

EXCHANGES AND DELEGATIONS OF SANTA CRUZ, CA - SHINGU, JAPAN
Roxi Goin - SCI Board of Directors

Best student exchange program: March 30 - April 9 2002

Participants:

- Junior and Senior High Students
- Strong interest
- Demonstrated maturity

Qualifications:

- Older students, ages 12 - 17 - 12 the exception
- Financial ability
- Motivated i.e. language
- Flexible as to eating habits
- Resident of the city, some exceptions

Selection process:

- Essay
- Interview by panel

Homestays:

- Pairing selection by sending country
- 2 per home
- Placement done by host country
- Homestay optimal for chaperones, hotel a choice

Transportation:

- Airfare and bus fare
 - Transportation to airport by parents
 - Delegates pays for transport to Shingu, Air and bus
 - Delegates pays for special trips requested
 - Hosts pay for daily transport and meals

Problems:

- Dietary difficulties (especially with younger children)
- Fatigue
- Not enough time with host families
- Communication

Program development:

- 6 months required - First of October for March trip
 - Applications
 - Interviews
 - Selection
 - Profiles to host families
 - Timing - correlate with school breaks if possible

Orientation:

- 2 or 3 sessions with students on cultural differences
- 2 or 3 sessions of basic language
- Set expectations of students, during and after

Forms:

- Notarized Parental consent
- SCI insurance, mandatory and affordable

Gifts:

- For hosts by individuals
- Official, Sister Cities budget

Success:

- Requires dedication and hard work
- Commitment by leaders, students
- City send off as ambassadors
- City staff support
 - Forms and printing costs
 - Notary service
- Follow up dinners
 - Delegates, parents and chaperones
 - Share pictures
 - Share experiences
- Formal thank you notes to hosts by post not e-mail
 - Very important

Potential Improvements:

- Sponsorship
- Fund raisers to provide scholarship
 - Car wash
 - Pancake breakfast
- Selection process
- Discussion and interviews with parents
- Motivation
- Prior sorting out of eating habits.
- Recommendation of participants by schools

STUDENT ART EXCHANGE SANTA CRUZ, CA - SHINGU, JAPAN
Roxi Goin - SCI Board of Directors

18 - 19 MAY 2002

Venue:

- 4th Annual Santa Cruz Art, Wine and Jazz Festival

Participants:

- Shingu high school students (20 pieces)
- Santa Cruz City high school students (21 pieces)

Sponsorship:

- Downtown Association of Santa Cruz
 - Help in setting up
 - Securing needed easels
 - Delivery and pickup of easels
 - Cost of supplies for matting and shrink-wrap
 - Cost of return mailing to Shingu

Problems:

- Committee commitment
- Finding enough easels
- Conflict with Pasta Festival (committee energy)

Success:

- A first time endeavor
 - Several hundred people viewed the art
 - Generation of interest in Sister Cities
 - Expansion to include all 5 of our sister cities
 - Possibility of further sponsorship by local business
 - Invited for next year
 - Invited to be a part of the planning of the event
 - No cost to Sister Cities

Improvements:

- Getting information out earlier
- Larger set up crew
- Help with matting and shrink-wrapping
- More help through the two days - schedule it!