

Come HIA

50 Years of Hyogo-Khabarovsk Relations

Grassroots exchange with residents of the Khabarovsk Region

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of friendly relations between Hyogo Prefecture and Khabarovsk Krai in Russia, a Hyogo Exchange Delegation of 34 people visited the region for 6 days from August 17th to 22nd.

They participated the ceremony and reception of this 50th anniversary, and also held an exchange meeting with local students learning Japanese and visited a *dacha* (farmstead) in the outer suburbs to interact with local people.

This trip was an opportunity for both Hyogo and Khabarovsk to be able to further mutual relations and to discover the various charms of Far East Russia.

Attending the Signing Ceremony and Anniversary Reception



Joint statement signing ceremony

On August 20th, the delegation leader and deputy attended the joint statement signing ceremony as observers on behalf of the delegation. They watched as both sides signed their commitment to continued relations and exchange in further various fields. All delegation members attended the following reception to further exchange with Khabarovsk's attendants.

Lunch Cooking with Locals at the *Dacha*

The delegation visited a *dacha* in the outer suburbs of Khabarovsk City and enjoyed cooking lunch with local people and eating the cooked dishes together. The delegation was able to realize heartfelt grassroots exchange with the local people of Khabarovsk.



Cooking lunch at a *dacha*



In front of Khabarovsk's Uspenski Cathedral

Exchange Meeting with Japanese learners

An exchange meeting was held with students learning Japanese at the Khabarovsk Japan Center and at university. It was a great opportunity to directly hear their stories and why they started learning Japanese.



Exchange meeting with students studying Japanese

Do you know of “Café Noisette”?

Erika Morishita – Paris Office



People enjoying a chat along
the terrace

I have been working in the Paris office since May 2019.

There are a few things I have noticed for the first time since I started living in Paris, that I never noticed when I traveled to Paris.

People living in Paris love chatting in cafés.

I see them along the cafe terrace. They go to cafés before going to work, for a short break and after a meal. When I order a “Café” an espresso comes out, but I recently learned of the “Café Noisette”. “Noisette” means hazelnut. The drink is espresso plus milk, and its color resembles hazelnuts, so it is called “Café Noisette”.

The other day I went on a business trip to Italy. At the restaurant, I asked the waitress to add milk to the espresso. The waitress called the drink “Macchiato”!

I learned that when countries change, people call the same drinks different names.

This “Café Noisette” may not be listed in the store menu. However, you can order it anywhere. Depending on the store, how they add the milk is different. Sometimes the milk is added as it is, as foam milk, and sometimes the milk comes in a separate cup. If you have a chance to come to Paris, try drinking “Café Noisette”.

Yuan Lei

Michigan, USA



New CIRs Have Arrived!!



Hello everyone! My name is Yuan Lei, and I’m from Michigan, USA. I studied Japanese Language and Culture and Asian Studies in college, and I went on to study abroad in Japan for a year because I wanted to challenge myself and experience living in different countries. Through that experience, I was able to meet a lot of nice people around the world and gain a deeper understanding of Japanese culture as well.

I decided to come back to Japan as I missed the convenient life and food in Japan, and I was assigned to Hyogo Prefecture. I liked the Chinatown and the sea when I traveled to Kobe a long time ago. I would like to share with you the culture of America, my home country, and while also getting to know Japanese culture along the way.

Hyogo’s CIRs



Huieun Cho

Busan, South Korea



My name is Huieun Cho, and I have been a Coordinator for International Relations in Hyogo from April. I came from Busan in South Korea, which is known as a port town where exchange with the world has been thriving from long ago, especially with Japan.

I am very honored to be able to come to Hyogo, which resembles to Busan in its exchange with foreign countries from its early days. I would like to visit and experience various parts of Hyogo, such as the Kitano Ijinkan and the Kyu-kyoryuuchi (former Foreign Concession) in Kobe but also the Tajima, Tanba, Harima, and Awaji regions.

Native Language Centers Opened

Three new native language centers have opened for Portuguese, Spanish and Vietnamese.

These native language centers will support native language education for children and students living in Hyogo Prefecture. They will also help them learn about their country's history,



Opening ceremony (CBK Native Language Center)

culture and society by functioning as a base for broadcasting information about their home country. At these centers, users can find materials for language learning, books about their home country and in their native language, guidebooks, and DVDs and videos along with tablet devices. Thus, when they come to these centers, users can get in touch with their native culture. Everything can be used free of charge. These facilities are primarily for preschoolers and elementary school students; however, anyone can use it if you book in advance. Please come and check out these facilities!

Spanish Hyogo Latin Community / Takatori Native Language Center

Monday to Friday 10:00-17:00

The 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month 11:00-13:00

Hyogo Latin Community (Comunidad Latina Hyogo)

TEL: 078-739-0633

Portuguese CBK Native Language Center

Tuesday to Sunday 10:00-17:00

NPO Comunidade Brasileira de Kansai CBK

TEL: 078-222-5350

Vietnamese VIETNAM yêu mến KOBE / Takatori Native Language Center

Tuesday · Thursday 10:00-17:00

Saturday · Sunday 9:00-12:00 (Closed on 5th Saturdays)

VIETNAM yêu mến KOBE

TEL: 078-736-2987

※ Please contact the managing organization and make a booking before utilizing the centers

Friends of Hyogo

NPO Cooperation Mann-Maruk Akashi

—Making a place to belong under the slogan

“Let's learn together for a brighter future!”—

“Hello!” At 5 p.m., energetic elementary school students walk into the classroom one after another. It is the “Mirai no Kyoshitsu (Class for the Future)”, a class held by NPO Corporation Multi-cultural Center Mann-Maruk Akashi, where they provide support for children in Japanese language and school subject study.

Miwa Kubo, who serves as the Representative of the organization, decided to hold a Japanese and learning support class for children with volunteers in response to voices heard from foreign mothers that “I can't go to Japanese classes because I have a little child” and “I can't help my child with his homework because I don't understand Japanese” while she was working for an international exchange related organization. The volunteer group organization subsequently became a non-profit corporation in 2016. The “Kodomo Kurasu (Children Class)” for children which used to be held weekly is now held three days a week, and an “Oyako Kurasu (Parent and Children Class)” for mothers has also been added.



Everyone is studying hard



The “Oyako Kurasu”

The classroom, decorated with pictures drawn by children, and filled with toys, has a very at-home atmosphere. “Some children just want you to listen to them. Children need a place where they can go to and from by themselves”, says the vice director, Shigeki Sakurae. Some children even come from far away by car as there is no such classroom in their neighborhood. Meanwhile, the Oyako Kurasu is very well received because parents can bring preschoolers. It also helps mothers build a network as talk can also talk about child-rearing.

The “Mirai no Kyoshitsu (Class for the Future)” is also a place where everyone can belong. It will be there waiting with a warm heart to help the future of children and families who have roots in foreign countries.

NPO Cooperation Multi-cultural Center Mann-Maruk Akashi

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Recently at
HIA

Let's Enjoy Picture Book Story-telling in French!

On Thursday August 22nd, story-telling with French picture books was organized at the Hyogo International Plaza's International Exchange Gallery. Kelly and Alexandre, Hyogo Overseas Trainees from Seine-et-Marne in France, were in charge of the French language parts. French words in the book such as "Bonjour" and "Merci" were introduced and spoken out with participants. The Japanese version of the same book was then presented to find the differences in expression with French version.

After the Story-telling, children participated in French flag coloring and mobile-making using a paper cut Eiffel tower. Although it was in French,

a language which children don't hear often in their daily life, it gave them a good opportunity to experience foreign language.



Introducing the Charms of Moldova; Pictures and Ink Painting

From September 4th to 25th, the Hyogo International Plaza's International Exchange Gallery hosted the "Moldova Gallery; Pictures and Ink Painting" exhibit. It displayed around 50 works taken by photo artist Mr. Kosei Miya, and Ms. Yuka Takeda, an ink painter who received the Prime Minister's Award. These works showcased the natural beauty, traditional culture, and life in Moldova.

On Tuesday September 10th, an ink painting workshop was organized taught by Ms. Takeda, and on Tuesday September 24th, a seminar on Moldova was held with Mr. Masaaki Kutsusawa, the President of the Japan Moldova Friendship Association as the guest lecturer; both events were attended by many participants.



Upcoming Events

Note: These events are subject to change. Please check our website or newsletter for any updates

Jan Events

- Volunteer Translator/Interpreter Disaster Training
- Gallery Exhibit
- Hyogo UNICEF Exhibit
- HIA Library Display
- Disaster Prevention in Japan

Feb Events

- Salon Carnivale
- Gallery Exhibit
- Picture Books from Africa
- HIA Library Display
- Special Feature: Africa

Mar Events

- HIA Friendship Party
- HIA Library Display
- Special Feature: UK



Attempting
ink painting
during the
workshop

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Ms. Nami Tanaka

Ms. Mahoko Sakonju

Ms. Yuki Tatsumi

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