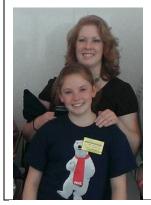


## APCC Testimonials

## Sarah Pruitt, Mother of Aubre Pruitt (Junior Ambassador 2014)



My daughter's trip to Japan this past summer was wonderfully enriching for her and a growing experience for our entire family. She was so excited for the opportunity to travel to Japan, and she thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated her host family and their kindness. They expressed their generosity to her in a hundred ways all while giving her a glimpse of their own culture, language, and character. She is better for her time spent with them and we are so grateful for their kind care of our precious daughter. She grew in her experience living with her host family learning a different culture as well as making friends from a variety of countries, and we, her family, inevitably grew during the process of letting her go.

## Ken Katz, Father of Sam Katz (Junior Ambassador 2012)



I feel the program has benefits well beyond the basic premise of our children going to Japan. The planning and then executing of the "big trip" seemed to have a great affect on the kids of Sam's year due to the camaraderie that was built. This is true of both the group that went on the trip that year as well with the ones that went previously. Sam felt the interaction with the other kids at the school during the Home stay was the best. Seeing home life is interesting and did expand his horizons. But even now, discussing how he could play with the other kids even with a language barrier is what he is most excited about. I feel the best indicator of the trip, is the kids willingness and excitement to return when they are eligible. There are meetings and commitments that middle school or High School age children usually do not want to attend or be a part of, but Bridge club and discussions of returning to Japan are always met with Great enthusiasm. I cannot speak highly enough for the program and the rewards that it brings.

## Ismail Sanchez (Junior Ambassador 2011)



I found it amazing how you can meet people from all over the world you would never think of meeting and experience not only Japanese culture but also the culture of the many countries that attend the conference. Also, the whole experience with a host family could not have been better. This is because they really try their best to bond with you and have you experience all of the sights, smells, tastes, and sounds of Fukuoka. Overall, I found the whole experience very beneficial to me not only emotionally, but mentally because after the whole experience you want so much to go back and you want so much to try to befriend people of other cultures. The meeting and experiencing other cultures, having a host family to call your own, and the whole program can captivate anyone, regardless of race, gender, speech, or anything that keeps up apart these days.