

BEYOND Tomorrow Tohoku Future Leaders Summit 2013



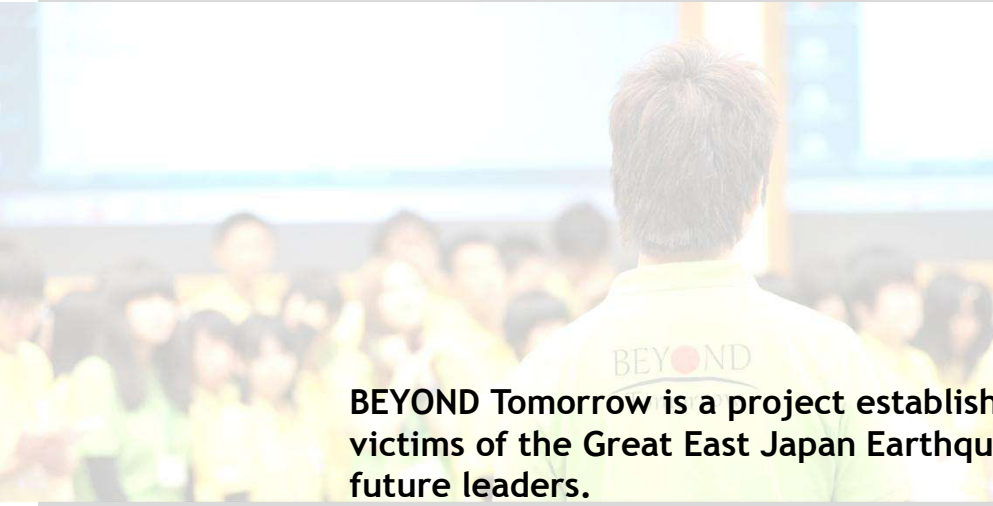
October 12 - 14, 2013

Proposal for the Future of Tohoku by the Young Leaders from the Disaster Communities

- Venue: National Olympics Memorial Youth Center
- Organized by: Global Fund for Education Assistance
- Funded by: Japan Society

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



BEYOND Tomorrow Tohoku Future Leaders Summit 2013 Summary

Organized by Global Fund for Education Assistance

Funded by Japan Society

Dates October 12 - 14, 2013

Participants

- 59 high school students who were living in Iwate, Miyagi, or Fukushima prefectures during the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami, but overcame their adversity with a global perspective and an ambition to become a leader in a domestic and international domain. (Selected through application screening)
- 22 university students who were living in Iwate, Miyagi, or Fukushima prefectures during the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami, have participated in at least one past BEYOND Tomorrow program, and have exhibited active participation in society to work towards a brighter future.

Overview

The participants divided into 11 groups, and under the guidance of established leaders in various fields, established policies for Tohoku's reconstruction and created a proposal as a group. The proposals made by the students were presented to First Lady Akie Abe.

The underlying belief is that precisely because they have experienced the tragedy of the earthquake and tsunami, these students are able to become empathetic activists and serve a larger society. At this Summit the students, as survivors of the disaster, reflected on what roles in society they must fulfill, and how to convert these ideas into action.

Message

Motoatsu Sakurai
President
Japan Society



“While this Summit is a first step for those of you from Tohoku to play a role in its recovery, it also requires cooperation from all of Japan. While doing so, I imagine that you will grow and come up with even better ideas for the recovery of Tohoku.”

Japan Society, the largest American organization promoting Japan-U.S. cultural exchange, is honored to support BEYOND Tomorrow’s Tohoku Future Leaders Summit 2013. The financial support comes from the 23,000+ people who gave to the Japan Earthquake Relief Fund, which Japan Society created immediately following the disaster. Donations came from all 50 states and from more than 50 countries around the world. These donations were collected along with the compassion and kindness that people felt for the victims of the disaster. I hope that you, as recipients from a younger generation, can take full advantage of the donations and goodwill, and engage in activities that contribute to Tohoku’s recovery.

March of next year marks the third anniversary of the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami, and we will be entering the fourth post-disaster year. As far as I know, however, Tohoku’s recovery remains riddled with many difficult challenges. In this adverse environment, I believe that those of you who have created a vision for the future of Tohoku, based on local needs, are at a critical point where you must turn your vision into action. I am convinced that these three days of discussion and debate can have profound meaning for the future of Tohoku and its recovery.

One of the things that I am most impressed by is that BEYOND Tomorrow has been able to engage leaders from diverse backgrounds to be your mentors on a volunteer basis. Indeed, this is an extremely rare opportunity. As such, I urge you to take in what these leaders are saying and learn from them so that you can grow and develop. I earnestly hope that you will take your useful ideas for Tohoku’s recovery and take action.

While this Summit is a first step for those of you from Tohoku to play a role in its recovery, it also requires cooperation from all of Japan. Furthermore, I believe that it is important to think a step ahead and consider what kind of support you could seek from the international community, thus approaching recovery with a broad perspective. While doing so, I imagine that you will grow and come up with even better ideas for the recovery of Tohoku.

It would bring me great joy if sometime in the future you find that the Summit was in fact an excellent learning opportunity that had great impact on your life. Make good use of this opportunity. I wish all the best.

Contents

1. Message	03
2. Program Overview	05
I. List of Participating Students	07
II. Student Comments	09
III. Schedule	11
3. Sharing Disaster Experiences	15
4. Proposal for Shaping Tohoku’s Future	17
I. Understanding the Needs of Tohoku	18
II. Interview Sessions with Experts	19
III. Closing Plenary / Presentation	21
IV. Presentation at Prime Minister’s Official Residence	25
5. Participating Supporters	26
6. Media Appearances	29
7. Choir Lyrics	30
8. Supporters	32
9. About BEYOND Tomorrow	33

In October 2013, two and a half years after the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami, BEYOND Tomorrow held the third Tohoku Future Leaders Summit. The participants have come a long way since the terrible disaster changed their lives.

Junior high school students at that time have now become high school students; high school students have become university students. Some students continue to live in Tohoku, while others have evacuated or started new lives in other parts of the world, holding memories of their hometowns, dear to their hearts.



High School Students

59 high school students who were living in Iwate, Miyagi, or Fukushima prefectures during the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami were selected through rigorous application process. The applicants who, despite facing the adversity, hold strong aspirations and determination to become global leaders and contribute to society in a domestic and international domain participated in the Summit.

Sharing Experiences

Tohoku Future Leaders

An opportunity for leadership among the participants, regardless of generations, envisioned the future of Tohoku.

Goals

1. To create Proposals for Tohoku
2. Each student to define his/ her future vision for his/ her future by interacting with leaders in different fields
3. To build strong bonds among students through discussions and shared ambitions and opinions

Meeting with Peers

Dialogue with Leaders

Policy Advisors

Advisors, who are active in various fields, were assigned to each student group, and the advisors offered support for the students in their discussions.



Participants of BEYOND Tomorrow College Scholarship program who participated in the Summit for their third time, addressed the real-world issues as a case study. BEYOND Tomorrow Tohoku Future Fellows students led the younger generation as Team Leaders. High school students, hoping to catch up to university students, enthusiastically expressed their passions for the reconstruction of Tohoku to the leaders and experts who came to this Summit.

The unique perspective of each future leader of Tohoku made the Summit a truly special experience.

Mission as Survivors

Leaders Summit

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Fellows

11 university students who are the participants of “BEYOND Tomorrow Future Fellows Program” played a role as Team Leaders, who supported high school students during the 3-days program.



Scholars

11 university students who are the participants of “BEYOND Tomorrow College Scholarship Program” formed their own team to address a case study in addition to advising Tohoku Future Fellows Program participants.

Experts

When discussing Tohoku’s reconstruction, students received input from an expert from each field.



Program Overview

Participating Students

This Summit targets young people who, despite facing great adversity, maintain a global outlook and have aspirations to actively work on both domestic and international platforms. Together with 59 high school students who were selected on an application basis, 22 university students were also selected to attend, based on their active contribution to society and other BEYOND Tomorrow programs after having experienced the disaster first-hand in Iwate, Miyagi, or Fukushima prefectures.

List of High School Students (1/2)

Name	School	Grade	Name	School	Grade
Iwate					
Saki Azuma	Otsuchi High School	3	Soshi Terui	Ofunato High School	2
Shoko Abe	Yamada High School	2	Ken Nakaguchi	Iwayado High School	3
Manami Omura	Ichinoseki First High School	3	Kotaro Nagase	Ichinoseki National College of Technology	1
Shiho Karamushizawa	Kamaishi High School	3	Miu Hamato	Kamaishi High School	1
Tomomi Kawamorita	Morioka Daini High School	2	Taiki Hayasaka	Toryo High School	2
Akari Kikawada	Takata Senior High School	3	Riko Fujii	Morioka First High School	3
Makoto Sasaki	Miyako High School	2	Nana Fujiwara	Takata Senior High School	2
Akie Sato	Morioka Daisan High School	1	Miku Maekawa	Kamaishi High School	1
Kotono Sekiguchi	Miyako Commercial High School	3	Yusaku Yoshida	Otsuchi High School	2
Miyagi					
Rina Ishikawa	Tagajo High School	3	Natsumi Takahashi	Motoyoshi Hibiki High School	3
Misa Ito	Kesennuma High School	3	Yuki Takeyama	Ishinomaki Commercial High School	3
Honoka Inamura	Miyagi Gakuin High School	1	Yuri Tabata	Shizugawa High School	3
Morika Oikawa	Miyagi First High School	2	Arisa Chiba	Ishinomaki Kita High School	3
Ayaka Obata	Tagajo High School	2	Nao Chiba	Sendai Nika High School	3
Shiori Kameya	Sendai National College of Technology	3	Masafumi Naganuma	Ishinomaki Nishi High School	1
Yoshiyuki Ganbe	Ishinomaki Kobunkan High School	3	Soru Hiratsuka	Sendai Higashi High School	3
Yuta Kondo	Natori Kita High School	3	Shiori Fukuda	Tagajo High School	2
Aki Sasaki	Tohoku Gakuin Tsutsujigaoka High School	3	Rinpei Fujita	Kesennuma High School	3
Shun Sato	Miyagi Agriculture High School	3	Ami Miura	Kesennuma High School	3
Shun Shibuya	Ishinomaki Commercial High School	2	Mako Miura	Kesennuma Nishi High School	2
Keisuke Suzuki	Shiogama High School	3	Kenichiro Munakata	Sendai First High School	2
Sakura Suzuki	Sendai Ikuei High School	1	Azusa Murakami	Kesennuma High School	3
Arisa Takahashi	Ishinomaki Municipal Girl's High School	2	Kokoro Watanabe	Ishinomaki Kita High School	2
Fukushima					
Yuri Arai	Sumidagawa High School ※	3	Reika Takahashi	Fukushima National College of Technology	3
Hazuki Kamata	Yokohama Seiryō Sogo High School	2	Ryoya Nishimura	Asaka High School	1
Haruka Kurosawa	Aizu High School	3	Takumi Nemoto	Naha Nishi High School ※	3
Takahiro Saito	Futaba Shoyo High School	3	Satomi Hashimoto	Fukushima National College of Technology	3
Hidemi Saito	Shukutoku High School ※	2	Hana Fukaya	Sendai National College of Technology	2
Chiaki Suzuki	Iwaki Sogo High School	2			

※ Evacuated from Fukushima after the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami.

Program Overview

List of High School Students (2/2)

Name	School	Grade	Name	School	Grade
Participants of BEYOND Tomorrow High School Study Abroad Program					
Sayaka Sugawara	Leysin American School (Switzerland)	3	Nanami Takahashi	St. George's School (Switzerland)	2

List of University Students

Name	Current School	High School
Participants of BEYOND Tomorrow College Scholarship Program (Scholars)		
Yurie Imai	Faculty of Law at Keio University	Morioka First High School
Minori Endo	Faculty of Business Administration at Ishinomaki Senshu University	Ishinomakikita High School
Tomohiro Kamisawa	Faculty of Agriculture at Tohoku University	Morioka First High School
Shota Kikuchi	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at Iwate University	Ofunato High School
Masahiro Kikuchi	School of Social and International Studies at University of Tsukuba	Takata Senior High School
Chisato Kuramoto	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences at Iwate University	Ofunato High School
Kokurin Saijo	Faculty of International Studies at Takushoku University	Kesennuma High School
Ko Sato	Faculty of Regional Policy at Takasaki City University of Economics	Morioka First High School
Tsubasa Sugeno	Faculty of International Studies at Utsunomiya University	Fukushima Technical High School
Masahide Chiba	Faculty of Policy Management at Keio University	Ofunato High School
Shinpei Fujita	Faculty of Law at Kanagawa University	Kanagawa prefecture Kishine High School (originally from Kesennuma High School)

Participants of BEYOND Tomorrow Tohoku Future Fellows Program 2013 (Fellows)

Reo Ishikawa	Faculty of International Communication at Gunma Prefecture Women's University	Yumoto High School
Ena Kanno	School of Commerce at Waseda University	Sukagawa Toyo High School
Aoi Kitada	Faculty of Medical Technology at Teikyo University	Kamaishi High School
Takuya Kimura	College of arts and sciences at The University of Tokyo	Morioka First High School
Ryuji Kokuta	Faculty of Law at Tohoku University	Kesennuma High School
Kaede Sakuma	School of Art at Tohoku University of Art and Design	Ishinomaki Municipal Girl's Senior High School
Saya Sasaki	Faculty of Letters and Education at Ochanomizu University	Takata Senior High School
Kazuki Sat	Faculty of Arts and Letters at Tohoku university	Sendai Daini High School
Shin Sato	School of Medicine at Iwate Medical University	Ofunato High School
Ayumi Takahashi	Faculty of English Studies at Sophia University	Sendai Shirayuri Gakuen High School
Hayoung Paik	Faculty of Arts and Letters at Tohoku University	Aizu Gakuho High School

Student Comments

Nao Chiba
Senai Nika High School

On the way back home from the Summit, I had a discussion with my peers on the bus to Tokyo station. I even had a discussion at home with my parents.

I hope that I'll have even more opportunities to have the sorts of discussions I had. In reflection, there were several instances throughout the Summit which could have been done better. Some called that feeling "regret," while others called it "a challenge." Perspectives change drastically from person to person, making discussions fascinating!!



Shiori Karamushizawa
Kamaishi High School

I feel that by participating in Tohoku Future Leaders Summit, I've become more than I was before! I think we were able to talk about topics we usually wouldn't broach at school because we all came with the similar mindset. I also gained confidence sharing my ideas through presentations. I enjoyed the intensely meaningful three days.



Chiaki Suzuki
Iwaki Sogo High School

Up to now, I've only had vague thoughts about how I want to live my life. However, this Summit gave me an opportunity to come up with some ideas for my future; I want to inspire children from my hometown to chase their dreams and to expose them to a variety of experiences. Now I have to consider what I can do to become that person.



Yuri Arai
Sumidagawa High School

I first encountered BEYOND Tomorrow when I saw a flyer about the Summit at my school in Tokyo last year. Although I enthusiastically filled out the forms, unfortunately they didn't arrive in time for the deadline.

Fortunately, I was able to participate in the Summit this year. While I had meaningful experiences there, made more friends, and broadened my horizons, I mostly enjoyed discussing on and making presentation about Tohoku's reconstruction with peers who had gone through the same experiences on the day of the disaster. I was able to take away the feeling of fulfilment and empowerment, the feeling that we really could do something with our own hands!



Yoshiyuki Ganbe
Ishinomaki Kobunkan High School

After the Summit ended, I felt that everything had gone straight to my heart. I felt the same after the last Summit, but there really were no other people I could bond with so quickly. After the last Summit,

I didn't feel motivated to take an action. But now, I feel it's time to take an action. I am not yet sure how I can contribute. But I do hope that my small actions can bring about a change in the world; the same way the flutter of a butterfly's wing can bring about the winds, which together form air currents that eventually change the climate. Although I may not have chance to participate in BEYOND Tomorrow's program as a high school student, these last three days have made me intensified my desire to be further involved in BEYOND Tomorrow even in college.



Miu Hamato
Kamaishi High School

Since the disaster, I haven't talked to anyone about my experiences of the disaster, because I didn't think anyone would understand how I felt. But at BEYOND Tomorrow, there were many people who went through the same painful experiences but were brave enough to openly share their experiences. I felt glad to meet people who understood me for the first time. I couldn't keep avoiding my painful experiences with the disaster forever. I have to confront them and share them so that I can pass the lessons of the disaster to the next generation.



Ken Nakaguchi
Iwayado High School

At the Summit, I talked about my disaster experiences for the first time. I thought I would keep my feelings to myself, but when I saw peers who had gone through even more painful experiences publicly talking about them, I realized that I should not keep my feelings to myself forever, that I had to express them.



Nanami Takahashi
St. George's School (Switzerland)

This Summit was a milestone for me to personally reflect on how I've grown since encountering BEYOND Tomorrow at the first Summit two years ago. I am now a third-year high school student, the same age as the original BEYOND

Tomorrow's university students. The situation has changed since the disaster two years ago and so have the problems. However, the opportunity to share my experiences has made a great impact on the way I think, see things, and interact with people since the first Summit two years ago.



Ena Kanno
School of Commerce, Waseda University

What I felt at the Summit this time was that the College Scholarship students were the pioneers and that we, the Fellows students, were chasing behind. I think they were the pioneers, because they were dealing with problems one level higher. But at the same time, when I saw them struggling with the assignment. I felt that we were peers growing together.

Tomohiro Kamisawa
Faculty of Agriculture, Tohoku University

The BEYOND Tomorrow-ness is to make full use of our brains. We almost reached on the edge of our capacity level. I think we have become this serious, because we talk about issues that relate to each and every one of us. And for that reason, I'm really glad that I participated again.



Hayoung Paik
Faculty of Arts and Letters at Tohoku University

One participant, who had gone on a BEYOND Tomorrow overseas program had learned to speak publicly of his experience. This participant, in turn, was able to inspire another participant who lacked confidence through the Summit. I was very happy to encounter this change.



Shun Sato
Miyagi Agricultural High School

Right after the disaster, I didn't want to talk anything about the disaster. But that all changed when I went to the U.S. on the BEYOND Tomorrow program this past summer. It was painful remembering the disaster while preparing for a speech,

but my peers gave me a lot of encouragement. When I felt out of it, someone was there to make me smile. I was able to forget my painful experiences by having someone to laugh with me when I was sad. It made me realize that I want to give back, by helping relieve people of their suffering, which is why I attended the Summit. I hope everyone had the chance to express their opinions and gained strength from the Summit.



Yurie Imai
Faculty of Law, Keio University

The theme this time was difficult, but worthwhile, and we were able to come up with a meaningful proposal. The first time I participated in the Summit two years ago, I didn't quite understand BEYOND Tomorrow. The

second year around, younger students joined and I still didn't know how to coordinate the team. This third time my role was to support the Team Leader as a student mentor. I had more management responsibilities, it was difficult, but made the event more meaningful and fun.

Ko Sato
Faculty of Regional Policy, Takasaki City University of Economics

I feel that the most obvious way I've changed since the first Summit is that I can now seriously accept what another person says. However, I still have much to grow and mature until I can react to what has been said. I will keep in mind that accepting and reacting are both equally as important as two wheels are on a car.



Shota Kikuchi
Faculty of Law, Tohoku Gakuin University

The day before the presentation, we faced the constraints of the real world and confronted a challenge. We had to choose whether we change society or find another way around the societal barrier and change our direction instead. Everyone chose the first option. I realized then that this must be what BEYOND Tomorrow is about. During the Summit high school students were thinking purely about how to change Tohoku. The first time I participated in the Summit, I wanted to change Tohoku and through this Summit, I was able to relive that feeling.

Program Overview

Schedule

October 12

16:30~17:00

Orientation

17:00~18:00

Ice-Break

18:00~19:00

Dinner

19:00~21:00

BEYOND Tomorrow Night (Sharing disaster experiences)

October 13

7:00~ 8:00

Breakfast

9:00~ 9:30

Choir Rehearsal

9:30~10:15

About BEYOND Tomorrow

Presentation of Assignment

10:15~11:30

(Discussion) Understanding the Needs of the Affected Areas in Tohoku

11:30~12:30

Lunch

12:45~13:15

Interview Preparation

13:15~14:45

Interview Session with Experts

Keiko Kiyama Trustee & Secretary General, JEN

Shigesato Itoi Copywriter

Ken Shibusawa Founder and Chairman, Commons Asset Management

President, The Japan Center for International Exchange

Masayoshi Ishiwata

Chief of River and Coast Management, River Environment Division

Land Development Department, Chiba Prefectural Governor's Branch

15:15~16:15

(Discussion) Presentation Preparation

16:15~16:45

Progress Review

16:45~18:15

(Discussion) Presentation Brush-up

19:15~21:15

Dinner

October 14

7:00~8:30

Breakfast

8:30~10:40

Presentation Practice

11:00~12:30

Closing Plenary

12:30~14:00

Farewell Lunch









Sharing Disaster Experiences

Nearly three years have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami.

What is the meaning of gathering together from Tohoku? Do we still need to talk about the disaster? What is the point of having both victims and non-victims think about the recovery process?

Remembering their own memory of “March 11, 2011”, each participating student faced their experiences. By listening to, accepting, and empathizing with their peers, each and every participating student created their own special space for reflection.

BEYOND Tomorrow Night

“Even if told to speak honestly of your thoughts, you may wonder what to say or what to ask your peers. It may result in silence. But I believe that this silence is “meaningful chaos”. This session is not intended to find an answer but to share our thoughts. I want you to start with the words or phrases that come to mind. I know it’s scary to speak your thoughts, but that’s an important place to start.”

Masahide Chiba
Faculty of Policy Management (Ofunato High School Graduate)



Though I am from a more inland area, I participated in the first Summit two years ago, because I wanted to do something for the affected areas. One friend I had made was from there and had lost his parents. I thought I knew the disaster from the media, but felt that the reality of the disaster was beginning to affect me for the first time. Since participating in the Summit, I learned a great deal from my peers. Though I know that I cannot 100% understand their feelings. This experience has driven me to think about what I can do for the affected areas in Tohoku. Those are the feelings that you are able to take away from this Summit. While you might not know exactly what to say, once you overcome as situation like this, there are many gains to be made.

Tomohiro Kamisawa
Faculty of Agriculture, Tohoku University (Morioka First High School graduate)



After the disaster, I left my home of Kesenuma to continue pursuing my passion for swimming in a high school in Kanagawa. I was bewildered by the huge gap between Miyagi, where I’m from, and Kanagawa, where I moved to after the disaster. Kanagawa had an aura of peace as if the disaster never really happened. At night, I would remember I had lost my house, and it made me want to return to Kesenuma to do something for my hometown. Having only lived in the affected area for two months after the disaster struck, I wasn’t sure if I have a right to participate in the Summit at all. But I also thought I might be able to positively influence those who were in similar situations. I’ll never forget those three days that gave me the chance to talk express my feelings, something I would never be able to talk about with other friends.

Shinpei Fujita
Faculty of Law, Kanagawa University (Kishine High School graduate)



Sharing Disaster Experiences

“Even if it is hard to talk about it, because we are the victims, we have a responsibility to communicate our experiences to those who did not experience the disaster, those who will carry the future. I made this my resolution. To me, encountering BEYOND Tomorrow was a revolutionary moment.

To my mother: thank you. I am now living my life to the fullest.”



Kaede Sakuma

School of Art
Tohoku University of Art and Design (Ishinomaki Municipal Girl’s Senior High School graduate)

“I’m heading out.” I didn’t ever imagine that that would be the last time I talked with her.

The morning of March 11th, I watched my mother in my hazy memory. It was an image of her back, as she was heading out to her job at the nursery school. In a sleepy daze, I didn’t say anything, and my mother left the house. Normal everyday life. I got ready for work like normal, and I went to my part-time job like normal.

I felt the shake at my job. I thought to myself, “Oh, another earthquake.” The next moment, I heard a large thud and felt the earth tremble as I had never felt it before. It lasted for an extraordinarily long period of time. It wasn’t the same as the times before -- this was different. I knew that.

Getting snow in March is rare for us. The north wind blew relentlessly. All of us who fled to the rooftop shivered in the brutal cold. I didn’t know what was happening. The only thing I knew was that the tsunami was taking over the city. That was the moment I knew that my everyday life that I took for granted was over.

Morning came, and I went to my house. It was where everyone was waiting. Nothing had changed in my house since the day before. It was as if nothing had happened. But there was something awry -- my mother was not at my house. My mother had not come back home yet. “My mom is so reliable; I’m sure she’s just in refuge with the others from the nursery school.” Neither my family nor I ever questioned her absence.

One day, my father came home with a reserved look. I knew something was wrong. “---’s body was found.” I couldn’t hear exactly what he said, but my mother’s face came to mind.

There was an unfamiliar piece of paper on my front door. A death certificate -- it was reporting my mother’s death. I thought it was fake. I wanted it to be some kind of prank. But within those lines written on the piece of paper was an undeniable truth.

I never wanted to relive this grief. To do so, I needed to appeal to people’s emotions. At some point, I came up with a new goal to think of the disaster not as an incident, but as an emotional perspective to communicate to future generations. While I had this goal in mind, time just went by in a smoky haze.

That was when some of the older students at my school told me about the Tohoku Future Leaders Summit. I immediately knew that I wanted to be a part of it to interact with other students who were feeling the same way I was. So I participated in last year’s Summit.

As time passed, people surrounding me grew the feeling that they don’t want to keep reliving the disaster -- that awful memory. “I don’t want to hear about it. I don’t want to talk about it. I’m done.” For whatever reason, I had come to feel that it wasn’t okay to talk about the disaster.

Whenever I spoke about the disaster, people listening to me felt sorry for me about my mother’s death, and I sensed the air becoming uneasy. I stopped talking about it because I felt guilty.

But there was something different about the Summit. As I met my fellow students and other leaders, and as I discussed all sorts of things about the disaster, about my hometown, and about the recovery, I felt the foginess in my heart clear up. I felt the passion that I used to have come back.

Even if it is hard to talk about it, because we are the victims, we have a responsibility to communicate our experiences to those who did not experience the disaster, those who will carry the future. I made this my resolution. To me, encountering BEYOND Tomorrow was a revolutionary moment.

What is the best way to convey my emotions? As I pondered this question, it dawned on me that art could be a medium of communication. But, sadly, I don’t have any artistic talent nor skill. So, then, what is the best way for me to express myself? That was when I remembered the poems that my mother used to write. If it is art through words, I might be able to do it. When I realized this, I began communicating my experiences through my words.

It is nearly three years since the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami. As the environment around us changes at an ever-quicken pace, our memories of the disaster are fading away. What am I meant to communicate to the world? It is not as if I have to hold on to every single memory. I just need to learn to hold on to the important ones.

I lost my mother, the person who knew me the best. In spite of this, I was able to meet new people since then, and I have grown.

To my mother: thank you. I am now living my life to the fullest.

I have to keep facing forward --I have to keep journeying on.

Proposal for Shaping Tohoku's Future

In the morning of Day 2, the participating students were asked to develop plans for the Tohoku's future.

“The Reconstruction with Community Participation”

Tohoku's reconstruction will not be achieved by the limited group of adults who work in the government, but everyone—from children to adults—needs to discuss what kind of place they want to live in and actively involve themselves in recovery efforts. At this Summit, students discussed and proposed how to turn the “reconstruction with community participation” into a reality. Guests voted the student proposals on the reconstruction plan. The team whose proposal won the most votes would be invited to the Prime Minister's Official Residence by First Lady Akie Abe to present their proposal.

- **Developing an Attracting City**

Propose a way to overcome both the “hard” (e.g. temporary and public housing, evacuation to higher grounds, reclaiming of the coastal lands) and the “soft” (e.g. community bonds) challenges of developing an attracting community.

- **Conveying Messages from Tohoku**

Propose a way to communicate people's experiences of the disaster, lessons learned from the disaster, and the current situations of Tohoku so that Japanese society can effectively address Tohoku's reconstruction and the world can learn from the experiences of this disaster.

- **Cross-generational Cooperation**

Propose a way to create the opportunities and relationships for people of all generations involved in the recovery process to work together. They can be in the public sector, private sector, schools, local communities, etc.

- **A Case Study on the “reconstruction with community participation”: Coastal Levee Construction Plans**

Create a proposal that summarizes the advantages and disadvantages of coastal levee construction projects taking place in the three prefectures of Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima and examines how to take the views of local residents into account.

At the Tohoku Future Leaders Summit 2013, students received a letter of encouragement from First Lady Akie Abe.

Message for BEYOND Tomorrow Tohoku Future Leaders Summit 2013

I am extremely pleased to hear that high school and college student representatives of the Tohoku region have gathered today to attend the BEYOND Tomorrow Tohoku Future Leaders Summit 2013. I first learned of your activities during the Spring Program this March, and I was deeply impressed that, despite all of your difficult experiences, you embody such passion to face forward and build the future together.

It has now been over two years since the disaster, but Tohoku's recovery is still in need of a long-term plan. I believe that you, the young generation, are the ones who carry Tohoku's future, and as such, I hope that you, as true representatives of the region, will help guide this process with your leadership skills.

There are many challenges to Tohoku's recovery, such as the relocating to higher ground, planning tide embankments, and constructing new roads. I believe that it is wonderful that you are creating proposals on these themes. I am very much looking forward to hearing the ideas that you come up with.

While I regretfully cannot attend your proposal presentation session on the October 14th, I would like to extend an invitation to the winning team and the university team addressing the case studies to present their ideas at the Prime Minister's Official Residence.

You carry the future of Tohoku. Over these three days, I urge you to think and discuss together to develop a proposal for a bright future.

I wish you a great success at the Tohoku Future Leaders Summit.

Akie Abe

Proposal for Shaping Tohoku's Future

Step 1: Understanding the Needs

As a first step of creating the proposal, participating students researched the current needs of the affected area. What are needed in Tohoku? What is the most appropriate policy for the region?

Participating students, who had conducted interviews with three locals from the affected region prior to Summit, shared the results with their teams and deepened the discussion.

Needs in Tohoku area are ever-changing as the time passes. Using their own experiences and views of local residents as a foundation, students discussed what exactly is needed in the affected areas of Tohoku.

Voices of the Locals

- We feel that not having any physical reminders of the disaster is problematic. Tohoku does not have anything like Hiroshima's A-Bomb Dome that serves as a peace memorial. Without any physical reminders of the disaster, what will be left in 50 or 100 years? We have a mission to confront the disaster and communicate it to future generations. In order to do this, we will need some symbolic remnant of the disaster.
- Something I learned from the interviews was that victims of the disaster don't necessarily hold the same opinions. Some say that we should take the views of local residents into consideration and some say we shouldn't. Merely absorbing all the local opinions doesn't seem like the best thing to do. Realistically, it is very difficult to incorporate all the opinions. Perhaps we shouldn't leave all the decisions to politicians but consider leaving local residents some room to make their own decisions.
- As a result of the nuclear disaster, I am now living in Tokyo. Like me, many victims of the disaster live all around the country and even the world. Even friends from my hometown often say "I want to go back, but I don't plan on it." In order to create a future for our hometowns, we must prevent people from leaving.
- Two and a half years have already passed since the disaster so it's high time the government started announcing measurable goals and concrete plans instead of pursuing abstract ideals. In Kesenuma, where I live, the government has yet to decide exactly how to use the land or where and how to expand the roads. I want them to not just show *what* they're going to revive, but also *how* they're going to do so.
- In the street of Sendai, I heard people from other areas saying that Sendai had already recovered and was prospering. As a citizen of Sendai, I felt confused. While it is true that the more inland city center has already been restored to pre-disaster conditions, the aftereffects of the disaster are still clearly visible in the more coastal parts of the city. I became worried that the aid that was supposed to go to revitalizing those areas might not reach them if people do not recognize the problems occurring.
- In the temporary housing, there were people who wanted to leave soon and people who wanted to stay. It is difficult to include both opinions in the reconstruction plans.
- When I interviewed a high school student, an elderly person living in temporary housing, and a civil servant in Yamada-machi, a town along the coast of Iwate, I felt a gap between the opinions of the local people and the local government. Whereas local felt that their ideas weren't reflected in the reconstruction plans, government officials believed that they were sufficiently reflected. If this gap persists, the efforts of the government will not only end in vain, but local people will also become even more discontent. It is necessary for them to exchange ideas not in a conference room but at the actual site.
- Through the interviews, I realized that both people who had lost their homes and those who hadn't should have an equal say. Victims are not just people whose homes were washed away, but also people who lived there and experienced some sort of physical or economic damage. The affected areas belong to everyone who lives there, so we shouldn't only listen to a certain group of people.



Proposal for Shaping Tohoku's Future

Step 2: Interview with Experts

Issues that surfaced by reflecting on your own experiences and those of the locals: What are the appropriate policies to effectively resolve these issues? When discussing approaches to reconstruction of Tohoku, students received input from one specialist from each field.

Developing an Attracting City

“In order to reach a consensus on a certain matter, you must have an ownership in that matter. The most important thing is that the people of a community choose their own life. When involving them, you must have a thorough discussion. People who come to help can only play a facilitating role. People already have the potential to stand on their own feet. Your role as facilitators is to speed up the process if even by a little. “



Keiko Kiyama
Trustee & Secretary General of JEN

Keiko Kiyama, Trustee and the Secretary General of JEN, as well as the co-chair of Japan Platform, has been serving for refugees, displaced people and victims of natural disaster, since she joined establishing JEN in 1994. From 1994 to 2000, she worked as the regional representative for former Yugoslav countries where she and her teams supported self-reliance of refugees through hundreds of projects in huge varieties of sectors. Currently, JEN works in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, Sri Lanka, South Sudan, Haiti, Tohoku and Jordan, supporting Syrian refugees. “The woman of the year 2006” was awarded to Ms. Kiyama from the Nikkei Women Magazine for JEN’s continuous work on peace building in various parts of the world.

Conveying Messages from Tohoku

“Everyone is focusing too much on “conveying” the information. What’s important is what comes before the “conveying.” People are interested in what you think about the disaster on March 11th and what kind of things you are truly committed to. They will ask what you are doing besides “conveying,” which seems much more important. “



Shigesato Itoi
Copywriter
President, Hobo Nikkan Itoi Shinbun

Shigesato Itoi is an established name in the Japanese cultural scene since the 1970’s until today, known for his copywriting, essays, lyrics, Nintendo game creation, and for his popular website “Hobo Nikkan Itoi Shinbun” (Almost Daily Itoi News). He is best known outside of Japan as a game designer for his work on Nintendo’s EarthBound series of games. Today, Itoi’s activity centers around his website, nicknamed Hobonichi. Since opening in 1998, the website has been updated every day for the past fifteen years, with Itoi’s own essays on lifestyle, interviews and articles, and merchandise sales. With its unique and successful business model, the website won the Michael Porter Prize in 2012.

on Tohoku Reconstruction

Students came up in advance with questions to challenge the specialists and got at the heart of issues related to each field. The students asking insightful questions, and the specialists answering them: it was a fierce debate between the future leaders of Tohoku and the specialists.

Regarding the revitalization of Tohoku, students interviewed experts who have been in the foreground of rebuilding.

Cross-generational Cooperation

“There are perhaps many adults who believe that “The government will do it” or “Corporations will do it,” while very few actually think “We should do it.” If high school students take the initiative to solve societal issues, that will inspire adults. Everyone hopes future generations will live better than the current generation, so by being proactive, the next generation will inspire the adults. This may be your biggest advantage. “



Ken Shibusawa
 Founder and Chairman, Commons Asset Management
 President, The Japan Center for International Exchange

Ken Shibusawa was born in 1961, married and father of three children. He was educated in the United States from second grade elementary through college (University of Texas, BS Chemical Engineering, 1983), and then returned again for graduate school (UCLA, MBA, 1987). He founded in 2001, Shibusawa and Company, Inc., a strategic consulting firm specializing in investments, policy affairs and human resources. He also founded in 2008, Commons Asset Management, a mutual fund dedicated to deliver long term investment opportunities to the Japanese household. He has extensive market experience at JP Morgan and Goldman Sachs as well as Moore Capital, a global macro hedge fund, where he was the representative managing director of the Tokyo Office. In 2013, he was appointed as President of The Japan Center for International Exchange.

A Case Study on the “Reconstruction with Community Participation”: Coastal Levee Construction Plans

“Unlike in the U.S., in Japan, there is no legal framework for civil participation in constructing coastal levee, so it is difficult to reflect the opinions of the citizens in the policy. When constructing coastal levee, we cannot wait five or ten years for citizens to come to a consensus as the coastal levee is something that involves people’s lives. The result is that the government takes a top-down approach in advancing the construction plans. The status quo in Japan is that it is difficult to wait for citizens to form a consensus. But since there are many examples in the world where the participation of citizens are properly taken into consideration, it is possible that the Japanese system will move in the direction as well. “



Masayoshi Ishiwata
 Chief of River and Coast Management,
 River Environment Division,
 Land Development Department,
 Chiba Prefectural Governor’s Branch

Masayoshi Ishiwata began working at the Chiba Prefectural Government in 1981. From 1996, he was in charge of the administration of industrial waste and was involved in the establishment of Industrial Waste G-men “Green Cap.” In 2001, he led the surveillance team that rapidly reduced the number of illegal dumping of waste in the Choshi area, known for a high occurrence of illegal dumping. In November 2002, he published “Industrial Waste CONNECTION” and has since spoken around the country about eradicating illegal waste dumping. He also served as a member of the Waste Recycling Governance review committee, a part-time lecturer at Waseda University, and an advisor at the Nikkei BP Environment Management Forum.

Closing Plenary / Presentation

Final Presentations

“Unless victims and non-victims work together for Tohoku, we will never achieve true reconstruction” - participating students shared this spirit during the 3-days program. All the participating students had different experiences on March 11th and have lived different lives since the disaster two and a half years ago. We want to understand each other’s feelings, but we can’t, but we want to nonetheless.

Final Presentation: Winning Team Theme “Living Museum” (Team 5)



We believe we have to teach the next generation the lessons we learned from the disaster. We don’t want the next generation to go through the painful experiences we went through. Japan may not be good at talking about history, but we believe that a building or some physical object must be left so that future generations can feel our experiences. But Tohoku does not have anything symbolic like that. There are some things that people debate whether to keep, but like the *Kyotokumaru*, the ship stranded in Kesenuma, many remains have already been disassembled.

We propose constructing a “Living Museum” by 2017. This museum will allow visitors to experience a simulated earthquake and tsunami and hear locals talk about their experiences, so that visitors can actually go through the experience instead of passively viewing artifacts or documents. This museum will change the contents to reflect the times, so it is a “living” museum.

We must not wait for “someone” to do this “someday.” We must do it now, ourselves. I believe we can accomplish this with just ourselves. Let’s change Japan with our voices!

We examined the coastal levee construction issue as a case study to learn how local residents and the government could reach a consensus in reconstruction plans. However, through the interviews with experts, we learned that the formation of a consensus over coastal levee construction is deeply intertwined with the law and the existing system, so the reality is actually much more complicated than we thought. Even though we’ve made proposals for the Tohoku reconstruction many times, this was the first time we faced such harsh realities.

From the questionnaires, it became clear that the voices of the local residents were not being reflected in the reconstruction plans. One of the reasons is that the government and the local residents are at odds with one another. We propose creating a space, which we shall call “SC Summit,” where government representatives and local residents can share and discuss their ideas.

When people prioritize selfish interests and cause opinions to clash, that really drags down the process of solving a societal problem. At this Summit, citizens will come together to become a power that the officials cannot ignore and make sure that their opinions are heard. By making their opinions heard, we believe that society will gradually come to reflect their opinions.

Case Study “Reconstruction with Community Participation” Coastal Levee Construction Plans



The Summit wasn't all fun and games. Sometimes, we clashed, became frustrated and bitter. Even so, the participants united over their desire to make Tohoku better, overcoming their differences to create and present proposals that were a culmination of the last two and a half years. With students presenting their proposals as future leaders and current leaders from all fields listening, the closing plenary was filled with passion and hope for the future.

Presentations by ten teams of high school students were voted on by leaders who came to the plenary, and a winning team was selected.

Voting Criteria

- Are they incorporating their unique perspective in the plan for Tohoku?
- Is it concrete?
- Did they include expertise from abroad, lessons they learned from the speakers, and other external sources?

Review from Guest

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

Today, as this is the Tohoku Future Leaders Summit, you are leaders. From now on, I want you all to go through even more challenging experiences as leaders. Being a leader is challenging, but you will be able to become leaders precisely because you have overcome some very painful experiences. I would like you to remember the idea that "adversity makes great leaders," the founding idea of BEYOND Tomorrow.



Leaders face risks all the time, and there is always some argument against a course of action. Leaders must contain the opposing arguments and manage the risks while keeping the team together. Gorbachev once said that "All reformers are unhappy". Whenever you try to do something that hasn't been done, you will always run into criticism and skepticism. If you blaze a new trail, nobody is going to care who did so. People will just use that trail as if it had been there all along. That is the leader and the reformer. I want you all to hold your heads high and become that kind of leader.



Closing Plenary / Presentation

Speech by Student Representatives



“Until recently, I kept on living filled with regrets about my mother’s death. But thanks to BEYOND, I’ve come to believe that instead of chasing things that are not there, I need to appreciate the things that exist now and to continue believing in the things that are to come.”

Shun Sato
Miyagi Agricultural High School

I had my high school entrance examination a few weeks before the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami. My mother, who spoiled me because I was the youngest of three siblings, told me the day before the earthquake, “Shun, I’m so looking forward to going to see your exam results together.” But that night, we fought about something trivial, and I screamed at her.

On March 11th, I was feeling ill, so I decided to stay home from school. My mother cancelled her plans to stay at home to take care of me. When my sister and I left my mom at home to go out for a little while, we were overtaken by an earthquake larger than I had ever felt before. My sister and I rushed home, but my mother was nowhere to be found. We assumed that our mother took refuge somewhere, so we went to our dad’s office, which was located in a safe place.

The next day, we went to look for our mother. The cityscape that I had seen just the day before was completely destroyed; the area around my house was littered with bodies of people who died in the tsunami. I went around all the different refuge sites to look for my mother, but I never found her. One day, I heard that my mom was running away with family friends, and they were all swept away by the tsunami. Eventually the bodies of these family friends were found. I wasn’t able to accept this truth. To this day, we have never found my mother.

A few days later, my father took me to look at my exam results. My student number was listed on the bulletin board with the results.

My tears were flowing uncontrollably. I was supposed to be there with my mother. I wished I hadn’t fought with my mother the night before. I didn’t even get a chance to apologize. I didn’t get a chance to say thank you. I wanted to spend more time with her. As I stood there, one by one, happy memories of my mother kept surfacing. If I weren’t being so difficult, my mother could have been saved. I blamed myself, and all I could do was to apologize over and over again in my heart.

That was when I encountered BEYOND Tomorrow. I heard that students who were living through the pain of the earthquake and disaster were actively working together, and I knew I wanted to join.

This summer, I went to the United States with 11 of my BEYOND Tomorrow friends. Until that trip, I honestly did not like speaking about my experiences with the disaster. I felt like people around me would alienate me. But on my trip to the United States, I was given the opportunity to give a speech, with the support of the older students. The American audiences listen to me with tears rolling down their face. That was when I realized that I may have something that I could communicate with the world. I’m not alone. Precisely because we’ve experienced something so tragic, we have something to say to society. My BEYOND Tomorrow friends taught me this important lesson.

Until recently, I kept on living filled with regrets about my mother’s death. But thanks to BEYOND, I’ve come to believe that instead of chasing things that are not there, I need to appreciate the things that exist now and to continue believing in the things that are to come. I have a dream. I want to get involved in the local administration and help revive the Tohoku region. I have always been protected by others. But now, as proof that my mother lived, I need to grow to be someone who takes care of myself and my family, and someone who can protect other people. I believe that is the only way I can fully show my appreciation for my mother.



Minori Endo
School of Business Administration, Ishinomaki Senshu University
(Ishinomaki Kita High School graduate)

Masahide Chiba
Faculty of Policy Management, Keio University
(Ofunato High School graduate)

Now that I have been with BEYOND Tomorrow for two years, I would love to see it become an organization that is even better known, and I hope that BEYOND Tomorrow will continue being a place that stimulates people's minds.

(Endo) Two years ago, I participated in the Tohoku Future Leaders Summit for the first time. I initially applied because my school club advisor recommended me to. But I didn't know anyone else going, and being a pretty shy person, I was unsure if I would make it through the three-day, two-night event. What's more, I had grown to dislike speaking to others about the disaster after experiencing the unyielding media coverage. I was starting to doubt people's intentions.

But the moment I entered the conference hall for the Tohoku Future Leaders Summit and met my fellow team members, I felt something different within me: "If it's these people, I could tell them anything." To this day, those teammates hold an extremely special place in my heart.

(Chiba) Two years ago, I participated in the Summit for the first time. At the time, I was even shier than I am now, and I wasn't very good at speaking to others proactively. I was interested only in the things around me: my friends, my high school track team, and studying for college entrance exams. In short, I was an average high school kid living in the countryside. I had no particular talent nor vision in life, and even though I participated in the Summit, it wasn't that I had a strong social conscience -- I just participated without much thought. At that time, I hadn't the slightest clue the extraordinary opportunities that BEYOND Tomorrow would offer me over the following two years.

(Endo) Since that first Summit, I have participated in every subsequent Tohoku Leaders Summit. But I still was not comfortable in proactively speaking up in front of others. The turning point for me was last year's TOMODACHI Summer 2012 BEYOND Tomorrow U.S. Program.

"Why don't you try delivering a speech in English?" Two days before our departure, the administrative office called me and asked me this. I had never left the country before, much less even thought about giving a speech in English. After deliberating for a bit, I thought to myself, "When will you ever be able to do this again?" and told them, "Yes, I'd love to." Until that point I was so afraid of failure so that I never challenged myself to do anything. During the trip, however, I practiced my speech over and over again in what I assumed was terrible English -- but the American audience listened to me intently. I fell in love with the United States and left wanting to return. I had the privilege of going to the United States yet again this summer, where I encountered new people and saw familiar faces. They told us, "We're all cheering you on, even though we are far across the Pacific." Through these two trips the last two years, I learned the importance of the human connection and honest communication. But most importantly, I gained the confidence that I could do anything I put my mind to.

(Chiba) Since that first Summit, I had the opportunity to participate in various programs over the two years. Through these experiences and conversations, I decided that instead of a civil engineering approach as I had initially planned, I would like to work towards the Tohoku recovery from a human development approach. As such, I transferred universities this September, and now I am at Faculty of Policy Management at Keio University. .

This is a completely unexpected development for me compared to two years ago. With the opportunities I was given, I have been able to involve myself in society so much more.

For every opportunity I am given, there is someone else who did not get that opportunity. There are many people who, just like us, are victims from Tohoku, but did not receive the opportunities we did. Furthermore, if we look more broadly across Japan or the world, there are many, many more people who are suffering even more than we did. That is why we must be self-aware and work doubly hard for those people as well. I started to feel this way because I, the average Joe, was blessed with opportunities that shifted the way I think about life.

(Endo) I hope that BEYOND Tomorrow will continue to be a good experience for all its future students. It should be a place where people are not superficially friendly, but are at times at odds with each other, but always welcome to speak their mind. To create such an atmosphere, we, as the inaugural class of BEYOND students, have a responsibility to support the younger students by getting to know them and connecting with them. This summer, I interned at the BEYOND Tomorrow administrative office. Knowing that it would ultimately lead to a better experience for the younger students, I stuffed envelopes and organized outgoing mail all summer. I was so happy to help in some way that when the internship was over, there was a part of me that didn't want to go back to Ishinomaki.

I would like to continue being involved with BEYOND Tomorrow even after I graduate college. I'd like to work like I did this summer. Now that I have been with BEYOND Tomorrow for two years, I would love to see it become an organization that is even better known, and even if I am not involved directly, I hope that BEYOND Tomorrow will continue being a place that stimulates people's minds.

There are many more people in the world who are suffering more than I am. I strongly believe that I have a responsibility to work their share as well as mine.

(Chiba) Since the disaster, I have received many opportunities, and looking at myself now, I couldn't have imagined being here two years ago. I would now like to give the same opportunity for change to younger students who also experienced the earthquake and tsunami. This year, in preparing for the third Tohoku Future Leaders Summit, I worked as an intern for BEYOND Tomorrow and travelled to different high schools in Tohoku and helped spread the word. Because I also suffered from the disaster, I believe I can offer a unique perspective in introducing other students with similar experiences to BEYOND Tomorrow.

On the other hand, I am not the only person who has suffered. There are many more people in the world who are suffering more than I am. Even though I did go through an extremely difficult time, there are scores of people who were never given the opportunities that I was. I strongly believe that I have a responsibility to work their share as well as mine, and with that motivation, I aim to keep forging forward with 100% effort.



Presentation at
the Prime
Minister's Official
Residence

At the three-day program, future leaders made proposals for the future of Tohoku. The winning team (Team 5) and the university students were invited to the Prime Minister's Official Residence and delivered their proposals to First Lady Akie Abe.



First Lady Akie Abe

You, the young generation, are the ones who will keep living. As such, I offer my utmost support to your work, so that your proposals can become a reality. Dream big, and I look forward to seeing you as the symbol of the Japanese people's dreams for the future.



Participating Supporters

The program spanned 3 days and was centered around dialogue. A key component was having leaders as guests -leaders in a wide range of fields- to engage the students in discussions on their future career goals.

Policy Advisors(1 of 3)

Each student team had an advisor who is an expert in his or her field. The advisor offered insights on the students' discussions around their personal experiences and ideas for Tohoku's future, supporting them in creating a concrete proposal.



Team 1
Kumi Fujisawa
Co-Founder, Think Tank SophiaBank

After working for Japanese and foreign investment fund management companies, Kumi founded the first investment trust evaluation company in Japan, in 1996. In 1999 she sold the company to S&P. In 2000, she participated in establishment of the think tank, SophiaBank and now is appointed as Director. In 2007, she was nominated the Young Global Leader 2007 by World Economic Forum. She has also authored many books on the topics of investment management for individuals and management of small company.

Team 2
Chikara Funabashi
Founder & Chairman, Will Seed Corporation

Born in Yokohama and raised in South America. After graduating from Sophia University, Funabashi worked at the ITOCHU Corporation where He participated in the Jakarta Subway Promotion Project. He founded a cross-industry employment network for which she organizes events and information sessions for each industry. The network has grown to over 3,000 members within three years. In 2000, he founded the Will Seed Company Limited, which provides overseas training opportunities and on-site educational programs emphasizing hands-on experience to students and company employees. He participates in establishment of international schools with Kawai-juku. He is also Co-Chairperson of Beyond Tomorrow, Member of the Board of Table for Two, Committee member of the Central Education Council in Japan. In 2009, he was nominated the Young Global Leader by World Economic Forum.



Team 3
Nami Matsuko
Nomura Holdings Inc.
Head of Corporate Citizenship Department,
Managing Director

Nami Matsuko graduated from Sophia University faculty of Law and joined Nomura research Institute. She obtained her law degrees from New York University and Georgetown University, and she is licensed to practice in New York state. Matsuko is interested in aiding Japanese companies and their employees become globalized and communicate their strengths to the world. She is engaged in promoting corporate social responsibility activities.

Team 4
Tomoko Teruya
CEO/Founder, NGO Yuimar



As a student and member of the Asian Law Students Association JAPAN, Teruya represented Japan at international conferences in Washington DC, Bangkok, and Istanbul. She also began traveling to Mongolia in order to personally work toward solving the poverty and social problems she discussed at conferences. After entering the graduate school of law at Sophia University, she used the occasion of the bankruptcy of the "Sunlight Children" orphanage to take time off from school and found an NGO. At her development consulting company, Teruya leads the JICA Chinese Anti-Trust Law preparation support project. In 2011, she was selected as one of the "30 leaders that will change the world" at the World Economic Forum.

Participating Supporters

Policy Advisors (2 of 3)

Each student team had an advisor who is an expert in his or her field. The advisor offered insights on the students' discussions around their personal experiences and ideas for Tohoku's future, supporting them in creating a concrete proposal.



Team 5
Saisuke Sugiyama
Founder / CEO, INTERLITERACY

Raised in New York, earned a B.A. in Policy Management from Keio University and an MBA from Keio Business School. Combines superior command of Japanese and English with advanced communication, presentation, accounting, and IT skills in numerous communications design projects, including branding and web production for companies, schools, and organizations in Japan and other countries.



Team 5
Emmy Suzuki Harris
Founder and Campaigns Director, Change.org Japan

Emmy was born between American father and Japanese mother, and raised in Japan until graduating from high school. After graduating from Yale University, she worked for McKinsey & Company, participated in election campaign of Barack Obama, and established a social incubator company. She came back to Japan to serve the current position at Change.org Japan.



Team 6
Koji Kagoshima
Creative director, Social Design Engine, Dentsu Inc.

While working in advertisement, Mr. Kagoshima became involved in Social Design Engine and became its creator for social projects. Outside of the office he is involved in various projects through the 2025PROJECT, which collaborates with NGOs within the communication field. He works as a part-time lecturer at the University of Kyusyu, Sophia University graduate school and co-authored "Luck of peace" (Aoi Miyazaki, Masaru Miyazaki) "Love letter to living creatures" (Christel Takigawa) "Job for changing world44" (Sweet Smile).



Team 7
Mayo Hotta
SoftBank Corp.

Traveled to the US as an exchange student at the age of 17. Graduated from University of California, Santa Barbara in 2004 and joined SoftBank Corp. I was involved in business planning, investments, incorporation of new companies, stock transfer and setting up companies etc., before start being involved in a reconstruction effort for the Great East Japan Earthquake. Today, I lead the TOMODACHI SoftBank Leadership Program, which cooperates with the US Embassy and US-Japan Council. This program invites high school students from the disaster stricken area for the leadership seminar at UC Berkeley. 300 students last year and 100 students this year joined the program.

Participating Supporters

Policy Advisors (3 of 3)

Each student team had an advisor who is an expert in his or her field. The advisor offered insights on the students' discussions around their personal experiences and ideas for Tohoku's future, supporting them in creating a concrete proposal.



Team 8
Etsuko Okajima
President, ProNova Inc.

After working in an international consulting company, Ms. Okajima founded an executive head hunting company. She became its executive director in 2005. She left the company in 2007 to found ProNova Inc, a think tank that focuses on recruiting "business management professionals" and became its president and CEO. Since that time she has successfully recruited roughly 100 executives per year for start up companies and companies restarting business. Her expertise is in advising business team structures and advising business training and skill development. As such, Ms. Okajima is experienced in being a discussion partner for business leaders.

Team 9
Hiroaki Yabe
Youth Venture Programmatic Leader,
Ashoka Japan

Hiroaki Yabe graduated from Waseda University in 2011. After the disaster, he quit his job and moved to Kesennuma, where he is helping the affected areas receive relief supplies, helping hotels resume business, and helping with educational efforts. Currently, he supports youth who are passionate about doing something for Tohoku and trains innovators. His motto is "Action is the message."



Team 10
Daisuke Iwase
President & COO, LIFENET INSURANCE
COMPANY

Born 1976 in Saitama Prefecture but spent his childhood in England. After graduating from the faculty of law at Tokyo University in 1998, Iwase worked at the Boston Consulting Group and Ripplewood Japan before entering Harvard Business School. He graduated as a Baker Scholar (top 5% of graduating class). In 2006, he found LIFENET INSURANCE COMPANY as Vice-President and has been in his current position since June 2013. He was selected as one of the "Young Global Leaders of 2010" at the World Economic. He is the Independent Director of Benesse Holdings, Inc.



University Students Team
Seigo Hara
McKinsey & Company

Graduated from the Faculty of Medicine at Tokyo University and Stanford Business School. Hara worked at the National Center for Global Health and Medicine and helped organize the Health and Global Policy Institute in 2007. He was also involved in the creation of projects for lifestyle-related illnesses and global health. Hara is currently employed at McKinsey & Company. While utilizing his background as a physician, Hara would like to contribute to drafting policies, business, NPO/NGO activities, and solving widespread health problems.

Media Appearances

Newspaper

- FUKUSHIMA MINPO (September 1, 2013)
- Iwate Nippo (September 1, 2013)
- Denki Shinbun (September 11, 2013)
- Tohoku Shimpo (September 12, 2013)
- Iwate Nippo (October 14, 2013)

Website

- Recruit Shingaku Journal



参加高校生を募集
リーダーズサミット
東京で10月

一般財団法人「教育援多ローバル基金」は、被災地において困難な状況にある高校生を支援することを目的に「東北サミット」を開催する。サミットは、10月12日(土)に東京・渋谷の国立オリンピック記念青少年総合センターで開く。東北サミットとして、14日までに参加者を募集している。

参加条件は、東北サミットは10月12日(土)14日(日)の2日間、東京・渋谷の国立オリンピック記念青少年総合センターで開く。東北サミットとして、14日までに参加者を募集している。

お問い合わせは、090-6966-4000 (LINE: @beyond)

Choir Lyrics

未来へ

ほら 足元を見てごらん
これがあなたの歩む道
ほら 前を見てごらん
あれがあなたの未来

母がくれたたくさんの優しさ
愛を抱いて歩めと繰り返した
あの時はまだ幼くて意味など知らない
そんな私の手を握り
一緒に歩んできた

夢はいつも空高くあるから
届かなくて怖いね だけど追いつけるの
自分の物語だからこそ諦めたくない
不安になると手を握り
一緒に歩んできた

その優しさを時には嫌がり
離れた母へ素直になれず

ほら 足元を見てごらん
これがあなたの歩む道
ほら 前を見てごらん
あれがあなたの未来

その優しさを時には嫌がり
離れた母へ素直になれず

ほら 足元を見てごらん
これがあなたの歩む道
ほら 前を見てごらん
あれがあなたの未来

ほら 足元を見てごらん
これがあなたの歩む道
ほら 前を見てごらん
あれがあなたの未来
未来へ向かって
ゆっくりと歩いて行こう





Supporters

This program was funded by Japan Society. BEYOND Tomorrow is also supported by a number of organizations and individuals. We count on everyone's cooperation to serve our mission.



BEYOND Tomorrow Strategic Partners

Contributions of JPY 10 million or above

- Bank of America Merrill Lynch
- Japan Society
- MITSUBISHI HEAVY INDUSTRIES, LTD.
- Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited
- U.S.-Japan Council

BEYOND Tomorrow Project Partners

Contributions of JPY 1 million or above

- ALBION Co., Ltd.
- ap bank Fund for Japan
- GE Capital
- Great East Japan Earthquake Reconstruction Initiatives Foundation
- Japan Disaster Relief Fund - Boston
- KPMG Japan
- POINT INC.
- Project HOPE
- ROHTO PHARMACEUTICAL CO., LTD.
- Sumitomo Chemical Co., Ltd.
- United States-Japan Foundation

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- Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Tokyo)
- Salsamba
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BEYOND Tomorrow Scholarship Partners

Educational institutions provided scholarships for BEYOND Tomorrow students

- Leelanau School
- Leysin American School
- St. George's School
- St. Michael's College
- St. Timothy's School

BEYOND Tomorrow Scholarship Patrons

Individuals who provided scholarships for BEYOND Tomorrow students

- Chikara Funabashi
- Ryusuke Honjo
- Masatada Kobayashi
- Oki Matsumoto
- Taro Otsuka
- Robert Alan Feldman
- Teruhide Sato

※ Corporations and organizations listed above are supporters as of October 2013.

About BEYOND Tomorrow



Summary

BEYOND Tomorrow is a program that aims to nurture future global leaders from young victims of the Great East Japan Earthquake and tsunami, and to that end, offers a comprehensive leadership program. In 2013 we held various programs, such as the TOMODACHI BEYOND Tomorrow Global Leadership Academy, BEYOND Tomorrow Spring Program 2013, and the BEYOND Tomorrow Summer Global Program thus continuing our efforts to cultivate future leaders from Tohoku. Furthermore, we offer programs that provide scholarships and leadership education to university students through the BEYOND Tomorrow College Scholarship Program and BEYOND Tomorrow Tohoku Future Fellows Program 2013. Similarly, for high school students, we offer the BEYOND Tomorrow High School Study Abroad Program, for high school students to study in international boarding schools.

Characteristics

The program is intended to help highly motivated students achieve their dreams and gain a global perspective by offering support of not only financial means but also of dialogue and mentorship. We aim to nurture empathetic leaders who, by overcoming adversity, are able to actively contribute to society.

Contents

1. Scholarship Programs

It is precisely because they have experienced the tragedy of the Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami that these young people can contribute to the world, to Japan, and to the recovery of Tohoku. We strongly believe that these students have the innate qualities of future leaders, and as such, we are providing scholarship support towards their education.

- BEYOND Tomorrow College Scholarship Program
- BEYOND Tomorrow Tohoku Future Fellows Program 2013
- BEYOND Tomorrow High School Study Abroad Program

2. Leadership Programs

For students who aspire to be leaders from Tohoku, we offer leadership programs for them to develop in character and maturity, and to broaden their perspectives. The programs reach beyond borders and take place globally, in Japan, and in the affected regions. We aim to have the students grow into globally-minded and empathetic leaders who will be the catalysts of social improvement.



Global Fund for Education Assistance
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