



International Relations SAIJO

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International Relations Saijo is a quarterly newsletter published in Japanese, English, and Vietnamese by the Saijo International Exchange Association (SIEA). We welcome your comments, questions and submissions.

Halloween Party 2019

First come, first served!
800 stamp cards (advance purchase)
200 stamp cards (day-of purchase)

Participation Details and Event Schedule

① Purchase a Participation Card
(Purchases can be made in advance or on the day of)
 ○ Advance Purchase (800 Sheets) 150¥ per sheet
 10/19 (Sat.) 12:00~15:00 Saijo City Hall 1F Lobby
 10/21~10/24 (Weekdays) 8:45~17:00 Saijo City Hall New Building 2F International Exchange Promotion Section
 ○ Day-of Purchase (200 Sheets) 200¥ per sheet
 Reception: Sales start at 12:30~

② Trick or Treat 13:00~14:30

③ Compete in 3 of the 6 different games!

④ Face Painting Adults can also enjoy face painting!

⑤ Costume Parade for Kids and Adults ③④ 13:00~15:00
15:15~16:00

Judges will be looking at your costumes. Those who get medals can receive a prize on stage!

⑥ Award Ceremony 16:00~

⑦ Group Photo 16:15~

Take Note!
★ There are no refunds on participation cards.
★ You cannot choose the participation card.

○ Rock-Paper-Scissors Game
○ Jack-o-Lantern Game
○ Card Game
○ Mummy Game
Start Times: 13:30~/14:00~
2x each session
○ Inspiration Game
○ Photos with Parade Float
Choose 3 of the activities above ★

※④・⑤・⑥ You can join these activities without a participation card.

**10/26 (Sat.)
13:00~16:30
Saijo Shopping Arcade**

«Exhibition & Sales Corner»
☐ Free
☒ Paid
☐ Illustration Exhibit
☐ Hooray! SAIJO
☒ Balloon Art Sales
☒ Uchinuki 21 Corner
☒ Sanagi Pro
☒ Don Quixote

~November English Conversation Class Announcement~

Mr. J's English Class

- Where: Saijo Public Welfare Center (Fukushi Center)
- Eligibility: Residents of Saijo City or SIEA Members who can participate in at least 70% of the course
- Cost: General 6,000¥ (SIEA Members 5,000¥)
- Date & Time: Sun./Mon. Elementary: Mon. 10:00~11:30/ Intermediate: Sun. 9:30~11:00/ Advanced: Sun. 11:15~12:45 Nov.~ May 2020 (15 Classes per level, 2x/ month)
- ※ Courses will take place with a minimum of 10 students each.



Using English is fun! I would like to make an English Room with everyone!





KONYAMACHI BAR ~Vietnam Style~

On Sat. August 10, the summer's big event Konyamachi BAR was hosted in the Konyamachi area of the Saijo Shopping Arcade.

As a member of the Regional Revitalization Cooperation Team with the Saijo Konyamachi Shopping Arcade Promotion Association at the center of the event, I (Manabu Shinohara) arranged this year's Konyamachi BAR to showcase Vietnam with the support of the Coordinator for International Relations Anh Thy as part of the effort toward building a relationship with Vietnam.

On the day of BAR, visitors enjoyed painting pictures on *nonra* (conical straw hats) the traditional handicraft of Saijo's sister city Hue, amidst the exotic atmosphere created by the Vietnamese lanterns decorating the shopping arcade. Food stalls provided local specialties, such as *phở*, *com ga*, *nemrui* etc. and, of course, Saijo's soul food and *nihonshu* (Japanese sake) from local breweries were available at the many stalls too. The evening gathered delicious treats from Vietnam and Saijo together.

Not only the local children and adults, but the Vietnamese residents came dressed in Vietnamese traditional dress *Ao Dai*. About 2,500 people came to the event, making the night a great success. This event was a huge step in increasing the local people's awareness of Saijo's sister city in Hue, Vietnam. (Manabu Shinohara)



Procuring *Nonra* from Hue



Painting on *Nonra*



Saijo Konyamachi Shopping Arcade Promotion Association and Volunteers



Vietnamese Lantern Instagram Spot



Vietnamese Cuisine *Com Ga* (Chicken Rice) Stall

Saijo International Exchange Association General Term Meeting 2019

This year's officials, projects, and budget was decided.

This Fiscal Year's New Projects

- Young Leader Training Program
- International Understanding Lecture Series
- International Cooking Classes



General Term Meeting Lecture

Topic: Japanese Language Education for Non-Japanese People
Lecturer: Midori Uno

Ms. Uno has spent many years guiding the Japanese language education of non-Japanese people in Ehime prefecture through various activities. She gave a very valuable talk based on her experiences.



2019 Young Leader Training Program Reports

From August 1~13, 9 students from 5 different high schools in Saijo City participated in the Leadership Development Program in Seattle, Washington, USA. In this newsletter, I will provide a short report on the companies and foundations that the students had visited to learn about leadership during their training program.

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation supports research institutions and organizations on an international scale to resolve the problems of poverty, illness, education, and the environment. We were introduced to examples of activities through which many nations endeavor to find solutions to the intricately related challenges. We learned that it is important to initiate change through our strengths and abilities whatever our age, experience, or social position. We later listened to a lecture by Masako Kodama, the current head of the Business Promotion Department of the Microsoft Corporation. We learned about how the type of human resources to which formal education aspires in Japan, the USA and the UK differs to a remarkable extent, how Ms. Kodama conducted index analyses to boost levels of achievement to the highest standard worldwide at the Japanese branch office where she had worked, and how the state of leadership comes with revisions of personnel selection, bold executions of duties, and daring reformations within a company.

21Acres is a corporation that has formed an alliance with local farmers to cultivate and sell organic produce. Because the cultivation does not involve any chemical substances, pesticides, additives, or genetic modification, it is beneficial to both farmers and consumers. The farmlands are lush with trees and shrubs, and the forces of nature – frogs, snakes, and birds, etc. – are used to repel harmful insects. If we eat bad things, we will get sick; however, if we eat something good for us at a slightly higher cost, we won't need medicine. 21 Acres helps to spread the awareness that food is medicine nationwide.

At the Panama Hotel and NVC Foundation, we learned about the hardships that 120,000 Japanese-Americans endured when they were forced into internment camps immediately following the attack on Pearl Harbor. We also found out about the young Japanese-Americans who had joined the military to pledge their allegiance to the nation as American citizens. We learned that they lived with determination despite severe discrimination, that this history has been a component in the construction of a stable societal foundation, and that it is connected to the overall assessment of present-day Japanese-Americans and Japanese citizens.

Next, we listened to a talk by Hiroko Huntoon, a Saijo native who works for the top buyer of the Costco Wholesale Corporation. The management philosophy of Costco, which has expanded throughout the world, is "Keep it simple, quality first, low price." Top buyers, who are equipped with expertise, make purchases prioritizing quality, and develop Costco brand items of the highest quality with joint companies. Costco provides the best goods to consumers while striving for cost reduction from distribution to sales. We gained understanding of the reality of worldwide distribution and sales by inspecting the enormous store interior first-hand.

In this way, the students could observe the actual circumstances of leaders on the front line and learn about concrete prerequisites for desirable personnel in this ever transforming world. Throughout their daily lives hereafter, the students will grow up while contemplating the meaning of these experiences and perhaps develop into future leaders. (Chaperone: Goro Yanagawa)



I was fortunate to take part in the many valuable experiences of this year's Young Leader Training Program.

As many leading companies started their businesses in the city of Seattle, we were able to observe and listen to talks about companies like the Microsoft Corporation, which is famous for Windows, and the Costco Wholesale Corporation. Having heard about Masako Kodama and Hiroko Huntoon's invaluable experiences and seen how those companies function in reality, I think that our experiences on the program will be useful hereafter and important with regards to leadership.

At Washington University, the DigiPen Institute of Technology, and BCA, there was no end to my surprise at the differences between education policies in Japan and America, and the American systems of education, as I witnessed first-hand realities that seem unthinkable in Japan. We also learned about farming methods that effectively make use of nature and the importance of dietary education and organic food at 21Acres.

In addition, we also visited a place that can be called the core of the training program: the Panama Hotel and NVC Foundation. Before we left for Seattle, we had learned about Japanese-Americans in advance. For example, the kind of poor treatment Japanese-Americans had endured, and the ways that Japanese-Americans and other Americans have transformed. We read the historical novel *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* and held discussions, thinking deeply. Perhaps as a result of our preparation and our observations of and discussions at the Panama Hotel and NVC, the incidents, events, and history of that time have left a deep impression on my heart and mind.

I think that, overall, communication is of the utmost importance. Although some of us are more proficient in English than others and everyone has a different appreciation of English, it is most important to try to convey our message to the other party as effectively as possible, as that is the essence of leadership. I am grateful to our guardians, SIEA, and all others involved for the opportunity to take part in this priceless experience. (Komatsu Senior High School Student: Hiei Nemoto)



Team Scotland:
Scottish Ginger Loaf



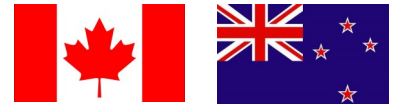
Team Philippines:
Biko (Sticky Rice Cake)

International Bake Off

During the 2nd International Bake Off at the Omachi Community Center, Saijo's ALTs and CIR taught elementary school students how to bake desserts from their home countries on August 27. The kids divided into teams to make one of 4 desserts. This year, we made Scottish Ginger Loaf, Filipino Biko (sticky rice cake), Canadian Marshmallow Squares, and New Zealand Hazelnut Palmiers.



Top: Ginger Loaf made with lots of ginger and a light drizzle of icing, **Left:** Biko has the subtle sweetness of coconut milk and a luscious caramelized sauce, **Right:** Marshmallow Squares ~ the kids made the marshmallows themselves! **Bottom:** Hazelnut Palmiers are crunchy on the outside and full of warm Nutella



Team Canada:
Marshmallow Squares



Team New Zealand:
Hazelnut Palmiers

Events & Announcements

<September Scheduled Events>

「Weapons Art Exhibition」 from Mozambique, Africa

- When: Sept. 3 (Tues.)~23 (Mon.) 9:00~22:00
- Exhibition will end at 12:00pm on the 23rd
- Where: Saijo Public Library
- Free

Discussions with Mozambique Weapons Art

- When: Sept. 8 (Sun.) 14:00~16:00
- Where: Saijo Public Library
- Capacity: 20 people

African Film Screening・Overseas Volunteers Return to Japan Debriefing Session

- When: Sept. 16 (Mon.) 13:00~15:30
- Where: Saijo Public Library
- Capacity: 60 people
- Contents: 「CARAVAN TO THE FUTURE」 film screening and Overseas Volunteers Report on Living in Africa

International Understanding Lecture 「Learn about Russia」

- When: Sept. 29 (Sun.) 10:00~11:30
- Where: Saijo Public Welfare Center Audiovisual Room
- Target Audience: Elementary school students and older
- Capacity: 20 people
- Participation Fee: Free
- Application Period: Sept. 9 (Mon.)~ Sept. 25 (Wed.)

<October Scheduled Events>

2019 Halloween Party

- When: Oct. 26 (Sat.) 13:00~17:00
- Where: Saijo Shopping Arcade
- Participation Card: 800 sheets sold in advance on 10/19 (12:00~15:00), 10/21~24 (8:45~17:00) at Saijo City Hall
- 200 sheets sold on day-of from 12:30~ at the reception in the Saijo Shopping Arcade

<November Scheduled Events>

Saijo Industry Fair

- This year we will also host the 「World Café」
- When: Nov. 9~10 (Sat./Sun.) 9:00~15:00
- Where: Saijo Agriculture High School 「SIEA Booth」

★ Volunteer Recruitment ★

- 10/26 Halloween Party 11:30~17:30
- 11/9~10 Saijo Industry Fair

Details in the
email news-
letter!

Editor
Notes

SIEA will be hosting many events after September, so please check our HP and FB for more information! (小)

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Read in full
color! ➡

