

「OFIX News」 Issue 2 (Sept 2008)  
~ E-Newsletter distributed by the Osaka Foundation of International  
Exchange ~

## Contents

- 【01】 Notices
  - Seeking Performers and Spectators for the 18th  
Osaka Foreign Students Music Festival
  - Careers Information Day for Foreign Students
  - 「International Exchange Tea Ceremony」 event in Osaka
- 【02】 Osaka International Club ( Letter from Abroad )
  - Letter from Participant on the 2008 Japanese Language  
Programme for High School Students
- 【03】 OFIX Network ( Introduction to International Exchange  
/Cooperation Related Organisation)
  - Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- 【04】 OFIX Coordinator for International Relations Report
- 【05】 OFIX Programme/Event Reports
- 【06】 OFIX Plaza Introduction

## 【01】 Notices

Seeking Performers and Spectators for the 18th  
Osaka Foreign Students Music Festival

The Osaka Foreign Students Music Festival is an event held every  
year in which foreign students based in Osaka perform traditional  
music or dance live on stage.

If you are interested in attending or performing at the festival  
please get in touch with the Min-On Concert Association (details  
below)

Date: 14th December (Sun) 2008 Starts 3:30pm

Place: International House, Osaka (Main Hall)

Cost: Free

Contact: Min-On Concert Association Tel: 06-6761-0289

Further Details (Japanese only)

[http://www.ofix.or.jp/music\\_fes2008.pdf](http://www.ofix.or.jp/music_fes2008.pdf)

Seeking participants for Careers Information Day for  
Foreign Students

In order to offer foreign students information and assistance in  
searching for a suitable job after graduation OFIX, along with  
organisations such as the Osaka Prefectural Government,  
Kyoto Prefectural Government, Hyogo Prefectural Government,

and the Osaka City Government will hold a  
「 Careers Information Day for Foreign Students 」

Date: Monday 17th November 2008

Time: 11:30~17:30

Contact: Osaka Foundation of International Exchange (OFIX)

Tel: 072-460-2371

For further details click here (Japanese only):

[http://www.ofix.or.jp/setumeikai\\_panf.pdf](http://www.ofix.or.jp/setumeikai_panf.pdf)

「 International Exchange Tea Ceremony 」 event in Osaka  
To all foreign students in Osaka...would you like to experience  
the Japanese Tea Ceremony whilst wearing traditional Japanese  
dress?

Date : 26th October 2008 (Sun)

【First Session】 Reception 10:30 ~ 11:00 Event 11:00 ~ 13:00

【Second Session】 Reception 13:00 ~ 13:30 Event 13:30 ~ 15:30

Place : Sakai International Hall (Orion International House)

6 mins from Uenoshiba Station on the JR Hanwa Line

Contact Details: The Daiyukyo Foundation of International  
Exchange, Assistance and Research

: 06-6761-0197 E-mail : [info@daiyukyo-kokusaikoryu.or.jp](mailto:info@daiyukyo-kokusaikoryu.or.jp)

Tours of the Sakai International Hall will also take place

Further Details (Japanese only)

[http://www.ofix.or.jp/chakai\\_panf.pdf](http://www.ofix.or.jp/chakai_panf.pdf)

## 【02】 Osaka International Club ( Letter from Abroad )

The 2008 Japanese Language Programme for High School Students  
By Siti Nur Fauziana (Indonesia)

We have received a letter from Ms. Siti Nur Fauziana all the way  
from Indonesia!

For the letter, and photos click on the following link

[http://www.ofix.or.jp/english/club/siti\\_en.pdf](http://www.ofix.or.jp/english/club/siti_en.pdf)

## 【03】 OFIX Network ( Introduction to International Exchange /Cooperation Related Organisation)

Japan International Cooperation Agency  
Osaka International Centre (JICA Osaka )

<http://www.jica.go.jp/osaka/>

JICA Osaka is the point of contact for JICA enquiries in the Kansai  
area. It is also the focal point for regional international  
exchange activities. A JICA Coordinator for International Cooperation  
is based at OFIX too.

Seeking JICA Volunteers! (Application Period: 1st Oct ~ 10th Nov)

For those wanting to use their skills and experience to assist  
developing nations.

【2008 Recruiting】

Youth/Senior Volunteers

Youth /Senior Volunteers for communities of Japanese descent

Application Period : 1st October ~ 10th November

JICA will also hold volunteer information sessions

See the following page for more details (Japanese only)

<http://www.jica.go.jp/osaka/enterprise/volunteer/index.html>

Wanting to know more about the world!!

Many events are held at the Osaka International Centre aimed at introducing the work done by JICA in developing countries. Please see the following pages for further details (Japanese only)

Educational Programmes (Japanese only)

<http://www.jica.go.jp/osaka/enterprise/kaihatsu/>

International Cooperation Events (Japanese only)

<http://www.jica.go.jp/osaka/event/>

#### 【04】 OFIX Coordinator for International Relations Report

Hi Everyone

Last month I wrote briefly about the importance of breaking through stereotypes for more meaningful international exchange. Well, if any of you saw the closing ceremony at the Beijing Olympics, you would have noticed that the British Government still somewhat relies on such stereotypes!

London is scheduled to hold the next Olympic Games in 2012, and to commemorate this there was a short segment in the closing ceremony designed to promote all things London. Of course, the centre of the segment was a London bus! Rather stereotypical I am sure you will agree! Although at the same time the dancers were all from different ethnic backgrounds which I thought was a good way of showing how culturally diverse London is, much like New York. The population of London is around 7.5 million, of which 40% (roughly 3 million) is classified as being from an ethnic minority.

So in 4 years time the eyes of the world will be on London. Whilst many Londoners, (myselfincluded), are very excited to have the Games held in our city, there are still many challenges to be overcome in the lead up to the Games. For starters there is not much confidence amongst Londoners that the venues will even be ready in time! On top of which there is a fear that local taxes will have to be raised in order to cover the costs of construction work.

Then there is the logo.....revealed last year to almost total derision! I have to say it is rather uninspiring to say the least, but perhaps we will grow to like it over the next few years.

Well, despite these issues I am sure the London Olympics will be a major success. And who knows, if the Tokyo bid goes well the Games after that could be coming to Japan! (Although of course I would prefer if it came to Osaka!)

Kishiwada Danjiri Festival (Sept 13th-14th)

Over the weekend of the 13th-14th September the annual Danjiri Festival took place in Kishiwada (south Osaka). I went along for the first time and was blown away by the excitement and energy of

it all!

For full details see here:

[http://www.ofix.or.jp/mail/backnumber/mail\\_english\\_no2.pdf](http://www.ofix.or.jp/mail/backnumber/mail_english_no2.pdf)

## 【05】 OFIX Programme/Event Reports

### 2008 Japanese Language Programme for High School Students

The 2008 Japanese Language Programme for High School Students, run by the Japan Foundation Japan Language Institute, Kansai took place from the 1st ~ 15th July. OFIX was in charge of running part of the programme. 32 high school students came to Osaka from all over the world and took part in a training trip, a visit to the Sumiyoshi High School in Osaka, and a homestay.

Further details:

[http://www.ofix.or.jp/mail/backnumber/mail\\_english\\_no2.pdf](http://www.ofix.or.jp/mail/backnumber/mail_english_no2.pdf)

For a report from a participant on the programme click here:

[http://www.ofix.or.jp/english/club/siti\\_en.pdf](http://www.ofix.or.jp/english/club/siti_en.pdf)

## 【06】 OFIX Plaza Introduction

Prefectural citizens and foreigners who visit Osaka. can visit the OFIX Plaza for information on international exchange and use it as a place to interact with people. We welcome everyone to stop by and visit.

[Services and opening times]

CDs/DVDs available for viewing, books for loan, free internet

Mon ~ Fri . . . 9am ~ 5:45pm

Closed on weekends and national holidays, closed over the New Year period from 29th Dec ~ 3rd Jan

Further Details: <http://www.ofix.or.jp/english/plaza/index.html>

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Event Calendar (Japanese only)

<http://www.ofix.or.jp/cgi-bin/calender.cgi>

Event Calendar form (Japanese only)

<http://www.ofix.or.jp/cgi-bin/event.cgi>

Support for International Understanding Education Programmes

<http://www.ofix.or.jp/english/jigyuu/index.html>

Support for NGO/NGO International Understanding Education Programmes

<http://www.ofix.or.jp/jigyuu/index5.html> (Japanese only)

Seeking residents for the Orion International Hall

<http://www.ofix.or.jp/english/jigyuu/index4.html>

OFIX Volunteer Information (Japanese only)

<http://www.ofix.or.jp/boran/index2.html>

Seeking New OFIX Supporting Members

<http://www.ofix.or.jp/sanjyo/index.html> (Japanese only)  
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Comments/Suggestions: [info@ofix.or.jp](mailto:info@ofix.or.jp)

Please send Osaka International Club reports to the following address:

[clubnews@ofix.or.jp](mailto:clubnews@ofix.or.jp)

To cancel your registration or change your registered email address

<http://www.ofix.or.jp/mail/index.html#english>

Print-out version (PDF) of OFIX News with photos

[http://www.ofix.or.jp/mail/backnumber/mail\\_english\\_no2.pdf](http://www.ofix.or.jp/mail/backnumber/mail_english_no2.pdf)

Back Numbers

<http://www.ofix.or.jp/mail/backnumber.html#english>

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