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(1) Activity Report 1

■ 2011 Ando Program/ Osaka Invitational Program for Short-Term Overseas Trainees in Architecture and Arts

Every year OFIX welcomes trainees from around Asian countries and regions who major in Architecture, Arts or related field or work to take part in this one-month program. The program began thanks to the generous funding offered by the world renowned architect from Osaka, Tadao Ando and companies who support the program's objective. It is hoped that through practical training and other activities, the knowledge of both architecture and Japanese culture that the students gain will help to promote exchange and development in their home countries.

The program began in 1993, making this its 19th time. In total we have welcomed 169 people from 19 different countries and regions. This year the program was held from the 20th September to 18th October, with 8 participants from 7 different countries and regions.

Courtesy calls to Osaka Prefectural Government and Ando Office, Visits of Mr. Ando's designed buildings and the Kyoto Study Tour impressed them very much. The practical training at 4 major architect firms such as Takenaka Corporation, Obayashi Corporation, Zenitaka Corporation, and Daiwa House Industries is a key factor of this program, where trainees had a chance to visit project sites, and learned about the most up to date technologies. As for academic aspect of the program, they took part in Discussion on “Renewal and Preservation in a Sustainable Global Environment” sharing the unique technology of their mother country and regions and research. They also participated in Kobe Design University co-organized Symposium themed "Synergetic Effects of Diverse Asian Designs" where

everyone engaged in active discussion.

They were also to get a feel of people in Osaka through the overnight Home stay.

For a new project, trainees participated in an ‘International Understanding Education’ workshop that considered the training of undergraduate students to become global minded people.

All of the trainees headed home bringing fond memories of their time in Osaka, and a deep affection for the place and its people full of smile and little tears.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all that assisted us during the program.

Name Home Country/Region

Tran Hoang Kien Vietnam/Hanoi

Oryza Angga Irawan Indonesia/Bali

Yusfan Adeputera Yusran Indonesia/East Java

Hetti Arachchige Amal Priyantha Peiris Sri Lanka /Wennappuwa

Rachaniporn Tiempayotorn Thailand/Bangkok

Gadkari Mayura Mukund India/Mumbai

Nyaichyai Kanchana Nepal/Kathmandu

Wang Wenya China/Shanghai

(2) Activity Report 2

■ ESSEC Business School Student Osaka Training Program

Sister relations began between Osaka Prefecture and Val-d'Oise (France) in 1987, since which time exchange has taken place in various fields such as business, the



arts, and culture. The Essec Business School Student Osaka Training Program is once such exchange program which takes place every year organized predominantly by the Hirakata Foundation for Culture and International Exchange. This year saw 8 students from France visit Osaka from the 1st-16th July. The students then left for Tokyo to take part in summer work placements.

During their stay in Osaka the students took part in Japanese lessons, cultural activities, and exchange with local residents. OFIX actively

supported the Program together with the Osaka Prefectural Government by organizing a courtesy visit to the Vice Governor of Osaka Prefecture, and to the Panasonic Centre in the 5th July.

The students learned much about Osaka from the presentation of the Osaka Prefectural Office staff.

In the afternoon the group visited the

Panasonic Centre, where they were shown some of the latest products, and learned about Panasonic's international strategy. All in all it was a very valuable day for the students. OFIX hopes to continue to support and contribute towards the further development of sister relations between Val-d'Oise and Osaka in the future.

(3) Networks

■ Introduction of "Kansai International Center Participants Support Council"

Our Support Council consists of 10 International Associations located in the area South of Kishiwada City (South of Senshu).

Aside from diplomats, researchers, and librarians from different countries, the Kansai International Center is used by university and high school students, as well.

In 1994, after the opening of Kansai International Airport, there were a lot of international associations that sprang up in the area. These associations have a long relationship with the Kansai International Center, participating in international exchanges with trainees and even volunteer as host families. For a whole year, various activities are held for international exchange with the trainees, and activities differ depending on the length of stay of the trainees as there are trainees who stay for about 9 months and some for only 2 weeks.

Of course, the Support Council receives requests from the Kansai International Center to be involved in different activities such as becoming host families or accepting home visits.

A large event of the Support Council, the "Exchange Festival", is held at the Kansai International Center with the aim of supporting and providing a venue of exchange with the trainees at the Center.

This year, we will be having the festival on November 23 (Wednesday/holiday) and each of the association in the council is preparing for this.

This year, we are considering having one trainee help in the booth of each association. We expect that there would be a deeper exchange between the people as compared to the previous years.

Regardless of nationality, if you are interested, you are free to participate. Please come and enjoy with us.

From Rinku Town station of JR or Nankai, there is a shuttle bus that goes to Kansai International Center. It is free. It takes around 10 minutes to the Center. We'll be waiting for you.

(4) Notices

■ 2011 Medical Interpreters Volunteer Training to be held in Mid December

To achieve an environment where foreigners visiting or living in Osaka will be able to overcome the language barrier and be at ease when getting medical treatment in Osaka, OFIX will be holding the Medical Interpreters Volunteer Training as shown below. Interested parties are requested to apply.

Date: 2011 December 14, 17

Venue: Osaka General Medical Centre

<http://www.gh.opho.jp/access.php>

Qualification:

- Persons who have language proficiency in Japanese and a foreign language (for foreigners, native language) necessary for daily living.
- Participation in a 2-day Training is necessary.
- Persons who will register with Osaka General Medical Centre and OFIX as a volunteer after the training.

No. of participants:

Approximately 30 (drawing will be done if there are too many applicants)

Program:

1st day (December 14 (Wed.))

Lecture The Situation and the Trend of Medical Interpreter 10:10-11:00

Lecture Health Insurance System and Related Field 11:10-12:10

Workshop 13:10-16:30

2nd day (December 17 (Sat.))

Lecture The Testing Equipment 10:00~10:50

Lecture The Difference of Medical Culture and the Language Barrier 11:00-12:30

Case study 13:30-16:00

■ Level Check for Interpretation and Translation

OFIX will held Level Check for OFIX language volunteer (the Interpreter and/or the Translator) who wish to know their current language level, and would like to refer it to the volunteer activity in future. Participation is free. Why don't you use this opportunity to participate in the volunteer activity which suit to your language level? We are waiting for your participation!

<Date> December 1st, 2011 (Thu) AM Session: 10 – 12 am PM Session: 14 – 16 pm

< Venue > 6th Conference Room, 8th Floor of My-dome Osaka / OFIX Conference Room

< Participants > OFIX language volunteers (the Interpreter and/or the Translator) who wish to participate on level check training. (※Participants who already attended the training of volunteer based public service interpreter before, can able to participate on translation check only.)

Those who can actively participate in volunteer activities suited to their language level after the Level Check.

< Language > Chinese, English, Filipino, Korean,

Portuguese, Spanish, Thai, Vietnamese

< Check Contents > Interpretation and Translation (All languages are same content), Interview (in Japanese)

<No. of Participants> AM or PM - 20 participants for each session
(* Volunteer groups will be decided by lot if many apply.)
[Selection of time: AM (10-12) /PM(14-16)/either time will OK]

<Deadline> November 13th, 2011(Sun) (* We might move the deadline depending on the application status.)

<Notification> We will notify about participation by November 21st, 2011 by E-mail or by mail.
(Those who have e-mail address, we will inform by e-mail.)

* Please visit OFIX Homepage <http://www.ofix.or.jp/> "What's New" for the specific details of guideline and application form.

■ Global Human Resources Training Symposium

Date: December 3 (Saturday) 13:30-17:00
Venue: ATC Hall C
Capacity: 800 people (pre-registration required)
Participation fee: Free

To discuss with the youth who will bear the next generation, the educators and corporate people standing on the front line of global business what "global people" should be.

Globalization of the economy and society is rapidly advancing. According to an opinion poll, more than half of youth in their 20's are not interested in working overseas, showing that a majority of the youth are more inward-looking.

Given this situation, it is the aim of this symposium to show what one has to do to become a global person by discussing with the youth, educators and companies who are venturing into global business what a global person is, what is needed to be a global person and how to train global people.

Sponsor: Osaka Prefecture, Osaka Foundation of

International Exchange (OFIX)
Program: Explanation of study at an American University/Graduate School
Talk from an American School Graduate

Lecture・Panel Discussion
Mineo Nakajima Akita International University President
Mari Yamashita United Nations Information Center Director
Tomohiko Yamada Daikin Industries Personnel Headquarters Manager
Toru Nakahara Osaka Prefectural Izumi High School Principal
Yoshitaka Yamamoto Harvard University Graduate (Moderator) Takeshi Matsuda Kyoto University of Foreign Studies President

Application: Please apply through the HP below.

<http://www.event21.jp/global/index.html>

Inquiries: "Global Human Resources Training" Symposium Secretariat 06-6131-6100

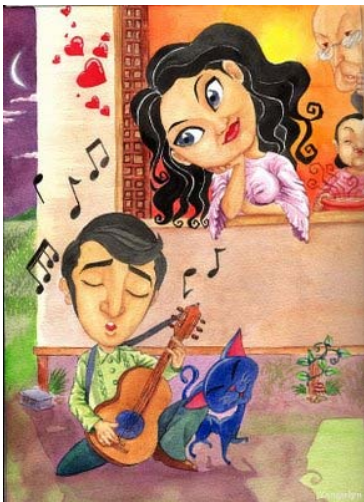
(5) OFIX Coordinator for International Relations Report

■ Philippine Romance

Hello everyone!! What?!! Another month has passed by? Time really flies...especially when you're busy. Recently, the mornings and evenings have become cold. Please take care not to catch a cold. And since it has become colder, this time I'll talk about a "hot" topic: Philippine romance.

In the Philippines, if you find a person that you like, it's not that easy to get her to become your girlfriend. To understand that, you have to understand Philippine culture. There are different stages in courtship in the Philippines. To discuss everything would be a long story so I'll try to be brief.

First, the guy doesn't immediately say how he feels. They have to go out on "friendly" dates first. Then, if the relationship develops, the guy slowly makes the girl feel how he feels and then confesses his love.



After that, he has to go to the girl's home and meet her parents. In the Philippines, love and respect toward the parents and family is very strong. For that reason, if you are going to go steady with a girl, you would need to get the permission of her parents.

Traditionally, to propose to a girl, the guy gets his friends

together, brings a guitar and serenades the girl at her home. If there is no problem, the guy is invited into the home and he confesses his love in front of the

girl's parents. If the parents don't like the guy, even if the girl likes him, the parents won't let him enter the home and just throw water at him. Nowadays, I rarely see guys who serenade, but in the province, there may still be some people who do it. From this tradition, I think you can see just how serious people take courtship. Even though there is no talk of marriage, yet, the relationship with the family is very important. There are some cases that both the family of the boy and the girl are in very good terms already.

When I came to Japan, I was surprised to know that girls confess their love to boys. For someone like me, a timid guy (in Japanese, timid guys are called "vegetarian type"), that could be good, but in the Philippines, many girls will not confess to a guy even if she loves him. Maybe this is what Japanese call "Tsundere". However, in the Philippines, it is the norm not to confess to a boy. Even if a girl likes a boy, she has to be quiet, cute, and has to show class. Furthermore, this is a way for the girl to test the feelings of the boy. (That's because there are a lot of playboys.) Because of this, Philippine boys do anything to show their feelings, like send love letters, give presents or flowers. Some boys even go after a girl for 1 or 2 years. If a girl likes a boy and she's not that close to him, she may ask the help of a friend to act as a "bridge" between them. Some people think that it is much better to be honest, but there are still many girls who are very serious about relationships.

How about it, guys? If you're going to like Philippine girls, you have to be serious. Ladies, be careful of Philippine guys. Philippine guys are kind, but there are a lot of playboys out there. Then again, it's the same anywhere. LOL

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