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The A-Z of Kagoshima's International Relations

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 - Dispatch of High School Students from Kagoshima Prefecture to the UK (Satsuma Students Dispatch Project)

Kagoshima Prefecture has a deep historical relationship with Britain dating back many years. In 1865, 15 students and 4 envoys from the Satsuma clan were dispatched to Britain from Hashima, Ichikikushikino City despite Japan's isolation policy at that time.

As a result, at the 150th anniversary of the Meiji Restoration in 2018, we signed a friendship agreement with Camden, London and Manchester City, both of which are associated with the Satsuma students.

The Satsuma Student Dispatch Project involves high school students from Kagoshima Prefecture participating in the UCL-Japan Youth Challenge run by University College London (UCL) in Camden Ward, with the purpose of developing human talents who are able to play an active role on the global stage. So far, 27 high school students have participated in this project.

This event could not be held in the past years due to the COVID pandemic, but this year it was held in person for the first time in 4 years, with 2 high school students and 1 attending teacher from Kagoshima visiting the UK.

This year's program had the theme of "Resilience in a Global Society," and included group discussions, presentations, and lectures in English by university lecturers.



The bronze statue of the Satsuma students in front of Kagoshima Chuo Station







According to the participating high school students, they learned the importance of communication skills and respecting each other's opinions by working on a common problem with members from different backgrounds, such as participants from other prefectures and the British high school students.

They also said that it was a good opportunity to understand the importance of thinking about things from a broader perspective.

Information about Kagoshima Kenjinkai

ullet Commemoration Ceremony of the 110th Anniversary of the Brazil Kagoshima Kenjinkai ullet

The year 2023 marks the 115th anniversary of immigration from Kagoshima to Brazil, and also marks the 110th anniversary of the founding of the Brazil Kagoshima Kenjinkai.

On 6 August, the combined event of the 115th Anniversary of Immigration of Brazilian Kagoshima Citizens and the 110th Anniversary of the Founding of the Brazil Kagoshima Kenjinkai was held with great grandeur by the Brazil Kagoshima Kenjinkai in the city of Sao Paulo, Brazil.



The ceremony was attended by a total of 35 people from Kagoshima Prefecture who jointly celebrated this new beginning of the Brazil Kagoshima Kenjinkai.

They included Governor Shiota, the Chairman of Kagoshima Prefectural Assembly, Mr. Matsuzato, as well as the heads of 6 local governments in



Kagoshima and members of the prefecture's business community.

First- to sixth-generation immigrants attended the ceremony, where the governor gave awards to several groups. These included 36 elderly people (with the oldest being 95 years old), 5 people who immigrated more than 70 years ago, and 12 people who immigrated more than 50 years ago after the war. In addition, 1 person was awarded a Merit Award (the former Kenjinkai Chairman), and 4 people was awarded the Special Merit Award (Kenjinkai officers who had made special contributions).

Congratulatory speeches were made by guests such as the Consul General of Japan and members of the Sao Paulo City Council, and former prefecture-sponsored exchange students and overseas technical trainees expressed their gratitude to the prefecture.

The ceremony was also attended by Kenjinkai officers from the neighboring countries of Argentina, Paraguay, and Peru, as well as from Southern California and New York, and they met and had a chat with the governor and related parties during the ceremony and commemorative celebration.

Activities of the Governor

• Courtesy visit by the Governor of Pingtung County, Taiwan (14 September) •

Governor Chou Chun-mi of Taiwan's Pingtung County and her delegation paid a courtesy visit to the Kagoshima Prefectural Office, and discussed future collaborations and exchanges between the two prefectures.

According to Governor Shiota, Pingtung County is located at the southern tip of Taiwan and has many things in common with Kagoshima Prefecture, such as having agriculture, fisheries, and tourism being the main industries. As such, taking this opportunity of Governor Chou's visit, it is his wish to further develop the friendly relations and exchanges with Pingtung County.

According to Governor Chou, she would like to use this visit to deepen the cooperation and friendly ties with Kagoshima Prefecture and to promote further collaboration in culture, tourism, education and industry.

In addition, at the dinner reception after the courtesy visit, the guests were able to enjoy what Kagoshima has to offer as the Treasure of the South, including a live Satsuma Biwa performance and foods prepared using ingredients from Kagoshima.





Tourism Information in Kagoshima

• Kagoshima Kinko Bay Summer Night Fireworks Festival (19 August) •

This Fireworks Festival is a summer tradition of Kagoshima and is the largest of its kind in Kyushu. It is held against the backdrop of the natural scenery of the active volcano Sakurajima and the calm waters of Kinko Bay and during the festival, approximately 15,000 fireworks painted the night sky with their vibrant colours.





Website of Kagoshima Prefectural Government: http://www.pref.kagoshima.jp/

Editor's Note (International Affairs Division, Kagoshima Prefectural Government)
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How did you find this month's edition of Kagoshima Southern Wind Tidings?

We as editors will continue to strive to have this prefectural multilingual newsletter be a bridge of information that connects Kagoshima with everyone.

[[]Kagoshima Southern Wind Tiding's bulletin board] is looking for the following content!

☆Kagoshima Photo Gallery

We would like to invite you to send us photos that remind you of Kagoshima, or photos of Kagoshima that you might have seen overseas. Please also attach a brief description along with the photo. (e.g. a mountain of volcanic-ash bags)

☆Knowledge about living in Kagoshima

Please share with us information related to life in Kagoshima. (e.g. delicious ways to enjoy fried fish cakes, or how to deal with volcanic ash.)

We also welcome any other information that you would like to share with our readers.

$\blacktriangle \nabla \blacktriangle \nabla$ Inquiries $\blacktriangle \nabla \blacktriangle \nabla$

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