



Niigata English Journal

Edited & Issued by the Niigata City International Exchange Foundation

Mail magazine: Email us to receive this newsletter every month

Subscribe to stay up to date!

Free Legal Consultation for Foreign Residents

Get free consultation on work issues, contracts, financial compensation, marriage or divorce trouble, and more! If you need an interpreter, please let us know and one will be provided for free.

Date: May 22nd (Fri) 13:00-16:40

Location: CrossPal 2nd floor

Spots: 5 time slots (40 minutes per person)

Fee: Free!

Sign up: NIEF ☎: 025-225-2727,

✉: kyokai@nief.or.jp



NIEF Spring Japanese Classes

Morning and evening classes are available, from beginner to intermediate level. Stop in to the Friendship Center (CrossPal 2F) to pick up an application and get more information.

Closed: Sundays, holidays, April 27th, May 25th

Location: NIEF (CrossPal 2F)

Contact: ☎: 025-225-2727 or

✉: kyokai@nief.or.jp



NIA Foreign Resident Consultation

The Niigata International Association (NIA) is available for foreign residents, their family, and those seeking help in matters relating to foreign residents. Free consultations for visas, Japanese lessons, work, and more are available in person or by phone, email, and video call. Scan the code to sign up for a video call.

Hours: Monday-Friday 10:00-17:00

Website: www.niigata-ia.or.jp/foreign

Contact: ☎: 025-241-1881

✉: nia10@niigata-ia.or.jp



26th International Watercolor Exhibition

Over 100 watercolor paintings from around the world on display, for free! In addition to the exhibition, there will be live watercolor painting demonstrations and art lectures. Come and meet fellow artists and art lovers from around the world!

Date: April 24th (Fri)-27th (Mon) 9:00-17:00 (Opens at 13:00 on the 24th; closes at 15:00 on the 27th)

Location: Niigata Prefectural Civic Center 3F, Gallery B

Fee: Free!



Salon Exhibit: Normandy, France

Learn about France's northwestern region of Normandy. From its Viking origins to the famous Mont-Saint-Michel island and abbey, the region has a rich history and culture. Featuring slides from the lecture held by the French CIR in January.

Date: April 1st-May 28th 9:00-17:00

Closed: Sundays, holidays, April 27th & May 25th

Location: NIEF Exchange Salon (CrossPal 2F)

International Cooking Class

Menu: (April) Spring Lunch Box

Shrimp rice, horse mackerel soup, lemon chicken, agedashi tofu, avocado bean salad and more!

Date: Apr. 23rd, 25th, 26th & 27th 11:00-14:00

Fee: Foreign residents, students: ¥2,000;
General: ¥4,000

Location: Ms. Ueno's residence in Akiha Ward

Call to sign up. Must sign up at least 3 days before class. Contact for May's menu and dates.

Contact: Ms. Ueno, ☎:0250-24-6859



Financial Assistance for Families with Elementary and Junior High School Students

Financial assistance for expenses required for school, such as school supplies, school trip fees, school lunch fees, medical fees, etc., is available to families of a certain income with elementary and junior high school students. You can apply through your child's elementary or junior high school. If you require assistance or have any questions, please ask the school for more details.



Russian Newsletter Hiatus

The Russian newsletter, *Ниигата Сегодня* (Niigata Segodnya), will be on an indefinite hiatus starting from April 2026 onwards. We thank everyone who has supported the newsletter throughout the years and will resume publication as soon as possible.

Disaster Prevention Japanese Lesson

Learn some key vocabulary that will come in handy in preparing for a disaster!

This month's Japanese lesson is as follows:

防災 (ぼうさい)

災害 (さいがい) の前 (まえ) に命 (いのち) や生活 (せいかつ) をまもるための準備 (じゅんび) をすることです。日本 (にほん) は、地震 (じしん) や大雨 (おおあめ) など、災害が多 (おお) い国 (くに) です。

Did you know that NIEF functions as a multilingual support system during disasters? For more information, scan the code.



Art Mix Japan

This event showcases Japanese traditional culture and performing arts, with performances of rakugo, kagura, various traditional musical performances, sutra copying, and more! There will also be vendors and free performances throughout the event!

Date: April 18th (Sat) and 19th (Sun) 10:00-20:30

Location: Ryutopia and Enkikan

Tickets: Online (scan code on the right),

☎: 025-255-1332, or in person at

Ryutopia and other locations

(see website for details ⇒)



Information

Goodbye Message from Ms. Kim Eunji (CIR)

Niigata City Korean Coordinator for International Relations (CIR), Ms. Kim Eunji completed her term of 4.5 years last month. Here is her message to everyone:

안녕하세요 Anyeonghaseyo! I still can't believe I've reached the end of my appointment.

I want to thank everyone who attended and assisted with my lectures and events from the bottom of my heart. I also want to thank everyone who took interest in Korea and international exchange.

This was my first time living in Niigata and with each passing day, I learned a lot about Korea, Japan, and of course Niigata, through thinking, studying, and trying to deepen my understanding. Somewhere along the way, I became used to not just Niigata's delicious sake and rice and abundant nature, but also its strong wind, snow, and rainy weather.

I also want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the warm citizens of Niigata for allowing me to have so many experiences.

I hope that everyone will continue to support Korea and Ulsan and NIEF's programs. I hope to see you all again!

감사합니다 Kamsahamnida!

Kim Eunji 金恩智

Goodbye Message from Mr. Mikhail Skvortcov (CIR)

Niigata City Russian Coordinator for International Relations (CIR), Mr. Mikhail Skvortcov completed his term of 3.5 years last month. Here is his message to everyone:

My time at the Niigata City office has come to an end. The years I spent at the Foreign Affairs Division and NIEF are precious to me and I have many fond memories.

I want to thank everyone who contributed to the Russian newsletter in the form of materials, information, including events, and ideas for articles. It was thanks to everyone's support that the newsletter was able to continue its run. I would also like to thank the Russia coordinator at the prefectural office for their guidance and support.

I was delighted by the warm welcome I received from the people of Niigata City and everyone who took interest in NIEF's cultural events.

I hope that the Russian newsletter, Нигата Сегодня Niigata Segodnya, will continue to be published and become an even more valuable newsletter by sharing information on life in Niigata, Niigata culture, education, regional initiatives, and information regarding Russia.

Mikhail Skvortcov ミハイル・スクヴォルツォフ

Classes

Japanese Language Courses (NIEF classes and others)

NIEF classes: Beginner through Intermediate 2	-Classes of varying difficulties are available throughout the week.	Ms. Kiyoko Tanaka  ☎: (025) 225-2727	Volunteer Japanese Classes 
	-Pricing info & the schedule for the current session: https://www.nief.or.jp/		

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 ☎: (025) 225-2727
Every Sat. 10:00 - 11:30 *except 4/25, 5/2 *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.	

Consultation

Niigata Help Association ☎: 025-228-2212	Everyday 10:00-23:00 English, Spanish, Korean, Chinese, Filipino, Thai, etc.
Niigata City International Exchange Foundation (NIEF) ☎: 025-225-2727 ✉: kyokai@nief.or.jp URL: https://www.nief.or.jp/	Monday-Saturday 9:00-16:00 English, Chinese, Korean, Russian, French
Niigata International Association (NIA) ☎: 025-241-1881 ✉: nia21c@niigata-ia.or.jp URL: https://www.niigata-ia.or.jp/	Weekdays 10:00-17:00 English, Russian, Chinese, Filipino, Thai, Vietnamese
Helpline for Foreigners ☎: 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 ☎: 025-280-8609 Niigata Misaki Godo Chosha #2 (1-2-1 Misaki-cho, Chuo Ward, Niigata City)	1st - 4th Wed 13:00-16:00 English & Chinese
Immigration Bureau Consultation	3 rd Tue. of the month (4/21&5/19) 1pm-4pm Thai, Vietnamese, Russian
Gyoseishoshi Association of Niigata Consultation	4 th Wed. of the month (4/22&5/27) 10am-5pm Chinese, Russian
Free Legal Consultation for Foreign Residents Length of Consultation: 40 minutes per person	3 rd Thur. of odd numbered months (5/21) 1pm-5pm Russian
Houterasu Free Legal Consultation for Foreign Residents Length of Consultation: 40 minutes per person	3 rd Mon. of even numbered months (4/20) 1pm-5pm English, Filipino, Russian
Education Consultation	Every Tue. 13:00-17:00 English, Chinese, 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: ☎: 025-241-1881
✉: nia10@niigata-ia.or.jp

*All listed dates are subject to change. Please call or email to confirm.



Edited and Issued by the Niigata City International Exchange Foundation

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☎: (025) 225-2727

✉: kyokai@nief.or.jp

(Written and edited by Alyssa Williams & Ayako Homma)

CrossPal will be closed Apr. 27th and May 25th