



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 from May 3(Sat) to May 6(Tue) for the national holidays.

A Brief Introduction to What's on at the Miyazaki International Foundation in over the 2025/6 Financial year

The Miyazaki International Foundation is planning to hold the following courses over the coming year. Further information will be posted on our website (<https://www.mif.or.jp>) and Facebook page, and in Plaza News nearer the time.

【Support for Foreign Residents】

- Disaster Preparedness Seminar for Foreign Residents
- Training Seminar for volunteers to assist foreign residents during natural disasters
- Lectures on Multicultural Symbiosis

【International Exchange】

- Chat Sessions (English, Chinese, Korean)
- Traditional Japanese Culture Experience
- International Understanding Lectures



【Learning Japanese】

- Japanese Speech Contest

We are also planning courses for foreign residents who want to learn Japanese and for local residents who want to support in learning Japanese. For more information, please check Hinata Nihongo Navi.

【Events, Festivals】

- Miyazaki International Festival – “Friends of the World”
- Art Festival exhibiting artworks by foreign residents



【Volunteers】

- Japanese Language Volunteers
(These volunteers help foreign residents to study Japanese.)
- Volunteer Interpreters
(These volunteers are available to interpret at events and exchange activities in public sectors)
- Volunteer Host Families
(These volunteers host people from overseas for homestays.)
- Volunteers to assist foreign residents during natural disasters
- Counter Volunteers at the Miyazaki International Plaza
(Terms: April-September, October-March)

【Dispatch Instructors】

- Advisers on Multicultural Symbiosis
(We dispatch advisers to international understanding lectures held locally for free.)

【Publications】

- South Wind (published twice a year)
- Living in Miyazaki
(published in English in the *Miyazaki Nichinichi Shimbun* newspaper in the last week of every month)
- Plaza News (published monthly)

◆Inquiries: Miyazaki International Foundation

International Chat Sessions First Term *Registration Required

Let's chat in English, Chinese, and Korean with Prefectural Coordinators for International Relations and foreign volunteers.

<English>

- ◆Dates & Times: 6/7, 6/14, 6/21, 7/5, 7/12, 7/26
Saturdays 10:30am - 11:30am 6 sessions in total
- ◆Spaces Available: 10
- ◆Application Deadline: May 24 (Sat)
- ◆Target: Those who can make basic conversation



<Chinese>

- ◆Dates & Times: 6/17, 6/24, 7/1, 7/8, 7/15, 7/22
Tuesdays 6:00pm - 7:00pm 6 sessions in total
- ◆Spaces Available: 5
- ◆Application Deadline: June 3 (Tue)
- ◆Target: People who have learned Chinese pinyin/People who would like to practice speaking Chinese

<Korean>

- ◆Dates & Times: 6/12, 6/26, 7/10, 7/24, 8/7, 8/21
Thursdays 6:00pm - 7:00pm 6 sessions in total
- ◆Spaces Available: 5
- ◆Application Deadline: May 29 (Thu)
- ◆Target: Those who can make basic conversation
- ★Venue: CARINO Miyazaki B1
- ★Fee: patrons and students ¥1,000 (6 sessions)
non-members ¥3,000 (6 sessions)
middle school students and under ¥500 (6 sessions)

★To Apply: Apply in person, by phone or by e-mail and provide your name, phone number, email address and preferred language.
*If there are more applicants than spaces, we will give priority to supporting members and first time applicants.

★Inquiries & Application: Miyazaki International Foundation

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: ①May 23 (Fri) 3:00pm - 4:00pm
②May 30 (Fri) 3:00pm - 4:00pm



◆Registration Deadline: ①May 16 (Fri) ②May 23 (Fri)

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

- ◆Date & Time: May 13 (Tue) 4:00pm - 5:00pm
- ◆Registration Deadline: May 7 (Wed)



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

- ◆Date & Time: May 22 (Thu) 3:00pm - 4:00pm
- ◆Registration Deadline: May 15 (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

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. Information for Japanese language courses and learning supporter training courses etc. implemented in each municipality are posted. Please take advantage of it.

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



Regarding this year's Hinata Japanese Class (Online) and courses for Japanese language learning supporters, we will be posting more information as details are decided. Keep an eye out for updates!

◆Inquiries: Miyazaki International Foundation

Staff's Tweet

This year I have a special calendar hanging on my wall. It's themed around illustrator Maki Kanai's "What time is it now?" drawings. Produced every year by a Tokyo-based NPO, it's aimed at empowering people with immigrant and/or refugee backgrounds.

Every month, my eye is caught by the warm illustrations with the words "What time is it now?" in languages from around the globe. In April, for instance, it was Tagalog. It depicts the everyday lives of people from diverse backgrounds living in Japan, making them feel close and familiar. The calendar also includes United Nations International Days for peace, and the elimination of racial discrimination. All proceeds from buying the calendar go towards supporting the lives of these people. It's a truly valuable thing, a beautifully illustrated calendar that opens the door to a new world.

(Staff: T)



May Events



Flower	Best time to see	Place	Contact / Information
Kyushu Pottery Market	May 23 (Fri) to 25 (Sun)	Kushima, Former Residence of Yoshimatsu Family	Kushima Chamber of Commerce 0987-72-0254
Jacaranda	May 14 (Wed) to June 15 (Sun)	Michi-no-Eki-Nango (Free entry) Nichinan City	Nichinan City Tourist Association 0987-31-1134 https://www.kankou-nichinan.jp/

Confessions of a scaredy-cat

"One Year In: A Reflection"



Miyazaki Prefecture CIR
Katherine Kessler

I truly cannot believe it's been a year since I came to Miyazaki. It's gone by so fast, and I feel like I still have so much more to discover and get involved with. With that in mind, I thought I'd reflect on some of the things I've "confessed" in this column, and give you a bit of an update.

Hornets: as I write this, it's still April, and the hornets have not returned, so I can't say how I'll be doing when they come back. But I can say that by the end of summer last year, I was able to see one without assuming it was out to murder me specifically. Anyone who has listened to me bemoan my hornet phobia at length knows that's some pretty good progress! **Earthquakes:** Very frightening when they occur. But I think a bit of mortal terror is healthy, in a way. It makes a change from being worried over things that don't matter at all. **Driving:** Now enrolled in an actual driving school! Streets of Miyazaki beware! **Bento:** I wish I could tell you I was making healthy packed lunches for myself every morning, but the truth is my routine has fallen apart. One of my New Fiscal Year Resolutions is to rectify this. **Summer:** Made it through all five (six?) months without melting into a puddle! But where were the *higurashi*? **Pro wrestling:** Enjoying going to live shows, and have found more success at bringing friends along! Seriously, if you've never been to a local wrestling show, I recommend giving one a try. It's like a cross between a martial arts contest, a play, and a concert. **Natto:** Still have not tried it. Sumimasen.

Thanks for reading my ramblings and here's to another year!



A Brief Introduction to the Miyazaki Support Center for Foreign Residents



[Consultation]

- In-person and Online Consultations by counselors at the Support Center
- Consultation service by Daily life consultants on everyday life in Japan
(Interpreting services in English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Tagalog, Vietnamese and Indonesian are available.)
- On-site counseling service at each city in Miyazaki prefecture
- Daily life and Legal consultations

[Supported languages]

(We may use machine translation and phone interpreting services for consultations)

English, Chinese, Korean, Thai, Vietnamese, Indonesian, Malay, Tagalog, Nepali, Portuguese, Spanish, French, Russian, German, Italian, Burmese, Mongolian, Khmer, Sinhala, Hindi, Bengali, Urdu

[Open] Tuesdays to Saturdays, 10:00 am - 7:00 pm

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

E-mail support@mif.or.jp

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



(Website)



(Facebook)



(Instagram)

Announcement: On Saturday, June 28 from 1:00pm to 2:00pm, the Support Center will host "Group discussion: Preparing for the Driving Test"

Let's put our head together to help pass the driving test!

• People who are having trouble passing their driving test

• People who intend to take a test in the future

*This discussion does not cover the written test

