

Easter Time and April in Nashville!

Easter is a time for new beginnings and rebirth. It is a time when the world wakes up from its long winter sleep and turns green again. In America, some people believe that Easter is about the day that Jesus Christ was resurrected and returned to walk the Earth. However, most people these days simply celebrate the holiday with rabbit and egg shaped chocolates. For the children, they get to enjoy an Easter egg hunt, where a bunch of colorful plastic eggs are hidden, and have prizes inside them. Kids will also be visited by the “Easter Bunny” who will bring them candy, kind of similar to Santa. This is a great spring tradition that most American families uphold, regardless of their beliefs.

イースターは誕生と再生の季節です。長い眠りから目覚め緑が芽吹きます。欧米では、イースターにイエス・キリストが復活すると信じられています。最近ではウサギや卵型のチョコレートで祝う祭日になっています。子どもたちは、イースターエッグハントを楽しんだり、イースターバニーの訪問を受けてキャンディーをもらいます。信仰にかかわらず、春の伝統行事となっています。
*今年の復活祭は4月17日。



In addition, in Nashville, we have a yearly cherry blossom festival to celebrate our relationship with Japan on April 9th. Nashville is the sister city of Kamakura, so we have a Japanese cultural festival every year to celebrate that fact. We will have many Japanese arts and crafts, such as Shodo or Origami, as well as ceremonies and performances using Taiko and Sado. We also plant many cherry blossom trees around the state by selling them to participants who come from all over. This festival was one of my first introductions to Japanese culture and language, and I had such an amazing experience by being exposed to Japan in that way. I also remember enjoying Takoyaki for the first time there as well. I hope that others may learn and garner interest in the same way.

クーパー先生の出身地、テネシー州ナッシュビルでは毎年4月9日に桜まつりが開かれます。鎌倉市と姉妹都市ということもあって、日本文化を紹介する様々なイベントが行われます。クーパー先生にとって日本語や日本文化に触れるきっかけになったそうです。



**NASHVILLE
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BLOSSOM
FESTIVAL**