

Public Relations Kyotango Magazine – December 2023



Kyotango Sea Labo

Giving Kyotango's Students the Power to Succeed in a Global Society and Carve Out their Future

Kyotango City is collaborating with Sky Labo, a program established by researchers from Stanford University (USA) and the University of Toronto (Canada). We aim to nurture young talent that will thrive in a global society and create change in our City.



Nurturing Young Talents Who Will Create New Value

In recent years, as we live in an increasingly internet-based society and our ways of communication are transitioning online, the distance between people not only within Japan, but also abroad, has grown closer, leading to accelerated globalization. Society is changing at a blinding pace, and now we have electrical

appliances that can respond to the sound of our voice and technology that allows us to pay automatically through our smartphones. In such a world, our children must have the ability to bring forth new value to survive.

According to findings from the 2021 National Assessment of Academic Progress for junior high school third year students, Kyotango City's students' self-achievement ability, challenge mindsets, service mindsets, and regional contributions exceeded the national average; however, their sense of self-affirmation, ability to pursue their dreams, self-expression, and discussion skills were areas in need of some improvement. In order to make Kyotango's students better, increase their desire to learn, better their sense of self-affirmation, and revolutionize the way they think about their future careers, the City took on a new educational project. As manufacturing and industry are at the foundation of Kyotango, the City launched Kyotango Sea Labo to raise the next generation of inventors and entrepreneurs.

What is Kyotango Sea Labo?

Kyotango Sea Labo is a program developed with an organization called Sky Labo which was established by university researchers studying the forefront of education and learning methods. By teaching design thinking, STEAM education, and English for new, creative ways of thinking that are necessary for innovation, the program aims to nurture youth who can make a difference on an international level.

Design thinking = A method of creating innovative solutions by empathizing with the other and understanding their needs.

STEAM = An acronym for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics and is an educational philosophy that blends humanities and sciences for innovation and creativity.

The Second Year for Kyotango Sea Labo

Thirty-three junior high and high school students from Kyotango City participated in this year's workshops in August. The researchers from Stanford University and the University of Toronto came to Japan and instructed the students directly. They also talked with Kyotango City teachers and shared valuable opinions about STEAM education and the necessity and challenge of exploratory learning.



At the workshops, bilingual students from institutions like Stanford University, Kyoto Institute of Technology, Ritsumeikan University, and Hyogo Prefectural

University participated and supported the students. During breaktime, they also provided advice to the students on college prep and future career paths.

Sense of Joy and Achievement Born from Design Thinking Workshops

At the workshops, various entrepreneurs from Kyotango collaborated with the program and talked about the challenges, enhancements, and improvements that they have made in their respective fields to the students. From there, the students, who have learned about Kyotango’s good qualities and its local issues, used design thinking to come up with many different ideas. After they repeatedly discussing their ideas, the



students then built their prototypes. Design thinking is about voicing out one own’s ideas, and then using one’s hands to bring shape to those ideas. Through this process, the students make new discoveries through the prototype, adding adjustments and improvements, and rebuild their prototype over and

over. Thus, the students can be thorough and focus on their audience to come up with solutions that fit their needs.

The participating high school students passionately expressed that Sea Labo was completely different from the classes that they have at school. Using English repeatedly to express and discuss their ideas in a group, they felt a deep sense of joy and achievement when they reached a solution that had undergone countless improvements. The students’ experience through these workshops will lend to their ability to create new value in the future, and we look to improve Kyotango Sea Labo going forth.

About the Future of Kyotango Sea Labo

This project with the university researchers is planned to conclude next fiscal year. From the 2025 fiscal year, the Kyotango City Board of Education will take the helm operating this program and expand the program’s research to preschool, kindergarten, elementary, and junior high school levels. Furthermore, there will be the 2023 Kyotango City Education Forum at Agri Center Omiya on January 21st next year that will introduce Kyotango Sea Labo in further detail. Please attend this event.

For more information about Sky Labo, scan here:



By the **Schools and Education Section** TEL 0772-69-0620

City Topics

A Committed Junior High School Delegation

Will Be Sent Abroad for the First Time in Five Years

On November 10th, there was a ceremony held at Omiya Town Hall celebrating the formation of the delegation of junior high school students to be sent abroad to New Zealand in March next year.



This program began in 2016 for junior high school second-year students and aims to nurture young talent with

international perspective and can be active players in a globalized society. This will be the first time the program will be implemented in five years due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Fifteen students, chosen out of a pool of fifty-seven applicants, will be sent to New Zealand on a homestay program where they will attend a local school and experience daily and academic life.

From the students chosen for the delegation, the students voiced their conviction emphatically. "Even if I run into a wall, I want to challenge myself without backing down," wrote one of the applicants. "Not only do I want to learn about the local culture, but I also want to tell them about Japanese culture and the culture of Kyotango," another applicant wrote. "I want to grow through this program," wrote a third.

U.S. Minister Nylin Visits Kyotango City Hall

On October 13th, the U.S. Minister of Political Affairs John Nylin visited Kyotango City Hall and met with Mayor Nakayama and City Council President Tanitsu.



Mayor Nakayama requested the U.S. Embassy's support on affairs regarding safety and security at the U.S. Army Kyogamisaki Communications Site and promoting

American tourism in the area. Furthermore, the Mayor also expressed his thanks towards the military personnel's proactive engagement with the local community. While highlighting the importance of the Kyogamisaki Communications Site, Minister Nylin also touched on continued collaboration on various measures and the importance of proactive exchange between the Americans and local Japanese community. He also learned that Kyotango is a Town of Longevity and mentioned with a smile that he would like to retire here in Kyotango to live a long and healthy life.

The 36th Safety Liaison Meeting

On October 12th, a safety liaison meeting regarding the U.S. Army Kyogamisaki Communications Site was held at Kyotango City Hall.

This is the first meeting that CPT Daniel Quandt has attended since his appointment as the new commander at the Kyogamisaki Communications Site. In his greetings, he expressed his joy about his appointment in Kyotango. Additionally, the Commander stated that the military personnel will participate in traffic safety courses and will be thorough in their



weekly traffic safety guidance. Regarding the electric generator, the military will do their best to operate it only during times of absolute necessity such as maintenance. Regarding exchange with the local community, the military personnel will continue to actively participate in cultural exchange events, beach cleanups, and English conversation classes.

The Kinki-Chubu Defense Bureau explained the situation regarding traffic

accidents and traffic safety efforts, as well as U.S.-Japan exchange.

Vice-Mayor Nakanishi requested the swift relay of information about the national government's action in regards to areas designated by the Act on the Review and Regulation of the Use of Real Estate Surrounding Important Facilities and on Remote Territorial Islands. He also requested that the military should be more thorough with traffic safety measures to prevent future incidents, accelerated development in the "Triangle Area", and in regards to the electrical generator, prompt use of commercial electricity so that the base does not cause trouble for the local community once issues are resolved.

To Even Greater Heights

The Kyotango City International Association's 15th

Anniversary

Exceeding 1,000 participants at our year-round events

Established in March 2009, the Kyotango City International Association has welcomed its fifteenth year of operation on October 28th and held their Anniversary Party within the City. On the day, sixty-five of the Association's members, Kyotango City's foreign residents, and honored guests from seven different countries were in attendance, and everyone had a merry time at the party.



The International Association provides various services for a multicultural society, such as Japanese language classes and a consultation desk. This year, over a total of 1,000 people attended our events over the year. We plan to keep holding events and bridge Japanese and foreign residents together, so please join us!

Events Calendar

12/4 (Mon.) ~ 8 (Fri.)

The 17th Hotto Haato Crafts Exhibition & The 32nd Disability Awareness Week Art Exhibit

Together with Disability Awareness Week from 12/3~12/9, artworks and pottery made by the welfare workshops and people with disabilities will be put on

exhibition. There will be a bake sale from 12~1PM. Feel free to stop by and take a look while making a quick trip to City Hall.

When: 9AM ~ 5PM (Until 1PM on the 8th)

Where: Kyotango City Hall 1F Lobby

Contact: Disability and Welfare Section TEL 0772-69-0320

12/10 (Sun.)

The 28th Tango Wadaiko Drum Festival

When: 1PM (Doors Open: 12:30PM)

Where: Tango Cultural Center

Admission: Free

Contact: Tango Cultural Center TEL 0772-62-5200



12/14 (Thurs.)

Human Rights Education Lecture - "Isn't it Great Being Different?!"

A lecture by columnist and entertainer Vlas Kobara and the director of the Diversity Research Institute Taro Tamura.

When: 7:00PM ~ 8:30PM

Where: Agri Center Omiya

Capacity: First 250 people

Sign up by: 12/7 (Thurs.)

Contact: Kyotango City International Association 0772-69-0120



12/1~28

Machi Machi Riddle Center

Solve mysterious riddles at the Machi Machi Information Center! Play the game with friends or figure it out on your own! For elementary school kids and up (young children should play with their parents).

When: Mon., Wed., Thurs., Fri., 2nd & 4th Saturdays

Reception: 12PM ~ 7PM

Where: Machi Machi Information Center

Fee: ¥500

Contact: Machi Machi Information Center (Yoneda) TEL 090-1071-5621



Population and Number of Households in Kyotango City

The number in parentheses marks the change over the month of October. Includes foreign residents.

Total Population: 51,153 (-34)

Male: 24,610 (-26)

Female: 26,543 (-8)

Number of Households: 22,977 (+20)

Changes by Main Criteria

Move-ins: 97

Move-outs: 87

Births: 24

Deaths: 68

Check your Garbage Bags

Are you using the right garbage bags? Here are the bags that are accepted at city garbage stations.

Burnable Garbage Bags



L (45L)

S (30L)

Mini (20L)

Non-burnable Garbage Bags



L (45L)

S (30L)

**Non-burnable bags with red lettering are also accepted.*

**Old unneeded versions of the garbage bags can be turned into the Citizens Bureau at every Town Hall (cannot be exchanged for new garbage bags).*

By the **Life Environment Section** TEL 0772-69-0240

Please Help Us Clear the Snow

So that our City has safe and smooth traffic this winter this year, we will be conducting snow clearing work again.



Snow Clearing Period: Until March 15th

Condition to Clear Snow: When there is over 10 cm of snowfall

It is extremely dangerous when snow clearing work is in progress. Please stay away from the snowplows.

Things to do this snow season:

- **Clear Snow from your Front Door**

Snow may pile up in front of the door of your house or workplace due to snow clearing work. Please clear the snow pile at each place respectively.

- **Check the Tree Branches in your Yard**

Please either prune or secure the tree branches in your yard, as they may get in the way of snowplows or passing cars.

- **Do Not Park Your Car on the Road**

If you park on the roadside, your vehicle will get in the way of snowplows and emergency vehicles.

- **Do Not Shovel Your Snow onto the Roadway**

If you shovel snow onto the roadway by your home or workplace, the snow may form bumps on the roadway and will be very dangerous for passing traffic.

By the **Management Section** TEL 0772-69-0510

The Central/Northern Kyoto Prefecture Regional Emergency

Command Center Will Soon Begin Its Operations!

~Protecting Safety and Peace of Mind Together ~

Your calls to 119 will now be received by the **Central/Northern Kyoto Prefecture Regional Emergency Command Center!**

The Central/Northern Kyoto Prefecture Regional Emergency Command Center (henceforth referred “the Command Center”) will officially start its operations on April 1st, 2024. The test operations will begin on March 6th, 2024, so please do not be alarmed if your call goes to another city. Ambulances and other emergency vehicles will still be dispatched from the location closest to you.

***Central and Northern Kyoto Prefecture includes the following municipalities:
Fukuchiyama City, Ayabe City, Miyazu City, Maizuru City, Kyotango City, Yosano Town,
and Ine Town.**

When asked for your address, please say “Kyotango City” first

When you call 119 to the Command Center, an emergency personnel from one of the six main Fire & Emergency Headquarters will pick up your call. Make sure to state that you are from Kyotango City when telling them your address/location.



Integrating Live119

The Command Center will integrate Live119 into its operations. Live119 is a system that can report emergencies in real-time via your smartphone’s video camera. This way, first responders can understand the situation in detail and address the emergency quickly and appropriately. Please cooperate with us when using Live119.

How to Use Live119

- 1) Get a text message from the Command Center



- 2) Click the link provided in the message to start using Live119



- 3) The Command Center will view the video taken from your smartphone's camera



By the **Fire Defense Section at the Fire & Emergency Department Headquarters**
TEL 0772-62-8129