

12-8-2016

Departure

Sean Bowden
Linfield College

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/intl_postcards_1617

Recommended Citation

Bowden, Sean, "Departure" (2016). *2016-17 Postcards*. Article. Submission 7.
https://digitalcommons.linfield.edu/intl_postcards_1617/7

This Article is protected by copyright and/or related rights. It is brought to you for free via open access, courtesy of DigitalCommons@Linfield, with permission from the rights-holder(s). Your use of this Article must comply with the [Terms of Use](#) for material posted in DigitalCommons@Linfield, or with other stated terms (such as a Creative Commons license) indicated in the record and/or on the work itself. For more information, or if you have questions about permitted uses, please contact digitalcommons@linfield.edu.

Departure



A Christmas Party celebration with some Japanese and other exchange students celebrating our time in Japan.

With less than 24 hours left before I leave Japan, there are numerous emotions running through my body. As I type this, I find myself remembering all the experiences that I have had studying abroad. Not all the experiences were good at first, but all of them were positive because I could learn from them. Reentry into the United States seems like a dream almost and I almost cannot think of what my life will be like without living in Japan. That being said, the memories and friends that I have made here will undoubtedly follow me through the rest of my life. The bonds that I have forged here will last while I am overseas and I hope to see all my close friends again, later in life. For anyone who is wondering whether to study abroad, just know that when people say that studying abroad changed their life, they are not kidding. Before coming to Japan, I did not even have an inkling of the experiences and friendships that I would find and create while studying abroad. Although I am leaving tomorrow to return to America, part of me will always be in Japan and I cannot wait until the day that I can return here and see my friends once again. Truly, a single word cannot describe the experience in its entirety; so I will use two words: momentarily inspiring.

Sean