

My Internship at the JCCCNC

My name is Chihiro, and I am from Kobe. I am a student at Kobe YMCA College. Now I am working at JCCCNC through an internship. I really wanted to come to America when I was a high school student because I love all the American styles, people are very friendly with each other, they are very fashionable and their motions are very fun. So, I am learning English at my college for my future.

Before I came here, I didn't know about San Francisco enough. But now, I see that San Francisco has a lot of cool views, many cute houses, very funny and kind people, lot of diversity. Working in Japan town I have learned a lot about Japanese American history. I stayed at Japanese American's house before. They have been to Kobe before, and they have interests about Kobe. They were very kind to me, and they gave me a lot of fun and friends! They took me many cool places in San Francisco. Although my host mother can't speak Japanese, we have a great relationship, so I could very relax in the house. Now, I have Japanese host family, but 1st host mother cares me still now. I thank my 1st host family very much. Also my 2nd host family is very kind, and they will be take me good places and give a good information about America. I'm glad because I'm very excited everyday with both host families, and JCCCNC members.

When I came to San Francisco, I was surprised that there are a lot of things are different from Japan in America. Almost all people drive cars to work in America, but in Japan everyone uses public transportation. And meal and clothing sizes are very big in America. So, my first American impression was "all things are very big!" I can find new wonderful things everyday here, and it is like cool presents for me. I thought that greeting is very important in America when I worked at JCCCNC. A little communication will connect a big relationship among people. I'm a very lucky girl because JCCCNC members are very funny and kind! I can study English everyday, and I can learn casual English between the members at JCCCNC. I'm learning not only English but also how to work at JCCCNC. I can't understand English so much, but I enjoy observing how everyone works. Working at JCCCNC will be a good experience in my life, and I want to improve my English. I love to work at JCCCNC.

My Life in Kobe

Kobe YMCA College is located in down town Kobe. Kobe is a not big city in Hyogo. It is close to Osaka. It takes only 25 minutes from Kobe to Osaka by rapid train. Kobe has 9 Wards, and it is between mountains and beach. Kobe is clean city in Japan, and there are many cool shopping areas and restaurants. If you can't use car, there are a lot of usefully transportations. And everywhere have stations of bus stops. So, you can go out side with your self, and you should be has a lot of fun! Then, I want to introduce the cool place in Kobe. Do you know Suma beach? It is very popular beach in Kobe among young people because in summer, there are many houses, a good view and very relaxing mood so on. At sunset, it is very beautiful. And it attracts 1 million people during summer season. Also we can see mountains and Akashi Bridge from the beach. Akashi Bridge is the longest suspension bridge in the world. At sunset, it is very beautiful. And Suma is easily accessible from downtown Kobe, only 10minutes by the train. You can spend a good time! And there is Suma aquarium on the beach. You can enjoy a dolphin show there. It is fun! Kobe Harbor-land is a good place to visit in Kobe Down Town. Children, adults, elderly people and foreigners can all enjoy different activities there. There are many coffee shops, cloths shops, a movie theater, two game centers, an amusement park and Japanese and international restaurants in there. In the evening, Harbor land and the Port Tower, which is a land mark of Kobe Port, are beautifully illuminated. Also we can see a wonderful night view of the area from the top of Port Tower. It's excellent. Also Sannomiya is very popular area and is very large, and there are many kinds of shops are there. It takes only 5 minute from Harbor-land by the train. There are many good spots! First, Center Plaza has so many fashionable shops and restaurants. Next, China Town is another very popular place to visit, and it is near by Sannomiya. The China Town is only two locate Kobe and Yokohama in Japan. You can try a lot of real Chinese food and desserts in Kobe. Koukashita is another good place for shopping in Sannomiya. It is an arcade made under the train tracks. It is located nearby Sannomiya station. There are so many kinds of shops. When you go there, you can often hear the train above you. It is little strange, but it is a very popular area in Kobe. Then, if you go to a coffee shop for relaxing in Sannomiya, I recommend Green House. It is a unique café with great atmosphere, and is open until 12 am and you can enjoy many

kinds of desserts, food and alcohol too. Located in the center of Down Town Kobe, just north of Sannomiya train, the concept of the café is forest, so the entrance is in the real woods! I think it is great. The most famous thing is Kobe beef in Kobe. Sannomiya has many restaurants which serve Kobe beef. If you come to Kobe, please try great Kobe beef, fatty and tender but very expensive! Please try to search a good restaurant of Kobe beef. Finally, if you come to Kobe in December, there is a big event for two weeks at night time. It's called Kobe Luminarie, which has been performed for 13 years now since after the Great Earthquake. Luminarie means lighted arcade that extends over a couple of miles, and it is very beautiful! I go there every year. Everybody that visit there is sure to be moved by its beauty.