



# Plaza News



July 2010

No.52

## 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

### ● Library Back-Issues Free for the Taking

We are currently giving away back-issues of *Newsweek*, the Philippine newspaper *PINOY*, and other publications for free from the Miyazaki International Plaza's Library Corner. Numbers are limited, so come on by and get your hands on some free reading material.

- ◇ Distribution Period: Beginning July 1 (Thu)
- ◇ Place: Carino Miyazaki 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Miyazaki International Plaza
- ◇ Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation



### ● 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.

### ● Subsidy System for Events Promoting Internationalization

For groups or organizations within the prefecture planning to host an international event, the Miyazaki International Foundation may offer to subsidize a portion of the fees involved under the following conditions:

- ◇ Event Type: Pioneering, effective events contributing to the promotion of local international exchange, which in principal allow for the participation of general citizens and will be believed to have a positive ripple effect within the community.
- ◇ Event Budget: Expenses necessary to the implementation of the aforementioned type of event (excluding group's administrative expenses).
- ◇ Subsidy Amount: As much as half of the event's expenses (but no more than ¥200,000 in total).
- ◇ Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation

### ● 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 : 7/6, 7/13, 7/20 & 7/27 (Tuesdays)  
from 10 :30 ~ 11 :30
- 7/2, 7/9, 7/16, 7/23 & 7/30 (Fridays)  
from 10 :10 ~ 11 :00

- ◇ Place: (Tue) Carino Miyazaki 8<sup>th</sup> Floor,  
International Plaza Multi-Purpose Room A
- (Fri) Carino Miyazaki 9<sup>th</sup> Floor

- ◇ Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation



### ● 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?

- ◇ Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation

### ● 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 or holidays.



### ● 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

## ●International Cooperation for One and for All

Striving to support the activities of NGOs involved in projects aimed at eliminating poverty and stopping the spread of infectious diseases in countries across the world, along with protecting our planet's environment from destruction, we here at the Miyazaki International Foundation are collecting the following items, which we ask for your cooperation in bringing in or sending to the International Plaza:

- 1) Postcards with errors, etc. which you no longer need
  - 2) Used Stamps
  - 3) Used Prepaid Cards
- ◇Note on Sending Stamps: Please leave about 5 mm of space around stamps when cutting them off of envelopes. Also, we cannot accept torn or damaged stamps.  
◇Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation



## [Local Announcements]

### 《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: 7/15 (Thu) from 11:30~13:00  
◇Place: Nobeoka City Social Education Center  
◇Application & Inquiries: Nobeoka City International Exchange Promotion Department Tel: 0982-22-7006



## ●Bangladesh Study Tour 2010

The Asia Arsenic Network NGO, whose headquarters is located here in Miyazaki, will be holding a study tour where participants can visit the areas where said NGO is currently active. We invite you to join us and together contemplate the role of international cooperation and NGOs, while further thinking about what each and everyone of us can do for our world.

◇Period: 10 day period from 8/28 (Sat) – 9/6 (Mon),

Depart from/Return to Fukuoka Airport

◇Tour Cost: ¥199,000

◇Application Deadline: July 22 (Thu)

※This tour is intended for Asia Arsenic Network members; therefore, if you are not a member, you will need to register with us when applying for the tour.

◇Application & Inquiries: My Ticket Corporation,

Tel: 06-4869-3444 URL: www.myticket.jp

◇Inquiries Concerning Activities: Asia Arsenic Network NPO

Tel: 0985-20-2201 URL: www.asia-arsenic.jp

### 《Hosted by Miyazaki City》

#### ◎Japanese Practice Sessions for Foreign Residents

※Free to All – Registration Required

◇Date & Time: 7/2, 7/9, 7/16 & 7/23 from 18:30~19:30

※Every Friday

◇Venue: Miyazaki Citizens' Plaza - 7/2 & 7/23 (Chu Meeting Room), 7/9 & 7/16 (Washitsu)



◇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 (International Association Administrative Bureau) Tachibana-dori Nishi 1-1-1 〒880-8505

Tel: 0985-21-1719, Fax: 0985-21-1733,

E-mail: miyazaki-mcia@miyazaki-catv.ne.jp

## <July Events>

Event	Date & Time	Venue	Contact
Miyazaki Film Festival 	Pre-Festival 7/2 (Fri) 7/3 (Sat) ~ 7/10 (Sat)	7/2 (Fri) ~ 7/9 (Fri) Miyazaki Kinema-kan Theatre 7/10 (Sat) Albright Hall	Ticket Agencies now selling open-viewing, general admission, and children's tickets Inquiries: Miyazaki Film Festival Executive Committee Tel: 0985-60-3911 Fax: 0985-28-1257 E-mail: mff@bunkahonpo.or.jp
Moku O Keawe International Festival in Japan 	7/3 (Sat) ~ 7/5 (Mon)	7/3 (Sat) & 7/4 (Sun) Phoenix Seagaia Summit Hall 7/5 (Mon) "Hanahana" Restaurant in the Miyazaki Kanko Hotel	Inquiries: Moku O Keawe International Festival in Japan Miyazaki Executive Committee Tel: 0985-20-8658, Fax: 0985-28-3614 Miyazaki City Tourism Association Tachibana-dori 1-1-1, Miyazaki City 〒880-8505

### Pat's Little Rant

### No Parking? No Problem!

Patrick Maher, Miyazaki Prefecture CIR

Granted I do not have a Japanese driver's license, but I believe myself familiar enough with Japanese driving laws after nearly half a decade of residence here. I have inferred the following, which I imagine may prove useful to some, and thus, feel an obligation to educate. Do not bother wasting your precious money on paid parking, because you can seemingly stop your car anywhere you please! If the actions of the majority of drivers I see are to be emulated, then I assume parking laws work as such:

- Feel free to stop your car (or just sit in idle when bored) in the middle of the road whenever you please – make sure you're not parked too close to the curb, as this would allow other cars and bikes to make easy use of the road.
- You should preferably stop your automobile without using your turn signal or any other indicator of your preparing to stop – this will help other motorists become aware of this law sooner rather than later, as they avoid crashing into your bumper.
- If at all possible, block entrances and exits of nearby establishments; additionally, feign ignorance and avoid making eye contact with fellow motorists that attempt to make use of said entrances and exits. Remember, a selfish driver deserves respect.