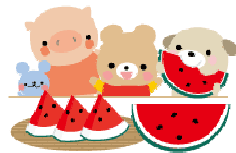




Plaza News



August 2010

No.53

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

●Beginner-Intermediate Level Japanese Language Course for Foreign Residents ※Registration Required

We are offering a beginner-intermediate level Japanese course for foreign residents in Miyazaki. For those of you currently studying or interested in studying Japanese, we welcome your participation.

- ◇Date & Time: Every Tuesday & Friday from 9/21(Tue) – 12/17(Fri)
10:10~12:00, 25 Sessions in Total ※No Class on 11/23 (Tue)
- ◇Venue: Carino Miyazaki, 8th Floor, Multi-Purpose Room B
- ◇Participants: Those who have studied Japanese for 1-2 years, are able to speak simple conversational Japanese, and have a grasp on basic reading and writing
- ◇Cost: ¥2,500 (Text & Materials)
- ◇To Apply: Fill out our application form and return it by post or fax
- ◇Inquiries & Application: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation

●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. Interested individuals should contact the Miyazaki International Foundation, and we will send you the necessary application form. «In the case of multiple applicants, potential volunteers will undergo a screening process»

- ◇Volunteer Period: October 1, 2010 (Fri) – March 31, 2011 (Thu)
- ◇Volunteer Time: One day a week from Tue – Sat from ①10:15~12:45 or ②13:00~15:30
- ◇Tasks: Assisting Plaza visitors, organizing and lending out library materials, computer work, assisting with correspondence, arranging and forwarding used stamps, etc.
- ◇Transportation expenses not covered; no monetary rewards (however, parking and volunteers insurance will be covered by the International Foundation)
- ◇Deadline: 9/10 (Fri) ◇Application & Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation

●5th Annual “Miyazaki – From the Outside Looking In” Art Festival – Now Accepting Artworks!

Theme: “Things Learned from Living in Miyazaki,” “Strange Things about Miyazaki,” or other thoughts/impressions related to Miyazaki

- ◇Eligible Artists: In principle, foreign residents living in Miyazaki
- ◇Eligible Art: Photos, paintings, drawings, calligraphy, poetry, handcrafts, etc.
- ※You can submit up to 3 photos via data file, which we will print out in color in a predetermined size
- ◇Artwork Size: Max of 50cm×50cm
- ※Frames for photos and paintings larger than A4 size must be provided by the artist.
- ◇Submissions of Artworks:

- Submission by Post: Send to the Miyazaki International Foundation
- Submission in Person: Hand in at one of the following institutions:
①Miyazaki International Foundation, ②Nobeoka International Exchange Promotion Office (2nd Floor of Nobeoka City Hall), ③Nichinan City General Affairs Division (2nd Floor of Nichinan City Hall), ④Miyakonojo International Association (2nd Floor of Miyakonojo City hall), ⑤University of Miyazaki Global Support Office

※Please include the following information with your submission: 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)

- ◇Exhibition Period & Venue: December 8 (Wed) ~ December 13 (Mon)
Miyazaki Art Centre, 5th Floor, Art Space 2 from 10:00 AM ~ 8:00 PM
- ※First Day opens at 3:00 PM, Final Day closes at 4:00 PM
- ※Subsequent exhibitions will be held throughout the prefecture upon the conclusion of the exhibition in Miyazaki City
- ◇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: 11/6 (Sat)
- ※Please contact us if submitting artworks after the deadline
- ◇Application & 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: (Tuesdays) 8/3, 8/10, 8/17, 8/24, & 8/31
from 10 :30~11 :30
(Fridays) 8/6, 8/20, & 8/27
from 10 :10~11 :00 ※No Session on 8/13 (Fri)
- ◇Place: (Tue) Carino Miyazaki 8th Floor,
International Plaza Multi-Purpose Room A
(Fri) Carino Miyazaki 9th Floor
- ◇Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation



●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 August 3 (Tue)
- ◇Place: Carino Miyazaki 8th Floor, Miyazaki International Plaza
- ◇Inquiries: Contact the Miyazaki International Foundation

●Looking for Foreign Volunteers

- ①International 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.
- ②Volunteer 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

●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 Miyazaki City》

◎Japanese Practice Sessions for Foreign Residents

※Free to All – Registration Required

◇Date & Time: 8/6, 8/13, 8/20 & 8/27 from 6:30~7:30 ※Fridays

◇Venue:

Miyazaki Citizens' Plaza - 8/6 (3rd Floor Support Center);

8/13, 8/20 & 8/27 (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 (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



《Hosted by Miyakonojo City》



◎Mongolian Language Course (Introductory & Beginner's Levels)

※Conducted in Japanese only

◇Participants: Introductory – For those who have never studied Mongolian
Beginner's – For those who have studied Mongolian and know the Cyrillic alphabet

◇Date & Time: Every Wednesday from 9/1 - 12/22, 15 sessions total

※No Class 11/3 & 11/17

Introductory: 7:00~7:50 PM, Beginner's: 8:00~8:50 PM

◇Venue: Miyakonojo Chuo Kominkan, Shichokaku Room

◇Participant Quota: Max of 15 per course

(Enrollment will cease once quota is met)

◇Cost: Introductory = ¥3,500, Beginner's = ¥3,000 (Text)

(Miyakonojo International Association Members: ¥3,000/¥2,500)



◇Instructor: Munkhbayar Bayanbat (Miyakonojo City CIR)

◇Application & Inquiries: Call, fax, or e-mail the (Seikatsu Bunka Division) Miyakonojo International Association Administrative Bureau

Tel: 0986-23-2295, Fax: 0986-23-3223

E-mail: mia@city.miyakonojo.miyazaki.jp

<August Events>

Event	Date & Time	Venue	Contact
Miyazaki Port Festival	8/28 (Sat) Voyage 10:00-3:00 Events & Fireworks 5:00-8:30	Voyage: Miyazaki City, Miyazaki Port, International Tourist Ship Berth Events & Fireworks: Miyazaki Rinkai Park	Chubu Port Administrative Office Tel: 0985-24-6224
Summer Festival in Hitotsuse	8/21 (Sat) 8:00 - 9:00 PM 	Sadowara Cho, Hitotsuse River, Hyuga Obashi Bridge Riverside	Sadowara General Branch Industrial Promotion Division Tel: 0985-73-1114 Festival Shuttle Bus: From Sadowara Branch ~ Hisamine Park, Shintomi Cultural Hall ~ West Gym, 6:00-10:00 PM
Cape Toi Fire Festival	8/27 (Fri) Stage Events 6:30 PM ~ Pillar Lighting 8:00 PM ~ 8/28 (Sat) Pillar Lighting 8:00 PM ~	Kushima City, Cape Toi, In front of the Kanko Hotel	Commerce and Tourism Division Tel: 0987-72-1111 
Matsuri Nobeoka Festival	8/8 (Sun) Fireworks 8:00 PM ~	Fireworks: Nobeoka City, Osegawa Riverside	(Nobeoka City Commerce and Tourism Division) Matsuri Nobeoka Tel: 0982-34-7833

Pat's Little Rant

Pat's Last Rant

Patrick Maher, Miyazaki Prefecture CIR

Well my friends, I've hoarded my angst and strife for one last rant, an epic rant, a rant for the ages, a rant to end all rants, a rant that's three years in the making, a rant packed with more vitriol than any other rant about Cleveland sports teams, people who don't stop at stop signs, never-ending rain, pain in the @\$\$ biker gangs, cockroaches, smokers who take their children into smoking rooms at airports, the sneaky karaoke guy who leaves mid-session without paying, weak typhoons that get my hopes up, ninja hairs, people walking more than 2 dogs in the morning, people with poor airplane armrest etiquette, couples who selfishly take the table seats at conveyor belt sushi restaurants, the improper ratio of ladies' restrooms to men's, people who debate whether something is a fruit or a vegetable and coin annoying words like *fregetable*, people who walk about like out-of-control robots unconscious of others, my beautiful eyelashes, male convenience store workers who squeal "*irrashaimase!*" like a 3 year-old girl, the unnecessary Box O'Melodrama in the TV corner, high school boys who ride side-by-side in groups of 5 on narrow sidewalks, chocolate, wearing sunglasses indoors, cowards in black buses, old men loudly smacking their lips, squeaky bicycle breaks, neck beards, biting my lip, and people parking wherever they please. So what's got me fired up? Well, for 3 years, for 3 long years, I've lived in Miyazaki, yet...not once did I go surfing. What kind of ridiculous individual would pass up such a chance? And so it is that he who rants becomes fuel for the final rant – oh, wicked karmic backlash!

Oh well, all the more reason to come back one day and ride a wave. Fare thee well for now, Miyazaki faithful. See you under the southern sun again someday.