

## Foreword / はじめに

2019 年は、平成の時代が終わり、新しく令和の時代が始まった年でもあり、私たち日本人にとっては大きな変動の年でもありました。

エッセイコンテストにおいても、これまで島前地域だけで行っていたものを、2019 年度からは隠岐ユネスコ世界ジオパーク推進協議会が主体となり、隠岐全体での取り組みとしてスタートした年でもあります。

私たち、隠岐ユネスコ世界ジオパーク推進協議会は「隠岐の人々が誇りと愛情を持って隠岐を語り伝える」ことを活動の理念として取り組んでおり、日本国内だけではなく海外に向けても隠岐のすばらしさを伝えていただきたいと願い、隠岐の高校生の皆さんにもジオパークの国際会議において英語での発表に参加していただいています。

2015 年 9 月に山陰海岸ユネスコ世界ジオパークで開催された「第 4 回アジア太平洋地域ジオパーク国際会議」での隠岐高校と隠岐島前高校の生徒による英語でのポスター発表に続いて、2019 年 9 月にはインドネシアのロンボク島で開催された「第 6 回アジア太平洋地域ジオパーク国際会議」において、隠岐の貴重な環境を守るために外来種であるオオキンケイギクの駆除活動について、隠岐高校の生徒 3 名が英語での口頭発表を行いました。

隠岐での暮らしや何気ない風景を英語でのエッセイとして書き留めることは、これまで気にもとめなかった事への気づきにつながり、違った視点で隠岐の価値を再発見できたのではないのでしょうか。

皆さんが、英語を通してよりグローバルな視点を持っていただきたいと考え、ジオパーク推進協議会では中学生・高校生を対象とした英語キャンプも毎年行っており、英語キャンプ、エッセイコンテストと、ステップアップしながら英語を楽しく学ぶきっかけにして頂ければうれしく思います。

今後、さらに多くの皆さんがエッセイコンテストに参加していただけるように進めていきたいと考えています。エッセイコンテストにご協力いただきました皆さま、有り難うございました。

隠岐ユネスコ世界ジオパーク推進協議会  
会長 池田 高世偉

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**Essays by High School Students / 高校生のエッセイ集**

FUJITA Mikoto (2nd grade, Oki-Dozen High School)

*Things to Cherish*

I have lived in Ama Town since I was born. Ama Town is a small island in Japan. I love this island and enjoy my life here. There are three reasons why I love my island: I like to play in nature; My island's food is very delicious; and I enjoy high school life on the island.

First, I like to play in nature. I have been playing in nature since I was a kid. For example, I enjoy camping, swimming, and picking up chestnuts. I'm excited when I'm doing these things. In this way, I grew up with nature, and nature has taught me enjoyment.

Second, my island's food is very delicious. People who live in the island usually eat locally produced, fresh food. I especially like sashimi. Sashimi is raw fish. You should eat it when you come to the island. So, I want to cherish a feeling of gratitude.

Third, I enjoy my high school life on the island. Students in my school come from all over Japan. After listening to them, I realized that what I felt natural was not natural to everyone. I have a lot of friends, and it's fun every day.

In conclusion, I like to play in nature; My island's food is very delicious; and I enjoy high school life on the island are just some of my reasons why I love my island life. I will leave the island someday, so I want to cherish my current life.

INOUE Kana (2nd grade, Oki-Dozen High School)

*Important Things In My Life*

One year has passed since I came to Oki Islands. It was hard for me to get used to the new environment when I started to live here, but now my life is very fulfilling. There are three reasons why my life is very fulfilling.

First, the Oki Islands are rich in nature. The Oki Islands are surrounded by the beautiful Sea of Japan. The sea has very clear water. So, we can see the bottom of the

sea. Seeing the beautiful sea makes me happy. I can forget unpleasant things, and my feelings are made clear.

Second, I can interact with people. I have established good relationships with a lot of people since I came to the Oki Islands. I think that talking with people is important in my life. Their words have important messages. My life has been changed by their words. So, I will talk positively to a lot of people.

Third, I have best friends. I couldn't find good points within, but my best friends told me many good points. So, I was able to become confident in myself. I thought everyone has some good points, and we have to cherish our good points. My friends have taught me important things.

In conclusion, the Oki Islands are rich in nature; I can interact with people; and I have best friends are just three reasons why my life is very fulfilling. I think that all happenings have meanings. So, I will be positive and do my best in everything. It was good for me to decide to come to the Oki Islands.

ITSUKA Miu (2nd grade, Oki-Dozen High School)

### *My Island Life*

The first time I came to Oki was just after I was born, and I have loved Oki since then. I have lived in Japan for almost one year, and I enjoy my life after I decided to live here. There are three reasons why I love my life on my island: I love attending Dozen High School; I love living in the dormitory; and There are good places to hide.

First, I love attending Oki Dozen High School. Oki Dozen High School attracts many students from outside the prefecture. In Oki Dozen High School, men and women are all good friends with their seniors. Oki Dozen High School is where you can grow yourself. Oki Dozen High School is a very good place.

Second, I love living in the dormitory. Now I'm a dormitory manager. It's a fun dormitory full of individuals. It's a very traditional dormitory. I want to make a good dormitory.

Third, there are good places to hide. There's a lot of nature, and because of the warmth of the people, it's getting more settled.

There are many more good points. I'm glad I came to the island, and I'm glad I met everyone. I want everyone to feel good about the island.

KIKUCHI Momone (2nd grade, Oki-Dozen High School)

### *Wonderful Experiences*

The first time I came to Dozen was in 2016 when I was a junior high school student. I decided to go to this high school, even though I had only been there one time before. There are three reasons why I like this island: the people who live in Dozen are very kind; the air is very pure; and there is a lot of green.

First, the people who live in Dozen are very kind. When we pass each other, we greet each other naturally even if the other person is a stranger. Sometimes we give each other things. I was surprised that people here don't lock their doors at home. I guess it is because they trust nothing will happen while they are gone. I want to be a person like them and be kind to people.

Second, the air is very pure. My face has been covered with acne since I was elementary school student. However, when I moved here, my acne suddenly started to disappear. I caught colds easily when I lived in Bangkok, but I rarely get colds now. Also, I often asthma attacks, too, but I haven't had one since I moved here. Now, I'm very healthy because of the air.

Third, there is a lot of green. There are many plants that are very rare. We can have an exhilarating time riding a bicycle throughout the island. We can see a lot of endemic animals. We can gain a lot of knowledge.

In conclusion, people who live in Dozen are very kind; the air is very pure; and there is a lot of green. To be honest, I have been homesick sometimes, but I'm really happy I came here. My school life in Dozen will be a good memory in my life.



KOJIMA Mio (2nd grade, Oki-Dozen High School)

*My Island's Life*

I am enjoying life on the island now. The first time I visited the island was in the third year of junior high school, and as a high school student, I started living on the island. There are three reasons why I enjoy the island now. I have learned and experienced many things in life on the island.

The first is club activities. I am in a club called Hitotsunagi. One of the reasons I came to the island is for this club. As the name suggests, Hitotsunagi is working to connect people. The reason I visited this island for the first time was to participate in the Hitotsunagi trip, one of the activities of this club. I now have a lot of experience in this club. For example, I have helped create materials using a computer that is difficult for high school students to experience. I did things like putting everyone's opinions together into a single thing. Creating something with my friends is a great experience and I think it will be useful for my life in the future.

Second, you can come to this island and interact with various people. I have a lot to do with people who can never get involved without coming to this island. I'm not good at talking to people, but I still came to this island. I'm still not good at it, but if I have a chance, I can talk to various people. I would like to work with more people in the future.

The third is because I can find what I want to do in the future. As I wrote before, I can interact with many people on this island. I can meet people who are doing various things while working with many people. During those times, I could learn about work that I didn't know of before. By doing so, I could gradually find out what I want to do in the future while also learning about various jobs.

In conclusion, now I am enjoying life on this island, and I want to experience many things with more people from now on.

MATSUMOTO Rina (2nd grade, Oki-Dozen High School)

*Ama-Cho is Very Fun*

I live on an island called Ama-cho that has a population of about 2280. I want to talk about three things to help others learn more about Ama-Cho. I'd like to introduce my three favorite places and attractions in Ama-Cho: Ama-Cho is blessed with rich nature; people are very kind; and there are a lot of opportunities to come in contact with people living here.

First, I'm going to talk about something that happened that shows that people living in Ama-Cho are very kind. A big event called "Hitotsunagi no Tabi" which is a school club activity was held in July of this year. We played the game called "Rogeying" with those who joined. When we were walking, I asked a person to take our photos. Then when she gave me juice, I was very glad. I said to her, "I'll do my best." This is the reason why I feel that people living in Ama-cho are very kind.

Second, I'll introduce what I felt by coming to Ama-Cho. There are four main things: First, I think I can grow a lot here. Second, I can come in contact with a lot of people. Third, I can live my life full of energy and feel relaxed. Fourth, I can challenge myself.

Finally, I'd like to introduce to Japanese people two things I want to do in Ama-Cho. I want people who come to Ama-Cho to feel like they had a nice time here. Also, I want to do Hitotsunagi again. I'm very happy I came to Ama-Cho.

TAKAMOTO Arisa (2nd grade, Oki-Dozen High School)

*My Daily Life*

I have lived Ama town since last year. Ama Town is one of the islands in the Dozen area. There is a lot of nature, and a small community lives here. So, I can have good friendships with local people. When I was a junior high school student, I decided that I wanted to go there. I will introduce my island's life. There are three things that I

am doing specifically on my island: I do club activities; I visit the locals; and I do what I want.

First, I do club activities. I belong to the women's basketball club. Basketball is very hard because players have to run a lot. Also, my team is small. As a result, the influence of one person is very large. What I am learning through my club activities is that it's important to think positively, both for myself and for my team.

Second, I visit the locals. For example, I help a local farmer; I play sports with local people; and I talk to local people. I am not a person who originally lived here, but everyone accepts me kindly. The locals are the best support for me.

Third, I do what I want. *Oyama no kyoushitsu* internship, an illumination project, and class making in junior high school are some examples of things I've done here. They give me action power. I not only want to help the island, but I also wanted to do something outside the island.

My island gives me various experiences. At the same time, I can meet people. A challenging environment, an environment it's safe to fail in, and a supporting environment are all ways the island is not usual, but rather is what makes it special. My island life has reached turning point. From now on, in addition to doing what I want to do, I want to do things for others. Also, I don't want to forget my gratitude for local people and parents. I want to report my activities with gratitude.

Thank you for reading!

TAKATA Hikaru (2nd grade, Oki-Dozen High School)

### *Charm of This Island*

The island I live on is overflowing with charm. There are no movie theaters, amusement parks, or big stores. However, I love Oki. I'm going to tell you about the charm of this island.

First, we can live with peace of mind. There aren't any traffic jams and accidents on holidays. When I go out, I feel very calm and have a quiet time. Festivals and events

are lively and fun. Chishio's festivals include the Clown Festivals and the Doll Festival. These are very fun festivals. In the sea, you can get a sage.

Second, the people in Oki are very kind. Every time you meet them, they greet you. There's a lot of compassion. I can feel the warm heart of the local people. They greet you with a smile and help you if you are in trouble.

Third, the view is very beautiful. I often draw the scenery in my sketchbook. When you listen, you could hear the clear sound of waves. You can hear birds cry. If you look up, you see the wide sky and the blue sea. Both of them are very clear.

So, Oki is full of charm. There are no movie theaters or amusement parks. You may think it's boring without those things. However, I love this island. I love this island where people are kind and the nature and scenery are beautiful and I can live with peace of mind. I'm glad I was born on this island. Why don't you come? You may find more of this island's charm.

TOYODA Ryousuke (2nd grade, Oki-Dozen High School)

*My Island's Life*

Hello! My name is Ryosuke Toyoda. I have lived in Nishinosima Island for about sixteen years. I was born in Hyogo Prefecture, but I grew up in Nishinoshima. When I was a junior high school student, I always thought that I wanted to go back Hyogo Prefecture. That was the reason why is that I felt Nishinoshima Island had nothing. So, I didn't like Nishinoshima Island, but then I got a chance to like Nishinoshima.

First, I was touched by kindness of the islanders. They have their own hearts. For example, when I was crying, an island person listened to me. Island people help me when I am trouble.

Second, Oki has the most beautiful islands in Japan. So, I think that many Japanese people may want to come to Oki.

Third, I'm student of Oki Dozen High School now. I've had many experience at this school, and I've never met crazy people. The students at our school are interesting

and have the courage. For example they often join lots of events. At that time, I feel that they are very cool, so I want to be like them.

Recently, I joined an event at Nishinoshima. I've had a lot of experience at Nishinoshima Island. So, now I like Nishinoshima very much, and I'll talk about the goodness of this island to many children.

YAGI Mirei (2nd grade, Oki-Dozen High School)

*Treasure of Life*

Hello. I'm Mirei. I'm from Kyoto, but now I live in Oki. The first time I came to Oki was in 2017, when I was a junior high school student. I went to Dozen High School's briefing. I have been living here since last year, and I enjoy my life. There are three reasons why I love my life in Oki.

The first is that the islanders are very kind. People who I don't know at all talk to me and help me if I'm in trouble.

The second is the location and the scenery. This island is full of beautiful nature like Rainbow Beach, Matengai and so on.

Third, there are island parents and a dormitory. The island parents serve as parents while we're on the island. So I feel relieved, and I can take a step with the islanders. In a dormitory, we can all help each other, and I'm grateful that we have friends everywhere. I always remind myself of how lucky I am to have these amazing experiences.

I'm really glad I came here. It was a big decision for me to leave my hometown and come here, but I have no regrets. I want to continue to have a lot of experience that I can't have in my local town. I enjoy the rest of my life here.

YAMAMOTO Emiri (2nd grade, Oki-Dozen High School)

*My Island*

I have lived in Chibu since I was born. It is the smallest island in Oki. The population of Chibu is about 600. I love Chibu very much. There are three reasons for that.

First, Chibu is rich in nature. There are beautiful sea and a lot of mountains. On sunny days, you can see the evening sun. It calms my heart. If you come to Chibu, you should go to the red wall called “Sekiheki.” The sea seen from Sekiheki is very beautiful. You should also go to Mt.Akahage. You can see three islands at the top of Mt.Akahage. It is very impressive

Second, the inhabitants are very kind. If I see them on my way to school or home, they will always talk to me. It makes me really happy. I think my island is like a large family of 600 people, and my island is better than any other island. I’m proud of living on this island.

Third, rice grown on the island is delicious. It’s no exaggeration to say that my favorite rice is the island’s rice. You can eat it at an event called “odaishimairi.” It’s held at the end of April. At the event, you can enjoy talking with the inhabitants, eating, and walking around. I recommend you to come to this event.

My island is very small, but there are plenty of benefits to it. I love this island.

YOSHIZATO Yuzuha (2nd grade, Oki-Dozen High School)

*Our Island is a Nice Island*

I have lived on an island of Oki Dozen in Shimane prefecture since I become a high school student. I think that I am lucky enough to come to this island. There are three reasons why I love my life in island: I can relax with the view of mountains and the sea; There are a lot of kind locals; and This island helps me to challenge new things.

First, I can relax with the view surrounded by mountains and the sea. The place where I lived while I was a junior high school student was surrounded by a lot of tall buildings. So, when I saw the view of the island for the first time, I was very impressed. In particular, the sky and sea seen from the Matengai are wonderful. Nature makes me feel calm.

Second, I have met a lot of kind people. When I visited this island for the first time. A lot of people greeted me. Then, I was very surprised first, but I was happy at the same time. Also, when I walk around, a local gave me a ride, I thought that this island is full of kindness.

Third, I can challenge myself to do new things. One was to enter the sea. Until I came to the island, I had never been in the sea. Also, it was the first time that I helped to work in the field. I was happy to challenge new things.

In conclusion, I can relax with the view of the mountains and the sea; There are a lot of kind people; and I can challenge myself to do new things are just some reasons why I love my life in island. Island life helps me grow in various ways. So, I want to learn more about island life, and I want to grow more and more through challenges.

SUMIDA Rina (3rd grade, Oki High School)

*Take A Roundabout Way*

When I got off an airplane and breathed air of Okinoshima for the first time, I cried. This is because the air of the island was too clean.

I was born in Nagoya. However, I had admiration for nature such as the sea or the mountain since primary school child. I did not understand the reason, but the bottom of the heart had thought "I want to live in nature".

I saw a high school of Okinoshima introduced on TV when I was 15 years old. After that, I checked Oki High School on the Internet immediately. According to Internet, Oki high school is the remote island of Shimane and it has little number of enrolled students. They recruited outside the prefecture students as "Shimane foreign student".

Then, I had a dream to be a stage actress. If I go to Okinoshima, I cannot learn a dance and a performance and a song in earnest. However, when I listened to the voice of my heart, it demanded the life in the island. So I thought, "I'll go to Okinoshima!"

My every day was given for the love of the island after I came to Okinoshima. I learned that wind had a color. The wind that entered the classroom during class was able to teach it. And the mountain learned that I changed every season. It was able to notice at the time of everyday commuting to and from school. I spend my time in a high school extremely commonly, but there is the unusual moment in the simple day. That makes my life shine.

I am going to go to Tokyo to learn performing art after graduating from Oki high school. But I always want to be a woman who can remember love from this Okinoshima even if wherever I live.

There may be the person thinking that I take a roundabout way. However, it is changed into nothing for these three years. I cannot buy even money. I feel that I spend splendid days.

You can find out splendid days to surpass far one's imagination by acting with a large field of vision. There are the splendid days near us.

TAKAYA Hana (2nd grade, Oki Fisheries High School)

*My Oki Life: Living with the sea*

Last April my new life started here in Oki. I was born and brought up in Shiga. I'm living in the school dormitory. At first, I was worried about my school and Oki life. Every day and night I wondered if I could make new friends, if I could get along well with them, if I could make a go of my new school work, if I could ..., but now everything has changed. I really enjoy my Oki life with the sea and people here.

What made me live in Oki? Why do I go to Oki Fisheries High School? The answer is the sea. Why am I attracted to the sea in Oki? I think it's because it is very beautiful. I always liked the sea since I was a child. I would often swim or dive into the ocean in summer. When I went to see Oki Fisheries High School, which was also my



first time visiting Oki, I was so impressed with its beautiful and clear sea. Of course, I had good experiences at the school, but it was because of the beautiful sea that I decided to go to Oki Fisheries High School.

Now I'm living here. I feel wonderful nature every minute. I belong to the yacht club. I like to see Oki and my school from the yacht. People living near the school wave their hands to me whenever they see me on the yacht. They also cheer me up when I have a yacht competition. I now feel comfortable here surrounded by the beautiful sea and kind people in Oki.

I'm in the second grade at Oki Fisheries High School and I'm learning about marine life and resources. I have made the decision to go on to university so that I can learn more about the sea and ocean. I've got a dream to get involved in saving the ocean. That's exactly what Oki life gave me. Oki life has greatly inspired me. I will keep on learning and living with the sea.

**Essays by Junior High School Students / 中学生のエッセイ集**

HATA Megumu (2nd Grade, Ama Junior High School)

*Wonderful Dialect*

Do you know “shyabaru”? “shyabaru” is Ama’s dialect  
“Shyabaru” means pull.

People in Ama like Ama’s dialect.

But Ama’s dialect is disappearing now.

I like Ama’s dialect very much.

Because           - I think that it is interesting.  
                      - I think that I am happy when I use it.  
                      - I want to keep it alive.

I want to spread Ama’s dialect in Japan.

Let’s use Ama dialect!!

HIRANO Hijiri (3rd Grade, Ama Junior High School)

*Come to Ama Town*

Today I’d like to introduce my hometown. My hometown is Ama Town. It is an island in Shimane Prefecture. This town is very interesting because it has many events. For example, Kinnyamonya Festival and Tsunahiki Tournament. Kinnyamonya Festival is very important for Ama because it is Ama’s tradition. We dance Kinnyamonya, drink and eat. We can do many things. Ama’s foods are very delicious, for example, Oki Beef and Ama’s salt. Ama Town is the country but I think it is better than city so please come to Ama Town.

INOUE Kazuki (2nd Grade, Ama Junior High School)

*Tengawa water*

I love the nature of Ama.

There is clear water in Ama.

It is Tengawa water.

Tengawa water is one of the one hundred famous water in Japan.

You can drink this water if you come to Ama.

I think that this water is very good.

This water can be drink at any time and used for rice field water.

Please drink clear and delicious water.

ISHIKURA Daiki (2nd Grade, Ama Junior High School)

*Full of kindness*

Have you ever been told “good morning” by people around you?

I live in Ama town.

My town is not only famous for Kinnyamonya Festival, Oki Shrine and so on, but also the kindness of the people.

People in Ama are very kind because they give me many things like sweets, food and talk with me a lot.

If you meet town people on the street, they will say “good morning” and touch you kindly.

You can receive a lot of kindness from people in Ama Town.

Come to Ama and feel the kindness.

IZUMI Sara (2nd Grade, Ama Junior High School)

*Kinnyamonya Festival*

I live in Ama town.

There is a festival here. It is Kinnyamonya Festival.

Kinnyamonya Festival is held every summer.

There are many shops at the festival.

You can buy food and toys.

A lot of people come to Ama.

I go to Kinnyamonya Festival with my friends every year.

Let's have fun together.

KAWAUCHI Rihito (2nd Grade, Ama Junior High School)

*Ama library*

I live in Ama Town.

Have you ever been to Ama library?

When we have test period, we always go to the library.

We study very hard, but sometimes we play around.

Ama library is small, but it is very clean.

You can see a beautiful view from the window.

There are many books in the library.

Please come to Ama library.

You can relax and enjoy.

MUKOYAMA Aoi (2nd Grade, Ama Junior High School)

*Hidden spot in Ama*

I live in Ama Town. Ama is a small island in the sea of Japan. There are many beautiful spots in Ama. For example, Akiya coast, Oki shrine and Mt. Atodo.

I think these spots are beautiful but I also know another beautiful spot.

It's a field in Uzuka. It's large and on the hill.

I went up path with my friends.

I could see very beautiful view from the top of the hill.

There are a lot of yellow flowers and I saw the evening sun there. It is really beautiful!

As I said, Ama has hidden beautiful spots.

If you come to Ama, you should look for hidden spots.

SHINTANI Ikumi (2nd Grade, Ama Junior High School)

*Oki beef*

I live in Ama Town.

My Town is famous for Oki Beef. It is born and raised on the island and it has a meat which has a quality rating of at least 4 in the Japan meat rating. There is an Oki Beef shop. You can enjoy eating Oki Beef for lunch. Oki Beef is very good. Ama is fun.

TAKENO Yui (2nd Grade, Ama Junior High School)

*Oki Beef*

I live in Ama town. My town is famous for Oki Beef.

Oki beef was born and brought up in Ama.

There is an Oki Beef restaurant in Hishiura port.  
My family eats Oki Beef on the Bon holidays.  
There are many menus in the Oki Beef restaurant.  
Oki Beef is very delicious.  
If you come to Ama, try to eat Oki Beef.

TONOMOTO Zen (2nd Grade, Ama Junior High School)

*A town full of happiness*

I live in Ama Town.  
I like my town's festival, especially Kinnyamonya Festival because it is very fun.  
Many people come to it.  
There are many stalls in this festival.  
People eat delicious food.  
People take part in the Kinnyamonya Parade to watch fireworks at night.  
Visiting Ama Town is fun, so come to my wonderful town.

UNO Rion (2nd Grade, Ama Junior High School)

*Kinnyamonya Festival*

I live in Ama.  
My town is famous for some festivals.  
One of the festivals is Kinnyamonya Festival.  
It's held every year.  
Ama people and tourists gather in Hishiura area.  
There are some stands in the festival.  
You can watch fireworks after the festival.

We enjoy dancing Kinnyamonya, It's one of the folk songs.

We use "syamoji." It is rice scoop.

Visiting Ama is interesting.

Please be sure to come to Ama.

WAKUI Yosuke (2nd Grade, Ama Junior High School)

*Special Town*

I live in Ama Town. My town has beautiful nature. So my town is famous for it.

For example," Tengawa No Mizu". It's natural water.

It's very clear. So you can drink it.

I love my town's nature, but that's not all.

I love people in Ama too. They are very kind and friendly,

If I'm in need, they give us a hand every time.

They also greet us with a smile. So we can be happy every day.

I want to spread to other countries about my town. Because,

"My town is small"

"My town doesn't have convenience stores"

"My town doesn't have many people"

"But my town is so wonderful!"

"My town has beautiful nature!"

"My town's people are shining!"

That is why my town is special.



YAMATO Ao (2nd Grade, Ama Junior High School)

*Sowaka Plum*

I live in Ama. Pickled plum is made in Saki area.

Saki is in the south of Ama. Ama town is famous for pickled plum.

Ama town's pickled plum's brand name is Sowaka Plum.

I experience putting Sowaka Plum into the bag.

I think that the producers are busy, because only two people make Sowaka Plum every year.

Sowaka Plum is salty, but I like Sowaka Plum. I recommend someone who likes salty one.

If you go to Ama town, please eat Sowaka Plum.

HIRAKI Kai (2nd Grade, Nishinoshima Junior High School)

*My Favorite Nishinoshima Spots*

I live in Nishinoshima. It's in the north of Shimane. We can see the beautiful sea. And then there are the amazing spots. We can eat delicious fish. Nishinoshima is famous for Ikaaya. Ikaaya is a library. There are a lot of fun places in Ikaaya. In Ikaaya, you can use computers, talk with friends, relax, read books, and so on. Please come to Nishinoshima.

HIRAKI Miku (2nd Grade, Nishinoshima Junior High School)

*My Favorite Beaches in Nishinoshima*

I live in Nishinoshima. It's in the north of Shimane. Nishinoshima is famous for its amazing spots and beautiful sea. It's a very beautiful blue. It's famous for its beautiful beaches. The shiny beaches spread. We have nothing on my island, but we have everything for me on my island. I love my country, my island. Why don't you take pictures of the beautiful views on holidays?

JOSAI Fuuka (2nd Grade, Nishinoshima Junior High School)

*My Favorite Nishinoshima Places*

I live in Nishinoshima. It's in the north of Shimane. There are a lot of cows and horses. We can swim in the sea. Nishinoshima is famous for Sotohama and Matengai. People in Nishinoshima are very kind. Nishinoshima is famous for Ikaaya. You can relax there and read books. Please come and enjoy Nishinoshima.

MASE Matoi (2nd Grade, Nishinoshima Junior High School)

*My Favorite Nishinoshima Things*

I live in Nishinoshima. It's in the north of Shimane. You can see beautiful views. My town is famous for Shara-bune Ship. My town has a lot of kind people. My town has a lot of nature. For example, Matengai and Sotohama. I want many people to come and enjoy my town.

MOTOE Sara (2nd Grade, Nishinoshima Junior High School)

*My Favorite Nishinoshima Spots*

I live in Nishinoshima. It's in the north of Shimane. Nishinoshima is famous for its beautiful sea and amazing spots. My recommendation is Matengai and Kuniga Kaigan. At Matengai and Kuniga there is a cow and horses, but you cannot touch the cows and horses. I hope to welcome you to Nishinoshima.

NAGATA Kaito (2nd Grade, Nishinoshima Junior High School)

*My Favorite Nishinoshima Places*

I live in Nishinoshima. It's in the north of Shimane. It's famous for Matengai. We can eat sashimi, abalone, and turban shell. There are a lot of cows and horses. My recommendations are Sotohama Beach, Matengai, and Tsukenkyou. I like swimming very much. Swimming in Sotohama beach is very fun. I want many people to come and enjoy my town.

NAKAO Ayana (2nd Grade, Nishinoshima Junior High School)

*My Favorite Nishinoshima Views*

I live in Nishinoshima. It's in the north of Shimane. My town has a lot of beautiful nature. For example, Matengai. Matengai is a very tall cliff. You can see a beautiful view at Matengai. My recommendation is the sea. Nishinoshima's sea is very beautiful. I want many people to come and enjoy my town!

SHIRANO Kokoro (2nd Grade, Nishinoshima Junior High School)

*My Favorite Nishinoshima Views*

I live in Nishinoshima. It's in the north of Shimane. We can see amazing views. Especially Matengai, is my recommendation. We can swim in the beautiful sea. A lot of fish swim in the beautiful sea. You can read books and get relaxed on holidays at Ikaaya. I want many people to come and enjoy my town!

TAKETANI Haruto (2nd Grade, Nishinoshima Junior High School)

*My Favorite Nishinoshima Fishing Places*

I live in Nishinoshima. It's in the north of Shimane. Nishinoshima is famous for Kuniga. There are a lot of cows. We can eat turban shell and abalone. We can enjoy swimming in Sotohama. I like fishing and I like eating fish. It is very delicious. Why don't you go fishing in Nishinoshima?

TOMITANI Naoki (2nd Grade, Nishinoshima Junior High School)

*My Favorite Nishinoshima Places*

I live in Nishinoshima. It's in the north of Shimane. It's famous for its beautiful Matengai and Kuniga Kaigan and so on. We can enjoy swimming in Sotohama Beach and fishing. There are a lot of fun festivals. Nishinoshima is an interesting and great place. I want many people to come and enjoy my town.

UNO Mikoto (2nd Grade, Nishinoshima Junior High School)

*My Favorite Nishinoshima Views*

I live in Nishinoshima. It's in the north of Shimane. My town has a lot of amazing spots. For example, Matengai, Kuniga, Takuhi Temple, Onimai, Sotohama Beach, and so on. You can enjoy eating and seeing beautiful views in Nishinoshima! I hope everyone in the world can come and enjoy great experiences in Nishinoshima!

KATA Kota (3rd Grade, Saigo Junior High School)

*To protect the sea in Oki*

I have lived in Oki for fifteen years. My favorite place is the sea. Oki's fishing port is famous in Shimane and we can catch a lot of fish there. When I went to the sea to swim, I found a lot of trash there. I think we should stop throwing the trash away into the sea. And also, we should clean the trash out of the sea when we can see it. So I will join cleaning events in the future. I want to protect the beautiful sea in Oki.

KISE Haruka (3rd Grade, Saigo Junior High School)

*My favorite time in Oki*

I like three kinds of times in Oki.

First, I like the time that I spend in Oki because I can feel the time pass slowly and I can relax.

Second, my favorite season in Oki is summer. The sea is beautiful and I can swim a lot. Also, my friends come to Oki and I can hear them tell stories that I don't know. I like that time very much.

Third, I like the times that I can experience Oki's traditions. For example, I have been a shrine maiden since I was ten. I think it's important to do that. So I want to continue to protect the traditions.

MISHIMA Sota (3rd Grade, Saigo Junior High School)

*What we have to do for Oki's nature*

My favorite thing in Oki is going fishing with my friends. There are many kinds of fish in Oki. But the number of fish is decreasing now. Animals and plants, too. I want to protect them, so I will learn about nature. If we live in Oki, I think we must protect this nature.

MURAMATSU Miyu (3rd Grade, Saigo Junior High School)

*The Ultra Marathon*

My favorite event in Oki is the Ultra Marathon. The Ultra Marathon is a big event in Oki. Many people join it as a runner or volunteer. Some of them come from far places to run. Runners practice a lot because it is not easy to finish. But they can see a lot of beautiful nature while running. And they can get a letter which is written by elementary school students and junior high school students. I think it can be the runners' power.

I have joined it as a volunteer. I was very moved when they finished. And they looked happy. So I love the Ultra Marathon. This event makes Oki one team. I think it is a very good thing and we can be happy. So I want to join this event as a runner in the future.

NOTSU Moe (3rd Grade, Saigo Junior High School)

*My favorite event*

There are many events in Oki where you can enjoy its nature. One of them is the Ultra Marathon. The Ultra Marathon is held in June every year. People run 100 kilometers or 50 kilometers.

I have three reasons to recommend the Ultra Marathon to you. First, you can see great nature in Oki while you are running. Second, people in Oki support you. Third, you can eat Oki food.

Running is fun but supporting and working as a volunteer are fun, too. Please come to Oki to see the Ultra Marathon.

OSADA Koko (3rd Grade, Saigo Junior High School)

*The Dangyo fall*

My favorite place in Oki is the Dangyo fall. It is very beautiful. When I went there, the water splashed onto my face. I felt the great power. Also, it was summer but I felt cold. I was moved with my eyes and body. There are a lot of trees and insects around there, too. You should go there and feel the beautiful nature and its power.

SAITO Kako (3rd Grade, Saigo Junior High School)

*My favorite place*

I live in Okinoshima. My favorite place in Oki is a diving spot in Tsuma. Okinoshima is surrounded by the sea and is famous for the sea food. We can dive into the sea there. I have dived once before. I went there with my friends, their mother and

my mother. When we dive, we can see the beautiful sea. I feel moved by the wonderful scenery.

TAKANASHI Sachi (3rd Grade, Saigo Junior High School)

*My favorite place*

My favorite place is Oki airport park. I think the view from Oki airport park is the best in Oki. I often go there because we can see the beautiful view. For example, we can see the beautiful sea, sky and sunset. Also we could see airplanes when I went there with my father and my brother. Sometimes, we run there because it is very large. There was a marathon event before and I joined it. A girl from the mainland said “The sea is very beautiful!” I was so happy to hear that. Oki airport park is a very good place that I want everyone to visit.

TATANO Kaito (3rd Grade, Saigo Junior High School)

*What I love*

My grandmother has two dogs. Their names are “Coco” and “Hana”. Coco is a black miniature dachshund. She is probably two years younger than me. She is a little chubby. Hana is also a miniature dachshund, but she is brown and smaller than Coco. Hana is Coco’s child. She is naughty. They rejoice when I visit my grandmother’s house. I must leave Oki to enter a high school next April. So I can’t meet them many more times. I don’t want to forget them. I’ll remember them when I feel tired.



WAKAMOTO Kaho (3rd Grade, Saigo Junior High School)

*Good time*

My favorite time is noon in Oki. Oki is more quiet than the city, so I can relax. I like to have quiet time. Then I can do anything. For example, I can take a nap or study hard. I think that it's a special time and a unique way to spend time in Oki. I want to value the short time I have left in Oki.

HASHIMOTO Kie (3rd Grade, Saigo Minami Junior High School)

*Two Favorite Times*

This little island is Oki. This island, people's bond is strong. But if we have a quarrel, it gets awkward. Oki is a good place to live, but it's horrible to move in from far away.

I have two favorite times in Oki.

First, it's summer. My lovely aunt's family come back to Oki. I like eating summer vegetables with sea water and taking too many pictures when we go to the small Bon Dance. I love the dinner aroma from the neighbor and the warm bright sea like a cicada's shell.

Second, I like school time which I spend with my friends. I say "Hi". School time starts. I talk about today's lunch, popular music and games. I have a cheerful day. We say "Good bye" and in a moment we will forget today's small memories which I keep hoping I can remember.

This island isn't boring. Here is full of warm hearted families and friend's funny memories.

I like Oki's important summer times. I love school time.

These are my memories in Oki, only Oki.

These are my favorite times.

OSADA Mutsuki (3rd Grade, Saigo Minami Junior High School)

*My Favorite Nature*

Do you know the Oki islands? Oki islands are called “Miracle islands” too.

I like this island. This is because there is a lot of nature. Also, there are many amazing things in it. For example, Candle Rock, Chichi Cedar, etc. If you come to the Oki islands, you should go there. I thought “wow nature is so amazing” when I saw these at first. I was healed by these. They are very beautiful. I can’t put it into words. And, they have healing power.

Why don’t you try being healed by Oki’s nature? If you are interested in it, please check it out.

On the other hand, I’m worried about global warming. This is because nature will die by it. For example, green may disappear from Oki. It’s easy for people to develop global warming. But, I think it’s difficult for people to develop nature. Please think about nature and global warming.

I think Oki’s nature is Oki’s symbol. So we have to care for Oki’s nature. I hope Oki’s nature lasts forever.

OTA Aika (3rd Grade, Saigo Minami Junior High School)

*Only in the Oki islands*

Have you seen the sea horizon in Oki? The Oki islands are my hometown. I love Oki so much. And I love the sea horizon, especially seen from Yui-no-mae and Misaki. So I’ll tell you my memories in Oki.

I often go for a drive with my family. We go around many spots for tourists and have picnics. One day, I woke up early and made lots of memories in various places on the Oki islands.

On that day, I went to a restaurant to eat Oki’s food. When I was on the car after lunch, I got carsick. Then I saw the sea horizon and it made me feel better. I also felt

the wonderfulness of the Oki islands. If you feel carsick, watching sea can help. There are the precious memories that were created only in the Oki islands.

If you don't know the Oki islands, please come to Oki by all means. It will be very refreshing and I think you can have a lot of memories.

Oki is my favorite town. So I want many people to know.

SAITO Ami (3rd Grade, Saigo Minami Junior High School)

*The Environment unique to Oki*

My favorite point about Oki is the “enriched environment at all time”. City dwellers think that Oki is a countryside which has nothing. I thought that too. However, when I think about Oki's good things, I remember last summer.

It was a very hot day. I invited some friends because I was free. We didn't have anything to do. So a boy said “Let's swim” and dived into the sea. Then we dived too. When we became tired, we found a good place to rest. There became our secret base. I remember it was a very interesting day despite not having a plan.

I think the environment is an only Oki thing. I felt this environment which I thought not special becomes special when I go to the city.

And we can be kind to anyone because we were born and raised in such an environment.

I couldn't get along with people too soon, but thanks to the people in this town eventually anyone can get along. So I want to continue living in “the environment unique to Oki”.

FUKUURA Minami (2nd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*My Favorite Island, Okinoshima*

I live in Okinoshima-cho in Shimane. It's in the north west of Shimane. It's famous for delicious foods. It's especially famous for sea food. There are, for example, shell, seaweed, many kinds of fish. It's so delicious. So, I like the food of Okinoshima. I love Okinoshima. I will live in Okinoshima in the future.

HAMAGAKI Go (2nd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*Beautiful Nature*

I live in the Oki Island. It's in the north of Shimane. It's famous for Candle Rock. Sometimes you can see beautiful views. There is a wonderful view in Oki islands. You can see beautiful sunset everywhere in Oki. I am very proud of the sunset in Kumi, my home town. I will live in Kumi in the future.

HARA Yuki (3rd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*My Favorite Place*

There are good places to visit in Oki. For example, Oki has a beautiful sea. There are famous fishing points in Oki. I go fishing there on weekends. Going fishing makes me happy. Because the mountains and seas are beautiful, I can enjoy not only fishing but also scenery. I would like to go fishing.

IKEMOTO Sota (2nd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*My Favorite Place in Oki*

I live in Okinoshima town. My town is famous for Candle Rock. It looks like a candle. The sun looks like the candle's fire. It's so beautiful. This form of the Rock was created by the scratching of the waves. The sunset seen on the boat is the most beautiful of this rock. This scenery is worth seeing.

INOUE Yuto (2nd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*Greatest Oki*

Oki Island is rich in nature and it is so beautiful. You can talk freely with the kind people of Oki and you will see for yourself. Oki Island is famous for the Oki Ultra Marathon. People from all over Japan come to run fifty or one hundred kilometers, so please come and run. I think I can help because the people around me support me. I hope you will come here once, as Oki is rich in nature and has a lot of kind people. I'm waiting on the island of Oki for you. I love Oki.

ISHIBASHI Hyugo (2nd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*Exciting*

I live in Goka town. It's in the north of Shimane. It's famous for Mt. Dake. It's famous for Bull sumo there in fall. It is powerful and interesting! It's held every year. I enjoy watching it. I am happy to watch it. I look forward to watching it every year. So this is why I like Oki.

KANO Nanami (3rd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*I Was Born in this Island*

I have lived in Oki since I was born.  
There are thousands of kind people.  
On my way to school everyone talk to me.  
It makes me happy. I don't want to ever forget.  
I want to be kind to people when I grow up.  
And I want children to be happy.  
I will keep loving Oki.

MITSUGI Nanako (2nd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*Great Nature*

I live in Oki island. It's in the north of Shimane. And I live in Goka. There is Candle Rock in Goka. It's beautiful.

Besides Candle Rock there are Mt. Dake and Mizuwakasu Shrine in Goka. They are great. I like Goka very much. You can learn a lot about nature here.

MORIWAKI Miharu (2nd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*Festival*

I live in Goka town in Okinoshima-cho. Shimane is in the west of Japan. Okinoshima-cho is in the north of Shimane. Goka is in the north of Okinoshima-cho.

There are many events in Goka. My favorite event is Bon dance. You can dance happily. And you can also see and hear drums.

MURAI Hikaru (2nd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*Beautiful Nature*

I live in Oki. It's in the north of Shimane. Oki has good nature. For example, in Goka there is the beautiful Candle Rock. It is very famous in Oki. I like it because it's very familiar for me since I was little. And I am very proud of the stars. Why don't you come to see them?

NAGAUMI Tenshin (3rd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*My Favorite Place*

Oki is famous for fishing. Because we have beautiful sea, so we can go fishing. It's very interesting. But it's very cold in winter. Why don't you come to go fishing? Oki also has beautiful nature. For example, the seas and mountains we introduced earlier. Don't you want to enjoy beautiful nature in Oki?

NAKADA Soshi (2nd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*My Area*

I live in Okinoshima town in Goka. It's Oki in the north of Shimane. It has very rich nature. Sometimes you can see wild animals and many mountains. My area is famous for Sumo. Sumo is interesting. But it's very hard and tiring. Goka is a good place. There is much traditional culture here.

NAKANISHI Sanshiro (3rd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*Pride of Oki*

I am proud of the history of Oki. I like it, especially the history of nature. Oki was connected with the mainland. But now it's not connected with the mainland because the sea level has risen. So, the animals and plants from that time are endemic to Oki. I think the history of nature of Oki with its endemic species is amazing.

NAKASE Haruna (3rd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*Shiohama*

I like Oki. I think the most beautiful place is Shiohama. It is very clean. I go there five or six times every summer. There are small fish there. It is the best time to go swimming with my cousins. We enjoy splitting watermelon. Eating watermelon outside is fun for me. I wish that it will stay forever.

OSADA Yumi (2nd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*Communication*

I interacted with Polish people on November the first. Polish people were very interesting. And Mr. Rozum, a chairperson of Sumo Association in Poland, was very good at calligraphy. I enjoyed it very much. But I couldn't communicate very well. My gestures didn't get through very much.

From now on, I want to learn a lot about English, Korean, Polish and many other languages. And I want to be able to communicate with people from all over the world.



I had a very good time. I want to continue to have a lot of exchanges with people from other countries.

SAIKA Aimi (2nd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*Terrific Oki*

I live in Oki island. Oki has rich nature. It's in the south of Shimane. My town is famous for Candle Rock. I like Candle Rock because it is beautiful. Oki has rich nature. Sometimes you can see wild animals here. And the sea is very beautiful. I want everyone to know this Oki island.

SAITO Nanami (2nd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*To Be Proud of Kangeiko*

I live in Oki island. It's in the north of Shimane. And I live in Goka. Goka is famous for Kangeiko. Kangeiko is held in winter. It has been held for 53 years. Events include jogging, judo, kendo, table tennis, soccer and soft volleyball. You can play sports. I think doing Kangeiko is fun.

SAKATA Futa (2nd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*Forever*

I live in Goka town. It's in the northwest of Japan. It's in the north of Shimane. There are interesting history, nature and people live interesting lives in Oki. Our island

is registered as “Oki Island UNESCO Global Geopark.” Because Oki was made from lava and made by the power of nature. Candle Island was created by the nature it has a very nice scenery. Also, the Mt. Dake and rock formations made by nature and the statue of an elephant are very nice views. Even so, people are very kind in Oki.

SAWADA Moe (3rd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*Charm of Oki*

I love Oki. I was born and raised in Oki. I have lived in Oki for fifteen years. The food of Oki is very delicious. For example, fish, shell, vegetables and Oki meat. When I eat them, I’m very happy. Besides food there are good places to visit in Oki. So, I love Oki.

TAKAHASHI Kako (2nd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*Four seasons*

I live in Oki town in Goka. Goka is in the north of Shimane. There are four seasons in Japan.

Goka is surrounded by the beauties of nature. For example, there are a lot of cherry blossoms in spring.

In summer, the sea is very beautiful.

In fall, the changing leaves are beautiful.

In winter, you can play a lot with snow. You can enjoy there every day.

YAMAMOTO Fuma (3rd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*Good Island Oki*

I like Oki very much because it is a very beautiful place. For example, people come to its sea in summer and it is rich in nature. So it has clear sea and clean nature, but it has a problem. For example, people don't often come here.

I think if someone advertise it, it'll be more famous and I hope it'll be more famous in the future.

YAWATA Rikuto (2nd Grade, Goka Junior High School)

*The Best Nature*

I live in an island, Okinoshima-cho. It's called Oki in the north of Shimane. It's famous for grand nature. There are many rare things which are made naturally in Oki. I haven't seen everything but I want to see all before I grow up and I want everyone to see them. Please come to see it.

HAMA Ibuki (2nd Grade, Tsuma Junior High School)

*Relaxing Place*

I live in Oki, Shimane. It is in the North of Shimane. What do you remember when you hear this question, "Where is your favorite place?" For example, your own bed, bath room, and so on.

For me, it's the sea of Oki. I like to take an afternoon nap near the sea with an assemble chair. Comfortable sun light after three o'clock and refreshing sea breeze are

very pleasant. And I see big sea through a small window of my school. I feel very calm when I see it.

People in Oki think the sea is our hometown. I think that's great. When people from Oki leave, I hear them say "I miss the sea". From now on, I think that we should save this special view.

HANDA Nao (2nd Grade, Tsuma Junior High School)

*Kindness*

I live in Oki. My city is famous for kind people. I think people in Oki are friendly, so we welcome anyone. Neighbors give someone pumpkins, carrots, and potatoes. It is special in Oki. People in Tsuma are the best. They are nice and kind. I'm proud of being a Tsuma student.

KATSUBE Taiga (2nd Grade, Tsuma Junior High School)

*Nature in Oki*

I live in Oki. It's in the West of Japan. My city is famous for nature such as the Candle Rock, Daiman-ji temple, and Dangyo-no-taki falls. They are attractive.

Especially, I love the sea in the evening. Because it is beautiful. When I see it, I feel like "ah, it's the end of the day".

MURAKAMI Nina (2nd Grade, Tsuma Junior High School)

*The Great Nature*

I live in Oki. It's in the Northwest of Japan. My city is famous for the Candle Rock and Chichi-sugi cedar. You can see the beautiful Candle Rock when sun goes down. It's very beautiful so I love its scenery.

I love Kabura-sugi cedar, too. It looks like a moose. I think the nature of Oki is really great.

NAKAYOSHI Jyunnosuke (2nd Grade, Tsuma Junior High School)

*The Candle Rock*

I live in Oki. It is in west of Japan. My island is famous for the Candle Rock. It's in Goka region. Waves shaped the rock. It looks like a candle when sun sets. So it is the "Candle Rock". I saw it about three times, and I thought that is wonderful. I felt the power of nature. I want to visit the tower to see it again.

SAITO Hitonari (2nd Grade, Tsuma Junior High School)

*Nagu: My Hometown*

I live in Nagu in Oki. My city is famous for Dangyo-no-Taki Falls and Dangyo Shrine. Its main fall is very popular. There is beautiful nature, clean water, an Oki Sanshouo, and so on. I love there very much. I love nature in Nagu.

If you have interest about nature, you will love watching Oki's great nature.

SAITO Issei (2nd Grade, Tsuma Junior High School)

*The Traditional Sumo Tournament*

I live in Tsuma, Oki. It is in the West of Japan. My city is famous for Sumo. There is a traditional sumo tournament called Oki Koten Sumo. It is held when happy things happen. I started Sumo 5 years ago. I like Sumo when I win. I will join in another sumo tournament, too. I want to win and participate in Oki Koten Zumo.

SAITO Wataru (2nd Grade, Tsuma Junior High School)

*Oki Geo Park*

I live in Oki. It's the Northwest of Japan. My city is famous for Oki geopark. You can learn many things about nature. There many rare species in Oki. For example, Oki sansyou is special. The environment in Oki is precious. I think it is wonderful. I want people outside of Oki to know about it. So I want to learn more about Oki.

TAKAMURA Kanata (2nd Grade, Tsuma Junior High School)

*Festival and Me*

I live in Oki. Oki has many interesting festivals. Oki is famous for a festival in Nakamura. A rabbit and a glass are the gods of the festival. I joined it three times. I want foreigners to know about this festival because it is one of three big festivals in Oki.

I was in the glass group this year. I brought the god to the shrine. I danced for the god, and I felt it was cold but I realized this festival is important for my hometown.

Please come to see this festival! I highly recommend this.

YOSHIYAMA Hiyori (2nd Grade, Tsuma Junior High School)

*Emerald*

I live in Oki. It is in Northwest of Japan. My city has the beautiful sea. The sea of Oki is Emerald green. It is very clear and beautiful. Besides, we can catch a lot of fresh sea food and we can enjoy eating it.

I love going to swim in the sea in summer. There still are many attractive points of Oki's sea.

We hope many people come to see our valuable sea.

## List of Awardees / 受賞者

### ■ The High School Division / 高校生の部

#### 1st prize / 最優秀賞

TAKAYA Hana “My Oki Life: Living with the sea”  
高谷 波来（隠岐水産高校 2 年生）

#### 2nd prize / 優秀賞

KIKUCHI Momone “Wonderful Experiences”  
菊池 桃音（隠岐島前高校 2 年生）

#### Honorable Mention / 特別賞

SUMIDA Rina “Take a Roundabout Way”  
隅田 璃南（隠岐高校 3 年生）

TOYODA Ryouzuke “My Island’s Life”  
豊田 凌輔（隠岐島前高校 2 年生）

### ■ The Junior High School Division / 中学生の部

#### 1st prize / 最優秀賞

HAMA Ibuki “Relaxing Place”  
濱 伊吹（都万中学校 2 年生）

#### 2nd prize / 優秀賞

HASHIMOTO Kie “Two Favorite Times”  
橋本 希映（西郷南中学校 3 年生）

#### Honorable Mention / 特別賞

MUKOYAMA Aoi “Hidden spot in Ama”  
向山 葵（海士中学校 2 年生）

KATA Kota “To protect the sea in Oki”  
加多 航太（西郷中学校 3 年生）

MURAMATSU Miyu “The Ultra Marathon”  
村松 美優（西郷中学校 3 年生）



## List of Judges / 審査員

### ■ The High School Division / 高校生の部

Ama Town                      KAWAGOSHI Masaru  
海士町                         川越 大

Nishinoshima Town    Nicola JONES-KUCHIMURA  
西ノ島町                    ニコラ・ジョーンズ・口村

Chibu Village                TANAKA Rie  
知夫村                        田中 理絵

Okinoshima Town        ENDO Sei  
隠岐の島町                 遠藤 聖

### ■ The Junior High School Division / 中学生の部

Efren FRANCO  
エフレン・フランコ

Izabela RACZYNSKA  
イザベラ・ラチンスカ

## About the Oki Essay Contest

In our ever-globalizing world, the exchange of culture is inevitable. For a people's culture to stay alive, the younger generation must be taught to understand, take pride in and express (or share) their cultural values with the rest of the world. When the younger generation shares their culture with their contemporaries in other countries, they will be better able to understand their culture.

English is more or less the most widely used language in the world. Being able to communicate effectively in English is therefore necessary for being an active global citizen. Furthermore, migration of global human resources has become a part of our lives. Consequently, in a country like Japan which attracts many immigrants, the English language has become a necessity for living and working both in Japan and abroad.

Through this essay competition, we hope that the participants will

1. Have a deeper understanding of Oki's culture,
2. Improve their English writing skills, and
3. Be put on the path to becoming global citizens.

The Oki Essay Contest first began in the Dōzen area in 2015, and since 2019, it has been held on all four islands by Oki Islands UNESCO Global Geopark as a program for human resource development. As stated in The Rinjani-Lombok Declaration, it is important to identify intangible heritage to tell the stories of geology, the land, and the local people and culture, in the aim of increasing the local communities' sense of ownership in UNESCO Global Geoparks.<sup>1</sup> The essay contest shares this same concept, and by connecting it with the geopark, we hope to expand the contest, growing it into an opportunity for children in Oki to take ownership in the community and feel a closer connection with the world.

We would like to thank and congratulate all applicants for their efforts and for taking the challenge. We would also like to express our heartfelt appreciation to all the supporters who helped to make it happen.

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<sup>1</sup> "The Rinjani-Lombok Declaration on Sustaining Local Communities and Reducing Geohazard Risk." Article 6. September 2019. [https://geopark.jp/about/pdf/the\\_rinjani-lombok\\_declaration.pdf](https://geopark.jp/about/pdf/the_rinjani-lombok_declaration.pdf) (Accessed January 2020)

## 隠岐エッセイコンテストについて

世界がグローバル化する中で、お互いの文化を理解し合うのは大切なことです。文化を存続させるためには、若い世代がその価値を理解し、誇りを持ち、世界の他の地域に対して表現・共有するよう促さなければなりません。自身の文化を別の地域の同年代の人に伝えることで、伝える側にも自身の文化に対してより良い理解が生まれるでしょう。

英語は多かれ少なかれ、世界で最も広く使われている言語です。英語で効果的にコミュニケーションが取れるということは、グローバルに活躍するには必要不可欠だといえます。さらに、国を跨いだ人の往来が当たり前となっている今日では、海外はもちろん日本であっても、生活したり働いたりする上で、英語は必須なものとなってきています。

このエッセイコンテストを通して、参加者が以下の機会を得られることを願っています。

1. 隠岐の文化をより深く知る
2. 英語で書く力を上達させる
3. 地球に住む一員としての意識を促す

このエッセイコンテストは、2015年に島前地域で始まり、2019年より隠岐ユネスコ世界ジオパークの人材育成事業の一環として、隠岐全体で実施されることになりました。ジオパークでは、そこに住む人たちが、地域の遺産―大地の成り立ちや、土地の歴史、文化、土着の信仰など―の価値を知り、誇りを持ち、自分ごとと捉えることが重要だと認識しています。(注)これは、コンテストのコンセプトとも通じるものであり、ジオパークと関連付けることで、隠岐という地域内の小さな取り組みに広がりを持たせることができるのではと考えています。コンテストをきっかけに、隠岐に住む子どもたちが自分の住んでいる地域に誇りを持ち、また、世界を身近に感じられるよう、今後もコンテストを成長させていきたいと思えます。

エッセイを書いた応募者全員の勇気ある行動を称えたいと思えます。また、様々な形でこのコンテストを支えて下さった全ての方々に、心より感謝を申し上げます。

注：2019年9月「リンジャニ・ロンボク宣言 持続可能な地域コミュニティとジオハザードリスクの軽減に向けて」第6項より ([https://geopark.jp/about/pdf/the\\_rinjani-lombok\\_declaration.pdf](https://geopark.jp/about/pdf/the_rinjani-lombok_declaration.pdf) 参照)

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