



Bringing you the news of the foundation's immigration-related activities

Mexico Kenjinkai 70th year anniversary ceremony and Zai-Bolivia Kenjinkai 50th year anniversary ceremony takes place!

The Mexico Kenjinkai 70th year anniversary ceremony was held on January 29 and the Zai-Bolivia Kenjinkai 50th year anniversary ceremony on January 31. From Fukuoka, Vice-Governor Omagari and Legislative Assembly Chairperson Kiriake attended the ceremony in Mexico as the visiting group from Fukuoka. And as for the ceremony in Bolivia, due to unfortunate circumstances, the visiting group from Fukuoka were not able to attend, but the ceremony was held as planned.

Vice-Governor Omagari, who attended the ceremony in Mexico, expressed her respect for the immigrants and their descendants who have overcome many difficulties, saying, "To the people of Mexico Kenjinkai, I look forward to what we can achieve from here on with the connections we have between Fukuoka and Mexico", along with a congratulatory message. After the ceremony, multiple activities were held, such as a karaoke game, the attending people danced to Tanko Bushi, as well as a Mexican music performance was held, and with endless and an impenetrable, harmonious atmosphere, the ceremony came to a close.

As for the Ceremony in Bolivia, we celebrate a memorable anniversary, 50 years since the founding of Zai-Bolivia Fukuoka Kenjinkai, reflecting on the half-century of history.



[Mexico Ceremony Commemorative Photo]



[Japan-Mexico Academy Visit]



[Bolivia Anniversary Ceremony]

Children of Overseas Fukuoka Kenjinkai Visit Fukuoka Prefecture and Experience Japan's History and Culture

In January, 14 children and 8 youth leaders from 9 kenjinkai from 8 countries visited Fukuoka Prefecture as part of the Kenjinkai Leaders Development Program (invitation program). The purpose of this program is to deepen the participants understanding of their country of origin, nurture them to become leaders who will help boost kenjinkai activities in the future, and have them play a role in exchanges between Fukuoka and Japan from their respective countries of emigration. After two years of suspension due to the new coronavirus, the event was held in winter for the first time in three years. The participants deepened their understanding of their roots in Japan and Fukuoka Prefecture through exchanges with children of the same age group and through experiencing Japanese culture.

■ Schedule January 14 (Saturday) to 24 (Tuesday), 2023

- (1) Exchange with peers: Exchange with elementary school students
- (2) Feel the charm of Fukuoka: Dazaifu Tenmangu Shrine, Fukuoka Citizens Disaster Prevention Center, Fukuoka Tower, Munakata Taisha Shrine, Kokura Castle, etc.
- (3) Explore the roots of Fukuoka: Homestay with relatives, acquaintances, family association members, and volunteers
- (4) Japanese cultural experiences: Mochitsuki (rice cake pounding), footbath, etc.

【Participants for 2022】

Kenjin-kai	Child	Leaders
Brazil	3	1
Peru	1	1
Vancouver	1	0
Paraguay	1	1
Argentina	1	1
Mexico	2	1
Columbia	2	1
Hawaii	2	1
Toronto	1	1
Total	14	8



[Mochitsuki experience]



[Visit elementary schools]



[Kokura Castle]



[Lalaport Fukuoka]



[Footbath experience]



[Dazaifu Tenmangu Shrine]



[Fukuoka Citizens Disaster Prevention Center]



[Courtesy call on Deputy Governor Eguchi]

Exchange Student Program for Descendants of Immigrants from Fukuoka Prefecture Graduation Ceremony

On March 11, a completion ceremony was held for five international students who are the children of immigrants from Fukuoka Prefecture. The students reported on what they have learned during the year and the many connections they have made during their lives in Fukuoka. They reported on what they have learned during the year and the many connections they have made in their lives in Fukuoka, and expressed their gratitude to those involved. They also expressed their gratitude to those involved. We look forward to their further activities in their home countries' kenjinkai. In January, prior to the March event, they had a kimono dressing and tea ceremony experience at "Shofuen" in Fukuoka City.



[Completion ceremony of the 2022 prefectural scholarship]



[Kimono dressing and tea ceremony experience]