



## 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: miyaiinfo@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: Plaza Holiday Closing

The Plaza will be closed on May 4<sup>th</sup> (Tue) and May 5<sup>th</sup> (Wed) for the holiday.



## ● Beginner's Level Japanese Language Course for Foreign Residents in Miyakonojo

※First-come First-serve

We are offering a beginner's level Japanese course for Miyazaki's foreign residents, which will be held in Miyakonojo City.

- ◇ Date & Time: 5/7 (Fri) - 7/30 (Fri) from 1:30~3:30 pm  
;Every Tue & Fri for 23 Sessions Total  
※NO CLASS 6/15 (Tue) & 6/18 (Fri)
- ◇ Place: Miyakonojo City Central Community Hall
- ◇ Cost: ¥1,000
- ◇ Participants: Max of 15
- ◇ Inquiries: Contact the Miyakonojo International Association (*Seikatsu Bunka Division*)  
Tel: 0986-23-2295, Fax: 0986-23-3223,  
E-mail: mia@city.miyakonojo.miyazaki.jp

## ● Announcement: "The Miyazaki International Foundation Homepage has been Updated!"

New additions to the homepage include the Foundation publication "South Wind," the JICA Miyazaki Desk page, and more. Be sure to check out the easier-to-view, easier-to-use, revamped version of our homepage.

## ● Newly Established Internet Corner

An internet corner has been setup in the Miyazaki International Plaza, which is available for anyone to use free of charge. Access time is limited to 30 minutes per person; however, keep in mind that printing services are unavailable. Japanese, English, Chinese, and Korean input are all available, making this service quite useful for looking up information regarding international exchange and more.

## ● Japanese Practice Sessions for Foreign Residents

※Free to All – 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!

- ◇ Date & Time  
5/11 (Tue), 5/18 (Tue), 5/25 (Tue) from 10:30~11:30  
※No Session on 5/4 (Tue)  
5/7 (Fri), 5/14 (Fri), 5/21 (Fri), & 5/28 (Fri)  
from 10:10~11:00
- ◇ Place: **(Tue)** Carino Miyazaki, 8th Floor,  
Miyazaki International Plaza  
**(Fri)** Carino Miyazaki, 9th Floor
- ◇ Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation

## ● Japanese Language Course for Foreign Residents

※Registration Required

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

- ◇ Date & Time: April 23 (Fri) ~ July 20 (Tue),  
Every Tuesday & Friday  
10:10~12:00, Total of 25 Sessions  
※NO CLASS on 5/4(Tue)
- ◇ Place: Carino Miyazaki, 8th Floor
- ◇ 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 Foundation

## ● Currently Looking for Patron Members

The Miyazaki International Foundation is looking for patron members generously willing to lend their support and assist with the Foundation's international activities.

- Yearly Membership Fee: ¥2,000 per person: ¥10,000 per group
- Delivery of the "International Plaza News" (issued monthly in 4 languages) & "South Wind" (3 issues per year)
- Priority access to information regarding Foundation-hosted courses and events (free or discounted participation, preferential member treatment, etc.)
- Use of standard video players from various countries (free for members, ¥500 for non-members)
- Access to Foundation-issued publications

## ● Miyazaki International Plaza Library Corner

We have amassed the following diverse collection of books, magazines, videos, etc. All prefectural residents can borrow items from our library, so come on by and check out what the Plaza has to offer.

- Newspapers: THE DAILY YOMIURI, PINOY GAZETTE, BANGKOK TIMES
  - Magazines: *Nihongo* Journal, *Ryugaku* Journal, Hiragana Times, Newsweek, etc.
  - Travel guides and maps for numerous countries
  - Foreign languages books (English, Chinese, Korean, French, German, etc.)
  - Textbooks, videos, CDs, and tapes for studying Japanese
  - Books and resources related to international understanding and cooperation
  - Books regarding studying and working abroad
  - Workbooks for studying foreign languages (English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, etc.)
- ※Please return materials during open hours – no returns on Sundays, Mondays or holidays.

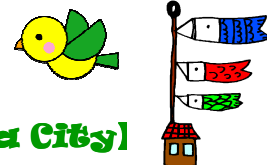
## ● Looking for Foreign Volunteers

### ① International Chat Session Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to help out with our “International Chat Sessions.” If you speak English, Chinese, or Korean, we would appreciate your helping us host an enjoyable chat session.

### ② Volunteer Lecturers for International Understanding Seminars

Anyone interested in introducing their home country and culture to the people of Miyazaki?



**[Hosted by Nobeoka City]**

## ● Afternoon Tea & English Conversation

※Free to All ※No Registration Required

Why not stop on by for lunch and casual English conversation with Tiffany, the Nobeoka City CIR?

※Please bring your own lunch to the gathering.

◇Date & Time: May 20 (Thu) from 11:30 – 1:00

◇Place: Nobeoka City Social Education Center

## ● Fun Time Cooking

(Explanation in Japanese only)

※First-come, First-serve



◇Date & Time: 5/27 (Thu) from 10:00 – 1:00

◇Place: Nobeoka City Social Education Center

◇Participants: Max of 15

◇Cost: ¥800 (for ingredients)

※Please bring along an apron, bandana, dishcloth, and container to take home any leftovers.

◇Application & Inquiries: Nobeoka City International Exchange Promotion Department  
Tel: 0982-22-7006

## [Local Announcements]

### ● Japanese Practice Sessions for Foreign Residents

※Free to All – Registration Required

◇Date & Time: 5/7, 5/14, 5/21 & 5/28

from 6:30~7:30 PM※All Fridays

◇Venue: Miyazaki Citizens' Plaza (Chu Meeting Room)

◇To Apply: Fill out our application form and return to the Miyazaki City International Association by post, e-mail, or fax.

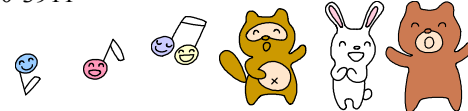
◇Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki City International Association  
〒880-8505

Miyazaki City International Association Administrative Bureau, Tachibana-dori Nishi 1-1-1, Miyazaki City  
Tel: 0985-21-1719, Fax: 0985-21-1733,  
E-mail: miyazaki-mcia@miyazaki-catv.ne.jp



## < May Events >

Event	Date & Time	Venue	Contact
Ikoma Highlands Iceland Poppy Peak Season	Mid April ~ Late May	Kobayashi City, Ikoma Highlands	Ikoma Highlands Tel: 0984-27-1919
Miyazaki International Street Music Festival 2010	5/2 (Sun) 1:00~6:30	Miyazaki City, Tachibana-dori Blocks 2 & 3 (Special Stage in the City Center) ※Rain Venue: Albright Hall in Miyazaki Citizens' Plaza	Free Admission Inquiries: Miyazaki International Street Music Festival Administrative Bureau (Miyazaki Bunka Honpo) Tel: 0985-60-3911
Miyazaki International Music Festival	4/24 (Sat) ~ 5/9 (Sun)	Medikit Arts Center (Miyazaki Prefectural Arts Center Hall)	Tickets & Inquiries: Medikit Arts Center (Miyazaki Prefectural Arts Center Hall) Ticket Center Tel: 0985-28-7766, Open: 9:00-8:00 ※Closed on Mondays Online reservations via <i>Chicketopia</i>



### Pat's Little Rant

### Weekday Mornings inside Pat's Head Patrick Maher, Miyazaki Prefecture CIR

**Waking:** “I don’t find it a coincidence that ‘Morning’ and ‘Mourning’ are pronounced the same. The neighbor’s tiny dog is barking again – actually, I don’t think it ever stops barking. Owning a tiny dog is like owning a hangover; I live next to a hangover.”

**Shaving:** “You know what’s really creepy? A guy with a bushy neck beard, that’s what’s creepy. You know where I hate shaving? The neck, that’s where. Is there no way to get a clean shave without a blood sacrifice? I really wish neck beards were vogue.”

**Brushing:** “We’ve travelled to space, cured diseases, and connected the world via the internet. Yet we’re stuck on let’s-use-a-piece-of-string technology for cleaning between our teeth? I do not understand a world jointly inhabited by both iPhones and floss.”

**Dressing:** “Is it just me, or is every dress sock I own either too thin or too thick? I either feel like I’m cross-dressing or preparing to hike frozen tundra. And can someone explain to me why these socks need to reach my knees – it does not please the knees.”

**Departing:** “Hey, the weather’s pretty nice today! Maybe I shouldn’t be so pessimistic, maybe I should do my best to stay positive and enjoy the day!” (Pat’s smile is annihilated by the sound of hundreds of squeaky bicycles noisily braking to a stop – are people so lazy they can’t oil their brakes? Optimism dies; another rant is born).