

Multilingual Electronic Newsletter

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かごしま南の風便り

Kagoshima Southern Wind Tidings



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▽ Topics

[1 Kagoshima's International Relations](#)

The FY2024 Prefectural Scholarship Students have arrived in Kagoshima!

[2 The Governor's Activities](#)

- Thu 28th March: Visit from SATSUMA ALL STAR CHEER
- Sat 20th April: The Governor attended the Opening Ceremony for the 38th Regional Conference of Soroptimist International of the Americas Japan Minami Region

[3 Seasonal Tourist Information](#)

Wake Park Wisteria Festival

[4 What's New in Kagoshima?](#)

27th – 28th April: The “Air Memorial in Kanoya” event was held

Kagoshima's International Relations

●The FY2024 Prefectural Scholarship Students have arrived in Kagoshima!●

The three FY2024 Prefectural Scholarship Students arrived in Kagoshima at the beginning of April. The programme has the descendants of people who emigrated from Kagoshima to other countries study at universities within the prefecture, and aims to foster promising individuals who can contribute to strengthening relations between Kagoshima and their home countries.

The three students will live in Kagoshima for 11 months, until February next year, and will each study their respective areas of expertise at Kagoshima University.

The Prefectural Scholarship Student Programme is celebrating its 54th anniversary this year, having started in 1970, and this year the programme welcomes two students from Brazil and one from Peru. At the start of April, to get to Kagoshima, the three students endured long flights of approx. 30 hours from Brazil and Peru, and have quickly settled in for their 11-month stay in Kagoshima, already attending classes at Kagoshima University.

When one of the students was asked about their motivation for the programme, they said:

“I will be studying at Kagoshima University as a trainee for the next 11 months. I've learned about Japanese culture at Japanese language school before, but it was my dream to learn about Japan while actually living there, and to see the Japanese culture that I had only been able to learn about in textbooks, with my own eyes. Having been given the opportunity of my dreams, I'm excited to improve my Japanese ability, as well as to interact with people from all over the world, and to learn about research at a laboratory in a Japanese university.

“I also want to learn about Kagoshima Prefecture, the region's history and specialties, and customs unique to the region. Kagoshima is also the home of my ancestors, so I hope to continue learning about my personal roots too.

“On top of that, when I return home, I'm eager to share what I learn and experience during my 11 months here with my friends and family in Brazil.

“Finally, I'm extremely grateful to be given this kind of opportunity. I will never forget my time here.”

For the three students, it will be their first time living in Kagoshima. During their 11 months



here, we hope that, in addition to their studies, through visiting their ancestors' hometowns and meeting their relatives, they will make their time in Kagoshima meaningful and full of personal growth.

The three FY2024 Prefectural Scholarship Students with Staff from the Kagoshima International Association

The Governor's Activities

●Thu 28th March: Visit from SATSUMA ALL STAR CHEER●

The Prefectural Office hosted members of SATSUMA ALL STAR CHEER, who placed second at JAM fest Japan Vol.19, held in Tokyo on 15th October 2023, and who will be taking part in “The Summit”, a cheerleading world championship competition held in the US in May 2024. They conveyed their thoughts on the appeal of cheerleading and their aspirations for the world championship, and reported on their performance at the national championship.

As the team members continue to devote themselves even further to practice, we look forward to seeing their progress towards their goals at the upcoming world championship.



The Governor with members of SATSUMA ALL STAR CHEER



Words of encouragement from the Governor

●Sat 20th April: The Governor attended the Opening Ceremony for the 38th Regional Conference of Soroptimist International of the Americas Japan Minami Region●

The Governor gave an address as a guest at the 38th Regional Conference of Soroptimist International of the Americas Japan Minami Region, the first time in 9 years that the conference was held in Kagoshima.

In addition to welcoming guests, who had come from all over Kyushu to Kagoshima, “Treasure of the South”, the Governor expressed his deep respect and appreciation for members’ admirable sense of friendship and service, as well as their regular and wide-ranging activities in passionate service of society, including initiatives in women’s empowerment, youth development, and support for victims of war and disasters.

We hope for the continued support of Soroptimist International of the Americas Japan Minami Region in realizing a society that enables women to succeed and thrive.



At the conference venue

Seasonal Tourist Information

●Wake Park Wisteria Festival●

Wake Park in Makizono-cho, Kirishima City, comes alive with vibrant colors when its beautiful wisteria flowers bloom from mid-April to early May. Okayama Prefecture's Wake Town donated 100 wisteria saplings (including 23 distinct types) to the park in March 2000 because of its link with Wake no Kiyomaru, a high-ranking official during the Nara period, and the local people have carefully cultivated them ever since.



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What's New in Kagoshima?

●The 25th Air Memorial in Kanoya●

The 25th Air Memorial was held on Sunday 28th April 2024 at the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) Kanoya Air Base. In addition to an aerial exhibition of aircraft that are almost never normally seen, the event was treated to its first Blue Impulse aerial show in 10 years. According to the Executive Committee, the event was a huge success with over 40,000 visitors in attendance, and the venue was buzzing with excitement.



The spectacular display from Blue Impulse with 6 planes flying in formation!

