

かんじ
漢字
キャンプ

Kanji Camp

Japanese Language & Culture Exploration

www.kanjicamp.info

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NEWS FLASH

June 2007 2007年6月
Special Edition

Within this News Flash you will find valuable information about program activities and/or upcoming events. Regards, the Tutoring Team

Students Study Sumie

For culture class on May 16, 2007, Kanji Club students studied Japanese Sumie. Sumie is a Japanese art with historic relevance for more than 1000 years. Although exactly when Sumie art began is unclear, most scholars feel the art was learned originally from the Chinese during the Tang Dynasty and slowly began to influence Japanese art across time. During the Muromachi period of 1392—1573 is when Japanese artists who were studying Chinese monks at the time began to produce a personalized or distinctive style apart from what they were learning. Sumie is an art form where the fundamental aspects of the technique is to learn how to draw lines of varying shades to create simple nature oriented imagery.

After some basic practice, we applied our acquired talent to decorating summer lanterns. Kevin painted some impressive carp, while Chris strived to master the tough bamboo. Alexia chose a string of dogwood flowers, while club artists Taylor and Rei bantered about their mountain and cat renditions.



Photos by the our resident Ninja-ographer.

In these pictures some artists are busy at work, some busy at play and some are just so talented they can paint one handed and without even looking. . . . All students get high marks in this activity!

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KC Breaking News

A local high school where Japanese studies isn't offered, students may now earn school credit for Kanji Club studies. More on this landmark KC triumph in the July issue covering June.

Featuring Kanji Camp's First Field Trip "Night at the Museum"

On May 24, 2007 Kanji Club and JSP students gathered at the Kanji Camp class room to caravan to the Indianapolis Museum of Art. Departing at 6 p.m., we arrived precisely on the plan at 6:45 p.m. to find students who traveled from south-side homes and jobs

waiting for us. At 7 p.m., we split into three tour groups with three separate Docents. For the next hour, we toured the Asian art exhibit learning from volunteer educators about the Japanese collection of art. During our visit, Kanji Club's budding *ninjaographer*, Chris-san, snapped a

few keepsake photos with IMA permission, but stealthily around the watchful eyes of museum security. Below please find his fantastic shots of the lion and dog sculpture, the fireman's jackets and sample scroll as well as the nice group photo. The museum kindly donated to us the shot of the Kosaka scroll and the two pictures of the kool blue cat and , so we will be translating blue cat soon!



写真者

漢字クラブのアーティスト・クリ



Kanji Club Translates Kosaka Art

At Kanji Club on May 30, 2007 the week after the museum field trip, Kanji Club worked as a team to use their kanji skills to translate the various characters on Kosaka's masterpiece. As you can see to the image at the right, we discovered the art has an interesting combination of word stems . . . To review, use the legend created to match the characters painted in the artwork.

漢字	ひらがな	ROMAJI	MEANING
像	ぞう	ZOO	elephant
聞	きく	KIKU	listen
春	はる	HARU	Spring
和	わ	WA	peace
雲	くも	KUMO	cloud
秋	あき	AKI	Autumn
悲	かなしい	KANASHII	sad
休	やすみ	YASUMI	vacation
魚	さかな	SAKANA	fish
思	おもう	OMOU	think
鳴	なく	NAKU	sing (bird)
開	あける	AKERU	open

Hirokazu Kosaka

Japanese, b. 1948

Traces of the Brush, 2006

ink on paper

This hanging scroll (*kakemono*) shows several common characters used in Chinese and Japanese written language. In some cases it depicts their metamorphoses over centuries, from the earliest pictographs scratched into shells and bones in China during the Shang dynasty (about 1700–1045 BCE) to the ways the same words are written today.



Kanji Club is the *Advanced Japanese Studies* program for teens at Kanji Camp.

For more information please visit, www.KanjiCamp.info



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TO:

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Studying Sumie, Night at the Museum and more!

Welcome New KC Member!

A big shout out to a new student who travels quite a distance to be with us. Shane-san has come home to Indiana from college in Florida and drives a few hours to be with us each week. Shane is studying International Business with hopes to become a bilingual business man living in Japan. He'll do a summer abroad next year. His short-term goals are to get out of the academic Japanese mode into the Kanji Camp real world study environment. Shane affirms that our program can be a great supplement to colleges on the other side of the planet... ok. perhaps a tad exaggeration. Never the less, JSP and advanced Ninja students are excited to have further conformation that their texts are used in the heart of other US. Japanese populations down south . . . in wani-ville.

UpComing Events

On **June 14, 2007** Blake-sensei will be in a brainstorming session with a teen church group headed to Japan for the first time. The students will be visiting Kanji Camp on Monday **June 18, 2007** for a crash course in Travel & Cross-Cultural Friendship development.

June 18-22, 2007 is the first session of Kanji Camp, the Summer Language & Culture Exploration—the educational fun that launched us. We're looking forward to meeting some of your siblings who have enrolled in that fun week of intensive activity. There is room for one more 9 year old girl . . .

July 5, 2007 launches IUPUI's **Conversational Japanese**, a title revision to Fundamentals of Japanese. It remains an 8 week, 16 hour short course beginners and Japan travelers. **Sign ups still available . . . www.cln.iupui.edu**

Stay tuned for future field trips . . . !

Summer Camp
& Summer Trips

