

NAPIA VOL. 28 September

NAPIA is a newsletter issued by Nagasaki International Association for foreign residents.

Edited by: Nagasaki International Association

Introduction to the Nagasaki International Association

We promote international exchange by acting as a bridge between Nagasaki and a variety of countries from all over the world. We provide a wide range of information on life in Nagasaki and opportunities for international exchange. This edition of NAPIA contains more detailed information on specific activities and events that we hold.

We are open every week,

Monday to Friday, from 9:00 am to 5:30 pm.

Our lobby contains many books, pamphlets and other materials that are free to access, and we also regularly hold Japanese culture classes.



Nagasaki International Festival – coming soon!



International exchange and cooperation groups from around Nagasaki Prefecture gather together for one day at this festival, with booths explaining each group's activities, exhibitions, food stalls, stage performances and more. This is a fun event for all ages and all nationalities.

There will be plenty of chances to meet new people, make new friends and enjoy international exchange!!

You can also try wearing a kimono (from a special range of simple kimonos that can be tried on over your everyday clothes) and flower pressing (decorating a coaster, bookmark or file), free of charge! You can take home what you have made.

Entry to the festival is free. Why not invite your friends and come down?

Date: Sunday 26 October 2014 Time: 10:00 – 15:00

Place: Dejima Koryu Kaikan (2-11 Dejima-machi)

* Beside the Nagasaki Prefectural Art Museum.





What is Nagasaki's Kunchi?

Started in 1634 as an offering at Suwa Shrine and with over 380 years of history and tradition, the Nagasaki Kunchi Festival is one of three of Japan's largest festivals of its kind.

Listed as an Important Intangible Folk Cultural Property, this large autumn festival hosts 59 separate *odoricho*, or neighborhood performance groups, that perform once every seven years on rotation. Each *odoricho* proudly showcases its own unique traditional performance and garb. Among them are performances influenced by China and Holland like the Dragon Dance and Oranda Manzai.

Taking place every autumn in Nagasaki, Nagasaki Kunchi is a lively festival with an exotic atmosphere that features the dragon dance, many different dances in colorful costumes, and parade floats.

Nagasaki Kunchi began in the Edo era, from as far back as 1634, and in that same year, land reclamation of Dejima, one of the Nagasaki's most important tourist locations, began. Dejima was an artificial island originally built for Portuguese residents and acted as the only open window to other countries in Japan after the Dutch East India Company moved there from Hirado. Megane-bashi (Spectacles Bridge), Japan's first arched stone bridge, was built over Nakashimagawa River during this year as well.

Festival Dates: October 7th ~ October 9th Every Year

Festival Location: Suwa Shrine, Nagasaki City Auditorium Area, Motofuna-machi, Yasaka Shrine

Odoricho

The towns that perform in Nagasaki Kunchi are called Odoricho. In all, there are 59 towns divided into 7 groups that perform at the festival, and each Odoricho participates only once every seven years. As a result, each Odoricho puts their heart and soul into their performance.

Nagasaki's Encore: 'Mottekoi!'

There are also many customs during Nagasaki's Kunchi. For example, when you would like the dance to return to the stage for an encore you yell out 'Mottekoi!'

Join in with Nagasaki residents and let your voice be heard!

Photo Contest: 'Finding Pieces of South Korea in Kyushu'

The Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Fukuoka is looking for photographs showing links to or pieces of South Korea that can be found within their Kyushu jurisdiction.

The first prize is a gift-certificate for a 2-night, 3-day trip for 2 people to South Korea! Second prize is a single-lens reflex camera. Third prize includes suitcases and more! For more details, please see the Consulate General's homepage.

The homepage of the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Fukuoka:
<http://jpn-fukuoka.mofa.go.kr>



The competition is open to people of any nationality who wish to build and strengthen friendship between South Korea and Japan.

Photographs entered into the competition should show the links between Kyushu and South Korea. The photograph should be of something within Kyushu (such as a place of interest, a memorial, etc.) that is linked in some way to South Korea.

Competition period: 21st May 2014 – 31st October 2014



The Japanese Language Network in Nagasaki

Greetings! We are the 'Japanese Language Network in Nagasaki'. Are you learning Japanese? We are a volunteer group set up to help international residents of Nagasaki Prefecture to live more comfortably here by providing them with the basic Japanese language skills and Nagasaki-related information that they need. Our motto is 'providing Japanese language support to those who seek it'. Our group is made up of professionals and amateurs, who work together to make a contribution to international exchange. We hold Japanese classes following the schedule below. If you're interested, do contact us!

Date and Time: Every Saturday, 14:00 – 15:30 (with occasional vacations)

Place: Nagasaki Municipal Morimachi Combined Welfare Center

(長崎市茂里町総合福祉センター)

Cost: 1000 yen per month

Enquiries: Ms. Ikuko NiShiKuBo. Tel: 095-821-6454



Japanese Culture Classes

Every month we hold a variety of Japanese Culture Classes at Nagasaki International Association. Why not come and try one?

Pressed flowers, *koto* (Japanese string instrument), *origami*, calligraphy, *kimono*-wearing & easy Japanese traditional dance, tea ceremony. Please reserve by email: nia@nia.or.jp



Useful Information for Foreign Residents and Visitors



1. Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR)

This service provides information about living in Japan, for foreign residents. The information is available in 13 languages and is divided into 17 sections. There is also a version (app) for smartphones. The smartphone app contains the same information as the website, in an easy-to-browse format, and also includes a feature which provides emergency earthquake alerts issued by the Japan Meteorological Agency, in 13 languages.

URL: <http://www.clair.or.jp/tagengo/index.html>



2. Japan Legal Support Center 'Houterasu'

The Japan Legal Support Center, also known as 'Houterasu', provides support to solve legal problems. Houterasu has now started a foreign-language service.

To use the service, visit your nearest Houterasu office and ask for an interpreter, or call this number: 0570-078377 (the Houterasu Multilingual Information Service).

You can find more information on their website: <http://www.houterasu.or.jp/multilingual/index.html>

3. Yorisoi Multilingual Advice Line

Specialist staff are available to work with you to find a solution to your problems.

Call the toll-free number: 0120-279-338, and after the Japanese guidance, press 2.

For more information, see: http://279338.jp/yorisoi/hotline/files/yorisoi-bill_eng.pdf
or: <http://279338.jp/yorisoi/foreign/index.html#eng>



The advice line service is also available Portuguese, Spanish, Tagalog, Chinese, Thai and Korean.

4. Multilingual Medical Questionnaire

This is a medical questionnaire available in 18 languages. You can use it to communicate with medical staff, for example when you visit a hospital, to tell them about your symptoms.

URL : <http://www.kifjp.org/medical>



If you have any comments or suggestions about NAPIA, Please let us know

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