

Send Off Reception for the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme Participants for Cycle 2023

On 2 August 2023, His Excellency Matsubara Yutaka, Ambassador of Japan to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, hosted the pre-departure orientation and a send-off reception for the new participants of the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Programme at his official residence. For Cycle 2023, a total of twenty-three (23) JETs from Trinidad and Tobago have been selected to participate on the JET Programme and would be travelling to Japan very soon to take up their appointment as Assistant Language Teachers (ALTs) in various prefectures across the country.

At the reception, Ambassador Matsubara welcomed the JET participants who were in attendance. He urged the JET participants of 2023, to uphold their responsibility in maintaining the highest levels of respectability during the programme. At the same time, he hopes that the participants will develop long-lasting bonds of friendship with the people of Japan and fully enjoy the culture and natural beauty of his country. He stated that “I believe that your stay in Japan will meet, or even exceed, your expectations, and I wish you success on the journey you are about to embark upon as Trinidad and Tobago’s Cultural Ambassadors.”

Following Ambassador’s welcome address, Ms. Tisha Alexander, on behalf of the JET participants, expressed her enthusiasm about experiencing life in Japan and thanked the Embassy for the opportunity in an emotional speech. After which, Mrs. La Toya Nicholls presented Ambassador with a token on behalf of the JET Cycle.

In attendance at the reception was Ambassador Dr. Paul Byam, Director, Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs, representatives from the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts, the University of the West Indies (UWI), The University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT), the College of Science, Technology and Applied Arts of Trinidad and Tobago (COSTAATT), the University of the Southern Caribbean (USC) and members of the JET Alumni Association (JETAATT).

Please visit the Embassy of Japan website for more information on the JET Programme and our daily activities: https://www.tt.emb-japan.go.jp/itprtop_en/index.html



Ambassador Matsubara and Madam Matsubara with the JETs of Cycle 2023



Ambassador Matsubara gives the welcome address



Ms. Tisha Alexander gives remarks on behalf of the group



Mrs. La Toya Nicholls presents Ambassador with a token



JET Coordinator Mr. Aleron Rajalal addresses the JET Participants at the Pre-Departure Orientation



Mr. Rondell Balchan discusses his placement with Ambassador and Madam



Ms. Jaleeca Philip takes a photo with Ambassador Matsubara and Madam Matsubara



Mr. Jarron Andrews points out where will be his new home in Japan



Ms. Michaela Phillip points out where will be her new home in Japan