



Activity Report

2008

NY de Volunteer

Dear Supporters;

Thank you so much for supporting NY de Volunteer.

“Explore Japanese Culture After School Program”, created and provided by NYdV, is designed to provide children from disadvantaged communities in New York with an opportunity to experience diversity and cultural differences while cultivating sense of global citizenship. This is one of the volunteer opportunities suitable for Japanese people living in New York.

The reason for New York City to add our EJC program as their official program was because they realized the importance for children to experience cultural difference for diversity education.

By introducing Japanese culture to children, we can show them different ways of thoughts and diversity. I believe that this can't be done without us, Japanese, who came from the other side of the earth, and who look very different from them.

By the end of the program after two months, children in the program told us their dreams. “Now, I love Japan! I'd love to know more about Japan and I'd like to tell about Japan to other children in future.” “I'd like to be an English teacher and live in different countries around the world.” By broadening their world through this program, their dreams become their goals. I'm sure those curious children will enjoy exploring the different world.

In recession, I'm sure many of you have been having difficult time. In fact, a lot of NPOs have been suffering from less and less donations. NYdV is not an exception and we are facing difficulty receiving fund for EJC program from New York City this year.

We could stop this program because of insufficient budget. However, it means to take an opportunity from children to experience different cultures.

We can't continue our programs without your kind support. Please help us with your donation for continuing our programs. Let's work together to broaden children's view point and create bright future for them.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Noriko Hino
Executive Director
NY de Volunteer

E J C (After-school program, “Explore Japanese Culture”)

NYdV has answered needs for local NPOs in New York city by carrying out our programs that contains three elements including experience, education, and exchange, and has boosted the morale of the volunteers to participate.

Part 1 Introduction of Japan & Asian Countries

As an introduction, we explained the differences and characteristics of Japan and other Asian countries, covering as geographical locations, national flags, and ethnic costumes.

Part 2 Japanese Sport “Kendo”



With corporation of people from “Ken-Zen Institute” & “NYU Kendo Club”, we introduced Kendo to the children. They learned the importance of courtesy & Japanese spirit through this sport that they had never seen before. They tried Kendo holding bamboo sword and shouting out “Me-ehn! (Face)” with full of energy. They really enjoyed it.

Part 3 Su-ji Asobi (Number Game) and Origami

With NYdV original fun game “Su-ji Aso-bi”, children learned how to count 1 to 20 in Japanese (ex 1 is “i-chi” which sounds like “itchy”). In addition, they learned how to make an origami helmet out of newspaper.



Part 4 Japanese Tea Ceremony & Kimono



Ms Kyoko Gasha, a TV journalist from Reuter and a qualified teacher of Japanese tea ceremony (from Sohen School) taught etiquette in tea ceremony to about 40 children with Kimono. And then the children experienced making and tasting tea. It was interesting that lots of children were surprised with the color, taste, and flavor of the Green tea!

Part 5 Japanese Traditional Music

Japanese Sanshin Musician “Kossan” performed Okinawa folk songs in front of children.

At the beginning, they were surprised with the sound of Sanshin and Japanese songs, which they have never heard. But they slowly became fascinated by the sounds and in the end they enjoyed the unique Japanese music that is totally different from American music in terms of sounds and rhythm, and they applauded enthusiastically.



Later on, COBU, a performance group integrating tap dance and Taiko, a traditional Japanese percussion instrument, demonstrated its powerful performance to children in a large gym. The children actually tried playing the Japanese drum Taiko and they all were really excited.



Part 6 Japanese Calligraphy

Students took calligraphy brushes in their hands for the first time! They seemed to struggle at their first calligraphy experience but enjoyed this Japanese culture.

Part 7 Japanese Food - Sushi

Our program was held with support from Ms Manami Nishiide, Japanese cuisine chef and teacher. For the food, we received support from Ms Satomi Kitahara and Sunrise Mart. The program started with a quiz about three kinds of rice (guessing each type of the kind). An explanation of i-tadaki masu and go-chisoh-sama desu was given. This was followed by a demonstration of making sushi. Afterwards, children made sushi rolls by themselves. For them, it was the first time to make sushi, even to eat one! Some were afraid to touch sheets of black sea weeds and use boiled rice, but they were enjoying making sushi rolls. When they could not eat everything they made, these sushi were given to NYDV volunteers and recreation center staff.

Part 8 Origami and Role Model Speech

Guided by Origami expert Mr Marcio Noguchi, each student made a small creation from different colors of Origami. Then 12 pieces from the students were incorporated to make “Modular Origami”. Modular Origami was created as a global symbol. Various colors of Origami create harmony from each piece and make the piece prettier than how a single color can do. Also, this piece, for which the children made a united effort, symbolizes and delivers the importance of cooperation.



Respect differences!

With different colors, we gather together as ONE.

Next, two Americans from JETAA, Marc Carroll and Adren Hart, who have lived in Nagano and Gifu prefectures, shared their experience in Japan. Listening to their speeches, we hope that Japan now seems to have become a closer world to the children and someday the children may dream to become internationally a English teacher in Japan.

EJC Partner organization

After school Japanese culture introduction program, that started last year, are supported by many people and organization. Especially people in the following groups actually came to the event site and perform for the children as Japanese culture experts. Thank you very much for your cooperation.



Japanese music: New York Taiko circle, Kossan



Japanese traditional sports: Ken Zen Dojo, New York University, Kendo Club

The tea ceremony: Urasenke Chanoyu Center of New York,

Sohenryu Tea Ceremony, Ms. Hiroko Suzuki

Dressing: Ms. Kumi Haneishi

Japanese food: Ms. Mamie Nishida, Ms. Satomi Kitahara, Mr. Seiji Munakata, Sunrise Mart, Tokyo Pop, Takahachi Restaurant, Hibino Japanese Restaurant, JCCA-America



Guest speakers: Mr. Adren Hart, Ms. Cymetra William, Mr. Marc Carroll,
Ms. Zofia Stankiewicz



Origami: Mr. Marcio Noguchi



Explore Japanese Culture After School Program ended for the current year (Sep 2007 – Jun 2008) with big success. Since September 2008, NYdV provided an opportunity to experiencing cultural difference for 350 children at six locations. We believe that we wouldn't be able to accomplish this program without your passion and effort for children to provide an opportunity to broad their world for future dreams and to rouse their interest in different culture.



The number of volunteers for the program this year totaled 700 and the number goes higher if it includes volunteers who helped administrative work in the office.



This program fits very well for volunteers like us who grew up on the "other" side of earth and now live in New York to provide a face-to-face opportunity for cultural exchange between Americans and the Japanese. Our activities to expand possibility for children as much as possible by introducing Japanese culture multilaterally for two months will stay with them as great memory. We sincerely appreciate all of you who supported this program. Thank you so much.

In this program, activities in 4 locations out of 6 were operated with fund from Turn 2 Foundation supported by MLB Yankees player, Derek Jeter. The team leader of NY Yankees supported NY de Volunteer. And they posted an article about NYdV on their website.

Memorial Service for 9.11 victims with Floating Lantern

Seven years has passed since the tragedy of 9.11. To pass on hope for piece over border and religions, NYdV has supported "Memorial Service for 9.11 victims with Floating Lantern" hosted by The New York Buddhist Church along the Hudson river side.

A participant, Naoko says:

Soon after I came to NY, I visited World Trade Center Tribute Center and St. Paul Church and learned about feelings of victims' family and friends, and about fire fighters who'd worked so hard for search and rescue. I also learned that many people remain in sorrow for loosing someone important, and they can't forget fear of that day. I participated this memorial as a volunteer to understand these feelings more deeply.





About 30 volunteers participated in the event and they had various backgrounds such as students, housewives, and office workers, from young to elderly. We introduced each other in the beginning and were able to open up easily.

First, we worked on making 108 floating lantern. Everyone worked spontaneously because they were keen to volunteer.

Next, we separated into a few smaller groups and each group had different tasks. My group asked participants of the memorial to write a message on the lanterns. I met a Japanese couple who have participated in this event every year since they lost their son. There was a woman crying while writing a message on a lantern. I imagined she might have lost her lover. I saw somebody writing a message from a friend very carefully. There were people from Europe and Asia too. Seeing messages written in various languages, I realized that this tragedy involved people from all over the world.



We asked victims' family members to carry the lanterns and floated them on the Hudson River. Their sorrow may never go away, but they seemed very pleased with this memorial service. The floating lanterns looked so illusionary with lights on ground zero. I strongly remember one of the volunteers told me at the end of the event, "Every year on Sep 11th, this memorial service

let me forget pain from the tragedy by devoting myself to this volunteer activity."

By participating in this volunteer activity, I felt the comfort of fellowship without rank. I'd like to participate again.

The Japanese Spa Day - Philanthropy through Beauty



Our annual event, "The Japanese Spa Day" was held on November 3rd with effort by our volunteers and supporters. About 30 volunteers participated in the event, and Sachie, one of the volunteers, wrote a report:

On November 3rd, I volunteered for "The Japanese Spa Day" for the first time.

First, we separated into smaller groups and had a lecture for "Anti-aging make-up" by a professional make-up artist from Shiseido. Then, we practiced using each other's face with other volunteers but it wasn't easy to find right pressure or right color for the person. However, whenever we were having difficulties, staff members from Shiseido kindly gave us instructions and we were able to finish



make-up.

After practicing make-up, it was time to welcome the residents in the nursing home. A resident I had first asked for manicure. She had a disability on her left hand and I couldn't put manicure on her hand without separating her fingers and it wasn't easy.

However, while I was putting her favorite orange manicure on her nails, I saw her stiff face gradually turned to smile. When I finished, she said "Thank you." This word encouraged me to keep going.

Next, I had a woman who told me that she hadn't had make up on for several decades. When I asked her which color she liked, she answered "Which ever." I didn't know what to do, and decided to try a lip stick with deep color which looked good with her purple scarf on her neck. Then, she looked herself on a mirror and said "Is this me?!" with big smile.

I put purple manicure on her nails too. She had a photo taken with her three friends and seemed very happy saying "I'd love to show off."

Next resident was interested in cream because her skin was dry. I put lotion on her face first and gave a facial massage with cream. She enjoyed my service with her eyes closed comfortably while singing along the volunteer singer on the stage. When I put her hand to her cheek so that she can feel the difference, she said "Wow!" She was amazed by her well moistened skin.

I don't even remember how many people I took care of in three hours. When the event ended, I realized that I was so sweaty and thirsty. While being exhausted, I felt great fulfillment.

The original purpose of this event was to "improve the mental health and quality of life of senior citizens living in nursing homes," but the kind smiles and cheerful laughs in the room gave me more energy.

Before I tried, I used to stay away from volunteer because it seemed hypocritical. However, by participating in this event, I realized that volunteer is not difficult but great opportunity to feel kindness of people and share the happiness.

On the way home, I couldn't stop smiling thinking about their smiles. I'd love to see their smiles again.



Received a grant from JMSA

Japanese Medical Society of America held a customary year end reception on December 12th, and they had an award ceremony of grant program for Japanese not-for-profit organizations related to medical services.

The grant program was established in 2007, and this is their second implementation. In this program, the Medical Society raises contributions from Japanese companies and distributes them to eligible organizations.

They divided the grant among total of ten organizations that has played an important part for Japanese community in New York. NYdV has received the grant twice since 2007 and it increased from 500 dollars to



1,500 dollars.

Noriko Hino lectured at CLAIR studying group

CLAIR (Council of Local Authorities for International Relations) had an orientation for their Short-Term International Study Program on August 27.

Noriko Hino, Executive Director of NYdV, was honored to be invited as a guest speakers among with other three speakers including Mr. Koji Yamade from Ishikawa prefecture New York office, Mr. Kizaburo Hayashi from NTV International Corporation, and Mr. Michiru Tamauchi from UNICEF Head Quarter.

For participants of the study program including forty staff members of CLAIR, Noriko spoke about volunteer and not for profit organizations in America seen on the spot by operating one in NY. By comparing Japan and America, she passed her passion to the participants about not-for-profit organization in America.

Learning from Cleaning New York City Group

Beautification program “Learn from Cleaning New York City” was held in Tony Dapolito Recreation Center in West Village on May 18th. This event has been carried on by the volunteers who are following “Soji Tetsugaku” (Cleaning Philosophy) written by Mr. Shuzaburo Kagiya, founder of Yellow Hat Corporation and “Beautify Japan” Group (established on November 1993). They have been active all over the world to spread Japanese cleaning philosophy. In addition to Taiwan, China and Brazil where they have been working vigorously for a while, NY program began in the year 2003.



NYdV is supporting this activity by recruiting volunteers and setting up the events with local organizations. This activity includes cleaning bathrooms in NY City Recreation Center, and New Yorkers very much appreciate the work every year. This year event was sponsored by Mr. Shiogai of Shiogai Group. His \$3000 contribution realized the event.



Here is the message from Nicole, NY City employee:

NY City employee, Nicole Steely, Deputy Center Manager

Thank you very much for coming all the way from Japan to have this wonderful beatification event. Thank you also for a lot of nice heartwarming presents. We are surprised because we are the one who have to give you the presents. Thank you again.

We are looking forward to seeing you again next year.

Volunteer participants said:

I felt Japanese mind which I was forgetting from living in US for a long time.

I rediscover the use of appropriate cleaning tools.

I felt it brought a different meaning of international communication between Japanese and American by sharing the activity of cleaning.

It was a unique experience and rare opportunity to study the cleaning with love and effective cleaning here in NY. Thank you.

NYdV@Media

- 01.01 Nikkei Woman
- 03.10 Network
- 06.20 ecomom
- 07.05 DEREKJETER.com
- 08.01 Entre
- 11.28 Business Week from Reuter
- 12.20 Weekly NY Life
- 03.03 AERA
- 04.19 100 ways to make the world better
- 07.01 Perl Dayori
- 07.12 Weekly NY Life
- 11.21 Yomi Time
- 12.16 DAILY SUN

NYdV Achievement in 2008

The number of web site access 5868876 Hit

The number of the mailing list: 1,658 (Japanese / English)

Supporters in 2008

Corporate		
Partner	\$5,000& up	Toyota Motor North America, Inc.
Platinum	\$2,500& up	Sumitomo Corporation Of America Foundation
Gold	\$1,000& up	ADK
		Dentsu Holdings USA, Inc.
		The Japanese Medical Society of America, Inc.
		The Ripplewood Foundation, Inc.
		Time Warner Employee Grant Programs
		Woodside Food Nattoya
Silver	\$500& up	Pallet
Friends	\$100& up	DESIGN21: Social Design Network/ Felissimo
		Nihon University
		WILLIAM W. & RITA REICH TRUST
Individual		
Leader	\$500& up	Mr. Toshihiko Kida
		Ms. Hiroko Takeda
Friends	\$100& up	Mr. Hidetoshi Shiokawa
		Mr. Hirohumi Sakaeda
		Mr. Kazuma Morita
		Mr. Masahiko Kasuga
		Mr. Yoshisada Yonezuka
		Mrs. Julie Azuma & Mr. Tamio Spiegel
		Ms. Kaoru Matsumoto
		Ms. Satomi Kitahara
		Ms. Yuko Ikuta
		Ms. Yumi Shindo
In-Kind		
		Brother International Corporation
		Cobu
		IDI Project Inc.
		Karaoke Champ
		Ms. Hiroko Takeda
		Ms. Keiko Tsuyama
		Trend Pot Inc
		Ms. Rika Tochinai

2008 Activity Result

Date	Program Title	Participants
1/11	EJC (Manhattan)	18
1/18	EJC (Manhattan)	20
1/25	EJC (Manhattan)	18
2/1	EJC (Manhattan)	21
2/7	EJC (Chelsea)	7
2/8	EJC (Manhattan)	19
2/14	EJC (Chelsea)	11
2/15	EJC (Manhattan)	10
2/28	EJC (Chelsea)	5
2/29	EJC (Queens)	3
3/1	Bunkyo University Study Tour in NY	19
3/6	EJC (Chelsea)	7
3/7	EJC (Queens)	7
3/13	EJC (Chelsea)	15
3/14	EJC (Queens)	2
3/20	EJC (Chelsea)	2
3/21	EJC (Queens)	10
3/27	EJC (Chelsea)	7
3/28	EJC (Queens)	13
4/3	EJC (Chelsea)	2
4/4	EJC (Queens)	3
4/10	EJC (Harlem)	9
4/11	EJC (Queens)	11
4/17	EJC (Harlem)	13
4/18	EJC (Queens)	5
5/1	EJC (Harlem)	6
5/2	EJC (Bronx)	6
5/8	EJC (Harlem)	13
5/9	EJC (Bronx)	6
5/15	EJC (Harlem)	26
5/16	EJC (Bronx)	1
5/18	Learn from Cleaning New York City Group	41
5/22	EJC (Harlem)	7
5/23	EJC (Bronx)	6
5/24	Health Week	1
5/29	EJC (Harlem)	13
5/30	EJC (Bronx)	11
6/1	Japan Day Volunteer	6
6/6	EJC (Bronx)	8
6/12	EJC (Harlem)	4
6/13	EJC (Bronx)	13
6/20	EJC (Bronx)	17
7/7-8/8	Summer Camp Volunteer	5
8/12	Youth Day	5
8/27	Lecture @ CLAIR	1
9/11	Memorial Service for 9.11 victims with Floating Lantern	40
9/13,14,20,21	Senior Week Volunteer	3
11/3	The Japanese Spa Day	35
11/8	Soup Kitchen	7
12/23	Xmas party Volunteer @ Nihon Club	4
Total		542