Press Release January 28, 2025



Immediate Release: Autism Soccer Making History at Japan's Prestigious Genius Cup!

Miami, FL. The founder of Autism Soccer, Oscar Amuz, announced that his team was invited to participate in the 6th Annual Genius Cup from March 29 to April 7 in Hiroshima, Japan. This will mark the first time a US team has participated in this event since its inception. This is a historic milestone toward reaching Autism Soccer's goal of demonstrating the therapeutic benefits of engaging children with Autism to an International audience.

The Genius Cup is hosted by the Japan Developmental Support Football Association (JDSFA). The purpose is to provide children and students with developmental or intellectual disabilities with an opportunity to test the results of their daily physical therapy and hold friendly matches in which they can participate in a bright and fun manner.

Mr. Amuz attended the 4th Annual Genius Cup in 2024 as a guest of JDSFA to consider future participation for his team. "I was extremely impressed with the caliber of the Genius Cup. Not only was it a well-organized event, but it was clear that JDSFA and its participants had developed a very sound curriculum for engaging autistic youth through sports. I would be honored to have my team participate in the 6th Annual Genius Cup to take the next steps in fulfilling our mission to spread Autism Soccer worldwide."

We are grateful to Brenda Lampon, MS, Senior Advocate, and Engagement Manager from the office of Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Lavine Cava, for attending our press conference and to Mayor Cava herself for recognizing the significance of this event and pledging her support. We would also like to thank The Help and Happiness Foundation, Universal Peace Federation, ROAR Counselor & Behavior Therapy, and Barbara Casanova Consulting for their support.

The team will consist of 14 players, their parents, 2 coaches, and a therapist. Participation is a significant financial commitment that includes airfare, hotel, transportation, meals, uniforms, and training facilities, among other costs. We have created a GoFundMe so our friends, supporters, and the larger Autism community nationwide can help us meet our goal of \$150,000, but time is short. We hope we can count on everyone to chip in, no matter how little, to make this possible.

Press Conference Links: (English) (Spanish)

To learn more or request an interview, visit AutismSoccer.org or email info@autismsoccer.org.

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