

Michigan Shiga Sister State Program

P.O. BOX 4715 East Lansing, MI 48826

(2/12/09)

Invitation to Join 2009 Goodwill Mission to Shiga, Japan

An annual Goodwill Mission (GWM) offers opportunities for Michigan and Shiga residents to deepen friendships and cultural understanding. During the summer of odd-numbered years a delegation of Michigan residents enjoys a ten-day Goodwill Mission to Shiga, including five days of home-stay experiences with a Shiga host family as well as day trips to Kyoto and other neighboring areas. A representative for the Governor of Michigan often accompanies the Goodwill Delegation to Shiga.

During the summer of even-numbered years Michigan residents host a delegation from Shiga. Families and individuals throughout Michigan provide home stays for our Shiga guests.

2009 Goodwill Mission

- The dates for the Goodwill Mission (GWM) are **October 26 to November 7, 2009.**
- The group will depart from Detroit on Northwest Airlines at 3:50 p.m. October 26 and arrive in Nagoya at 6:15 p.m. October 27. The return flight will leave Nagoya at 12:45 p.m. November 7 and arrive in Detroit at 10:30 a.m. on November 7.
- The home stay portion includes the nights of October 30– November 3.
- Cost of the trip is \$2,600.
- Information meetings will be conducted in various sister-cities across the state.
- Participants will receive a detailed itinerary and are expected to attend an orientation meeting in Lansing. Date will be announced.
- A chaperone, parent, or guardian must accompany an individual(s) under the age of 18.
- The airlines does not accept Frequent Flyer miles for group rates or upgrades.
- Except for emergencies or special circumstances, Delegate(s) may not leave Japan early.

**** Delegates may extend their stay in Japan. Optional travel can be arranged through our travel consultants: Hiroko or Elizabeth at 1-800-451-7995, JTB Global Travel, Novi, MI. Between April 1-14, only 20% of the attending delegates will be allowed to make itinerary changes. There will be a charge of \$50 per change AND the difference in fares.**

Payment Schedule

- April 1, 2009 \$ 200 Deposit due with application – Non Refundable after April 14
- May 1, 2009 \$1,200 Due
- June 1, 2009 \$1,200 Due

Submit application form with deposit. Airfares are guaranteed at time of group deposit.

Payments

- Make checks payable to: Michigan-Shiga Sister-State Board
- Mail to: Marilyn Schlieff, P.O. Box 4715, East Lansing, Michigan 48826

Cancellation Policy for Air Portion after deposit is paid:

- Up to 120 days prior to travel: No penalty; full refund for deposit.
- Within 120 days of travel: 20% of group can cancel with full deposit refund; 80% non refundable deposit
- After ticket has been issued: (Within 40 days prior to travel), the entire ticket price is nonrefundable