



# PLAZA NEWS



Miyazaki International Foundation B1 Carino Miyazaki, Tachibanadori Higashi 4-8-1, Miyazaki City 880-0805

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Open: Tuesdays to Saturdays, 10:00 am to 7:00 pm Closed: Sundays, Mondays, National Holidays and December 29 to January 3

## 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Art Festival - Traveling Exhibition - Prefectural Government edition - "Miyazaki - From the Outside Looking in" \*Free viewing

There are 39 art works on display submitted by the foreign residents who live in Miyazaki on the theme 'Miyazaki'. Please take the time to appreciate how our foreign residents see Miyazaki.

◇**Display Period:** January 17<sup>th</sup> (Wed) to January 30<sup>th</sup> (Tue)  
8:30am-6:00pm

◇**Venue:** Miyazaki Prefectural Government Hall,  
Disaster Prevention Hall Ground Floor

◇**Works on display:** photos, paintings/drawings,  
Japanese-calligraphy, and handmade crafts

◇**Inquiries:** Miyazaki International Foundation



## International Understanding Lecture – U.S.A. in Miyakonojo city \*Free, Registration Required



### "Discovering the diversity of the Southwest and learning Tang Soo Do (Korean Karate)"

Mr. Seth Landis Steele from the United States will speak about the diversity of the American Southwest and Korean martial art of Tang Soon Do, for which he holds an American title. Let's try it and interact together!

◇**Date & Time:** February 3<sup>rd</sup> (Sat) 14:30 - 16:30

◇**Venue:** Miyakonojo City Hall, North Annex,  
2F Shared conference room

◇**Lecturer:** Mr. Seth Landis Steele  
(Miyakonojo City, Coordinator of International Relations)

◇**Spaces Available:** 15 (First-come, first-served)

◇**Fee:** Free

◇**To Apply:** Please let us know your name, address, phone  
number, by phone, fax, email or in person.  
You can apply using Google form.

<https://forms.gle/8jr8fBkXjoTayhkV9>

◇**Application Deadline:** January 20<sup>th</sup> (Sat)

◇**Inquiries & Application:** Miyazaki International Foundation



## Talk with the CIRs ♪ \*Free, Registration Required

★A chat with Haejeong from South Korea (Japanese & Korean)

◇**Date & Time:** ① January 11<sup>th</sup> (Thu) 3:00pm - 4:00pm

② January 25<sup>th</sup> (Thu) 3:00pm - 4:00pm



◇**Application Deadline:**

① January 9<sup>th</sup> (Tue) ② January 18<sup>th</sup> (Thu)

◇**Venue:** CARINO Miyazaki B1 Miyazaki International Plaza

◇**Spaces Available:** 4 (Priority will be given to people who have  
participated less frequently)

\*We accept applications by phone, email or in person.

◇**Inquiries & Application:** Miyazaki International Foundation

## Japanese Speech Contest for Foreign Residents (Prefectural contest) \*Free viewing

For the foreign residents in the prefecture to display the results of their daily efforts at studying Japanese we will be holding a speech contest. Anyone is allowed to come and watch.



◇**Date & Time :** February 4<sup>th</sup> (Sun) 14:00 - 16:00

◇**Venue :** Kenden Hall (Miyazaki Prefecture Enterprise  
Bureau Building 1st floor)

◇**Contestants :** Top performers from each regional competition

◇**Topic :** "Miyazaki" (Things you have felt while living in  
Miyazaki, feelings towards your home country,  
dreams for the future, etc.)

◇**Speech Length Limit:** 3~5 min

◇**Inquiries & Application:** Miyazaki International Foundation

## Local Japanese Language Classes \*Free, Registration Required

Have fun practicing your Japanese with local residents!



### <Shintomi>

◇**Theme:** Let's learn bicycle traffic rules

◇**Date & Time:** February 18<sup>th</sup> (Sun) 10:00am - 12:00noon

◇**Venue:** Shintomi Town West Gymnasium

◇**How to Apply:** Please send us your name, phone number,  
nationality and Japanese language level by email.

◇**Application due:** February 5<sup>th</sup> (Mon)

◇**Inquiries & Application:**

Miyazaki International Foundation Email: miyainfo@mif.or.jp

### <Nichinan>

◇**Theme:** About Japanese culture and customs

◇**Date & Time:** January 21<sup>st</sup> (Sun) 13:30- 15:30

◇**Venue:** Sokyakusojin Center  
2F Itten Horikawa Building, 3-4-1-2 Iwasaki,  
Nichinan City

◇**How to Apply:** Please apply via Google form

<https://forms.gle/d7aXYzn35JL4WAn9>

◇**Application due:** January 17<sup>th</sup> (Wed)

◇**Inquiries & Application:** Mr. Gonzalez Jose Luis  
(Nichinan City, Coordinator of International Relations)

Tel:0987-31-1113

E-mail:kokusaikouryu@city,nichinan.lg.jp



### <Mimata>

◇**Theme:** Let's go to the hospital

◇**Date & Time:** January 14<sup>th</sup> (Sun) 13:00 - 15:00

◇**Venue:** Mimata Town 6th District Annex  
(2295 Tadeike, Mimata)

◇**How to Apply:** Please send us your name, phone number,  
nationality and Japanese language level by email.

◇**Application due:** January 13<sup>th</sup> (Sat)

◇**Inquiries & Application:** Chikyujin Base  
Email: chikyujin.base@gmail.com



## Online International Understanding Lecture -U.S.A.

\*Free, Registration Required



### "Learning about the multi-ethnic nation of America from the perspective of 1.5 generation immigrants"

Mr. John Lee Addicks O'Toole, a Vietnamese American, will be the lecturer, and will talk about the current situation and challenges of immigrants in the United States, the conflicts he faced as an immigrant, and his own experience connecting with the world through skateboarding and supporting rural communities.

\*The talk will be given in English, but a Japanese interpretation will be provided.

◇Date & Time: February 17<sup>th</sup> (Sat) 10:30am - 12:00 noon

◇Venue: Online (Zoom)

◇Lecturer: Mr. John Le Addicks O'Toole

◇Fee: Free

◇To Apply: <https://forms.gle/SPeHtWKAjMfGtcqR9>

◇Application Deadline: February 2<sup>nd</sup> (Fri)

◇Inquiries & Application: Miyazaki International Foundation



## Miyazaki International Plaza Counter Volunteer Recruitment

We are currently looking for volunteers from within Miyazaki Prefecture, 18 years of age or older, to work at the front counter of the Miyazaki International Plaza and assist Plaza staff. To apply, interested parties should submit a completed application form by March 2<sup>nd</sup> (Sat).

In the case of multiple applicants, potential volunteers will undergo a screening process.

\*Nationality will not play a role in choosing applicants. However, volunteers expected to speak some basic Japanese.

◇Volunteer Period:

April 9<sup>th</sup> (Tue) to September 28<sup>th</sup> (Sat) \*Excluding Holidays

◇Volunteer Time:

One day a week from Tue to Sat from:

A. 10:15 am - 12:45 pm B. 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Volunteers will work on the same day and during the same time period from week to week.



◇Tasks: Assisting Plaza visitors, assist in lending out and checking in library materials sending out documents, organizing library materials, arranging and forwarding used stamps, etc.

◇Others: Transportation expenses not covered; no monetary rewards (\*however, volunteer's insurance will be covered by the International Foundation and parking vouchers will be issued to volunteers making use of the CARINO Miyazaki Parking Lot.)

◇Application dead Line: March 2<sup>nd</sup> (Sat)

◇Inquiries: Miyazaki International Foundation

## Japanese Practice Sessions \*Free, Registration Required



◇Dates & Times:

[Wednesday] 10:30am - 11:30am 1/10, 1/17, 1/24, 1/31

[Friday] 10:30am - 11:30am 1/5, 1/12, 1/19, 1/26

◇Venue: CARINO Miyazaki B1F

◇Inquiries: Miyazaki International Foundation

## Staff's Tweet

This is a story from when I attended a language school in Europe. I often studied at university with my friend from China. One day, while we were having lunch together, he introduced me as "C'est mon amie" to a local friend who was passing by. Although when directly translated it means "this is my friend," it carries the local nuisance of "this is my partner", in other words it can also be used in a romantic sense to mean "girlfriend". I was taken aback by this comment, the local friend didn't seem to take much notice. After some time, my female friend from Taiwan told me, "There are rumors about the two of you." I remembered the reason for this and thought, "oh no!". I thought that the way my friend had introduced me incorrectly and this had caused people to think I was his romantic partner. To clearly express that someone is just a friend, you can say "C'est une amie à moi" (lit. just one of many friends). Similar to the English expression, "one of my friends." I reflected on myself for being presumptuous and not being able to explain things to him right away, even though he had only recently arrived in France.  
(Staff: T)



## A Message from the Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents

The Miyazaki Support Centre for Foreign residents provides a 'Zoom consultation' service for those who are unable to come to the centre directly. Please send us your enquiry including the following information.



1. Your name
2. The date and time you would like to meet
3. What you would like to discuss (child rearing, work, school/education, medical care, divorce, Japanese language learning, status of residence in Japan etc.)

◇Discussion reception desk opening hours:

Tuesday – Saturday 10:30am-12:00noon, 2:00pm-5:00pm

\*Closed on Sundays, Mondays and National holidays

◇Inquiries & Application: Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents (Carino Miyazaki B1)

TEL: 0985-41-5901 FAX: 0985-41-5902

E-mail: support@mif.or.jp

## A Scot in Miyazaki

" A final farewell "



Miyazaki Prefecture CIR  
Eilidh Galloway

The new year brings many things and marks the start of another chapter. For me, this new year brings me to a new city where I will continue my life in Japan. Alas, the time has come for me to leave Miyazaki making this my final column in the Plaza News.

I cannot express how much I have enjoyed, grown, and learnt during my time in Miyazaki. I am so grateful to all the people I have had to privilege to meet, who have welcomed me and made me feel at home in this city so far away from my home country. Before I first set foot in Miyazaki, I must confess I didn't really know where it was geographically, let alone all the wonderful things it had to offer! But I quickly found my footing as I discovered the charms of this prefecture. With my work I have had the opportunity to travel the length and breadth of the prefecture, from the mountains of Takachiho to the seas of Nichinan and flowers in Ebino. I have been able to improve my Japanese little by little everyday and understanding of Japanese culture and history. Little things like using a hanko at work to watching live kagura performances, there have been many experiences that I would not have had if I had not come to Japan.

In Japanese there is an expression '居場所' (ibasho) meaning a place where one belongs. Although I will be moving out of Miyazaki, I feel like it will always be my 'ibasho' in Japan, and is somewhere I look forward to fondly revisiting.

宮崎ありがとうございました！

