



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

### 2022 Annual Kenjinkai Activities Notice

With the influence of coronavirus and the great change in the daily lives of everyone around the world the new strand has brought about, Kenjinkai members have had cancelations and postponements for annual events and ceremonies since 2020. As for everyone, we have all been feeling great frustrations regarding the endless rules and regulations over these long two years.

However, this year, with the decreasing number of cases of people infected with the new strain of coronavirus and the alleviation of regulations within various countries, plans for holding the following events have been made: in October, the 110th year anniversary of migration from Fukuoka to Brazil, as well as, the 90th year anniversary of Brazil Fukuoka Kenjinkai establishment, the 11th Worldwide Fukuoka Kenjinkai Convention (Peru) in November, the 70th year anniversary of the establishment of Mexico Fukuoka Kenjinkai in January 2023, and finally the 50th year anniversary of the establishment of Zai-Bolivia Fukuoka Kenjinkai in February 2023.

While in frequent contact with each Kenjinkai, although details have not yet been discussed, progress has been made in preparations for the departures of visiting groups. Throughout the Covid-19 pandemic, Kenjinkai activities have been made to go online, however, since Covid-19 has gradually calmed down, more and more Kenjinkais have resumed meeting face-to-face for regular meetings and events. In addition, compared to before, we believe days where we can be lighthearted are nearing. We look forward for everyone to be able to meet at the Worldwide Convention in Peru.

### 5 participants of the 2022 Exchange Students Scholarships for Descendants of Emigrants from Fukuoka Prefecture start their life abroad in Fukuoka!



Courtesy call by Vice Governor

The 5 participants of the 2022 Exchange Students Scholarships for Descendants of Emigrants from Fukuoka Prefecture have arrived in Japan and started their life studying abroad. With this being their first time living in Fukuoka, the exchange students have been working together and enjoying their school life. In addition, on May 30th, they met with the Vice Governor Shojima. The Vice Governor gave the students these encouraging words: "To the 5 of you who have been brought together here to study, please continue to make many friends, encounter various fascinating things within the region of Fukuoka prefecture, and make many memories. I look forward to seeing your growth."

### Introductions with 2022 Exchange Students



**Julia Luri Towata Ota**  
(Brazil Fukuoka Kenjinkai)

Fukuoka is very safe and beautiful, and there are many public spaces such as parks, plazas, and observatories. I also like that I get to experience different cultures.

My goal is to study Japanese hard, learn about temporary housing for natural disasters, make new friends, learn about the city of my ancestors and Japanese culture.



**Naoto Daniel Hayashi**  
(Zai-Bolivia Fukuoka Kenjinkai)

I was surprised by the wide avenues and skyscrapers. I also like that the train is always on time. I'm happy that the food is very delicious and I've been able to meet many kind people.

My goal is to learn about product design Japanese life, to pass the Japanese Language Proficiency Test N2 and travel around Japan.



**Maya Kawashima**  
(México Fukuoka Kenjinkai)

What I like best about Fukuoka is that it's close to the sea. I am very excited because it's within walking distance from the dormitory. I think it's great for watching the sunset, picnics, running and walking.

My goal is to participate in various activities, learn Japanese culture, and make lots of friends. I also want to improve my Japanese and get in touch with my relatives living in Fukuoka.



**Megumi Alejandra Koga Kaneko**  
(Perú Fukuoka Kenjinkai)

I like how safe Fukuoka feels. When I left my wallet at the train station, they kept it safe for me and gave it back. I also enjoy Fukuoka's specialty dishes like mentaiko and tonkotsu ramen.

This year I want to improve my photography skills and communicate better in Japanese.



**Seri Chiyo Nakamura**  
(Hawaii Fukuoka Kenjinkai)

The peacefulness of walking in Fukuoka's streets, especially when it is raining, has made a good impression on me. In addition, people are nice, so when I am lost, I can easily ask questions I have.

My goal is to become more fluent in speaking Japanese! I also want to learn about Fukuoka and about my great grandmother and great grandfather's hometown.

### Change of Secretary-General at the Foundation

Yoshida the previous Secretary-General was transferred to the Prefectural Government, International Affairs Bureau, and Yukihide Motonaga was chosen as the new Secretary-General on April 1<sup>st</sup> 2022.