BEYOND Tomorrow Annual Report 2011 - 2012



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Beyond Tomorrow, Building the Future



BEYOND Tomorrow is a project established to support the young victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake to become future leaders



Adversity Makes Great Leaders





Milestones in 2011-2012

Since its inception in June 2011, BEYOND Tomorrow has hosted numerous events to nurture leadership among young victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami





2012 Highlights		
	January Announcement of College Scholarship Program participants	
	February Participation in G1 Summit (Hachinohe, Aomori) Kesennnuma Program (Kesennuma, Miyagi) Applications open for High School Study Abroad Program 	
	March - Performance of background chorus in HOPE, a song dedicated to the victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami - BEYOND Tomorrow Academy Spring Program (Tokyo) - U.S. Spring Program (Massachusetts, Rhode Island, U.S.A)	
	April Applications open for TOMODACHI Summer 2012 BEYOND Tomorrow U.S. Program	
	May - Event with Will Smith (Tokyo) - Announcement of TOMODACHI Summer 2012 BEYOND Tomorrow U.S. Program participants	



Special Messages



Motohisa Furukawa Member of the House of Representatives Minister for National Policy Minister of State for Economic and Fiscal Policy, Science and Technology Policy Minister for Space Policy

"A true leader is someone who is able to lead others by example"

As one of the founders of BEYOND Tomorrow, I am deeply moved in celebrating the one-year anniversary of the project.

I imagine that each and every student participating in BEYOND Tomorrow is still, every day, trying to overcome the painful experiences of the tsunami and earthquake. But in doing so, I trust that you have also discovered the meaning of human warmth and connection.

We at BEYOND Tomorrow have faith that you will become leaders. I believe that a true leader is someone who is able to lead others by example. Just as Apple's former CEO Steve Jobs led many people by example of his own way of living, I am sure that you can be leaders for people in Japan and the world because you have already experienced so much through the earthquake and tsunami.

Through BEYOND Tomorrow, I urge you to spread your message to Japan, to the world. I look forward to watching you become leaders of the region's recovery process and of Japan's advancement into the future.



John V. Roos U.S. Ambassador to Japan

"We pledge our unwavering support for the new generation of young leaders from Tohoku, who, after everything they have lived through, aspire to become global leaders"

The Great East Japan earthquake and tsunami

challenged Japan with a crisis of an unprecedented scale. But while a disaster of that proportion may destroy precious lives and homes, it cannot destroy hearts and spirits. The people of Tohoku prove the power of people to overcome adversity, and I have no doubt that those affected will recover from the disaster.

I am especially encouraged by the young people I meet who continue to pursue their hopes and dreams despite the hardships they have endured. They not only give us the confidence that Tohoku will recover but that young leaders will emerge who will lead the reconstruction of Tohoku and shape the future of Japan.

On March 11, 2011, as Americans we were truly impressed to see the calm determination and resilience of the Japanese people and we pledge our unwavering support for the new generation of young leaders from Tohoku, who, after everything they have lived through, aspire to become global leaders.

With their worldview and strong motivation by their experience since March 11, 2011, BEYOND Tomorrow's students are energized and inspired to become Japan's next leaders. It is both their responsibility and their opportunity and we look forward to supporting them in every way possible.





Heizo Takenaka Director, Global Security Research Institute Professor, Faculty of Policy Management, Keio University



Robert Feldman Managing Director, Morgan Stanley MUFG

"I am looking forward to watching these young people from BEYOND Tomorrow realize their leadership potential and grow into leaders who influence the Tohoku region, Japan, and the world in the years to come"

As a program that strives to nurture future global leaders from the young victims of the Tohoku disaster, BEYOND Tomorrow is filling a role that is extremely crucial in our society.

Through BEYOND Tomorrow, I had the honor to speak with the students from the affected areas. The pain and grief that they experienced through the disaster was beyond all belief. I was deeply moved to see that despite directly facing these challenges full-frontal, these students are still holding on to their dreams and hopes. It is so crucial that this young generation use their own voice to speak to the world of their experiences.

These students are speaking up through BEYOND Tomorrow because they strongly believe that the tragedies brought by the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami should never be repeated in the same way. This is precisely the kind of practical leadership that society seeks.

In order to solve the world's complex problems with diverse dimensions such as politics, economics, and law, it goes without saying that we need strong leadership. I fully believe that the dedication and ambition displayed by these young victims who have lived through an unimaginably harrowing experience are the seeds of such strong leadership.

I am looking forward to watching these young people from BEYOND Tomorrow realize their leadership potential and grow into leaders who influence the Tohoku region, Japan, and the world in the years to come. "The victims of the tragedy in Tohoku are now smiling down at us from heaven, and rooting for us to go ahead and get to work on those great works that we have to do."

There is great significance in the work that BEYOND Tomorrow has accomplished in just one year: to offer the affected students a platform on which to come together, discuss, and act upon the future of the Tohoku region, of Japan, and of the world.

Without human resources, the Tohoku region cannot recover, and there is no future for the country. To create human resources, one must meet new people run into new ideas, and face new challenges with a strong spirit. BEYOND Tomorrow offers a platform on which students can face such challenges. In this way they will become the resources of the future. This opportunity is a gift that grew from the earnest hopes and painful memories of the young victims of the earthquake and tsunami - a gift that society must fully accept.

There is nothing more we can do than the young people who lost their lives. But what we can do is to dedicate our lives towards continuing the work that they started. The victims of the tragedy in Tohoku are now smiling down at us from heaven, and rooting for us to go ahead and get to work on those great works that we have to do.

I would like to offer my full commitment to you, the students of BEYOND Tomorrow, so that you may join hands and, as survivors, realize this significant task that lies before you.



Students of BEYOND Tomorrow

BEYOND Tomorrow is proud to support the students who, despite facing great losses and adversity, continue to embrace a dream to give back to society and become leaders of the world.







[Ofunato] Masahide Chiba

At the Faculty of Engineering at Utsunomiya University following graduation from Ofunato High School Masahide was in Ofunato when the disaster struck. As a result of the tsunami, he lost his mother, grandmother and home. Masahide believes that it is his mission to plan towns that are safe from natural disasters and contribute to the future recovery because he survived the devastating disaster when so many lives were lost. Masahide would like to set up a company that carries out projects related with the disaster recovery, and would like to participate in the planning of towns along the Sanriku Coast which are resilient to damage from natural disasters.



【Rikuzentakata】 Masahiro Kikuchi

At the School of Social and International Studies at University of Tsukuba following graduation from Takata High School

Masahiro lost both his parents in Rikuzentakata. At high school Masahiro demonstrated exceptional leadership as the president of the student council, and after the disaster visited the United Nations headquarters in Europe as part of the 14th High School Peace Ambassador. Masahiro realized the importance of international cooperation after the disaster, and he believes that that communicating the importance of disaster prevention to the rest of the world is a future mission for Japan. In the future, Masahiro would like to become the mayor of Rikuzentakata to lead the way for the recovery of the disaster areas.

【Kesennuma】 Eisuke Kato

At the Faculty of Environment and Information Studies at Keio University following graduation from Toryo High School

Eisuke experienced the disaster in Kesennuma and lost his home. Six months following the disaster, Eisuke participated in the Summer Davos Forum as a student representative for those affected in Tohoku, and communicated the circumstances in Tohoku to leaders from around the world. In the future, Eisuke would like to contribute to the recovery of Kesennuma and make use of his position as a victim of the disaster in order to carry out town planning which sufficiently takes into account the economic situation of people in similar circumstances to him.





[Kesennuma] Shinpei Fujita

At the Faculty of Law at Kanagawa University following graduation

from

Kishine High School Shinpei experienced to the disaster in Kesennuma of Miyagi prefecture, however because of the destruction of his home he evacuated to Kanegawa prefecture where he attended high school separated from his family. Shinpei has been a keen swimmer for 13 years, and this has provided him with emotional support. Nine months after the disaster he competed in the National Athletics Meet in Yamaguchi prefecture as a representative for Miyagi, and achieved a personal best of 12th place. Shinpei's dream is to take part in the National Championship after he has started University, and to become the best swimmer in Japan. Shinpei would like to develop into a future leader for Tohoku, and in the future he would like to return to the Kesennuma area and launch a company with like minded people to help reduce the number of young people leaving the area.



[Ishinomaki] Sayaka Sugawara

At an international school in Switzerland,

originally from Sendai Ikuei Gakuen High School Experienced the earthquake and tsunami at Ishinomaki City, when she lost her mother, grandmother, and her great-grandmother. Six months later, she participated in the Summer Davos Forum in China, where she spoke to world leaders about her personal experiences. She is currently studying abroad at a Swiss high school to acquire language skills so she can pursue her dream of working for children who have experienced similar hardships. In order to give back to the countries that offered their support to Japan after the earthquake, Sayaka would like to become involved in volunteering internationally.



[Soma] Hiromi Meguro

At the School of Community Service and Science at Tohoku University of Community Service and Science following graduation from Soma Higashi High School

Hiromi was given a lift in the car of a passing stranger while running for her life from the rapidly encroaching tsunami, and it is thanks to this that she barely managed to escape unharmed. Her house was however destroyed, and her father lost his job. Having given up on her dream of attending a university specializing in music and having considered going straight also into employment, eventually Hiromi decided on a new goal of using the scholarship to go on to study city-planning and local revitalization in order to contribute to the resources for Tohoku's recovery.



[Koriyama] Miki Mashiko

At Koriyama High School in Fukushima Prefecture, studying abroad at a Swiss High School for one year starting in September

Personally experienced the Earthquake in Koriyama City. After experiencing prejudice based on rumors regarding radioactivity in Fukushima, she wants to spread the message of the real state of affairs in the area to people around the country. In the future, she believes getting people to understand and support Tohoku is important to revitalizing the region. She plans to study in high school in Switzerland from September 2012, and hopes to act as a high school ambassador and tell people the realities of Fukushima. Her dream is to work for the United Nations and contribute to global development issues.

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Scholarship Programs

BEYOND Tomorrow strongly believes that the youth affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster are the ones most capable of becoming leaders who will play a critical role in building the future of the Tohoku region, Japan, and the world. As such, we offer this scholarship to support their growth and education

BEYOND Tomorrow Scholarship Program

A scholarship for rising college freshmen who have overcome the adversity of the Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster, and who have a global outlook and desire to become leaders active both domestically and abroad. As of May 2012, 20 recipients have been selected.

• 2012 Eligibility criteria

(1) Individuals who were living in Iwate, Miyagi or Fukushima Prefectures at the time of the Great East Japan Earthquake (March 11, 2011). (Students who transferred to schools in other prefectures following the disaster are eligible); (2) Students who will have graduated from high school or a corresponding institution by March 2012, who plan to progress to a University, junior college or other higher education institute for the term April 2012 until March 2013, and who will receive notification of their acceptance by March 2012 (also applicable to overseas studies); %Individuals who suffered a particularly high level of adversity due to the disaster (loss of parents, complete or partial destruction of home, etc.) are given priority

• Selection process

- First round: Screening of submitted documents (1, essay based on assigned topic; 2, school principal recommendation)
- Second round: Interviews (group discussion format)

Governance

Scholarship- Committee: The scholarship committee functions to oversee the scholarship selection process

- David Satterwhite
 Executive Director, Fulbright Japan
 Security Children and Compared Compared Lange
- Ken Shibusawa CEO, Shibusawa and Company, Inc.

Selection Committee: The selection committee is composed of the below members, and carried out the second stage (interview) of the selection process

•	Katsuhide Kusawara	Professor Emeritus, Takushoku University
•	Nami Matsuko	Head of Corporate Citizenship Department, Managing Director Nomura Holdings, Attorney at
		Law (New York) (BEYOND Tomorrow Founder)
•	Etsuko May Okajima	President & CEO, ProNova Inc. (BEYOND Tomorrow Founder)
•	Yuzo Takada	National Director, AFS Intercultural Programs, Japan

[Recipients of the 2012 BEYOND Tomorrow Scholarship]

• Naho Abe: Faculty of Health and Medical Science of Teikyo Heisei University (Miyagi Prefecture Kesennuma High School graduate)

- Masahide Chiba: Faculty of Engineering at Utsunomiya University (Ofunato High School graduate)
- Minori Endo: Faculty of Business Administration at Ishinomaki Senshu University (Ishinomakikita High School graduate)
- Naomi Fukuda (Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. Special Scholar): School of Nursing at Miyagi University (Takada High School graduate)
- Shinpei Fujita: Faculty of Law at Kanagawa University (Kishine High School graduate)
- Emi Funakoshi: School of Culture, Media and Society at Waseda University (Miyako High School graduate)
- Yurie Imai (Masatada Kobayashi Special Scholar): Faculty of Law at Keio University (Iwate Prefectural Morioka First High School graduate)
- **Tomohiro Kamisawa** (Sumitomo Chemical Co., Ltd. Special Scholar): Faculty of Agriculture at Tohoku University (Morioka First High School graduate)
- Eisuke Kato (Masatada Kobayashi Special Scholar): Faculty of Environment and Information Studies at Keio University (Toryo High School graduate)
- Masahiro Kikuchi: School of Social and International Studies at University of Tsukuba (Takada High School graduate)



- Shota Kikuchi (Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. Special Scholar): Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at Iwate University (Ofunato High School graduate)
- Chisato Kuramoto (Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. Special Scholar): Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences at Meiji Pharmaceutical University (Morioka First High School graduate)
- David Yuuga Mansfield: School of Law at Waseda University (Sendai Ichiko High School graduate)
- **Hiromi Meguro** (Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. Special Scholar): School of Community Service and Scienceat Tohoku University of Community Service and Science (Soma Higashi High School graduate)
- Sakae Onodera: School of Commerce at Waseda University (Sendai Ikuei Gakuen High School graduate)
- Kokurin Saijo: Faculty of International Studies at Takushoku University (Kesennuma High School graduate)
- Hitomi Sasaki: Study abroad student, Foothill College (Kesennuma High School graduate)
- Ko Sato (Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. Special Scholar): Faculty of Regional Policy at Takasaki City University of Economics (Morioka First High School graduate)
- **Tsubasa Sugeno**: Faculty of International Studies at Utsunomiya University (Fukushima Technical High School graduate)
- Rui Yamauchi: Study abroad student, Fiji National University (Sendai Shirayuri Gakuen High School graduate)





High School Study Abroad Program

An opportunity to study abroad at a boarding school abroad for current or recently graduated high school students who, overcoming the Great East Japan Earthquake, are driven to become global leaders active domestically and abroad. As of May 2012, three students have been selected.

2012 Eligibility criteria

(1) Resident in Iwate, Miyagi or Fukushima Prefecture at the time of the Great East Japan Earthquake (March 11th 2011). Students who moved to schools in other prefectures following the disaster are also eligible;

(2) Individuals who are due to be enrolled in high school as of September 2012, or who will have graduated within less than a year prior to that date;

(3) Individuals with a will to overcome the Great East Japan Earthquake and become global leaders active domestically and abroad.

%Individuals who suffered a high level of adversity due to the disaster (death of parents, complete or partial destruction of house, etc.) are given priority for consideration.

Study abroad locations

- Switzerland (Leysin American School, Vaud; St. Georges School, Vaud)
- United Kingdom (St. Michael's College, Worcestershire)
- United States (Leelanau School, Michigan)

Selection process

- First round: Application forms and essay
- Second round: Telephone interview
- Third round: Interview

Governance

- Selection Committee: The final selection was carried out by the following members. Founder and President, WiLLSeed Company Limited
- Chikara Funabashi Co-Founder and Representative Director, Lifenet Insurance Company Japan
- Daisuke Iwase
- Lin Kobayashi
- Hiroko Nishida
- Director, Secretary-General, The Kamenori Foundation

Executive Director of the Board, Foundation for International School of Asia, Karuizawa

[High School Study Abroad Program participants]

Ryoko Endo

Saint Michael's College (Worcestershire, England) / (Toryo High School student)

Maria Kusaka *

Australian high school / (Sendai Ikuei Gakuen High School student)

Miki Mashiko *

Gymnasium Neufeld (Zurich, Switzerland) / (Koriyama High School student)

Ayaka Ogawa

Leelanau School (Michigan, USA) / (Otsuchi High School graduate)

Sayaka Sugawara (Robert Alan Feldman Special Scholar) Leysin American School (Leysin, Switzerland) / (Sendai Ikuei Gakuen High School student)

Nanami Takahashi * French high school / (Miyagi First High School student)

* Junior Scholarship Program Program designed to allow students to study for at least half a year at a high school other than one partnered with the BEYOND Tomorrow High School Study Abroad Program





Leadership Programs

BEYOND Tomorrow has organized multiple programs intended to encourage personal growth, broaden horizons, and cultivate leadership for its students who aspire to become leaders. Our goal is to develop talented people who, with a global perspective, can be the driving force behind social change.

Gaining a global perspective

• Summer Davos Junior Leaders Program (September 2011: Dalian, China) Seven high school and college students affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake spoke with global leaders and presented speeches.

• U.S. Spring Program (March 2012: Massachusetts and Rhode Island, U.S.)

Three high school students orphaned by the earthquake and tsunami visited American cities such as Boston, MA and Providence, RI, to communicate the current situation in the Tohoku region.

Contemplating Japan's future

• Tohoku Future Leaders Summit (October 2011: Tokyo)

70 high school students from the disaster area gathered in Tokyo and created proposals for the reconstruction of the Tohoku region, under the guidance of leaders from various fields. These proposals were presented to Motohisa Furukawa, Minister for National Policy.

• Leadership Academy Spring Program (March 2012: Tokyo)

One year after the disaster, 25 students who overcame the adversities of the earthquake and tsunami engaged in discussion with leaders about their personal goals for the future and communicated these goals publicly via video and the web.

Reflecting upon the Tohoku region

• Kesennuma Program (February 2012: Kesennuma, Miyagi Prefecture) 11 American students and seven students from Kesennuma visited the streets of Kesennuma and jointly created a message, both in written form and in video, conveying to the world the current situation of the disaster region.







Program Highlights: Dialogue with Leaders

By reflecting on their personal goals and discussing them with diverse leaders, the students of BEYOND Tomorrow have deepened their thinking. They have become aware that leadership does not grow from textbook learning only; it arises from stepping out into the world and being active.



(In discussing how to stay hopeful during a time of daily struggles) "There is a saying that goes, 'Continue to dream while plowing." It is important to keep fulfilling your everyday responsibilities without losing sight of the larger goals in life."

Heizo Takenaka (Director, Global Security Research Institute; Professor, Faculty of Policy Management, Keio University) "What is the most important thing that the United States can do to help in the recovery process? My answer is to provide hope to these incredible young people who are here with us this evening and to all the young people in Tohoku region, because hopes and dreams of Tohoku and Japan as a whole are with the young people of Tohoku."

John V. Roos (U.S. Ambassador to Japan)



"During your school days, there are answers to questions, as well as people who know the answers. However, there are also things you won't know until you start working. In life, there are more things you can't do than things that you can do. Because you can't do everything, there will be things you skip out on and leave undone, which I think is also precious. But you better study English."

Shigesato Itoi (Copywriter)







"You must retain a sense of innocence. You must keep cherishing the feelings that you have in your own heart; value them. It is these people who change the flow of the game, influence the environment of the game. It is not a sense of obligation or backwardlooking attitude but dreams and the future that brings people together and drives a team."

Dai Tamesue (Hurdler)



"When you decide something, think about it from all sides. Listen to what various people say. But ultimately, the one who decides is yourself. No matter how happy people appear, they're undoubtedly carrying some sort of problem. That is why there is no sense in being jealous of or pessimistic toward people."

Daijiro Hashimoto

(Visiting Professor at Waseda University/ Special Visiting Professor at Keio University/ Former Prefectural Governor of Kochi)



"I urge you to tap into your own experiences. Be sure to always speak in your own words; this will enable you to be more persuasive when talking with others. It will also make your opinions and proposals richer and stronger."

Toru Takanarita (Professor of Sendai University, President of the Fund for the Future of Children affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake)



Program Highlights: Communicating with the World

BEYOND Tomorrow considers the ability of its students to communicate to the world the realities of the Tohoku region to be extremely important. As such, BEYOND Tomorrow creates platforms for the students to speak to a global audience.

Sayaka Sugawara (Sendai Ikuei Gakuen High School; currently studying abroad in Switzerland)

March 11th was my middle school graduation day. It was the day that my classmates of 10 years were to begin embarking on a new journey, a day that was meant to remain as a happy memory.

"Do I stay and save my mother? Or do I run to safety? I chose my own life." The earthquake hit when I came home. It was a level of shaking that I had never felt before. The earthquake cut our power, so I was not able to receive information through the television. By the time I heard there was a tsunami coming and started to evacuate, it was already too late -- I heard a ground-shaking boom, and in an instant my family and I were swallowed whole by the tsunami, along with my house. As I was being swept away with the rubble and black water, thoughts rushed through my head: "This is it. I'm going to die." "I wish I had the chance to wear my high school uniform."

After being swept away for a while with the rubble, I heard my mother calling my name from underneath the debris. When I cleared away the rubble, I found my mother, pierced by nails and tree limbs, and a broken leg. Her right leg was stuck, and even though I tried my best to clear the debris, it was too heavy and too big. I wanted to save my mother, but I knew that staying there I would be swept away again by the tsunami. Do I stay and save my mother? Or do I run to safety? I chose my own life. It was a decision that makes me cry to this day. When I left my mother I told her many times, Thank you, and I love you. It was the most difficult moment of my life to turn away from my mother who implored to me, "Don't leave me." There was so much more I wanted to tell her. But I had to leave; I swam to my lower school and spent the night there.

There were many, many more difficult experiences after that moment. There were days that were so difficult that I thought of dying. There were days that I wondered why life is so cruel, and I cannot even begin to count the number of times I cried thinking about my family. Through this tsunami, I lost so much of my life.

But there are things that I have gained through this experience. And I believe that the more effort I put into it, the more I can gain. People may look at me and pity me, but that is not how I see myself. I have a loving grandmother and grandfather. I have friends who are very supportive. I have opportunities now because I have gone through this tragedy. I am confident that I am able to overcome any challenge life may throw at me. And I am able to understand others who have also suffered a great loss.

"There were days that were so difficult that I thought of dying."

"This is why in the future I hope to help other children who went through similar travesties." This is why in the future I hope to help other children who went through similar travesties. I would also like to participate in international volunteering organizations to give back to all the countries that helped Japan in this time of need.

I know that there will be many more challenges ahead in life. But I want to stay proactive, finding the ways in which I can help others so that I can give back as much as, if not more than, what I have lost.

Thanks to BEYOND Tomorrow, I have found a group of peers with whom I can forge forward. I have also discovered many leaders who encourage me to pursue my goals. With all of these supporters behind me, I am going to study abroad in Switzerland with confidence. "It is because of all the pain I experienced that I am able to be who I am now" – I look forward to the day I can sincerely feel that way, and until then, I plan to live life to the fullest.

Masahide Chiba (Faculty of Engineering at Utsunomiya University following graduation from Ofunato High School)

It is strange to think back on the day before the earthquake and tsunami. Even though it was only 4pm, the sky above the school courtyard turned a deep crimson, and a large flock of birds flew overhead. If only I knew at that point that something was different. I still think of that moment often.

March 11th, 2011, 2:46:18pm. When the earthquake hit, I was playing club sports at school. The students were getting agitated because we had never felt the ground shake so much before. We were even smiling a bit -- secretly, we were excited that something out of the ordinary was happening. Little did we know then how much grief was actually awaiting us.

That day I was not able to get in contact with my family who lived 50m from the ocean, but assuming that they safely evacuated to the back hills, I spent the night at the school without much worry. The next morning I walked home, through Sanriku Railway tunnel for about an hour. When I came out of the other side of the tunnel, I was met by a landscape with no buildings. But based on reports I heard that morning, I had been prepared to see this level of destruction. What I was not prepared for, however, was the reality that lay within this destruction.

My mother and my grandmother were dead.

When I heard that they died, I did not know what to think. I went to the hill next to my house, and when I saw my mother's leg in our car, images of her face flooded my mind -- memories of her from the day before, of my childhood -- and thinking how much she must have struggled, I could not help but cry in agony. Even when I put my hands on her face, the warmth of my hands just dissipated; there was nothing I could do to ever bring back the warmth.

The cremation was very painful. I was heartbroken because I knew that we needed to have the cremation, but every fiber within me did not want to have it. I could not bear to have my mother's body turn into ash in the flames.

The days afterwards I struggled to find meaning in life. People would ask me if I was "alright;" I had no idea what being "alright" even meant -- so I just smiled and said yes. Everyday I furiously cleaned away the rubble. I heard that my mother was swept away by the tsunami because she was trying to save my brothers' and my school materials by bringing it to the second floor. I couldn't sleep at night, blaming myself for my mother's death. If only something were different about that morning.



Press briefing session at the Summer Davos Junior Leaders Program, alongside young people orphaned by the Great Sichuan Earthquake (September 2011) Together with Chinese peers who have encountered similar adversities related to natural disasters, the BEYOND Tomorrow students appealed to the world the importance of understanding the risk of natural disasters and preparing oneself for such situations.





Students gave a speech at a concert entitled "HOPE for Tohoku" with the Boston Longwood Symphony Orchestra (March 2011) By invitation from the Japan Disaster Relief Fund Boston, two students gave speeches in English and expressed their gratitude for the United States's support towards the Tohoku region after the disaster.

The reason I am still here, that I am still living, is that I want to contribute something to my hometown and its recovery -- for my mother and my grandmother's sake, for my family's sake. I now believe that joining the recovery efforts is my life mission; it's why I survived.

My hometown of Ofunato thrived on its fishing business, and as such, I think that it is necessary to improve the traffic network of fish and manufactured goods. With a better network, Ofunato can become not what it used to be, but even better -- a town that is better prepared for disaster, a town that is easier to live in. Having this goal in mind, I want to study construction engineering at college.

"The reason I am still here, that I am still living, is that I want to contribute something to my hometown and its recovery – for my mother and my grandmother's sake, for my family's sake."

As a survivor, there are many things I feel that I must do. But it is just as important for others to continue to remember the earthquake and tsunami, and to not let it fade away in their memories. Currently it is expected that an even larger earthquake will hit Japan in the near future. This is why it is essential that we learn from this past earthquake and tsunami. By sharing our experiences widely, we may not be able to prevent an earthquake from occurring, but we will be able to ensure measures for quick evacuation, appropriate reactions to earthquakes, and minimized damage. If we are able to accomplish this, we will have truly learned our lessons from the past.

With my mother's memory beating strongly in my heart, I want to create a world where no child has to ever experience the grief that I have.

Ayaka Ogawa (Boarding school in Michigan upon graduation from Iwate Prefectural Otsuchi High School)

In the tsunami, I lost my entire family. Not only did I lose my parents, sister, and grandparents, I also lost the house that I lived in for 17 years. I lost so much that I could not lose anything more, and I was left all alone on this planet.

On March 11th, immediately after the earthquake, I evacuated uphill with my mother and grandmother. However, the tsunami was right behind us like a huge black wall, and my mother shouted, "Tsunami!" That was the last time I heard her speak.

I ran up hills and a mountain and stayed alive. However, my mother and grandmother were nowhere to be found. The next morning, I walked on the debris calling my mother and grandmother's names. After a few days, I learned that my sister had been killed and also my father was missing.

"So many things were destroyed, vanished in just one brief moment – why was my life, of all things, spared? I felt like my heart and soul were gone."

When I was brought to my sister at the morgue, I put my hands on her cheeks and said over and over - Thank you. My tears soaked her face. I did not want to let her go, but in the end my sister was turned into ashes.

I then spent many days looking for the rest of my family by turning through the pages of a binder with dead people's photos. Each page devastated me. The dead body of a small girl. A corpse with arms and legs bent in every which way.

What if the next page was a picture of my mother? Or my father?

On one hand, I hoped to find my family as soon as possible. On the other hand, I was not ready to accept the fact that my entire family had been killed and only I survived. I was terrified of turning the pages.

Later on, my father and grandmother were located, but my mother and grandfather are still missing.

So many things were destroyed, vanished in just one brief moment – why was my life, of all things, spared? I felt like my heart and soul were gone. But after that time I encountered so many wonderful people, and it is truly thanks to them that I stand here today. Before the disaster, I had very little plans after graduating high school. But after the tsunami, I met many people who helped broaden my perspectives, and I learned the beauty of people being connected with each other.

People must live by helping each other, supporting each other, and thinking of each other. I have come to strongly believe this. Just as many people have given me opportunities to thrive, I want to be someone who gives others such opportunities. In the future, I hope to be active globally, contributing to the world. I am going to study abroad in the United States this month, and I am making small steps towards realizing my new dream of becoming a fashion designer.

My sister was someone who would not hesitate to take actions for people in underprivileged situations. My father taught me to communicate with others with kindness. My mother gave me the strength to live with. With all these precious things my family left me with, I want to cherish every opportunity, believe in myself, and most importantly, follow my own inspirations, in my own way.



"Just as many people have given me opportunities to thrive, I want to be someone who gives others such opportunities."

Japan disaster lecture event "Orphaned by the Wave" at Brown University (March 2011)

The lecture was organized by the Japanese Cultural Association (JCA) at Brown University and commemorated the one-year anniversary of the disaster. Three BEYOND Tomorrow students gave speeches describing the lasting effects of the tsunami and earthquake, as well as emphasizing the importance of disaster prevention.



Program Highlights: A new mission, from Tohoku to the World

Equipped with a new perspective of the world, the students of BEYOND Tomorrow are embarking on a journey to face the most important issues on the global agenda.





I want the world to hear the voice of Tohoku

Ko Sato

Attending the Faculty of Regional Policy at Takasaki City University of Economics upon graduating from Morioka First High School

Ko believes that the key to not forgetting about the disaster and its lessons is for survivors of the disaster to communicate their testimonies of such unprecedented destruction to many people; thus, he would like to undertake the role of an ambassador for the voices of those affected by the disaster. In the future Ko would like to play a role in revitalizing the area and stimulating of the local economy by aiding the recovery of the tourism industry in Tohoku. Ko's dream is to study abroad while at university, expand his viewpoints, and ultimately become a leader with a global passion and effective communication skills.

Studying abroad in the United States to gain skills for aiding developing countries

Hitomi Sasaki

Attending Foothill College upon graduating from Kesennuma High School

Hitomi experienced the disaster in Kesennuma and lost her home. As a middle school student, she also had a pivotal experience where she realized that there are stark, unfair disparities in life based solely on where one is born. Based on these experiences, Hitomi's dream is to work for the benefit of people around the world, particularly those in developing countries. In order to achieve her dream, Hitomi has decided to pursue further studies in America to improve her foreign languages skills and gain a global perspective. She would like to study international relations and eventually make contributions to solving global issues, such as human trafficking, poverty, and famine.



Stepping out from an isolated perspective and gaining international experiences to cultivate a global outlook

Masahiro Kikuchi

Studying at the School of Social and International Studies at Tsukuba University upon graduating from Takada High School

Before the disaster, Masahiro had not given much thought to matters outside of Japan, but since the tsunami and earthquake he aspires to engage in the Tohoku recovery efforts through politics. He realizes that in order to pursue this goal it is important to learn global best practices and gain a global perspective. After the disaster, Masahiro visited the United Nations headquarters in Europe as part of the 14th High School Peace Ambassador Program. In the summer of 2012, he will visit New Orleans, New York, Boston, and Washington, D.C. as a participant of the TOMODACHI Summer 2012 BEYOND Tomorrow U.S. Program.



Equipped with an international outlook, I want to contribute as a nurse

Naomi Fukuda

Attending the School of Nursing at Miyagi University upon graduating from Takada High School

Naomi experienced the disaster in Rikuzentakata and lost her home. Her dream is to return to her hometown of Rikuzentakata and work as a nurse who is able to protect the smiling faces of local people. Following the disaster there were moments when Naomi was on the verge of giving up on going to university, however eventually she resolved to continue her education due to her desire to see more of Japan and the world. She would like to eventually contribute to Rikuzentakata as a nurse, and towards this end, she feels that she needs to gain experiences by tackling new challenges she will encounter at university.



Aiming for graduate studies in London in order to tackle world poverty from an agricultural approach

Tomohiro Kamisawa

Attending the Faculty of Agriculture at Tohoku University upon graduating from Morioka First High School

When Tomohiro was on the receiving end of aid following the disaster, he realized that aid must be based on an idea of "correctly understanding region's needs by knowing its realities" instead of "feeling bad for the victims." Since then he has gained interest in working in developing countries. Tomohiro decided to study agriculture in college, as "agriculture" applies not only to domestic issues in Japan but is important for determining the shape of assistance for solving global problems such as poverty. Upon graduating from college, he hopes to attend the School of Oriental and African Studies in London, U.K., to study international development. His dream is to become involved in policy development to support impoverished nations.



Media Coverage

	and Magazines
2012.05.01	
2012.03.21	THE BROWN DAILY HERALD
2012.03.01	The Kahoku Shimpo
2012.02.26	Sanriku Shimpo
2012.02.25	The Yomiuri Shimbun
2011.11.17	The Yomiuri Shimbun
2011.11.10	THE JAPAN TIMES" Tohoku teens share
	views of survival"
2011.10.20	The Asahi Shimbun
2011.10.13	Fukushima Minyu
2011.10.12	Iwaki Minpo
2011.10.12	The Yomiuri Shimbun
2011.10.12	Sanriku Shimpo
2011.10.10	The Iwate Shimpo
2011.10.10	The Kahoku Shimpo
2011.10.09	Tohkai Shimpo
2011.10.07	The Kahoku Shimpo
2011.09.22	THE JAPAN TIMES
2011.09.15	The Yomiuri Shimbun THE JAPAN TIMES
2011.09.14 2011.09.13	The Asahi Shimbun
2011.09.13	Nihon Keizai Shimbun
2011.09.13	The lwate Nippo WEB NEWS, The lwate
2011.09.11	Nippo newspaper
2011.09.11	The Yomiuri Shimbun
2011.09.03	The Asahi Shimbun Regional Online
2011.09.05	website
2011.09.02	Sanriku Shimpo
2011.07.20	The Yomiuri Shimbun
Television	
2012.03.19	NHK General TV "Shutoken Network:
	Tokyo Metropolitan Nets"
2012.01.05	NHK General TV "Ohayo Nippon"
2011.11.11	TBS "NEWS23 Cross"
Websites	
2011.12.26	Nikkei Women Online
2011.10.03	Mainichi.jp (Mainichi Newspapers),
	"Support information: Scholarship"
2011.10.14	LOVE&HOPE~human \cdot care \cdot project~,
	"Leadership Development Business
	'Tohoku Future Leaders Summit' to be
	held"
2011.07.01	Alterna
2011.07.01	CNETJAPAN
Radio	
2012.05.25	<i>,</i> , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
2011.11	Fukushima Radio
2011. 07.29	5
	"Lunchbox-L"









Since discovering BEYOND Tomorrow

We strive to allow each and every student to be able to connect to his or her future by meeting peers who have had similar experiences and challenging each other. We would like the students to see BEYOND Tomorrow as a platform on which they can personally grow.

ek!"	a presentation in	Tokyo next	"70 selected out of 222 applicants. I honestly can't help but feel shocked to find myself among the selected. But now that I'm here, I'm going to stand tall and give it my all until the end."
	"Thanks to the I Future Leaders started to feel, want to keep livi	Summit, I finall even just a litt	ly have
		Tohoku,' or 'L	ays says, 'Keep fighting, et's fight together, Tohoku' – I didn't know exactly what I fighting for."
onl wa any the	hen I look back of y one word comes nt to do it again. whing I was expect se memories fore the conversations	to mind: Amazi It was way bey ting, and I'll tr ver."	ng.Í
nosphere t it was	e became pretty s a nice way to rea p with the recover	ophisticated, Ily think about	"I learned so many things and met so many wonderful people through BEYOND Tomorrow © I definitely want to apply these experiences in the future."
keep m	eople who gave me oving forward whe ways to die: my t nmit."	n all I could th	o ink
		There	summit is exhausting, but I love it. e's just so much to learn here – where till lacking, where I can grow – I'm





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今年一番。 今年一番悲しめたこと。お欠ちんが思いいなくなったこと。 今年一番楽しかたこと。 Beyond Tomorrowの集い。 今年一番悩んだこと。『強い』とは一体なんなのか。

まだ寒さの続く中、全てを失った。

目の前で、流されていく家。

目の前に現れれた黒い水。

町中を包んが思い水。

町中からあけてと呼ぶ声。

3月11日。

地元も、 おとんも。

This year's superlatives. This year's saddest memory: That my father suddenly disappeared from my life. This year's happiest memory: Meeting my peers at BEYOND Tomorrow. This year's biggest struggle: Questioning myself – What is "strength"?

> March 11th. While the cold winter remained, I lost everything.

My hometown... my Pop. My house that swept away in front of my eyes. The black,water that appeared in front of my eyes. The black,water that engulfed everything in town. The screams for help that came from everywhere in town.

Feeling completely helpless. Feeling completely powerless. The only thing I was able to do... Was to take photos on my phone. But I only had the courage to take one photo. I don't know why, but I just couldn't take any more.





Minori Endo. Faculty of Business Administration, Ishinomaki Senshu University (Ishinomakikita High School graduate)

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ありました 教をまに(可かってきるめ、教育をだからできることは(オート
英国工作生产を得り返したきていく形形なとっていれたときの方
人下をは一生き通して繋がりあえるはわざも 同年代の強いたら
特示非律問。まれたちにてドレイスややる気をつけるメンターのみはうん。
HAR 繋がとこに本 Fe Beyond Rommer a A State
過去は今日家えらいだいけは、今は未来を愛えられる。
用りにおう教えてもういました。
悲しまを確さに索えて今を頼一件生きていこうと思いました。

After fighting off the desire to cling to the past after experiencing a bitter separation, I was blessed with new friends. What are we able to do? What are we able to do because of who we are? While we go forward in life suffering failures and disappointments, I know that those of us who met this year will always be able to turn to each other for support: my peers with strong passion; our mentors who have given us advice and motivation. And everyone at BEYOND Tomorrow who brought us together.

The past cannot change the present, but the present can change the future.

I learned that from those around me.

I now want to keep living life to the fullest, changing my sadness into my strength.



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[Founding Members]

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Naoko Yamazaki	Astronaut
	BEYOND Tomorrow Annual Report 2011-2012 23







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BEYOND Tomorrow is supported by a number of organizations and individuals. We count on everyone's cooperation to serve our mission.

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We have received financial support to fund BEYOND Tomorrow's activities.

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- ROHTO PHARMACEUTICAL CO. LTD.
- Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited
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- Ryusuke Honjo
- Masatada Kobayashi
- Taro Otsuka

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- Diversity & Inclusion Employee Network, Nomura Securities
- KIBOW
- Wellness Arena Corporation

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We have received support towards expenses such as transit, conference spaces, accommodation, and printing.

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The following partners have kindly given us their employees' time, ranging from short-term volunteer to long-term staff positions.

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Scholarship Support

In order to realize our High School Study Abroad Program, several top-tier boarding schools have generously offered scholarships.

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Educational institutions provided scholarships for BEYOND Tomorrow students

- Leelanau School (Michigan, U.S.)
- Leysin American School (Vaud, Switzerland)
- St. George's School (Vaud, Switzerland)
- St Michael's College (Worcestershire, U.K.)



About BEYOND Tomorrow

Summary

The Global Fund for Educational Assistance was founded by leaders active in diverse fields, such as politics, administration, business, NGO, and media. BEYOND Tomorrow is a project established to nurture the young victims of the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami to become global leaders by offering comprehensive support and mentorship. In order to develop future leaders from the affected regions, BEYOND Tomorrow has hosted the Summer Davos Junior Leaders Program in September 2011 and the Tohoku Future Leaders Summit in October 2011. Additionally, BEYOND Tomorrow offers opportunities for students at various ages. The "BEYOND Tomorrow Scholarship Program," which entails both scholarship and leadership development components, targets students entering university, whereas the "High School Study Abroad Program" is intended for high school students to gain an overseas boarding school experience.

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E-mail info@beyond-tomorrow.org

URL http://www.beyond-tomorrow.org/

Date of Establishment 1 June 2011

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 $\ensuremath{\mathbb{C}G}\xspace$ lobal Fund for Education Assistance