



Plaza News

March 2007

Miyazaki Prefecture International Plaza

Questions, comments, postings, or for information in Plaza News: Miyazaki Prefecture International Foundation, 8F Carino Miyazaki, Tachibanadori Higashi 4-8-1, Miyazaki City 880-0805 Tel: 0985-32-8457 Fax: 0985-32-8512 Email: miyainfo@mif.or.jp Homepage: <http://www.mif.or.jp>

Announcements from the Plaza

Please direct all applications/enquiries regarding plaza announcements to the Miyazaki International Foundation



◎ Miyazaki International Plaza Volunteer Recruitment Drive

We are looking for counter volunteers over 18 years of age to help us with administration at the International Plaza. If you are interested, please fill in the application form and send it to us by 17 Mar (Sat). Please note that should there be overwhelming response we will select potential volunteers from the written applications. ※Applicants must be able to converse in Japanese

Volunteer period: 3 Apr 2007 (Tue) to 29 Sept 2007 (Sat)

Time slots: (1) 10:00am to 1:00pm (2) 1:00pm to 4:00pm (3) 4:00pm to 7:00pm
Once per week from Tuesday to Saturday

Contents:

- Providing general information
- Attending to visitors
- Tidying up library books & reference materials
- Computer processing
- Processing and dispatching used stamps and prepaid cards
- Handling borrowing/returning of books and videos

Other info: Volunteer insurance will be paid for by the Miyazaki International Foundation

Application Deadline: 17 Mar 2007 (Sat)



Interested in volunteer work?
The Plaza wants you!

◎ Japanese Language Course for Foreign Residents (Beginners)

The Miyazaki International Foundation will be holding a Japanese Language Course for foreign residents. If you are the ultimate beginner, or have few opportunities to practice, this course is for you!

Period: 17 Apr 2007(Tue) to 10 July 2007(Tue) Every Tuesday and Friday (Twice per week, 25 lessons in total)

*No lessons on holidays

Time: 10:10am ~ 12:00pm

Target: Beginners in Japanese

Location: Carino Miyazaki 8th Floor Gaga-8

Cost: Textbook fee ¥2,835

Application deadline: 7 April(Sat) 2007

How to apply: Fill in the designated application form



◎ Japanese Practice Sessions for Foreign Residents (※Free ※No prior registration needed)

Japanese volunteers are holding Japanese practice sessions. Feel free to join in!

Date: Every Tuesday/Friday 10:30 to 11:30am

Location: Carino Miyazaki 8th Floor Gaga-8

◎ Looking For Volunteers!

(1) International Chat Volunteers

We are looking for people who can help out when "International Chat" sessions in English/Mandarin/Korean are being held.

For more details, please enquire at the Miyazaki International Foundation.

(2) International Understanding Talk Speakers

Interested in introducing your country's culture and customs to the residents of Miyazaki? Then this is for you!



Other Announcements

"Miyazaki - From the Outside Looking In" Art Exhibition In Miyakonojo, Nichinan ※Free admission

The "Miyazaki - From the Outside Looking In" art exhibition that was held at the Miyazaki International Plaza from 22 (Thur) ~ 28 Feb (Wed) will also be held at Miyakonojo City and Nichinan City. The exhibition includes artworks that represent foreign residents' impressions of and things related to Miyazaki. Please do come by!

Date/Time/Venue:

○ 6 Mar (Tue) ~ 15 Mar (Thu) 8:30am~5:00pm

※except for 10/11/13 Mar

Miyakonojo City Office West Building 1st Floor Citizens' Salon

○ 20 Mar (Tue)~29 Mar (Thu) 9:00am~5:00pm

Nichinan City International Exchange Centre Komura Memorial Lobby

Enquiries:

Miyakonojo City International Association Tel: 0986-23-2295

Nichinan City Commerce and Tourism Division Tel: 0987-31-1134



Other Announcements (cont)

Single-course Lunch in Chikkōen

Have lunch with Coordinators of International Relations from Nichinan City, Kushima City, Kitago Town and Nango Town in the full bloom of the sakura! Everybody is welcome!

- Date/Time: 28 Mar (Wed) 11:30am~2:00pm
Venue: Chikkōen (close to Nichinan High School)
Things to prepare: One dish enough for approximately 5 people, chopsticks
Enquiries: Nichinan City Commerce and Tourism Division Tel: 0987-31-1134



Art Wave Miyakonojo 2007 ~Japan-Hungary Cultural Exchange Festival~



Here you can understand more about Japanese and Hungarian traditional culture and music through concerts and lots of interesting events. Come on down and enjoy yourself!

- Date/Time: 10 Mar (Sat), 11 Mar (Sun) Venue: Miyakonojo City Wellness Exchange Plaza
- **Art Wave Concert 1 ~The Composers of Hungary~** 10 Mar (Sat) Doors open: 6:30pm Show begins: 7:00pm
 - **Art Wave Concert 2 ~Rediscover the sounds of Japan~** 11 Mar (Sun) Doors open: 2:30pm Show begins: 3:00pm
- ※Costs for concerts 1 & 2 above: Adults – 2,000 yen High school & below: 1,000 yen
- **Hands-on Craft-making Experience – Issei Amamiya’s Atelier ~What can you make?~**
 10 Mar (Sat) 1:00pm~3:00pm Participation fee: 500 yen (including materials)
- ※For elementary school children & above/limited to 20 groups of parent & child
- **Open workshops** ※Entrance fee (one-day free pass): Child – 300 yen/Adult – 500 yen
 ※You can participate in all the events from 1 to 4 with the one-day free pass.
- 1) Kazumi Kamino’s Atelier ~Enjoyable Nursery Rhymes~ 10 Mar (Sat) 10:30am/4:00pm ▪ 11 Mar (Sun) 1:00pm
 - 2) Charlie Bank’s Atelier ~Let’s have fun with music!~ 10 Mar (Sat) 11:30am/3:00pm
 - 3) Traditional Country Performance Art “Fumotobun yabushi Ningyō Jōruri” by children 11 Mar (Sun) 11:00am
 - 4) What kind of a country is Hungary? ~Hungarian Music & Folk Craft~ Full-day exhibit during the event period
- Enquiries: NPO Koji’s Forest/Children’s time Tel/Fax: 0986-39-5855

Dance Party 2007 in Spring!

Watch dance performances by active DJs in Asia and female teams in the prefecture, stand to win great prizes from the lucky draw, and there are much more exciting events! Come on down and party!

- Date/Time: 10 Mar (Sat) 9:00pm to 1:00am Venue: Planet Café Sports (Sports Bar)
Entrance fee: 1000 yen (with one drink)
Enquiries: Phoenix International Exchange Club Secretariat Person-in-Charge: Miss Tanaka
Tel/Fax: 0985-25-9921 (10:00am~5:00pm) 0985-32-5064 (7:00pm onwards)

Events in March

Event	Date	Time	Venue	Other info
Yamanokuchi Fumotobunyabushi Ningyō Jōruri Performance	18 Mar (Sun)	2:00pm	Miyakonojo City/ Hall of Dolls (<i>Ningyō-no-kan</i>)	<u>Cost:</u> Adult – 710 yen; Junior High to High Sch – 510 yen; Elementary Sch – 310 yen <u>Enquiries (weekdays):</u> Miyakonojo City Yamanokuchi General Branch Office Lifelong learning Division Tel: 0986-57-3111 Hall of Dolls Tel: 0986-57-5295/ <u>(weekends/public holidays):</u>
Udo Shrine Spring Grand Festival	24 Mar (Sat)	10:30 am	Nichinan City/Udo Jinja Main Hall	
20 th Miyakonojo Bow Festival – National Kyūdō Competition	24 Mar (Sat)	8:50am	Miyakonojo City/ Hayamizu Park Sports & Cultural Centre Special Kyūdō Area	<u>Enquiries:</u> Miyakonojo City Tourism Association Tel: 0986-23-2460
	25 Mar (Sun)	9:00 am		
Miyazaki Flower Festa 2007	17 Mar (Sat)~13 May (Sun)		Miyazaki City Aoshima/ Kodomo-no-kuni	<u>Enquiries:</u> Council for Promotion of Garden and Greenery in Miyazaki Tel: 0985-25-4676
Saito City Flower Festival	31 Mar (Sat) ~ 8 Apr (Sun)	10:00am to 10:00pm	Saito City/Saitobaru	<u>Enquiries:</u> Saito City Tourism Association Tel: 0983-41-1557

The Lion’s Walkway

Neo Su Yu

The long-awaited cherry blossom viewing festival is finally approaching. I still remember strolling in Ueno park in Tokyo, watching couples paddling in the little lake, and with an occasional shower of sakura petals. I wonder what o-hanami is like over here. Whatever it is, we probably should clean up and not litter the beautiful parks with rubbish. Reduce, reuse, recycle. Last month I went to watch Kyogen, a sort of Noh theatre for the common people. It was performed by Nomura Mansai, if you had watched the movie Onmyoji, you would probably know who he is. It was difficult to understand but really interesting. If you have the chance, do give it a try! You will not regret it!