

GAZETTE

H o l l y w o o d & W e s t w o o d



GETTING TO KNOW MY FATHER

I still remember the date I arrived in the United States. It was on March 23rd, 2022. I must confess that I did not want to come to Los Angeles because I did not know my father. Why?

Because my father has been living in the United States for 20 years. My parents have been separated since 2002, when I was 3 years old. It was a hard time!

However, I was so excited to meet with my father. I was planning to come for just a few months, but now I have been living in California for two years. As the time has passed, I have gotten to know my father. It was not easy, but we have both changed some attitudes in our life.

My experience living in Los Angeles has been surprising. First, because my father became my best friend and we have shared a lot of unforgettable moments. Second, I have visited many beautiful places in the United States. I had a memorable experience when I was able to see snow fall on the mountains. I saw snow for the first time in my life. It was amazing! Third, as an MLI student, I have met with great people who've taught me about their countries and cultures. I love learning about Japanese culture! I was able to learn some words in Japanese thanks to the help of my Japanese classmates. I never imagined that I would be able to share ideas with people from different countries. I am grateful to God for the opportunity to come to this country.

By Lesli



MY EXPERIENCE LIVING IN LA

My experience in LA has been stimulating because I've had a lot of opportunities to feel disappointed. I'm going to write about two opportunities in which I felt like that. First, there was the time when I wasn't able to follow the conversation in a local LA community. I had a prior experience studying abroad and opportunities to speak with foreigners in Japan, so I thought I could talk with anyone in LA. However, my English level is not good enough to follow native conversation. I wanted to join the conversation but I couldn't, because I couldn't understand what they were saying, so at that time I just smiled. Second, there was the time I wasn't able to achieve my goal time for the LA Marathon. At first, I was able to keep up a good pace and was on track to achieve it. But by the 15 mile mark, my legs were convulsing. After that, I couldn't run and even walking was difficult for me. As a result, I wasn't able to achieve my goal even though I completed the full marathon. I want to improve both my English and my running skills so I'm going to keep practicing to reach my full potential.

By Kazuya Nakada



AND: THE BRAND

A goal which I would like to achieve is having my own fashion brand and expanding it. Currently, I have been planning to start my own brand. I have already decided on a name for my brand. The name is “and”.

I founded this brand “and” with the idea of letting people know the problems in terms of sustainability that are hidden in the supply chain. For example, poor working conditions in garment factories, mass consumption and environmental pollution. I studied sustainability in my university. At that time I was shocked when I discovered that there is a huge burden on the Earth and people. Therefore, I would like to share services that more deeply consider the environment and people working in the supply chain.

First of all, I am going to make printed T-shirts because I can make them on a small budget. I am going to sell them online and tell the story of how important sustainability is.

I want to start my brand in one month, so I will focus on designing products from now on. I believe that keeping on trying and not giving up leads to achievement.

By Naoto Honda





MY THREE GOALS

When I worked as an employee at a Japanese company, I made time to think about what I wanted to do and what kind of personality I wanted to be. Since that time, I have had three goals which I want to achieve.

First is spending my life not only in Japan. As you know, Japan has a lot of good aspects. But I felt that if I spend my life only in Japan, my sight will be limited. I think we have plenty of possibilities, so throughout the experience outside of Japan, I want to keep searching for my possibilities.

Second is contributing to society with my own business. I have a person who I respect. She is an entrepreneur who built a business that discovered the treasures of developing countries and made them valuable products in the global market. When I found her, she had a huge impact on me and I thought, "I want to be like her."

Third is getting enough economic power to realize an ideal lifestyle. Right now, what restricts my life is the problem of money. I have a lot of things which I want to do and get, but I should do them only with as much money as I have and earn.

To achieve these goals, I think building a global business by myself is the best way. That's why I quit my job and I'm studying English and business here in LA. I have three more months left to study here. In this time, I should be able to communicate with native English speakers and I'll start my own business, at least to some degree.

By Kazuya Nakada

SPRING FASHION IDEAS

I have three different spring fashion ideas that I am interested in for this spring.

The first idea is to wear something pastel, which means a color having a soft, subdued shade. For example, salmon pink, mint, beige and sky blue. The reason that I chose pastels is to express the atmosphere of the spring. The winter, which is a cold and rainy season finishes and spring, which is a warm and comfortable season starts. It really brightens up our mood. Therefore, I would like to show my mood of spring by using pastel colors.

The second idea is to wear something flower patterned. Many beautiful flowers bloom in the spring, so flower patterned clothes match with the spring atmosphere. I would like to have large flower patterns rather than fine patterns. I think that large patterns are more trendy than fine ones because I saw a lot of large patterned clothes in the spring-summer trend exhibition.

The third idea is to wear clothes that have movement and are refreshing. For example, textiles that are soft or sheer. You can imagine that the clothes are swaying in the wind, so it expresses the spring atmosphere.

I am interested in the three ideas that I stated. In addition, I am looking forward to wearing various clothes because spring is comfortable weather and suitable for enjoying fashion.

By Naoto Honda



GOLFING AND HIKING IN GRIFFITH PARK—AND ELSEWHERE

I have some plans which I want to carry out as a pastime this spring.

First is playing golf. Spring is a good season to play it. The temperature is pleasant and comfortable, not too hot or cold. The grass is also better in spring than in other seasons.

That's why most golfers think spring is the best season to play golf.

Second is hiking in some mountains, forests, or riversides. In spring, mountains, forests, and rivers are full of beautiful flowers and trees. There are a lot of natural tourism places in LA like Griffith Park (where you can both hike and golf), Topanga State Park, and so on.

There is a common point between both of these pastimes. The point is to be surrounded by green. I would like to live my life with this point as my theme this spring.

By Kazuya Nakada

