

2024



NARPI SUMMER PEACEBUILDING INSTITUTE
MINAMATA & MIYAZAKI

AUGUST 12-21

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WELCOME

Welcome to Minamata!

It has been my dream to hold a NARPI Summer Peacebuilding Training in Minamata since I first joined NARPI in 2013. Minamata has experienced environmental pollution and the resulting conflicts among the community members, but has learnt from past tragedies and has matured a wonderful restorative justice and environmentally friendly culture until today. Environmental justice is the new peace agenda for the 21st century, shared by Northeast Asia and the world.

I hope that you will learn from the Minamata experience, join in solidarity with the people of Minamata, and together we can make this day the beginning of creating peace in Northeast Asia and on Earth. The Minamata initiative for just reconciliation is called 'Moyoi-Naoshi' (reconnecting ships and boats), and we hope that NARPI 2024 will be a time of promoting 'Moyoi-Naoshi' for the people of Northeast Asia and the world.

ISHIHARA Akiko, Minamata Host



While preparing for NARPI, I realized that a generation of storytellers who held the important role of passing on the lessons learned from the past are nearly gone.

It is now up to my generation to keep the lessons alive. Their stories are about the past but might become about our future if we forget.

What stories do we weave together?
What do we tell our children?
How do we work with discursive erasure?
What can we create?

These are the questions I personally bring.

NARPI is a special place where I feel that I am not alone in holding these questions.

What questions do you bring?

KASAI Aya, Miyazaki Host

SAFEGUARDING

1 CREATING A CULTURE OF SAFETY TOGETHER

At the NARPI Summer Peacebuilding Training, we aim to build a space where all people present are safe and protected and feel secure and free from harm. Though it may not be possible to prevent all instances of harm or danger from occurring, we will work together intentionally to build a culture of safe space.

The NARPI Steering Committee and Admin Team will prioritize safeguarding in our decisions and actions. We recognize that harm or abuse can occur in any gathering, and we will work to cultivate awareness among NARPI participants that we are all responsible for the well-being of others. We will encourage participants to actively observe and report any potential indications of harm or abuse to the Steering Committee or Admin Team.

2 ACCOUNTABILITY IN ACTION

The Admin Team will meet regularly and will openly share any concerning situations. If needed, the Admin Team will also invite members of the Steering Committee to listen and to determine our response.

When harm is identified, the Admin Team and designated mediators (2-3 NARPI Steering Committee members) will take action to address the individual(s) responsible. If a situation arises where it is necessary to involve law enforcement, we will not hesitate to contact the local police. Also, if anyone requires medical attention, we will ensure that appropriate medical care is sought.

3 INFORMATIVE REFLECTION

In our Evaluation Meeting on August 21, the Admin Team and Steering Committee will make a space to reflect on our safeguarding practice during the Summer Peacebuilding Training.

As we practice safeguarding together, we hope to see the growth of a culture of mutual care and a safer space at NARPI.

Let's build a culture of safeguarding at NARPI!



August 13, Tuesday

Field Trip | Day 1

Please bring a filled water bottle, hat/umbrella, towel (for canoeing, swimming, and going to hot springs), swimwear, ice pack, camera, notebook.

7:00-8:00	Breakfast OYO Hotel (make your own onigiri) & Super Hotel (provided by hotel)
8:20-8:25	Board bus Super Hotel - Bus A & OYO Hotel - Bus B
8:30-12:20	Bus A (Part 1, 2) Bus B (Part 2, 1) Part 1 Soshisha Minamata Disease Museum Part 2 Visit Minamata disease historical sites (i.e., the Grand Zero drain, the Eco-park, and memorials)
12:30-13:20	Lunch
13:20-14:10	Welcome & Ice-breaking
14:20-16:35	Storytelling by a victim leader - OGATA Masami
16:50-17:30	Buses depart to beach
17:30-19:15	Dinner (obento provided) and beachside activities on Yunoko Beach Evening beachside activities covered by individuals: a. Sunset canoe (~4000 JPY for 1 boat, max 16 ppl) b. Beachside Cafeteria (~400 JPY) c. Hot spring (300-1000 JPY) d. Sunset watching, swimming (FREE)
19:30-19:45	Buses depart for hotels

August 14, Wednesday

Field Trip | Day 2

Please bring a filled water bottle, hat/umbrella, ice pack, camera, notebook.

7:00-8:00	Breakfast OYO Hotel (make your own onigiri) & Super Hotel (provided by hotel)
8:20-8:25	Board bus Super Hotel - Bus A & OYO Hotel - Bus B
8:50-9:20	Reflections & sharing
9:20-10:50	Storytelling by a victim (a fetal patient) - NAGAMOTO Kenji
11:05-12:35	Storytelling of revitalization and restoration of community - MATSUKI Kozo
12:40-13:30	Lunch
13:30-16:00	Group Activities 1) Dialogue with OGATA Masato 2) Japanese traditional crafts & stone statues 3) Nature activities at the beach & seaweed crafts 4) Organic tea-making & tasting 5) Japanese folk dance
16:45	Arrive at Moyai-kan
16:45-17:30	Reflections & sharing
17:30-19:30	Peace Dinner
19:30	Buses depart for onsen hotels
20:00	Arrive at Tojiya and Kikuya Hot Springs Hotels



MINAMATA STORYTELLERS

OGATA Masami, Day 1



Mr. Masami Ogata is the Chairperson of the Minamata Disease Museum Kataribe-Storytellers' Association. He was born into a family of fishermen leaders in Mishima in 1957 and was recognized as a Minamata disease patient after a 10-year administrative struggle in 2006. He is a joiner and a certified eco-meister. He has produced prayer kokeshi dolls and handed them to world leaders.

NAGAMOTO Kenji, Day 2



Mr. Kenji Nagamoto was born in Minamata City in 1959 as a fetal Minamata Disease Patient and his father was a Chisso Corp. worker. He is a Kataribe storyteller at the Minamata Disease Museum and at an organization "Kibou Mirai Minamata (Hope, Future, Minamata)".

MATSUKI Kozo, Day 2



Mr. Kozo Matsuki was born in the mountainous area of Minamata in 1961, and worked as a Minamata City Hall officer for more than 30 years. In the 1990s, he worked right in the middle of the Minamata community revitalization and relationship restoration efforts under a great Mayor Masazumi Yoshii.



MINAMATA RESOURCE PEOPLE

OGATA Masato, Restorative Justice Leader



Masato Ogata was born in 1954 into a family of fishermen leaders in Meshima. As a Minamata disease patient leader and spiritual leader, he has been a key person in justice building and reconciliation in Minamata. He has promoted a movement to dialogue as an individual with people from all walks of life, beyond the position of perpetrator or victim, a prayer movement, and a movement to take responsibility for the destruction of nature by human beings.

OSAWA Nahoko, Minamata Guide



Ms. Nahoko Osawa is a NARPI Minamata Program local volunteer staff leader. She was born in Minamata in 1973 as the child of a Minamata disease patient supporter and is a graduate of MIU. She has been a key player in rebuilding relationships in the fragmented Minamata community and in new activities for the future. See: "Minamata Impact" with Akiko Ishihara and others, to communicate the current situation in Minamata in Japanese and English.

KOIZUMI Hatsue, Field Trip Support



Ms. Hatsue Koizumi is one of the leaders of the younger generation living in Minamata and guides the Shoshisya Museum and supports the NARPI fieldwork in Minamata as a helper. After graduating from university, she moved to Minamata and has worked for an organization called Soshisha, which provides support for the patient movement and the transmission of Minamata disease.

August 15, Thursday

Moving Day

Pack your things to head over to Miyazaki!

7:30-9:00	Breakfast
~9:30	Enjoy the onsen
10:00	Check out
10:10	Load luggage on buses
10:20-11:20	Reflections & sharing
11:20-12:20	Lunch (optional shopping)
12:20	Board bus
12:30-15:30	Buses depart for Miyazaki
18:00-20:00	Dinner Rotation 1 at 18:00 & Rotation 2 at 19:00
20:00	Rest and prepare for courses



Day 1 | August 16, Friday
Day 2 | August 17, Saturday
Day 3 | August 18, Sunday
Day 4 | August 19, Monday

Day 1-4 | Courses

Please bring any materials for class or personal items needed throughout the day while at Miyazaki International University.

7:00-8:00	Breakfast Rotation 1 at 7:00 & Rotation 2 at 7:30
8:30	Buses depart for MIU
9:00-9:50	Plenary Session Day 1 Opening Ceremony - KASAI Aya Day 2 KWAHARA Kazuyuki Day 3 Felix A. JIMENEZ BOTTA Day 4 LU deting & Paul Kyumin LEE
10:00-12:30	Morning classes
12:30-13:30	Lunch
13:30-17:00	Afternoon classes (snack break from 15:15-15:30) Day 3 Rest & Reflection, no classes
17:15	Buses depart for Fisherman's Hostel
18:00-19:30	Dinner Rotation 1 at 18:00 & Rotation 2 at 18:45
19:30-21:00	Evening Activities Day 1 FREE Day 2 Youth Initiative Gathering Day 3 Tapping Touch Workshop (optional) Day 4 Culture & Talent Night

August 20, Tuesday

Day 5 | Courses

On Day 5, because of the Closing Ceremony, our schedule will be different.

7:00-8:00	Breakfast Rotation 1 at 7:00 & Rotation 2 at 7:30
8:30	Buses depart for MIU
9:00-12:30	Morning classes (snack break from 10:45-11:00)
12:30-13:30	Lunch
13:30-16:00	Afternoon classes
16:00-16:30	Evaluations & classroom clean-up
16:30-17:30	Closing Ceremony
17:45	Buses depart for Fisherman's Hostel
18:00-19:00	Farewell Dinner - Indoor BBQ

CONFLICT AND PEACE FRAMEWORK

This course will provide a framework of peace and conflict studies to those who need introductory provision to the field. It will focus on three major terms of the field: conflict, peace, and violence. The participants will work on defining and understanding these terms and applying them to our local and regional contexts with specific issues and cases. Throughout the course, sessions are composed of various ways of active learning, such as group work, role plays, and communication skills exercises. Participants are expected to contribute to the course as resources to each other by sharing their knowledge, experience, and reflection on in-class activities.



KIM Gayeon

Research Lab Manager, PEACEMOMO, South Korea
Editor, The Slash, South Korea

Gayeon Kim studied Theology and Politics with an undergraduate degree in South Korea and completed her M.A. in Conflict Transformation at the Center for Justice and Peacebuilding from Eastern Mennonite University in the US. She translated books from the peacebuilding sector into Korean; the Little Book of Strategic Peacebuilding(2014) and Conflict Assessment and Peacebuilding Planning(2020) by Lisa Schirch; Moral Imagination by John Paul Lederach(2016); and the Little Book of Restorative Justice for Older Adults by Julie Friesen and Wendy Meek(2021). Gayeon envisions peacebuilding in South Korean society under the keywords of conflict transformation and peace journalism.



KAJITA Natsuha

Natsuha (she/her) is a learning designer and facilitator, interested in exploring opportunities in intercultural dialogue and education for peacebuilding. With a foundation in both primary and language education, she has been working to support learners from diverse cultural backgrounds to engage in inquiry-based learning and inclusive language learning. Natsuha holds an MA in Education from University of Oulu, Finland, where she studied education through the lens of peacebuilding. She has been part of the NARPI programs as a facilitator since 2021.

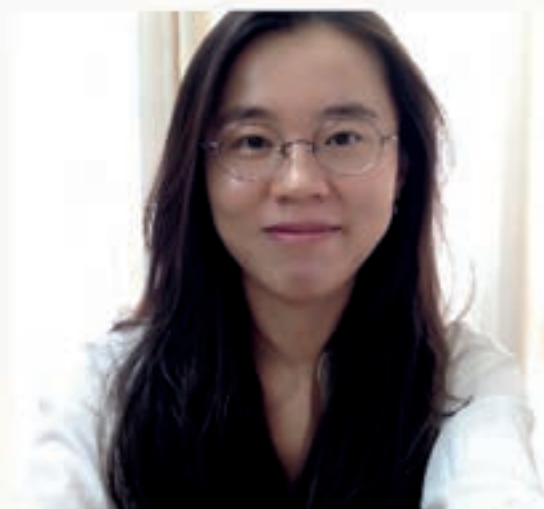
OPTIMIZING PEACEBUILDING BY INCREASING TRAUMA AWARENESS

This 5-day workshop offers a space to deepen our understanding of trauma and its fundamental role in optimizing peacebuilding. Through interactive sessions, participants will learn how social, collective, and historical trauma live through generations to undermine peacebuilding and how we can work with it using somatic psychology and creative arts. This year, our dialogue will also include the Minamata story as an example to address how trauma can serve as a root cause resulting in divisions at different levels. Centered on participatory and experiential learning, this workshop may be beneficial for anyone interested in increasing their trauma awareness, thereby optimizing efforts in building lasting peace.

LU deting

deting is a small piece of peace in progress, driven by a passion for nurturing connections, healing trauma/wounds, and restoring wholeness. Since 2019, she has actively engaged in peace work and has embraced nonviolence as a guiding philosophy in her daily life. In September 2023, she completed her Ph.D program in Peace and Conflict Studies, focusing her research on the potential for healing grassroots relationships between China and Japan by revisiting the historical trauma of Nanjing (and Hiroshima).

Currently, she is a certified trainer for Level One Kingian Nonviolence, a research fellow at the UNESCO Chair on Peace Studies at Nanjing University, and a member of the Peace Studies Association of Japan.



KATO Youki

Youki Kato is a Registered Clinical Counsellor and certified Expressive Arts Therapist based in Vancouver Canada. She holds a master's degree in Counseling Psychology from CILS, California. With extensive experience supporting diverse individuals, couples, and families, she addresses various psychological issues, including trauma, through her private practice. Additionally, she has been actively involved in disability employment support and early childhood education initiatives in Japan. Yuki believes that healing individual trauma is essential for fostering peace in society.



Course 3

EXPLORING GENDER & SEXUALITY IN CONFLICT AND PEACEBUILDING: AN ARTS-BASED APPROACH

This course will consider the role of identity, especially gender, and sexuality, in conflict and peacebuilding. Participants and facilitators will start by unpacking our diverse selves. We will have a journey together to explore our and each other's positionality. There are different structures of violence and conflict in our world today that threaten us. We see this in our treatment of minorities, our biases, stereotyping, and discrimination in different realms of society. By using arts approaches we will create a safe and peaceful space and through this try to experience different stories and contexts of our group to unpack the interplay of our identity to conflict and peace. Participants will leave as artist-activists who can take their own learnings to further a culture of peace and identity-sensitive understanding to their communities and societies in Northeast Asia.

Jeram Yunghun KANG

Artist-Activist based in Jeju, South Korea



Jeram Yunghun Kang studied Brand Marketing Management at Sogang University and Visual Identity Design at Kaywon University of Art and Design in South Korea. He graduated from the Royal College of Art in London, UK with 'Distinction' for his MA Dissertation, while also being one of only three, out of the fifty-seven students in the Visual Communication Programme, to obtain 'Excellent' - i.e. (top marks), in his final examination.

His name, Jeram, means a person from Jeju as he identifies himself as a survivor of a massacre that occurred in his native Jeju island over 70 years ago. On a killing field, a bullet toward his grandmother went astray and she survived. She gave birth to Jeram's mother after her traumatic experience. His grandmother could not speak out her voice till a few days before she passed away because of her fear. Jeram wrote his dissertation following his question that how visual art copes with trauma especially focusing on a community level. After the study, 'small voice with a big impact' became the theme for his following projects: Amran's Bus (2019~), for refugees; You/We come in I/We come out (2018~) and Typeface Gilbeot Project (2020~2022) for sexual minorities; Fing Font (2016), for the deaf; From Room 19 (2022~), for women. He is currently working on a story-telling arts project, DA RA GA, with local children and their mothers from Vietnam on his native Jeju Island.

OKUMOTO Kyoko

Professor, Department of International & English Interdisciplinary Studies, Osaka Jogakuin University; The 25th President of the Peace Studies Association of Japan; Board Member, Transcend Japan; Regional Convener for North East Asia, Transcend International; Board Member, Nonviolence Peaceforce Japan; leader, ACTION-Asia.



Dr. Kyoko Okumoto works in the fields of Peace Studies, Conflict Transformation, Nonviolent Intervention, and particularly focuses on the Arts-based Approaches to Peacework. She teaches and facilitates peace workshops held mainly by civil society groups, and universities/schools. She tries to expand and deepen the network among North East Asian CSO/NGO people, and collaborates with researchers and practitioners in Asia and beyond.

RESTORATIVE JUSTICE: HEALING OUR SOCIETY AND THE PLANET

Restorative Justice (RJ) is a new justice paradigm that aims for right relationships and healing as the ultimate goal of justice. When something wrong happens, RJ focuses not only on punishing wrongdoers, but on how to meet the needs of victims, communities, and the environment that are affected by the wrongdoing. And it also invites wrongdoers into opportunities to take voluntary responsibilities through various dialogue programs in order to bring just-peace. In this course, participants will learn the basic principles of RJ and how it can be practiced in different aspects of society, such as criminal justice, school violence, and neighbor disputes. This year we will also highlight the issue of environmental justice and explore how to build just relationships with the earth and other creatures, related to environmental issues on our planet. We will explore the possibilities of bringing justice and healing in communities and ecosystems affected by environmental harm, through the lens of restorative justice.

LEE Jae Young

Director
Northeast Asia Regional Peacebuilding Institute (NARPI)
Korea Association for Restorative Justice, South Korea

Jae Young graduated from Eastern Mennonite University with an MA in Conflict Transformation focusing on Restorative Justice studies. He is one of the founders of the Northeast Asia Regional Peacebuilding Institute (NARPI, 2010) where he currently serves as executive director. He also founded the Korea Peacebuilding Institute (2012) and Korea Association for Restorative Justice (KARJ, 2015), leading organizations for the Restorative Justice movement in South Korea. He has conducted various workshops and lectures on restorative justice, mediation and reconciliation, and peacebuilding for schools, legal systems, government, NGOs, and community organizations in Korea. In addition, he has facilitated at the Mindanao Peacebuilding Institute (MPI) in the Philippines and the Christian Forum for Reconciliation in Northeast Asia. He is the author of a few books related to restorative justice and peacebuilding, including *Restorative Justice: Healing Our Society* (2020). Currently, he lives with family and staff together in a small community called the Peace Building Community near Seoul.



ISHIHARA Akiko

Professor at Kumamoto University, a practitioner/scholar/trainer of strategic conflict transformation and restorative justice, a board member of Japan Association of Peace Studies.

Dr. Akiko Ishihara is a scholar, practitioner and trainer of restorative justice and strategic conflict transformation based in Minamata City. Since 2008, she has been teaching at the graduate program of negotiation and conflict resolution studies in Kumamoto University, which is the first graduate program of the field in Japan. She completed a Master of Public Health at the University of California, Berkeley and an MA in Conflict Transformation at Eastern Mennonite University. She has been working on the revitalization and reconciliation of divided communities by environmental and earthquake disasters in Japan - Minamata, Fukushima, Okawa, etc., combining trauma healing, restorative justice, and nonviolent social movement approach. Currently, she is also interested in the healthcare field, working on end-of-life reconciliation and reconciliation of conflicts surrounding dementia.



Course 5

CREATING PEACEBUILDING PROGRAMS

This course is an advanced course designed to support peacebuilding practitioners with at least two years of practical experience or study who want to create or expand their peacebuilding programs. Participants will bring their own experiences and ideas to the course and build a plan for the program that they want to develop. Through applying systems thinking models, conflict transformation change processes, peace education frameworks, participatory facilitation strategies, adaptive management and other tools to create a learning space where participants experience the kind of program that they want to implement, participants will equip themselves with frameworks, strategies and mindsets necessary to design and implement effective peacebuilding programs in diverse contexts.



Cheryl WOELK

Education Director and Language Coach, Collective Joy Consulting, Seoul, South Korea

Cheryl is co-founder of Collective Joy Consulting, which offers intercultural communication and conflict resolution training to individuals and organizations in Northeast Asia. Based in Seoul, South Korea, she has worked as an English language instructor and peace educator in diverse multicultural community, university and professional educational settings in Northeast Asia and North America. Cheryl holds a BA in English, a certificate in TESOL, an MA in Education, and a Graduate Certificate in Conflict Transformation. Her areas of interest in research and practice are integrating language learning and peace education in training for English language teachers, educational consulting for language institutes and in coaching professionals in South Korea who use English in international contexts. She is co-author of "Teaching English for Reconciliation: Pursuing Peace through Transformed Relationships in Language Learning and Teaching" (2018).



KIM Hong Seok (Scott)

Founder/CEO Collective Joy; Mediator, organizational Consultant, Conflict Coach

Hong Seok (Scott) Kim has working experience at international development agencies in South Korea, co-operative research institute Canada and community mediation center in US. Currently, he practices business consulting and conflict coaching at Collective Joy, which is peacebuilding agency focuses on organizational and community level in South Korea. He received his Bachelor of Law from Soong Sil University in South Korea and his Masters in Conflict Transformation concentrating on Organizational Leadership. Also he studied Theology for Peacebuilding at Eastern Mennonite University. He also completed training in professional mediation, trauma healing (STAR) and anti Racism(diversity) training.



Paul Kyumin LEE

President, Divided Families USA; Understanding Conflict Trust Fellow, Corrymeela

Paul Kyumin Lee is the president of Divided Families USA, an organization dedicated to facilitating closure for elderly Korean Americans who have been separated from their family members in North Korea as a result of the Korean War, and is the co-founder and co-host of the Divided Families Podcast, a platform for connecting stories of family separation. He is currently the Understanding Conflict Trust Fellow-in-Residence at the Corrymeela Community, Northern Ireland's oldest peace and reconciliation organization. In addition to working on Northeast Asia programs at the U.S. Institute of Peace and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, Paul has been a facilitator for the Words of Engagement Intergroup Dialogue Program at the University of Maryland, the Strait Talk Symposium, a civil society dialogue workshop at Brown University and the University of California, Berkeley for youth from mainland China and Taiwan, at Seeds of Peace, a summer camp in Maine for teenagers from conflict areas, and for International Student Conferences' exchange programs with students from the United States, China, Japan, and South Korea. He earned an M.Phil in Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation at Trinity College Dublin's Irish School of Ecumenics in Belfast, Northern Ireland and a bachelor's in political science from Yale University.



PLENARY SPEAKERS

KASAI Aya, Opening Ceremony - Miyazaki local host



Aya Kasai, Ph.D. studied counseling psychology with a concentration in expressive arts therapy at California Institute of Integral Studies. She has also completed trauma training at Somatic Experiencing Trauma Institute. Aya is a Lecturer at Miyazaki International College. She also works as a therapist in private practice, schools and hospitals, and conducts workshops on expressive arts therapy. Having been born and raised in Hiroshima, Japan and having studied and worked in multiple countries she has special interests in cross-cultural issues and how historical and collective trauma affects individuals and communities. Committed to promoting personal and social healing, Aya collaborates with therapists, educators, artists and peace workers and uses creative arts to facilitate therapeutic groups that enhance community building and dialogue.

KWAHARA Kazuyuki, Day 2



Around 50 years ago, I visited Toroku village as a newspaper reporter and wrote some articles on arsenic pollution. When I was 28 years old, I quitted the newspaper company and became a supporter of arsenic poisoning patients to request compensation against mine company at court. After the fighting, the Asia Arsenic Network (AAN) was organized by the supporters, as a member of AAN I visited some arsenic affected areas in Asia. In 2002 JICA appointed me an arsenic mitigation adviser and sent me to Bangladesh which was the most arsenic affected country. Asia Arsenic Network: <https://www.asia-arsenic.jp>

Felix A. JIMENEZ BOTTA, Day 3



Felix A. Jiménez Botta is an Associate Professor of History at Miyazaki International University, Japan, and earned his Ph.D. from Boston College. He is currently completing his first book manuscript, entitled Latin America Solidarity and the Politics of Human Rights in West Germany, 1973-1990, under contract with Cambridge University Press. The manuscript examines the contradictory uses of human rights in the advocacy campaigns towards in Chile, Argentina, Nicaragua, and El Salvador. He is also currently editing a special issue entitled "The Multiple Meanings of Human Rights" in Germany, which will appear this year. His work has appeared in the Journal of Contemporary History, Journal of Transatlantic Studies, Zeithistorische Forschungen, Contemporary European History, and Sports in Society.

Paul Kyumin LEE & LU deting, Day 4



Check out their wonderful bios on page 12 (deting) & page 15 (Paul)!



MIYAZAKI RESOURCE PEOPLE

NAKAGAWA Ichiro, Tapping Touch Instructor



Dr. Nakagawa created Tapping Touch and has a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Rochester. He worked as a licensed psychologist in San Francisco before returning to Japan in 2000 to continue his work in clinical & holistic psychology. Currently, he leads the Tapping Touch Association and teaches at Osaka University of Economics, focusing on holistic care research and education. His books include "Tapping Touch: Holistic Care for Mind, Body, and Earth" and "Relieving Mental and Physical Fatigue with Tapping Touch." Website: www.tappingtouch.org

ISHIDA Yuki, Tapping Touch Assistant



Yuki Ishida is a registered nurse and a certified public psychologist in Japan and has experience working as a public health nurse and nursing teacher. Yuki currently works at Kurume University, Department of Psychology (Faculty of Literature), and trains psychologists. Her interest is stress management, and she provides training at school and in local communities. Yuki is a Tapping Touch instructor and will be assisting in the Tapping Touch workshop in NARPI's Trauma course.

YAMADA Kenji, Resource person in Gender and Sexuality course



Kenji Yamada is an LGBTQ+ activist and a director of Rainbow View Miyazaki. He founded the organization in 2016 and has been promoting human rights for LGBTQ+ people through counseling, support groups, training, and public events such as Rainbow Parade. He regularly provides training for schools, local government, and companies. Nijihiro no Hinata is an LGBTQ+ youth support group. Nijihiro Sky is a support group for families of LGBTQ+. 11 out of 26 cities and towns in Miyazaki now issue a partnership certificate to same-sex couples. This covers 71.5% of the population in Miyazaki. Rainbow View Miyazaki is working hard to increase public awareness of marriage equality. Website: <https://lgbtmizayaki.com>

2024 Planners

Northeast Asia Regional Peacebuilding Institute

Local Hosting Team

ISHIHARA Akiko (Local host in Minamata), KASAI Aya (Local host in Miyazaki)

Children's Program

MAEBARA Miki, SHIGEHARA Haruna, ICHIMURA Madoka

Visa Support

SHIMOJO Asato (Peace Boat)

Steering Committee

KATANO Atsuhiko (Chair), SASAKI Moe (Vice-Chair), KIM Hong Soek (Scott) (Vice-Chair),

DAMDINSUREN Oyunsuren, ISHIHARA Akiko, Meri JOYCE, CHIANG Ying-mei (May),

OKUMOTO Kyoko, LU deting, KANG Suyeon, SHUANG Bai

Advisory Members/Sponsor Organization Members

Christine VERTUCCI, Liu CHENG, MATSUI Kathy, KIM SeongHan

Admin Team

Jewel Hana CHUNG, Karen SPICHER, LEE Jae Young (Executive Director)

Sponsor Organizations



Host for visa invitations



NARPI 2024 Co-host



Miyazaki International University

Buses in Miyazaki provided by

Colin Laundry Dolphin & Local women's soccer team



And special thanks to Colin BAXTER for the beautiful sailboat paintings.

ADDRESSES

[August 12-13]

Group A: OYO Hotel Sunlight Minamata

3-2-31 Sakuraicho, Minamata, 867-0045, Kumamoto, Japan

Group B: Super Hotel Minamata

1-1-38 Daikoku-cho, Minamata-shi, 867-0043, Kumamoto, Japan

[August 14]

Group C: Guesthouse Tojiya Minamata

1561-1 Yude, Minamata City, Kumamoto, 867-0025

Group D: Kikuya Onsen Hotel Minamata

1402 Yude, Minamata City, Kumamoto, 867-0025

[August 15-21]

Aoshima Fishermans Beachside Hostel & Spa

3-1-53, Aoshima, Miyazaki city, 889-2162, Miyazaki, Japan

CONTACTS

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