



Our Yonsei Basketball Experience

By: Lynn Morishita, Noah Tanioka, Kiana Mitchell



Our adventures in Japan



- We landed in Tokyo on July 27th
- Kyoto day 1: Kiyomizu Temple, Golden Pavilion and Fushimi Inari Shrine
- Kyoto day 2: Wagashi making
- Kyoto/Hiroshima day 3: Miyajima, Peace Park and Memorial
- Hiroshima/Fukuoka day 4: Opening Ceremony, first games, welcome party
- Fukuoka days 5&6: Homestay and games
- Fukuoka day 7: Host team games, family/sib games, Farewell Party
- Tokyo days 8&9: Tokyo Disney, Disney Sea, & Shopping
- Tokyo day 10: Landed in LA on August 6







Lynn Morishita



I had the best time at the exhibition game and playing against my teammates. The golf tournament was so fun and I really got closer with my teammates I weren't as close too.



Even after Japan I still see my Yonsei friends often. We recently played in Nikkei games and went to Natsu Matsuri. We also go to the beach, mall, and football games. I am so grateful for my friends i've made on Yonsei.

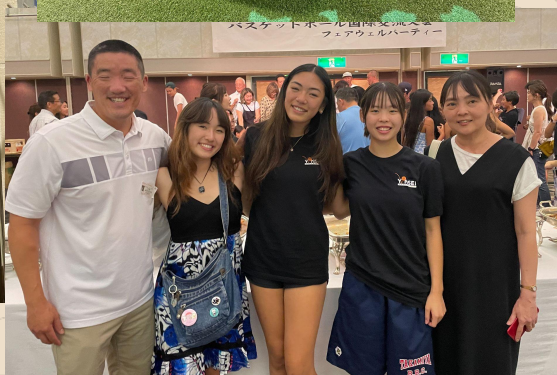


Playing basketball in Japan was a totally new experience and really helped me improve as a player.

My favorite memory with my homestay Runa is walking around the city by ourselves. We shopped, ate revolving sushi, took photos, and went to a summer festival.



While sightseeing in Hiroshima and other cities it made me more appreciative of my Japanese heritage and culture.



My favorite memory with Yonsei was going out every night with the players. Whether it was exploring the city, eating ice cream from every convenience store, or just simply hanging out I had the best time bonding with everyone.



Kiana Mitchell



I had so much fun preparing for Japan. i loved going to practice and meetings, volunteering at events like Walk the Farm and Yonsei Golf Tournament, and getting to hang out with all my friends.



One of my favorite memories from Japan with Yonsei was definitely was game days. Cheering for each other, eating lunch as a team, and hanging out with all the homestays was super fun.



I became super close with my homestay Yura over the 3 days I got to spend with her. My favorite memory was definitely going to the Flowing Bamboo Somen & swimming after with her family.



Noah Tanioka



2013

When I was 7 and in the second grade, my dad told me about Yonsei Basketball!

Fast forward 10 years and I am Y30!

Meet Futa, my homestay. I spent 3 days living his daily life. We bonded over basketball, food, playing games and making jokes.


The food was one of my favorite parts of visiting Japan. This was okonomiyaki in Hiroshima.

Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum and Park hit me with force. I was engulfed and impacted by the history I did not know and the personal stories shared.




2023





 My Grandpa and Grandma came with us to Japan. They had not been on a plane in almost 40 years. It was special for me for them to come and share this experience.
 



Monthly meetings included Japan preparation, basketball and dance practices followed by boba!
 

Our cultural activities in Fukuoka were fun and entertaining. We were dressed in Yukatas, learned calligraphy and origami.
 

So grateful for the Y30 experience! It started with basketball, but it is so much more. This is a team for life and the bonds that we created will last a lifetime. Thank you OCO for supporting me on this journey!
 

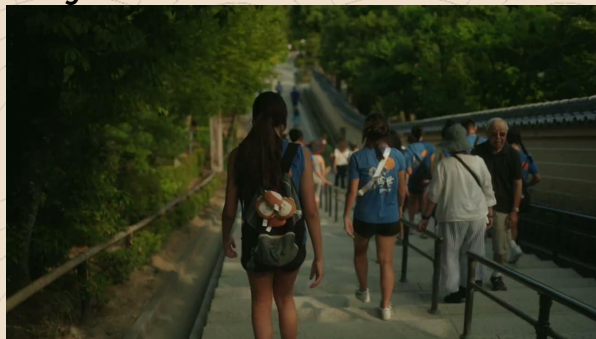




Noah's Video



Lynn's Video



Kiana's Video



Cultural Experience



Y30 Recap



Thank you!

