

KCC NEWSLETTER DECEMBER, 2021

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Kashiwa International Festival 2021 Held Online (October, 24th)

This time, we made the online event look like it's being held at the street near Kashiwa Station by setting a virtual venue on our website. It was our first time to try this.

At the actual venue, each of our committee introduced their activities and held a gallery showing KIRA's activities in addition to live performances in several different places. Also, the online international exchange event, connecting the two sister and friend cities Camden and Torrance with Kashiwa, was held. Thanks to everyone's cooperation, the number of visitors increased several times compared

to last year, and the event finished successfully.

Please look forward to next year. We will improve it even more by answering everyone's voice.



Online Meeting with
friendship and sister cities



Lecture on how to use Furoshiki



←Entrance of the virtual venue



Balloon art



Calligraphy performance



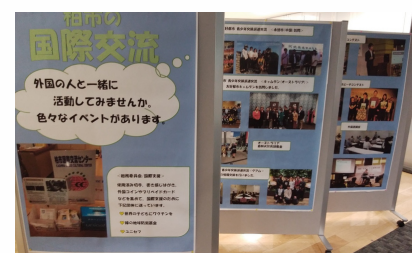
Peru dance



Erhu and guitar performance

International Exchange Week 2021 (October 25th-31st)

The purpose of this year's event was to accelerate the international exchange activities in Kashiwa by interacting with organizations in the city through events. Discussions were held to cooperate well with Kashiwa UNESCO Association, Girl Scout Chiba Prefectural Federation Team 17, Team 12, Kaichi International University and Reitaku University. During the event, activities of each organization were displayed online and at the gallery. The content was highly interesting with the refugee seminar, talks about SDGs and ghosts in Guatemala.



International Exchange Week

<Announcement>

Play by Foreign Residents "Three Little Pigs"

Date: December 18th, Saturday 3pm-4pm
 Location: Palette Kashiwa Multipurpose Space A
 Content: Foreign residents do the play in Japanese. Stage setting is handmade.
 Capacity: 10 parents and children
 Fee: Free
 Application: Directly at the KCC reception or email. "boshu-1@kira-kira.jp"



The 7th Food Bank KCC for Foreign Residents

Date: December 26th, Sunday 9:30-11:30
 Place: Palette Kashiwa Multipurpose Space A
 Food: Canned food, dried noodles, water, snacks are free of charge.
 ※Those who wish to get the food are advised to come early since the event finishes when we ran out of food.
 ※Please bring your own bag to take the food.
 Inquiry: KCC reception

<Request>

Please make sure to write the name of an event, your name and phone number when applying by emails.

1. Exhibition of Kashiwa UNESCO

Association Activities (10/25~10/30)

The exhibition introduced that UNESCO is an abbreviation for United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization, and the founding Philosophy of UNESCO, as well as its activities in Japan, and the ones in Kashiwa UNESCO Association founded in 1967. The main activities of Kashiwa UNESCO are as follows: "Citizen Karuta Tournament", "UNESCO Exhibition at Cultural Festival", "Youth Development Activities", "Interaction with high school students in sister city Torrance", "English conversation classes", "Support for Reconstruction, Worldwide Terakoya Movement", Kashiwa UNESCO Youth activities for the 5th grade and 6th grade of elementary school and junior high school students, fund-raising activities and collecting of miswritten postcards as international cooperation that we can do. At the exhibition, it was easy for visitors to understand UNESCO's activities with detailed explanation and photographs.

2. Refugee Seminar (10/28, 10/31)

The Refugee Seminars #1 and #2 were held both online and face-to-face.

At the #1, continuing from last year, Mr. Shuichi Nakao, the Refugee Division of (FWEAP) Foundation for the Welfare and Education of the Asian People, talked about the current situation and problems of accepting refugees in Japan. All participants had opportunities to think about the definition of refugee by answering quizzes.

At the #2, Ms. Momoko Douku, who is engaged in refugee support activities, told us what made her start providing refugee support. And a male Syrian refugee student living in Japan shared the current situation of Syria.

The refugee problem is not familiar to many Japanese. We have realized the importance of understanding the refugee problem and helping refugees through support activities.



3. Multicultural Coexistence Seminar (10/30)

Kashiwa Cross-cultural Center holds free consultation on legal and administrative procedures by lawyers and administrative scriveners once a month. Mr. Satoshi Tamama, a lawyer belonging to the Chiba Bar Association and in charge of consultations, gave a lecture on problems that foreign residents have, and how to solve them that have come to light through the consultations. Participants at the venue and online distribution listened intently to his speech and shared information. We understood that it was difficult to deal with these problems immediately, because some of them require a review of national policies to solve the problems.



4. Enjoy Japanese Cuisine by Fair Trading~ Hunger Zero (10/31)

A team of three students from Reitaku University proposed a business model that worked on SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). They illustrated 17 goals of SDGs with examples and took up the goal of zero hunger. They told the following ideas for achieving these goals: The first idea is to provide jobs to people in the Democratic Republic of the Congo who are suffering from unemployment and hunger due to declining exports in the COVID-19 pandemic.

The second one is that Japan imports from Congo additive-free organic ingredients at reasonable prices using preferential tariffs, and provides them with healthy Japanese food made from those ingredients.

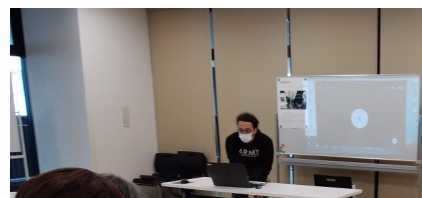
It was an excellent presentation based on well-studied data. There were a lot of praise for the efforts of the younger generation in the questionnaire after their presentation.

- Fair trade=developed countries buy grains and products at reasonable prices from developing countries
- Preferential tariff=low tariffs for the economic development of developing countries

5. Four Yokai(ghosts) in Guatemala (10/31)

Mr. Leonel Antonio, a student from Guatemala at Kaichi International University where half of the students are from overseas, told four stories about Yokai in Guatemala: ① a braided horse, ② a weeping woman, ③ white and black devil dogs named Kadeho, ④ a woman who appears in front of a drunken person when taxis are gone and takes the drunken person away.

A participant said, "There are also stories about Yokai written by Yakumo Koizumi in Japan." It might be an interesting study to find out about the Yokai of Japan and the ones of Guatemala.



6. Keep an eye on the healthy growth of children ~ Girl Scout Chiba Prefectural Federation Team 17 , Team 12

Children who have come into contact with various values through various experiences acquire the independence that allows them to think, judge, and act on their own. Girl scouts are doing various activities so that children can have confidence in themselves and maximize their potential. International exchange activities such as mutual visits with friendship groups in the United Kingdom, the birthplace of Girl Scouts, and participation in training are also popular.

Children experienced how to make disaster prevention supplies at the International Exchange Week venue. Foreigners also made disaster prevention slippers out of milk cartons together. Also, it seemed that parents and children had a good time in making Halloween and Christmas wreaths.



Christmas wreaths made by Girl Scout Team 12



Making emergency supplies by Girl Scout team 17

①Let’s encourage delegate students from Torrance– Alternative events for the exchange program

The 2020 youth exchange program was postponed to the following year due to the pandemic and it was further postponed to 2022. Online exchanges with TSCA (Torrance Sister City Association) are continuing to encourage delegate students who can hardly come to Japan. We planned five online exchanges programs in total, beginning in May. We made groups and each group is in charge of it. On September 4th, the third online exchange was held, and volunteers from the 43rd year delegate students also participated in it. We made a video with the theme of the old Kashiwa(the Former Yoshida Residence) and the new Kashiwa(Kashiwanoha smart city). In the video, we talked about Kashiwa city, which has been transformed into a suburb of Tokyo. Kashiwa’s senior delegate students also added a message to cheer up the uneasy delegate students of Torrance due to postponement of their visit.



Kashiwanoha Urban Design Center

②Indonesian food (11/11)

Because of the pandemic, tasting was not allowed in the cooking room of the Kashiwa Chuo Kinrin Center, but finally, we came to be able to start cooking and tasting again. In order to avoid denseness among the participants,only the staff cooked the Indonesian food. An instructor, Ms. Anna Ohashi, who has lived in Japan for more than 30 years, made kroket(croquette), Soto Ayam(chicken soup), and fried bananas. Kroket is made by wrapping ingredients such as chicken and vegetables with steamed potato skin and deep-fry them. Soto Ayam is made by simmering chicken bones and Indonesian flavored vegetables and adding harusame (glass noodles). Fried bananas are delicious with powdered cheese or chocolate sauce on them if you like. The photos are posted on our website.



Crockett, Fried bananas, Soto Ayam

③ Refreshing Autumn Exchange Walking Tour (11/14)

The weather was sunny and warm, it was a perfect day for walking. A total of 30 people from three year-old to the senior walked comfortably for more than 8 kilometers. This is the third walking tour for us. This year it was changed to a half a day course due to the Covit-19 pandemic. We visited historical temples and shrines such as Kichijoin temple, Himemiya shrine, Tenman shrine, and Ioji temple. The walking course was full of variation passing through a residential area and country roads in Kashiwa-tanaka district. There were favorable comments from participants like “I am glad to know the nearby sights.” or “I am looking forward to a walking tour next year too.” The participants seemed to enjoy interaction with each other very much.



In front of the statue of Kobo Daishi in Kichijoin temple

DECEMBER Events

Japanese Classes

Online Classes

Thurs 10:00 - 11:30

Japanese Intermediate and up

Sun 10:00 - 11:30

Beginning I, Intermediate I (2 classes)

In Person Classes

Thurs 10:00 - 12:00

Intermediate I at Shonan Community Center

Online Japanese Kashiwa Classes

Tue 10:00 - 11:30

Japanese for all Beginning II (1st of the 28 lessons)

Tue 19:00 - 20:30

Japanese for all Beginning I (1st of the 14 lessons)

Wed 10:00 - 11:30

Japanese intermediate and up

Wed 19:00 - 20:30

Japanese for all Beginning I (1st of the 8 lessons)

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 (1st of the 36 lessons)

Sat 9:30 - 11:20

Intermediate Conversation

Information about COVID-19 for foreign residents

Available in multiple languages



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: Dec 22 (WED) 13:00 - 17:00

Place: Palette Kashiwa

Reservation: KCC (Kashiwa Cross-cultural Center) Office

Announcement from other organization

Online Study Session for KIRA Members

Date and Time: December 16th, Thursday, 8:00pm-9:10pm.

Study Title: Easy Japanese #5 "Learnings and Plans from Experience"

Lecturer: Ms. Tomoe Uchida (Easy Japanese instructor)

Fee: Free

Capacity: 25

Application: Directly at the KCC reception or email. "boshu-1@kira-kira.jp". Write your name and phone numbers in the email

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.



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