The Japanese Language Speech Contest Victoria 2026

Organized by
The Japanese Language Speech Contest Victoria, Inc.

The contest was successfully conducted
on Sunday, 23rd August
at Yasuko Hiraoka Myer Room, Sidney Myer Asia Centre,
The University of Melbourne

Thank you for your Support

Generously Sponsored by:

Consul General of Japan in Melbourne
The City of Melbourne
The Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Melbourne
The Japanese Society of Melbourne
Mioko Woods Bequest
La Trobe University
Monash University
RMIT University
Swinburne University of Technology
University of Melbourne

The Japanese Language Speech Contest Victoria 2026
The University of Melbourne
Sunday 23rd August

PRIZE WINNERS

HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR DIVISION

1ST PRIZE
Christopher Thean
The Spirit of Omotenashi
おもてなしの心おもてなしの心
Haileybury College

2ND PRIZE
Catherine Fu
My Grandmother's Words 祖母の言葉
St Aloysius College

3RD PRIZE
Alexander Lasocki
The importance of forest bathing in Japan
日本の森林浴の大切さ
Haileybury College

COMMENDATION PRIZE
Sitong He
There Is More Than One Right Answer
「正解は、一つじゃない」
South Oakleigh College

COMMENDATION PRIZE
Eshani Wewelwala
The forgotten subject
忘れた科目
Presbyterian Ladies' College

OPEN BEGINNER DIVISION

1ST PRIZE
Bonn Lysa Soth
Has the world changed, or have I?
変わったのは世界か、私か
Monash University

2ND PRIZE
Paul Tam
Arcades: Where Memories Come Together
思い出をつなぐゲームセンター
The University of Melbourne

3RD PRIZE
Aaron Seru
The reality of a mature aged student
社会人学生の現実
RMIT University

OPEN DIVISION

1ST PRIZE AND MELBOURNE-OSAKA SISTER CITY AWARD
Lucy Grimes
Human Connections
人間関係
RMIT University

2ND PRIZE
Jintong Zhai
The Seat That Waits for Me
待ってくれる席
The University of Melbourne

3RD PRIZE
Silvia Wu
Holding Hands with the Monsters Within
心の妖怪と手をつなぐ時
The University of Melbourne

OPEN DIVISION

AUDIENCE PRIZE
Yutong Yao
I Wanted People to See Me as "Someone Who Speaks Japanese" —Beyond Being Told "You Sound Japanese"
「日本語ができる私」を見せたかった ——「日本人みたい」の先にあるもの
The University of Melbourne

COMMENDATION PRIZE
Tzu-han Chou
Until I can say "I'm not okay"
「大丈夫じゃない」と言えるまで
The University of Melbourne

COMMENDATION PRIZE
Chloe Chiu
Does Happiness...Grow from Rice?
幸せは、お米から育つ？
The University of Melbourne

COMMENDATION PRIZE
Tate Mendes Da Mata
The Confidence Language Learning Gave Me
言語学習がくれた自信
RMIT University

OPEN BACKGROUND SPEAKER DIVISION

1ST PRIZE
Haruku Nishikawa
Let's Build the Future Together: Australia and Japan's Partnership in the Space Industry
日本とオーストラリア、一緒に宇宙産業の未来をつくろう!

2ND PRIZE
Emily Ng
My experience during semester exchange in Japan
日本での交換留学の経験
The University of Melbourne