



International Exchange Association of Izumo



Our 42-Year Journey

1984

Jan **Founding meeting of IEAI** (January 8th)

Mission statement: As a private group implementing exchange activities in Izumo City in this age of internationalization, our association will promote international goodwill and spread knowledge of foreign affairs in order to further our mission of contributing to worldwide mutual understanding and to local cultural development.

Directors: President Tom T. Kuwabara, Vice president Masao Nagira, Yoshihiko Fukuda, Chief director Motoharu Sugihara, Director Shotai Kobayashi, Masatoshi Yamamoto and others

Aug Welcome party for Dr. Thomas Turley and Dr. Barbara Molony, assistant professors at Santa Clara University

Sep **1st English Speech Contest for Junior High School Students** (held annually henceforth)

Nov **1st Overseas Friendship Tour** (Santa Clara, Oxnard, and Palo Alto, 14 members)



1985

Mar Welcome party for Oxnard City Mayor Nao Takasugi

Aug California Fair (at Izumo's Palao shopping center)

Welcome party for Cynthia Gissler (daughter of the Mayor of Santa Clara)



1986

Mar 2nd Santa Clara Friendship Tour (Middle School Brass Band performance. 32 middle schoolers and 10 adults)

Signing ceremony for the partnership between IEAI and SCSCA (Santa Clara Sister Cities Association) (March 13th)

Oct Exchange welcoming Santa Clara Goodwill Delegation (10 members including Mayor Souza and SCSCA President Figueira)

Signing ceremony for the Sister City Agreement between Izumo City and the City of Santa Clara (October 11th)
California Cuisine Cooking Class



1987

Jul 3rd Santa Clara Friendship Tour (18 members including Mayor Naora)

Exchange welcoming Santa Clara's high schoolers (held annually henceforth)

1988

Nov Awarded an Izumo City Distinguished Service

Award Santa Clara Mayor's Cup awarded to the winner of the 5th English Speech Contest for Junior High School Students (awarded annually henceforth)

1989

May Exchange welcoming Santa Clara Cultural Delegation (including Sharon Gissler. Cultural seminar was held)

1990

Aug Izumo Lions Club 30th Anniversary Santa Clara Visit

1991

Oct Reception activities for San Francisco State University track team, competitors in the Izumo Kunibiki All-Japan University Ekiden (held annually henceforth)

Exchange welcoming Santa Clara Goodwill Delegation (17 members. Izumo City's 50th Anniversary)



1992

- Mar 5th Santa Clara Friendship Tour and **Middle School Goodwill Mission** (held annually henceforth)

1993

- Mar International Goodwill Softball Tournament (held annually until 2002)
Oct Exchange welcoming Santa Clara Citizens' Delegation. IEAI 10th Anniversary Ceremony

1996

- Jul Visit to Santa Clara for 10th Anniversary of the Sister City Relationship (Mayor Nishio, IEAI President Kuwabara)
Oct Exchange welcoming Santa Clara Delegation (including Mayor Judy Nadler)

1997

- Sep Sister Cities Agreement 10th Anniversary Citizens' Mission (Santa Clara, Yosemite National Park, 17 members)

1999

- Oct IEAI 15th Anniversary Ceremony (guests include Mayor Judy Nadler)

2000

- Nov Awarded Shimane Prefectural Distinguished Service Award for International Exchange

2001

- Nov Exchange welcoming Sister Cities Agreement 15th Anniversary Santa Clara Visit Delegation (including Mayor Judy Nadler)

2003

- Jan Awarded a Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications Award for Town Open to the World
Feb International Goodwill Bowling Tournament (held annually henceforth until 2019)

2004

- Jul Izumo City Merger Commemorative Ceremony and exchange welcoming Santa Clara Sister Cities Signing Delegation

2006

- Mar 3rd Middle School Brass Band Santa Clara Mission (40 middle schoolers, 6 adults)
Apr Exchange welcoming Santa Clara's Wilcox High School (15 students, 2 teachers)
Jul President Tom T. Kuwabara awarded Sister Cities International's Volunteer of the Year Award

2008

- Apr Exchange welcoming Santa Clara Symphonic Band (90 members, mostly middle and high schoolers)



2009

- May IEAI 25th Anniversary Ceremony (guests include Mayor Patricia Mahan and SCSCA President Debi Davis)
Publication of 25th Anniversary Commemorative Booklet
July Vice President Masao Nagira became President, and Tom T. Kuwabara was installed as Life Honorary President

2011

- Oct Sister Cities Agreement 25th Anniversary Santa Clara Visiting Delegation (15 members), Anniversary Ceremony (guests include Mayor Nagaoka, City Council Chairman Miyamoto, President Nagira, and Tom Kuwabara)

2013

- Jul Japan America Grassroots Summit in Shimane (80 participants from the US, including 5 from Santa Clara)

2014

- Oct IEAI 30th Anniversary Ceremony (guests include SCSCA President Kathy Watanabe, Vice President Yuki Ikeji.)





2015

- Mar Awarded Izumo City's Special Distinguished Service Award for International Exchange Organizations
- Jul President Masao Nagira was installed as Advisor and Vice President Masatoshi Yamamoto became President

2017

- Mar Commemorative plaque installed for the 30th Anniversary of Izumo City and City of Santa Clara's Sister City Agreement
- Apr Awarded a California State Assembly Certificate of Recognition for Sister City Exchange
- Jul Exchange welcoming SCSCA President Raj Chahal and Spouse Daljit, Vice President Tedra Nikolai, and 3 students.



- Nov Awarded a Minister of Internal Affairs and Communications Award for Distinguished Service to Local Government
- ## 2019

- Mar 28th Izumo Middle and High Schooler Santa Clara Goodwill Mission (11 students, 3 adults)
- Jun Exchange activities for the Santa Clara Official Delegation (Mayor Lisa Gillmor Council member Raj Chahal and Margaret Horoszko, SCSCA President) and 4 high schoolers,





2023

- Jun After 4 years of Covid-19, exchange activities for 4 students and Margaret Horoszko, SCSCA President
- Oct 40th Santa Clara Mayor's Cup English Speech Contest for Junior High School Students

2024

- Mar 29th Izumo Middle and High Schooler Santa Clara Goodwill Mission (11 students, 3 adults)
- Jun Exchange activities for 6 Santa Clara High School students and Jenine Soterwood, SCSCA
- Oct 41st Santa Clara Mayor's Cup English Speech Contest for Junior High School Students
- Nov Publication of 40th Anniversary Commemorative Booklet

2025

- Mar 30th Izumo Middle and High Schooler Santa Clara Goodwill Mission (12 students, 3 adults)
- Jun Exchange activities for 6 students and Chigusa Katoku, Vice President of SCSCA Clint Poe, Professor at Mission College Lisa Terres, Teacher at Buchser Middle School
- Oct 42nd Santa Clara Mayor's Cup English Speech Contest for Junior High School Students



2026

- Mar 31st Izumo Middle and High Schooler Santa Clara Goodwill Mission (12 students, 3 adults)



- Jun Exchange activities for 8 students and Jagat Singh, Ana Vargas-Smith, SCSCA



- Oct Sister Cities Agreement 40th Anniversary Santa Clara Visiting Delegation Anniversary Ceremony (include Mayor Toshiyuki Itsuka, City Council Chairman Shigemitsu Ito, IEAI Chairman Masatoshi Yamamoto, Vice Chairman Takashi Yomota, Yukimi Fukushima) Exchange welcoming Tedra Nikolai, Former President of SCSCA and Patrick Nikolai, Former Chief of SCPD
- Nov 43rd Santa Clara Mayor's Cup English Speech Contest for Junior High School Students

