

Rachael's May CIR Report:

Culture Share!

In May, our office began it's "Culture Share" project in cooperation with the Fukuroi City Culture Association! Through this project, I have been able to visit various culture clubs in the city and experience more of Japanese culture. So far, I have had the chance to do "kasa odori" (umbrella dancing), "taiko" (drumming) and "nihonbuyo" (traditional dancing). I had seen photographs and videos of these traditional arts, but I had never gotten to try it for myself before.



At the kasa odori class, I got to meet some wonderful women who had been practising kasa odori for many years. At the taiko class, I was impressed by the fact that people of all ages and abilities were allowed to take part. I believe that the best way to allow culture to live on and thrive is to make it accessible to as many people as possible.

Kano-sensei, the nihonbuyo instructor, was kind enough to let me join in with her classes after the Culture Share project class was finished. She is an instructor of the Mikiyu school of nihonbuyo. I am currently learning a dance called "harusame" ("Spring Rain") to perform alongside her students at their recital in September. The story of this dance is about a Japanese nightingale who is caught in the rain. We will also be performing a dance called "Enshu Sanzan" ("The Three Temples of Enshu") that is about Fukuroi's own three temples Hattasan, Kasuisai and Yusanji. I also enjoy watching the other students as they prepare for their own performances, and learning the stories behind their dances too. I feel very lucky that I have the chance to learn from such a kind and skilled teacher!



レイチェルの5月のCIRレポート:

「カルチャー・シェア」!

5月に、国際課は袋井市文化協会とともに「カルチャー・シェア」という事業を始めました!この事業で、私は色々な市内の文化部を訪問して、日本の文化を経験できました。



私は今まで「傘踊り」、「太鼓」や「日本舞踊」を体験できました。これまでは、写真と動画を見たことがあります。体験できるチャンスがありませんでした。

傘踊りの授業では、何年間も練習している女性に会いました。太鼓の授業の素晴らしいところは、色々な年齢と能力を持つ人が参加できます。文化が生き続け、繁栄するための最善の方法は、できるだけ多くの人々が文化にアクセスできるようにすることだと思います。

「カルチャー・シェア」をきっかけに、日本舞踊の先生の賀乃先生は授業に参加させてくれました。先生は「三喜流」という日本舞踊の種類です。私は今「春雨」という踊りを習っています。9月には、賀乃先生と他の生徒と一緒に発表会に参加します。踊りのテーマは、雨から逃げる鶯です。もう一つは袋井の三つの有名なお寺、法多山、可睡斎と油山寺についての「遠州三山」という踊りもあります。他の生徒の踊りを見て、色々な踊りの話を習うこともすごく楽しいです。そんな優しくて熟練した先生から学ぶ機会があり、とても嬉しいです!

