



The Alun Davies English Learner's Award, 2020

To honour Alun's memory, his spirit of excellence, and his devotion to BACS, we are proud to announce a special award in his name. This award recognizes a student who has made outstanding progress in their studies of English. The student is highly motivated, hardworking and shows commitment and enthusiasm in learning English, making outstanding improvement in all four skills over the course of study in British and American Cultural Studies.

For the 2020 academic year, BACS is proud to announce the recipient of Alun Davies English Learner's Award to honour our dear friend and colleague. Many names were put forward for the

award, and I would like to mention a few of the nominees along with some words of praise from their teachers.

Alice Oshima deserves honorable mention for her outstanding class contribution. Alice was consistently active in classes and supportive of her classmates: Alice "injected a lot of life and motivated her classmates to speak (out)." Alice also made a major contribution to the success of John Lenihan's drama production and participated in the English Speaking Society. Sakura Waturai has also been nominated for her consistently excellent classwork: "She never missed a class, she was always enthusiastic, did all of her consistently quality work on time and she even wrote her diary, daily, ... Her consistency and discipline were impressive and her writing got much better as a result." Reina Onishi is recognized as "diligent, keen and responsible."

Naoko Agata, Maiko Kakizawa and Hinako Yoshino also deserve honorable mention for their contributions to BACS as senpai. All three were not only active in classes but also generous in giving their time to the Senpai Project, to special events such as study abroad presentations to freshmen and presentations for Chukyo High School students as well as participating in the Kanda All-Japan English Presentation Contest.



The Recipient of the 2020 Alun Davies English Learner's Award

MIZUKI ITO

Mizuki receives this award for her all-round excellence in English studies. As one of her teachers who taught her for three years reports, "Mizuki stood out from day one. . . . She was always front and center in class, produced outstanding work. She would ask challenging questions and was one of the few who volunteered answers. She kept me on my toes, I knew it was 'game on' when Mizuki was in class and I needed to be prepared." Mizuki has "always done outstanding work," says another of her teachers, including turning in a prize-winning graduation essay this year, entitled "Evolving Diversity in U.S. Media: A Com-

parison of Friends and 13 Reasons Why." Mizuki qualified in her second year to study in the US on the exchange program at the University of California, Chico. In addition to her outstanding work in all language studies and academic courses, she also made a significant contribution to BACS, giving the keynote talk to freshmen at our 1st Year Orientation and speaking to students about her success on the TOEFL test.

Mizuki writes, "I am very honored to receive such a great award. I couldn't get this award without my precious friends who always inspire and encourage me to reach my dreams."

Alun was dedicated to all of the students he taught and a strong supporter of the BACS program. I am sure he would be very proud of Mizuki and the entire 2020 BACS graduating class.