Japanese Language Major Receives Prestigious

2016-17 Monbukagakusho Scholarship

Joseph Cardello will receive the 2016-17 Monbukagakusho Scholarship from the Japanese government’s Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology (MEXT). Cardello, a senior, is one of only a handful of undergraduates in the United States to be awarded the scholarship.

The Consulate General of Japan in Honolulu will formally award Cardello the scholarship in a September 15 ceremony. He will leave for the one-year study in Japan at the Kyoto University soon thereafter. The Monbukagakusho Scholarship covers tuition and living expenses, and also provides stipends.

Japanese instructor and MEXT Coordinator Miki Ogasawara helped Cardello through the application process. She notes, “Joseph’s language proficiency is of the highest level. All of us in the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures are excited that he will realize his dream of going to Japan to continue his study.”

Cardello, a native of Londonderry, New Hampshire, moved to Honolulu to pursue his BA at Mānoa. “I had heard great things about the cultural diversity and foreign language programs at UHM. When I came for a visit, I was awed by the depth of the Japanese program and very impressed with the faculty. My high expectations were reached and exceeded!”

While in Japan, Cardello wants to learn about, and gain a deeper appreciation of, traditional arts such as chado (tea ceremony) and Kabuki and Noh (theatre). “After I earn my BA, I plan on going to graduate school to further study Japanese language and literature. Eventually, I would like to become a professor of Japanese studies.”

Cardello would like to acknowledge those that made this accomplishment possible. “Instructor Ogasawara has helped me through the scholarship process, and has been an excellent advisor during my entire time at UHM. I would also like to thank Japanese Professor Kazue Kanno and the members of the Consulate General of Japan.”

The College of Languages, Linguistics & Literature (one of the four Arts & Sciences colleges) of the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa offers a broad curriculum in English, foreign and heritage languages and literatures, second language studies, and linguistics. Its Asia and Pacific focused curricula is unique in the nation. The faculty regularly teaches more than 25 languages, and has the capacity to teach many more.

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