



# 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



## Plaza Holiday Closing



The International Plaza will be closed on April 29<sup>th</sup> (Tue) for the national holiday.

## Introducing The Miyazaki Prefecture International Plaza

### ★Location

Carino Miyazaki Basement Floor 1, approximately 10-minute walk from Miyazaki Station into the city centre, next to the Miyazaki Central Post Office

### ★Opening hours

Open: Tuesdays to Saturdays 10am – 7pm

Closed: Sundays, Mondays, National holidays and December 29 to January 3

\*For those who come by car, please use the Carino parking lot or a paid parking lot nearby.

Please note that we do not issue parking tickets.

### ★Facilities Guide

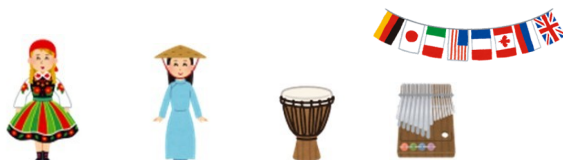
◆Information available.

We provide information related to international exchange, etc.

◆Reading and loaning of books, magazines, and newspapers  
You can borrow books written in different languages and various resource textbooks for studying Japanese. Anyone can borrow books for up to two weeks (two books per person at any one time)  
You can also read newspapers written in English.

◆Lending of Costumes, Flags and World Boxes

We have flags, toys, instruments, books from, and information on, various countries available to lend for free.



◆Support from Coordinators for International Relations (CIRs).

We are also supported by Coordinators for International Relations (CIRs) that can speak English, Chinese, and Korean. Please speak to the staff members at the association for further information.

Days the CIRs are at the association.

•Tuesday (Chinese)

•Thursday (Korean)

•Friday (English)

There are cases when the CIRs are not at the association, so please check beforehand.

◆Inquiries & Application: Miyazaki International Foundation

## A Brief Introduction to the Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents



The Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents welcomes residents from abroad with questions or concerns related to their lives in Miyazaki.

Consultations are available in person, by telephone, etc. (email, ZOOM)

### 【Supported languages】

(We may use phone interpreting services etc. for consultations)  
English, Chinese, Korean, Thai, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Malay, Tagalog, Nepali, Portuguese, Spanish, French, Russian, German, Italian, Burmese, Mongolian, Khmer, Sinhala, Hindi, Bengali

\*We also respond to enquiries from people who support foreign residents.

【Open】Tuesdays to Saturdays, 10:00 am - 7:00 pm

Tel 0985-41-5901 Fax 0985-41-5902

E-mail [support@mif.or.jp](mailto:support@mif.or.jp)

Please check our Homepage, Facebook and Instagram for more information.



(Website)



(Facebook)



(Instagram)



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

How about having a chat with the Coordinators for International Relations from the Prefectural Government?

★A chat with Katherine from England (Japanese & English)

◆Date & Time: ①April 11 (Fri) 3 - 4 pm

②April 25 (Fri) 3 - 4 pm



◆Registration Deadline:

①April 4 (Fri) ②April 18(Fri)

★A chat with Yu Ding from Singapore (Japanese & Chinese)

◆Date & Time: April 22 (Tue) 4 - 5 pm

◆Registration Deadline: April 15 (Tue)



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

◆Date & Time: April 17 (Thu) 6 - 7 pm

◆Registration Deadline: April 10 (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/Registration: Miyazaki International Foundation

## Japanese self-learning tools

Online self-learning is available. A website for foreign nationals living in Japan, where you can learn Japanese useful for daily life.

### **TUNAHIRO**

This website is for foreign nationals living in Japan to learn the Japanese language in order to communicate in Japanese and be able to use it in daily life. Learning contents can be chosen based on your Japanese level, the situation that interests you, and keywords. Study and use Japanese to connect with society and broaden life's possibilities.

#### **This website is intended for:**

- People who live in Japan and have no opportunity to study Japanese
- People who have just moved to Japan and are learning the Japanese language for the first time

This website supports multiple languages to help first-time learners of Japanese take up the language smoothly.

Supported languages:

Chinese (simplified) • Chinese (traditional) • English • Filipino • French • Indonesian • Khmer (Cambodian) • Korean • Mongolian • Burmese • Nepali • Portuguese • Russian • Sinhala • Spanish • Thai • Ukrainian • Vietnamese • Japanese  
(Total: 19 languages)

- ◆ The purpose of this website is to learn basic Japanese phrases and terms.
- ◆ This website specializes in everyday situations of foreign nationals living in Japan.
- ◆ Videos are provided as the main contents, which allow you to see in which situations the words you learn are utilized.
- ◆ You can start learning Japanese by choosing a scene according to your Japanese level and your interest.
- ◆ A new content "raising children" has been added.

[https://tsunagarup.mext.go.jp/?lang\\_id=EN](https://tsunagarup.mext.go.jp/?lang_id=EN)



## Hinata Nihongo Navi

"Hinata Nihongo Navi" is a portal site for foreign residents in Miyazaki Prefecture who want to learn Japanese and Japanese residents who want to support their learning. Efforts such as Japanese language courses and learning supporter training courses implemented in each municipality are posted. Please take advantage of it.

<https://hinatanihongo.mif.or.jp/english/>



◆ **Inquiries:** Miyazaki International Foundation

## Introduction of Japanese language volunteers \*Free, Registration Required



If you live in Miyazaki Prefecture and want to learn Japanese, we have Japanese volunteers who can help you.

Schedules, meeting places, and contents of study are all arranged between the student and volunteer.

◆ **Target:** Miyazaki residents who want to learn Japanese

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

## We are recruiting patrons! Annual membership fee Individual: 2,000yen Group: 10,000yen



If you become our patron...

- You will receive "International Plaza News," our monthly newsletter
- You will receive "South Wind," our semiannual magazine
- You will be given discounts for our lectures and workshops
- (Only available for Groups) Website will be linked to our homepage

◆ **Inquiries :** Miyazaki International Foundation

## April Events

Event	Date & Time	Venue	Contact /Information
Saito Flower Festival	March 28 (Fri) - April 6 (Sun) 10:00am - 9:45pm	Saitobaru Ancient Burial Mounds <b>Saito City</b>	Saito City Tourism Association 0983-41-1557
Miyazaki International Street Music Festival 2025	April 20 (Sun) 1:00pm - 6:00pm* (*subject to change)	Albright Hall, LAZARUS etc.. <b>Miyazaki City</b>	Miyazaki Art Center 0985-22-3115 <a href="https://bunkahonpo.or.jp/street2025/">https://bunkahonpo.or.jp/street2025/</a>

Confessions of a scaredy-cat



### "Ode to the Street Piano"



**Miyazaki Prefecture CIR**  
**Katherine Kessler**

Let me tell you about the first friend I made in Miyazaki: the Street Piano.

I have a sixth sense for public pianos, and it wasn't long into my time here before I found this one, a slightly battered upright painted sky-blue with childlike illustrations sitting in the courtyard of the Art Centre on San-chome. I'm the definition of an amateur when it comes to music: I love doing it, I only play songs I like and can figure out by ear, and I like to show off but balk at any kind of professional performance. That's why public pianos are so irresistible to me, they take the pressure off. I've visited that piano countless times now, sometimes to play, and sometimes just to listen.

The musical pleasures alone would be enough, but I also have to thank the Street Piano for something more important, which is getting me to talk to Miyazaki residents. In the past I've found it hard to put myself out there in a new place, especially a Japanese one, but my first impression of disarming Miyazaki friendliness was at the Street Piano, talking to a chatty elderly pianist in my first week living in the city. I've since made a few "piano friends", people who gravitate to that place just like I do and who are happy to hang out and chat while we take turns on the keys. And music is a shared language in itself; I'm always able to find at least some common ground with people over a piano, no matter their age or nationality (usually "Let It Be" by The Beatles). I take comfort knowing that piano's there, that I can walk ten minutes to it from my home, and that I'll most likely leave it feeling less alone than when I came.

