

KCC Newsletter

October, 2023

Kashiwa Cross-cultural Center, Palette Kashiwa
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Vol.
90

Announcement

Kashiwa de International Exchange Festa 2023

DOctober 15 (Sun) 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. **P**Howdy Mall at Kashiwa Station east exit (canceled only on heavy rain)

This year again, we will set up tents in the pedestrian zone in front of Ito Yokado. At the booths, introduction of international exchange activities, overseas product sales, and more will be held. On the stage, you can enjoy performances of various dances and musical instruments from different countries. At the food stalls and food trucks, you can savor ethnic dishes from local restaurants. Why not experience the "world" in Kashiwa?

(You can see last year's festival using the QR code)



Last year's Festa

Booths

Activities introducing exchanges with sister and friendship cities, language courses, Japanese culture, and foreigner support. Enjoy quizzes about countries around the world, games, and sales of international snacks, products from Bulgaria and Korea, coffee, and more.

Performances

Peruvian dance, Yosakoi, tap dance, sword fighting, belly dance, Tsugaru shovel shamisen, Balinese dance, hip-hop dance, dance by KIRAKIC members, and Chamorro dance from Guam.

Food stalls and food trucks

Food from Turkey, Korea, China, Thailand, Vietnam, Nepal, America.

8th Japanese Speech Contest for Foreigners in Kashiwa - Call for Participants

To all foreigners living in the Tokatsu area (Kashiwa, Abiko, Nagareyama, Kamagaya, and Matsudo city)!

We are once again organizing the "Foreigner Japanese Speech Contest in Kashiwa." Please share your thoughts on living in Japan and what you want to convey to Japanese people in Japanese.

DFebruary 11 (Sun), 2024 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

PPalette Kashiwa (Day One Tower 3F, 1-7-1-301 Kashiwa, Kashiwa city)

Eligible Participants: About 15 people who live, or work, or study in the Tokatsu area, and whose parents are foreign nationals.

Application forms: Available at Kashiwa Cross-cultural Center (KCC) or downloadable from KCC's website.

Awards: Kashiwa Mayor's Award (1 person), Kashiwa International Relations Association Chairman's Award (1 person), Special Awards (2 people), Participation Awards (all participants who do not win).

Theme: Thoughts on living in Japan and what you want to convey to the Japanese people.

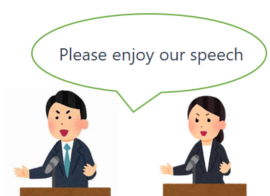
For those who are unable to enter the venue, we plan to livestream the event.

Details on how to access the livestream will be posted on KCC's website in early January 2024. Please check it out. Application Deadline: December 6 (Wed)

Mailing Address: Kashiwa Cross-cultural Center, 1-7-1-301 Kashiwa, Kashiwa City, 277-0005

Email: <boshu-2@kira-kira.jp> or bring it to the KCC's office. *If there are many applicants, we will screen them. Applicants will be notified by email by December 20 (Wed).

Inquiries: KCC Office, 04-7157-0281



Upcoming events (from November)

Tour of Recycle Plaza and Ribbon Pavilion (11/23)

Ukrainian Cooking (11/26)

Chengde 40th Anniversary Event (12/10 2023, 1/7 & 1/14 2024)

Lecture on Australia (12/10)

Shadow Puppet by Foreigners (12/17)

<Request>When applying by email, please be sure to include the event name, your name, and phone number.

DDate & Time **P**Place **F**Fee **N**Number of applicants **L**Lecturer **C**Contents **A**Application **R**Reservation

Announcement

Exchange Programs
with Sister & Friendship
Cities of Kashiwa

A delegation from our sister city, Torrance city, including its mayor, will be visiting Japan (10/5-10/9)

You can watch the following two events online. Please check our website for details.

"Delegation Welcome Ceremony"

DOctober 6 (Fri) 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

PIn front of Kashiwa City Hall Main Building (Opposite to Route 16, on the staircase side).

If you want to participate, please gather at 9:10 a.m. to welcome the delegation arriving by bus.

No registration is required.

"Welcome Event on Torrance Street"

DOctober 7 (Sat) 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

PTorrance Street & Kita-Kashiwa 2nd Park

3 to 4-minute walk from Kita-Kashiwa Station South Exit, (In case of rain, it will be held at Kashiwa 5th Elementary School's Gymnasium)

Collaborating Organizations: Kita- Kashiwa Neighborhood Association, Warabi Nursery School, Yosakoi Team Senjin, Kashiwa Boys and Girls Choir

No registration is required.

Online International
Exchange Salon

A Perspective From German International Students
- Earth-Friendly Vegan Diet

DOctober 19 (Thur) 8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. Speaker: Mr. Joshua E. Schmidt

FFree **N**30 people **R**Directly at the office or via email at <boshu-1@kira-kira.jp>

Please include your name and phone number, and we will send you the URL for participation on the day of the event.



2023 International Exchange Bus Tour

Experience a guided tour of JAXA Tsukuba Space Center and the world's largest planetarium at Tsukuba Expo Center. At JAXA, you can visit areas that are not open to the general public.

DOctober 28 (Sat), Gathering Time: 8:15 a.m., Departure Time: 8:20 a.m., Disbandment Time: 4:50 p.m.

Meeting **P** In front of Shimizu Glasses, Sun Sun Street, Kashiwa Station East Exit.

F1,600 yen (Including facility entrance fee, guide fee, and others)

Items to Bring: Photo ID (for JAXA guided tour)

Lunch: (at Expo Center)

*For more details, please visit our website.

Target and **N** General citizens, 23 people (first-come, first-served)

RFrom October 2 (Mon), directly at the office or via email at <boshu-1@kira-kira.jp>



H-2 Real Rocket

Halloween Party

Wear your Halloween costumes, get candy with "Trick or Treat." Play fun games and break the piñata to collect candies inside.

DOctober 29 (Sun) 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. **P**Palette Kashiwa Open Space

N50 people **F**500 yen **R**Directly at the office or via email at <boshu-1@kira-kira.jp>



Disaster Preparedness Seminar "Supporting Foreigners" (9/2)

Foreign residents and Japanese citizens listened to a presentation on disaster preparedness from the Kashiwa City Disaster Safety Division staff. Participants received hazard maps issued by the city to identify areas at risk of flooding and landslides. They also checked their local "evacuation shelters", "evacuation sites", "broad-area evacuation sites", and "emergency water supply sites" on maps. With the Level 1 to Level 5 evacuation information issued by the city, the elderly must evacuate at Level 3, and those in hazardous areas must evacuate when a Level 4 evacuation order is issued. In the event of a major earthquake, people first protect themselves (self-help), then help each other with their neighbors (mutual aid), and then wait for help from the fire department or local government (public assistance). It is important to reduce the risk of disasters by securing furniture and stockpiling water and food for emergencies. The disaster preparedness kit "Bosai Best 40" was displayed, and participants received a disaster preparedness guide in four languages: Japanese, English, Chinese, and Korean, along with bread, porridge, and biscuits.



Disaster Prevention Quiz

Exchange Programs with Sister & Friendship Cities of Kashiwa

18 Days of Making Unforgettable Memories With Friends

Mr. Shion Horie, 2023 Torrance Exchange Youth

During my homestay in Torrance, I participated in various activities organized by TSCA (Torrance Sister City Association), including giving a speech at the city council, visiting the history museum, the local cable television station, Disneyland, and San Diego. One of the most memorable moments for me was visiting Kashiwa Street in Torrance, where I could truly feel the 50-year bond between Kashiwa and Torrance.

The most cherished memory of this exchange was the time I spent with the Torrance students. We had a great time together and became such good friends that we kept in touch regularly even after returning to Japan.

Through this exchange, I believe I have grown from my former self. Living in Torrance allowed me to experience American values, and through conversations with locals, I was able to boost my self-esteem. I particularly noticed that people there often praised each other, and I received a lot of compliments from the locals, which boosted my self-confidence. Additionally, I had the opportunity to meet irreplaceable friends during this exchange. Meeting Torrance students was wonderful, but getting to know the fun and unique personalities of Kashiwa students was also one of the reasons why I think participating in this exchange was a great decision.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to KIRA and everyone at TSCA for giving me the chance to have such a fantastic experience.



Speech at Torrance City Council



At the Los Angeles International Airport



Dispatch to Torrance, After Four Years of Waiting

Mr. Hitoshi Watanabe, 2023 Torrance Dispatch Kashiwa City Youth Leader

Please tell me about your profile: As an engineer for a precision equipment manufacturer, I was in charge of training engineers at agencies around the world. I have traveled abroad a lot, mainly to Europe, the U.S., and Asia. In my leisure time, I enjoy horseback riding.

You are involved in activities with the Torrance Committee, but what motivated you to get involved in international exchange?: When I received advice for "a fulfilling life," the words "widen human relationships, especially connections with the local community" and "When in doubt, Go!" stayed in my mind. When I moved from Shizuoka to Kashiwa in 2011, I joined KIRA to practice these two things, and also started horseback riding. I had lived in Torrance for three years on a business assignment, so I joined the Torrance Committee without hesitation.

What was the reason for applying for the position of the youth leader?: The reasons for applying as the leader were hearing from past leaders that the role was attractive, looking forward to interacting with high school and university students, and wanting to repay the kindness of the people in Torrance who had taken care of me.

This was our first dispatch in four years. What were your impressions?: Actually, I was selected as the leader in 2019, and when we were preparing to recruit dispatch students for 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic occurred, and the dispatch was postponed. Four years have passed with the hope of whether it could be implemented the following year. The Torrance Committee and TSCA members exchanged information via Zoom and posted my introduction in the TSCA News to keep our enthusiasm for the exchange dispatch. When I visited this time, President Dana said, "Four years of waiting for each other," and I strongly felt that everyone had waited patiently for a long time.

What particularly impressed you during this dispatch?: The purpose of the exchange dispatch is "friendly relations with sister cities" and "development of dispatched students." However, I would like to express my respect and gratitude once again to the people who began the exchange dispatch 50 years ago. I felt the weight of 50 years in the fact that not only TSCA members and host families but also the citizens of Torrance warmly welcomed the dispatched members. I believe all of them were excellent, opened their hearts to local people and were loved by the people of Torrance.

What do you hope for the dispatched students in the future?: I hope that they will develop leadership, contribute to local and international exchanges, and learn to be kind to others, aside from values such as honor, status, and money, after experiencing the volunteer spirit and kindness of the people of Torrance. These are the two things I hope for.

(Interviewer: Noriko Fujita)



Mr. Hitoshi Watanabe

October Events

Japanese Shonan Classes (2nd term: Saturday 9/2 -)		
Online Classes		
Sat	7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary II
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(2 classes)
Sun	10:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary I
Japanese Kashiwa/Kashiwanoha Classes (2nd term: Friday 9/1 -)		
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 37 -)
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 35 -)
Sat	9:30 a.m. - 11:20 a.m.	Conversation Intermediate
In-person Classes (Palette Kashiwa)		
Tue	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	hiragana/katakana
Tue	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	<i>Beginners</i>
Tue	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary I (Unit 14 -)
Sat	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary I (Unit 10 -)
Sat	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary I (Unit 28-)
In-person Classes (Kashiwanoha Service Center)		
Thu	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Conversation Elementary, Introductory and 1
Thu	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Conversation Elementary 2

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.

D October 25 (Wed), 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

P Palette Kashiwa Room A

R the KCC office

Announcements from Other Organizations Members Wanted! Kashiwa International Relations Association (KIRA)

Why don't you become a member and join us in international exchange activities? Let's interact with foreigners by planning and organizing various events. You don't have to speak English. You can also make friends. For more information, please visit our website. (Inquiries: Office)

Information for Foreign Residents from Kashiwa City

Consultation for Foreign Residents

Available in English (Thu), Chinese (Wed and Fri), Spanish (Mon), and Korean (2nd and 4th Tue) from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Consultation Counter for Foreign Residents (City Hall Main Office Building, 3rd floor).

Tel: 04 - 7168 - 1033

No reservation required.

Email distribution service from Kashiwa City

Sign up to receive email announcement from the city, such as information on natural disasters, crimes, and fires of your area in the language of your choice. Scan the QR code and register!



Scan the QR code and select your language under "Foreign Language" to read the official city bulletin, "Koho Kashiwa," selected and translated for foreign residents.



Links for Multilingual News & BOSAI INFO (Disaster prevention and Coronavirus)

NHK WORLD-JAPAN



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