IIEP Vol.8 REPORT

written by Kaleo (America)

On Friday May 24, 2019, the long anticipated 8th Ito International Exchange Party (IIEP) was held.



Around 50 students, both international students and domestic students, joined in for an evening of exciting games and cultural exchange. (Left) As students entered the venue, they were greeted by Fluk's (Thailand) warm smile. (Right) IIEP Vol. 8 was led by both Japanese and international students who are passionate about promoting crosscultural exchange and building friendships that transcend borders. Two amazing MCs, Ying-Ying (Australia) and Kostas (America), kept energy levels high throughout the evening.



The party began with two games to break the ice. (Left) First, all students gathered and formed two circles for a time of "speed dating." With only one minute per circle rotation, students quickly asked each other questions, trying to learn as much as possible about one another in the short amount of time. (Right) Next came the game "untangle." In teams of six, students tangled up their arms then grabbed hands with their team members. The challenge: untangle everyone's arms and create a circle without letting go of each other's hands. It was definitely a true test of teamwork, communication, and creative problem solving.



After ice-breakers, the true game began. Students played, most for the first time, a game from Thailand called "cabbage ball." Standing in one large circle, students passed a cabbage ball (made from paper) around as music

played in the background. When the music stopped, whoever had the cabbage ball in hand had to peel off one layer to reveal a challenge they had to complete. From runway catwalks (Top-left) to jumping jacks (Bottom-left), and even to animal-pose group selfies (Right), this cabbage ball had it all.



After cabbage ball, the night took a change in pace. Seated around tables with drinks and snacks, students had a chance to relax while engaging in leisurely discussion. Topics of discussion ranged from Golden Week activities and local specialties of one's hometown, all the way to what meal one would choose if they had to eat it three meals a day for one whole year.



IIEP Vol. 8 was truly a fun-filled evening with nothing but smiles and laughter all around. All were able to experience and enjoy this time of exchange, trying new games, new challenges, and having new conversations with new friends. Students and volunteers alike are eagerly looking forward to the next international exchange party to come.



IIEP Vol. 9 is coming in late 2019!
Let's have fun together!!!