



Niigata English Journal

Edited & Issued by the Niigata City International Exchange Foundation

Free Legal Advice for Foreign Residents



Need legal advice? On Sunday, June 10th there will be an opportunity to visit with a lawyer and receive free consultation regarding legal matters. If you don't speak Japanese, then an interpreter will be provided for you.

Date: June 10th (Sun) 10:30~15:30

Place: CrossPal Niigata, 2nd floor (3-2086 Ishizuecho-dori chuo-ku Niigata City)

Requirements: Non-Japanese residents living and working in Niigata

Languages Available: English, Chinese, Korean, French, Russian

Places Available: 10 (reservations required)

Length of Consultation: 45 minutes per person

Reservations: Please tell us your name, nationality, telephone number, sex, and the topics you wish to discuss by June 7th (Thu).

For more info/reservations: 025-225-2727



Spot of the Month: Café Velo (A Bicycle Café) ★★★★★

This issue's Spot of the Month is a cozy little place called Café Velo, located about 3 minutes away from Crosspal by foot. We came to find Café Velo, which opened-up shop just a few weeks ago and dishes out European-style home cooking, after one of the EJ's readers wrote in and recommended that we go and check it out; we were grateful for the tip-off, and would like to take up the torch and recommend this little restaurant to all of our readers.

When we walked into the 12-seat café 30 minutes before it was scheduled to open, we were greeted by Celtic music and Café Velo's friendly owner (Ms. Kojima), who was dressed in a very bright rainbow-striped dress shirt that reminded me of my first job—but I'll leave that story for another time.

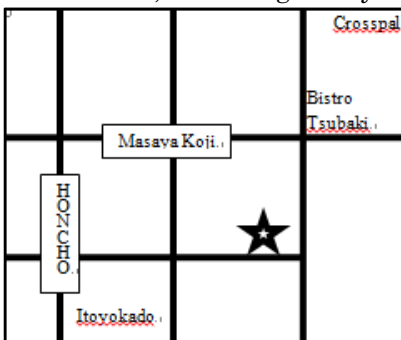
Café Velo runs 9:00~17:00 (closed on Thu, 11:30~17:00 on Friday) and offers both a breakfast and a lunch menu with surprisingly filling options. Although the lunch menu (about ¥800 per set) always consists of a quiche set, a cottage pie set, and a soup set, the quiche and soup change frequently. We ordered one of each along with an apple pie for desert, and were thoroughly impressed—naturally everything is homemade, including the rye bread, and the owner

uses local organic whenever possible. In addition to the usual coffee and tea, the café also offers visitors

with herb teas and a selection of local Echigo beer served in Echigo Beer-brand glasses. We heartily recommend that our readers stop by to try it out—you might even run into us hanging out for a bite to eat!

Worried about ordering in Japanese? The owner says that she's willing to do her best and hear you out in English, as long as you're patient.

Tel: 025-378-2839



Outdoor Sports Festival

With the advent of spring, so comes the Niigata City International Exchange Foundation's annual Outdoor Sports Festival! Come enjoy a day of team sports, BBQ, and good times by the beach. The event is a great chance to both meet new people and have a good time with your usual crowd.

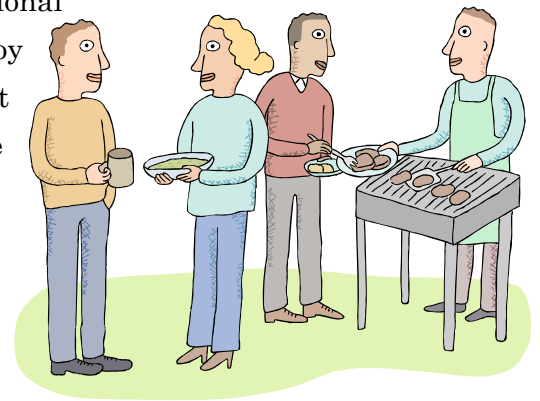
When: June 9th (Sat) **Check in:** 10:30 **Festivities:** 11:00~16:00

Where: Nishikaigan Park, Central Entrance

Admission: ¥1,000, junior high school and younger free.

To sign up: Apply by phone, e-mail, or the Foundation's Facebook page by June 6th (Wed). (See back for info)

A Plea: In order to reduce unnecessary waste, we heartily encourage everyone to bring their own non-disposable cups and chopsticks.



NCIEF Struggles to Enter the Information Age



The Niigata City International Exchange Foundation has always been a proud proponent of paper and complicated, hard-to-look-at Japanese internet sites—but that doesn't mean that we don't have a soft spot for the convenient and modern. As some of our readers may have noticed, NCIEF has finally gathered up its period skirts and moved onto Facebook! Because of this, we would like to invite all of our hip and technologically savvy readers to search us out and join our page.

In addition to providing members with the latest information about NCIEF events (as well as access to convenient event pages) we're also

encouraging members to actively post information about their own events and get-togethers. Pictures and stories about events, places, or just life in Niigata are highly welcome, and we'll be working to regularly post our own reports of what's going on in and around Niigata.

As time allows, we'll be translating the event information that members upload (predominantly Japanese → English & English → Japanese). Translations will be posted as a comment, so be sure to check the comments area when looking for event information. We look forward to seeing you online!



English Book Circle (“Books My Teacher Recommended”)



The Niigata City International Exchange Foundation is sponsoring a reading circle lead by the city's American CIR (Zackary Kaplan). The reading circle meets once a month to read and talk about shorter American classics. Anyone is free to attend, although readings and conversations will be held in English.

For more information check out our Facebook page (keyword “英語読書会 Books My Teacher Recommended”) or contact the Niigata City International Exchange

Foundation and ask for Zack.

Tel: 025-225-2727 e-mail: nigtief@pavc.ne.jp (include “English Book Circle” in the subject!)

Current Book: Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradburys

Disaster Preparedness for Foreign Residents

1) Disaster Information

Disaster related information (**Japanese only**) is available on the City of Niigata's website:

www.city.niigata.jp/info/bousai/index.html



2) Disaster Drills

The City of Niigata conducts disaster drills every year. Please actively participate in these drills in order to learn the proper actions to take in the case of a real emergency.

Details regarding time, place, and content will be available on the Niigata City homepage and in other city publications throughout the year.

3) Designated Evacuation Shelters



Evacuation shelters are places like schools and community centers where you can temporarily take refuge in the case of a disaster. Anyone may use them. Food, blankets, and other items will be delivered to these locations as necessary. Please make it a habit to know where your nearest evacuation shelter is located.

4) Niigata Disaster Prevention E-mail (24-hours a day)

You can receive e-mails with urgent information about disasters and evacuation notifications if you register your e-mail address on the City of Niigata's website. **Japanese only**

City of Niigata Home Page: <http://www.city.niigata.jp/>

Click on "Emergency Information" (防災緊急情報) and then "Niigata Disaster Prevention E-mail" (にいがた防災メール) to sign up.

5) Weather Conditions Telephone Guide

Please call 025-226-7172 for information about rainfall and wind speeds for each part of the city. **Japanese only**



Please contact one of the offices below if you have any questions:

◆ Foreign Affairs Division, Niigata City Office

Address: 1-602-1 Gakkocho-dori, Chuo-ku, Niigata-shi 951-8550

Tel 025-226-1673 Fax 025-225-3255 E-mail kokusai@city.niigata.lg.jp

◆ Niigata City International Exchange Foundation

Address: CrossPal Niigata, 3-2086 Ishizuecho-dori, Chuo-ku, Niigata-shi 951-8055

Tel 025-225-2727 Fax 025-225-2733 E-mail nigtief@pavc.ne.jp

Naruhodo Corner: 二十四節気 にじゅうしせつき Nijushi Sekki Pt. 3

立秋

In modern Japan, Western style calendars are the norm. Japan still uses their own era system, and as anyone who's ever purchased a Japanese calendar knows, there is a somewhat mysterious cycling set of kanji that mark every day of the year—but other than that, the Westerner in Japan can intuitively use the Japanese calendar, even safely celebrating the New Years as though they were in their native country. The modern calendar doesn't need too much explanation, which is why this time's Naruhodo Corner is about the old days.

The Japanese government officially adopted the Gregorian calendar in 1873 (five years after the start of the Meiji period). 二十四節気 is a lunisolar calendar system divided into 24 solar terms that was used throughout the centuries prior to this change. As a result of the calendar's long influence, references to the old divisions are still popular in news/weather reports and in other media today. The 24 solar terms are spaced 15 degrees apart on the ecliptic and each term lasts approximately 15 days. When compared with the Gregorian calendar, there are approximately 2 terms per month, with the term occurring during the first half of the month known as 節 (せつ setsu) and the term that follows being called 中 (ちゅう chu). (Individual cycles can also be divided up into three 候 (こう ko), although for the sake of space this article will only cover the 15 day solar terms.) Each division bears a name that reflects the weather or a natural event that occurs during the duration of the term. Finally, the solar terms are organized into the seasons of spring, summer, fall, and winter, divided up into four groups of six terms each.

Part 3: Fall 秋

りっしゅう

立秋 (August 7th ~ 22nd)

Risshu ("Autumn Begins") is the thirteenth solar term, and marks the beginning of autumn. During the first part of this term Higurashi Cicada can be heard throughout Japan. Towards the end of the term, heavy fog becomes more common.

しよしよ

処暑 (August 23rd ~ September 7th)

Shosho marks the time when the heat of summer finally begins to abate, and the temperature starts to shift towards autumn-like weather. Rice becomes ripe for harvest during the latter part of this solar term.

はくろ

白露 (September 8th ~ 22nd)

Hakuro ("White Dew") is the fourteenth solar term, when morning grasses often become leaden with dew. In the middle of this term wagtails begin singing, and by the end of Hakuro swallows migrate south.

しゅうぶん

秋分 (September 23rd ~ October 7th)

Shubun marks the autumnal equinox. Once this term begins, thunderstorms cease for the remainder of the year, and bugs begin to hole themselves up in the earth. During the end of the term, rice farmers begin to dry out their fields.

かんろ

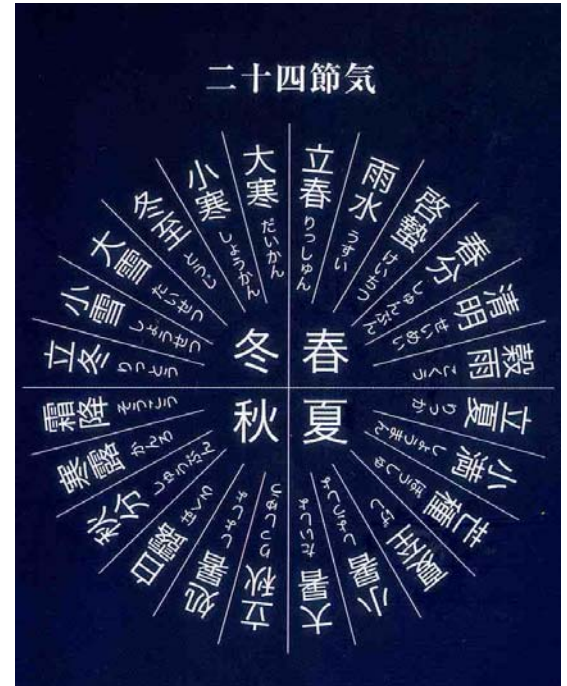
寒露 (October 8th ~ 22nd)

Kanro ("Cold Dew"). Chrysanthemums begin to bloom during the middle of this solar term. Towards the end of Kanro, the familiar chirping of crickets fills the evenings.

そうこう

霜降 (October 23rd ~ November 6th)

During Soko (literally "Falling Frost") the first frosts occur. Light rains are common during this period, and Japanese maples and ivy begin to change colors at the end of Soko.



Reference words for the forgetful:

Ecliptic: The path of the sun through the sky, relative to the stars and from the perspective of the earth.

Equinox: A period during which the earth's axis is tilted neither towards nor away from the sun.

Solstice: Either or the two times of the year at which the sun reaches its highest or lowest point in the sky at midday, marked by the shortest or longest days of the year.

For part 4 be sure to check out next month's issue of the EJ!





Free Medical Consultation for Foreign Residents

(With linguistic interpretation!)



The Medical Consultation Committee and the Niigata City International Exchange Foundation have come together to give foreign residents a chance to receive free medical consultation. The event will offer foreign residents both an opportunity to **get a full health check-up (physical, urinalysis, chest x-ray, mammogram)** as well as the chance to consult friendly volunteer doctors and nurses from the Medical Consultation Committee regarding matters such as the **Japanese National Medical Care system**, the **Insurance and Welfare system**, and any questions attendees may have about **internal medicine, surgery, mental health, or dentistry**. It will also be possible to receive **consultation regarding current illnesses and treatments**, as well as any questions that you may have about your **past health examinations and/or workplace health checkups**. Additionally, this event offers foreign residents with a chance to get a blood test on the cheap. Blood tests will be conducted for ¥1,000 at the Hirosawa Naikain by reservation from May 21st~May 26th (interpreters will not be available at the Hirosawa Naikain). Results will be delivered at the main medical consultation event on June 10th.

When: June 10th (Sun) 10:00~15:30

***Chest X-rays and Mammograms are only available between 12:00~14:00**

Where: CrossPal Niigata 2F にいがたしちゅうおうくいしずえちようどおり の ちょう ばんち
 新潟市中央区 礎 町 通 3ノ 町 2 0 8 6 番地

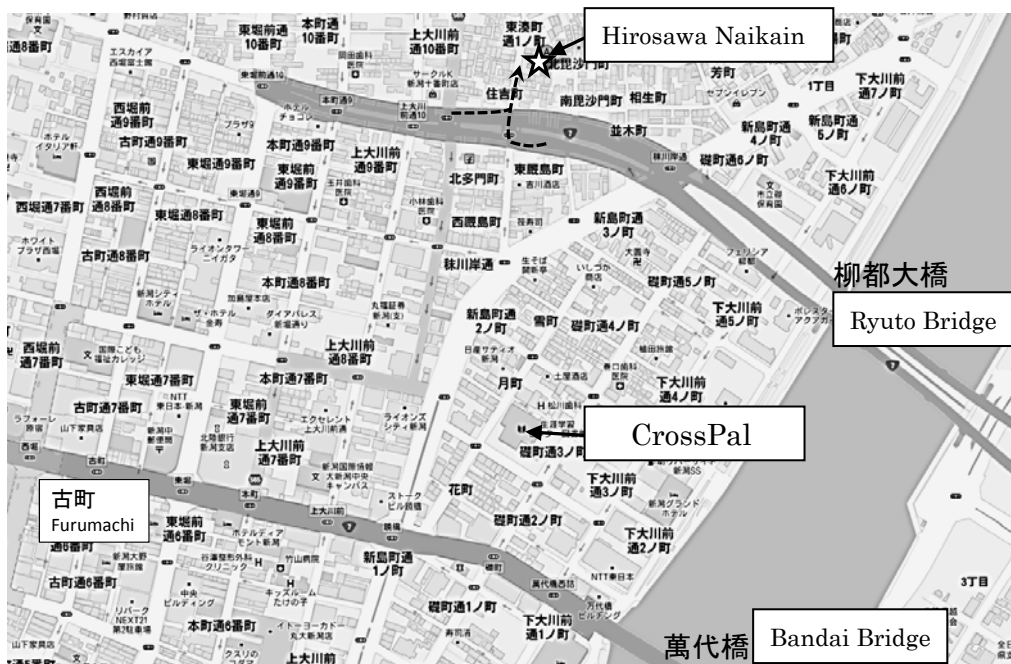
(3-2086 Ishizuecho-dori, Chuo-ku, Niigata-shi)

Reservations: No reservations necessary for the Medical Consultation at CrossPal!

Blood Tests: ひろさわ内科医院 にいがたしちゅうおうくひがしみなとまちどおり の ちょう
 新潟市中央区 東 湊 町 通 1ノ 町 2 5 4 5 - 2 4

(Hirosawa Naikain) (1-2545-24 Higashi Minatomachi-dori, Chuo-ku, Niigata-shi)

*Blood tests will be available from May 21st~May 26th (Morning: 8:30~12:30 Afternoon: 14:30~18:00. No check-ups on Wednesday afternoon). **Reservations required.** Reserve by e-mail nimec@excite.co.jp or by fax 025-270-0321.



Contact:
Medical Consultation Committee
<http://nimec.exblog.jp>
 (Predominantly Japanese)
E-mail: nimec@excite.co.jp
Rep: Dr. Fukushima
 (090-5427-1412)
Office: Prof. Sakaguchi
 (090-2429-7114)

Spring Japanese Culture Classroom



Once again the Niigata City International Exchange Foundation will be holding a Japanese culture class for foreign nationals who want to both experience first-hand and learn a little more about Japanese culture. The 2012 spring edition of the culture classroom will feature three



hours of Japanese clothing, tea ceremony, calligraphy, origami, and Japanese-style collage making. Participants will get to experience all five of the above for one low price! Japanese people are also more than welcome to participate in the culture classroom, so feel free to bring along your friends!



When: Saturday, May 26th **Check-in:** 12:30 **Class:** 13:00~16:00 **Where:** CrossPal Niigata 2F
Admission: ¥500 **Reservations:** contact the Niigata City International Exchange Foundation by May 22nd in order to participate! **Tel** 025-225-2727 **Fax** 025-225-2733 **E-mail:** nief006@pavc.ne.jp

The New Resident Registration System (Cont'd)

Starting this month the government will be issuing provisional Residence Records to all foreign nationals who have either been issued an Alien Registration Card by their municipality, or are expected to be residing in the domain of their municipality when the new law comes into effect.

However, mid- to long-term residents should keep their alien registration certificates for legal purposes until they receive their official Resident Card.

The new changes to the Resident

Registration System, which will be enacted in July, will have an impact on all foreign residents, so please be aware of changes in the system and how such changes affect you personally.



For more information (in English!!) please see the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications' website: http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_soshiki/jichi_gyousei/c-gyousei/zairyu.html

Or contact the City of Niigata by phone at 025-226-1040 (Japanese)

「一夜漬けマナー」講座 (回答は9ページ)

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拝観のマナー

拝観料は、あくまでも布施行を体験するという意味の宗教行為なので、遊園地などに入るときの入園料のような経済行為ではありません。飲食は、境内に決まった場所がある場合をのぞき、原則禁止です。門をくぐるときは他人に挨拶をしているのと同じことなので、ガムをかみながらというのはとても失礼です。

また、仏教では庭は木、草、水で仏の世界を表現した場所で、仏壇と同じように信仰の対象とされています。中を歩くようになっていく庭もありますが、基本的に入れられない場所だと思ったほうがいいでしょう。

仏像や庭は仏教徒にとって信仰の対象ですから、撮影は厳禁です。本堂はお寺の中で一番神聖な場所ですので、カメラに触れることもつしませましょう。

1. その他「拝観のマナー」で合っているものには○、間違っているものには×をつけてください。

- ① () お寺の庭に咲いている花がとてもきれいだったので、持って帰ってきた。
- ② () お寺の住職は朝早いので、問い合わせの電話は朝5時でもかまわない。
- ③ () 本堂はその寺院内で一番神聖な場所なので、帽子やサングラスは外す。
- ④ () 撮影に熱中するというのは、お寺にとっては失礼な行為になる。
- ⑤ () カメラの三脚は地面や床を傷めるおそれがあるので使用しない。



2. 神社と寺院の参拝の違い

*** 神社の場合**

(1) 鈴を鳴らす (2) お賽銭を入れる (3) 1回お辞儀をする。2回拍手を打つ。手を合わせてお願い事をする。1回お辞儀をする。

*** お寺の場合**

(1) お線香をたく(ある場合のみ) (2) お賽銭を入れる (3) 手を合わせてお願い事をする

*** 神社とお寺で共通していること**

柄杓が置いてある場所で手を洗い、口をゆすぎます。(無い所もあります)これは身体と精神を清める意味があります。

*** 大きな違い** お寺で、拍手をしないことです。

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Information from the Niigata Labor Bureau

Q & A for resolving conflicts between employers and non-Japanese employees from abroad

Q : I was discharged suddenly from my company after working there for two months. Since they didn't give me 30 days advance notice, I claimed a dismissal allowance from them, as stipulated by the Labor Standards Law. However, they declined my request saying that I had been in the three-month probationary period, and so they were not obliged to pay me a dismissal allowance. Am I entitled to receive a dismissal allowance?

A: The Labor Standards Law Article 21 stipulates that an employer can immediately dismiss a worker without 30 days advance notice and without paying a dismissal allowance if the worker falls under one of the items listed below:

1. Workers who are employed on a daily basis
2. Workers who are employed for a fixed period of no longer than two months
3. Workers who are employed in seasonal work for a fixed period of no longer than four months
4. Workers in a probationary period

The company seems to have referred to Item 4 above. However, Article 21 also has a provision that states that employers shall not apply to any probationary workers who have been employed consecutively for more than 14 days. In such a case the employer must provide such workers who have been employed for more than 14 days with 30 days advance notice for dismissal or pay them the average wages for a period of no less than 30 days. You should ask your company again to pay you a dismissal allowance.

Niigata Labour Bureau Inspection Division

Consultation Hours : Thursday 8:30~11:30 13:00~16:00

〒950-8625 1-2-1 Misaki-cho, Chuo-ku, Niigata-shi

Niigata Misaki Combined Government Offices, Building 2 (3F)

Phone : 025-288-3503 Fax : 025-288-3515

Address , phone number and fax number has been changed as of May 1st.

23rd Tsugawa Kitsune no Yomeiri (Fox Spirit Wedding Parade)

This festival stems from an Edo Period wedding practice. The bride, groom, and attendants disguise themselves as foxes and march through town, past the Sumiyoshi shrine and on to Mt. Kirin.

Date: May 3rd (Thu) 17:00~21:00

Place: Tsugawa district in Aga town, Kirinzan Park

Fee: Free!

Access: one hour from the JR Niigata station to the JR Tsugawa station by train

For more info call: 0254-92-4766

(Kitsuneno Yomeiri Jikko Inkai)

Tokamachi Kimono Festival

Tokamachi city is famous for kimono. Rental kimono and free tea ceremonies will be available.

Date: May 3rd (Thu) 11:00~16:00

Place: Honcho-dori, Takadamachi-dori and surrounding areas.

Admission: Free!

For more info call: 025-757-3345

(Tokamachi Kimono Matsuri Jikko Inkai)



2nd Niigata Classical Music Street

Date: May 5th (Sat)

Place: 21 locations such as coffee shops, concert halls, art museums, etc.

Fee: one day free pass - ¥1,000, one drink - ¥500

For more info call: 025-223-4349

Niigata Jazz Street Jikko Inkai

Ohara School of Flower Arrangement: Exhibition

Date: May 8th (Tue) ~ 13th (Sun) 10:00~18:00

Place: Niigata Mitsukoshi Department Store 7th Floor

Fee: ¥300, senior high school student & under=free

For more info call: 025-227-1111

(Niigata Mitsukoshi Department store)

Gogatsu Ningyo (Armored Doll) Exhibition

Date: Now through May 20th (Sun) 9:00~21:00

Place: Sakyukan (5218-1 Nishi Ohata-cho Chuo-ku)

Fee: Free!

Closed: Mondays

For more info call: 025-222-2676 (Sakyukan)

Veils & Women

Date: Now through June 3rd (Sun) 9:30 ~ 17:00

Place: Niigata Prefectural Museum of History

Fee: G - ¥700, U & H - ¥500, under junior high school – free

Closed: Mondays

For more info call: 0258-47-6130

(Niigata Prefectural Museum of History)

Rhododendron & Azalea Exhibition

Date: Now through May 27th (Sun) 9:30 ~ 16:30

Place: Niigata Prefectural Botanical Garden (186 Kanazu Akiha-ku)

Fee: G - ¥600, H & H - ¥300, E & J - ¥100

Closed: Mondays (except 14th)

For more info call: 0250-24-6465

(Niigata Prefectural Botanical Garden)

Niigata Modern Architectures

Niigata architecture since the opening of Japan.

Date: Now through June 10th (Sun) 9:30 ~ 18:00

Place: Niigata City History Museum

Fee: G - ¥500, U & H - ¥300, J & E - ¥200

Closed: Mondays & 8th

For more info call: 025-225-6111

URL: <http://www.nchm.jp>

(Niigata City History Museum)



Ultra Man Genesis Exhibition

Come explore the secrets of Ultra Man!

Date: Now through June 24th (Sun) 10:00~17:00

Place: Niigata City Niitsu Art Museum

Closed: Mondays

Fee: ¥1,000, U & H - ¥800

For more info call: 0250-25-1300

(Niigata city Niitsu Art Museum)

123rd Foreign Culture Lecture

Theme: teaching Japanese in Nanjing, China

Date: May 13th (Sun) 14:00~16:00

Place: CrossPal Niigata 4F Visual Hall

Fee: Free!

For more info call: 025-266-6546 (Kato-san)

Ikuo Hirayama Exhibition

(The Owner of Sagawa Museum)

Ikuo Hirayama, who painted mainly Buddha and scenery, died in 2009 at 79. 70 of his masterpieces will be exhibited.

Date: May 26th (Sat) ~ July 22nd (Sun) 9:30~18:00

Place: Niigata City Art Museum (5191-9 Nishi Ohata-cho Chuo-ku)

Fee: G - ¥1,000 (pre-order ¥800), U & H - ¥500 (pre-order ¥400)

Closed: Mondays

For more info call: 025-223-1622

(Niigata City Art Museum)

30th SWAP MEET Flea Market

This is the biggest flea market in Niigata prefecture.

Date: May 27th (Sun) 10:00 ~15:00

Place: Parking lot of Toyanogata Park (Shumoku Chuo-ku)

For more info call: 025-246-7711

Fax: 025-246-8080

Email: swap@niigata-seinen.net

URL: <http://niigata-seinen.net/>

Water and Land-Niigata Art Festival

This year's theme is a "turning point." There will be many events such as dancing, music, and acting by foreign and domestic artists.

Date: July 14th (Sat) ~ Dec.24th (Mon)

Place: The Kyu Mizuageba on Bandai-jima and surrounding areas

Fee: Passport G - ¥2,000 (pre-order ¥1,500), U ¥1,500 (pre-order ¥1,200), H - ¥600 (in advance ¥400)

For more info call: 025-226-2624

Email: mizutsuchi@city.niigata.lg.jp

**Bulletin Board****Note about the English Journal Bulletin Board:**

If you want to post a message in the EJ Bulletin Board, please get your message to us by the 20th of the month, and make sure that it is clear and understandable. We reserve the right to edit at our discretion. You are always free to send in items in Japanese and we'll gladly translate them for you. Also, whenever you submit anything, please include your full name and a phone number, fax number, or email address where you can be reached. Thank you.

<p>English Journal Reader Contributions Wanted! We want your contributions, opinions, editorials, stories, illustrations, photographs, etc.! The benefits of contributing include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A small gift from the International Friendship Center 2. Getting to write that you are a "published author/illustrator" on your resume 3. Other unspecified karmic remuneration <p>Please email contributions to Zackary Kaplan or Rika Saito at nigtief@pavc.ne.jp or hand them in directly at our office (see address and map on page 10).</p>	<p>Niigata Prefecture Gyosei Shoshi: Get Assistance Free of Charge! Gyosei Shoshi are people who draft documents to be submitted to governments or local offices. Date: May 20th (Sun) 11:00~15:00 Place: Kurosaki Shimin Kaikan (909-1 Toppara Nishi-ku) No. 1 Kozashitsu Consultation services are available in person or over the phone. Reservations required. For more info call: 090-2227-0401 Nakazawa-san (Niigata-Branch)</p>
<p>P.6 Manners Ichiyazuke Answers 1. × 2. × 3. ○ 4. ○ 5. ○</p>	<p>International Music Club: May Gathering Date: May 21st (Mon) 19:30 ~ 21:00 Place: CrossPal Music Studio 1 (6F) Fee: Free! For more info: tama56285@softbank.ne.jp</p>
<p>Oshaberi Salon: Conversations with the JET 5 Feel free to come enjoy some casual conversation with Niigata City's CIRs (America, China, France, Korea, Russia). No reservations necessary. This month's topic: Lunch and lunch time When: May 8th (Tue) & 17th (Thu) 14:00 ~ 15:00 Where: Niigata International Friendship Center Exchange Salon (CrossPal Niigata 2nd floor) Zack (U.S.A) will host on May 8th and Wu Fei (China) will host on May 17th. For more info call: 025-225-2727</p>	<p>NEAR Language Education Conference Over 30 presentations by local, national, and international teachers and researchers on all aspects of language teaching. Great for both language teachers and language learners. Date: May 26th (Sat) 9:00 - 17:00 Location: University of Niigata Prefecture (471 Ebigase Higashi-ku Niigata city) For more information or to preregister contact us: Website: http://www.iuj.ac.jp/language/conference/near/ Email: nearconf@gmail.com</p>
<p>Extended FREE Immunization Free immunizations are available in Niigata until March 31, 2013. Hib Vaccine (Influenzae Type b) (For prevention of bacterial meningitis) Eligibility: Children 2 months ~ 5 years of age For more info: 025-212-8194 Hoken Kanri Ka (Niigata City Public Health and Sanitation Center) Pneumococcus Vaccine (For prevention of bacterial meningitis) Eligibility: Junior High School Students For more info call: 025-212-8194 Kenko Zoshin ka (Niigata City Public Health and Sanitation Center)</p>	<p>Part-Time Staff Wanted: Niigata International Exchange Foundation (CrossPal Niigata) Openings: 1 Duration: July 2012 ~ (maximum of 5 years) Qualifications: Applicants must speak Japanese and either English or Chinese. Must have basic accounting, Word, and Excel skills. Deadlines: Applications must be submitted (postmarked) to the Niigata City International Exchange Foundation by Saturday, May 12th Applications are available at the foundation and downloadable from our website (http://www.pavc.ne.jp/~nigtief/) To have an application mailed to you, please send a self-addressed # 3 rectangular envelope (3号長形封筒) with an ¥80 stamp. For more info call: 025-225-2727 Obata</p>
<p>12th Russian Speech Contest Participants Wanted Date : June 23rd (Sat) 13:00~ Place: CrossPal Niigata 4F Visual Hall & 5F Exchange Hall (3-2086 Ishizue-cho dori Chuo-ku Niigata city) Levels: Beginners A - Memorize a text Beginners B - Give a speech about any topic for three minutes and answer questions about your speech General - Give a speech about any topic for five minutes, and then answer questions about both your speech and a supplied text (the text will be given out the day of. You can bring your own dictionary.) Application: Please fill out the application form. It is available at the Niigata International Friendship Center (CrossPal Niigata 2F) and can also be downloaded from our website. Entry Fee: ¥1,000 (please pay the fee on the speech day.) Application deadline: June 2nd (Sat) For more info call: 025-225-2727 Fax: 025-225-2733 email: nief005@pavc.ne.jp Niigata City International Exchange Foundation URL: http://www.pavc.ne.jp/~nigtief</p>	<p>Telephone Consultation Service for Non-Japanese Residents! By Niigata International Association 025-241-1881 Thai: Tuesdays 10:00~13:00 Chinese: 1st, 3rd, 5th Wednesday 10:00~13:00 Tagalog: Thursdays 10:00~13:00 Indonesia: Fridays 10:00~14:00</p>



Classes

Japanese courses offered by the Niigata City International Exchange Foundation

Beginner through Intermediate 2	There are several classes according to level, at different times and days of the week. An installment-base payment can be made available upon request.	Motoko Saigusa Tel: (025) 225-2727
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Study Group for Non-Japanese Children, the Niko Pal Club (Free of charge! No reservation required!)

Day of the week	Room No.	Hours	Contents	For more info.
Every Sat (except 5 th)	202	10:00 - 12:00	A class for children of foreign residents to study and do their schoolwork.	Motoko Saigusa Tel: (025) 225-2727

Japanese Classes by Volunteer Groups at Crosspal Niigata (Free of charge except for material costs!)

Day of the week	Hours	Room No.	Level	Teachers
Every Wed (except 2 nd & 30 th)	13:00 - 14:30	201	Advanced Beginners	<i>Nihongo Nichijo Kaiwa no Kai</i>
Every Thur (except 31 st)	13:00 - 14:30	202 or 306	Beginners & Advanced Beginners	<i>Niigata Nihongo Gakushu Kai</i>
Every Fri	13:00 - 14:30	201	Beginners & Advanced Beginners	<i>Niigata Nihongo Gakushu Kai</i>
Every Sat (except 26 th)	10:30 - 12:00	306 or 307	Beginners	Wacon Teachers
Every Sat (except 5 th)	10:30 - 12:00	309	Newspaper Class	Yaponika Teachers
Every Sat (except 19 th & 26 th)	10:30 - 12:00	308	Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced	Yaponika Teachers
Every Sun (except 27 th)	12:30 - 14:30	201	Introduction	<i>Nihongo Club Teachers</i>

Nihongo for Foreign Residents at the Ekinan Community Center 2F (4-12-20 Yoneyama Chuo-ku)

Every Sun	10:00 - 12:00	Fee: ¥1,000 for one time	Ms.Hasegawa Tel:(080)4058-6640
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Konnichiwa! Nihongo at Kobari Elementary School Volunteer Room (2-36-1 Kobari Nishi-ku)

Every Thu	10:00 - 11:30	Beginners - Intermediate Fee:¥300	Ms.Wakatsuki Tel: (025) 265-3140
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Nihongo at the Ishiyama Chiku Kominkan (3F Meeting Room #2, 1-1-12 Ishiyama Higashi-ku)

Every Sat	10:00 - 12:00	Beginners Fee: ¥200	Ms. Komata Tel: (025) 276-5678
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Taiken Nihongo Kyoshitsu at Nishi Chiku Kominkan (603 Uchino Nishi-ku)

Every Tue	10:00 - 12:00	Beginners - Advanced One term ¥3,500 + Textbook & copy fee	Nishi Chiku Kominkan Tel: (025)261-0031
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Iroha Nihongo Kyoshitsu at Kita-ku Sawayaka Center (1-1-35 Toeicho Kita-ku)

Every Tue Wed & Sat	10:00 - 12:00	Beginners	Mr. Hasegawa Tel: (080)4058-6640
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Cultural Classes

International Cooking Class	May 27 th (Sun) 11:00~ Fee:¥2,000 To sign up or for more info call: Ms. Ueno 0250-24-6859 At Ueno's Place(3-4-16 Ogikawa Akiha-ku) *5min. walk from JR Ogikawa station Menu: Bonito rice bowl, Japanese-style clam soup, cooked edible wild plants and more!
Tai Chi (Chinese Exercise)	May 3 rd , 10 th , 17 th , 24 th (Thu) Led by Mr. So 13:00 - 14:30 At CrossPal Niigata 5F Exchange Hall Fee: Instructor's transportation expenses For more info call: 025-229-0140 Mr. Itoda



CrossPal Niigata will be closed
on May 28th

Advice Services at the Niigata International Exchange Foundation

The Niigata International Exchange Foundation offers an advice service in the following languages for any problems or questions you may have during your stay in Niigata. Please feel free to stop by for advice!

English, Chinese, Korean, Russian and French (Mon ~ Fri 9:00 -16:00)

No reservations are necessary, although we recommend that you call ahead if you need a translator, as there might not always be someone available to serve as an interpreter.

Other Consultation Services in Niigata City

* Niigata Labor Bureau Tel: 025-234-5922

Consultations available in English on: Thur 8:30-17:00

* Niigata Prefecture Gyosei-Shoshi Association Tel: 025-255-5225

Consultation about administrative procedures, visas, etc.: Mon ~ Fri 8:30-17:15

* You must bring your own translator.

Edited and Issued by

The Niigata City International Exchange Foundation

3-2086 Ishizuecho-dori, Chuo-ku, Niigata-shi 951-8055

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