



KCC Newsletter

September, 2024

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Announcement

Kashiwa de International Exchange Festa 2024: "See the World, Eat, Dance, and Have Fun!"

- D** Monday, October 14th (National Holiday), 11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Rain or Shine)
P Howdy Mall, East Exit of Kashiwa Station
F Interactions with sister and friendship cities, introduction to KIRA's activities, performances of international music and dance, sales of foreign goods, and various international cuisines (Details will be available in the October issue).



Scan for the 2022 video

World Barbecue Party: Enjoy Barbecue from Different Countries!

- D** Sunday, September 29th, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
P Mizushiro Orchard (Nagareyama City, Mukaikogane 3-179, Tel: 04-7174-4451)
F 1,500 yen for junior high school students and above, 500 yen for elementary school students, free for preschool children
N First 50 applicants
A From September 1st (Sun), directly at the KCC office or by email at boshu-1@kira-kira.jp



Cross-cultural Teatime

Let's Learn About Mexico, a Country of Cultural Diversity



A representative from the Mexican Embassy in Japan will talk about Mexico's history, nature, tourism, culture, and food. (The lecture will be in English with Japanese interpretation)

- D** Saturday, September 21st, 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. **P** Palette Kashiwa Open Space
Speaker: Cultural Officer, Mexican Embassy in Japan **N** 52 people **F** 400 yen

Application: From September 1st (Sun), directly at the KCC office or by email at boshu-1@kira-kira.jp



Exchange Programs with Sister & Friendship Cities of Kashiwa

Camden Youth Delegation Recruitment

- Delegation Period: Friday, March 7, 2025 - Monday, March 17, 2025 (11 days)
Number of Dispatched: 6 people (Must live, study, or work in Kashiwa City and be born between April 2, 1989, and April 1, 2006)
Cost: Approximately 400,000 yen
A Attend the briefing session and submit the application form to the KCC office between Monday, October 7th, and Friday, October 25th, or send it by mail (must be received). Application forms will be distributed at the briefing session on October 6th.

Kashiwa City Camden Youth Delegation Briefing Session

- D** Sunday, October 6th, 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. (Reception from 10:00 a.m.) **P** Palette Kashiwa AB
Details: Explanation of the 2024 delegation application process, including eligibility, application methods, and application period by the person in charge. Application forms will be distributed. Applicants must attend. Those interested in the delegation are also welcome to attend.

Free Legal Advice and Administrative Procedure Support for Foreign Residents

- To Foreign Residents,
Are you facing any difficulties? Lawyers and administrative scriveners are here to assist you. You can consult about issues such as domestic violence, divorce, visas, or workplace troubles. Please make a reservation.
D Wednesday, September 25th, 1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
P Palette Kashiwa A **R** KCC Office

<Request> When applying via 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.

Exchange Programs with Sister & Friendship Cities of Kashiwa

Torrance Youth Visit to Kashiwa (7/10 – 7/30)

On July 10, shortly after 7 p.m., eight high school students — four boys and four girls — along with their leader, Mallory, arrived in front of Kashiwa City Hall. This marked the beginning of their three-week stay in Kashiwa. Each student stayed with two different host families, experiencing Japanese family life. The Torrance Committee had been planning activities for a year, aiming to give the students a direct experience of Japanese culture through student interaction, and to contribute to future sister city exchanges.



City council visit

From the next day, the students paid courtesy visits to the Deputy Mayor and City Council. They visited Kashiwa Daiichi Elementary School, Nippon Sport Science University Kashiwa High School, Kashiwa Municipal High School, Hakuryo High School, Kaichi International University, and Kashiwa Chuo High School. They had lunch with students from the visited schools and participated in activities such as karate, archery, calligraphy, tea ceremony, kendo, koto, taiko performances, and indigo dyeing. The Smart City tour during the city tour particularly intrigued the boys. The student exchange event led by the Kashiwa 50th anniversary class brought Torrance and Kashiwa students closer. Watching a Kashiwa Reysol match, which Torrance students hadn't been able to attend in recent years, was a big hit. The students also grew closer through bowling with the Kashiwa students. No one complained about visiting temples and shrines, as the students seemed to appreciate the historical significance of the grand structures in Kyoto and Nikko. The students unanimously mentioned Hiroshima as the most memorable place. On the 30th, they had a tearful farewell with their host families in front of City Hall.

Exchange Programs with Sister & Friendship Cities of Kashiwa

9th Chengde Youth Visit to Kashiwa (8/6 – 8/10)

Youth exchanges with Chengde city have resumed. The exchange had been suspended since the 14th Kashiwa youth delegation visited Chengde in 2019, due to COVID-19 prevention measures. This is the first step towards resuming youth exchanges and holding a mutual exchange in the same year, as pledged at the "40th Anniversary of Friendship City Agreement Online Celebration" held at the end of fiscal year 2023.



At the University of Tokyo Kashiwa campus

The friendship group arrived in Japan on August 6, paid a courtesy visit to the Mayor and City Council, attended a welcome party, and completed a two-day tour of various facilities in Kashiwa, and a Tokyo tour during their 4-night, 5-day stay before returning home on August 10. In Kashiwa, they visited the Yoshida Residence, the University of Tokyo Kashiwa Campus, and the Kashiwa City Public Market. While in Tokyo, they toured the Shinagawa Aquarium and Tokyo Skytree. Later, they reported that they were overwhelmed by the heartwarming hospitality of

Online International Exchange Salon

"Simple Japanese" – Phrases for Disasters (7/18)

"Lights out," "Medical consultation," "Free" — these are words you might see on bulletin boards in evacuation centers during disasters. How would you rephrase these in "simple Japanese" to be understood by foreigners? In this session of the online international exchange salon, we learned how to guide foreigners during disasters and explained easy-to-understand Japanese at evacuation shelters. Foreign residents are often considered vulnerable due to language barriers. Especially in times of disaster, emergency response is required, and accurate information transmission is important. Lecturer Chie Uchida explained, "Information should be obtained fairly so that everyone can share the same information. It is also important to choose appropriate words depending on the person." I hope this kind of learning opportunity will expand and lead to better support for foreigners.

Yūzen Color Filling (7/16)



Challenging traditional crafts

Kashiwa Festival Parade Participation (7/27)



Parade in national costumes

Announcement

Online International Exchange Salon

"Let's Try Using Convenient Hybrid Meetings" – Methods to Participate Both On-site and via the Internet

D Thursday, September 19, 8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Instructor: Mr. Takahiro Kageyama

Participation Method: Online (Zoom)

F Free

A By Wednesday, September 18, directly to the KCC office or by email to boshu-1@kira-kira.jp, including your name and phone number. A URL for participation will be sent on the day of the event.





Be Open-minded to the New and Different

Mallory Beard, 2024 Adult Leader of Torrance Youth Delegation

Please tell us about yourself. - I live in Gardena, California. I work to support the communication between school, home and students. I enjoy running, group fitness, reading, and watching documentaries.

What made you apply to be an adult leader? - When the students from Kashiwa Municipal High School visited Torrance, I looked into the history and culture of the students from Kashiwa. I found it very interesting and wanted to know more about it. So, I applied for this program.

Have you been involved in Torrance Sister City Association (TSCA) activities? - Yes, I have. I have participated in the Cherry Blossom Festival, Bunka-sai, and TOCA-Palooza, which is an art festival to promote their activities to the community.

Is this your first time in Japan or Kashiwa? How do you feel about it? - Yes, it is my first visit. I studied Japanese in high school, so I understand a little bit of Japanese. I can read and write hiragana and katakana. Kanji is difficult for me, so I only understand a little. When I landed at Narita Airport, I felt there was a lot of greenery compared to Torrance and that people are taking good care of the fertile land. Japan is attractive to foreigners because of its varied landscapes, such as mountains, sea, and forests. I also find the Japanese people are welcoming, supportive, and pleasant to be with.

You visited Kyoto and Hiroshima, didn't you? - Yes, I was looking forward to it. At the Peace Memorial Museum in Hiroshima, my tears did not stop because of the sadness of what happened there. It is an experience I will always remember.

Are the delegate enjoying their stay? - Yes, of course! The food, the interaction with Kashiwa students, the short trip ... everything is captured in many photos. It is admirable how they are adapting to life in Japan, including the heat!

How do you want your students to grow through this experience? - I want them to encourage their children to go on these journeys. I want them to open their mind to others who speak a different language, whose race, nationality, and beliefs are different from their own, and to love those people so that they can find common ground. I hope they will continue to listen to others and develop their communication skills.

(Interviewed by Noriko Fujita)



Ms. Mallory Beard



Hoping to Cultivate a Better Friendship Between the Youth of the Two Countries

Yang Yuyan, 2024 Chengde Youth Delegation Leader, Deputy Director of Chengde Education Bureau
Liu Zhiyun, 2024 Chengde Youth Delegation Accompanying Teacher, Chengde Second Middle School Teacher

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, we had not been able to exchange delegations since 2020. How do you feel about the resuming of the program this year? - Having the opportunity to directly interact with the people of Japan, the students are able to experience the Japanese way of life. Also, visiting to various locations enables the delegates to be exposed to Japanese customs and culture, and that will deepen the friendship between Chengde and Kashiwa.

What are your impressions of Japan and Kashiwa on your first visit?

- Before I came to Japan, I thought Japan was a small country and crowded, but it was totally different. The scenery is beautiful and public facilities, parks, and hotels are spacious. Traffic is multi-level (highways, ground transportation, subways) and space is used efficiently. The people are punctual as well as the transportation systems. People are considerate, thoughtful and friendly. I feel Japanese young people are healthier than their Chinese counterparts. We cannot eat raw fish in Japanese food, but Japanese Chinese food is delicious, though a bit light in flavor.

Are the students having a good time? - They were not used to being here at first, but as they became more familiar with their host families, you could tell from their expressions that they were enjoying themselves.

How do you want the students to grow through this exchange? - I would like them to share what they have experienced in Japan with the people of China. I hope they will deepen the friendship between the young people of the two countries.



Ms. Yang (left) and Ms. Liu (right)

Upcoming Events (from October)

Visit to Chengde (October 24-29)

Halloween Family Concert and Halloween Party (October 27)

September Events

Japanese Shonan Classes		
Online Classes		
Sun	7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary II (Unit 47~)
Sun	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary I (Unit 26~) and Intermediate (Unit 4~)
In-person Classes (Shonan Community Center)		
Thu	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary I (Unit 16~) and Primary I (Unit 20~)
Sun	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary I (Unit 2~)(Unit 13)(Unit 20~)
Japanese Kashiwa/Kashiwanoha Classes		
Online Classes		
Tue	7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary I (Unit 25 -)
Wed	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Conversation Elementary (Level 2)
Wed	7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary II (Unit 45 -)
Thu	1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Conversation Elementary (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)		
Tue	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary I (Unit 2 - 5)
Tue	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Beginners, <i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary 1 (Unit 12~)
Tue	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary I (Unit 17 -)
Sat	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary I (Unit 9 -)
Sat	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	<i>Minna no Nihongo</i> , Primary II (Unit 46 -)
In-person Classes (Kashiwanoha Service Corner)		
Thu	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Conversation Elementary Former • Latter
Thu	1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Hiragana, Katakana
Sat	10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Intermediate

Information from Other Organizations: Salons for Indonesian and French Languages Learners

Salons for enjoying casual conversations with native speakers and novice learners will be held once a month at Palette Kashiwa. The first meeting will be held as follows:

- 1) Indonesian: October 12 (Sat), 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at Palette Kashiwa Room C
- 2) French: October 15 (Tue) 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. at Palette Kashiwa Room D

N First 15 people who live, work, or study in Kashiwa city

A September 1 (Mon) to September 27 (Fri). Applications will be closed when capacity is reached.

F Free **R** Apply by e-mail to <gaikokugo@kira-kira.jp>.



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!



Multilingual "Koho Kashiwa," monthly official city bulletin

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