



# Niigata English Journal

Edited & Issued by the Niigata City International Exchange Foundation  
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## Happy New Year!!~

### Notices & Upcoming NCIEF Events

#### Café Culture in America + Cooking Class

This is a combination event with a cooking class and a presentation. I will be presenting on café culture in America—how they are viewed and used, what is served, and so on. We will also making couple of things that are commonly found at cafes. I hope you can come join us!

**When:** Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> (Sat) 10:00~14:00

**Where:** CrossPal Niigata 5<sup>nd</sup> floor Cooking Room (調理室)

**For Questions or Reservations:** 025-225-2727

**Cost:** 1,000 yen per person

**Spots available:** 24 (first come first serve)



#### Oshaberi Salon

Your neighborhood Niigata City CIRs each host conversation (oshaberi) hours where they talk and lead discussions in Japanese about topics related to their home country and cross-cultural understanding. Here are this month's events!

##### Oshaberi Salon- America

This conversation hour in Japanese will be led by myself, the city's American CIR. This salon will talk about the similarities and differences between Niigata and my home state- Iowa.

**Date:** Jan. 10<sup>th</sup> (Tues)

**Time:** 14:00~15:00

**Place:** CrossPal Niigata 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Exchange Salon (NIEF)



##### Oshaberi Salon- France

This conversation hour in Japanese will be led by Sam, the city's French CIR. The topic will be Japan and Japanese things in France.

**Date:** Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> (Thurs)

**Time:** 14:00~15:00

**Place:** CrossPal Niigata 2<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Exchange Salon (NIEF)



#### Free Legal Consultations for Foreign Residents

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.

**When:** Feb. 24<sup>th</sup> (Fri) 2017 13:00~17:00

**Place:** CrossPal Niigata 2<sup>nd</sup> floor

**Sponsor:** Niigata City International Exchange Foundation

**Requirements:** Must be non-Japanese resident living and working in Niigata

**Language Support Available:** English, Chinese, Korean, French, and Russian

**Spots Available:** 5 (reservations required)

**Length of Consultation:** 45 minutes per person

**Reservations:** Tell us your name, nationality, phone number, sex, and what you wish to discuss.

**For more info/reservations:** 025-225-2727 or email  
kyokai@nief.or.jp





More Notices & Upcoming NCIEF Events

Exchange Student Video Contest

Niigata City wants your videos! They are now accepting submissions for their promotional video contest. Open to international students, either solo or in groups (Japanese people can help), they are looking for videos taken in your native language that show your life and your favorite places in Niigata.

Videos must be about 5 minutes long and submitted to the International Division of the Niigata City Office on a USB flash drive or a DVD. Contact below for more details.

Deadline: Jan. 13th(Fri) 2017

Contact/Submission: International Division of the Niigata City Office (Ms. Fujiki, Mr. Morohashi, Mrs. Inaba)

Contact: kokusai@city.niigata.lg.jp 025-226-1677



Lunar New Year Celebration

Put on by the Harbin-Niigata Friendship Association, there will be an entire afternoon of fun. There will be food, music, performances and games all included in the cost of admission. Don't forget to reserve your spot!

When: Jan. 28th (Sat.) 12:00~14:30

Where: CrossPal Niigata 5th fl. Exchange Hall

Cost: 1,500 yen (Japanese adults)

1,000 yen for students and foreign residents

Free for middle schoolers and younger

Contact: kyokai@nief.or.jp 025-225-2727

Reservation Deadline: Jan. 26th(Thu.) 2017



Charlie's Recipe Corner

Hot Drinks



Hot chocolate

There is an infinite amount of ways to make this classic drink. This is an example of a simple recipe and it will only get better as you make it more and change it to your preferences.

Ingredients (1 serving)

Chocolate bar	1 (about 45g)
Milk	150 ml
Sweetener (sugar, honey, etc)	As needed
Extra flavor (vanilla, cinnamon, etc)	As needed (~1/4 tsp<)

This drink is 100% customizable. You like it sweeter? Use more sweetener (like honey or sugar). It's too sweet for you? Use a darker bar of chocolate. You don't like cow's milk? Use any milk you prefer. You like it creamier? Use milk with at least 3.5% fat (maybe even add a splash of cream)!

STOVETOP METHOD

1. Pour the milk into a saucepan and turn the heat to medium.
2. Chop or break up the chocolate bar and add it to the pan.
3. Add other ingredients as needed.
4. Stir constantly until everything is melted and the mixture is smooth.
5. Pull it off the heat when tiny bubbles start to form. DO NOT LET IT BOIL.
6. Serve in a mug and enjoy immediately with marshmallows on top!

MICROWAVE METHOD

1. Pour the milk into the mug
2. Chop or break up the chocolate bar and add it to the pan.
3. Add other ingredients as needed.
4. Microwave in 30 seconds and stir
5. Repeat until everything is melted, the mixture is smooth and warm
6. Enjoy immediately with marshmallows on top!

Warm Milk

This is a simple and delicious drink that you can see in the Ghibli movie Ponyo. All you have to do with warm the milk either in a pot on the stove or in the microwave and stir in the honey.

Ingredients (1 serving)

Milk	150 ml
Honey	1~2 TBSP





## Events

Key: G-General; U-University Students; H-High School; J-Junior High School; E-Elementary School

**Beautiful Scenery of Japan**

Japanese paintings of four seasons of Japanese sceneries.

**Date:** Jan. 3rd (Tue) 2017 – 16th (Mon) 10:30 – 19:30**Place:** Niigata Isetan Department Store 7F Art Hall**Fee:** G - ¥1,000 U - ¥600**For more info call:** 025-385-7470 (Niigata Nippo)**Tasha Tudor Exhibition**

Tasha Tudor was a picture book author who enjoyed gardening in the mountains of Vermont. This exhibit is to celebrate 100 years since her birth and is a contains themes of gardens, home life, and more.

**Date:** Jan. 3rd(Tue) 2017 – 15th (Sun) 10:00 – 19:00**Place:** Niigata Mitsukoshi Department Store 7F**Fee:** G - ¥800 U - ¥500**For more info call:** 025-385-7470

(Niigata Nippo Sha Fureai Jigyobu)

**29th Niigata Jazz Street**

~Duke Ellington Memorial~

You can enjoy Jazz at about 30 places in Niigata city.

**Date:** Jan. 21st (Sat)**Fee:** ¥1,000 one day free ticket / ¥500 for one drink**For more info call:** 025-223-4349

(Niigata Jazz Street Jimukyoku)

**URL:** <http://www.niigata-jazzstreet.com/>**Vienna Johann Strauss Orchestra New Year Concert****Date:** Jan.12th (Thu) 18:45~**Place:** Ryutopia (Concert Hall)**Fee:** S - ¥8,300, A - ¥6,200 P - ¥4,200**For more info call:** 025-249-8878 (NST)**Anpan Man & Yanase Takashi Exhibition****Date:** Until Jan. 15th (Sun) 9:30~18:00**Place:** Niigata city Art Museum**Closed:** Mondays**Fee:** G - ¥1,100 U & H - ¥900 Under J - free**For more info call:** 024-223-1622Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ncam.tsunagaru/](http://www.facebook.com/ncam.tsunagaru/)

(Niigata City Art Museum)

**2016 Niigata Pageant of Lights**

This is an annual winter season event of Niigata. 260,000 light bulbs will be lightened on about 200 zelkova trees.

**Date:** Until Feb. 14th**Place:** JR Niigata South Exit**For more info call:** 025-243-1546

(Jikko linkai)

**Enjoy Korean New Year!**

How about participating the event with Korean people living in Niigata?

**Date:** Jan. 21st (Sat) 10:00~14:00**Place:** CrossPal Niigata 5F Exchange Hall**Participation Fee:** G - ¥1,000, U&H - ¥500**Number of people:** 30 people (first come first served)**Application:** Please send an email ([y.ohno@nief.or.jp](mailto:y.ohno@nief.or.jp)) or make a phone call(025-225-2727).**For more info call:** 025-225-2727

(Ulsan Friendship Association)

**New Year One Coin Pipe Organ Concert****Date:** Jan. 14th (Sat) 11:00~**Place:** Ryutopia Concert hall**Fee:** ¥500**For more info call:** 025-224-7000 (Ryutopia)**Czech Philharmonic String Quartet****Date:** Jan. 29th (Sun) 14:00~**Place:** Shibata Shimin Bunka Kaikan  
(Shibata city Chuo cho 4-11-7)**Fee:** ¥2,000**For more info call:** 0254-26-1576

(Shibata Shimin Bunka Kaikan)

**Niigata International Friendship Center Exchange Salon  
~Chinese Decorations for the New Year~**The Chinese New Year is Jan.28<sup>th</sup> 2017. Please come and see New Year's atmosphere.**Date:** Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> (Wed) ~ Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> (Thu) 9:00~17:00**Closed:** Sun & Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>**Contact:** 025-225-2727 (NIEF)

## Community Bulletin Board

**9<sup>th</sup> Niigata French Speech Contest****Date:** Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> (Sat) 13:00~16:00**Place:** CrossPal Niigata Visual Hall**Level:** Beginner, Primary, Free Speech**Fee:** Free**Deadline:** Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> (Mon)**For more info call:** 025-225-2727

(French Speech Contest Jikko linkai)

**JALT Meeting**JALT Niigata are having their first 2017 presentation on January 28th, and it's going to be a good one. Acclaimed textbook author Andy Boon is coming to Niigata to talk about **Getting Students Researching**. If you've never come before it's free.**Date:** Jan. 28<sup>th</sup> (Sat) 16:00~18:00**Place:** Tokimeito, south of Niigata station on the 2nd floor of Plaka 1 building.For more info & Contact: [jaltniigata@gmail.com](mailto:jaltniigata@gmail.com)

(Nathaniel Reed PR Chair)

**Niigata Prefectural Gyosei Shoshi (Administrative Clerk) Main Office  
Free Consultation for Foreign Nationals  
(Reservations Required)****1. Niigata Prefectural Gyosei Shoshi Niigata Branch Office****Date:** Jan. 15<sup>th</sup> (Sun) 10:00~16:00 **Place:** Kurosaki Shimin Kaikan (Nishi-ku)**Contact:** 090-2227-0401 (Ms. Nakazawa)**2. Gyoseishoshi Association of Niigata****Date:** Jan.25<sup>th</sup> (Wed) 10:00~14:00 **Place:** Toki Messe**Contact:** 025-290-5650 (Gyoseishoshi Association of Niigata)**Information about Trash Collection**There will be a special collection time for burnable trash on **Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> (Sat)** in all areas of the city.**Morning Collection Areas:** Before 9:00**Afternoon Collection Areas:** Before noon.Normal collections will resume on Jan. 4<sup>th</sup> (Wed)**For more info call:** 025-243-4894

(Niigata City Office Call Center 8:00 ~ 21:00)

**Emergencies during the Year-end & New year Holidays**

- Kyukan Shinryo Center (Emergency Medical Care Center) 025-246-1199
- Koku Hoken Fukushi Center (Dental Department) 025-212-8020
- Niigata Prefecture Emergency Children Telephone Consultation (19:00~8:00 Every day) 025-288-2525



## Classes

## Japanese Courses offered by the Niigata City International Exchange Foundation

Beginner through Intermediate 2	-Classes of varying difficulty are available at different times throughout the week. -Pricing info & the Autumn Schedule are available in the "Support for Foreign Nationals" section of the NCIEF website: <a href="http://www.nief.or.jp/">http://www.nief.or.jp/</a>	Ms. Chiyoko Takahashi Tel: (025) 225-2727
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## Japanese Study Support Group for Children &amp; Students: Niko Pal Club (Free of charge)

Day of the week & Hours	Room No.	Content	For more info.
Every Sat 10:00 – 14:30	202	This Japanese study circle offers support to children in the international community who are struggling with Japanese and other school studies.	Ms. Rika Saito Tel: (025) 225-2727
Every Wed 10:00 – 12:00 (but Jan. 4 <sup>th</sup> )	201	To support the Japanese studies of high school-age children	

## Japanese Classes by Volunteer Groups at Crosspal Niigata

(Free of charge except for material costs! Just show up at the location listed below!)

Day of the week	Hours	Room No.	Level	Organizations & Info
Every Wed (but Jan. 4 <sup>th</sup> )	13:00 - 14:30	201	Beginners	Niigata Nihongo Kaiwa Kyoshitsu ¥500/ month
Every Thu	13:00 – 14:30	201	Beginners	
Every Fri	13:00 - 14:30	201 or 202 or 309	Beginners & Advanced Beginners	Niigata Nihongo Gakushu Kai
Every Sat	10:30 – 12:00	201 or 306	Advanced Beginners	Wacon ¥500/ month
Every Sat	10:30 - 12:00	309	Newspaper Class (Intermediate)	Yaponika
Every Sat (but Jan. 7 <sup>th</sup> )	13:00 – 14:30	309	Intermediate	Yaponika
Every Sun (but Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup> )	15:00 - 16:30	201	Introduction - Beginners	Niigata Nihongo Volunteer

## Nihongo Kyoshitsu Waon II at Higashi-ku Plaza (1-4-1 Shimokido Higashi-ku)

Jan. 17 <sup>th</sup> (Tue)	10:00 - 14:00	Fee: ¥300 per time	Ms. Takenaka Tel:(025) 277-3621
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## Nihongo for Foreign Residents at the Ekinan Community Center 2F (4-12-20 Yoneyama Chuo-ku)

Every Sun (but Jan. 1 <sup>st</sup> )	10:00 - 12:00	Fee: ¥2,000/month	Ms. Motomura Tel:(080) 5485-3796
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## Konnichiwa! Nihongo at Kobari Elementary School Volunteer Room (2-36-1 Kobari Nishi-ku)

Every Thu (but Jan. 5 <sup>th</sup> )	10:00 – 11:30	Beginners – Advanced Fee: ¥300	Ms. Wakatsuki Tel: (025) 265-3140
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## Taiken Nihongo Kyoshitsu at Nishi Chiku Kominkan (603 Uchino Nishi-ku)

Every Tue (but Jan. 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> )	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 Kuzutsuka Community Center (1-1-18 Toeicho Kitaku) URL: [irohanihongo.jimdo.com](http://irohanihongo.jimdo.com)

Every Sat	10:00 - 12:00	Beginners Fee: ¥500/month	Mr. Hasegawa Tel: (080) 4058-6640
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## Akiha Nihongo Kyoshitsu at Niitsu Chiiki Gakuen (2-5-6 Niitsu Higashicho Akiha-ku)

Every Thu (but Jan. 5 <sup>th</sup> )	13:00 – 14:30	Beginners Fee: ¥500/month	Mr. Hasegawa Tel: (080) 4058-6640
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## Maki Nihongo Kyoshitsu at Makichiku Kominkan (635 Makiko Nishikan-ku)

Every Thu (but Jan. 5 <sup>th</sup> )	18:30 – 20:30	Beginners - Intermediate	¥3,500 for the Sept.~ Dec. term	Ms. Fujita Tel: (090) 4072-3840
Jan. 14 <sup>th</sup> (Sat) & 21 <sup>st</sup> (Sat)	14:00 – 16:00	Let's have fun practicing Japanese! ¥2,000		

## Cultural Classes

International Cooking Class	Vacation		
Tai Chi	Jan. 5 <sup>th</sup> , 12 <sup>th</sup> , 19 <sup>th</sup> , 26 <sup>th</sup> (Thu) 13:00 – 14:30 Fee: Instructor's transportation expenses	Led by Mr. So For more info call: 025-229-0140	CrossPal Niigata 5F Exchange Hall 2 Mr. Itoda

## Consultation Services

Niigata City International Exchange Foundation TEL: 025-225-2727 Email: <a href="mailto:kyokai@nief.or.jp">kyokai@nief.or.jp</a> URL: <a href="http://www.nief.or.jp">http://www.nief.or.jp</a>	Crosspal 2F (3-2086 Ishizuecho-dori, Chuo-ku) Mon – Fri 9:00-16:00 (excluding holidays) English, Chinese, Korean, French, Russian
Niigata Help Association TEL: 025-228-2212	Every Day: 9:00-23:00 Spanish, English, Korean, Tagalog, Thai, Chinese, etc.
Niigata International Association TEL: 025-241-1881 Email: <a href="mailto:nia21c@niigata-ia.or.jp">nia21c@niigata-ia.or.jp</a> URL: <a href="http://www.niigata-ia.or.jp/">http://www.niigata-ia.or.jp/</a>	English: Thu 10:00~14:00 Thai: Tue 10:00-14:00 Chinese: 1 <sup>st</sup> , 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 5 <sup>th</sup> Wed 10:00-14:00
Helpline for Foreigners TEL: 0120-279-338	Call the toll-free number and press 2 after the Japanese guidance
Niigata Medical Care Information Network URL: <a href="http://qq.niigata-iyaku.jp/">http://qq.niigata-iyaku.jp/</a>	Site available in Japanese Only
Hello Work, Foreigner Advisory Service TEL: 025-280-8609 Niigata Misaki Godo Chosha #2 (1-2-1 Misaki-cho, Chuo-ku, Niigata-shi)	1 <sup>st</sup> ~ 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed 13:30-16:00 English & Chinese

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(Written and edited by Charlene Woolson &amp; Rika Saito)

CrossPal will be closed on Dec. 29<sup>th</sup> ~ Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> & Jan 23<sup>rd</sup>