



## Miyazaki International Foundation

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

## ●Japanese Language Course for Foreign Residents in Miyakonojo ※Registration Required

We are offering a beginner's level Japanese course for foreign residents in Miyakonojo. For those of you who speak only minimal Japanese or have few opportunities to study the language, here is your chance!

◇Date & Time: September 8 (Tue) ~ December 11 (Fri)  
1:30~3:30 for 23 Sessions in Total ※Every Tuesday & Friday  
※NO CLASS on 9/18 (Fri), 9/22 (Tue), 9/25 (Fri), 10/30 (Fri), and 11/3 (Tue)

◇Place: Miyakonojo City Central Community Hall

◇Participants: Those with no Japanese study experience and/or a desire to learn basics of reading and writing

◇Cost: ¥1,000 (Text & Materials)

◇To Apply: Fill out our application form and return it by mail or fax

◇Application & Inquiries:

Contact the Miyazaki International Plaza

Miyakonojo International Association,  
〒885-8555 Himegi-cho 6-21, Miyakonojo City  
Tel: 0986-23-2295, Fax: 0986-23-3223,

E-mail: [mia@city.miyakonojo.miyazaki.jp](mailto:mia@city.miyakonojo.miyazaki.jp)



## ●Miyazaki International Plaza Counter Volunteer Recruitment

We are currently looking for volunteers to help out our staff by working at the front counter of the Miyazaki International Plaza. Volunteers should reside within the prefecture and be 18 years of age or older. If you are interested, please contact the Miyazaki International Foundation, and we will send you the relevant application form. Volunteer should be able to speak everyday Japanese. (In the case of multiple applicants, potential volunteers will undergo a screening process).

◇Volunteer Period:

October 1, 2009 (Thu) ~ March 31, 2010 (Wed)

◇Volunteer Time: One day a week sometime between Tue ~ Sat from either: ①10:15~12:45 or ②13:00~15:30

◇Tasks: •General Information •Correspondence

•Arranging and Forwarding Used Stamps & Prepaid Cards

•Computer Work

•Organizing and Lending out Library Materials Etc.

◇No monetary rewards and Transportation expenses (however, parking and volunteer insurance will be covered by the International Foundation.)

◇Application Deadline: September 5 (Sat)

◇Application & Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation



## ●Volunteer Interpretation Course (English – Advanced) ※Registration Required

This course, which will be led by a Miyazaki Prefecture CIR (Coordinator for International Relations), will be centered around the theme of assisting foreigners in disaster- and medical-related scenarios. We gladly welcome all interested individuals to participate.

◇Date & Time: 9/4, 9/11, 9/18, 9/25, & 10/2 from 6:15~7:45 pm

※Every Friday (5 Sessions)

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

◇Teacher: Patrick Maher - Miyazaki Prefecture CIR

◇Participants: Patron Members, Registered International Volunteers, and Interested Citizens ※In principal, individuals who can attend all 5 sessions

◇Max Participants: 20

※If the number of participants eclipses 20, patron members and registered international volunteers will be given priority in the selection process. In the event that several registered volunteers apply, first-time participants will be given priority in the selection process.

◇Participation Fee: ¥1,000

(Patron Members = ¥500)

◇To Apply: Fill out our application form and return it by mail, fax, or e-mail

◇Application Deadline: Must Arrive by August 22 (Sat)

※Accepted Applicants will be notified of their acceptance by August 28 (Fri)

◇Application & Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation



## ●Japanese Practice Sessions for Foreign Residents

※No Registration Required, Free of Charge

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

●Miyazaki Social Welfare Experience  
2009 – “Learn About the World with  
Experiences Galore!”

Come on by for an enjoyable time, and learn about Tanzania through a variety of quizzes and games. Try on authentic Tanzanian clothing, speak the local dialect, and enjoy an array of accompanying experiences.

◇Date & Time:

August 22 (Sat) from 9:30~12:00

◇Place: Miyazaki City Tano *Sogo*

*Fukushikan Fureai Center* (General Welfare Center)

◇Participants: Elementary School Students from Grades 1~6 (Grade 1 & 2 students must be accompanied by a parent or guardian)

◇Application & Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki City Council of Social Welfare Volunteer Center:

Tel: 0985-86-2017, Fax: 0985-86-4049,

E-mail: [voc-t@my-shakyo.jp](mailto:voc-t@my-shakyo.jp)

<Local Announcements>

●Japanese Practice Sessions for  
Foreign Residents – Hosted by  
Miyazaki City

※Registration Required ※Free to All

For those looking to improve their conversational ability, practice everyday phrases, and level-up their Japanese ability overall, these practice sessions are for you.

◇Date & Time:

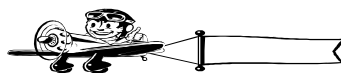
8/7 (Fri), 8/14 (Fri), 8/21 (Fri),  
and 8/28 (Fri) from 6:30~7:30 pm

◇Place: Miyazaki Citizens' Plaza (*Chu*  
Meeting Room & *Sho* Meeting Room)

◇Application & Inquiries: Miyazaki City  
International Association (Myon Jison)

Tel: 0985-21-1714, Fax: 0985-22-0200,

E-mail: [mizazaki-mcia@mizazaki-catv.ne.jp](mailto:mizazaki-mcia@mizazaki-catv.ne.jp)



●Japanese Practice  
Sessions for Foreign  
Residents – Hosted by  
Nobeoka City  
※Free of Charge

We welcome anyone and everyone interested and practicing Japanese.

◇Date & Time:

8/3 (Mon), 8/27 (Thu), and  
8/31 (Mon) from 10:30~  
12:00

◇Place: Nobeoka City Social  
Education Center

◇Contact: Nobeoka City

International Exchange

Promotion Department,

Tel: 0982-22-7006

<August Events>

Event	Date & Time	Venue	Contact
“Erekocha Miyazaki Festival – <i>Shimin Souodori</i> (Citizens’ Dance)”	8/1 (Sat) ※Rain or Shine 5:00~6:10 pm	Miyazaki City, Tachibana-dori	Miyazaki City International Association Administrative Office Tel: 0985-21-1719 **Anyone interested in participating in the dance should contact the office in advance**
33 <sup>rd</sup> Nobeoka Fireworks Festival	8/2 (Sun) Starts at 8:00 pm	<i>Ozobashi</i> Bridge Riverside	<i>Matsuri Nobeoka</i> Executive Committee Tel: 0982-32-6141
61 <sup>st</sup> Miyazaki <i>Noryo</i> Fireworks Festival	8/8 (Sat) 8:00 ~ 9:00 pm	Miyazaki City, <i>Oyodo</i> Riverfront	Miyazaki Chamber of Commerce and Industry Tel: 0985-22-2161
Summer Festival in Hitotsuba	8/22 (Sat) 8:00 ~ 9:00 pm ※Rain Makeup Date = 8/23 (Sun)	Miyazaki City, Sadowara Town, Hitotsuba River, <i>Hyuga Ohashi</i> Bridge Riverside	Sadowara Town General Branch Office, Industrial Promotion Division Tel: 0985-73-1114
<i>Nango Kuroshio</i> Festival	8/29 (Sat)	Nango Town, Square in front of the Nango B&G <i>Kaiyo</i> Center	<i>Nango Kuroshio Matsuri</i> Executive Committee Tel: 0987-64-1125
Miyazaki Aoshima International Beer Festival	8/29 (Sat) & 8/30 (Sun) Starts at 7:00 pm	Miyazaki City, Area Approaching Central Aoshima	Miyazaki City Tourism Association Tel: 0985-20-8658

Pat’s Little Rant

The Box O’ Melodrama

Patrick Maher, Miyazaki Prefecture CIR

My relationship with Japanese television is complicated – it’s not that I dislike the programming, and maybe it’s because I only have four channels, but several all-to-common nuisances accumulate to more-often-than-not ruin my viewing experience. I have yet to grasp why almost every show, regardless of theme, is seemingly required by law to involve a scene where a celebrity eats a piece of expensive cake and exclaims “This is delicious!” while the audience for some reason screams in amazement. I’ve given up watching baseball because I know the broadcast will end prematurely, even if it’s a close game in the bottom of the 9<sup>th</sup> inning.

However, nothing makes me want to unrelentingly deal Mike Tyson-like crazy fury to my TV set more than that annoying picture-in-picture box in the corner of the screen of some celebrity’s face melodramatically overreacting to whatever’s being broadcast. Cloudy skies during the recent solar eclipse led me to turn on the tube in search of some spectacular sky footage...but alas, as hard as I tried to ignore it, that corner Box O’ Melodrama ruined any chance of my enjoying the moment. “Wow! Amazing! Wow! Look! Look! Isn’t it amaaazing!?” screamed the miniaturized version of some irrelevant-to-astronomical-phenomenon celebrity in banshee-like tones from the corner of the screen. I don’t need you to supplant a designated emotion into my viewing experience! I am not a robot! Get out of that box! Oh, how long until technology produces a remote control with the option to turn off the Box O’ Melodrama?