

Minami-Alps International Exchange Association Annual Report

FRIENDSHIP

英語版

2023.4 VOL.20



Enjoy Halloween



World Holidays



Japanese Language Class



Foreign Language classes



Donation to Ukraine Relief



Korean Culture Day



Let's build an intercultural community together!

Over 1,160 people from 33 countries live in Minami-Alps city as of April 1st, 2022. We have grown up with different cultures, customs, religions, and lifestyles, but we all live together as residents of the community now.

We hear foreign residents living in Japan sometimes experience three barriers in their daily lives: language barriers, emotional barriers, and legal barriers.

Through our various projects, we would like to help people build an intercultural community so that everybody can deepen a mutual understanding, support each other, work together, and keep the community safe. Please join us!

Minami-Alps International Exchange Association

Address: 471-8 Ogasahara, Minami-Alps city
Phone: 055-280-8345
Fax: 055-280-8346

Website ↘

Facebook ↘

Instagram ↘



Minami-Alps City Hall Policy Promotion Division

Address : 376 Ogasahara, Minami-Alps city
Phone: 055-282-0149

Jiro Watanabe

President of Minami-Alps International Exchange Association



We have been engaging in our projects under the effect of COVID-19 pandemic for three years. The Sister City Exchange Program for junior high school students, which was started before the establishment of Minami-Alps City was abandoned, but we have been seeking how to resume our exchange. On the other hand, Japanese Language Committee had 28 lessons throughout the year thanks to the dedication and energy of our volunteers. Our foreign language lessons, especially English and Korean, became popular courses, and the Cross Culture Committee held many intercultural events such as "Korean Culture Day", "World Holidays", "Enjoy Halloween", and "Exercise to prevent frailty." Because of the success of these events, we look forward to expanding and adding to them this year.

Furthermore, by relocating to Kushigata Shakai Hukushi Kaikan and engaging as a designated administrator, we feel that our association has been more recognized by many people. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the Minami-Alps Mayor and our supporters for their understanding and cooperation under the conditions of COVID-19.

- Regular General MTG(written resolution) April, Board MTG Apr. 22nd, Oct.28th, Feb. 17th
- Prior meeting March 23rd, July 26th, Oct. 14th, and Jan. 26th
- We appreciate your donation to Ukraine relief. We donated ¥523,849 in total to the Embassy of Ukraine and UNHCR.



Hiroyuki Ikubo

Vice President



"Hello." "What is this?" "It's a necklace." "How much is it?" "150 yen" "Then, I'll take it." This is an example of dialogue training for the beginner class on December 17, 2022. In the intermediate class, participants made sentences and practiced using various sentence structures. "How can I make friends with Japanese people?" "If you speak Japanese more, you'll have many friends."

The Japanese Salon was held 28 times a year on Saturday mornings, divided into beginner and intermediate classes. In the beginner class, students learned self-introductions, greetings, reading and writing Hiragana, month, day of the week, numbers, this, that, and which, past tense, negative expression, and so on. In the intermediate level class, using the textbook "Daichi", students learned useful expressions for daily life by making sentences by following the examples. The class provided an opportunity for the students and the volunteer instructors to interact with each other in a fun way. We had many visitors throughout the year.



Japanese Language Committee



Yoichi Ogino

Vice President

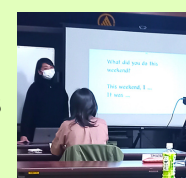


The Foreign Language Committee held Korean and English classes in two terms. Unfortunately we had to cancel one lesson two years ago due to the pandemic of COVID-19, but we were able to hold all the classes as scheduled because we were fully prepared to avoid the infection even though the number of positive cases increased.

We conduct a survey of the participants every term. The content, time, and frequency of the lessons were generally favorable, but figured out that we need to determine what day of the week is the best for the future lessons. We had some participants from other cities, but there were no elementary, junior high, or high school students in the latest term. We welcome parents and children groups, too. Please come and join us!

Thoughts from participants: It was good to discuss and make sentences in pairs. / I participated after work and enjoyed learning.

Languages requested: English, Korean, Portuguese, Vietnamese, etc.



Foreign Language Committee

안녕하세요

HI
BONJOUR
HOLA!

hello



We tried some small events wondering what we could do for the cross culture among us. The MAIEA team is organized for making cross cultural events engaging. The team mates meet all together for the events and prepare for the events. We had some meetings for the events like "Korean Culture Day", "Enjoy Halloween!", and "World Holidays", and discussed ways to ensure their success. For a long time, we could not have events where many people gathered together because of the COVID-19. It was really exciting for us to have such lovely events this year. We have learned what we can plan and how we can perform events in the midst of this new lifestyle. We really feel that we are resuming our usual life little by little. We as the committee members are ambitious to expand our cross-cultural opportunities. Please consider joining the MAIEA team. We are looking forward to seeing you!

Tomoko Hagihara
Vice President



Cross Culture Committee



Cross Cultural Event



Korean Culture Day in May

We had the Korean Culture Event. The participants tried the Korean traditional costumes "Chima jeogori" and played the Korean game "Yun nori".



Siempre Genki preventive care exercises in November

The instructor from Argentina who lives in Japan gave us the exercise lecture in Japanese and explained about the nursing care insurance system in Spanish for the Spanish-speaking people who live in Yamanashi.



Enjoy Halloween in October

The Halloween orange pumpkin Jack-o-lanterns are very popular. This time we made Jack-o-lanterns with orange balloons. Also we enjoyed Japanese colorful calligraphy in pink, green, or gold ink, Peruvian Dance, and Japanese Bon Dance "Tankoh-bushi". It's a wonderful event exploring a different culture!



World Holidays in December

We watched the photos and listened to the people from abroad who live in Yamanashi how they spend the year-end and new year holidays. They are from Brazil, China, Mexico, India, and France. All different cultures! We enjoyed the Mexican piñata and children got a lot of candy! Also we tried to make Japanese new year cards by painting ETEGAMI.



Spanish Day in February

We held a lecture about Spain. Japan has had a relationship with Spain throughout history. We have many Japanese words originated from Spanish like OJIYA ONBU or TABAKO.



Hours of Operation and Services



Thank you for
your membership!

小林ニット(株)
白根ケーブルネットワーク(株)
医療法人 高原会
(株) 土谷設計事務所
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山梨メディカルケア協同組合
W.D.S.(有) 和田電気商会
(株) ワールドワイズ
(株) 渡辺新聞店

(敬称略)



Sign up to become a member!

- Annual fee:
individual member ¥2,000
corporate member ¥10,000
- Expiration date: valid until the end of March 2024
- Membership benefits:
discounts for the language classes,
prior to book events, monthly newsletters

Minami-Alps International Exchange Association

Address: 471-8 Ogasahara, Minami-Alps,
Yamanashi 400-0306

Phone: 055-280-8345

E-mail: minami.alps.iea@gmail.com

Website: <http://maiea.org/>

