



Bringing you news about the Foundation's immigration-related activities

8 students start their new life on the 2013 Exchange Students Program for Descendants of Immigrants!



【A commemorative photo with Vice-Governor Ebii】

8 exchange students came to Japan in April to start their year studying in Fukuoka as part of the Program for Descendants of Immigrants. In June, they paid a courtesy call on Vice-Governor Ebii, and received the following words of encouragement: "Your roots are in Fukuoka Prefecture. Through their hard work in extremely harsh conditions, your ancestors succeeded in their new countries and received high praise for their diligence, honesty and excellence. These emigrants have not forgotten Fukuoka and, as members of the kenjinkai, act as a bridge between the prefecture and these various countries. Over the next year, I would like all of you to learn about your own roots and Japan as it is today, and then share this information with the people in your home countries so that you too may become such an important link. Additionally, in October this year we will hold the Worldwide Convention in Fukuoka. From all areas of the world, members of kenjinkai are looking forward to visiting their hometown, and I would like to ask all of you to assist us as well."

Let's hear from the students! (impressions of Fukuoka, daily life, goals)



Yoshikay Benitez Diego Alonso (Peru) Old, traditional temples and modern Fukuoka buildings symbolize the development of society alongside old traditions. Now the rains are very intense and prolonged. Since Arequipa, Peru has a dry climate, this is the first time I have seen it rain for days on end.



Hosoe Tania Emi (Brazil) I have visited many places in Fukuoka. The people here are all kind. Only 2 months have passed but I am really glad I came. Through meeting many people, I feel like my world continues to expand.



Kanagawa Ryusuke (Nanka) I am attending Kyushu University, currently researching the different growths of plants grown with a conventional method and an organic method. Research is fun but I tend to go have fun with the other international students that are in the same group. We go bowling and do karaoke but we also get to experience things that we normally would not be able to, such as watching fireflies by the river.

Tokunaga Naoto (Bolivia) I attend Dai-ichi Automobile Mechanics College. Through repeated analysis and assembly of cars, I am learning about car construction and the names of parts. Outside of class, I spend my time enjoying the food in Fukuoka and going bowling and other places with classmates.



Yuasa Facundo (Argentina) I'm researching rosin casting in Professor Narahara's lab at Kyushu Institute of Technology. I also take other classes at the university, as well as Japanese language classes. I've been able to experience various study workshops, factory visits and more.



8th Worldwide Fukuoka Kenjinkai Convention

Our Roots are in Fukuoka, Our Dreams are Worldwide

9-12th October, 2013

After 12 years, the host will be Fukuoka for the first time since 2001! We're working to create a convention that will present the full beauty and current condition of the 'hometown' Fukuoka, and expand/promote new exchanges. For more details, please see our facebook

www.facebook.com/fukuoka.kenjinkai



Yokoo Kenji Ronaldo (Brazil) I want to carry out all the plans that have been made for this year. I want to visit as many places as possible, learn about Japanese culture in detail, find my roots and become good at Japanese.



Matunobu Lie (Brazil) I want to learn the detailed, precise business management of an economic superpower like Japan, and utilize it in the restaurant that my family runs in Brazil. Before returning home, I want to be able to understand the news and read the newspaper in Japanese.



Ueda Uemura Yukiko Bruna (Brazil) As well as improving my Japanese, I want to study Japanese economics. I want my studies to contribute to the economic development of Brazil and Japan, and to utilize the things I've learnt for the benefit of Brazilian society after returning home.

