

December 15, 2015

Request for Cooperation with the Sugihara UNESCO Project

The town of Yaotsu, the birthplace of Chiune Sugihara, established and runs the Chiune Sugihara Memorial Museum in memory of his actions, and is now trying to register Sugihara visas and related documents with the UNESCO Memory of the World Program. Our hope is to win UNESCO Memory of the World status for records documenting the deeds of Sugihara's mass visa issuance in Kaunas, Lithuania in 1940. We believe that this bright memory among the tragedies of WWII and the Holocaust should be properly preserved and passed on to future generations.

We will be submitting the final application by the end of March 2016, and currently we are trying to produce an as comprehensive as possible a list of original Sugihara visas which are scattered around the world. We would be very grateful if you could inform us of the current situation regarding the original Sugihara visa that you or your family received, even if you are no longer in possession of the original visa.

If you still have the original Sugihara visa, we would like to ask your permission to include it as part of our application. The registration with the UNESCO Memory of the World Program would not affect your ownership, possession, control, or copyright of the visa in any way. We would only request your permission and that you provide us with digital images of the passport and visa. We believe that you and your family's cooperation would strengthen the chance of our application being registered.

We are happy to discuss the matter in more detail as needed. Please feel free to contact us with any questions you may have about this project or to clarify any other issues.



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Madoka Sugihara (Granddaughter of Chiune Sugihara)

Vice Chairman, NPO Chiune Sugihara Visas For Life / Advisory committee, the Sugihara UNESCO project

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