

St. Catherine University

Newsletter 2020

-School Life of International Students-



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ST. CATHERINE UNIVERSITY/ST. CATHERINE JUNIOR COLLEGE

Tel:+81-89-993-0702

E-mail:international@catherine.ac.jp

Activities of International Students in 2020

In 2020, international exchange activities of St. Catherine University took a very severe limit to prevent the expansion of the COVID-19. All the overseas training activities in the Philippines, Korea, Malaysia, and Spain were canceled because of the worldwide outbreak of COVID-19. Our international students were also affected by the pandemic. They needed to stay their home countries and to take the online classes until entry to Japan was accepted in November.

Under the unusual situation, the International Committee of St. Catherine University provided various types of support to international students for their studies and life. Members of Committee gave advice to students about the class registration and coping methods of Japanese culture through online.

International students participated in the various “glocal” activities although they had to face environmental limitations. 8 international students participated in a Japanese training class which sets the goal for passing JLPT N2 exams through online. They tried to improve

Reporting the Attractiveness of Tourist Spots



their overall Japanese skills by taking the class.

Co-operated with the Ehime-Taiwan Friendship Association, we organized the activities to publicize the charms of various historical spots in Ehime to Taiwanese tourists. As reporters, 7 Japanese Training Class exchange students from Taiwan participated in the video shootings of historical sites in Hojo of Ehime prefecture. The video was uploaded to the Home Page of “moburu+” WEB magazine (<https://moburu.com>).



Japanese Training Class

2 Students from Taiwan also experienced to be monitors of a trial package tour planned by the Silver Human Resource Center in Matsuyama. They visited tourist spots in Dogo and

Hojo areas of Matsuyama and reported the attractiveness of spots from Taiwanese point of views. They also stayed in the Matsuyama City Hotel and reported the charms of local gourmet in the areas. This tour reports were mentioned in a local newspaper article (Fuji-Sankei Newspaper on February 19, 2021).

These activities are contributing to the development of tourism in the Ehime prefecture. Especially after the era of COVID 19 pandemic, it is important for the Matsuyama city to organize attractive tours to Japan-friendly Taiwanese. For exchange students, these activities are also good learning experience to re-discover the attractiveness of the areas where they live. One student participant said that “I didn’t know such attractive sites exist in my living area”. These activities contributed to build the “win-win” relationship for both the Matsuyama city and St. Catherine University. The International Committee will strengthen the relationship by providing more local learning experience to our international students.