The Nagaoka-Honolulu Youth Peace Exchange Summit

Peace Summit Declaration

We, the youth of Nagaoka and Honolulu, met together in a peace exchange in this, the year 2015, which marks the 70th year after the end of the Pacific War.

Through this exchange together, we have learned about the tragic history of the Pearl Harbor attack in Honolulu and the Nagaoka Air Raid. Even now, reflecting on the after-effects of war, we are able to really feel how war has brought about such suffering and sadness. We must never forget that many people from both Nagaoka and Honolulu lost their lives, loved ones, and freedom.

We have learned that there are many different perspectives on peace. We have come to realize that we need to avoid war and create peace. To do so, we should try to understand our differences, respect each other, learn the reality of the war, and convey them objectively to later generations. We have also come to realize that it requires great effort from all sides to promote peace.

What can we do for peace? We can start with things around us. Each of us can work towards peace through discussion with family, peers, and our own individual communities. Furthermore, let us value the lives and the way of life of others as we value our own.

We, the youth of the world, hereby vow to be open-minded and continue our efforts to pass the baton of peace to future generations. We are all brothers and sisters and it doesn’t matter where we come from to unite together to make a difference.

August 15, 2015

The Participants of the
Nagaoka-Honolulu Youth Peace Exchange Summit