

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Japanese Language Festival  
(JLfest 2017)  
書道 Japanese Calligraphy Competition

## Objective

The competition aims at enhancing the appreciation of Japanese writing scripts and Japanese poems among Japanese language learners.

It also encourages creativity among the learners.

## Rules and Regulations

This must be read together with the 'Competition Common Rules of the 2017 JLfest'.

### 1. ELIGIBILITY

This is an individual competition and has no age limit.

### 2. NUMBER OF ENTRANTS

The total number of contestants is limited to

- a) the first 60 students signed up under the Level 1 category and
- b) the first 30 students signed up under the Level 2 and Level 3 category respectively

### 3. PRIZES

For each category, prizes awarded are as follows:-

- ❖ 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Certificate & Prize
- ❖ 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Certificate & Prize
- ❖ 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Certificate & Prize

All contestants shall receive a Certificate of Participation.

Prize-winners in the Level 3 category who are eligible for **KAMENORI FOUNDATION AWARD** will be invited to a selection interview (if they wish) at the end of the festival ie **April 30, 2017**. For details, please refer to JLfest 2017 webpage.

## 4. GENERAL RULES

### 4.1 The Text: 「わたしと小鳥とすずと」 by

Poet 金子みすゞ (KANEKO MISUZU)

For each Level, there will be a different length of the text based on the same poem.

Memorize the text of the Level you wish to compete in. Plan how you wish to write them (within the size of the paper dictated by the competition). Practise writing them with a brush. On the competition day, you are not allowed to refer to the text.

### 4.2 The writing:

You may choose to write the text in horizontal or vertical format. However, the script in which the words were written in the text cannot be changed. For example 'I' is written as 「わたし」 in the text. You are not allowed to change it to 「私」 or 「ワタシ」.

### 4.3 Execution: On the competition day, you will be given 60 minutes to write out the text on the paper provided by the organizer. Paper size for Level 1 & 2 is A3-size and Level 3 is 79cm x 79 cm (mahjong paper).

**Each contestant is allowed to submit only one (1) piece of work for the competition**

Write your full name and school/organization clearly on the back of your artwork with a ballpoint pen.

### 4.4 Writing Tools. At the competition you will only be provided with paper (3 pcs only), water and old newspapers. You are to bring your brushes, ink, ink dish, water container, wiping cloth and if required, paper weight.

**Sharing of brushes, water container and ink dish is NOT permitted during the competition.**

**4.5 Composition & Creativity:** You may explore with various types of ink or watercolors as well as brushes. You may also consider varying the size of the characters in text and its positioning. **You are NOT allowed to use brush pen.**

While we welcome creativity, words and text must be legible. Penalty will be given if there is mistake in the text.

You may include a small illustration to draw out the meaning of the poem as well as enhance its aesthetic value but it should not eclipse the written text. Illustration must also be drawn with a brush. Also note that some judges may not share your same enthusiasm of using illustrations in calligraphy work.

**4.6 Cleaning-up:** You have to clean-up the space you used for the competition, including cleaning up any ink stains and throwing away the used old newspaper.

## 5. SELECTION AND JUDGING CRITERIA

The calligraphy works will be judged based on its

- Legibility of the text (10%)
- Mastery of the stroke (20%)
- Balance & Composition (10%)
- Creativity (10%)

## 6. JUDGING PANEL

The judging panel shall be appointed by the organizers. Decision of the panel is final. The panel may also exercise sole discretion to make or withhold an award.

## 7. DISQUALIFICATION

The contestant will be disqualified if he or she

- a) Did not write the given text;
- b) Missed out word(s) in the text;

- c) Did not use the calligraphy paper provided by the organizer;
- d) Wrote any vulgar, offensive wordings or religious verses;
- e) Sharing brushes, ink, ink dish or water container
- f) Did not clean up his/her desk after finishing.
- g) Disrupt or jeopardize his/her opponent.

## Sign-up Period Date

**March 1 - 31, 2017**

## Sign-up Procedure

- a) Sign up online (using the password given).
- b) After signing up, print out the competition form and signed it. Have it endorsed, if required.
- c) Bring that form along to the festival and submit it to the competition secretariat before the competition starts. You may also need to show your MYKad, driving licence or student card for identity verification. Failing which you may not be allowed to compete. Incomplete competition form will not be accepted.

### NOTE

Participants from secondary schools are required to sign up for the competition through their Japanese language teacher.

## Organizer

### The Japanese Language Society of Malaysia (JLSM)

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## Competition Enquiry

Email: jlfest.competition@gmail.com