

Supporting Foreigners in a Disaster

~Participating in the 2017 Disaster Prevention Drill~



On September 3rd, the HIA participated in the joint disaster drill in Sasayama city alongside council members from Sasayama, Tamba and Sanda cities as well as the Sasayama International Center of Understanding.

Foreign participants learned how to protect themselves during a natural disaster and experienced a large tremor in the earthquake simulation vehicle.

At the Multilingual Disaster Support Center, we held training for Japanese support staff which included such tasks as sending out disaster information in various languages and introducing a disaster information phone app aimed at foreigners.

Multilingual Disaster Support Center



Practicing filling out Evacuee Registration Cards. The Governor also paid a visit



20 residents from 5 countries came to participate



CIR Activities

HIA International "Fureai" Day ~in Summer~

On August 29th, four CIRs introduced the culture and games/activities of their own countries to local children.

The children experienced dot painting from Australia, Chinese *jianzi* (shuttlecock kicking, known as *keribane* in Japanese), trying on traditional clothing and making name cards in Hangeul with the Korean CIR, and making paper planes with a CIR who is from North Carolina in USA, known for the first flight of the Wright brothers. The HIA was filled with the cheerful voices of children that day!



22nd Himeji International Exchange Festival

On October 29th, CIRs took part in the "22nd Himeji International Exchange Festival" with members of the Himeji Cultural and International Exchange Foundation. While the weather was less than ideal, many people visited the booth and took on quizzes about Australia, Korea and China.



If you ever see us, please come and say hello!

JET Film Festival

On November 18th, the JET Film Festival was jointly hosted by the HIA and the JET Programme Alumni Association's West Japan branch in the museum hall of the Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Art.

The JET Programme invites young people from abroad to Japan to get involved in promoting grassroots globalization through international exchange and foreign language education. This time, five multilingual volunteers from the HIA also participated and helped make the festival a resounding success.



The reception at La Pierre Musee

In Part One, celebrating the 30th anniversary of the JET Programme, ten prize-winning films were screened out of the many entries from JET participants and alumni. The young JETs beautifully and humorously captured their unique viewpoints of various regions in Japan.

In Part Two, the documentary film "Live Your Dream – the Taylor Anderson story" was shown, which told the story of an Assistant Language Teacher who died in the Great East Japan Earthquake while on the Programme. People were moved and encouraged by the way she lived her life to the fullest pursuing her dream of becoming a bridge of friendship between America and Japan.

After the screening, a reception was held at the museum's restaurant La Pierre Musee, during which JET participants and alumni, as well as interested Japanese and foreigners exchanged their impressions of the films and had an enjoyable and meaningful time.



The volunteers proved very helpful!



Photo exhibition and seminar: “The Real Myanmar - Observing 25 years of change”

From November 1st to 30th, a photo exhibit was held in the International Gallery to introduce the daily life and scenery of Myanmar, which is home to various peoples and climates. The exhibit covered regions from the northernmost villages looking out upon snowy mountains to those in the south, close to the Andaman Islands in the Indian Ocean.



(Left)
Representative
of Myanmar
Kansai, Mr.
Konohara
Nobuo

(Right) Mr. Uta
Yuzo

On November 10th, photo journalist Mr. Uta Yuzo held a special guest lecture. He talked about the state of Myanmar over the 25 years he covered there, including episodes that occurred during photoshoots, and participants were very interested in his stories.



The HIA's "Try-Yaru (Trial) Week
students also gave feedback

Recently
at HIA

HIA Friendship Society NEWS:

HIA Bus Tour in Asago city

From October 29th through 30th a HIA bus tour was held in Asago city, with 11 international students studying in Hyogo, members of the HIA Friendship Society and foreign residents in Hyogo taking part. This project asked international students promote the charms of Hyogo in their mother tongues, and was run in cooperation with the “The Best of Hyogo” campaign, which aims to promote regional areas.



Ikuno Mine



Silversmithing workshop
(Asago City's CIR Laetitia pictured right)

After visiting the Mikobata Senkoujo, an ore processing site of massive scale, the tour headed to Ikuno Silver mine. Receiving a warm welcome from Mr. Taji, Mayor of Asago city, they listened to an explanation of the mine at the museum, and learned what the area was like when the mine was active, meanwhile exploring the mineshafts.

Next was a walking tour in Ikuno town. A local guide took the group to visit places such as “Izutsuya”, a former *gouyado* (hotel for public officers) during the Edo Period, and Himemiya shrine.

One-day participants dropped by the Kurokawa Hot Spring to relax after a long day. Kurokawa Hot Spring is known as a *Bijin-no Yu* (beauty spring), meaning its water is slightly alkaline and has a certain mineral composition.

Some members remained for the next day, and took part in a cultural exchange meeting with international students at Ikuno High School. The members of Friendship Society led the students during the meeting, who actively participated in the Q&A sessions.

After lunch, the group walked around the Tonomine Highlands, known for its beautiful Japanese pampas grass-covered plateaus. The participants came from 11 countries including Vietnam, Brazil, South Africa and the United States. Many languages could be heard on the bus, and the trip had a very international atmosphere.



With the students of Ikuno High School

Listening to the Ikuno Silver Mine
guide

Upcoming Events

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

February Events

- Workshop on Regional Japanese Language Education (Feb 10)
- Salon Carnaval (Feb 11)
- Sake WORLD PARTY (Feb 17)
- Saikyo Kaido Tour (Feb 24) – applications due Feb 12

HIA Gallery Exhibits

- Asia kids' Picture Diary Fest

HIA Library Display

- Proud Japan

Mar Events

- Introductory seminar on international cooperation (Mar 3)
- HIA Friendship Party (Mar 17)

HIA Library Display

- Understanding Asia

Interested in our events? Want to know more?

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HIA



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