

E-mail Newsletter from Mayor of Okayama city(29) September 19th Issue

【appeared on the movie “DEEREE Girls” 】

Hello. This is Omori, mayor of okayama city.

Do you know a novel “Deeree* Girls” (*Deeree is an okayama dialect, meaning “very”) written by Maha Harada? This is a youthful story which theme is friendship and so on. The stage is okayama city where Ms. Harada lived in her youth. To my joy, it is decided to make a movie of this novel and shooting has already started in okayama city.

Cinematizing a novel associated with okayama city made me very happy. Moreover, I happened to be able to appear on this movie and participated in the filming at Hokan-cho shopping street with Mio Yuki (she appeared on NHK drama “Amachan” as Kaoruko Onodera, a member of GMT47. Her impression was calm and stalwart heart) and Rika Adachi (she appeared on the same drama as Ms. Yuki as a center member of “Ame girls” who was mean to the main character. But in fact her character is very cheerful and indifferent to mean).

My role is a shopkeeper of fruit store. I stood at a storefront wearing an apron, a towel around my neck and sandals and saying “she is deeree stimulating.” as seeing off Ayuko Sasaoka played by Ms. Yuki ran past by bicycle. It took one honor and half to take the scene. My line was only a word, but it was beyond my imagination to play a role as watching

the timing and didn't even know how to make an expression.

Moreover, although my scene (seeing off the main character) sounds very easy, the director gave me strict directions such as "your move makes a watermelon hard to see!" This made me realize performing is very deep. I was very relieved when I finally finished my scene.

Since I became the mayor, I've experienced various things. I was a little bit shy to participate in the shooting. But I got a good evaluation from members such as "I perfectly acted as a shopkeeper of fruit store". I think I could publicize Okayama city a bit.

The movie "Deeree Girls" will be released throughout Japan after advanced screening in Okayama city next February. Please check it out.