



The 2nd Annual CEPEX Japan Studies Award (2011)

The 2011 CEPEX Japan Studies Award is open to George Mason University undergraduate students in good academic standing. There is no restriction on the major or field of study the student is pursuing, nor is it required that the participating student be enrolled in a Japanese language course. The award is designed to be open to submissions from a wide variety of disciplines (economics, history, culture, international relations, language study, etc.) on a broad range of topics. All forms of media are accepted. Students are solely responsible for developing content and submitting their entry. See details below for more information.

CEPEX Award Information

The Center for Professional Exchange (CEPEX) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to fostering the U.S.-Japan relationship and cultivating the next generation of Japan experts. CEPEX is proud to be sponsoring the second annual Japan Studies Award. This contest will support young professionals interested in Japan while strengthening the overall U.S.-Japan relationship. The aim is for students to gain valuable insight into Japan while working on a Japan-related project. The winner will then be able to supplement and expand that insight by visiting Japan during the summer of 2011. The CEPEX Japan Studies Award will include a brief internship in Washington, DC, a small stipend and round trip airfare to Japan for a short visit.

There is no set theme in this contest except that the project must be about Japan (Japanese language included). Examples of projects include research papers (minimum 10 pages), multi-media presentations, marketing, film, historical studies etc. Students are encouraged to be creative in their choice of a project. As students prepare their projects, they should think beyond personal gain and focus on the

greater impact of Japan – U.S. relations on the community. For the purposes of this contest, community can be defined as local (school, town, state) and/or global (country, world). Modern technology makes this easier by providing unprecedented ability to communicate.

Before announcing the winner, CEPEX will contact the winning entrant's instructors to verify enrollment at George Mason University.

Entry Guidelines:

1. General

- a. Participation is open to students currently pursuing degree programs at George Mason University.
- b. One project entry is allowed per student, although students may enter as a group. (Ex: a student directing a film needs actors to appear in the film but only the director will be entered in contest and eligible to receive the award.)
- c. The award will be given to the person named in the 2011 CEPEX Japan Studies Award Submission & Release Form.
- d. Complete submissions must be received between May 9, 2011 and May 16, 2011.
- e. Winner will be announced by May 27th, 2011.

2. Project Content

- a. Must address the contest theme as described above.
- b. Must be original and must not be copyrighted. Plagiarism will not be tolerated.

3. Judging Criteria (to be judged by the CEPEX Award committee)

- a. Content:
 - i. Does the project address the theme of the contest?
 - ii. Is the information conveyed accurate and of high quality?
 - iii. Would the content resonate with instructors, students, and the general public?
 - iv. Is the project likely to lead to new or increased interest and awareness of the U.S.–Japan relationship?

b. Creativity:

- i. Is there unexpected or innovative use of media, thought, or ingenuity that enhances the power of the project?
- ii. Does the project provide a new perspective?

c. Overall Effectiveness of Project:

- i. Is there one key theme, clearly stated and supported?
- ii. How engaging is the project/message?
- iii. Is the project compelling?

4. Submitting Your Entry

- Each entry must be accompanied by a completed CEPEX Japan Studies Award Submission & Release Form, which can be found on the CEPEX website: cepex.org. The CEPEX Japan Studies Award Submission & Release Form must be completed by the student.
- Email or fax the signed form to CEPEX. If submitting by email, attach as a scanned document (PDF). The project title and submission date must be referenced on the form.
 - i. Email: manger@sunrockinstitute.org
 - ii. Fax: 202 429-0280

6. Prizes

One round trip air fare from Washington, D.C. to Tokyo will be awarded to the winner. An unpaid internship in Washington, D.C. will be provided with a small stipend. If a group of students enters a project, the award will be granted to the person named on the CEPEX Japan Studies Award Submission & Release form.

Additional Rules

1. The contest is not open to officers or employees of CEPEX or members of their immediate family. Void where prohibited by law or school regulations.
2. No responsibility is assumed for late, lost, damaged or misdirected entries, or for technical, hardware, software or telephone malfunctions of any kind, lost or unavailable network connections or failed, incorrect, incomplete, inaccurate, garbled or delayed electronic communications caused by the sender or by any of the equipment or programming associated with or used in this contest that may limit the ability to join or participate, or by any human error that may occur in the processing of the entries in this contest.
3. If for any reason the contest cannot be conducted as described in these rules, CEPEX shall have the right, in its sole discretion, to cancel, terminate, modify, or suspend the contest.
4. The decisions of the judges with respect to the selection of the winner, and in regard to all matters relating to this contest, shall be final and binding. Winner will be notified by telephone and/or email.
5. All taxes and any other expenses outside the stated award above are the sole responsibility of the winner.
6. By accepting a prize, winner grants to CEPEX the right to use his/her name, likeness, hometown and biographical information in advertising and promotion relating to this contest without further compensation or permission, except where prohibited by law. By accepting a prize, winner releases CEPEX, including its officers, employees, and affiliates and the agents of any of them, from any and all liability for any loss, harm, damage, cost or expense arising out of the participation in this contest, or the acceptance, use or misuse of the prize.
7. CEPEX does not permit plagiarism, copyright infringing activities, and/or infringement of intellectual property rights and will remove all projects if properly notified that such projects infringe on another's intellectual property rights. CEPEX reserves the right to remove projects from consideration without prior notice.