



## 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

## ●2010 MIYAZAKI ART FESTIVAL: 'MIYAZAKI - FROM THE OUTSIDE LOOKING IN' EXHIBITION OPENING!

The Miyazaki Art Exhibition, complete with works reflecting local foreign residents' impressions and thoughts on Miyazaki, is finally about to begin. We have collected an array of spectacular artworks including photos, calligraphy, paintings and more. We hope to see you there!

- ◇Exhibition Period: January 20, 2010 (Wed) ~ January 30, 2010 (Sat)  
10:00 am ~ 8:00 pm ※The final day concludes at 4:00 pm
- ◇Venue: Carino Miyazaki, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Gaga-8 Free Space

## ●Announcement: Plaza Holiday Closing

The Plaza will be closed for the New Year's Holiday from December 27, 2009 (Sun) through January 4, 2010 (Mon). We will reopen on January 5 (Wed).

### ★Art Festival Events★

【January 23 (Sat)】

- ◆**Kimono Fitting & Modeling** (Cost = ¥300)  
①10:30~12:00 ②12:30~2:00  
※Open to the first 10 participants
- ◆**Artist Introduction & Award's Ceremony**  
2:00~3:00 ※Free ※Free Drinks & Snacks
- ◆**Making Origami Hina Dolls**  
11:00~3:00
- ◆**Karuta Card Competition**  
11:00~3:30
- ◆**Valentine Flower Arrangement** (Cost = ¥300)  
11:00~3:00 ※Open to first 30 participants
- ◆**Green Tea Tasting** (Cost ¥100)  
11:00~4:00
- ◆**JET Theatre (Bilingual Play produced by local foreign residents)** (Cost = ¥300) 3:30~4:15
- ◆**International Booth Displays**



There will also be a panel display in commemoration of the 20 year anniversary of the Miyazaki International Foundation.

※Please keep in mind that the aforementioned international events are subject to schedule changes.

【January 24 (Sun)】

- ◆**Consultations for Daily Life & Legal Matters**  
(Reservation required) 10:15~12:15
- ◆**JICA International Understanding Seminar**  
11:00~12:30
- ◆**Mini Gardening (Yoseue)** (Cost = ¥300)  
11:00~3:00 ※Open to first 30 participants
- ◆**Japanese Speech Contest for Local Foreign Residents**  
1:00~2:45
- ◆**Global Performance Extravaganza**  
2:30~3:45
- ◆**Chinese Tea Tasting Corner**  
11:00~4:00
- ◆**Balloon Flower Workshop**  
①12:30~1:00 ②1:15~1:45  
※Open to first 20 participants
- ◆**JET Theatre (Bilingual Play produced by local foreign residents)**  
(Cost = ¥300) 4:15~5:00
- ◆**International Booth Displays**



## ●Daily Life & Legal Consultations for Foreign Residents

※Registration Necessary; Free to All

Lawyers and certified administrative procedures specialists will be on hand to help you out. Volunteer interpreters are also available to assist you if necessary.

- ◇Date & Time: January 24, 2010 (Sun)  
from 10:15~12:15 ※30 minutes per person
- ◇Place: Carino Miyazaki 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Gaga-8
- ◇To Apply: Please make a reservation by phone  
※Let us know if you will need an interpreter
- ◇Application Deadline: January 19 (Tue)
- ◇Application & Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation

## ●Kimono Fitting and Modeling

Experience a taste of Japanese culture by learning the proper way to wear a kimono.



- ◇Time & Date: January 23 (Sat)  
(Session 1) 10:30~12:00 & (Session 2) 12:30~2:00
- ◇Venue: Carino Miyazaki, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Gaga-8
- ◇Participants: Foreign residents - Japanese people accompanying foreigners may also take part
- ◇Number of Participants: Maximum of 10 people per session ◇Cost: ¥300
- ◇To Apply: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation with the following details: ①Name, ②Address, ③Phone Number, ④E-mail address, ⑤Session (#1 or #2) you wish to attend
- ◇Application Period: January 5, 2010 (Tue) ~ January 16, 2010 (Sat) ※First-come first-served
- ◇Application & Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation

## ●Looking for Foreign Volunteers

- ①International Chat Session Volunteers
- ②Volunteer Lecturers for International Understanding Seminars
- ◇Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation

●2010 Miyazaki Art Festival: “Miyazaki – From the Outside Looking In” Now Accepting Art-works! Theme: “Impressions of Miyazaki and Thoughts on Miyazaki”

- ◇Eligible Artists: In principle, foreign residents living in Miyazaki
- ◇Eligible Art: Photos, paintings, drawings, calligraphy, poetry, handcrafts, etc. ※You can submit photos via data file as well
- ◇Artwork Size: Max size of 50cm x 50cm
- ◇Submission of Artworks: Please include your name (furigana), nationality, occupation, contact information (address, telephone number, e-mail), artwork information (title, medium, short description), and instructions of how to exhibit your art (if necessary)
- ◇Awards: Exhibition visitors will vote for winners in the categories of “Photography,” “Painting/ Drawing,” “Calligraphy,” and “Handcrafts/Other.” Top artists will awards prizes and certificates. The announcement of top artists and the award’s ceremony will take place during the exhibition.
- ◇**Submission Deadline: January 13, 2010 (Wed)**
- ※Please contact us if submitting artwork after the deadline
- ◇Application & Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation


●Japanese Speech Contest for Foreign Residents – Looking for Participants Speech Topic: “Thoughts about Miyazaki.” “Feelings about Living in Miyazaki.” etc.

- Anything related to Miyazaki is acceptable.
- ※First-come, First-served
- ◇Date & Time: January 24, 2010 (Sun) from 1:00~2:45
- ◇Eligible Participants: Must meet the following criteria: ①A foreigner 18 years or older living in Miyazaki Prefecture (includes study abroad students)②Not a native speaker of Japanese
- \*Winners from past contests cannot participate in the same division or any lower division
- ◇Speech Divisions and Time Limits:①Beginner: 3 minutes or less (language ability equal to or below JLPT level 3)
- ②Intermediate: 5 minutes or less (language ability equal to or below JLPT level 2)③Advanced: 5 minutes or less (no restrictions on Japanese ability)

●Japanese Practice Sessions for Foreign Residents

- ※No Registration Required; Free of Charge.
- Sessions for the new year will begin on January 5 (Tue). ※No session on January 15 (Fri)
- ◇Dates: Every Tuesday and Friday from 10:30 – 11:30
- ◇Place: Carino Miyazaki, 8th Floor, Miyazaki International Plaza
- ◇Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation
- ◇Application Deadline: January 12, 2010 (Tue)
- ◇To Apply: Fill out our application form and return it to us by mail, fax, or e-mail (manager@mif.or.jp)
- ◇Application & Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation

< January Events >

Event	Date & Time	Venue	Contact & Info
Shiwasu Festival	1/22/10 (Fri) – 1/24/10 (Sun)	Misato Town, Nango-ku, Mikado Shrine	Misato Town Planning Information Division Tel: 0982-66-3603
Aoshima Shrine Naked Man Festival ※No registration necessary	1/11 (Monday holiday) Reception: 10:00-11:00 Aoshima Kanko Hotel 1st Floor Lobby	Miyazaki City, Aoshima Shrine	Aoshima Shrine Tel: 0985-65-1262
 <p>All healthy individuals are welcome to participate (elementary school kids and younger must be accompanied by a guardian)</p> <p>Cost: ¥700 for elementary school age and older (includes insurance)</p> <p>Clothing: ◆Men: White Tabi (Japanese socks) &amp; White Fundoshi (loincloth) ◆Women: White Tabi, White Short Pants, White T-Shirt, White Undershirt</p> <p>※Those without the aforementioned attire can also purchase the following items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White tabi (¥1,000) • Male fundoshi &amp; hachimaki (¥500)</li> <li>• Female short pants, hachimaki, &amp; undershirt (¥1,500)</li> </ul>			

**Pat’s Little Rant**

**Trends in Volume**

Patrick Maher, Miyazaki Prefecture CIR

If you spend enough solitary time in coffee shops, as your humble and caffeine-charged narrator does, you’ll find yourself both purposely and accidentally eavesdropping and people-watching. Eventually, you’ll discover various amusing and annoying absolutes that permeate society. Allow me to introduce some of the latter variety; specifically, those related to volume.

The louder the volume of one’s ringtone, the more annoying the song spewed from said phone. Plus, the more annoying the song spewed from said phone, the greater the possibility the owner of said phone has yet to discover manner mode.

Finally, for every time said owner allows said phone to ring, the blood pressure of all individuals in a 20 km radius rises 1.4%.

The greater the volume of one’s (\*cough\* ratty \*cough\*) hair, the more time said individual will spend hypnotized by their phone. Plus, the more time said individual spends hypnotized by said phone, the more time I spend pondering the weight in hairspray/mousse needed to give birth to the creature nested on said individual’s scalp.

The longer an individual goes without removing their sunglasses (despite being indoors, despite it being nighttime, and despite them not being in a movie), the greater the volume at which said individual will speak. Plus, when said individual speaks, at least 95% of the words spoken will concern the greatness of said individual. Finally, 100% of said individual’s opinions and ideas will prove as useful as wearing sunglasses inside a dimly lit coffee shop.

With as much written volume as I can muster: HAPPY NEW YEAR!