



Niigata English Journal

Edited & Issued by the Niigata City International Exchange Foundation

Mail magazine: Email us to receive this newsletter every month

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Let's Have Fun with Foreign Language!

Native speakers from France and China will teach about their country's language and culture through games and fun activities. This is a great opportunity for children to learn about foreign cultures! No need to sign up, just show up and have fun!

Date: August 24th (Sat) 11:00 - 11:40

Location: Kodomo sozo center, Ikutopia 2F
Supporters room

Fee: Free!

Spots: 15 groups (child(ren) and adult)

Contact: Kodomo sozo center, TEL 025-281-3715



Korean Culture Lecture

Do you enjoy Korean dramas and films? Come and listen to Ms. Choi Jeong-A's discussion on Korean culture! She will discuss Korean culture as it appears in popular K-dramas and films, and dispel some common misconceptions.

Date: August 31st (Sat) 14:00 - 15:30

Location: Crosspal 5th Floor Exchange Hall

Fee: Free!

Spots: 30 people

Sign up/Contact: From August 7th, TEL: 025-225-2727



Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival Celebration

Come celebrate the mid-autumn festival, an important holiday in Chinese culture. Celebrations will include food, including moon cakes (月餅 yuè bing), drink, and karaoke.

Date: September 21st (Sat) 13:30 - 15:00

Location: Crosspal 5th Floor Exchange Hall

Fee: ¥1,500

Spots: 70 people

Sign up/Contact: Sign up using the code from Aug. 21st, deadline is Sep. 13th



Niigata-India Culture Festival

Enjoy a rare combination of Indian art, music, and dance presented by Niigata artists! The event will begin with a musical performance featuring a sitar and tabla, followed by a talk by a renowned painter with years of painting Indian women, and finish off with a performance of the Odissi dance.

Date: September 15th (Sun) 14:00 - 16:00

Location: Ryutopia Studio A

Fee: ¥2,500

Contact: Niigata-India Cultural Exchange Association, Mr. Kubo, TEL: 090-7205-7479



US Air Force Band of the Pacific Concert

The United States Air Force Band of the Pacific-Asia Pacific Showcase ensemble is a big band featuring 14 musicians. The band will perform several popular jazz songs in celebration of the upcoming 60th sister city anniversary between Niigata City and Galveston, Texas in 2025.

Date: August 29th (Thu) 18:30 (doors open at 17:30)

Location: Maki Cultural Hall

Fee: ¥600 (non-reserved seating)

Tickets/Contact: Maki Region Community Council
TEL: 0256-72-8736



2024 Kotolympics in Niigata

The Kotolympics features a somewhat rare instrument, the taisho-koto, which is a compact modern version of the traditional koto. Participants from around the world gather to learn how to play this instrument and display their skills through a series of concerts. The performances will also be available to watch live on YouTube!

Date: August 18th (Sun) 9:30 - 15:00

Location: Ryutopia

Tickets: ¥1,500 (¥1,200 pre-sale)

Contact: TEL 025-231-0510



Niigata-Harbin 45th Anniversary Celebration

Niigata and Harbin are celebrating 45 years of friendship city relations this year. To celebrate, there will be a karaoke competition with Japanese and Chinese songs.

If you're not interested in singing but still want to come and enjoy the music, don't forget to sign up! If you want to join in the karaoke, sign up using the code. You cannot sing in your native language.

Date: September 21st (Sat) 10:30 - 13:00

Location: Crosspal 4th Floor Audio-Visual Hall

Fee: Free!

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

Sign up: Sign up using the code from Aug. 21st, deadline for karaoke is Sep. 4th



Salon Exhibit: Sri Lanka

Rasai Organization Niigata set up an exhibition in CrossPal to share Sri Lankan culture and the organization's activities. The exhibition features photos from events, Sri Lankan culture, and a display of traditional clothing. Stop by and check it out!

Date: July 17th (Wed) - Sep. 11th (Wed) 9:00 - 17:00


Closed: Sundays, holidays, and August 26th

Location: NIEF Exchange Salon (CrossPal 2nd floor)



Classes

Japanese Courses offered by the Niigata City International Exchange Foundation

Beginner through Intermediate 2	-Classes of varying difficulties are available at different times throughout the week. -Pricing info & the schedule for the current session are available on the NIEF website: https://www.nief.or.jp/		Ms. Kiyoko Tanaka Tel: (025) 225-2727
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Japanese Study Support Group for Children & Students: NicoPal Club (Free of charge)

Day of the Week & Hours	Room No.	Content	For more info.
Every Wed. (contact for info)	202	Please contact Ms. Tanaka for more information.	Ms. Kiyoko Tanaka Tel: (025) 225-2727
Every Sat. 10:00 - 11:30 *except 8/3, 8/10, 8/24 *Please register beforehand	201	This Japanese study circle offers support to children in the international community who are struggling with Japanese and other school studies.	

Volunteer Japanese Classes

<https://www.nief.or.jp/en/jcvg>



International Cooking Class

There will be no classes held May – August. Classes will resume in September, so make sure to check the September edition of English Journal for information on the next class!



Where: Ms. Ueno's residence (3-4-16 Ogijima, Akiha Ward)

For more info/sign-up: TEL: 0250-24-6859 (Ms. Ueno) – Please sign up at least three days before class

Information

KPop Random Dance @ Soh Odori

This year's Soh Odori dance festival will feature a KPop Random Dance show. A portion of popular KPop songs will be played and people who know the song will jump in to dance the choreography. The Soh-Odori festival will be from Sep. 14th (Sat) – 16th (Mon) but the KPop Random Dance event will only be for one day, so don't miss out!

Date: September 14th (Sat) 14:00 - 15:30
Location: Niigata Station South Plaza
Fee: Free!



@KPOP_RPD_NIIGATA

Sado Okesa Dance Lessons

Learn Sado's traditional dance, the Sado Okesa. This same dance will be performed at the Niigata Matsuri this month. Beginners are welcome and there's no need to sign up in advance. Just show up in something easy to move in and have a good time! (Lessons cancelled if it rains.) No lessons during Niigata Matsuri (Aug. 9th)

When: May - August 30th on Fridays, 18:00 – 21:00
Where: Bandai Terrace Hajimari Hiroba
Fee: Free!



Vietnamese Cooking Lesson

Make chicken with rice and chè (a sweet soup) and learn about Vietnamese culture! Sign up using the code by August 15th (Thu).

When: August 18th (Sun) 10:00 - 13:00
Where: CrossPal 5th floor Cooking Room
Fee: ¥1,500 (elementary schoolers ¥500)
What to bring: Apron, towel
Contact: Mr. Yoshida, email: aska3.141@gmail.com



Free Lessons: Japanese for Work

Lessons will be held Sep. 2nd - Nov. 20th from 13:00-16:00; the deadline to sign up is Aug 21st. Apply at Hello Work. Classes will be taught in person. Only Level 1 is offered.
Location: CrossPal Niigata



Niigata Help Association TEL: 025-228-2212	Everyday 10:00-23:00 English, Spanish, Korean, Chinese, Filipino, Thai, etc.
Niigata International Association TEL: 025-241-1881 Email: nia21c@niigata-ia.or.jp URL: https://www.niigata-ia.or.jp/	Weekdays 10:00-17:00 English, Russian, Chinese, Filipino, Thai, Vietnamese, Spanish, Portuguese
Helpline for Foreigners TEL: 0120-279-338 (toll-free)	Press 2 after the Japanese guidance
Niigata Medical Care Information Network URL: http://qq.niigata-iyaku.jp/	English, Chinese, Korean
Hello Work, Foreigner Advisory Service TEL: 025-280-8609 Niigata Misaki Godo Chosha #2 (1-2-1 Misaki-cho, Chuo Ward, Niigata City)	1 st – 4 th Wed 13:00-16:00 English & Chinese
Immigration Bureau Consultation	2 nd Tue. of the month (8/6) 13:00-17:00 Thai, Vietnamese, Russian
Gyoseishoshi Association of Niigata Consultation	4 th Wed. of the month (8/28) 10:00-17:00 Chinese, Russian
Free Legal Consultation for Foreign Residents Length of Consultation: 40 minutes per person	3 rd Thur. of odd numbered months (9/19) 13:00-17:00 English, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian
Houterasu Free Legal Consultation for Foreign Residents Length of Consultation: 40 minutes per person	3 rd Mon. of even numbered months (8/19) 13:00-17:00 English, Filipino
Education Consultation	Every Tue. 13:00-17:00 English, Chinese, Thai, Vietnamese, Russian
Place: Multilingual Consultation Center of Niigata (formerly Foreign Resident Consultation Center) (2nd floor of Toki Messe) Contact: TEL: 025-241-1881 Email: nia10@niigata-ia.or.jp	



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3-2086 Ishizuecho-dori, Chuo Ward, Niigata City 951-8055
Homepage: <https://www.nief.or.jp/>
Tel: (025) 225-2727 **E-mail:** kyokai@nief.or.jp
(Written and edited by Alyssa Williams & Ayako Homma)

CrossPal will be closed August 26th