

[For Enquiries]

Hyogo International Association 2FI. IHD Center, 5-1, 1-Chome, Wakinohamakaigan-dori, Chuo-ku, Kobe, Hyogo 651-0073 TEL (078)230-3260 FAX (078)230-3280 Website http://www.hyogo-ip.or.jp/



# HIA is promoting youth exchange activities!

Hyogo International Association (HIA) actively promotes youth exchange activities with the aim of fostering international exchange amongst the people and contributing to the development of human resources. The school exchange programs have resumed after 4 years. Among them are the Oxbridge English Summer Camp and face-to-face school exchanges.

## Oxbridge English Summer Camp was held for the first time in 4 years!

Oxbridge English Summer Camp is a program in which students from Oxford and Cambridge Universities in the UK are hosted by HIA, and are sent to schools and other locations in Hyogo Prefecture to conduct international exchange activities such as English conversation classes and exchange events. This year we welcomed Wilf from Oxford University and Oliver from Cambridge University.

We held a welcome party on July 20. The party was attended by people from universities, organizations, and host families in the prefecture where the students were scheduled to visit, and everyone shared the joy of having this project back on track again. Oxbridge students and other participants also wore yukata, a summer kimono. Participants had a good time dancing Bon Odori and chatting with each other.

They visited Kobe Women's University, Kobe University Secondary School, Kansai University of Social Welfare, JETS Academy and Takarazuka International Association where they gave English classes, introduced British culture, and held exchange events. They had a productive month, giving classes on British culture and the royal family, doing quiz-style activities, and making yakisoba noodles with the students.





Explaining about the British Royal Family

Making yaki-soba together

## They warmly welcomed the Oxbridge students!

#### Okuuchi family

Wilf was very knowledgeable about modern Japanese architecture and anime, and we talked a lot. We were very surprised that he knew more than we did in some areas.



## Miyano family

We enjoyed BBQ, hot springs, shopping and more with Oliver. He was cheerful and outgoing and we had a great time together!

#### Hinokihara family

We had a lively discussion about quantum mechanics, which Wilf is majoring in at university. He also invited us to go with him to a jazz concert hosted by Kobe Women's University, which was great fun. A Window into Multiculturalism

We will introduce the Japanese classes for foreign residents held in the Hanshin area and this year's "Workshop on 'Multicultural' Coexistence"



Japanese Class for Daily Living Let's enjoy learning with the community and increase what we can do

Hyogo International Association (HIA) has been creating a system for Japanese education in the region since 2019 so that foreign residents living in Hyogo can acquire the necessary Japanese skills for living in their local community. As part of these efforts, projects are being developed in each region. In the Hanshin area, since last year, Sanda City and the Sanda International Association (SIA) have been working on the project with HIA through repeated discussions.

This time, we will introduce the second year of the "Sanda Japanese Class for Daily Living ". They have a new class format in which Japanese teachers and local learning supporters collaborate, with a special focus on completing activities as a class and meticulous pair work. Participants using the Japanese they learned to communicate with each other, listen to each other, and search for information on their smartphones on the themes of daily life situations, such as shopping, garbage separation, disaster prevention, hospitals and government offices. They feel great when they can successfully communicate with each other in Japanese.

Participants come from different countries, have a variety of backgrounds and Japanese levels. It is difficult for a teacher to handle everything, but SIA's experienced learning supporters are involved in group activities and support them through dialogue, so that no one is left behind and each person can aim for a goal that suits them.

SIA also has a "Japanese Language Salon", The Salon for learning Japanese, where volunteers provide one-on-one learning support for many years. Both projects connect foreign citizens with local communities by taking advantage of their unique formats.







# Towards a multicultural society where we accept our differences and respect each other.

Currently, about 120,000 people from 155 countries live in Hyogo Prefecture and we have increasingly more opportunities to interact with them in various situations. For these reasons, we jointly held workshops in 2023 with other NPOs on the theme of 'multicultural coexistence'. The purpose of those workshops is to deepen our understanding of the current state of people from other countries, the issues they face, and to promote the realization of the multicultural society where all people can live safely and peacefully.

Four workshops were held from August 16 to 25 by various lecturers on diverse subjects. A total of 321 people attended and learned the importance of the multicultural society where people accept the difference in cultures, languages, lifestyles and respect each other.



Aug 16 (Wed.)	"Overview~ 'A country with immigrants' The reality of Japan ~ "
Aug 18 (Fri.)	"Learning from other countries ~ 'The attempt to include multiple cultures ~"
Aug 22 (Tues.)	"Education ~ To support children with foreign roots ~"
Aug 25 (Fri.)	"The power of people ~ Success of people from diverse backgrounds"

#### <「移民」「移民政策」とは?>

【国民・大塚耕平共同代表】首相の定義による「移 民」とは何か。

【安倍晋三首相】政府としての定義だが、移民政策 とは、国民の人口に比して一定程度のスケールの 外国人、およびその家族を期限を設けることなく 受け入れることによって国家を維持していこうと する政策だ。そういう政策はとらない、というこ



(国会党首討論、2018年6月27日)



 Checking the hazard map, "Where is the evacuation area?".





# Welcome our new CIR!

A new Coordinator for International Relations has arrived.







My name is Li Xia and I have been working as the Chinese CIR since April 2023. In my junior year in university, I lived in Tokyo to study for a year. This is the second time to live in Japan, but the first time living in the Kansai region, so I am excited to experience new things every day.

I came from Guangdong Province, Hyogo Prefecture's friendship city, and I also have Hakka heritage, known for its famous egg dumplings. I am very keen to share Chinese culture and its charms with you. From now on, I would like to visit many places in Hyogo, discover the charm of Hyogo and share it with many people.

I will strive to become a bridge between Japan and China and promote even closer bilateral relations and exchange. I look forward to meeting you through the Hyogo International Caravan Project!

# PICK UP!

## Hyogo International Exchange Caravan Project



One of the famous Hakka dishes,

"Egg Dumplings" The key is to

wrap it with a thin omelette!

Korean traditional masked play "Talchum"



With local residents in Harima town

### "International Exchange IN HARIMA"

Our four Coordinator of International Relations 'CIRs' participated in "International Exchange IN HARIMA," an exchange event co-hosted by the Harima-cho International Friendship Association. The CIRs from the U.S., China, Korea, and Australia introduced their own countries, and performed the "square dance," which is very popular in China, and the Korean traditional masked play "Talchum." The participants were very excited and enjoyed doing the square dance together.

Other events included country introductions by Harima town ALTs from Zimbabwe, India, the Philippines, and the U.S., band performances and self-introductions by foreign residents, and a brass band performance by high school students. This international exchange event was attended by 101 people from 12 countries. Participants commented, "It was good to learn about traditional culture," and "There were many events that everyone could participate in, such as dances. I had a wonderful time!"

#### What is the Hyogo International Caravan Project?

CIRs from Hyogo Prefecture will hold events together at various locations in the prefecture on request from the constituent organizations of the Hyogo Consortium of International Associations. We hope many residents will take advantage of the opportunity to experience and learn about different cultures.

(Visit here for details) https://www.hyogo-ip.or.jp/hcia/csr.html



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