



EL DORADO COUNTY CHAPTER PEOPLE TO PEOPLE INTERNATIONAL

50th Anniversary Celebration with Warabi

Background

In 1975, in preparation for the Bicentennial, a group of residents discussed with the Board of Supervisors an idea of extending our Japanese connection (Wakamatsu Colony) to include a Sister City. Warabi City was approached after a youth group (4H) spent a few weeks there. Now, 50 years later, our connection has continued and is still thriving. El Dorado County just hosted 10 youths and 3 adults for ten days in July. Over 800 youths and adults have participated in our sister city exchange over the past 50 years. Now we are preparing to celebrate our Anniversary both here and in Warabi, Japan.

Torii Proposal

John Hanses, son of one of the founders, Myrna Hanses, would like to design an art structure at the Placerville Library to commemorate this 50th event. Please refer to the packet proposal for details. El Dorado County People to People would coordinate the project. We wanted to create something that would draw attention to our long-time connection with Warabi for the community but also honor the Japanese culture.

Gifts

Over the years, many gifts have been exchanged and gift giving is an extremely important component of Japanese culture. We will need to present a gift to the officials who come in May 2025 and a gift when we go to Warabi in late October 2025. We would like input from the Board of Supervisors as it will represent our County.

Official ceremony

Ceremony is also an important part of Japanese culture and we would encourage the Board of Supervisors (Possibly with the City of Placerville) to organize an official ceremony where the Sister City connection is recognized and the gift is presented.