Proposal to Host
15th International CLEFT Congress
October 19th-24th, 2025
Kyoto International Conference Center

Japanese Cleft Palate Association
Proposal to Host
International Congress on Cleft Palate & Related Craniofacial Anomalies
CLEFT 2025
Kyoto International Conference Center
October 19th - 24th, 2025

Presented by Japanese Cleft Palate Association
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URL http://square.umin.ac.jp/JCLP/
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We would like to welcome you to Kyoto for the 15th International Congress on Cleft Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies.

The Japanese Cleft Palate Association

Proposed Dates
19th - 24th October 2025

The timing of this conference gives CLEFT 2025 delegates the chance to experience many people’s favorite time of year in Kyoto. Autumn means glorious blue skies, warm temperatures (mid-20s C), and little chance of rain. It is a great time for exploring the city.

Best Time in Kyoto to Create Cleft History!

Proposed Venue
Kyoto International Conference Center [ICC Kyoto]

Historic Jidai Matsuri Festival will be held on Oct. 22.

ICC Kyoto is Japan’s flagship congress facility.
Proposal Overview

Academic Prestige
Japanese Cleft Palate Association (JCPA) [more than 3,000 members] is one of the largest in the world. JCPA is a long-established multidisciplinary association with approximately 40 years experience.

Robust Local Support & Sound Finances
JCPA fund for scholarships, awards and publications is already in place. Full support of Kyoto Convention and Visitors Bureau and Japanese Government

Cost Effective
- Internationally competitive hotel rates
- Low-cost travel and dining
- NO TIPPING/GRATUITIES

Ease of Access
- Direct flights from major hubs worldwide
- Integrated subway & bus networks are navigated easily in English.
- Convenient transportation by train to Kyoto

Comfort & Safety
- World-class hotels: Ritz Carlton (2014), Four Seasons (2016), Hyatt, Westin as well as respected Japanese brands
- The incredible service, hospitality and quality, for which Japan is famous.
- Japan’s renowned track record of safety and security

Attractive Congress Venue
- Japan’s flagship congress facility, ICC Kyoto
- Practical and user friendly auditorium layout, plentiful networking space, spacious Japanese gardens, seamless fiber-optic network throughout all venues, stunning surroundings
- ICC boasts a 46-year history as Japan’s leading international congress center

Culture & Sightseeing Attractions
- Kyoto was the capital for over 1,000 years and remains the spiritual home of Japan.
- Attractive excursion options
- 2000 Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines
- 17 UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Sites
- The birthplace of Japanese cultural icons: Tea Ceremony and Flower Arrangement
- Countless opportunities for hands-on experience of Japanese arts and crafts

Delicious dining
- Sample the finest Japanese cuisine in a traditional atmosphere
- Kyoto features 7, 3-star Michelin restaurants.
- In addition to traditional Japanese dining, Kyoto also offers a multitude of international restaurants.
The Japanese Cleft Palate Association (JCPA) was established in 1977 to improve the treatment for patients with cleft lip and/or palate (CL/P), to promote the research for the prevention of CL/P, to share the information about CL/P and to promote mutual collaboration.

JCPA has been thriving for more than 30 years and consists of more than 3000 active members from a wide variety of specialties such as plastic surgery, otorhinolaryngology, oral-maxillofacial surgery, speech pathology, orthodontics, prosthodontics and pediatric dentistry.

More than 700 attendees regularly attend the annual meeting. Three volumes of the official Journal of Japanese Cleft Palate Association are published per year.

Activities of JCPA

Editorial Committee
  Official Journal: Journal of Japanese Cleft Palate Association
Academic Committee
Academic Survey Committee
Constitution and By-Laws Committee
International Relations Committee
Information Technology Committee

Distinguished Paper Award Committee
Distinguished Poster Presentation Award Committee
Japanclleft Committee
Guideline Committee
Future Design Committee
Certified Membership Committee
Ethic Committee

Invitation from JCPA

July 11th, 2016

Welcome Message from the President of the Japanese Cleft Palate Association

All Members
International Confederation for Cleft Lip and Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Japanese Cleft Palate Association, I am delighted to invite you to the International Congress on Cleft Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies in 2025 in Kyoto, Japan.

This congress will be organized by the Japanese Cleft Palate Association, which consists of more than 3,000 active members. We are proud that the government of Japan and Kyoto regional governments have offered us their full support.

We hope that, by sharing the latest information in cleft and craniofacial care, the Kyoto Congress in 2025 will bring in a remarkable advancement of treatment results. Also this will prove a great boon to patients with oral clefts and related craniofacial anomalies, and provide a basis for helping children more effectively than ever before.

The congress city, Kyoto, is the spiritual home of Japan and it embodies 1,200 years of Japanese history. Also in recent times Kyoto made its mark by hosting a range of world-level meetings and becoming the scene of significant events such as the settlement of the well-known "Kyoto Protocol" for ecology in 1997, which was signed in our proposed venue, Kyoto International Conference Center.

We would like to learn from this history of positive interaction between natural surroundings and human activities in Kyoto to help us improve provision of our clinical care to our patients. Therefore, we are confident that, the congress held in Kyoto will provide you a high quality meeting. We would be honored if Kyoto were selected as the venue and vow to produce the most successful CLEFT yet.

We look forward welcoming you to Kyoto, Japan in 2025. Please make Kyoto, Japan your choice for our 15th International Congress.

Sincerely yours,

Shigehiko Suzuki, M.D., Ph.D.
President of the Japanese Cleft Palate Association
July 12, 2016

International Confederation for Cleft Lip and Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies

Dear Executive Committee members,

It is my great pleasure to support Kyoto City in its candidacy to be the host city of the 15th International Congress on Cleft Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies. I believe that this conference is one of the most significant and prestigious international gatherings in its field, and it would be a great honour if Japan is selected as the host country.

To promote the multidisciplinary treatment of patients with cleft lip and palate and of patients with craniofacial anomalies, the Japanese Cleft Palate Association was established in 1977. It has been active for nearly 40 years since then. Japan has been participating in this congress from the time it started and has been enthusiastically presenting the results of clinical research conducted in Japan on cleft lip and palate and related craniofacial anomalies for many years. Therefore, I strongly believe that holding this congress in Japan would contribute to the world by advancing treatment and research in this field.

Kyoto, a candidate venue for the next congress, has hosted many large international conventions, including medical congresses attended by more than 5,000 participants. The city has extensive facilities and experience in hosting such large-scale congresses. And as Japan's ancient capital, Kyoto is rich in UNESCO World Heritages, such as the Golden Pavilion and Kiyomizu Temple, and in traditional culture and events such as tea ceremony, Ikebana flower arrangement, all of which have been passed down from old days.

We sincerely look forward to welcoming all participants to Japan, and we truly hope that the congress will be held in Kyoto.

Yours sincerely,

Akiko Tanaka
Commissioner
Japan Tourism Agency
Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism
Dear Executive Committee members,

International Confederation for Cleft Lip and Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies,

It is with the greatest pleasure that I write to extend my full support for Japan’s bid to host the 15th International Congress on Cleft Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies.

The proposed host city of Kyoto has been designated as an International Convention City by the Japanese Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism. Kyoto has successfully hosted a large number of important international conventions. Thanks to Kyoto’s organizing expertise, numerous attractions and warm hospitality, convention delegates always leave with happy memories of a successful and uniquely enjoyable event.

As the ancient capital of Japan, Kyoto is one of Japan’s most important tourism destinations. Its many historical attractions, UNESCO World Cultural Heritage sites and beautiful natural scenery attract millions of tourists in all seasons. Kyoto meets all the requirements for your international meeting, and will serve as an inspiring environment for every program.

We acknowledge that international conferences are a key factor in vitalizing industry. The intensive exchange of knowledge and studies contributes to the global development of academic fields. At the same time, we strongly believe that Japan can provide substantial contributions to your conference as a cutting-edge leader in research and development in the medical sciences.

As president of the Japan National Tourism Organization, I am convinced that holding the 15th International Congress on Cleft Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies in Japan would ensure a memorable and successful meeting.

I encourage you to select Japan as the site for your conference and I look forward to the pleasure of welcoming you and your delegates to Japan in 2025.

Yours very sincerely,

Ryoichi Matsuyama
President
Japan National Tourism Organization
Invitation from City of Kyoto

CITY OF KYOTO
TERAMACHI OIJE, NARAYO-ku
KYOTO 604 JAPAN

July 2016

Prof. Jyotsna Murthy
President
The International Confederation for Cleft Lip and Palate
and Related Craniofacial Anomalies

Dear Prof. Jyotsna Murthy,

It is my pleasure and great honor as Mayor to invite the 15th International Congress on Cleft Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies to be held in Kyoto in 2025. I would like to introduce briefly some of the attractions of my city.

Kyoto is the ancient capital of Japan and is recognized worldwide as the country’s historical, cultural and spiritual heart. Kyoto’s countless shrines, temples, and architectural masterpieces include fourteen UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Sites, and each reflects the legacy of the myriad Japanese traditions that were born here.

It is this ingrained culture of innovation that sets Kyoto apart and provides the perfect environment for no less than 38 institutions of higher learning as well as a plethora of research facilities, cementing the city’s status as an academic and scientific center. Consequently, many of Japan’s brightest academics are active here.

I am confident that Kyoto is a most suitable venue for your meeting. Convenient access is facilitated by flights from around the globe to Kansai International Airport, and our subway system provides easy travel from the conference site to hotels and sightseeing points of interest.

Recently Kyoto was ranked No.1 on the list of Top Cities Overall in the Travel + Leisure World's Best Awards 2015 for two consecutive years. I am sure that the conference delegations will be able to have special experiences besides academics.

On behalf of all Kyoto citizens, I extend a cordial invitation to you and your delegates to experience Kyoto, where traditional and modern Japan flourish in delightful harmony. We look forward to welcoming the 15th International Congress on Cleft Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies in 2025.

Yours faithfully,

Daisaku Kadokawa
Mayor of Kyoto

門川 大作
Invitation from Kyoto Prefecture

Prof. Jyotsna Murthy
President
The International Confederation for Cleft Lip and Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies

Dear Prof. Jyotsna Murthy,

On behalf of everyone in Kyoto, I would like to express our delight at having been decided by the Japanese Cleft Palate Association as a candidate city for hosting the 15th International Congress on Cleft Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies to be held in Kyoto in 2025.

Kyoto was the political and cultural capital of Japan for over 1000 years until the end of 19th century. Throughout its long history, Kyoto became a home for more than 2,000 shrines and temples, including several UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Kyoto is not only a historic city but also a city of cutting-edge technology. Kyoto has always built new cultures upon its rich tradition, unleashing its own innovative power to develop hi-tech industries, such as game industries, information and communications technologies, and biotechnologies. In addition, Kyoto is an academic research city possessing a large number of universities and research institutions. It is also an environmentally advanced city that can serve as a role model for low-carbon and recycling-centric societies.

For these reasons, I am convinced that Kyoto is an ideal setting for the 15th International Congress on Cleft Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies in 2025. We are honoured to support Kyoto’s candidature and are pleased to host the conference at Kyoto International Conference Center. We are looking forward to welcoming you.

Sincerely yours,

Keiji Yamada
Governor
Kyoto Prefecture
Local Organizing Committee for Cleft 2025 in Kyoto

President: Shigehiko Suzuki, MD, PhD
Professor, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan

Vice-President: Shigemi Goto, DDS, PhD
Professor, Aichi Gakuin University, Nagoya, Japan

Secretary-General: Takafumi Susami, DDS, PhD
Associate Professor, University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan

Co-General: Takayoshi Sakai, DDS, PhD
Professor, Osaka University, Osaka, Japan

Treasurer: Koichi Ueda, MD, PhD
Professor, Osaka Medical College, Osaka, Japan

Steering members

Shigehiko Suzuki  Shigemi Goto  Takafumi Susami  Takayoshi Sakai  Koichi Ueda  Mikihiko Kogo  Yuri Fujiwara
Local Organizing Committee Continued

Plastic Surgery

Shigehiko Suzuki, MD, PhD (leader)
Professor, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan
Yoshimichi Imai, MD, PhD
Associate Professor, Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan
Shigehiko Kawakami, MD, PhD
Professor, Kanazawa Medical University, Kanazawa, Japan
Kenji Kusumoto, MD, PhD
Professor, Kansai Medical University, Osaka, Japan
Akihiko Oyama, MD, PhD
Associate Professor, Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan
Koichi Ueda, MD, PhD
Professor, Osaka Medical College, Osaka, Japan
Shinya Yoshimoto, MD, PhD
Professor, Showa University, Tokyo, Japan

Oral-maxillofacial Surgery

Mikihiko Kogo, DDS, PhD (leader)
Professor, Osaka University, Osaka, Japan
Seiji Iida, DDS, PhD
Professor, Okayama University, Okayama, Japan
Norifumi Nakamura, DDS, PhD
Professor, Kagoshima University, Kagoshima, Japan
Nagato Natsume, DDS, PhD
Professor, Aichi Gakuin University, Nagoya, Japan
Makoto Noguchi, DDS, PhD
Professor, University of Toyama, Toyama, Japan
Ritsuo Takagi, DDS, PhD
Professor, Niigata University, Niigata, Japan
Tetsu Takahashi, DDS, PhD
Professor, Tohoku University, Miyagi, Japan
Tsuyoshi Takato, MD, PhD
Professor, University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan

Orthodontics/Dentistry

Takafumi Susami, DDS, PhD (leader)
Associate Professor, University of Tokyo, Tokyo, Japan
Shigemi Goto, DDS, PhD
Professor, Aichi Gakuin University, Nagoya, Japan
Junichiro Iida, DDS, PhD
Professor, Hokkaido University, Sapporo, Japan
Hiroyuki Ishikawa, DDS, PhD
Rector, Fukuoka Dental College, Fukuoka, Japan
Kotaro Maki, DDS, PhD
Professor, Showa University, Tokyo, Japan
Keiji Moriyama, DDS, PhD
Professor, Tokyo Medical and Dental University, Tokyo, Japan
Isao Saito, DDS, PhD
Professor, Niigata University, Niigata, Japan
Takayoshi Sakai, DDS, PhD
Professor, Osaka University, Osaka, Japan
Masashi Sato, DDS, PhD
Associate Professor, Showa University, Tokyo, Japan
Naoto Suda, DDS, PhD
Professor, Meikai University, Sakado, Japan
Kenji Sueishi, DDS, PhD
Professor, Tokyo Dental College, Tokyo, Japan
Hisashi Taniguchi, DDS, PhD
Professor, Tokyo Medical and Dental University, Tokyo, Japan
Takashi Yamashiro, DDS, PhD
Professor, Osaka University, Osaka, Japan
Local Organizing Committee Continued

Otorhinolaryngology / Speech and Hearing

Yuri Fujiwara, SLHT, PhD (leader)
Professor, Seirei Christopher University, Hamamatsu, Japan
Hitome Kobayashi, MD, PhD
Professor, Showa University, Tokyo, Japan
Chihiro Sugiyama, SLHT
Speech Therapist, Osaka University, Osaka, Japan

Keiko Suzuki, SLHT, PhD
Speech Therapist, Kitasato University, Sagamihara, Japan
Yoshiko Takei, SLHT
Speech Therapist, Showa University, Tokyo, Japan
Yukari Yamashita, SLHT, PhD
Speech Therapist, Teikyo Heisei University, Tokyo, Japan

Congress Coordinators:

Kyoto Convention & Visitors Bureau, Kyoto, Japan
Kazuhiro Tsunomori, Yoshiaki Matsui, Matthew Stevens,
Yuki Shinmei

Japan National Tourist Organization (JNTO), Tokyo, Japan
Etsuko Kawasaki, Shinji Shiota, Yosuke Taniguchi

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Why Japan?

1. Japanese Cleft Palate Association (JCPA) is one of the largest national academic Associations boasting a membership of over 3,000, but we have never been given the opportunity to host an International conference.

2. JCPA is a long-standing and effective multidisciplinary association with a history of more than 30 years and is fully qualified to organize a successful meeting with sound financial management.

3. The JCPA annual meeting regularly attracts 700 delegates. This strong track record shows that we can ensure the success of the International Congress.

4. Active involvement of Japanese delegates - A large number of papers have been presented by Japanese delegates in the International Congresses.

5. Treatments for patients with clefts and craniofacial anomalies in Japan are multidisciplinary and of the highest quality.

6. The JCPA currently has more than 20 million yen (approximately 200,000 USD) on hand and is in the process of soliciting additional funding. The fund will cover scholarships to help younger professionals and/or those from developing countries, the awards and the cost of publishing the proceedings. The fund will be replenished in the future with the support of commercial sponsors.

7. JCPA hopes to contribute to The International Confederation for Cleft Lip and Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies academically and financially.

8. Cooperative support from the national government, Japan National Tourism Organization and Kyoto local governments has already been confirmed.

9. Japan is politically stable and the cities are safe and secure. Delegates will enjoy pristine city streets and excellent transport services. Japan has no political or religious prejudices and offers a warm welcome to all visitors.

10. Japanese has the highest standard in meeting production, congress professionals and equipment technology. Japan can ensure participants in CLEFT 2025 a rewarding and enjoyable conference experience.
Why Kyoto?

Japan’s Most Popular and Quintessentially Japanese Destination

Voted most popular destination two years in a row by Travel + Leisure magazine. Kyoto features 1,200 years of Japanese history and tradition, a stunning total of 17 UNESCO World Heritage Sites all located less than 30 minutes apart.

Tradition meets Innovation

In the city’s long history, Kyoto has always been a center of cultural and technological innovation within Japan. 47 universities as well as numerous research institutions and forward-thinking corporations proudly uphold Kyoto’s tradition of innovation on the world stage.

Excellent Accommodation Options

From affordable accommodations to the lap of luxury, Kyoto hotels and ryokan (traditional Japanese inns) meet guests’ every need with famous Kyoto hospitality.

Easy Access

Trains, buses and hotel shuttle taxis offer easy access from the Airport. Domestic transfer flights and bullet trains to arrive in Kyoto. Once you arrive, our easy-to-understand integrated mass transit system with English signs makes it convenient to get around.
Proposed Congress Outline

Proposed Dates

October 19th - 24th, 2025

CLEFT 2025 is held at a perfect time for visiting Kyoto. Delegates will have the chance to experience many people’s favorite time of year in Kyoto. Autumn means glorious blue skies, warm temperatures in the mid-20’s (Celsius), and little chance of rain. It is a great time for exploring the city.

Delegates who attend CLEFT 2025 in Kyoto, will be able to enjoy the rare experience of attending an authentic Japanese festival. On October 22nd, traditional Jidai Matsuri Festival will be held in Kyoto. This is one of the three most remarkable festivals in Kyoto.

On the same night, the Kurama Fire Festival will also be held. It is said that it re-enacts the scene in ancient Japan when an enshrined deity was greeted after traveling from the Imperial Palace to Kurama village. On the evening of the 22nd locals will parade through the streets wearing straw warrior sandals, and carrying giant torches and yelling along the way until they gather at the shrine. The two portable shrines surrounded by the sparks from torches is an incredible sight to see.

Proposed Agenda

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<td>KEYNOTE Oral Sessions Coffee Oral Sessions Lunch Oral Sessions Coffee Oral Sessions</td>
<td>Kyoto City Tour</td>
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<td>23 (Thu.)</td>
<td>KEYNOTE Oral Sessions Coffee Oral Sessions Lunch Oral Sessions Coffee General Assembly Banquet</td>
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<td>24 (Fri.)</td>
<td>KEYNOTE Oral Sessions Coffee Oral Sessions Lunch Oral Sessions Closing Ceremony</td>
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We are planning to have oral sessions for five days. Task force reports will be presented orally. Poster presentations/commercial exhibitions will be open on October 20th – 23rd.
Proposed Venue

Kyoto International Conference Center [ICC Kyoto]

Kyoto International Conference Center (ICC Kyoto) opened in 1966, as Japan’s first world class international conference facility in Japan.

ICC Kyoto covers a vast 156,000 m² site that features a Main Building, Annex, Event Hall, and a beautiful Japanese garden as well as car parking for 450 vehicles. Together with the adjacent hotel and subway station, the site serves as a state-of-the-art, user-friendly complex devoted exclusively to conferences.

ICC Kyoto boasts more than 70 conference rooms including 9 halls with simultaneous interpretation equipment. The Main Building, Annex Hall and Event Hall are connected by indoor passageways and linked by a digital network system comprising more than 600 fiber-optic cables. This network makes live video relay easy, enabling large-scale conferences of more than 7,000 people.
ICC Kyoto is dedicated to conferences of the highest international standard. Countless conferences have been held successfully here at ICC Kyoto.

We are planning to use six rooms for oral presentations. Rooms for Posters/Exhibitions are in the same building.

**Grand Prince Hotel Kyoto – The Main Congress Hotel**

The closest hotel to ICC Kyoto is the Grand Prince Hotel Kyoto. It is connected by covered walkway and is a mere 3-minutes from ICC Kyoto Main Entrance.

Grand Prince Hotel Kyoto offers 309 rooms. Seven meeting rooms, including the Prince Hall (1,140 square meters) and the Gold Room (423 square meters), are available for banquets and congresses.
Supporters

Japanese Government:
Japan Tourism Agency, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism
Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO)

Regional Government
City of Kyoto
Kyoto Prefecture

Academic Societies:
Japan Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery
Japanese Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
Japanese Orthodontic Society
Japanese Association of Communication Disorders
Japan Society of Cranio-Maxillo-Facial Surgery
Japanese Society of Pediatric Dentistry
Japan Prosthodontic Society
The Japan Society of Logopedics and Phonantrics
The Oto-Rhino-Laryngological Society of Japan
Japanese Association of Speech-Language-Hearing Therapists

Support letters from Associate Academic Societies

JAPAN SOCIETY OF PLASTIC & RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Japan Society of Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery, I have great pleasure in letting all of you to know, Japan in 2025, if all of you fully agree on Japan to host the 15th International Congress on Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in Kyoto in 2025.

We sincerely support and hope to see you moving experts and scientists in this field from all over the world, and look forward to actively discussing towards the health of people with oral, dental and related craniofacial anomalies.

I do hope you will be supportive in writing for Japan to be the host for the forthcoming Congress in 2025.

Best Regards,

Ke Hisaoka, M.D., Ph.D.

The President of the Japan Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery

JAPANESE SOCIETY OF ORAL AND MAXILLOFACIAL SURGEONS

Dear Sir,

On behalf of the Japanese Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons, it is my great pleasure to support the Japan Society of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery in the hosting of the 15th International Congress on Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery in Japan in 2025.

Kyoto, the ancient capital of Japan, was the center of politics and culture for over a thousand years; Kyoto securely the cultural heart of Japan and considered the true heart of Japan.

I truly believe that Kyoto is the most suitable venue to host CLSM 2025 and wish you all the best.

Yours sincerely,

Hoshide Ikada, D.D.S., Ph.D.

The President of the Japanese Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
Support letters from Associate Academic Societies (Continued)

JAPANESE ORTHODONTIC SOCIETY

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of Japanese Orthodontic Society, we would like to inform all of you regarding the holding for Kyotsu, Kyoto to be the host of the 19th International Congress on Cleft Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies. We believe that the Japanese Cleft Palate Association will do a great job in the forthcoming Congress 2023.

Look forward to welcoming you in Kyoto, Japan.

Shun'ichi Shimizu
President
Japanese Orthodontic Society

JAPANESE ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNICATION DISORDERS

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of Japanese Association of Communication Disorders, we would like to invite all of you to support the holding for Kyoto, Japan to be the host of the 19th International Congress on Cleft Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies. We believe that Kyoto, Japan, will provide a comfortable environment for attendees. We are excited about the opportunity to make new friends and exchange knowledge in CLEFT 2023.

We look forward to welcoming you in Kyoto, Japan.

Yours sincerely,

Shingo Orito
President
Japanese Association of Communication Disorders

JAPAN SOCIETY OF CRANIO-MXILLO-FACIAL SURGERY

Dear Colleagues,

International Congress for Cleft Lip and Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies held an international congress every two years, and it will be held in Kyoto in 2023. All of you can enjoy Kyoto as the host of CLEFT 2023.

Kyoto is an ancient capital of Japan with a history of more than 1200 years since its establishment in 794. It preserves the aspects of traditional Japanese culture, and also it is located in the place where "Shin'ei Tenshi" for recovery was expected in the Kyoto International Congress Centre.

I hope that Kyoto will be selected as the venue for CLEFT 2023.

Kohji Takeyama
President
Japan Society of Cranio-Mxillo-Facial Surgery

JAPANESE SOCIETY OF PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to Japan!

As a member of the organizing committee of the 19th International Congress on Cleft Palate and Related Anomalies, I would like to invite you to participate in this event. We look forward to your participation.

I am sure that all of you will enjoy not only the conference itself, but also the beautiful landscapes of this beautiful country.

I hope you will enjoy this conference and wish you all the best for the upcoming Congress 2023.

Shigeru Kinami, DDS, PhD.
President
Japanese Society of Pediatric Dentistry
Best Time in Kyoto to Create Cleft History!

Support letters from Associate Academic Societies (Continued)

JAPAN PROSTHODONTIC SOCIETY

The OTO-RHINO-LARYNGOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF JAPAN

JAPANESE ASSOCIATION OF SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING THERAPISTS

THE JAPAN SOCIETY OF LOGOPEDICS AND PHONIATRICS

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the OTO-Rhino-Laryngological Society of Japan, we would like to invite all of you to support the holding of Kyoto, Japan, in the next event of the International Congress on Cleft Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies, to be held in 2023.

All previous Congresses have been held in Kyoto, Japan, which is known as one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Kyoto is the ancient political and cultural center of Japan, renowned for its rich history, architecture, and natural beauty. The elegant streets, temples, and shrines of Kyoto offer a unique experience for all attendees.

We firmly believe that Kyoto is the most suitable venue for the International Congress and that we will look forward to welcoming you in Kyoto, Japan.

Sincerely,

President

The OTO-Rhino-Laryngological Society of Japan, Inc.
Considering recent economic conditions, outsourced funds are not reliable. In response, JCPA has already created our own fund of ¥20,000,000 JPY (about $200,000 USD) for the international congress. This is enough to cover the scholarships, awards and publication of the proceedings. As for the scholarships to help younger professionals and/or those from developing nations, we are planning to provide up to ¥200,000 JPY (about $2,000 USD) for 20 delegates. This fund will be topped up in the future with the support of commercial sponsors.

Our own fund = ¥20,000,000 JPY (about $200,000 USD)
Visitors are always enchanted by Kyoto’s rich culture and 1200 years of history. Once the ancient capital of Japan, Kyoto’s historic cityscape is dominated by over 2000 temples and shrines and boasts 17 UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Sites.

This friendly city of 1.5 million people offers endless opportunities for your congress to gain meaningful hands-on experience of rich Japanese culture through tea ceremony, sake brewing, kimono wearing, swordsmanship and more. Japan is renowned for its safety. Kyoto’s user friendly qualities and compact layout makes us a wonderful place for strolling and exploring during free time. From the moment of arrival at Kansai International Airport – just 75 minutes from the city center - guests of Kyoto are pampered with clear multilingual signs and clean, efficient transport choices.

**Basic Facts about Kyoto**

Current population: 1.5 million  
Average October temperatures: Maximum 20.8 °C; Minimum 11.7 °C  
City center: Approx. 10 km (6 miles) north to south, 8 km (5 miles) east to west  
Geography: Basin surrounded by low mountains on the west, north & east  
Topography: Gently slopes downward to the south; bisected by crystal clear rivers  
Urban layout: Easy-to-navigate north/south, east/west grid of bustling streets  
Transportation: Comprehensive and integrated urban transport network  
Architecture: modern buildings harmonized with ancient temples, shrines, workshops and dwellings

**Heartfelt Welcome and Warm Hospitality**

Kyoto has been welcoming visitors for more than 1000 years.  
Visitors will be greeted with a smile and given a warm reception everywhere they go.  
In Japan, we pride ourselves in giving the best service to everyone, with no need to tip.  
Our accommodations range from familiar international hotel brands to traditional inns.
The Cultural Heart of Japan

Kyoto is home to:
- More than 2000 Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines
- 17 UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Sites
- Noh Theatre Masterpiece of the Oral & Intangible Heritage (UNESCO)
- Headquarters of tea ceremony and flower arrangement schools.
- Five schools of Maiko and Geiko geisha

Tradition meets Innovation

Kyoto is home to: Nintendo, Kyocera, Omron, Shimadzu and around 40 higher education & and research institutions as well as Kyoto University, which has produced a large proportion of Japanese Nobel laureates

Comfort & Safety

Japan and especially Kyoto are noted for being very safe. Subways, stations and bus terminals are clean and well lit. Even young children commute to school alone. You should have no major safety concerns when travelling here. Women generally feel comfortable travelling alone in the city at any hour of the day.

Also, the Kyoto Convention and Visitors Bureau entered into a special partnership agreement with the Kyoto Prefectural Police, deepening Kyoto’s commitment to the continued safety of all our visitors.

Costs

Expenses incurred by travelers in Kyoto are on average considerably cheaper than that of other large cities including Tokyo, New York and London. In fact, travelers are invariably very satisfied that with the low prices that Kyoto offers. There is a wide selection of accommodations and dining to meet any budget.

Furthermore tipping is not practiced in Japan. It is the custom in Japan to give all customers excellent service without expecting tips or charging service fees.

Best Time in Kyoto to Create Cleft History!
International Access

Kansai International Airport: Main Gateway

The closest international gateway to Kyoto is Kansai International Airport (KIX)

Access From Around the World

Japan is one of the closest destinations in Asia

Europe to

Japan 12 hours
Hong Kong 13 hours
Singapore 14 hours
Melbourne 21 hours

USA West Coast to

Japan 10 hours
Buenos Aires 12 hours
Hong Kong 15 hours
Singapore 17 hours
Melbourne 18 hours

Japan takes the 'far' out of the Far East
Kyoto is so well connected to the rest of Japan that you can choose to land at any of the international gateways around the country.

For example a popular route is landing in Tokyo Haneda (HND) and taking a connecting flight to Osaka Itami (ITM). From ITM, Skygate Taxis that take you to your hotel door in about an hour for a fixed price are highly recommended.

Experience of the *Shinkansen* (Bullet train)

The alternative way from Tokyo, Nagoya and Fukuoka is taking the *Shinkansen* (Bullet train of Japan Railway lines). Travelling on the Shinkansen is always an enjoyable experience.
Kyoto is often referred to as the “30 minute city”; because most destinations can be reached within half an hour from almost anywhere in the city.

Two City Subway lines: north-south and east-west, end-to-end in 25 minutes.
Subway station signs are marked in English, Chinese, Korean and Japanese.
Bus destinations are announced in English and Japanese and all bus stops are named and labelled. First time visitors can easily follow the bus map.
Taxis are plentiful: English speaking and licensed tour guide drivers are available.
Sightseeing spots & hotels are located near subway stations and bus stops.
Kyoto Convention Pass travel discounts are available for conferences.

Special discount tickets are available exclusively for convention participants!
Accommodation in Kyoto

Many hotels are located along the subway lines allowing easy access to the Congress venue and famous sightseeing places. Even in the economy hotels, a safe and comfortable stay is guaranteed.

Hotel Classification

**Superior Luxury hotels (A Class)**
equivalent to 4-5 star
$250 to 1,000 USD

- Grande Prince Hotel Kyoto
- Kyoto Brighton Hotel
- The Ritz-Carlton Kyoto
- Kyoto Hotel Okura
- Westin Miyako Hotel Kyoto
- Hyatt Regency Kyoto
- Four Seasons Hotel Kyoto
- Hotel Granvia Kyoto

**Luxury hotels (B Class)**
equivalent to 4 star
$150 to 250 USD

- Hotel Monterey Kyoto
- Kyoto Royal Hotel & Spa
- Kyoto Tokyu Hotel
- ANA Crown Plaza Hotel
- Kyoto Century Hotel
- Rihga Royal Hotel Kyoto

**Standard tourist/business hotels (C Class)**
equivalent to 3 star
$80 to 150 USD

- More than 40 hotels are available.

**Economy hotels (E Class)**
$40 to 120 USD

- More than 30 hotels are available.
  Great value for money with spotlessness that you expect from Japanese service.

*Fee above includes tax and service charges.
*Room charges are referring to actual room charges of July, 2016
(1 USD = 100 JPY)

Location of Class A & B Hotels (●)

Just 10min from the city center (Karasuma-Oike Stn) to ICC-Kyoto by subway. The subway is completely safe.

Ryokan (Japanese Inn)
Traditional Japanese accommodation in tatami mat rooms and futons to sleep on. Recently popular with international visitors.
Entertainment in Kyoto

Kyoto Imperial Palace
Take a guided tour of the Kyoto Imperial Palace, which was the residence of the Emperor for more than one thousand years. Then follow up with a walk on the incredible nightingale floors of Nijo Castle, the home of the Shogun and the seat of his power.

UNESCO
Enjoy one of the seventeen sites that have been designated World Cultural Heritage Sites. Kamigamo and Shimogamo shrines mark the foundation of the city.

Sake
Fushimi in the south of Kyoto is famous for its pure water and high quality rice that are combined to craft some of the finest sake. The scenery of the brewing districts has not changed in centuries and makes a wonderful atmosphere for viewing the production process and tasting the result.

Walking
The Arashiyama Sagano area is where local people go to relax in the countryside. The wide river, numerous temples, curiosity shops, and ancient countryside make for a pleasant stroll. You can enjoy the beautiful view of the river from an open deck train; or take a ride down the river rapids.

Gardens
There are thousands of delightful private, public, and temple gardens to be enjoyed in Kyoto.
A tour of lesser known spectacular gardens is the perfect way to entertain your guests.
Experience of Traditional Japanese Culture

Kyoto offers you the opportunity to incorporate traditional Japanese culture into your programme: motivation & rewards; team-building; breaks between sessions; spouse programmes; optional tours; entertainment & attractions.

- **Tea Ceremony**
  Enjoy the serene atmosphere and the beautiful taste of the emerald green tea.

- **Kimono**
  Completely enveloped in the Japanese spirit.

- **Calligraphy**
  Make a lasting impression of your experience in Kyoto.

- **Origami**
  Enjoyable for all ages.

- **Japanese Flower Arranging**
  Known as "the way of the flowers" reflect in beauty in nature.

- **Zen Meditation**
  Take a moment to relax and rejuvenate between sessions.
Japanese cuisine is enjoying international popularity for its exquisite flavours and health benefits. In Kyoto you will experience the very best Japanese cuisine that the world has to offer.

What to Eat
Experience formal Kyoto Kaiseki Ryori, a many-course meal made from seasonal dishes, famous Kyoto tofu, yuba (related to tofu), fu (wheat gluten), mizu-taki chicken, obanzai (Kyoto home-style cooking), and Shojin Zen vegetarian menus; as well as well-known favourites such as tempura, sushi & sashimi, noodles, okonomiyaki & takoyaki, sukiyaki & shabushabu, yakiniku & teppan yaki dishes grilled on hot plates or over charcoal, eel dishes, and Japanese confectionary. You might also like to try locally produced vegetables that all come with the Kyoto marque.

Where to Eat
Where you eat is as important as what you eat in Kyoto. Take the opportunity to try a selection of the following: cheap noodle bars and kissaten coffee shops, evening fun at an izakaya bar, familiar international fast food chains, casual diners and international ethnic restaurants, refurbished historic timber machiya town house restaurants that cater to all from formal to chic to casual.

Top Tips
Most restaurants have pictorial menus, English listings, replicas of food outside, or all of the above to help the international traveler enjoy their Kyoto culinary experience. International foods are also plentiful due to a significant expatriate population. From Chinese to Mexican, Indian to French, there is certain to be a taste of whatever country you call home.
What to Buy

The best and brightest of artisans and craftspeople are gathered in Kyoto developing the schools of magnificent Kiyomizu-ware ceramics, Yuzen decoration and Nishijin weaving of kimono fabrics, lacquer ware, woodblock prints, handmade paper, Japanese umbrellas, bamboo crafts, cloisonné, Damascene, dolls, accessories, folding fans, sake and other handiworks.

Japan is strongly associated with electronics goods and Kyoto is no exception being the proud home of global leaders such as Omron, Kyocera and Nintendo.

Where to Buy

There are many Kyoto shopping areas to be explored; from small individual shops along winding paths in Higashiyama and Nishijin areas, to the ultramodern department stores at Kyoto Station and the Shijo area, to the bustling food stalls at Nishiki market. Temple markets are a fascinating experience and it is worth checking listings for events at Toji, Myorenji, Koshoji and Chionji temples, and Kitano Tenmangu, Kamigoryo and Imamiya shrines while you are in town.

Tax Free

Many electronics and souvenir shops are able to sell products tax free when you show them your passport.
Kyoto is Overflowing with Historic Monuments and Sites

Kyoto has one of the world’s largest collections of UNESCO World heritage sites, with 17 properties all located within Kyoto Prefecture. No trip to Kyoto will be complete without visiting at least one of these sites. Each property embodies the respective era in which it was constructed and will undoubtedly delight and amaze congress participants.

UNESCO World Heritage

Noh Theatre
Recognized by UNESCO as Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity
Examples of Well-Known World Heritage Sites

④ Kinkaku-ji Temple (The Golden Pavilion)

⑦ Kamigamo-jinja Shrine

⑫ Ginkaku-ji Temple (The Silver Pavilion)

⑪ Shimogamo-jinja Shrine

⑧ Nijo Castle (Shogun’s base in Kyoto)

⑬ Kiyomizu-dera Temple

Other impressive places

Sanju-sangen-do Temple

Fushimi-Inari Shrine
Possible Reception Venues in CLEFT2025

Kyoto has many special and unique venues to delight our participants. The followings are the possible reception venues in CLEFT 2025.

**Nijo Castle (Nijo-jo)  UNESCO World Heritage Site**

- **Concept:**
  - Beautiful dinner in the old Samurai Palace

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**Toei Uzumasa Movie Studios**

**Thrilling Kyoto Night**

- **Concept:**
  - Step back in time and interact with people from Japan's feudal past
  - Guest-participation, fun-packed event
  - Full versatility of professional studios
Kyoto’s Dedication to Sustainability

Since December 1997, when the Kyoto Protocol on global warming was signed at ICC Kyoto, the name “Kyoto” has become synonymous with environmental leadership. Today, Kyoto continues to show that leadership. In 2016, Kyoto became the first city in Asia to join the Global Destination Sustainability Index, demonstrating Kyoto’s dedication to pioneering environmentally and socially sustainable meetings.

As the first permanent home for Japan’s capital, Kyoto was founded on the very principles of environmental sustainability and social stability. Kyoto boasts an over 1,200 year track record of dedication to sustainable growth. Kyoto is surrounded by lush mountains and clean, clear rivers flow throughout the city.

Harmony with the surrounding environment and sustainable growth has always been a key value to our city and prioritized over aggressive urban development. Strict building height restrictions protect the city’s character and skyline.

In Japan, recycling and mandatory garbage separation is universally practiced, and Japan offers some of the world’s greatest public transportation. Even compared with the rest of Japan, Kyoto has an unusually small carbon footprint - only about 1/4 of the average US citizen.

Kyoto is perfectly suited for environmentally sound activities like, walking and biking. Excursions can be planned that engage the local economy and support local agriculture and traditional industries.

- Kyoto City provides a carbon offset program available for conferences
- International Conference Center Kyoto is eco-certified
- Many hotels, DMCs and PCOs have sustainability policies and certifications
- Kansai International Airport – Eco certified, access to Kyoto via direct express train
- Transport – public transport is central to daily life in Japan, subways, buses, railways, walking & cycling routes are integrated, safe and user friendly
- Local sake, tea, and local cuisine made from in-season local produce
- Subsidies for incorporating local traditional industries into your conference
- KCVB can offer consultation, suggestions, and referrals for sustainable service providers
Kyoto Convention & Visitors Bureau (KCVB)

KCVB is a reliable resource that offers support, consultation and information free of charge
Kyoto Convention & Visitors Bureau (KCVB) is an independent, non-profit public organization that operates to support events in Kyoto. KCVB is looking forward to working with CLEFT to insure success in 2025. We are always happy to hear from you and answer your questions.

Access to a wide network of event professionals
KCVB works closely with local and national government entities, conference facilities, accommodation providers, travel agencies, professional conference organizers, interpretation/translation/staffing providers, destination management companies (DMC), professional congress organizers, event planners, printing/publishing, AV/display professionals, food/beverage/gift suppliers, transport/shipping companies, and others, including over 200 of KCVB’s supporting members (the complete list is on our website).

KCVB cares about environmental, social, and economic sustainability
In 2016, Kyoto became the first city in Asia to join the Global Destination Sustainability Index – a collaborative platform that promotes the sustainable growth of international meeting destinations. KCVB can help introduce sustainable service providers, sustainable excursion ideas, and can even help meetings offset part or all of their CO2 footprint using Kyoto’s original carbon offset program!

https://meetkyoto.jp/en/
Basic Information on Japan

Visas & Immigration Procedures

Any foreign visitor who wishes to enter Japan must have a passport, which will remain valid during the period of stay. Nationals of more than 60 countries are eligible to enter Japan without a visa unless the purpose of entering is to reside in Japan, to obtain employment or to otherwise engage in remunerative activities.

Climate

Japan has a temperate northern hemisphere climate and weather patterns are regular year to year. Autumn is a truly glorious time of year and pleasantly warm daytimes give way to refreshing evenings that are a pleasure for strolling and exploring the city for restaurants and entertainment.

Japanese Cuisine

Japanese food is a great attraction for all visitors to Japan. In 2013, traditional Japanese cuisine—known as washoku—was designated as an intangible cultural heritage by UNESCO.

Japanese cuisines express the beauty of nature in each season. When you’re in Japan, you’ll find the aesthetics of the seasonal washoku dishes perfectly designed for the time of year.
Public Health and Safety

Japan has high standards of public sanitation, so visitors need not to worry about the safety of drinking water, infectious diseases, and so on. Visitors can also be assured that Japan is one of the safest countries in the world with regards to crime rates, so there is little chance of being involved in any incidents (robbery, for example).

Costs

Expenses incurred by travellers in Kyoto are on average considerably cheaper than that of other large cities including Tokyo, New York and London. In fact, travellers are invariably very satisfied with the low prices that Kyoto offers. There is a wide selection of accommodation and dining to meet any budget. Furthermore tipping is not practised in Japan. The phrase, “o-kyaku-sama wa kami-sama” - the customer is god - indicates that excellent service is expected always.

Traveler friendly “KOBAN” -the police box

If you are lost and need to get directions, or need to report lost items, the “Koban” police box can help you. This network of mini police stations is unique to Japan, and they can be found in virtually every neighborhood throughout the country. Friendly officers are always happy to give directions and information or help people in need of assistance!

Japan is No. 1 country in Societal Safety & Security Domain
- Global Peace Index 2015, Institute for Economics & Peace, UK

Affordable Costs in Japan

The land of no-tipping – but many smiles
- No hotel bed tax
- Consumption tax only 8%
- Absolutely no tipping
In 2015, the Japan launched a new brand concept for meetings and events. The tagline for this brand—“New ideas start here”— means that Japan’s unique culture and high technology, together with the opportunity for interaction with the Japanese academic, business and industrial community, give participants inspiration and flashes of insight that propel the further evolution of science and industry.

The Japan Tourism Agency and Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) are providing special support to organizations that are actively working to attract visitors from overseas. These official organizations are working with the Japanese Cleft Palate Association to welcome the 15th International Congress on Cleft Palate and Related Craniofacial Anomalies to Japan, and to ensure a successful congress.
# Executive Committee

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<th>Role</th>
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<th>Institution</th>
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Welcome to Kyoto