

Naha International Exchange Association				
Activity Name	Naha City Tour			
Date	October 26, (Thu) - 28 (Sat), 2009			
Location	Naha Culture Center Tembusu, public market & Tsuboya area, Ikutouen			
Participants	International Students	Residents, Corporations	Other	Total
	9	15	1	25

< Activity Details >

We organized the Naha Town Tour to have international students watch a Ryukyu dance performance, take a guided walking tour of Naha, visit the Tsuboya Pottery Museum and try making pottery, as well as enjoy making pizza with local residents and interacting with them at a pizza party.

Ryukyu Dance Performance - 10/26

The students saw "Ryukyu Performing Art - Hyakkaryoran, the World of Ryukyu Dance" at the Naha Culture Center Tembusu. The students were very interested in that day's performance, which was a new dance genre combining world-class Okinawa karate, kobudo and dance.



Ryukyu dance performance
(with performers)

Naha Walking Tour - 10/28

The students were introduced to the old side of Naha by a city guide while being led through the city. We bought them sata andagi (an Okinawan snack of deep fried buns of dough similar to doughnuts) to eat and they learned about stores with delicious food at good prices.



Making shisa

Tsuboya Pottery Museum Visit - 10/28

The students learned about the history of Okinawan pottery and the Tsuboya technique and production method. They were also able to see how people used to live here and more.

Hands-On Pottery Activity - 10/28

The students made shisa (a guardian deity that looks like a cross between a lion and a dog often seen in Okinawa that is placed at building gates and on roofs, or on high ground in villages to ward off evil spirits who bring about catastrophes for houses, people and villages) in the pottery classroom.

Pizza Party - 10/28

The students made pizza with local residents and ate pizza cooked with the pottery classroom's stove. They introduced themselves, talked about cultural differences and enjoyed interacting.



Pizza party

< Comments from Participants >

I love Okinawan performing art. It was very fun to be able to participate. I learned a lot about International Street. Making a shisa was fun. So was making pizza with everyone. The pizza tasted good. I thought these activities were great.

(Rikii Setsu)



Making pizza



"We have this in China, too!"

A number of the international students had just come to Japan and weren't used to communicating in Japanese. The location and content of the activities and such were very satisfying. Eating pizza in an Okinawan garden surrounded by yachimun (pottery) was a valuable experience for the Okinawan residents, too.

(Chiho Mori)