

This is a translation of the original Japanese document and is provided for informational purposes only. If there are any discrepancies between this and the original, the original Japanese document prevails.

December 14, 2012
AEON 1% Club

Aeon hosts the “Japan-China High School Student Exchange Program” starting on Tuesday, December 18

200 Japanese and Chinese High School Students Who Participated in the Exchange Program in Japan Earlier This Summer Reunite in China

During a 5 day period between Tuesday, December 18 to Monday, December 24, 2012, the Aeon 1% Club will host the “Japan-China High School Student Exchange Program.” Under this program, 100 Japanese high school students will be invited to the People’s Republic of China (hereinafter, “China”) for opportunities to interact with 100 Chinese high school students.

As part of its “International Culture, Inter-Personal Exchange and Development Program,” the Aeon 1% Club, whose membership comprises major Aeon Group companies, has been hosting the “Teenage Ambassadors Program” since 1991 to deepen international mutual understanding and friendship by providing opportunities for high school students from Japan and overseas to visit each other’s country. A total of 803 students from 15 countries have participated in the program so far, including 106 Chinese students from Beijing, Guangzhou, Qingdao and Hong Kong. In 2009, this initiative developed into a reciprocal program called the “Japan-China High School Exchange Program” under which both Chinese and Japanese high school students were offered the opportunity to visit each other’s country with the aim of strengthening bonds with each other as the younger generation, thereby contributing to fostering friendship and a relationship of trust between the two countries.

A total of 285 students from Japan and China have participated in the Aeon 1% Club’s exchange program so far.

For this year, which marks the 40th anniversary of the normalization of diplomatic relations between Japan and China, the program has been further expanded to a record 100 high school students from each country for the purpose of reinforcing friendly ties between the two countries. In July, a total of 100 Chinese high school students from Beijing, Qingdao, and Tianjin visited Japan.

For the upcoming exchange program, 100 Japanese high school students will visit China in return and reunite with the Chinese high school students whom they met in Japan earlier in July. During their stay in China, the Japanese students will join Chinese high school classes, experience homestays with Chinese families, and enjoy cultural and historical learning opportunities, thus acquiring a deeper understanding of their host country.

Aeon will implement various initiatives to serve as a bridge between Japan and China at the private-sector level.

1. Period: Five-day period between Tuesday, December 18 to Monday, December 24, 2012

*Starting date of the program will vary depending on the homestay destinations

2. Participants: 100 Japanese high school students
100 Chinese high school students (from Beijing, Qingdao, Tianjin)

3. Program outline (example):

December 18 (Tuesday): Arrive in Beijing

December 19 (Wednesday): Tour of Beijing City; Training program

December 20 (Thursday): Courtesy visit to the Beijing Municipal Government; Welcome reception (at the Embassy of Japan in China)

December 21 (Friday): High school class participation;

December 22 (Saturday): Homestay

December 23 (Sunday): Return to Japan