

Japanese Teachers' Association of NSW



(JTAN)
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August 2010 Newsletter

Hi Everyone,

We are sure that you are all in the full swing of things, with semester 2 marking and reporting well underway.

President's Message

Dear JTAN members,

I hope you are having a productive Term 3. I recently attended the Stage 6 Heritage Course syllabus handover meeting at the Board of Studies. Here is a quick overview of the meeting.

Information and Facts: The Heritage Course

- will commence in 2011
- will only apply to Mandarin, Indonesian, Japanese and Korean
- is designed to enable students to strengthen their personal connection to their heritage
- syllabus is available online at BOS website
- has eligibility criteria
(http://www.boardofstudies.nsw.edu.au/syllabus_hsc/pdf_doc/heritage-lang-ec-st6-syl-2010.pdf)
- description of target group is published on BOS website with several 'case' scenarios
- has a set of **Issues** viewed from **Perspectives** and drawn from **Contexts**
 - *Young people and their relationships*
 - *Tradition and values in a contemporary society*
 - *The changing nature of work*
 - *The individual as global citizen*
 - *Japanese identity in the international context*
- has internal assessment called **Personal Investigation** which is the key aspect of the course. Students choose their area of interest from one of the **Issues**.
- grammar, Kanji and suggested resource list is included in the syllabus
- sample unit of work and assessment specimen paper will be available late October with sample answers and marking guideline

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- is a challenging course not to be taken by the eligible students as their 'easy subject'.

Since the meeting, I have been pondering about;

- Who will run the course?
 - Saturday School
 - Chatswood will be the only centre offering the course. However, only if the enrolment reaches ten. Presently, they have had three expressions of interest. If you have students in your school who are eligible for the course, please get in contact with the Saturday School and register your student's interest for 2011.
 - Open High School
 - Won't be offering the course until 2013. They will be enrolling Year 9 students (Heritage Course Candidates) from next year and have them complete the Continuers Course to prepare them for the Heritage Course.
 - Schools
 - BOS mentioned that some schools are starting the course next year but did not disclose the names. Please email us and let us know if your school is starting the course next year or the following year.
- Extensive resource list
 - Without a set text, the suggested resources list is quite extensive and overwhelming
 - Where can the suggested resources be purchased and accessed?
- National Curriculum
 - Phase 1 (K-10 English, Maths, Science and History) of National Curriculum will be implemented in 2011. With whooping number of hours increased for these Phase 1 subjects, elective subjects such as languages may face reduced hours of study or may not allow some students to study two languages.
 - Plans for Phase 2 (Languages, Geography and Arts) are uncertain at this stage. Policy decisions about specific languages, and how the Australian Curriculum will address them, is yet to be made.
 - Plans for Stage 6 Languages for near future also have everyone guessing. Currently Victoria only has 'first language' and 'second language' options. NSW has the Beginners, Continuers, Extension, **Background** and now the **Heritage** for all Asian Languages but only beginners, continuers and extension courses for all European languages. Will the

National Curriculum reduce and unify the number of courses offered across all languages in near future?

Regards,
Cathleen Jin

AGM and Workshop

JTAN will be holding its' AGM and Workshop on **23rd October 2010**. The workshop promises to be an extremely useful professional development opportunity. We are sure that all attendees will leave the workshop with a much greater understanding of how to incorporate useful teaching and learning strategies in their teaching and learning programs.

JTAN's AGM will also be held on the day and we are excited to announce that attendees will have the opportunity to win a lucky door prize of a **'Return Flight to Japan including all relevant taxes'**.

JTAN will also provide dinner for those attending members. We also have provisions for country members, so that ALL JTAN members have the opportunity to attend this worthwhile event.

JTAN is currently asking for expressions of interest from members who would be interested in presenting a session on the day. The day is divided into 3 sections according to stage (i.e. Stage 4, 5, or 6). If you are interested in presenting a session please contact Naoko Henschke at nhenschke@kambala.nsw.edu.au.

If members would like to nominate a someone for a committee position for 2011, please fill in the attached nomination form and send it to PO Box 419, Belrose, NSW, 2085 or email it to: enquire@jtan.org.au.

The application forms are attached to this newsletter. Please be reminded that applications close on **Friday 24th September 2010**.

Expression of Interest – 2011 Committee Member

At the AGM we will vote for new committee members. JTAN encourages all members to consider becoming a committee member, as it is a most educational and rewarding experience. If you are interested in becoming a JTAN Committee Member in 2011, please send your expression of interest to JTAN's president, Cathleen Jin at: cjin@cranbrook.nsw.edu.au.

Australia's Silent Film Festival in Sydney

Dates: September 11, 16, 18, 23 and 25

The Festival again brings the best of restored silent films with live music. There are classic Australian and international silent films with highly acclaimed stars and directors: Vidor, Ozu, Clair, Wiene. Boris Barnet, John Gilbert, Chaplin, Keaton and many more.

Art house cinema and all genres are represented with a number of Australian premieres among the treats. There are special features: a rarely seen magic lantern show and some items from the iconic Darnell Collection in the Fashion and the 1920s session.

The Festival is blessed once more with the sublime talents of the internationally celebrated musicians who accompany these films: Riley Lee playing the Japanese shakuhachi, Sharolyn Kimmorley, Mauro Colombis, Colin Offord, Robert Constable and Maria Okunev.

Japanese Specific Details

Date: September 16

Place: Wesley Conference Centre 220 Pitt Street

Time: 7pm

Title: Passing Fancy – Dekigokoro 1933 (JAPAN) Accompanied by Riley Lee on shakuhachi

Overview: Delightful story about a single father and his young son, by legendary Japanese director, Yasujiro Ozu. Japanese tea ceremony precedes the film.

For more information on the Australia's Silent Film Festival and how to buy tickets contact:

Website: www.ozsilentfilmfestival.com.au

Phone: 0419 267 318

Email: info@ozsilentfilmfestival.com.au

2011 Teacher and Student Workshops

The JTAN committee is currently planning for 2011 Teacher and Student workshops. It is essential that these workshops cater for our members and their students' needs. If you have any in-servicing needs or ideas for student or teacher workshops, please don't hesitate to send them to us at enquire@jtan.org.au.

Enjoy the rest of the term.

Aaron McLuckie
JTAN Communications Officer

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