

# 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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## **Free Administrative Scrivener Consultation**

Get free consultation on visa qualifications, applying for permanent residency, doing business in Japan, car registration, traffic accident compensation, and more!

No need to sign up or contact in advance. **Date**: March 22<sup>nd</sup> (Sat) 10:00 – 16:00 **Location**: CrossPal 2F, Room 202

Fee: Free!

Contact: Niigata Prefecture Administrative Scrivener Society, Mr. Takano, TEL: 070-1189-8555

Salon Exhibit: Plain Japanese

Have you heard of Plain Japanese (yasashii nihongo)? It's a useful way to communicate with non-native speakers, people with disabilities, the elderly, and more. Come and learn more!

Date: March 1st (Sat)-March 27th (Thu) 9:00-17:00

Closed: Sundays, holidays, and March 24<sup>th</sup>

**Location**: NIEF Exchange Salon (CrossPal 2F)



#### **NIEF Spring Japanese Classes**

Applications for spring session Japanese classes are open until March 10<sup>th</sup> (Mon). Morning and evening classes are available, from beginner to intermediate level. If you missed the deadline but would like to apply, please come in and talk with us! For more details, please see the NIEF website.



**Closed:** Sundays, holidays, and March 24<sup>th</sup> (Mon)

**Location:** NIEF Exchange Salon

(CrossPal 2<sup>nd</sup> floor) **Contact**: TEL: 025-225-2727 or email:

kyokai@nief.or.jp

Art Mix Japan

This event showcases Japanese traditional culture and performing arts, with performances of Nihon-buyo, rakugo, various traditional musical performances, a puppet show, and more! There will also be workshops, talk shows, and free performances throughout the event!

Date: April 12<sup>th</sup> (Sat) and 13<sup>th</sup> (Sun)

10:00 – 20:30

**Location:** Ryutopia and Enkikan Tickets: Online (scan code on the right), TEL 025-255-1332, or in person at Ryutopia and other locations (see website for details →)



**Volunteer Japanese Class Teacher Sessions** 

Have you ever considered teaching Japanese? Are you interested in volunteer work? If so, come and learn how to teach Japanese! All are welcome regardless of their age or

teaching experience. (Deadline to sign up: March 31<sup>st</sup>) **Date**: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of April-August, 13:00-15:00 (10 sessions total)

**Location**: CrossPal

Fee: \(\frac{\pma}{1}\),000 (1st time), \(\frac{\pma}{7}\)700 (2nd time or more)

Sign up/Contact: Mr. Hasegawa, TEL: 080-4058-6640

**Japanese Class Social** 

Students studying Japanese in Toyosaka at Iroha Kyoshitsu will be holding an event where they show off their Japanese skills. Everyone is welcome to come and

enjoy the presentations and socialize. **Date**: March 22<sup>nd</sup> (Sat) 13:00 – 15:00

Location: Kuzutsuka Community Center, Training Room

B & C; 3197 Kuzutsuka, Kita Ward

Fee: Free!

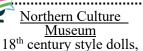
Sign up/Contact: By March 15<sup>th</sup> (Sat), Yamagishi @ TEL: 090-8617-4456

Hina Matsuri (Doll Festival)

March 3 is Hina Matsuri (doll festival or girl's day), a festival where families pray for the health and happiness of their young daughters. The holiday is also sometimes called Momo no sekku (peach blossom festival). To commemorate the day, it is common to display dolls of the Emperor, the Empress, and their attendants in Heian period attire. These displays can be seen in homes, department stores, community centers, and other public spaces in March.

Below are some museums with various elaborate dolls on display within the city. Don't forget to also stop by the Friendship Center (CrossPal 2F) to see our display,

which will be up all month long!



Kyoto miniature dolls, and late Edo period dolls

on display.

Date: Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>-March
23<sup>rd</sup> 9:00-16:30 Closed: Tuesdays Fee: Adults: ¥800, Location: 2-15-25 Somi,

## Former Ozawa Family

and mechanized karakuri

Kamiokawamae-dori,

## Classes

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

Beginner through

-Classes of varying difficulties are available at different times throughout the week.

Intermediate 2

-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

#### Japanese Study Support Group for Children & Students: NicoPal Club (Free of charge)

| Day of the Week & Hours   | Room<br>No. | Content   | For more info.                           |  |
|---|-------------|---|--|--|
| Every Wed. (contact for info)   | 202         | Please contact Ms. Tanaka for more information.   |  |  |
| Every Sat. 10:00 - 11:30<br>*except 3/29<br>*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. | Ms. Kiyoko Tanaka<br>Tel: (025) 225-2727 |  |

## Volunteer Japanese Classes

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



## **International Cooking Class**

Classes have been cancelled for this month, but Ms. Ueno is looking forward to seeing everyone soon! Thank you for your continued support. (^\_^)/~



## **Information**

## Spring Noh

This year's spring Noh performance is Hagoromo, a classic piece featuring a dance from a celestial maiden in a feather robe. Ryutopia offers tablets (¥500) with English subtitles, so don't worry about not understanding the archaic Japanese!

When: April 19th (Sat) 13:00-15:25

Where: Ryutopia Fee: Varies by seat type Tickets: See website

Contact: 025-224-5521 (11:00-19:00)



## Animation Film Festival

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Niigata International Animation Film Festival (NIAFF) and Gatafes (a manga and anime event) will be held at the same time. For more details, check out the official websites. <u>NIAFF</u>

When: March 15<sup>th</sup> (Sat)-20<sup>th</sup> (Thu) Where: Furumachi & Bandai area,

see schedule for more details



Gatafes

When: March 15<sup>th</sup> (Sat)-16<sup>th</sup> (Sun)

Where: Furumachi Area

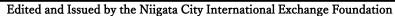


## **Donations to Ukrainian Refugees**

As of March 14, 2025, the Foreign Affairs Division and NIEF will no longer be coordinating donations to Ukrainian refugees in Niigata City. Thank you to everyone for your assistance and generous donations these past few years.

| Niigata Help Association TEL: 025-228-2212   | Everyday 10:00-23:00<br>English, Spanish, Korean, Chinese, Filipino, Thai, etc.                          |  |
|--|--|--|
| Niigata International Association TEL: 025-241-1881<br>Email: nia21c@niigata-ia.or.jp URL: https://www.niigata-ia. | Weekdays 10:00-17:00<br>English, Russian, Chinese, Filipino, Thai, Vietnamese,<br>Spanish, Portuguese    |  |
| <b>Helpline for Foreigners</b> TEL: 0120-279-338 (toll-free)   | Press 2 after the Japanese guidance  |  |
| Niigata Medical Care Information Network URL: http://qq  | English, Chinese, Korean   |  |
| Hello Work, Foreigner Advisory Service TEL: 025-280-860<br>Niigata Misaki Godo Chosha #2 (1-2-1 Misaki-cho, Chu    | 1 <sup>st</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed 13:00-16:00<br>English & Chinese                                   |  |
| Immigration Bureau Consultation  | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tue. of the month (3/11) 13:00-17:00<br>Thai, Vietnamese, Russian                        | Make a reservation by phone or email in advance.  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 |
| Gyoseishoshi Association of Niigata Consultation   | 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed. of the month (3/26) 10:00-15:00<br>Chinese, Russian                                 |  |
| Free Legal Consultation for Foreign Residents Length of Consultation: 40 minutes per person                        | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Thur. of odd numbered months (3/13)<br>13:00–17:00 English, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian |  |
| Houterasu Free Legal Consultation for Foreign Residents<br>Length of Consultation: 40 minutes per person           | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon. of even numbered months (TBD)<br>13:00-17:00 English, Filipino, Russian             |  |
| Education Consultation   | Every Tue. 13:00-17:00<br>English, Chinese, Thai, Vietnamese, Russian                                    |  |





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CrossPal will be closed March 24th