



**KCC**  
**Newsletter**

**8**  
**2021**

Kashiwa Cross-cultural Center  
Palette Kashiwa  
2-7-1-301 Kashiwa, Kashiwa  
Chiba, Japan 277-0005  
Tel: 04-7157-0281 Fax: 04-7165-7321  
e-mail: kcc@kira-kira.jp  
URL: <http://www.kcc.kira-kira.jp>

## The first Food Bank KCC held at Palette Kashiwa (6/27)

It's been more than a year since COVID-19 infection began to affect our life. Many foreign residents living in Japan are going through hardship by losing jobs or having the work hours reduced.

KCC established Foodbank KCC to support those having difficulty. We received food from Tokatsu Kusanone Foodbank, corporations and individuals who visited KCC.

On the Foodbank KCC day, 41 people from Philippines, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Mongolia, China, and Sudan came to KCC and received food packages.



Foodbank

We will hold Foodbank KCC every month and, if you are willing to donate canned food, rice, noodles, sweets, please

## The 3rd Foodbank KCC

Date and Time: Sunday, August 29  
9:30am to 12:00noon  
Place: Palette Kashiwa Multipurpose Space A  
Address: Day One Tower 3F,  
1-7-1-301 Kashiwa, Kashiwa

Free food includes: Canned food, noodles, water, sweets

- The event will be over when all the food is gone so please come early.
- Please bring your own bag to take food with you.

Questions? Please call KCC office.

Foodbank KCC future schedule: Sunday, 9/26 and 10/31.

## Kashiwa Exchange Youth Society (KEYS) stays active online

KEYS previously hosted various foreign exchange events such as a BBQ and singing contest. However, due to the pandemic we haven't been able to hold any events for over a year. Despite the difficult situation, KEYS has continued its monthly exchange program using Zoom. They have been taking English conversation lessons with a KCC supporter and English teacher, Mr. Karl Takauye, and have been talking with guest foreigners in English.

In the July exchange program, a Japanese speech contest participant, Mr. Eltayeb from Sudan joined the program. Also, in July KEYS started to exchange opinions about SDGs. We still don't know when we'll be able to host an event normally, but KEYS will keep contributing to the foreign exchange programs of the city of Kashiwa.

KEYS is accepting new members.



## Introducing Akebonoyama Park and Fuse Benten Temple

The youth cultural exchange programs between Kashiwa and its sister and friendship cities have been suspended due to the COVID-19 pandemic. KIRA's Torrance committee members started to talk with the Torrance Sister City Association members via Zoom. In May, the committee uploaded a Soba noodle making video to share Japanese culture with friends overseas. And now they completed another video introducing the beauty of Kashiwa: Akebonoyama Park, Hakusentei tea house, and Fuse Benten temple.

They shot the video in April, edited the video, and for the first time, added narration and subtitles. The video starts with showing flowers of Akebonoyama Park in different seasons. The chief priest of Fuse Benten temple introduced the temple in an interview and showed the areas of Fuse Benten temple main building and inside Kanetsukidou (bell tower) where no visitors were allowed to enter. We learned about an owl family that came to visit the temple, and about the beautiful wood carvings of zodiac animals placed in Kanetsukidou. The video shows the serene side of the temple that is packed with people during the New Year holiday. We hope to have a fun Zoom meeting with our friends in Torrance in August.



Fuse Benten Main Building

Universities in Kashiwa with international exchange programs

We sent the following questions to the three universities in Kashiwa that have an international relations office.

- Q1

What is the percentage of foreign students and research fellows per department?
- Q2

What do they do after graduation?
- Q3

Which country or region do they come from?
- Q4

What facility or program do you offer for foreign students/fellows?
- Q5

Do you have study abroad programs for Japanese students?  
If you do, what is the number of students or which country do they go?
- Q6

Please let us know if your foreign students/fellows experience any difficulty due to COVID-19 pandemic.
- Q7

If there are any students/fellows having a hardship, what do you do to help them?  
Is there anything that Kashiwa citizens can do to help them?

University of Tokyo Kashiwa Campus

- A1

About 30% of students in Kashiwa Campus.
- A2

Some get a job or go on to higher education in Japan.  
Some get a job or go on to higher education in other country.  
Some get a job or go on to higher education in their original country.
- A3

China, Korea, USA, Philippines, and others.
- A4

Dormitory, Japanese language program, exchange program with Japanese, Japanese culture program, free recycle market, and others.
- A5

Yes. Number of students unknown. Countries unknown.
- A6

Less opportunity to speak Japanese.
- A7

We host frequent online exchange meetings to make sure foreign students are not left alone. If you see any foreign students having problems, please talk to them. The experience of receiving kindness from local people in a foreign country stays in their heart.



Reitaku University

- A1

International Department 17%, Foreign Language Department 3.7%, Economics Department 9.8%, Graduate School - Language Education Department 73%, Economics and Business Department 81%.
- A2

Get a job or go on to higher education in Japan, or get a job in their original country.
- A3

China, Korea, Taiwan, Vietnam, Philippines, Hong Kong, Thailand, Malaysia, and others.  
Also, exchange students come from Germany, USA, and others.
- A4

Dormitory, Japanese language collaboration center, conversation partnership program (support of exchange students, exchange activities with Japanese students).
- A5

We have 44 partner schools in 16 countries and regions. We usually send about 270 students overseas. Although we couldn't send any last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we conducted online exchange activities with partner schools, online study abroad program, and classes by collaborating with foreign universities using an online program, COIL.
- A6

Getting a job in Japan has become harder (Recruitment of foreign students has reduced).  
Some lost a part-time work or have work hours reduced due to the pandemic.  
Due to the pandemic, parents' income and remittance has been reduced, resulting in difficulty to pay tuition.
- A7

We supported foreign students by using Emergency Student Support Handout from federal government, and we created our own scholarship.  
We created an environment to give a guidance to them any time they need it.



Kaichi International University

- A1

Foreign students: 50% (Only one of two departments accept foreign students.)
- A2

They get a job in industries such as service and retail where they can utilize multi-language ability.
- A3

Indonesia, Uzbekistan, Cambodia, Guatemala, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, France, Vietnam, Mongolia, Korea, China.
- A4

Japanese language marathon (Give Japanese education during lunch break weekly), programs hosted by International Exchange Center (e.g. Introduce their countries in an exchange program with Japanese.)
- A5

Student exchange program with a partner school, online study program with oversea universities.  
Number of students study abroad annually: 15  
Study abroad destination: Indonesia, Thailand, Canada, Australia, Philippines. (in 2019)  
In a class titled Field Study Trip, all freshmen must attend language lesson in a partner school, Green International Technological College in Philippines.
- A6

Some students are experiencing financial hardship by losing part-time jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- A7

With the help from Foodbank Chiba, we were able to give them food support several times. Also, we fundraise on campus for them.





## People who support ICT of KCC

Interviewed by Noriko Fujita

(ICT: Information and Communication Technology)

### Yoshimi Enomoto

Mr. Enomoto was familiar with foreign travels since he was working to develop and commercialize TV broadcast receiver and visited over 70 countries mostly in Europe and Asia on business. When his daughter was in wind ensemble club in high school, the family hosted a foreign student of wind ensemble from Singapore. His son was enrolled in the international course in high school and the family hosted foreign students from Torrance, CA, Chengde, China, and Shenton, Australia. Through hosting students Mr. Enomoto became interested in foreign exchange programs and joined the Torrance Committee in KIRA.

Having ICT knowledge and experience, he became busy helping KCC events during the pandemic. Last year, instead of hosting a normal crowd-gathering “Kashiwa de International Exchange Fiesta” event, we tried live streaming to avoid a crowd. There always is an issue of Wi-Fi environment when it comes to the Internet event, but we tried live streaming again later in the Cross-cultural Tea Time. In the Japanese Speech Contest, Mr. Enomoto uploaded the participants’ message video to YouTube.

Mr. Enomoto contributed as a member of KCC website renewal project to make it a gateway of Kashiwa’s international relations and make it more effective for foreigners to utilize.

Mr. Enomoto says, “There are about 10,000 foreign residents in Kashiwa, most of them young students. It is ideal if we become an organization to provide an environment where young foreigners can communicate easily with us, and to give full support to foreign residents in trouble.” And as to video streaming, he mentions, “I teach video shooting and editing in a study group. I want everyone to do live streaming right by learning about image right, secondary use, and copyright.”



Mr. Yoshimi Enomoto

### Mao Hongbin

Mr. Mao is from Shanghai, China. After studying computer hardware making in a university in China, he came to Japan and worked in a major Japanese electronics company to develop software to regulate robot movement. He is fluent in Japanese now but when he first came to Japan a simple greeting was the only Japanese he could speak. He studied Japanese by mimicking with his Chinese colleague and reading manuals that contained some familiar Chinese characters. He also studied Japanese by reading subtitles of English movies on a cable television.

14 years ago, he started a trading company, and 10 years ago when his living situation became stable, he started volunteering to create a layout of KIRA newsletter. In January of last year he helped to start KCC and KIRA YouTube channels as a new outgoing method to show our activities. He also suggested using QR code for an easy access to information from smart-phones.

During the pandemic, when our normal activities were very limited, he shot videos of Kashiwa de International Exchange Fiesta, introducing Japanese cuisines and culture, and uploaded them to YouTube channels.

About the future of KCC activities he says, “Since young people watch videos quite often, using video as an information source will be very useful. KCC should create a video creation team to send information.”



Mr. Mao’s photo and video shooting skills are professional level, and he travels places in Japan to capture beautiful sceneries and starry skies several times a year. He uploads them on his SNS and YouTube account.

Left: Mr. Mao filming Fiesta  
Right: Kawaguchiko fireworks  
by Mr. Mao

# AUGUST Events

## Japanese Shonan Classes

### Classes

#### Online Classes

Thurs	10:00 - 11:30	Japanese Intermediate and up
Sun	10:00 - 11:30	Beginning I, II, Intermediate I

#### In Person Classes

Thurs	10:00 - 12:00	Intermediate I at Shonan Community Center
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**\*\*Summer Break\*\***  
July 12 (Mon) to Sept 1 (Wed)



## Online Japanese Kashiwa Classes

### Classes

#### Online Japanese Kashiwa Classes

Tue	10:00 - 11:30	Japanese for all Beginning I (2nd half)
Wed	10:00 - 11:30	Japanese Intermediate and up
Wed	19:00 - 20:30	Japanese for all Beginning I (1st half)
Thurs	10:00 - 11:30	Beginning Conversation I (Beginner, Beginning 1)
Thurs	13:00 - 14:30	Beginning Conversation 2 (Beginning 2)
Fri	19:00 - 20:30	Japanese for all Beginning II
Sat	9:30 - 11:20	Intermediate Conversation

**\*\*Summer Break\*\***  
July 18 (Sun) to August 31 (Tue)

## Free legal advice and administrative procedure support for foreign residents

Lawyers and administrative procedure specialists will be available to help foreign residents with legal questions and documents. Any questions or problems are all right, such as visa, domestic violence, divorce, or trouble at the workplace. Please register beforehand.

**Date and Time:** Aug 25 (Wed) 13:00 - 17:00  
**Place:** Palette Kashiwa A  
**Reservation:** KCC (Kashiwa Cross-cultural Center) Office

## Information about COVID-19 for foreign residents

Available in multiple languages

<https://www.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld-blog/100/>



## Kashiwa information delivery service

Sign up to receive email announcements from the city, such as information about earthquakes, fires, crime, and infectious disease outbreaks in the language of your choice. Send a blank email to this address to register.



Also, please read Kashiwa City Magazine. It contains information about COVID-19 vaccination.



## Announcement from other organizations

### "Online Study Meeting" for KIRA members

**Date and Time:** Thursday, August 19, 2021 8:00pm - 9:10pm  
**Study Title:** Easy Japanese #3 "Talk Effectively online"  
**Lecturer:** Ms. Tomoe Uchida (Easy Japanese Instructor)  
**Fee:** Free  
**Capacity:** 25  
**Apply by:** Send your name and phone number to [boshu-1@kira-kira.jp](mailto:boshu-1@kira-kira.jp)  
We will provide you with necessary class information.



**Questions?**  
Please contact the office of  
Kashiwa Cross-cultural Center (KCC)

Tel: 04-7157-0281 Fax: 04-7165-7321  
Hours: 8:30 - 17:15  
Closed on Sundays and national holidays