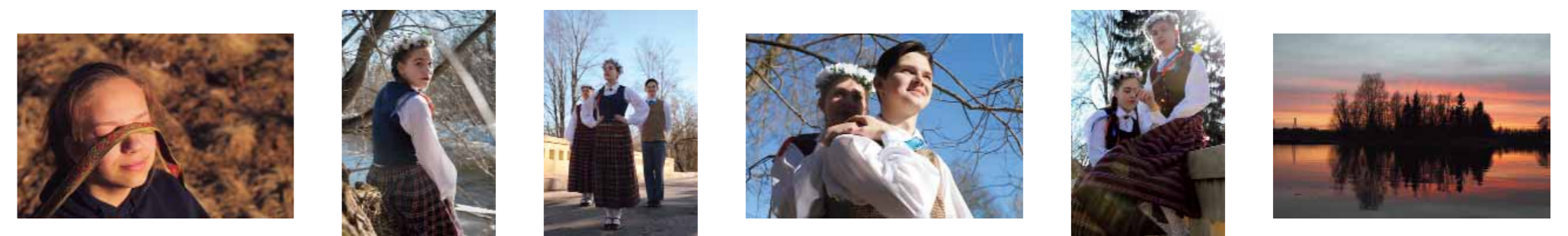
Canada / Canmore Collegiate High School

Title Why Canmore is a great place to live



Latvia / Rujiena High School

Title LATVIESU SAPNIS



U.S.A / Bronx Collaborative High School

Title Teens of NYC



Myanmar / STATE HIGH SCHOOL OF ARTS YANGON

Title I am happy and proud of my work



Malaysia / SMK Convent Bukit Nanas

Title A Malaysian's Point Of View



Singapore / Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)

Title Tapestry



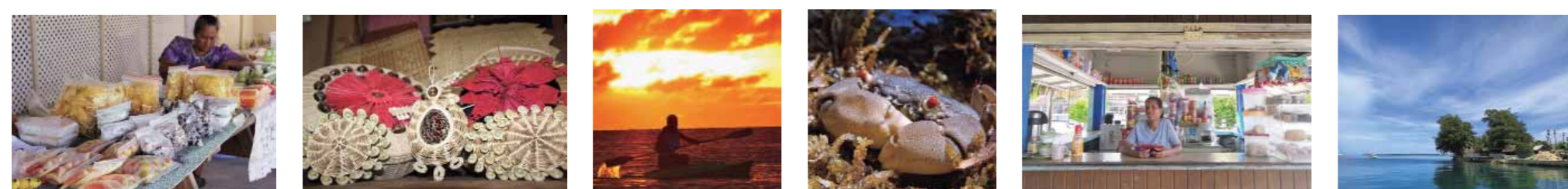
Finland / Kangasala High School

Title Finn Photos



Marshall Islands / Majuro Cooperative School

Title Island Style



Mongolia / The Laboratory High School of Young Inventors

Title Life



Russia / The High School of Yuzhno-sakhalinsk

Title Sakhalin



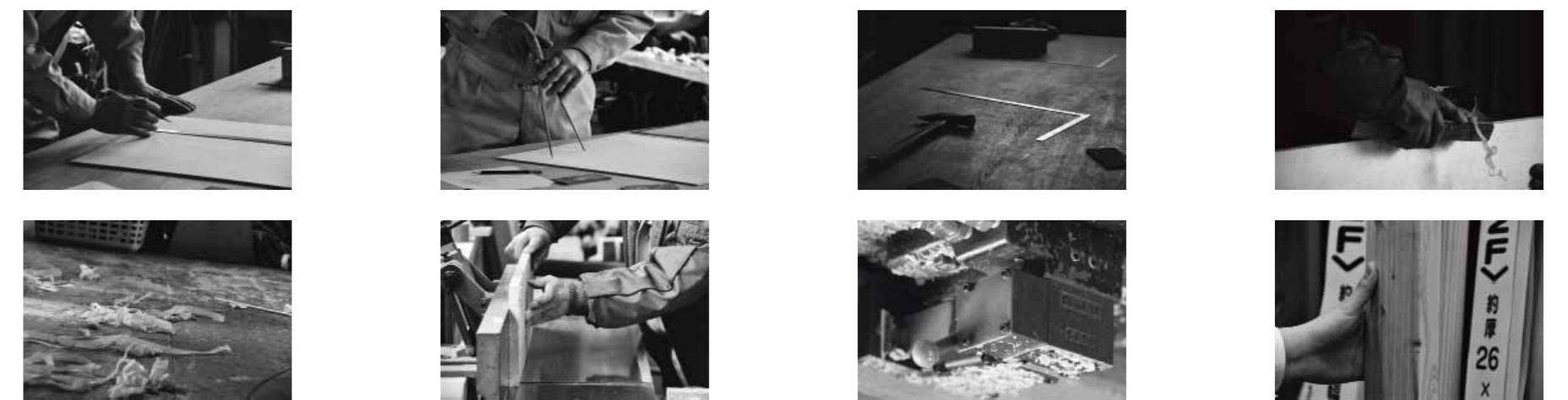
Japan / Hokkaido Higashikawa High School

Title Cultivate Our Hopes



Japan / Hokkaido Ooasa High School

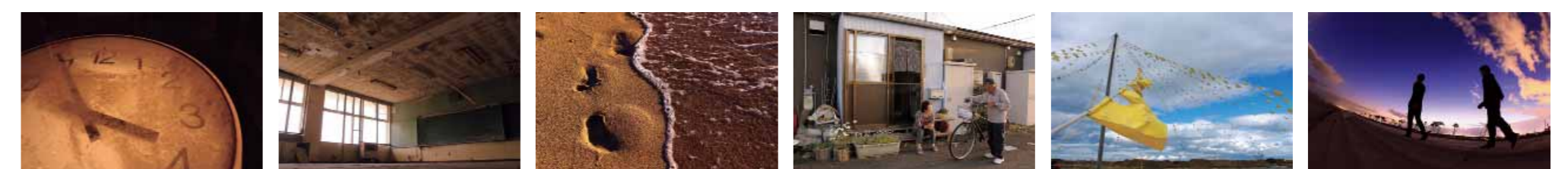
Title OTOKOGI

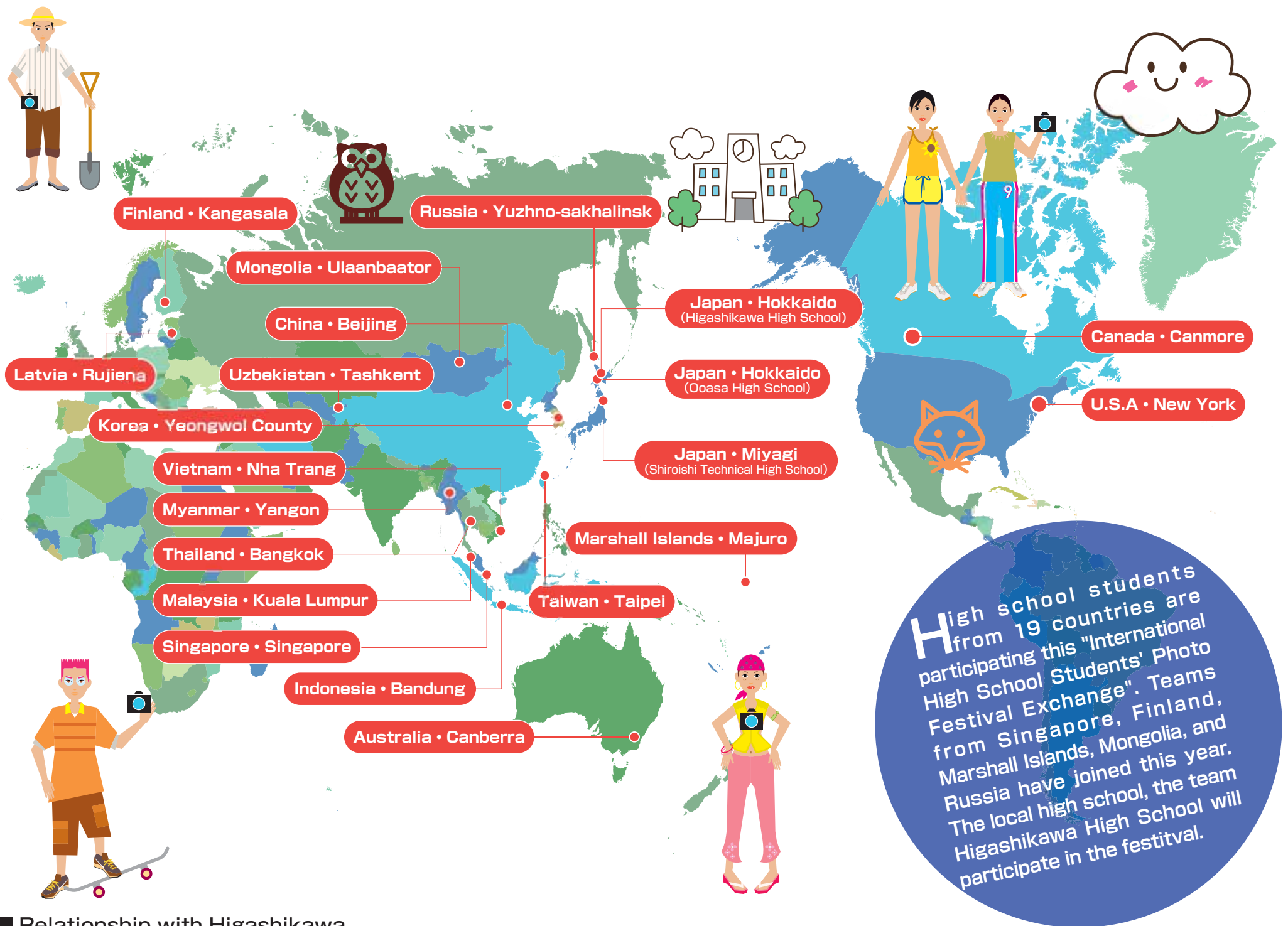


※The school team from Hokkaido was selected from entrants of National High School Photography Championship, "Shashin Koshien" except the participating school for Shashin Koshien. Therefore, their submitted works for the preliminary selection are series of 8 photos with no specified themes.

Japan / Miyagi Shiroishi Technical High School

Title Step to the Future





Relationship with Higashikawa

| Country/Area | City/District/Town | Selected School/Team | Relationship with Higashikawa |
|------------------|--------------------|---|--|
| China | Beijing | The Affiliated High School of Peking University | Rong Rong & Inri from Three Shadows Photography Art Center (Town of Photography) |
| Korea | Yeongwol County | Yeongwol High School | Agreement of Cultural Exchange since November 4th, 2010 |
| Taiwan | Taipei | Taipei Municipal Song Shan High School of Commerce and Home Economics | Higashikawa Taiwan Office was established in Taipei. |
| Thailand | Bangkok | Satriwitthaya 2 | Photo exchange program with Tenkawa committee in Chiang Mai |
| Vietnam | Nha Trang | Team HAI YEN | Mr. Ba Han (Photographer / Judge of the 2nd International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange 2017/ Judge of the 3rd International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange 2018) |
| Uzbekistan | Tashkent | International House Tashkent Lycuem | The 20th anniversary exhibition of establishment of diplomatic relation between Uzbekistan and Japan was held at Higashikawa Bunka Gallery in 2013. |
| Indonesia | Bandung | SMK INFORMATIKA FITRAH INSANI | Higashikawa International Photo Festival is a member of Asia Pacific Photo Forum(APP). |
| Australia | Canberra | Canberra High School | Higashikawa International Photo Festival is a member of Asia Pacific Photo Forum(APP). |
| Canada | Canmore | Canmore Collegiate High School | Sister city since July 12th, 1989 / High school students exchange program |
| Latvia | Rujiena | Rujiena High School | Sister city since July 17th, 2008 / High school students exchange program |
| U.S.A | New York | Bronx Collaborative High School | Mr. Misha Erwit (Photographer / Judge of the International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange 2015) |
| Myanmar | Yangon | STATE HIGH SCHOOL OF ARTS YANGON | Mr. Zaw Min (Photographer / Judge of the 2nd International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange 2016) |
| Malaysia | Kuala Lumpur | SMK Convent Bukit Nanas | Mr. Eric Peris (Town of Photography) |
| Singapore | Singapore | Anglo-Chinese School | Ministry of Education, Singapore acquainted through a Singaporean travel agency |
| Finland | Kangasala | Kangasala High School | Educational exchange between Kangasala and Higashikawa since 2012 |
| Marshall Islands | Majuro | Majuro Cooperative School | Mr. Kazuhiko ANZAI, the former Japanese Ambassador of the Marshall Islands |
| Mongolia | Ulaanbaator | The Laboratory High School of Young Inventors | The Photographic Society of Japan 'The Month of Photography, Tokyo', Ulaanbaator |
| Russia | Yuzhno-sakhalinsk | The High School Yujino-sakhalinsk | Hokkaido Sakhalin office |
| Japan | Hokkaido | Hokkaido Higashikawa High School | Team from the host town to foster international exchange |
| Japan | Hokkaido | Hokkaido Ooasa High School | Winner of the preliminary selection in Hokkaido |
| Japan | Miyagi | Miyagi Shiroishi Technical High School | Recommended by the Photo Department of All Japan Senior High School Cultural Federation as a contributor of All Japan Senior High School Cultural Festival 2017 |

Schedule of the International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange

| | | |
|---------|--|---|
| 8/2 thu | Arrival | |
| 8/3 fri | Opening Ceremony Welcome Lunch Party | 11:00-CentPure I Hall 12:30-CentPure I Garden |
| 8/4 sat | Visiting Higashikawa International Photo Festival and Dontokoi Festival (local festival) | |
| 8/5 sun | Photo Session 1 Photo Selection 1 | Local Festival (Higashikawa) CentPure I |
| 8/6 mon | Photo Session 2 Photo Selection 2 Presentation | Mt. Asahidake (Higashikawa) CentPure I CentPure I |
| 8/7 tue | Photo Session 3 Photo Selection 3 Presentation | Center of Higashikawa town CentPure I CentPure I |
| 8/8 wed | Award Ceremony/Closing Ceremony Farewell Party | 16:00- CentPure I 18:00- CentPure I |
| 8/9 thu | Departure | |

Anyone can join these programs

Photo Exhibition of the 4th International High School Students' Photo Festival Exchange

August 3 (Fri) - 26 (Sun), 2018 Higashikawa Cultural Exchange Center, CentPure I 10:00-17:00
September 1 (Sat) - 6 (Thu), 2018 Higashikawa Bunka Gallery 10:00 - 17:00