

SEKAI WA HITOTSU

English

2012

Winter

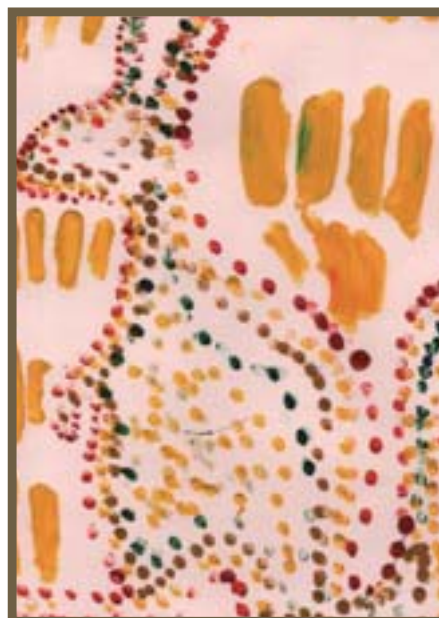
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121



Chuno Special Needs School,
Junior High School, Grade 2 Class 1
Junpei Kuriki



Chuno Special Needs School,
Junior High School, Grade 2 Class 2
Sota Okabe



Chuno Special Needs School,
Junior High School, Grade 2 Class 3
Miku Sato

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GIC Project Report

Gifu Foreign Community Leader Training Course

Gifu International Center holds a foreign leader training course once a year, aimed at foreign residents. This year we got people active in the community to report on projects they have been involved in throughout the year. These reports, as well as making people more aware of the foreign community in Japan, also contained many useful hints for foreign residents who wish to start or develop community activities.

Continuing on from last year's training course, we also held consulting sessions for participants who want to be leaders in their communities. These sessions helped participants to better understand current issues, and provided important advice on how to solve these issues.

Date: 23rd of November 2011 (Weds)

Place: Gifu Fureai Fukuju Kaikan (Gifu Fureai Plaza) Meeting room 403

Participants: 23

1. Gifu foreign community leader training course report

What power do foreign leaders have, and the necessity of the foreign community and regional development in the future.

Representative of the Institute for Human Diversity Japan, Taro Tamura

2. Case Example

The foreign community and solving regional issues: On-site nursing and foreign care workers

Representative of the Global Human Resource Support Organisation Hamamatsu, Nakashima Irma

3. Gifu Foreign Community enterprise report

Three organisations active in Gifu will talk about their activities from creation until present.

- Friends of Brazil (Marcelo Watanabe)
- Friends of China (Sumire Kanda)
- OCJ (Fernando Abitong)



Medical Interpreting Assistant Course 2011



Medical interpreting assistant is an important role that connects doctors to patients. There are some people who hesitate to go to the hospital for reasons like they can't explain what kind of pain they have in Japanese, and they can't understand symptoms and treatments in Japanese. Interpreting between a doctor and patient is not the same as interpreting everyday conversation. There are a lot of technical terms, and because you might be dealing with a life and death situation, a certain level of knowledge is necessary.

On the 10th and 11th (Sat and Sun) of December this year, GIC held a training session for medical interpreting with the cooperation of Gifu University School of Medicine, Gifu City, and the Gifu City International Exchange Association. This was continued on from last year, and aimed at foreign residents who could understand conversational Japanese, and Japanese people that could understand any of the languages being used at the training session.

10th of December (Sat) Participants: 69 (By language- Portuguese: 44, Chinese: 17, Tagalog: 8)

11th of December (Sun) Participants: 60 (By language- Portuguese: 38, Chinese: 16, Tagalog: 6)

A course to prepare you for medical interpreting

Medical professor at Gifu University Doctor Takahashi Yuzo held opinion exchange sessions about various scenarios that might happen while you are interpreting, like being asked to do favours by the patient that are outside your role as a medical interpreter.

Gaining practical skills through role plays

Participants were roughly divided into 10 groups, and practiced translating conversations between doctor and patient that they might actually hear. In



the beginner course there were a lot of people who had never experienced medical interpretation before, so they worked to remember basic medical terminology, and interpreted simple consultations.

The advanced course participants rehearsed situations where doctors need to obtain informed consent from their patients. They practiced how to explain what treatments were and how to administer them, the effects and the risks, as well as practicing how to interpret medical phrases like 'informed consent'. The participants said that they learnt a lot from practicing with words that they don't usually hear in their daily lives.



2010 Fiscal Year Innovative Multicultural Support Project

In the 2010 fiscal year, GIC appealed to Gifu Prefecture's International Societies for proposals of innovative, exemplary projects that create a multicultural society. Here, we would like to introduce one of the four projects that we adopted, run by the Organisation for Civic Cooperation.

"Community Support Project" Organisation for Civic Cooperation

A project to bring Japanese and non-Japanese people together? The people in Seino area (Ogaki City) have a historical reputation for having a parochial attitude, so even before we think about language barriers, there are other barriers that prevent people from being accepted into this community. In particular, Japanese people of Brazilian descent have their own sub-community, and live fairly separately from Japanese people. That is why I decided to start a project designed specifically to break down barriers between people of Brazilian descent and the rest of the community.

We are an incorporated non-profit organization that runs an exchange session known as the "Platinum Plaza". These exchange sessions are designed to be multi-purpose and multi-functional, and a total of about 9500 people take part each year. We see many people of Brazilian descent participate, especially during events. Our sessions are well known to be places where people can conduct exchanges for a number of purposes.

Various projects have been implemented off the back of these exchange sessions, including a farming experience project, a woodworking experience project, and a social services study project.

The farming experience project has been held ten times at Haginaga in Ibigawa Town. As part of this experience, during the harvest festival on the 14th of November, 2 Japanese families and 2 Japanese Brazilian families, totaling 18 people altogether, harvested potatoes, Chinese radishes, and turnips together. Plans are underway for planting dragon fruit and acerola for harvest next year.



The woodworking experience project was held at Sekigahara Town's Imasu special nursing home for the aged. Participants got to know each other better by challenging their woodworking skills while hearing stories about the forestry industry. The first time participants just assembled a pre-prepared kit, but from the second time participants made their own furniture based on sketches they drew themselves. I think all participants felt slightly emotional upon seeing their completed projects.

Both Brazil and Japan are going to suffer from the effects of an aging population in the near future. We put together the social services welfare project with the aim of increasing awareness about the necessity of care giver jobs, and to teach people a certain level of knowledge of this field. However, it seems that people just don't have that much interest. At present, most Japanese people of Brazilian descent are between the age of 30 and 50, so they don't seem to understand the necessity of aged care just yet. Even though we can't get this project off the ground just yet, we think it is important to be patient and continue to try and make it happen.



GIC Supports Scholarship Student

Once a year, the Gifu International Center awards scholarships to international students in Gifu prefectural universities in financially difficult circumstances, in order to increase the students' knowledge of Gifu prefecture, and to facilitate friendly relations between Gifu prefecture and various other countries. This year we received recommendations from eleven privately funded students from eleven different universities, and our selection committee chose five students to receive the scholarship. Here, we would like to introduce a report from one of those students.

Great East Japan Earthquake

Gifu Keizai University
Faculty of Business Administration, Information Media
Lü Meng

At 2:46 on the afternoon of the 11th of March, 2011, Japan was struck with an earthquake of unprecedented size. This was the largest ever recorded earthquake in Japan, with a magnitude of 9.0 on the Richter scale. The earthquake itself was not only devastating, it also caused a giant tsunami. Its destructive power approached that of a war, so many people fell victim to this disaster. The Great Japan East Earthquake has topped several recent earthquakes in severity, following the Sichuan Earthquake on the 12th of May 2008, and the Chile Earthquake on the 27th of February 2010.

Earthquakes, as a natural disaster, leave behind cruel physical and mental injuries.

It is said that love knows no boundaries, and hardship is a shared experience.

People forget historical problems and tensions and help each other during natural disasters. During the Sichuan earthquake, many Japanese people heroically headed straight to the disaster zone and did all they could to help the victims. They would bow to the corpses that they pulled out of the wreckage. As a Chinese person, I was deeply moved by these acts, and I have no doubt that the 13 hundred million other Chinese people also felt the same way. When Japan was struck by the earthquake, people from all over the world expressed sympathy and condolences, and China was no exception.

The earthquake occurred during the eleventh National People's Congress, and internationally and domestically quite a bit of attention was being placed on the details of China's economic plans over the next 5 years, however the Chinese media was also drawn by the Great East Japan Earthquake.

As always, in the face of an earthquake, the victims remained calm, facing the disaster hand in hand. I really wanted the rest of the world to see how calmly they lined up to receive their food rations and clothing. How calmly they helped each other in the face of disaster. I think this is the real power of "peace".

However, there is another side to this. In China there was a huge fuss because of the Fukushima Nuclear Disaster. People started buying up salt in large quantities. Salt disappeared from supermarket shelves in a matter of hours. This was due to rumors spreading throughout China, for example that all the salt in the oceans would become radioactive and unusable, or that salt could protect you from radiation exposure. Japan also experienced the same phenomenon. Because people were stock piling large quantities of goods, the victims of the disaster were not able to receive certain necessities. It saddens me to think that the victims were made to suffer further as a result of these actions. If people had put themselves in the place of the victims, then maybe this trouble could have been avoided.

China didn't just help Japan, it also learned a lot about how to deal with disaster situations from Japan. I think that countries all over the world, not just China, could learn a lot about what peace is by the calm way that Japanese people helped each other in the face of disaster.

People can't survive without the support of people around them. To most people, helping others means providing emotional support. We cooperate and are there for each other because we can't live without each other. To me, that is the meaning of being human. Natural disasters leave people powerless in life and death situations. I think that living through an experience like this makes people treasure the way that they live, and makes them live life without regret.

In China, there is a saying- "after every storm comes a rainbow". Don't give up Japan. In the face of disaster, we are one family. Lastly, I am praying for friendly and peaceful relations between China and Japan, and praying that the victims can recover as quickly as possible.

CIR Dispatch

The Gifu International Center dispatches Coordinators for International Relations (CIRs) to events at schools or community centres to support international exchange and understanding in Gifu prefecture. Here we would like to introduce a cooking class held at Ginan International Association.

“Australian Cooking Class” CIR- Sally Wals

13th of October 2011, Thursday Participants- 10 female, 2 male

The request from Ginan International Association was the first time I had been asked to teach a cooking class. It really made me wonder, what in the world is Australian cooking anyway?

Australia is a country that is full of people that have all come from somewhere else. They don't just stick with their own family recipes, they eat food from, for example, Asian countries, Mexico and European countries on a daily basis. However if you go and try some of the local foods from those counties, it's usually pretty different from what's eaten in Australia. So maybe there is such a thing as Australian food after all.

I decided to go for something simple, and something European. For starters we had Italian bruschetta, which is toasted baguette or french bread topped with minced garlic, olive oil, basil and tomato. For mains we had quiche (French), which was probably the most popular dish there. For desert we had stuffed apples (German), which are cored apples, stuffed with dried fruit, black sugar, melted butter and crushed nuts, baked in the oven.

I had so much fun cooking, eating and talking with the participants that I wouldn't mind if I had a cooking class every day. Thanks everyone for your cooperation!



From Ginan International Assoc.
There was a good atmosphere, and the cooking was a success. The participants said they were all glad that they could get the chance to try something new.

Gifu International Center dispatches its Coordinator's for International Relations (CIR) to schools and community organisations to promote international relations in Gifu Prefecture. At present, we have CIRs from Australia, China and Brazil. Organisations wishing to request a CIR please make enquiries to the centre on 058-214-7700.

New Consultant Introduction

Hello everyone! I am Gerlie Joy Balunto. I came from the city of Davao, on Mindanao Island. This means that my native language is not Tagalog, it is a language called Bisaya. I can also speak both Tagalog and English because they are both lingua francas in the Philippines.

I first came to Japan when I was in elementary school. I went to school in Japan for 6 years, and then I did high school and university in the Philippines. At university I studied international affairs and Japanese, graduating in March last year. I have been heavily involved in the Japanese descendant community in Davao. In my university days I participated in speech contests, and was a DJ on a Japanese radio station. As an on the job trainee at an organization for Pilipino descendants of Japanese people I have translated documents and done interpreting. I have also helped conduct surveys on Japanese people living in Davao for the Japanese consulate. I came back to Gifu because I want to make use of this experience in my career. This is my first job as a university graduate. There is still a lot I have to learn, and I may still be quite young, but through my job here I would like to support not just the Filipino speaking community, but the English speaking community as well. Of course at the same time as I'm giving support, I also want to grow as a person through learning about many things from different countries. Please don't hesitate to talk to me if there is anything you want to discuss. I look forwards to meeting you!



GIC employs consultants to support foreign people living in Gifu prefecture. If you are having any problems, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Language	Day	Time
Portuguese	Sunday to Friday	9:00 to 16:00
Chinese	Monday to Friday	
English	Monday to Friday	
Tagalog	Tuesday and Thursday	

Consultants may be out of the office due to work reasons.

An Introduction to Chinese Culture

Chinese New Year- celebrated the world over

Coordinator for International Relations- Yan Zhixiong

I hope you all enjoyed yourselves through the new year- I bet you were busy eating Osechi ryori (traditional new year's food), and having fun with your families after having worked so hard throughout the year.

Celebrating the new year is by no means a tradition particular to Japan. In China, with the largest population in the world, people also count down the days to the new year in anticipation. As opposed to Japan, Chinese New Year is calculated according to the Chinese calendar. The Chinese New Year, called literally the 'Spring Festival' in Chinese, is the most cherished traditional festival in China, and also highly valued in other Asian countries.

As the Spring Festival approaches, you often hear people talk about '新年xīn nián' (the new year), '新春xīn chūn' (the new spring), and '過年guò nián' (the changing of the year). 'Guò nián' doesn't just mean leaving the old year and heading into the new year, in times past 'nián' also had another meaning.

According to legend, the 年 (nián) was an evil animal with sharp horns. When praying for a good crop before planting seeds, people would always keep in mind that they had to chase out the nián so that it wouldn't destroy their crops. People would use the colour red, fire and loud noises to scare it away during religious festivals. Even in China today, during the guò nián, people put up red lanterns and let off fire crackers pretty much just as they did in times gone past.

Most places in the world use the western calendar today. The Chinese New Year, or Spring Festival, is somewhere between the 22nd of January and the 19th of February, with the 2012 new year being on the 23rd of January. You might think it's a bit inconvenient having to remember a different date every year. However, about 100 years ago before the western system was adopted, people must have thought that it was difficult to use a calendar that only had a loose relation to the agricultural system that they based their lives around.

Even today the Chinese calendar is used in China's farming villages. The heart of the economy now lies in industry, not agriculture, however people can't just throw away the new year celebration that has been so deeply ingrained into them. The new year is also celebrated in other countries outside of mainland China- Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macao. It's not just celebrated among the Chinese communities either- Guangxi (from the border of Vietnam), Manchurians, Dong (an ethnic group from the south of China) and thousands of other ethnic groups also celebrate Chinese New Year. It is a treasured tradition in the Korean Peninsula, Mongolia, Singapore, and anywhere else in the world with large numbers of Chinese people. It's a festival that certainly brightens up a lot of places across the world.

There has been a huge change in the way people celebrate the new year, from the tradition of royalty and citizens facing up to the 'nián' beast at the beginning of spring in their religious festivals, to modern day traditions. These days people will decorate their homes with the characters 福字 (fú zì, meaning 'happiness'), or hang up春聯 (chūn lián, paper with auspicious words written on it), they will eat a meal at a restaurant with their whole family, or they will go overseas to broaden their minds. However, the Spring Festival still remains. I think we can get a glimpse into how Chinese people have taken on various aspects of other cultures while retaining their identity by looking at the changing traditions of the Chinese New Year.



春聯
Chūn lián



福字
「福」'fú'- Turn this character upside down.
「倒」(upside down) and 「到」(come) are both pronounced 'dào'
「福倒 (fú dào)- upside down happy」= 「福到 (fú dào) happiness is coming」



A park during Spring Festival

Notices

Help Line for Basic Resident Registration Law regarding Foreign Residents

A help line has been established by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications for people with questions about the Basic Resident Registration Law as it applies to foreign residents. Enquiries can be made in Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish and Portuguese. This line will be open until the 30th of March 2012.

Phone Number 0570-066-630 (Japan-wide)
048-610-8779 (IP phone, PHS or international calls)
Operating Hours 8:30 to 17:30 (Excluding weekends and public holidays)

For information about the transition, please refer to the website for the Ministry for Internal Affairs and Communications- http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/jichi_gyousei/c-gyousei/pdf/eng_page.pdf

● "Let's Speak English!" event [英語を話したい人、集まれ!] Volunteers Wanted (native English speakers or equivalent)

- [Time]** February 12, 2012 (Sun) from 14:00-16:00 ※ Volunteers meet at 13:00
[Place] Heartful Square G, 2nd floor 'dai-kenshu-shitsu' (East wing of JR Gifu station)
[Details] Participants divide into small groups and practice English conversation or play games in English.
English speaker volunteers will join each group and talk to participants in English.
As a thank you to volunteers, you will be given a ¥1000 book voucher. Please sign up if you're interested!
[Applications] Please email your name, nationality, and gender to the following address by Friday, February 3rd.
[Enquiries] Gifu City International Exchange Association
E-mail: gifucity-ia@nifty.com
Tel/Fax: 058-263-1741

Event Information

Hirayu Waterfall Ice Festival

In the heart of winter, in February, the 64 m tall, 6 m wide Hirayu Waterfall turns into a tower of ice, and this giant structure will be lit up. There will also be a giant igloo at Hirayu bus terminal, and inside the igloo you can enjoy local sake. There will also be films shown on a wall of snow at the 'Igloo Theatre' in Okuhida Spa Resort.

Open February, Wednesday the 15th until Saturday the 25th, 2012.
Opening hours: 18:00-21:00
Place: Hirayu Onsen, grounds and Hirayu waterfall (15-20 mins walk from Hirayu Onsen bus stop).
Address: Hirayu, Okuhida Spa Resort, Takayama City, Gifu Prefecture.
Access: 60 mins by bus from JR Takayama station (take the Nohi bus for Shinhotaka)
Enquiries: Okuhida Spa Resort Tourism Organisation Tel: 0578-89-2614

Okuhida Spa Resort Snow Sculpture Competition

Okuhida Spa Resort's many hotels, ryokans, restaurants and shops will be surrounded by snow sculptures large or small, snow or ice. There will be a variety of different sculptures, with themes like this years' zodiac symbol. They will be lit up at night so you can also enjoy them when it gets dark.

Open February, Friday the 3rd to Sunday the 12th, 2012, illumination until 21:00.
Place: Okuhida Spa Resort area, Takayama city, Gifu Prefecture.
Access: The Nohi Bus from Takayama station for Shinhotaka will take you through the area, 60-90 mins.
Enquiries: Okuhida Spa Resort Tourism Organisation Tel: 0578-89-2614

Hida Takayama Sakagura Meguri (Sake Brewery Tour)

It's often said that cold lands make the best sake, and definitely Takayama has the perfect climate, rice and water to make delicious sake. Six of Takayama's sake breweries that are not normally open to the public will take turns in holding tours for the public for a week each. At the end of the tour you can also taste the sake.

Tours held in 2012 between the 19th of January (Thurs) and the 29th of February (Weds)
Times: held between 10:00 and 16:00 (closed for lunch 12:00-13:00)
Place: Takayama City Sake Breweries
Access: Between 15 and 20 mins on foot from the JR Takayama station.
Enquiries: Hida-Takayama Tourism & Convention Bureau, Tel 0577-36-1011
<http://www.hida.jp/fuyunotabi/sakagurameguri.htm>

◆ 2011 23rd Hello Gifu Hello World ◆

3rd December, Saturday



Hello everyone, my name is Yasuko Ichiki, and I am the secretary general of the Gifu International Association. The 23rd Hello Gifu Hello World was held at the Cinex Hall in Hinode-cho, Gifu City, to mark the relocation of the Gifu International Center and the Gifu International Association to offices nearby.

There were booths representing 28 international associations in Gifu Prefecture, where the representatives wore traditional clothing, introduced what their associations were doing, sold traditional folk arts and crafts, and handed out samples of food and drink. Making a calendar with a picture of yourself wearing a sari or a chima chogori (Korean traditional dress) was particularly popular. The performance schedule included the flamenco, belly dance, and the traditional dances of Peru, Indonesia, the Philippines and Scotland. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the discovery of the world heritage site Machu Pichu. There was a presentation by Yoshiro Cesar Nouchi, a descendant of the first generation of village leaders, and a wonderful performance of the song "El Condor Pasa".



Want to be part of the Gifu International Association?

We are looking for groups that are running international exchange activities to join us. If this is you, please contact our office.
Gifu International Association Email:giagia200711@yahoo.co.jp
Gifu Chunichi Bldg 2F, 1-12Yanagase Dori, Gifu City Tel:058-214-7703

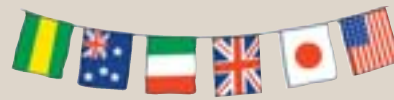
JICA Corner



Hi everyone, this is Kurihara from the JICA desk. Did you enjoy yourselves during the end of year holidays? A very big thank you from me for all your support in 2011, and I look forwards to seeing you all again in 2012!



Event Report



I would like to talk about the booth that JICA ran at the 2011 Hello Gifu Hello World international fair, on the 3rd of December. We introduced an activity that Nagiko Yasuda, one of our volunteers, ran when she was working in Jamaica – making Christmas cards. We also introduced some phrases from local languages in Jamaica, Cambodia and Nigeria to write in the cards. Over 2000 people made it to our booth. A big thank you to you all!



[Making Origami]



[Concentrating hard!]



Attention



- Are you interested in becoming a volunteer for JICA?
- JICA is accepting applications from the 1st of April to the 14th of May 2012
- Recruiting people from 20-39 years old as Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers
- Recruiting people from 40-69 years old as Senior Volunteers.
- Details on our website www.jica.go.jp!!

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

Gifu Prefecture JICA Desk, at the Gifu International Center, Gifu City, Yanagase Dori 1-12, Gifu Chunichi Building 2F

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JICA Homepage <http://www.jica.go.jp/english/>

