

2018 Kyoto University President's Award Winners and Citations

Awardee	Category	Citation
<p>Jie Gao</p> <p>Second-year doctoral, Division of Biological Science, Graduate School of Science</p>	<p>Scholarship</p>	<p>Investigating the ability of chimpanzees to understand a circular relationship — such as that of the "rock", "paper", and "scissors" in the game of <i>janken</i> — through comparison with human infants, Gao discovered possible differences in body perception between the two species. She went on to explore this topic focusing on the perception of inverted bodies, in a unique study that, while still underway, has earned her international recognition in the form of nine accolades, including the 2018 Social Impact Award from <i>Primates</i>.</p>
<p>Nobuhiko Nishitani</p> <p>Third-year doctoral, Department of Synthetic Chemistry and Biological Chemistry, Graduate School of Engineering</p>	<p>Scholarship</p>	<p>Nakatani conducted a highly successful study on the self-assembly of functional organic molecules on planar substrates, reporting the results in <i>Chemistry: An Asian Journal</i>, published by Wiley-VCH, where the work was featured on the journal's cover as a very important paper (VIP). He also presented his research at numerous academic conferences, both domestic and international, and received nine awards, including two for the best presentation.</p>

		<p>At Kyoto University, Nakatani enrolled in the Training Program of Leaders for Integrated Medical System for Fruitful Healthy-Longevity Society (LIMS), where he collaborated with students from other fields of study to address issues associated with population aging. As part of these efforts, he and collaborators entered the seventh Techno Renaissance research and development idea competition, sponsored by Nikkei Inc. The team won the Fujimori Kogyo category, and worked with the packing material manufacturer to successfully patent the winning idea.</p>
<p>Yuta Kawamura Third-year doctoral, Division of Educational Studies, Graduate School of Education</p>	Scholarship	<p>Conducting psychological research on reputational concerns and their positive and negative impacts on altruistic behavior, Kawamura coauthored numerous highly acclaimed studies, including nine that were published in peer-reviewed journals, among which was <i>Evolution and Human Behavior</i>, one of the most prominent international publications in the field. He also received four awards from domestic and international academic societies.</p>
<p>Taiyo Katsuki Fourth year, Undergraduate School of Global Engineering,</p>	Extracurricular activity	<p>Katsuki became the first student ever to win four intercollegiate windsurfing champion titles — rookie, team (in both individual and team categories), and individual — despite having had no prior experience with</p>

Faculty of Engineering		the sport.
Jun Ito Fourth year, Department of Economics and Management, Faculty of Economics	Extracurricular activity	Playing in the university student category of the 45th Nippon Guitar Competition, held August 2018, Ito won gold and the Nippon Guitar Association award.
Iaido Club (represented by Taiga Suzuki, fourth year, Faculty of Letters)	Extracurricular activity	Suzuki and his team won the 32nd All Japan Iaido Championship, and placed second in the 33rd.
Men's Lacrosse Club, Kyoto University Sports Union (represented by Hideaki Waki, fourth year, Faculty of Engineering)	Extracurricular activity	The Waki team came in second in Japan Lacrosse Collegiate Championships 2018.
Yacht Club, Kyoto University Sports Union (represented by Takuya Nagahama, third year, Faculty of Law)	Extracurricular activity	The KyotoU pair placed second in the Snipe class of the 83rd All Japan Intercollegiate Sailing Championship.