

Precious Suzuka - Zumi

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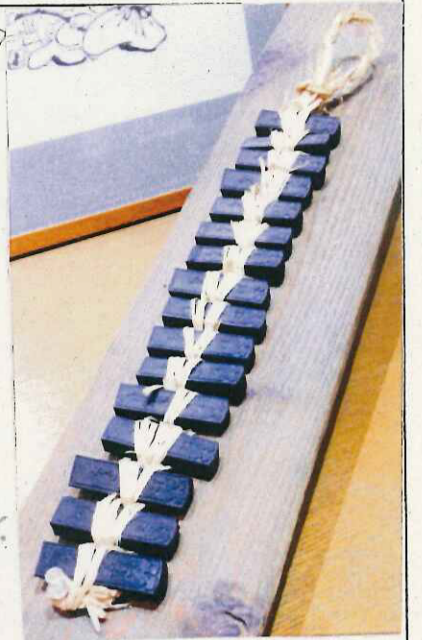
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Do you know about the Suzuka-Zumi ink stick?

This is a traditional craft. The ink stick has been produced since 780 BC. General ink sticks are made by mixing soot with glue to solidity, then molded and dried.

But Suzuka-Zumi is made in a different way.

Masters of Suzuka-Zumi make ink sticks with some sea shell. That makes ink sticks beautiful.



We use ink sticks when we write calligraphy. Calligraphy is a creative art form which attempts to express spiritual depth and beauty by means of kanji and kana characters written with brush and ink.

There are a few masters of Suzuka-Zumi in my city. They're making an effort to make it known how fun Suzuka-Zumi is.

For example, they're inventing new colorful ink sticks.

They are also making speeches about it at schools.

They are showing a lot of people Suzuka-Zumi in the Traditional Industry Hall of Suzuka city.

Suzuka-Zumi is used for Suzuka city Marathon T-shirts. I like

calligraphy very much, so I'd like to spread

Suzuka-Zumi all over the world through it.



(テーマを選んだ理由)

私が小学生の頃、鈴鹿墨の伝統工芸士さんに学校に来ていただき、鈴鹿墨についてや職人さんが少ないことなどたくさん教えていただいたことがありました。こんなにも素晴らしい伝統工芸品が鈴鹿にあるので、それを誇り、鈴鹿墨の魅力やおもしろさをたくさんの方に知ってもらいたいと思ったからです。そして、外国の方に日本の文化である習道についても学んでもらいたいと思ったからです。