

KCC Newsletter

SEPTEMBER, 2022

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Announcement

Online Study Session

Effective Methods of Vocalization: Breathing Techniques and Facial Muscle Training for a Great Voice!

Date & Time: Thursday, September 15, 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Instructor: Ms. Naomi Yamazaki (vocalist and voice trainer)

Application: Sign up directly at the KCC office or send an email to <boshu-1@kira-kira.jp>.

Please write your name and phone number. We will send you the URL for participation on the day.

Participation fee: Free

Number of participants: 30



Picture-story Show: The Three Little Pigs

Why don't you enjoy a picture-story show with your children?

We will read "The Three Little Pigs" in English, Tagalog, Chinese, and Indonesian. You can have fun chatting with foreigners, playing games, and enjoying snacks!

Date & Time: Sunday, September 18, 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Place: Palette Kashiwa, Open Space Participation fee: Free

Number of applicants: 30 (first-come-first-served basis)

Application: Sign up directly at the KCC office or send an email to <boshu-1@kira-kira.jp>.

2022 International Exchange Bus Tour

On this tour, you will stroll along the Shirakabaha pathway, which retains the atmosphere of Taisho Romanticism in the Taisho era. Visit Abiko City Museum of Birds, Mizu no Yakata, and a new restaurant at Michi-no-Eki Shonan.

Date & Time: Sunday, October 9, departure at 9:30 a.m., dismissal at 4:30 p.m.

Meeting Place: In front of the escalator on the 1st floor of Day One Tower (Palette Kashiwa)

Number of applicants: First 12 Kashiwa City residents

Participation fee: 500 yen (facility entrance fee), lunch not included

Application: Friday, September 2, from 9:00 a.m. Sign up directly at the KCC office or send an email to <boshu-1@kira-kira.jp>.

Cross-cultural Teatime Bulgaria: A Friendly Country Famous for Yogurt, Roses and Wine

Date & Time: Saturday, October 15, 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Place: Palette Kashiwa, Meeting Room A, B, C

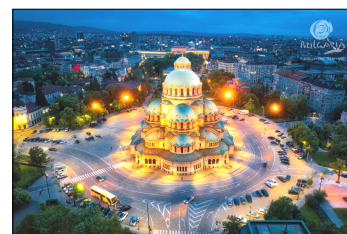
Content: The history, nature, culture, industry, and tourism of the Republic of Bulgaria will be discussed.

Lecturer: Representative of the Embassy of the Republic of Bulgaria in Japan

Participant fee: 400 yen

Number of participants: 50

Application: Sign up directly at the KCC office or send an email to <boshu-1@kira-kira.jp> by Thursday, October 13.



Sofia, the capital city

Free Legal Advice and Administrative Procedure Support for Foreign Residents

To foreign residents. Are you in need of help? Lawyers and administrative procedure specialists are available for consultation. You can ask for specialists' advice on issues such as family or partner violence, divorce, visa procedures, and problems at work. Reservation necessary.

Date & Time: Wednesday, September 28, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Place: Palette Kashiwa, Room A

Reservation: the KCC office

Exchange Program with Sister & Friendship Cities of Kashiwa

The 49th Torrance Youth Visit to Japan (7/12-7/25)

This long-awaited event finally came true after a two-year delay. It was decided at the beginning of April. However, the acceptance of exchange students became an unusual situation, with a two-week visit and hotel accommodations during the entire stay.

On July 12th, the four youths and an adult leader arrived in Tokyo. And on July 13th, 14th, and 15th, they participated in a Tokyo tour and a Kamakura tour planned by the members of the Torrance Committee. They enjoyed popular tourist destinations in Tokyo, including Solamachi, a huge retail facility, in Tokyo Skytree, Asakusa, Shibuya, and Kamakura with its beautiful greenery.

From the 16th to the 20th, they visited Kyoto, Osaka, and Hiroshima with a guide. They seemed to be impressed by Kinkakuji Temple, Osaka Castle, and okonomiyaki. From the 21st to the 24th, they stayed at a hotel in Kashiwa City and had various cultural experiences. On the first day of their stay in Kashiwa, they paid a courtesy call to the mayor of Kashiwa City to talk with the mayor, and visited the city assembly. At Kashiwa Municipal High School, they enjoyed a brass band performance and had a great time interacting with the students and having tea. In the evening, they were invited to the Kashiwa Lions Club's summer evening festival, where they changed into yukata (summer kimono) and participated in the festival. At the end of the festival, they learned to dance the Kashiwa Odori dance well. On the second day of their stay, they visited the former Yoshida residence, and walked around Akebonoyama Agricultural Park. In the afternoon, they experienced Japanese calligraphy and archery at Kashiwa Chuo High School. On the third day, they observed a practice session of the Kashiwa Sumo Youth Team in the morning. The students who tried on mawashi (sumo belt) to participate in the practice seemed very happy. After that, they visited the farmers' market at Teganuma Michi no Eki. Students interested in eel dishes bought eel lunch boxes and took pictures of them. In the afternoon, they experienced drumming under the guidance of the Genroku Taiko drum club members. It was hot in the hall, but everyone worked hard wearing a happi coat. In the end, everyone beat the drums to the song of Kashiwa Odori and danced the Kashiwa Odori together.

On the 25th, the group left Kashiwa for their home with such wonderful memories in their hearts.



Visit to Hiroshima



Courtesy Call to the Mayor



Japanese Drum and Kashiwa Odori Dance

In Remembrance of Mikko Haggott-Henson, Torrance Sister City Association First President

Mikko Haggott-Henson, who dedicated her life to serving as a bridge between Japan and the United States, passed away on June 20 at the age of 85. Mikko was born in Tokyo, and was married to Ben Haggott, an English teacher living in Torrance.

In 1973, after making a significant contribution as an interpreter to the sister city affiliation between Torrance and Kashiwa, Mikko founded the Torrance Sister City Association. She became the TSCA's first president and established many annual programs, including a cultural festival to introduce Japanese culture, a youth exchange program between the two cities, and an English teacher exchange program to Kashiwa, all of which continue to this day. During Mikko's tenure as president from 1976 to 1990, the Torrance Sister City Association won eight awards from Sister Cities International and became a model sister city in the United States. In 2017, she was named Woman of the Year by the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) and the Japanese Women's Association of Southern California in recognition of her lifelong dedication to fostering U.S. - Japan relations.

She always extended a warm welcome to the students sent from Kashiwa and the visiting delegation. Everyone has been charmed by Mikko's can-do spirit and genuine friendship. Mikko spent most of her time working on a program to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the sister city affiliation in February 2023. With her dream in mind, members of both cities are now working hard to prepare for the program, which will confirm mutual understanding between the citizens of both cities and foster further friendship.

May her soul rest in peace.



Mikko Haggott-Henson



My Dream Has Come True After Two Years of Standby

Ms. Cara Ihde (Adult Leader of the 49th Torrance Student Delegation)

How were you able to come to Japan? What requirements did you have when you enter Japan?

— Each member of the delegation had to apply for a VISA. The city of Kashiwa sponsored our group, allowing us to get the VISA and enter Japan. Once the VISA was approved, the delegates had to get a PCR COVID-19 test within 72 hours before the flight to Japan. Instead of a three week homestay, the delegation stayed in hotels, touring around Japan for two weeks.

I hear the delegation to Kashiwa 2020 has been postponed because of COVID-19 though the members had already chosen. How many students of the members that time have come to Japan?

— In March, 2020, eight high school students were selected at Torrance Sister City Association (TSCA). Due to the concern of Coronavirus, the exchange was canceled and postponed for two years. Since then, all eight students graduated high school and are now university students. Unfortunately, four of the eight students withdrew from the program.

Please tell me how you and your family have engaged in the activities of TSCA. Why did you become the adult leader of this delegation?

— My family has been involved in Torrance Sister City Association since my mother, Donna Dunlap, was the adult leader in 1984. She and my father, Butch Ihde, volunteered in TSCA, helping with the annual Bunka-sai fundraiser and the annual student exchange. In 1990, my father was selected as the adult leader. My older brother, Steven Ihde, came to Kashiwa as an adult leader in 2013. Throughout the years we hosted student delegates and adult leaders, creating strong friendships with them. It was my dream to go to Kashiwa. In 2006 my dream came true; I went to Kashiwa as a student delegate. The experience changed my life forever. After the trip I developed a new dream: I knew I wanted to be an adult leader one day.



Ms. Cara Ihde (the far right)

Where did you visit besides Kashiwa? What is the impression?

— Besides Kashiwa, our group visited Narita, Tokyo, Kyoto, Osaka, and Hiroshima. KIRA planned three days of sight-seeing in Tokyo. We went to Tokyo Skytree, Asakusa, Kamakura, Shibuya, and Harajuku. After that, we visited Kyoto and Osaka. In Hiroshima, we walked around Peace Memorial Park. As an American, we can only read about what happened in Hiroshima. I value the opportunity to visit the city, walk through the park and visit the museum. It was a very educational and eye-opening experience. place.

What kind of programs did you experience in Kashiwa? Did the students enjoy them?

— We experienced tea ceremony, judo, shodo, kyudo, sumo, and taiko. We really enjoyed learning about each of these activities and being able to participate in them. Other highlights on our schedule were going to city hall to meet Mayor Ohta and city assembly members, attend the Lions Club Summer Party, see the talented brass band play at Ichikashi, and visit Yoshida Residence and Fuse Benten. We really enjoyed visiting the two high schools: Ichikashi and Chiba Prefectural Kashiwa-chuo, and having the chance to visit with the students. We hope to continue the friendships we made.

How would you like the students to make use of this experience in the future?

— I hope this trip gives the students more knowledge and a better understanding of Japanese culture and the desire to return to Japan. I also hope it encourages them to develop stronger friendships with people in Kashiwa and continue to be part of our sister city program.

We have not been able to send delegation to Torrance since 2020 because of the pandemic. Please give your message to students in Kashiwa.

— I hope that a delegation will be able to visit Torrance in 2023. I encourage many students in Kashiwa to apply next year. TSCA looks forward to hosting the next delegation so you also can experience the trip of a lifetime.

We thank Ms. Ihde for taking time out of her busy schedule to respond to our written interview. Full text of the interview is available on our website in both English and Japanese.

Announcement

Stage Performers for International Exchange Festa Wanted!

Why not join us and show your special talents at Kashiwa de International Exchange Festa 2022?

Date : Sunday, November 20 Place : Howdy Mall at the east exit of Kashiwa Station

Content : Dance, songs, entertainment, performances, etc. from overseas and Japan (any number of people in one group)

Application : Sign up directly at the KCC office or send an e-mail to <boshu-2@kira-kira.jp> by Saturday, September 17.



September Events

Japanese Shonan Classes		The 2nd term starts on Thursday, September 1.
Online Classes		
Sun	10:00 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary I and Intermediate II
In-person Classes (Shonan Community Center)		
Thu	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary I; <i>Chukyu kara Manabu Nihongo</i>
Sun	10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary I
Japanese Kashiwa Classes		The 2nd term starts on Thursday, September 1.
Online Classes		
Tue	7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary I (Unit 8 -)
Wed	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Conversation elementary 2B (Level 2)
Wed	7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary II (Unit 26 -)
Thu	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Conversation elementary 1 (Level 1, Introductory)
Thu	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Conversation elementary 1 (Level 1)
Thu	1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Conversation elementary 2A (Level 2)
Fri	7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary II (Unit 48 -)
Sat	9:30 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.	Conversation intermediate
In-person Classes (Palette Kashiwa)		
Sat	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary I (Unit 1 -)
Sat	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary I (Unit 10 -)

Consultation for Foreign Residents

Monday: Spanish
 Tuesday: Korean (only the 2nd and 4th Tuesday)
 Wednesday: Chinese
 Thursday: English
 Friday: Chinese
 ※ 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. everyday
 Consultation Counter for Foreign Residents (Main City Hall 3F)
 TEL: 04 - 7168 - 1033 No reservation required

Information about COVID-19 for Foreign Residents



Available in multiple languages

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. Scan this QR code and 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 a.m. - 5:15 p.m.
 Closed on Sundays and national holidays