

# Sister cities of Neyagawa



## Neyagawa City's Sister City Cultural Exchange Program with Newport News City

Accepting the delegates from the city in 2018

Neyagawa city and its' sister city, Newport News City, Virginia, U.S. have continued civil exchange programs by sending and receiving the delegates. NIEFA plays the crucial role to enhance the cultural exchange program between the two cities in cooperation with the officials from these cities.

In 2018, Neyagawa accepted the delegates from Newport News City on the date of November 17 (Sat) to 25 (Sun).

Neyagawa and Newport News Sister City Exchange Promoting Committee has actively worked on preparing, planning and managing this reception. This program provides interpreters who have been trained at community interpreting course at NIEFA .

### The welcome ceremony

The welcome ceremony was held on November 17. The ceremony hall was decorated by NIEFA's staffs and members. The host families and staffs confirmed detailed schedules. All the preparation was ready.

Then, the staffs picking up the delegates from Newport News City at the airport called their arrival to the hall was soon. It's about time to start the welcoming ceremony.

The ceremony began with the opening speeches from Mr. Kamei, the president of NIEFA and Ms.Katie Stodghill, the head leader of delegation from Newport News City. And then, delegation members were introduced their host family. Although interpreters got nervous before the ceremony start, they ean could show good results of practice.



### Noh Experience



On Nov 19<sup>th</sup>, the program held a special Noh experience workshop. Noh is a classic form of theatre involving music, dance and drama. The lecturer was Manjiro Tatsumi who is a professional Noh player. The delegates and NIEFA members visited his Noh lesson studio in Neyagawa. They learned the basics of Noh and experienced



the way to move in a Noh play.

First, the delegates wore Noh masks and found out their vision narrows So, their feet got entangled and they felt dizzy when they advanced step by step. But, they did their best !

Then, they were taught how they move in a play;

moving their hand to their forehead means their grief. Lastly, they experienced wearing Noh costumes. Dressed in a magnificent costumes which are woven with gold threads, they asked " Is this costume for a feudal lord in medieval Japan?"

