

# New Uchina Goodwill Ambassador Activities



## Colorado, USA Satoru Uehara

March 9, 2014  
Okinawan cultural and Buyo performances at the National Adobe Seminar reception held in Boulder, Colorado.



June 14, 2014  
Introducing Okinawan culture at the Denver Consulate General.



December 10, 2014  
Introducing Okinawan culture at the Emperor's birthday celebration reception.



## California, USA Yoshihiro Tome

April 14, 2014  
An opinion exchange with members of the Chatan-cho Assembly of Commerce and Industry for regional revitalization. A courtesy call with the mayor of Chatan. An opinion exchange for the revitalization of Chatan's Mihama American Village.

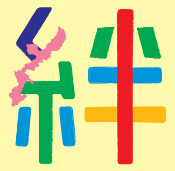


June 21, 2014  
Supporting awareness and the popularization of awamori. Receiving the Los Angeles International Spirits Competition Gold Medal.



December 8, 2014  
Accompanying fashion designer Sueko Oshimoto on her visit to Ryukyu Buyo dance instructor Takako Sato. An opinion exchange was held regarding the design of Bingata, a textile that is used in Ryukyu Buyo.





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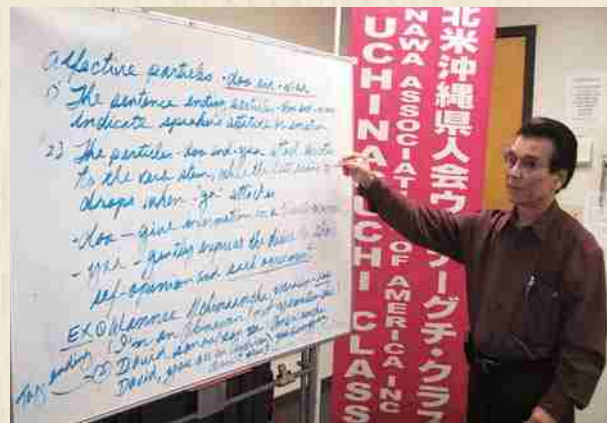
## California, USA Chogi Higa

2002 Uchinaguchi (Okinawan language) Class

This year (2015) marks the 13th year of my Uchinaguchi class. "In order to nurture the heart of Okinawa, one must first understand the Okinawan spirit. The culture of each region and each island is woven together by its language. Once lost, a language is not easily revived. We must never allow them to die. Let us spread the island languages we inherited from our ancestors across North America, and nurture the essence of Okinawa across the continent."



Professor Robert Walker (Front Row, third from the left) and instructor Higa (Front Row, second from the left) with their students.



Instructor Higa conducting his class.



Presentation Ceremony and Celebration. We listened to two speeches during and after lunch on the topic of "Katayabira Uchinaguchi" (Let's speak Okinawan).

## Toronto, Canada Akira Kobashigawa

In 2014, I took part in the following activities as a New Uchina Goodwill Ambassador.



June 29, 2014  
Having a picnic at Thomson Memorial Park in Toronto with members of the Toronto Kyuyokai. Over 60 participants deepened their friendships while enjoying food provided by members of the Kyuyokai.



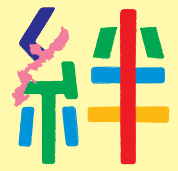
August 10, 2014  
Members of the Osaka-based "Karada to kokoro no deai no kai" (Karakoro for short) performing Okinawan rhythms and Eisa at the Nikkei Cultural Center of Toronto to support the restoration of Japan's Tohoku area.



September 26 and December 12, 2014  
Participating in an "Okinawa Night" held at the "Ryoji" izakaya (owned by Kota Uechi) for young Okinawans living in Toronto on student visas and working holidays.



November 29, 2014  
Enjoying the final exchange event of 2014, a Christmas party at the Nikkei Cultural Center sponsored by President Marianne Lefave and her staff. Over 90 members enjoyed homemade food together.



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## Toronto, Canada Nobuo Shiromoto

An Eisa performance by Osaka's Karakoro kai, co-sponsored and held at the Toronto Nikkei Cultural Center. The program was a huge success. As a New Uchina Goodwill Ambassador, I helped with the PR side of the event, advertised on my "Nikka Times e-nikka" web publication, and posted a featured article about the event.



## France Okinawa Kenjinkai Yasuko Nakayama Kudaka

January 2014  
Playing the sanshin and promoting Okinawa at the Paris International Diving Exhibition venue's Okinawa booth alongside members of the Okinawa Tourism Convention Bureau.



November 7-9, 2014  
A young Okinawan dance troupe performing at the "World Travel & Tourism Exhibition," held in Colmar, in the northern Alsacia region of France, where Japan was the guest of honor. For three days, in the morning and afternoon, as well as the first day's opening ceremony, the troupe performed Okinawan dances, invited visitors to join in dancing the Kachashi, and introduced Okinawa and its culture.

