



**OAKLAND FUKUOKA SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION**  
P.O. Box 13022, Oakland, California 94661-3022

## **WHAT IS THE ASIAN-PACIFIC CHILDREN'S CONVENTION IN FUKUOKA, JAPAN (APCC)**

The Asian-Pacific Children's Convention ("APCC") was created as one of the commemorative events of the 1989 Asian-Pacific Exposition to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> year since the founding of Fukuoka city. The APCC is a civic movement funded by local government as well as donations from corporate sponsors and our Supporters' Association. Historically, Fukuoka has provided a window of exchange between Japan and the cultures of continental Asia. APCC is a continuation of this tradition as we head towards a digital age of international communication. By holding this Children's convention, we hope to foster "Global Citizens", who are able to think of the world beyond national boundaries, and that the desire for world peace will be encouraged. In the hope of helping the dream come true, the children who will shape the world in the 21<sup>st</sup> century gather together in Fukuoka and gain mutual understanding of different cultures and language through Homestay and cultural exchanges.

Every year, the APCC brings children from all over the Asian-Pacific region together to take part in a fortnight long exchange program when they have the opportunity to experience family life through Homestay and introduce traditions from their home country to the other participants and the people of Fukuoka through taking part in an exchange camp and a performance event in Fukuoka City. We hope that by taking part in these activities, the children will build a network of mutual understanding as they meet and make friends with children who look and speak differently to themselves. The invitation project is also a chance for the citizens of Fukuoka and the surrounding areas to learn about other cultures first hand as they take part in our activities as a volunteer or as part of a Host Family.



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**48<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – 1962 - 2010**

OFSCA is a nonprofit organization.

TaxID 94-2582130

[www.oakland-fukuoka.org](http://www.oakland-fukuoka.org)

[info@oakland-fukuoka.org](mailto:info@oakland-fukuoka.org)

November 13, 2009

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Dear Principals:

The Oakland Fukuoka Sister City Association (“OFSCA”) and the Asian-Pacific Children’s Convention (“APCC”) would like to invite your fifth grade students to apply for a position as a Junior Ambassador. As Junior Ambassadors, students will have the opportunity to travel to Fukuoka, Japan (all travel expenses paid) for approximately two weeks in July 2010. The students will represent their communities, schools, Oakland, and the Unified States; and make friends for a lifetime.

OFSCA will assist APCC in the student selection process. OFSCA is a 48 year old organization that helps to foster and promote cultural awareness, understanding, and friendship between people of Oakland and Fukuoka-Oakland’s oldest sister city.

We have enclosed an application and informational packet regarding the 2010 APCC program for you to distribute to all of your 5<sup>th</sup> graders. The application deadline is Friday, December 18, 2009 and the final selections will be made by the second week of January.

Please distribute the attached application packet to your fifth grade students. Thank you in advance for your support. If you or your students have any questions please feel free to contact me at [Hazlyn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Hazlyn@sbcglobal.net) or the 2010 chaperone, Romeo Garcia, Co-Principal ARISE High School, Oakland (510) 436-5487.

1.

Sincerely,

Hazlyn Fortune  
APCC Liaison  
(510) 568-7154



**OAKLAND FUKUOKA SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION**  
P.O. Box 13022, Oakland, California 94661-3022

Dear Fifth-Grader:

The Oakland-Fukuoka Sister City Association (OFSCA) would like to invite you to apply for a position as an Oakland Junior Ambassador. As a Junior Ambassador, you will have the opportunity to represent Oakland at the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Asian Pacific Children's Convention ("APCC") in Fukuoka, Japan. During the two week cultural exchange, you will attend a global camp with children from approximately 43 different countries/regions from Asia Pacific. You will also homestay with a Japanese family to learn first-hand about Japanese culture.

***Objectives of the APCC:***

1. To generate appreciation for a variety of cultures through exchanges between children from all over the Asia-Pacific region.
2. To promote mutual understanding throughout the Asian-Pacific region.
3. To raise young people with a global perspective who will work to increase international awareness in their local community.

***Participation Criteria:***

1. To have been born between September 1, 1998-August 31, 1999.
2. To be willing to participate in the APCC and be interested in the international exchange.
3. To be curious about the Japanese way of life and culture and be willing to actively experience it.
3. To be of sound mind and body.
4. To be independent enough to stay alone with a Host Family.
5. To be able to introduce aspects of your own culture to others.
6. To be fully aware of the objectives of APCC.

7. To adhere to the Oakland Fukuoka Sister City Student Agreement.

***Expenses Covered by APCC***

1. Round Trip airfare between San Francisco and Fukuoka, Japan.
2. Transportation within Japan as designated by APCC.
3. Room and board.
4. Insurance for injury and illness during the APCC program.

***Inviting Body:***

The Asian Pacific Children's Convention in Fukuoka  
Home Page: <http://www.apcc.gr.jp/>

Oakland-Fukuoka Sister City Association  
Home Page: <http://oakland-fukuoka.org>

***Trip Dates***

July 8, 2010-July 22, 2010 (anticipated)

***Application Information:***

Completed application and recommendation forms are due: **December 18, 2009**. Interviews with the Selection Committee will be scheduled for applicants in early January, 2010. Submit completed application to your principal on or before **December 18, 2009**. If you have any questions, please contact me at (510) 568-7154 or email me at [Hazlyn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Hazlyn@sbcglobal.net).

Sincerely,

Hazlyn Fortune  
OFSCA 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
APCC Liaison Officer

Enclosures:  
Application  
Recommendation Forms (2)  
Student Agreement  
Parent Questionnaire  
About APCC



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**ASIAN-PACIFIC CHILDREN'S CONVENTION -FUKUOKA**

**STUDENT AGREEMENT**

If I am selected as a Junior Ambassador, I agree to do the following:

1. I will become an active member of the Oakland-Fukuoka Sister City Association (OFSCA).
2. I will attend all orientations meetings that will be held prior to my departure to Fukuoka.
3. I will work diligently at any fund raising activities for the Asian-Pacific Children's Convention (APCC).
4. I will have my passport by April 1, 2010.
5. In order to prevent homesickness, I will not contact my parent(s) or family during my home-stay in Japan.
6. I will adhere to my Host Family's rules and schedule during my home-stay.
8. I will not take part in any activities outside of those designated by the APCC office (i.e. commercial transactions, religious missions, etc.).
9. Upon my return, I will actively participate in the Bridge Club, an international network of Junior Ambassadors.
10. I will be available to give talks or presentations about the APCC and my experiences as a Junior Ambassador.
11. My family and I will host an exchange student from Fukuoka in the future.

_____ Name	_____ Signature	_____ Date
_____ Parent's Name	_____ Parent's Signature	_____ Date
_____ Parent's Name	_____ Parent's Signature	_____ Date



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**ASIAN-PACIFIC CHILDREN'S CONVENTION -FUKUOKA**

**PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Please Print or Type**

1. How do feel about your son/daughter traveling to Fukuoka for two (2) weeks?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. In an effort to prevent homesickness, it is the APCC's policy that you not visit, telephone, e-mail, or have snail-mail contact with your child. Do you agree to abide by this rule?  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. Do you think your son/daughter will be homesick? \_\_\_\_\_  
  
If so, what suggestions will you give to your child about how to cope with feelings of homesickness?  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Do you understand all of the rules of the program as stated in the Student Agreement?  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. Have you explained them to your child? \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Do your think your child will be able to abide by the rules?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Whose idea was it to apply to this program? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Does your son/daughter enjoy trying new things? \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Give an example. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Will your son/daughter eat a variety of foods? \_\_\_\_\_

9. How does your son/daughter handle difficult or new situations

\_\_\_\_\_

Give an example. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Does your son/daughter have any planned activities for the summer? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, what are they? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

11. Does your son/daughter have any medical concerns that we should be aware of?

\_\_\_\_\_

12. Would you be willing to host a student from Fukuoka in your home in the future? How would you make the student feel at home? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

13. What advice would you give your son/daughter before they board the plane for Japan?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

14. Do you have any reservations at this time about your son/daughter participating in the APCC program? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Child's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Child's Name



**ASIAN-PACIFIC CHILDREN'S CONVENTION -FUKUOKA**

**APCC STUDENT APPLICATION**

**Please Print or Type**  
**PART A – PERSONAL INFORMATION**

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_  
As printed on passport/birth certificate) Last First Middle

Birthdate (Mo./Day/Year) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Male Female  
 Home Address:

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City \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ cell ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s)/Legal guardian(s)

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Parent/Guardian 1 – work phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ cell ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian 2 – work phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ cell ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**PART B – QUESTIONS**

**Family Members:** Total number of family members including yourself living in your home. ( )

Relationship	Occupation	Age
<b>Mother</b>		
<b>Father</b>		
<b>Self</b>		

1. What Kinds of activities do you do with your family? How often?

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2. What would you do to make a new kid at your school feel comfortable?

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3. Describe your interests, hobbies, or activities (e.g. art, literature, computers, music, sports, etc.)

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4. What groups do you belong to or participate in (e.g. local clubs and organizations, scouts, youth groups, teams, etc.)?

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5. Have you ever spent anytime away from home without your parents? If so, where did you go and for how long?

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6. Have you ever traveled to another country? If so, where did you go and what was your favorite thing about that trip?

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7. What would you do if you were away from your family and friends and around people who looked different from you?

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8. Can you think of anything else you would like to share about yourself?

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**PART C- ESSAYS**

***Please type or neatly print your responses on a separate sheet of paper. Place your name on the upper right corner of each page.***

1. Describe a non-academic situation in which you have had to face a personal defeat or failure, or have made a mistake, and explain how you dealt with it.
2. Reflect on what it will be like to live as a member of a family in Fukuoka. What problems or challenges other than language might you expect to encounter and how might you deal with them.



3. Research indicates that the factors listed below are important for successful intercultural adjustments.

Curiosity  
Self-motivation  
Sense of humor

Open-mindedness  
Ability to tolerate failures  
Ability to communicate

Please assess the student's strengths and weaknesses with respect to these factors. When possible, please give specific examples.

4. In what context and for what length of time have you known this student?

5. Check one of the following:

- I strongly recommend this student.
  - I recommend this student.
  - I have some reservations. (Please describe on a separate sheet of paper.)
  - I do not recommend this student.
- (All remarks will be kept confidential)*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (*Please Print*): \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Name -Teacher at School: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

School or Home Address:  
\_\_\_\_\_



6. Research indicates that the factors listed below are important for successful intercultural adjustments.

Curiosity  
Self-motivation  
Sense of humor

Open-mindedness  
Ability to tolerate failures  
Ability to communicate

Please assess the student's strengths and weaknesses with respect to these factors. When possible, please give specific examples.

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  - I do not recommend this student.
- (All remarks will be kept confidential)*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name (*Please Print*): \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Name - Teacher at School: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

School or Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_