



Plaza News



December 2008 No.33

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/>
Open: Tuesdays to Saturdays, 10:00AM to 7:00 PM Closed: Sundays, Mondays, National Holidays and December 29 to January 3

● Announcement: Closings During the Holiday Season

We will be closed during the holiday season from December 28, 2008 (Sun) ~ January 5, 2009 (Mon). We will re-open on January 6 (Tue) for the start of a new year!

● 2009 Miyazaki Art Festival: "Miyazaki – From the Outside Looking In." Now Accepting Artworks! ~Theme: "Impressions of Miyazaki, Thoughts on Miyazaki, etc."



We are now accepting artworks for our exhibition, "Miyazaki – From the Outside Looking In," aimed at highlighting your impressions of and thoughts on Miyazaki, expressed through a variety of artistic mediums. By all means, make your art a part of the festivities!

(※Works that fail to reflect the International Foundation's core value of respect may not be displayed at the discretion of the organizers.)

◇Eligible Artists: In principle, foreign residents of Miyazaki Prefecture

◇Format: Photos, paintings, drawings, poetry, etc. ◇Size: Max. 50cm x 50cm

◇Submission Deadline: December 27 (Sat) ※If you can not meet the deadline, please ask us about an extension

◇Submission: Please submit by mail, e-mail, or directly to us (submitter incurs costs of shipment)

※Include your name (in katakana), nationality, occupation, and contact info (address, phone number, e-mail), as well as the title, medium, and a brief explanation of your artwork. If necessary, include specifics on how to display your work.

◇Exhibition Dates & Times: January 28, 2009 (Wed) through February 7, 2009 (Sat) [Open: 10:00~8:00 ※Final day concludes at 4:00]

※Upon the conclusion of the Art Festival, we further plan to circulate the exhibition across the cities, towns, and villages within the prefecture!!

◇Retrieving Your Art: Pick up your art at the Miyazaki International Plaza by the end of April 2009, or we can send your art to you COD

◇Awards: Selected winners will be awarded with some awesome presents and a certificate of commendation.

Awards include 1 "Best of Show Award," 2 "Outstanding Performance Awards," and 1 "Special Award."

◇Awards Ceremony: Awards will be handed out on January 31st (Sat)

◇Application & Questions: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation



● Daily Life & Law Consultation for Foreign Residents ※Free ※By Appointment

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

◇Date/Time: 1 Feb (Sun) 10:15~12:15 *max 30 min/person

◇Venue: Carino Miyazaki 8F Gaga-8 Multi-purpose Room A・B

◇Supported by: Miyazaki Bar Association and the Solicitor Association of Miyazaki Prefecture

※Appointment required. Please inform us if you need an interpreter.

◇Application Deadline: 27 Jan (Tue)

◇Application & Questions: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation



● Japanese Speech Contest by Foreign Residents Participants Wanted!

Take part in this contest and tell the audience what you think about Miyazaki in Japanese. It's that simple!

◇Date/Time: 1 Feb (Sun) ◇Venue: Carino Miyazaki 8F Theatre

◇Eligible participants: Foreigners residing in Miyazaki prefecture

◇Speech Content: "Thoughts about Miyazaki", "Feelings about Living in Miyazaki" etc (related to Miyazaki)

◇Categories: ①Beginner: Speech time of 3 minutes or less (Beginner denotes an ability equal to or below JLPT level 3)

②Intermediate Plus: Speech time of 5 minutes or less (No restrictions on Japanese ability)

◇Awards: The top three presenters will receive a certificate and award courtesy of the Miyazaki International Foundation.

◇Application & Questions: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation

● International Understanding Seminar #3 : Feel the World by your Side ~India~

Gururaja Muruty and his wife Joti will be introducing their home country of India in this seminar. You can also try wearing a saree – traditional Indian clothing. Seminar will be held in Japanese.

◇Date & Time: December 6th (Sat) from 1:30~3:15 p.m. ※Scheduled closing time subject to change

◇Place: Carino Miyazaki, 8th Floor, Multi-Purpose Room A

◇To Apply: Contact us by phone, fax, or e-mail with your name, address, phone number, and what you would like to learn about India

◇Application & Questions: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation

● Japanese Practice Sessions for Foreign Residents ※Free of Charge, No Registration Required

If you are looking to pick up useful everyday phrases or just want to work on your Japanese, by all means join our Japanese volunteers for a practice session!

◇Dates: Every Tuesday and Friday from 10:30 – 11:30

◇Place: Carino Miyazaki, 8th Floor, Miyazaki International Plaza

◇Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Plaza

※Please note that the last practice lesson would be on the 19 December 2008 (Fri).

Lessons will reopen on the 6 January 2009 (Tues).



● **Action Plan Presentation • Discussion Session: ~Asia Arsenic Pollution Comprehensive Countermeasures~**

※Free of Charge; No Reservation Required

A group of select trainees representing six countries throughout Asia, who have been conducting research into countering arsenic pollution over a 45 day period at Miyazaki University, will be presenting their Action Plan born from the techniques and knowledge they have acquired. Afterwards, there will be a discussion session based around JICA and Miyazaki University's grassroots project conducted in India. We invite anyone interested in Asia's arsenic pollution, international cooperation, or environment issues to join us. ※Presentation will be given in English.

◇Date & Time: December 10 (Wed) from 1:00~4:30 ◇Place: Miyazaki University Library Annex, 3rd Floor, Audio-Visual Room

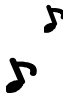

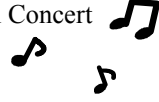
◇Conducted By: JICA • Asia Arsenic Network ◇Questions: JICA Desk at the Miyazaki International Foundations (Ms. Sato)



<Local Announcements>

Event	Date & Time	Venue	Contact
Let's Talk-a-Lot Chat Session with Foreign Students ~A discussion on what foreign students have found inconvenient & bothersome while living in Japan~	•12/13 (Sat) Starting at 1:00 p.m. 	Miyazaki Municipal University Exchange Center	Miyazaki Foreign Student Local Exchange Promotion Association Administrative Bureau Tel: 0985-58-7134
Japanese Practice Sessions for Foreign Residents – Hosted by Miyazaki City	•11/26 (Wed), 12/4 (Thu), 12/11 (Thu), 12/19 (Fri) 6:30~7:30 p.m. •1/9 (Fri), 1/16 (Fri), 1/23 (Fri), 1/29 (Thu) 6:30~7:30 p.m.	Miyazaki Citizens' Plaza	Miyazaki City International Association Planning & Publicity Section Tel : 0985-21-1719
Christmas Party in Nobeoka 	•12/17 (Wed) 7:00~9:30 p.m. ※Bring along a small dish (enough for 2 people) and a present (costing no more than ¥500). Make sure to wear something red or green. ※Free of Charge	Nobeoka Hoyoen Gymnasium (<i>Midori ga Oka</i>) 	Nobeoka City International Exchange Promotion Department Tel: 0982-22-7006 (Ms. Kai)
Japanese Language Course for Foreign Residents in Nobeoka	•12/4(Thu), 12/11(Thu), 12/18(Thu), 12/25(Thu) •1/8(Thu), 1/15(Thu), 1/22(Thu), 1/29(Thu) ※Free of Charge	Nobeoka City Social Education Center	Nobeoka City International Exchange Promotion Department Tel: 0982-22-7006 (Ms. Kai)
Winter Charity Concert in Support of Africa	•12/12 (Fri) 7:00~9:00 p.m. Charity Ticket : ¥1,000	Kiyotake Town Cultural Hall	Kiyotake International Association Tel:0985-85-1111

<November Events >

Event	Date & Time	Venue	Contact
Japan Air Self-Defense Force Nyutabaru Base Aviation Festival	•12/7 (Sun) 8:30 a.m.~3:00 p.m. (Tentative) ※Free of Charge	Japan Air Self-Defense Force Nyutabaru Base & Surrounding Airspace	Japan Air Self-Defense Force Nyutabaru Base Tel: 0983-3 5-1121 (Public Relations) ※Correspondence in Japanese
“Illumination Flower Garden” ~Garden of Light~ 	•12/11 (Thu)~1/12 (Mon) ※Closed 12/31 & 1/1 1:00~9:30 (Illumination begins after sunset) ※Entrance Fee:Adults = ¥300; Elementary & Junior High Students = ¥150	Florante Miyazaki 	Florante Miyazaki Tel: 0985-23-1510
Christmas Organ Concert 	•12/21 (Sun) Starting at 2:00 p.m. (Doors open at 1:00) ※All Seats Reserved Adults ¥2,000 Pair Seats ¥4,000	Medikit Arts Center Isaac Stern Hall	Miyazaki Prefectural Arts Center Tel: 0985-28-3210

Pat's Little Rant



Patrick Maher, Miyazaki Prefecture CIR

I'm not a morning person; I'm quite vampire-like in my relationship with the sun. Nonetheless, morning proves best for exercise, so I'm a morning jogger, which offers ample opportunities to observe Morning Folk. I like Morning Folk. I like the man who bikes around with a chicken in his basket. I like the old woman in the mini-sombrero who heartily says her hellos. Morning Folk are good people; however, I've made a statistical discovery regarding morning dog-walkers: the number of dogs with an individual is proportional to the individual's level of disdain for humanity. A person walking one dog will smile, exchange greetings, and smell of optimism. A person with two dogs looks downtrodden and refuses to move for oncoming bicyclists. A person with three dogs never returns my "good morning!" and feigns ignorance when his little spawn of Cerberus bites me on the leg *last Monday!*...Most likely he retires afterward to a hidden lair inhabited by canine demigods to contemplate how to ruin someone else's morning. An early morning canine limit must be enforced: 2 or less. Feel free to arrest anyone who refuses to follow suit.

