

University students from France enjoyed a month stay in Chigasaki

This year in July again, there were 11 university students from France visiting Chigasaki and home-staying for almost a one month period. They are from two top-ranking universities in France and have studied Japanese in their home country. Their main purpose is not only to brush up their Japanese but also to learn about Japanese culture so to speak through numerous experiences such as visiting schools in the city from junior highs to universities, learning tea ceremonies and wearing kimonos, taking trips to Kamakura to experience IGO and ZAZEN, and so forth. But it would be needless to say that their communication with host families would make their stay most meaningful. How they were enjoying the visit was already noticed when their welcome party was held by the IAC on July 8.

They paid a courtesy visit with the city mayor on July 25, and their Sayonara party was held on July 28. At their Sayonara party they made a brief presentation in Japanese as to what they experienced while home-staying.

This arrangement by the IAC has a good reputation in France and their visit this year was the ninth visit in as many years.



One of these students said Japanese people he came across in town looked at him with some sort of curiosity at first but they soon changed to a welcoming smile. Also, he mentioned that all of his colleagues were surprised to know that everybody welcomed them everywhere; in a class at Tsurumine High School and at a junior high school when they were playing soccer etc. Interestingly enough though, he said he was weary of having rain day after day while in Chigasaki because in France the weather always turns fine if they have rain the previous day.

Fireworks display coming soon on August 4 at Southern Beach

A spectacular display of fireworks will brighten the night sky on August 4 (Sat) at Southern Beach Chigasaki. The display will start from 19:30 and end at 20:30.

As always, there will be a large number of people in yukata coming from remote areas. The fireworks display should be a most enjoyable event.

Note: Please take back home whatever you bring to keep the beach clean.
Leave only your footprints!

IAC ACTIVITY

IAC Charity Concert



In order to offer financial support to children overseas who have not been able to receive education or who are suffering from poverty, the IAC held a charity concert with the "Bruce Harp & Piano Duo" at Husky's gallery on July 14.

Also, another charity concert by violinist Nonoko Okada is planned to be held at Kagawa Murashima Memorial Hall of Aletheia Heiwa Gakuen located at Fujimi-cho on *Teppo-michi*. The hall holds 500 people, and the entrance fee is ¥2,000 for adults and ¥1,000 for Senior High School students.

Miss Nonoko Okada graduated from the Juilliard School of Music in New York, and presently she is a member of the Charleston Symphony Orchestra. This violin charity concert is scheduled on September 1 (Saturday) from 14:00~16:00. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Shigako Okada. Tel: 82-7380

A part of the charity concert revenue goes to the "Larupate Club" as in the following.

A message from the "Larupate Club"

We began our mission 11 years ago to provide educational opportunities for children unable to study due to economic reasons. Our headquarters is located in Osaka.

The "Larupate" is a poinsettia, which grows in Nepal even in winter.

Our mission includes sending continuous scholarship funds and specialists in rehabilitation and treatment for children with disabilities under the 10th grade.

For more information, please visit our website:
: "<http://larupate.hp.infoseek.co.jp/>"

IAC Mission Statement

We will contribute to the peace in the world community through mutual understanding, friendship, cooperation, solidarity and human dignity so all people, as "earth citizens", respect and live together beyond the borders of nationality.

Consultation for Foreign Residents

BUNKA SUISHIN-KA section of the city hall will be receiving phone calls from foreign residents at any time, so either interview or consultation can be arranged based on the reservation. The timing depends on the availability of interpreters but the appointment will need a week or so to be arranged. Visitors should be able to consult not only in English but also in Portuguese, Korean, and Chinese. (Tel: 0467-82-1111 ext. 3309)