

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: 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.



◎ Japanese Language Course for Foreign Residents (Beginners' Level)

We will be holding a Japanese language course for foreign residents in Miyazaki prefecture. If you want to pick up the language, or want an opportunity to practice speaking Japanese, we welcome you to sign up!

Date: 8 Apr (Tue) to 7 Aug (Tue) 25 sessions in total/Every Tue & Fri (except Public Holidays)

Time: 10:10am to 12:00pm

Location: Carino Miyazaki 8th Floor Gaga-8 Miyazaki International Plaza

Target: Beginners in Japanese language **Cost:** 2,835 yen (textbook fee)

To Apply: Fill in the application form available at the International Plaza.



◎ Free distribution of old magazines

The International Plaza will be giving away old publications such as "Newsweek", Filipino news "Pinoy" and "Sukkara", a magazine about Korea. Copies are limited, so please come down early if you wish to pick up a copy.

Distribution period: 8 Apr (Tue) ~

Venue: Miyazaki International Plaza



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

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 8th Floor Gaga-8 Miyazaki International Plaza

Enquiries: Miyazaki International Foundation

◎ Looking for Supporting Members



In order to better promote our purpose and encourage as many people as possible to participate in our activities, we are seeking generous assistance from supporting members.

Membership fees (annual):

Individual member - 2,000 yen per person/Organization - 10,000 yen per group

Members' privileges:

- Receiving the "Plaza News" (monthly) and "Southwind" (3 times a year)
 - ◇ "Plaza News": A newsletter packed with information regarding various seminars held by the Foundation and international exchange events to be held in the prefecture.
 - ◇ "South Wind": A journal published by the Foundation with information and topics regarding international exchange and international cooperation
- Advanced notification of language courses and events organized by the Foundation (enjoy free participation, special rates or be given special priority)
- Receiving publications by the Foundation
- Usage of multi-regional video appliances (free-of-charge for members)



◎ Need information about Miyazaki? Go to the Miyazaki International Foundation's Homepage!

- The Miyazaki International Foundation maintains a multilingual homepage (available in Japanese, English, Chinese and Korean). We also have a "Life Information" section in English which lists the bathing beaches, camp grounds etc in Miyazaki.
- There is also an event calendar which shows information about various festivals and activities held in different parts of the prefecture.



◎ Borrowing books, videos and magazines...

The Miyazaki International Plaza has a library section which contains many kinds of books, magazines and videotapes.

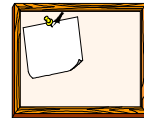
Each person is allowed to borrow items up to two weeks for free. Please feel free to make use of this service.



- Newspapers (The Daily Yomiuri, Pinoy Gazette, Bangkok Times, Nikkei Shimbun)
- Books and information regarding international understanding and international cooperation
- Magazines (Nihongo Journal, Studying Overseas Journal, Hiragana Times, Newsweek)
- Travel guides and travel maps, foreign book collection (English, Chinese, Korean, French, German etc)
- Textbooks, videotapes, CDs and cassette tapes for learning Japanese
- Books and tapes on Japanese teaching methods
- Workbooks and textbooks for studying languages (English, Chinese, Spanish etc)
- Books on studying abroad



Plaza News (cont.)



◎ Regarding usage of the Miyazaki International Foundation's Bulletin Board

Anyone can make use of the bulletin board in the Miyazaki International Plaza and on the Miyazaki International Foundation's homepage. Please make use of the board for information exchange (a one-time registration is required for posting messages on the homepage). *We reserve the right to remove any messages with inappropriate content.

◎ World Box

Have an international event/seminar coming up, but have nothing to display? At the International Plaza, we have "world boxes" containing maps, musical instruments, CDs, costumes etc from 13 countries and 3 regions available for borrowing. Feel free to make use of them. Please note that contents might differ according to country/region.

Countries: Republic of Korea, Singapore, Socialist Republic of Vietnam, Canada, New Zealand, Australia, England, Kingdom of Sweden, Republic of Hungary, Republic of Poland, Republic of Botswana, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic

Regions: Africa, Latin America, South America Enquiries: Miyazaki International Foundation



◎ For visitors who come to the Miyazaki International Plaza by car

The Miyazaki International Plaza does not have a visitors' carpark. We apologize for the inconvenience, but please make use of the Carino Miyazaki Carpark (parking fees apply) or other pay carparks nearby. The International Plaza will not also issue parking vouchers. We seek your understanding in this matter.



Please direct any enquiries to the Miyazaki International Foundation.

◎ 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.

(2) International Understanding Talk Speakers


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

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

Other Announcements

Japanese Practice Sessions for Foreigners in Nobeoka (Free of charge)

Japanese volunteers will be holding Japanese practice sessions in Nobeoka. If you are interested in practicing conversation or picking up useful daily Japanese, please feel free to join in.

 April Schedule: 7 (Mon), 14 (Mon), 24 (Thu), 28 Mar (Mon) Time: 10:30am to 12:00pm
Venue: Nobeoka City Shakai Kyoiku Centre
Enquiries: Nobeoka City Internationalization Promotion Office Tel: 0982-22-7006

Fun Cooking Class (first-come first-served)

Please bring along your own apron, cloth and containers.

Date: 22 Apr (Tue) 10:00am to 1:00pm Venue: Nobeoka City Social Education Centre Cooking Room
Participants: 25 Cost: 800 yen (for ingredients)
Application/Enquiries: Nobeoka City International Exchange Promotion Office Tel: 0982-22-7006



Events in April

Event	Date	Time	Venue	Additional Info
Sadowara Spring Local Produce Fair 2008	5 Apr (Sat)	11:00am to 9:00pm	Miyazaki City Sadowara Town/Hisamine	Sale of local produce, vegetables, bento, dance & taiko performances, quail woodblock painting etc. <u>Enquiries:</u> Sadowara Town Kanko Kyokai Tel: 0985-73-1114
	6 Apr (Sun)	10:00am to 4:00pm	Comprehensive Park	
Bamboo Sprout Hunting Event	20 Apr (Sun)	9:00am	Ebino City/Bamboo forest near Okobira Elementary School (Pre-registration not required. Register on the day itself at Okobira School).	Hunt for bamboo sprouts, enjoy soba-dango soup and kappo zake (wine poured into bamboo). Participants can take home the bamboo sprouts at half the market price. Adults 300 yen/Children 100 yen. <u>Enquiries:</u> Ebino City Kanko Kyokai Tel: 0984-35-3838
Hayama Festival	29 Apr (Tue/ Public Holiday)	9:00am ~	Kitamorokata-gun Mimata Town/ Hayama Park	Many activities will be held including the Jankan-horse dance, pole dancing, ikebana, tea, kendo competition etc. <u>Enquiries:</u> Mimata Town Kanko Kyokai Tel: 0986-52-1111



Pat's Little Rant

I would like to offer this rant not only as a reminder, but moreover as a plea to the mischievous creativity within each and every one of you. Seemingly every year one of the greatest, most potentially enjoyable days on the calendar goes overlooked, and the regret of having missed out on a chance to throw some chaos into the day is a tragedy. I speak of April 1st, good ol' April Fools' Day, a day when imagination and adequate acting ability can allow you a hearty, extended guffaw at the expense of those closest to you. So begin planning your trickery, allow your originality free-range to conjure up the most heinous of pranks, and fear not the reaction of the victim - after all, it's April Fools' Day, and everything will be forgiven when it's all said and done!

April's Fool Reminder

Patrick Maher, Miyazaki Prefecture CIR