



Quality of Life Benefits

Discovering a new culture or a lost art of living is always an exciting and enriching experience and there isn't a town in this country that doesn't have something to learn from its neighbors on this planet. Sister City programs can raise the quality of life in your community, can make it more sensitive and vibrant, a more interesting place to live in and visit.

Here are just a few random examples from Sister City files of what is meant by discovering new arts, new skills, new diversity to add variety and zest to the life style of your city:

A Japanese style "Haiku" poetry contest was conducted in the fall of 1972 at the Schurr and Montebello (California) Senior High Schools with the entries judged by Haiku poet Shisei Tsuneishi. More than 700 of the couplets popularized in this country through the writings of Zen scholars were submitted by the students and first and second place winners from each of the high schools received tasteful trophies donated by the Bank of Tokyo of California.

In the same community, Kabuki theater demonstrations and instructions in the making of Kimegome dolls are offered as an activity of the Sister City committee.

A Seattle report notes that eight Olympics caliber gymnastics instructors, invited under contract over the past few years from Kobe, have vastly upgraded the quality of gym instruction in the city's school system. Experts in Japanese brush painting, pottery, and wood carving brought over from Seattle's Sister City Kobe have introduced talented public school students to new forms of creative expression.