including the main Kent Campus and the other campuses, I supported the strong ties with Japanese partner University and Japanese Program at Kent State University.

As community outreach, I had many presentations at Libraries, Church and Local summer camps. The target groups of community outreach are getting wider.
As for educational outreach, I visited 4 elementary schools, 6 high schools, 4 colleges and 1 educational service centers. As a total, I reached almost 1000 individuals via school visits.

With significant supports by Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga Falls, I had the first high school outreach program. It was well received and I received the further offers from the other schools after that. In addition, I had a teacher’s workshop how to introduce Japanese culture in school. There is another offer of teacher’s workshop for next semester.

My favorite educational outreach was the elementary school-visit to stay whole of the day. Having 4 presentations from 1st grade to 4th grade, I could spend with students during recesses and lunchtime. Later the school-visit, I received about 80 messages from students and video message.

“Thank you for your presentation. Everyone enjoyed it very much. I have been asked when we might repeat it!!” - Nadine Grimm, Coordinator of 21st Century Learning, Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga County

“THANK YOU again for coming in to talk to our academy students! They LOVED your presentation, and our teachers did, too. I loved how you interspersed your humor and joy throughout your discussion of Japanese culture. You did an amazing job holding our students' attention, and you sparked their interest in your country. THAT is what being a teacher is all about!” - Kathryn A. Stone, Coordinator of Jackson Academy for Global Studies

“Thank you for an interesting and informative presentation! It was well received by our students and many said it was our best club meeting this year!” - Melissa Foster, the International Club adviser at Aurora High School
Community Outreach

Library visits are the largest number of requests I received. I regularly visit the two nearest libraries to have the teen programs. I had the presentations about Japanese Craft, Origami, Japanese pop culture, Japanese Food Culture, Kamishibai, Shodo etc.

With the local tea ceremony group, we had the outreach at local art festival, high school, university summer program and Zen Center in Pittsburg. I am really glad to take part in the group and to enjoy the tea ceremony in the US.

During the first year, I participated in kids festivals and international fairs. On this September, I’ve already received the offers to participate the two local art festivals. The cultural demonstrations at festivals can appeal the wider community.

“Thanks again for coming to the Garrettsville Library. Your program was so well received. Everyone had a great time and many have asked me to have you back for more.”
- Marian Phillips, Reference Librarian at Garrettsville Library

My favorite part of community outreach is involving the volunteers. The volunteers are wide ranged from Japanese exchange students, graduate students, students who learn Japanese, tea ceremony groups and Japan related persons, depending on what types of community outreach. The reasons why I like involving the volunteers are sustainability of Japan outreach initiative around Kent community and beneficial influences for volunteers. Most of volunteers told me their great experiences in community outreach and asked me the other chances to participate.
Kent State Outreach

A. Japanese Program
Once a week, I have supported the activity of Japanese coffee hours which is a casual gathering with Japanese students and Japanese learners. Regularly, I help the Japanese tutoring 2 hours a week and provide the advanced Japanese debating hour for graduate students. I also help the Japanese related classes and summer courses, which counts 9 classes in a semester.

B. Campus Visit
Regularly, I visit the second main campus, Stark Campus at Kent State University to help the Japanese elementary and intermediate classes. I will expand the campus visit for the next semester.

C. Campus Events
I had a presentation at the Cultural Café Event and had a Japanese booth in a cultural event. Now, I am planning to expand the Cultural Café Event into the other campuses.

D. Office of Global Education
I also work for the Office of Global Education every Friday to bring the stronger ties with the Japanese partner Universities by making a better pamphlets, helping the orientations and participating the promotional events.

E. Japan Cultural Exchange Circle
Kent State University is definitely a Japan friendly university. There is a Japan Cultural Exchange Circle to support the Japanese exchange students life and to have lots of cultural exchange opportunities.

Supervisors’ Comments;
Since Haru's arrival last summer, he has contributed to our Japanese program in many ways. He has been a great help to our students and faculty as a tutor, teaching mentor, and a window to Japanese culture. Also, Haru has brought together both Japanese exchange students and Kent State students to learn about each other and their cultures. Overall, Haru has been a great representative of our program both on and off campus. By Eriko Tanaka, Judy Wakabayashi
Kent State University

JOI in Numbers
(As of July 2018)

Organizations Visited
50

Outreach Delivered
97

People Reached out
4,539

Education Outreach

Including Educational Service Center, I visited K-12 schools and colleges in North East Ohio. In addition to the regular educational outreach, I organized the teachers’ workshop, helped the high school exchange program and supported the letter exchange between schools.

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Community Outreach

As community outreach, I had many presentations at Libraries, Church, Senior Center, Lion's Club and Local summer camps. There were lots of local events’ outreach and also many corporations with local group such as artists or tea ceremony group.

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Kent State Outreach

Including the main Kent Campus and the other regional campuses, I supported the strong ties with Japanese Partner University and Japanese Program at Kent State University. There were several university-based events.

Page 4
Education Outreach

As for educational outreach, I visited 4 elementary schools, 4 middle schools, 4 high schools, 5 colleges and 1 educational service centers. As a total, I reached about 1000 individuals via school visits.

With significant supports by Educational Service Center of Cuyahoga Falls, I had the teachers’ workshop three times. It was well received and I received the further outreach offers from the schools participated in these workshops. In addition, with the supports of Japanese language teachers’ network, I had many chances to visit the other colleges in the North East Ohio area.

After visiting schools, many students sent me the thanks letters for my visits in their schools. Also, they showed tons of curiosities about Japan and let me know how my Japan outreach programs open their eyes.
Community Outreach

Library visits are the largest number of requests I received. I visited more than 30 libraries as a total. I had the presentations about Japanese Craft, Origami, Japanese pop culture, Japanese Food Culture, Kamishibai, Shodo, Tea Ceremony, Traditional Clothes, and Festivals etc.

With the local tea ceremony group, we had the outreach at local art festival, high school, university summer program, Zen Center, local market, local dragon boat event etc. I am really glad to take part in the group and to enjoy the tea ceremony in the US.

During the second year, I participated in art festivals, college educational fair, Japan Day and library event. The cultural demonstrations at festivals or fairs could make me approach the wider audience or the wider community.

“Thanks a lot for coming to the Garrettsville Library so many times. All of your programs were so well received. Everyone had a great time with you and many have asked me to have you back in the US.” - Marian Phillips, Reference Librarian at Garrettsville Library

My supervisors and I planned the Japanese festival event at the end of first year. On September at the second year, we had the Japan Day at the Kent Free Library. We involved about 20 volunteers and organized the booth for the kids’ area, the cultural experience area, the presentation area and the display areas. About 200 guests enjoyed this event.

For my most favorite memory, many volunteers in outreach activities told me their great experiences to introduce Japanese culture and asked me the other chances to participate in.
Kent State Outreach

A. Japanese Program
Once a week, I have supported the activity of Japanese coffee hours which is a casual gathering with Japanese students and Japanese learners. Regularly, I help the Japanese tutoring 2 hours a week and provide the advanced Japanese debating hour for graduate students. I also help the Japan related classes and summer courses, which counts 9 classes in a semester.

B. Campus Visit
Regularly, I visit the second main campus, Stark Campus at Kent State University to help the Japanese elementary and intermediate classes. I had the cultural classes, participated in the educational fair and cultural dialogue.

C. Upward Bound Program
Kent State offers the Upward Bound Program for high school students during summer. I helped the Japanese language classes two years in row. The number of class and student has increased double.

D. Office of Global Education
I also work for the Office of Global Education every Friday to bring the stronger ties with the Japanese partner Universities by making a better pamphlets, helping the orientations and participating the promotional events.

E. Japan Cultural Exchange Circle
Kent State University is very friendly for Japanese students and Japanese leaners. There is a Japan Cultural Exchange Circle to support the Japanese exchange students’ life and to have lots of cultural exchange opportunities.