

Gifu International Center International Information Publication

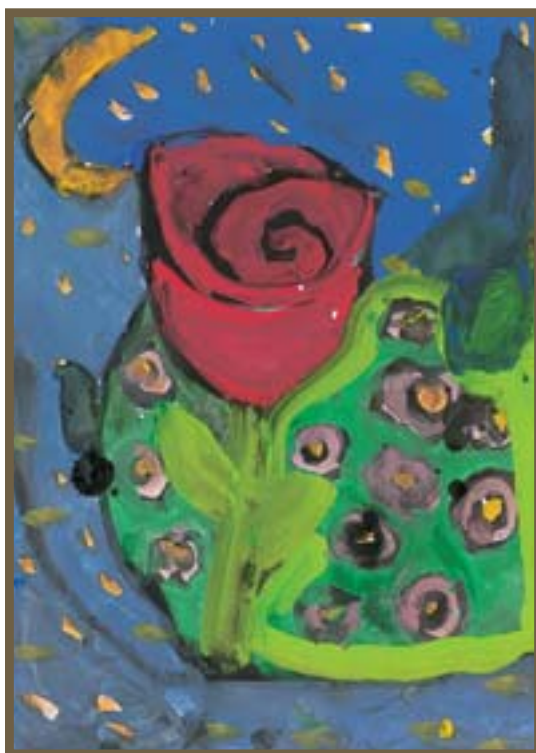
SEKAI WA HITOTSU

English

2011

Autumn

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Nayumi Nagata,
Ogaki West Municipal Elementary school, Grade 4



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Career Counseling for Brazilian School Students

The Minokamo City Isaac Newton College has been providing career counseling as part of their student support services since July 2011. The career counseling project was organised based on the results of a career survey about how students felt about and understood their future, in conjunction with the NPO Kani International Exchange Association. The goals of the project are to give students a clear picture of how they are going to achieve their goals for the future, and also to give lifestyle support to students who intend to remain in Japan after high school. The next stage of the project will give students workplace experience in public institutions like hospitals and private companies.

Career survey



Before career counseling, a career survey was given out to 84 students. The survey asked in what country they want to work, what sort of work they want to do, what their career path will be after high school, and whether they were planning to go to a Japanese high school or not.

- Survey participants: Students at Brazilian schools, from elementary school grade 6 through to final year high school students.
- Survey content: Birthdate, address, country of birth, members of household, whether they want to live in Brazil or Japan in the future and why, career plans for the future, town or prefecture they want to work in, the career path they want to take after high school, whether or not they want to continue to a Japanese high school.

Career counseling

- Dates: 2011 July 14 (Thurs), July 15 (Fri), July 21 (Thurs), July 22 (Fri), July 25 (Mon), August 22 (Mon), August 29 (Mon).
- Participants: 17 grade 6 Elementary school students, in Junior High school 15 grade 1 students, 15 grade 2 students, and 11 grade 3 students, 10 first year high school students, and 9 second and third year high school students.
- Content: Students were presented with a slide show titled "What qualifications are necessary for my career?", and were lectured on things like how to be transferred to or admitted to a Japanese high school, and looked at samples of the alternative exam students can take to be accredited with passing junior high school. High school students also learnt about the scholarship system. Visiting students from Tono high school talked about why they took the Japanese Language Proficiency Test Level 1 (the highest level of a standardized Japanese language test), how important it is, study methods, and also gave a general explanation of what high school life is like from the perspective of someone who is actually there. The students also spent time researching, using an online questionnaire, about what industry they are interested in, what jobs there are within that industry, what sort of qualifications are necessary, and what they have to study in order to get those qualifications.



Career path study seminar counseling

- Date: September 16 (Fri) 18:00-21:00
- Place: Kani Multicultural Center "Frevia"
- Participants: 22 (Brazilian people-21, Filipino people-1)
- Presenter: Robert Akira Tsuchiya, ATR president
- Content: Mr. Tsuchiya lectured the students about what sort of jobs there are in the IT field, the practical applications of various technologies, and how to learn about those technologies. He also talked about some other things such as secrets to being successful at work, and useful methods for finding work online. This seminar was made up of mainly high school students on scholarship, but adults also participated. There were a few comments about all the difficult technical language used, but all in all people listened with great interest about some of the applications of technologies that usually remain hidden out of view.



2010 Fiscal Year Innovative Multicultural Support Project

This center appeals for proposals of innovative, exemplary projects that will create a multicultural society. In the 2010 fiscal year 4 projects were adopted. Here, we would like to introduce the activities of one of the societies Gifu International Center supports.

Introducing the activities of the “Minokamo China Friendship society”

The Minokamo China Friendship Society is a volunteer group that was formed in 2008. At present, in April 2011, there are 40 members, including people of Japanese and Chinese nationality. It currently holds various study sessions and exchange meetings in order to complete 2 missions: firstly to provide lifestyle support for Chinese permanent residents living in Minokamo, and secondly to improve the environment in which the new community members are living.

In 2010, Gifu International Centre was contracted to carry out a project with the aim of building stronger relations between Japanese local residents and Chinese permanent residents. This center implemented various activities to build closer relations within the community in order to give Chinese people a safe and comfortable environment to live in. The activities are introduced below:

1) Establishing an inquiry counter for Chinese people

An office was established in Minokamo City’s multicultural exchange center with a place where Chinese people could meet directly with someone and ask questions in Chinese. Now, with the use of an interpreter and an administrative procedure specialist, people can also discuss problems relating to visas or other things that require specialist knowledge.



2) Releasing information on twitter

Notices from the local government and information regarding multicultural events are put up on twitter (a simplified blog), and newsletters are also offered by email in Japanese and Chinese.

3) Chinese language classes

Chinese language classes were established for local Japanese people who wish to learn Chinese, with the aim of increasing communication between Chinese and Japanese people.



4) Japanese language classes

Japanese language classes were established for Chinese people, with the aim of increasing communication between Japanese and Chinese people.

5) Producing an information pamphlet

A pamphlet was made in Japanese for people who interact with Chinese people on a regular basis and people who would like more contact with foreign residents in their area, titled “Q&A Regarding Multiculturalism and Permanent Residents”. It is 25 pages long and A5 size. 1000 copies were made.



6) Circulating a Chinese language newsletter

Every month a double sided A4 newsletter is circulated with notices from the local government, articles on Japanese culture, and information about multicultural events etc. It is distributed in paper and in PDF format, and delivers necessary lifestyle information to Chinese people.

Introducing Cultures of the World

Brazilian Culture

Brazil is famous for soccer, carnivals, and the Amazon, but how much do you really know about Brazilian culture? For example, the official language is not "Brazilian", but "Portuguese", and the capital city is not "Rio de Janeiro", but "Brasilia". Here we will introduce public holidays in October, November and December.

October

Childrens Day

In Brazil, Children's Day is celebrated on the 12th of October.

The idea of having a day to celebrate children was first put forwards in 1920, and was officially recognised in 1924.

It coincidentally falls on the same day as the public holiday for Our Lady of Aparecida (in Portuguese, Nossa Senhora da Aparecida), the patron saint of Brazil.

In Japan, young boys and girls celebrate Children's day on different days, but in Brazil they have always celebrated on the same day.

As well as small bags of candies, cookies and sweets being handed out, children also play ball games, chasey, and pretend to play house or play with cars.

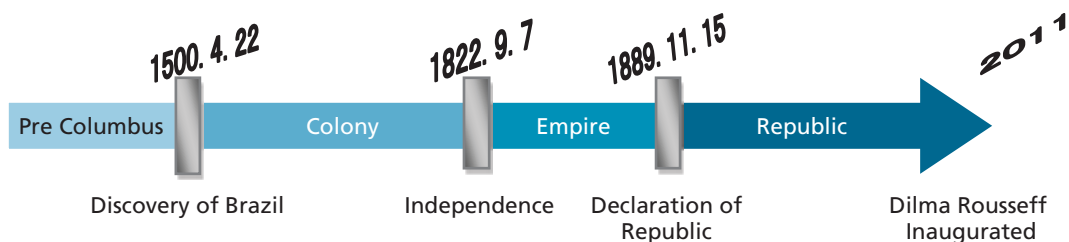
What do you know?



November

November the 15th is Republic Day, commemorating when Brazil became a republic!

- After independence, it was the only country to become an empire in either the North or South America.
- Dilma Rousseff, currently the 36th president, is the first female to occupy the position.
- The grandchildren of the Brazilian imperial family are living in various places in Brazil and Europe, and their imperial titles are maintained so they can act as substitute members of the government.



December

Christmas

Christmas has a strong links with Christianity, however there are many Brazilians who, even though they are not religious, will celebrate on the 25th of December. People use the time to strengthen their relationships with their friends and family, and exchange presents. Many people play a traditional game called "amigo secreto" ("secret friends", which you may know as "secret Santa"). Christmas eve dinner (supper) starts at the first toll of the midnight bell, and never fails to include turkey and a cured leg of pork. A tradition that has been brought to Brazil by Italian immigrant families is to eat panettone, a famous Italian dessert.



Panettone

Panettone is a sweet bread, with chopped dried fruit and chocolate mixed into it. There is one theory that it was originally made by a poor baker called Antonio, and that panettone is simply a mispronunciation of "Pane de Toni" (Tony's bread). (Bread in Italian is "pane", and the name "Antonio" is often shortened to "Tony")

Taiwanese Culture

● Taiwanese traditional culture- 辦桌 Bando

Hi everyone, my name is Chen Yuling and I am a consultant at the Gifu International Center, originally from Taiwan.

In this article I would like to introduce Taiwan's unique tradition of bando. Bando is a type of banquet that is held outdoors during weddings or other celebrations, where tables full of guests enjoy Taiwanese food piled onto giant plates. These banquets are often held in the entrance to houses, in the middle of roads, or in the empty spaces around a house.

Well, you're probably going to ask me whether having a banquet in the middle of a road might not be cause for some complaints, seeing as it's in the way of the traffic. Actually this is a very old tradition, so people are very forgiving about it. If they can see someone is in the middle of a bando, they'll just walk around it without making a fuss.

In the northern part of Taiwan, because it's crowded and quite difficult to find space, nowadays most bando are held at restaurants. However, in the less urbanised south, you can see a bando whenever there is an important family event.

There is also a culture of taking home leftovers from a bando, and people will put the food that couldn't be finished into pre-prepared bags, and eat it at home. I guess we could say that this is an example of how Taiwanese people are good budgeters.

So, next time you are asked to go to a bando by a friend, make sure you go and have a great time there along with all the other guests★



Introducing an Australian Dish

● Pumpkin scones

History: In Australia we can see many British food traditions, due to it being a former colony. One of these traditions is tea time, a light meal eaten at about 4 in the afternoon. Scones are one of the things often eaten at tea time. In Australia pumpkins are easy to grow, so people started adding them to scones. People don't really eat them so much nowadays, but I used to make them quite a bit when I was a child, so I think you should definitely give it a go. Enjoy covered in butter, with a cup of tea.

(Sally Wals, International Center)



Ingredients (makes 12)

Plain flour- 300 g

Sugar- 1 tbsp.

Baking soda- 2 tsp.

Butter- 80 g

Cold mashed pumpkin- 150 g

Method

- 1) Make the mashed pumpkin. Peel and seed the pumpkin, then boil. Drain the water and then mash into the consistency of a paste, then cool the mash in the refrigerator.
- 2) Put the flour, sugar and baking soda into a plastic bag, hold it closed and shake it for about 30 seconds to put air into the mixture. Transfer to a bowl.
- 3) Soften the butter in the microwave (should take about 15 seconds) then add to the flour mixture. Rub it in with your fingers so that it becomes a crumbly consistency, like breadcrumbs.
- 4) Add the mashed pumpkin and mix together until it becomes a dough, about the same consistency as your earlobe. If it's still a bit crumbly, add a little milk.
- 5) Sprinkle some flour onto a surface, and roll the mixture out with a rolling pin, or just your hands.
- 6) Cut out round shapes, and line up on a baking tray covered with flour. Bake for 20 minutes in a preheated oven at 200 degrees, until they turn a light brown.

#Putting some raisins in at step 4 is a tasty variation. Or, if you leave out the sugar, you can eat them with soup.

Consultation Services

This center employs consultants to help you solve any problems you may have. You can make enquiries by visiting us, calling, e-mailing or faxing. Please ask us about any problems or worries you have in your daily life.

Languages: English, Chinese, Portuguese, and Tagalog

One of our recent enquiries was about how to start receiving unemployment benefits from your employment insurance. The question was “I quit my job. How do I receive unemployment benefits?”

Our answer: “Make an enquiry at your nearest Hello Work Center (job placement center).”

About unemployment benefits from employment insurance

There are four types of unemployment benefits: “job applicant benefits”, “employment promotion benefits” “education and training benefits”, and “employment continuity benefits”. Unemployment benefits usually refer to “job applicant benefits”, the principal type of benefit out of the four types.

Job application benefits are payments made for people who, whether through their own volition or by being dismissed, are out of work. It is a payment that assures that the insured person will be able to live comfortably while they look for more work, and supports them so that they can be re-employed as quickly as possible.

In order to receive the benefits, you must fulfill the following conditions:

- 1) You are unemployed, you want to find a job, and you have the ability to work.
- 2) Within the period of 2 years before you leave your job, the number of days you worked on your base salary equal more than 11 days a month for a total of 12 months.
- 3) You are registered with Hello Work

Furthermore, if you fall into one of the categories below, you are ineligible to receive benefits:

- 1) Due to illness, injury, pregnancy or childbirth you are unable to work straight away.
- 2) You are on a break due to reaching compulsory retirement age.

Your first step to receiving your benefits is to complete the application procedure at Hello Work. For further details, please visit your nearest Hello Work center.

	Address	Phone Number
Hello Work Gifu	Gifu Rodo Sogo Chosha (General Labour Government Buildings), 1-9-1 Gotsubo, Gifu City	058-247-3211
Hello Work Ogaki	1-1-8 Fujie-cho, Ogaki City	0584-73-8609
Hello Work Ibi	95-1 Gokurakuji Azamura mae, Ibigawa Town, Ibi County	0585-22-0149
Hello Work Seki	4-6-10 Nishi Hongo-dori, Seki City	0575-22-3223
Hello Work Minokamo	1-206-9 Fukata-cho, Minokamo City	0574-25-2178
Hello Work Tajimi	Tajimi Rodo Sogo Chosha (General Labour Government Buildings), 5-39-1 Otowa-cho, Tajimi City	0572-22-3381
Hello Work Nakatsugawa	Nakatsugawa Godo Chosha (Government buildings) 4-3 Kayanoki-cho, Nakatsugawa City	0573-66-1337
Hello Work Ena	Ena Godo Chosha (Government Buildings), 1-3-12 Shoge, Osashima-cho, Ena City	0573-26-1341
Hello Work Gifu Hachiman	Gujo Hachiman Chihou Godo Chosha (Regional Government Buildings) 1F, 1209-2 Arisaka, Hachiman-cho, Gujo City	0575-65-3108
Hello Work Takayama	7-478 Kamiokamoto-machi, Takayama City	0577-32-1144

Notices from the International Center

Gifu International Center has moved office (as of the 31st of October)

- New Address Gifu Chunichi Building 2F, 1-12 Yanagase Dori, Gifu City, Gifu Prefecture 500-8875
 - Tel 058-214-7700
 - Fax 058-263-8067
 - Opening hours Sunday to Friday 9:30am to 6:00 pm
(Closed for the new year's period, 29th of Dec to 3rd of Jan)
(Phone lines operating from 9 am)
- Access On foot, 15 mins from JR station or 10 mins from Meitetsu station.
By Gifu bus, 2 mins from "Yanagase" bus stop.
There are no parking facilities available, so please make use of public transport.



Medical Interpretation Support Training 2011 Currently Accepting Applications

"I can't speak Japanese so I can't go to hospital!!"

How about trying to lend a hand in this kind of situation?

Medical interpretation is an important role that connects patient with doctor. This training session will be divided into beginner and advanced streams, and content will differ according to each level. The beginner level session will concentrate on basic conversations and important words, while the advanced course will concentrate more on things like understanding "informed consent".

Date: 13:00-17:00, 10th (Sat) and 11th (Sun) of December, 2011

Place: Gifu University, School of Medicine, (1-1 Yanagido, Gifu City)

Target Languages: Portuguese, Chinese, Tagalog

Target Participants: Either permanent residents of Japan with conversational Japanese, or Japanese citizens with conversational ability in Portuguese, Chinese or Tagalog. Training will be held in Japanese.

Fee: Free

Capacity: 100 people

*Please confirm details on the International Center's website (www.gic.or.jp).

Event Information

● Gifu City

40th Annual Gifu Park Chrysanthemum Dolls and Flower Show

Enjoy over 3000 potted Chrysanthemums grown by enthusiasts- "Ogiku" (big chrysanthemums) "Yamagiku" (small, colourful chrysanthemums), "Minogiku" (a species known for their multi-colored petals which originated here in Gifu), as well as Chrysanthemum Dolls, and the lush Chrysanthemum Garden. Gifu park will be awash with the smell of chrysanthemums as autumn deepens.

Dates: 2011 October 22 (Sat) – November 23 (Weds, p.h.) 9:00-17:00

Place: Gifu Park (1-46 Omiya-cho, Gifu City)

Enquiries: Gifu Park Administration Office Tel: 058-265-4141

Website: (Japanese) <http://www.city.gifu.lg.jp/c/16060001/16060001.html>

(English) http://www.gifucvb.or.jp/en/01_sightseeing/01_03.html

Access: Take any of the buses at JR Gifu Station or Meitetsu Gifu Station going in the direction of "Nagara" (長良方面行き). 1 minute walk from "Gifu Park/ Gifu City Museum of History" (岐阜公園・歴史博物館前) bus stop.

● Mino City

Mino-Washi "Akari" Exhibition

The Mino-washi "Akari" exhibition is a yearly event held in the "Udatsu" (an old style of house) lined streets, where candle holders made from traditional Mino paper (Mino-washi) set off the traditional buildings with soft candle light in the evenings. Every year a winner is chosen, and this year about 80 previous winning pieces will line the streets. They will be on display for about a month and a half, and are protected from the rain, so you can enjoy them in any weather. During the display period, the Mino City Tourism Association's "Banya" (tourist information building) has extended opening hours.

Dates: 2011 October 14 (Fri) to November 30 (Weds), 17:00-21:00

Place: Udatsu-lined Old Streets (around Izumi-cho, Mino City)

Enquiries: Mino Tourism Association Tel: 0575-35-3660

Website: (Japanese) <http://www.minokanko.com>
(English) <http://www.mino-city.jp/en/tourist/festival13.html>

Access: By Gifu Bus, take the "Gifu Mino line" (岐阜美濃線) from Gifu station. Exhibition is 1 minute walk from the "Udatsu no Machinami Dori" (Udatsu-lined old streets:うだつの町並み通り) bus stop. Journey takes about 1 hour.

GIC Corner

- Introducing our new Coordinators for International Relations (CIRs)

Hello everybody!

My name is Sally, and I am from the western part of Australia. For the past 2 and a half years I've been living in Japan. I've done a lot of different jobs in a lot of different places, including working at a ski resort, and being an assistant language teacher at primary and middle schools in Miyazaki prefecture. This is my first time to live in Gifu. I want to support internationalisation in Gifu as much as possible, so if you want to be involved in international exchange, or you are a foreign resident who needs lifestyle support, or if you have any other questions at all, please don't hesitate to ask.



Hello everybody.

My name is Yan Zhixiong. I come from Nanchang City in Jiangxi province, which has a friendship agreement with Gifu prefecture.

This is my second long term stay in Japan. The first time was when I resided in the countryside of Kagawa in 2009. So finally I've made it to the city. After having lived in both the city and the country in Japan, I have learnt quite a lot about Japan, and I have a feel for the differences between the two countries. I think I could be great service in developing friendly relations between Japan and China.

Just as it's written, a coordinator for international relations is all about coordinating relations. In other words, in many different ways, it's my job to instigate mutual understanding between regions, countries and people. These are my current goals, and I am committed to working hard at this job to achieve those goals.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support and cooperation, and hope that I can be of service to you.



JICA Corner



Hi everyone, it's Juri Kurihara from the Gifu JICA desk here.

March 11th, 2011: What were you all doing when the Great East Japan Earthquake hit?

More than half a year has passed since the tragedy, and local people, the Self-Defense Force and volunteers are making huge steps forwards in the process of recovery. Hisami Kuratsubo



is a former volunteer with JICA- from December 2005 to December 2007, she volunteered in Zimbabwe at a teacher training college in the music department. I would like to introduce part of the journal she kept when she was a volunteer disaster relief worker in Japan.

Disaster area relief volunteer journal (Miyagi Prefecture, Kesennuma City and Ishinomaki City)

Middle of August 2011 (1 week)

Recover, classify, and sort items like furniture and photos that can't be removed from the mud using heavy machinery.

At the beginning of the experience I wondered if there was anything I could really do, but actually going there reconfirmed my belief you don't actually have to go there to support reconstruction. Even though it's indirect, putting money in a donation box at a convenience store or buying fundraising merchandise will make a difference. Saving electricity is also an indirect form of support. Try and do things in your daily life. You might think you're only contributing a small amount, but it's the little things that everyone does that will add up to make a big change in society. It may be far away from where we live, but we should keep in mind that we are all part of the same country. I believe that this mindset is the biggest driving force supporting recovery, and as much as we can we have to continue to build up these small acts of support.



The road to Ishinomaki

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with me regarding volunteering overseas or lectures on international understanding

Juri Kurihara, Gifu Coordinator for International Cooperation

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