



# Plaza News

January 2008

## Miyazaki Prefecture International Plaza

Questions, comments, postings, or for information in Plaza News: Miyazaki International Foundation, 8F Carino Miyazaki, Tachibanadori Higashi 4-8-1, Miyazaki City 880-0805 Tel: 0985-32-8457 Fax: 0985-32-8512 Email: [miainfo@mif.or.jp](mailto:miainfo@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.



### © Plaza Closure Notice

Please note that the Plaza will be closed during the year-end holidays from 29 Dec 2007 (Sat) to 3 Jan 2008 (Mon). We will re-open on 4 Jan 2008 (Fri).

## Miyazaki Art Festival 2008

### "Miyazaki - From the Outside Looking In" Art Exhibition

The Miyazaki International Foundation will be holding the "Miyazaki - From the Outside Looking In" Art Exhibition in early 2008. Come and take a look at the brilliant artworks consisting of photographs, calligraphy, sketches etc on display soon. (Free Admission)

**Exhibition Venue:** Carino Miyazaki 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Gaga-8 Free Space  
**Exhibition period:** 30 Jan (Wed) to 9 Feb 2008 (Sat) 10:00am to 8:00pm

\*We have extended the deadline for Submission of artworks to

**15 January 2008 (Tue).**

Please see the Foundation's website for more details.

We await your masterpieces!

## International Exchange Events

### 2 Feb (Sat)

- Experience Japanese Culture Seminar  
Tea ceremony (fee applies), using a furoshiki, Miyazaki traditional dance
- Performance by foreigners  
(musical performance and ethnic dances)
- Interact with the Artists Session  
(artists will talk about their artworks)
- Presentation of awards for outstanding artworks
- JET English Drama 1st Performance
- International Exchange Booths by JETs



### 3 Feb (Sun)

- Daily life and law consultation session for foreigners  
\*registration required \*interpreters available
- Free Chinese tea provided by the Miyazaki Prefecture Japan-China Friendship Association
- Presentation in Japanese by foreign residents
- International Multilingual Chat  
(English, Mandarin, Korean, French, Spanish, German etc)  
\*registration required
- Karuta card game competition (prizes will be awarded for winners. Get your friends to join in!)
- JET English Drama 2nd Performance
- International Exchange Booths by JETs



There will also be story-telling sessions and booths managed by exchange students at Miyazaki University and other interesting events being planned. Do drop by the International Plaza!

(the abovementioned events are subject to change)

**Enquiries:** Miyazaki International Foundation

### © Daily Life and Law Consultation For Foreigners (Registration required/Free of Charge)

Have questions about living in Japan, the law or your status of residence (visa)? Lawyers, administrative procedures specialists and daily life consultants will be there to answer your enquiries. Volunteer interpreters are available.

**Date:** 3 Feb (Sun) 10:15am~12:15pm (each person is limited to 30 minutes)

**Location:** Carino Miyazaki 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Miyazaki International Foundation

**Application:** Please call us and let us know if you need an interpreter.

**Deadline:** 29 Jan (Tue)

**Application/Enquiries:** Miyazaki International Foundation



### © Japanese Practice Sessions for Foreign Residents (※Free ※No prior registration needed) New Session starting from 8 January (Tue) 2008

Looking everywhere for someone to practice speaking Japanese with? Why not do it with our Japanese volunteers? Feel free to join in!

**Date:** Every Tuesday/Friday 10:30 to 11:30am **Location:** Carino Miyazaki 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Gaga-8 Miyazaki International Plaza

**Enquiries:** Miyazaki International Foundation



## Other Announcements

### Japanese Practice Sessions for Foreigners -Coming to Nobeoka! (Free of charge)

Japanese volunteers will be holding Japanese practice sessions for foreigners. If you live in Nobeoka and would like to practice conversation and phrases used in daily life in Japanese, you are very welcome to join in!

**Tentative dates for January:** 7th (Mon), 17th (Thu), 24th (Thu), 28th (Mon) 10:30am to 12:00pm

**Venue:** Nobeoka City Social Education Centre (Shakai Kyoiku Centre)

**Enquiries:** Nobeoka City International Exchange Promotion Office Tel: 0982-22-7006



**Chinese New Year Celebration** Hosted by the Miyakonojo International Association

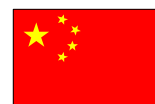
Experience an authentic Chinese New Year with the Chinese residents in the Miyakonojo city area. Miyakonojo city CIR Ai Feng will also be introducing his hometown, Chongqing City, which has a friendship city agreement with Miyakonojo.

**Date:** 20 Jan (Sun) 1:30pm to 4:30pm **Venue:** Miyakonojo City Community Centre (Himejo Town)

**Contents:** Chinese New Year decorations, games, New Year calligraphy, New Year cuisines

**Enquiries:** Miyakonojo International Association tel: 0986-23-2295 fax: 0986-23-3223

Email: mia@city.miyakonojo.miyazaki.jp



**Learn About Korea –Part 2– Food and Customs of Korea’s New Year**

Hosted by the MCIA (Miyazaki City International Association)

Learn about various aspects of Korea from New Year food to games played during the festive occasion.

Please bring along your apron. The seminar will be held in Japanese.

**Date/Venue:**

- 19 Jan (Sat) Sadowara Town General Culture Centre (Sogo bunka Centre) Cooking room/West training room
- 2 Feb (Sat) Tano General Welfare Hall (Sogo fukushi Kan) Cooking room/training room
- 23 Feb (Sat) Takaoka Welfare & Health Centre (fukushi hoken centre) (Bokuen-kan) Cooking room/small training room
- 8 Mar (Sat) Miyazaki Regional Exchange Centre (Chiku kouryo centre) Cooking room/Japanese room/learning room

**Time:** 10:00am to 2:00pm

**Capacity:** 20 each, 30 for 8th Mar seminar in Miyazaki City (first-come first-served)

**Cost:** 500 yen (Free for members of Miyazaki City International Association and children below high-school age)

**To Apply:** Fill in a designated application form and send it to us by post, fax or email.

**Application/Enquiries:**

Miyazaki City International Association, 880-8505 Miyazaki City Hall Planning & Publicity Section

Tachibana Dori Nishi 1-1-1 Miyazaki City Tel: 0985-21-1719, Fax: 0985-22-0200, Email: miyazaki-mcia@miyazaki-catv.ne.jp

**Internationalization Seminar “If the World was a Village of 100 People” (Free)**

Hosted by the MCIA

Translator of German literature and researcher of oral storytelling Ms. Kayoko Ikeda will be the speaker for the above seminar. The seminar will be held in Japanese.

**Date/Time:** 23 Jan (Wed) 6:30pm to 8:00pm (Doors open at 6:00pm) **Venue:** Miyazaki Citizens’ Cultural Hall Event Hall

**Capacity:** 300 **To Apply:** Let us know your postal code, address, name & tel. no by post, fax or email

(Numbered tickets will be sent out to applicants) **Deadline:** 15 Jan 2008 (Tue)

**Application/Enquiries:** Miyazaki City International Association “Internationalization Seminar” Section

880-8505 Miyazaki City Hall Planning & Publicity Section Tachibana Dori Nishi 1-1-1, Miyazaki City

Tel: 0985-21-1719, Fax: 0985-22-0200, Email: miyazaki-mcia@miyazaki-catv.ne.jp



**Lunch & Simple English Conversation**

(Free/no application required)

Have lunch with Nobeoka City CIR Mel & practice simple eikaiwa!

**Date:** 24 Jan (Thu) 11:30am to 1:00pm

**Venue:** Nobeoka City Social Education Centre



**Fun Cooking Class (first-come first-served)**

Please bring along your own apron, cloth and containers.

**Date:** 30 Jan (Wed) 10:00am to 1:00pm

**Venue:** Nobeoka City Social Education Centre Cooking Rm

**Capacity:** 25

**Cost:** 800 yen (for ingredients)



**Application/Enquiries:** Nobeoka City International Exchange Promotion Office tel: 0982-22-7006

**Events in January**

Event	Date	Time	Venue	Additional Info
Kawaminami Illumination Competition 2007	17 Nov (Sat) to 12 Jan (Sat)	Illumination starts 5:00pm to 11:00pm	Kawaminami Town Toronton Dome	Enquiries: Kawaminami Town Sightseeing Association Tel: 0983-27-1497
Aoshima Shrine Hadaka-mairi	14 Jan (Mon/PH)	11:30am~	Miyazaki City Aoshima Shrine	To participate please register at the Aoshima Kanko Hotel from 10:00am on the day itself What to wear: Men—white tabi, white fundoshi, white hachimaki Women: White tabi, white shorts, white t-shirts, white juban (costumes available for loan. Ladies please bring along a plain white t-shirt. As far as possible please bring your own tabi) Enquiries: Aoshima Shrine tel 0985-65-1262
Shiwazu Matsuri	25 Jan (Fri) 26 Jan (Sat) 27 Jan (Sun)	6:00pm Bonfire 7:00pm Kagura 11:00 Farewell ceremony	Misato Town Nango Area/ Mikado Shrine	Enquiries: Misato Town Nango Branch Office tel: 0982-59-1601



**Pat’s Little Rant**

Patrick Maher, Miyazaki Prefecture CIR

Now that we’ve entered into January, and the holiday season has come and gone, you may be feeling a bit down, a bit sluggish, in need of a new hobby. Well, I would like to make a few recommendations, and I hope you’ll give at least one of them a shot: buy lottery tickets everyday, ease drop on conversations at coffee shops, bake bite-sized pumpkin pies, ride the bus and talk with strangers. Just don’t let yourself stay sheltered up indoors - avoid the winter blues!

