

Recognizing "Pioneering Activities Both On and Off Campus"

We Warmly Invite You to Apply for the 2026 "Imahori Seiji Award"

The Alumni Association of the School of Integrated Arts and Sciences is seeking candidates for the "Imahori Seiji Award," named after the first Dean of the school. Established in 2024 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the school's founding, this year marks the second time the student category will be awarded.

The award targets practices and achievements in a wide range of fields, including academic research, extracurricular activities, social and economic activities, and peace and international contributions. We evaluate creative activities that align with the founding spirit of the school, placing a strong emphasis on novelty and originality. While primarily intended for individual activities, groups may also be eligible depending on the content of their activities.

Winners in the student category will receive a cash prize of 50,000 yen, and winners in the alumni category will receive a prize. We focus on activities that are "only one rather than number one," looking for uniqueness and "unconventional" activities typical of our school, which differs from existing honors such as the "President's Award" or the "School of Integrated Arts and Sciences Okamoto Award." Both self-nominations and nominations by others are accepted (please refer to the attached recommendation form).

●Application Details

- The specific application **deadline is the end of September 2026.**
- **Submission Contact:** Applications should be submitted to the Secretariat of the Alumni Association of the School of Integrated Arts and Sciences.
- **Address:** 1-7-1 Kagamiyama, Higashi-Hiroshima City, 〒739-8521.
- **Email:** souka-oba@souka-oba.hiroshima-u.ac.jp
- **Prize:** 50,000 yen for the Student Category.



●Purpose

The School of Integrated Arts and Sciences at Hiroshima University was born in 1974 as Japan's first pioneering faculty for arts and sciences integration and interdisciplinary exploration. It was regenerated through the university reforms of the 1970s, originating from the former Hiroshima Higher School and the College of General Education of the new

Hiroshima University.

At the very first entrance ceremony, Seiji Imahori, the first Dean (see photo), expressed his grand ambitions.

"Integrated science is a discipline that leads the world... You are the ones who will bear the next generation... All of Japan is expecting this from you... Modern science will soon finish its historical mission, becoming an old soldier and fading away. Integrated science will take its place to carry the history of humanity, and you have enrolled in our school to study this."

Academically, the pillars were "creativity," "comprehensiveness," and "interdisciplinarity," marking a departure overflowing with a pioneering spirit to carve out new paths. The fact that this spirit is still inherited today is a major reason for the school's development.

As the Alumni Association approached its half-century milestone in 2024, it established the "Imahori Seiji Award" to remember the first Dean, Dr. Seiji Imahori, and other related individuals who devoted themselves to the school's founding as "parents of the school." The award aims to inherit their ambition filled with a pioneering spirit and to encourage the next generation of students.

- **[Special Award] August 2024:** Keiko Horikawa (Foreign Language Course, enrolled in 1998) for television documentary and nonfiction writing activities.
- **[Student Category 1st Edition] November 2025 (5 applications):**
 - Meitoku Ren (Natural Exploration Domain, enrolled in 2023) for advanced chemical research (e.g., soot analysis of ink sticks) and presentations at international conferences.
 - Moe Katagiri (Social Exploration Domain, enrolled in 2023) for consultant activities for the revitalization and management support of local festivals.

●Let's Inherit the Pioneering Spirit

[Guidelines]

- 1. Purpose: This award honors Dr. Seiji Imahori (1914-1992), the first Dean of the School of Integrated Arts and Sciences. It aims to re-engrave the founding ambition of the school while praising and encouraging creative activities full of a pioneering spirit.
- 2. Categories: This award establishes two categories: the "Student Category" targeting students enrolled in the School of Integrated Arts and Sciences, and the "Alumni Category" targeting graduates.
- 3. Nomination and Selection: For the student category, based on self-nominations and recommendations from faculty and staff, a selection committee appointed by the

President of the Alumni Association and the Dean will conduct the selection. For the alumni category, based on self-nominations and recommendations from the President of the Alumni Association, the Board of Directors will conduct the selection.

- 4. Prizes, Supplementary Prizes, etc.: Prize money will be covered by donations and other funds. The amount and supplementary prizes will be determined by the Board of Directors.
- 5. Awards Ceremony: The awards ceremony will be held once a year at events such as the Hiroshima University Home Coming Day.
- 6. Others: If any issues arise regarding the administration, selection, or other aspects of this award, the Board of Directors will seek a resolution.
- **Enacted:** August 10, 2024.

●**Dr. Seiji Imahori(1914-1992): Active in Multiple Fields, at the Forefront of University**

- Born in Osaka City.
- Graduated from the elementary and middle schools attached to the Hiroshima Higher Normal School, the Higher Normal School itself, and Hiroshima University of Literature and Science.
- After serving as an assistant and associate professor at the university, he became the Dean of the College of General Education at Hiroshima University in 1972.
- He advanced university reforms, which were scrutinized during the campus disputes, alongside then-President Soichi Iijima, giving birth to the School of Integrated Arts and Sciences in 1974.
- From 1977 to 1987, he served as President of the Prefectural Women's University of Hiroshima.
- As a leading expert in modern Chinese history research, he received the Japan Academy Prize in 1980.
- He also poured his efforts into the peace movement, authoring "The Era of Atomic and Hydrogen Bombs" (1959-1960).
- A humanist who consistently maintained the perspective of the people, his friendship with the writer Jakucho Setouchi is well-known.
- He was active in various fields, serving as a committee member related to the government and municipalities, and an officer for various cultural and peace organizations.
- He remained single throughout his life.
- His grave is located in the Osaka Hokusetsu Cemetery in Osaka Prefecture.