

# Niigata English Journal

Edited & Issued by the Niigata City International Exchange Foundation

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**Autumn Japanese Lessons** Registration for NIEF's Japanese lessons for the fall has begun. Students must take a test to

determine their level before they can register. Classes begin on Tuesday, September 30. Evening classes are also available.

If you have questions, feel free to email, call, or come to see us at CrossPal on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

Contact: Tel: 025-225-2727,

Email: kyokai@nief.or.jp



🚔 Halloween Monster Crafting! 🐱

Design and make your very own monster! This Halloween themed crafting event will have a mini lecture on the tradition of Halloween and a mini English lesson held by American CIR, Alyssa, followed by a crafting session where children can create their own Halloween monster. Sign up using the code below (starting from Sep. 10).

Date: October 4<sup>th</sup> (Sat) 10:30-12:00

Location: CrossPal 5F Exchange Hall

Fee: ¥500 per child

Age range: Ages 3 to elementary school aged children
Contact: (NIEF) Tel: 025-225-2727



Literakoya Summer Seminar

A summer study group for students with foreign backgrounds. Students can bring their homework and volunteers will help them study. Online participation is also available. Please contact beforehand if it is your first time attending. **Date**: August 11<sup>th</sup>-22<sup>nd</sup> 9:30-11:30



(except Saturday and Sundays) Location: Bandai Civic Hall, 4F 🖳 🖁 9-1 Higashi Bandai-cho, Chuo

Contact: Tel: 090-6684-2346



Japanese Speech Contest in Nagaoka

Feel confident in your Japanese speaking abilities? Participate in the speech contest to impress the people of Nagaoka and win cash prizes! There is no set topic for speeches and all foreign residents in Japan are welcome to apply.

Application deadline: August 24<sup>th</sup> (Sun)

Contest date: September 28<sup>th</sup> (Sun) 13:00-16:00

Spots: 12 people (chosen by lottery)

Location: Aôre Nagaoka 1F

Contest: Ms. Wada

Contact: Ms. Wada

Email: mutsumikainagaoka@gmail.com

International Lecture: Mongolia

Learn about how the geography, history, food, and culture of Mongolia has changed throughout time! Ms. Shimada, a Mongolian native and a representative of the Mongolia International Exchange Group Sora, will give the lecture.

Date: August 23<sup>rd</sup> (Sat) 13:30-15:00

Location: CrossPal 5F Exchange Hall Fee: ¥500 (¥300 for contributors)

Contact: (NIEF) Tel: 025-225-2727

Niigata Matsuri

It's time again for the Niigata Matsuri! NIEF will dance in this year's Minyo Nagashi folk dance parade again on Friday, August 8, and is looking for foreign residents to join us. A dance lesson and yukata will be provided to participants. Volunteers will also help to put on the yukata, so don't worry if you don't know how. Make sure to wear clothes that are easy to change out of and comfortable shoes. Sign up using the code below. **Schedule**: 15:30-17:30: Check in **(August 8)** 15:30-18:00: Change into yukata 16:00-18:00: Dance practice

19:00-20:30: Minyo Nagashi

Location: CrossPal 2F

Fee: ¥500



More information here!

Other Niigata Matsuri events: August 9: Sumiyoshi mikoshi procession, mikoshi procession on Shinano River, and more!

August 10: Sumiyoshi mikoshi procession, firework show

Salon Exhibit: Kyrgyzstan

Slides from the April lecture on Kyrgyzstan are on display. Come and learn about Kyrgyzstan, the gem of central Asia, and its history, culture, traditional

clothing, and more! **Date**: July 1<sup>st</sup> (Tue)-Aug 28<sup>th</sup> (Thu) 9:00-17:00 **Closed**: Sundays, holidays, August 25<sup>th</sup> (Mon) **Location**: NIEF Exchange Salon (CrossPal 2F)

# Sado Okesa Dance Lessons

Learn Sado's traditional dance, the Sado Okesa. This same dance will be performed at the Niigata Matsuri on August 8<sup>th</sup>. Beginners are welcome, there's no need to sign up in advance, and all lessons are free. Just show up in something easy to move in and have a good time. Remember to stay hydrated! (Lessons cancelled if it rains.)

When: May 9<sup>th</sup>-September 5<sup>th</sup> on Fridays,

18:00-21:00

Where: Bandai Terrace Hajimari Hiroba

Fee: Free!





# Farewell Greeting from Niigata City's French CIR



Niigata City French Coordinator for International Relations (CIR), Charles Durand, left his post in July after four years of working for NIEF and the city. Here is his message to everyone:

I have worked as a CIR for Niigata City for four years but as of this summer, I will pass the torch on to my younger successor. These past four years, I have been blessed with the opportunity to support Niigata City's international exchange projects in a wide variety of fields, including the Ramsar Convention, Niigata's sister cities, and more – all of which were invaluable experiences.

Furthermore, I held French culture lectures multiple times per year in order to deepen the understanding of France and its culture among Niigata's citizens as a part of my work at NIEF. I would like to thank the many people who attended.

From here on, I hope to continue to support Niigata City and relations between Japan and France in new ways, however I can. I will of course never forget what a comfortable place Niigata City is to live in and its delicious food. I will come back to visit! Thank you all for the past four years.

Charles Durand (デュラン・シャルル) Niigata City CIR Niigata Soh Odori

The largest dance festival on the Sea of Japan coast! From traditional Yosakoi to hip hop to salsa, all types of dance are featured at this event. Venues are located in the Bandai and Furumachi areas.

**Date**: Sep. 13<sup>th</sup> (Sat)-15<sup>th</sup> (Mon) **Fee**: Free & paid seating available



## **Autumn Noh Performance**



This year's autumn noh performance will be *Izutsu* (*The Well Cradle*), a classic written by Zeami in celebration of the Sado Island Gold Mines' registration as

a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

If you're worried about not understanding the archaic language, don't be! Tablets with English and modern Japanese commentary and translations are available to rent for ¥500.

For more information, please visit the

Ryutopia website.

**When:** Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> (Sun) 13:00

Where: Niigata City Performing Arts

Center Ryutopia, Noh Theater



#### Classes

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

À bientôt!

NIEF classes: Beginner through -Classes of varying difficulties are available throughout the week.

-Pricing info & the schedule for the

Intermediate 2 -Pricing into & the schedule for the current session: https://www.nief.or.jp/

Ms. Kiyoko Tanaka

Tel: (025) 225-2727



# Volunteer Japanese Classes:



## Japanese Language Courses (NIEF classes and others)

Day of the Week & Hours	Room No.	Content	For more info.
Every Wed. (contact for info)	202	Please contact Ms. Tanaka for more information.	
Every Sat. 10:00 - 11:30 *except 8/9, 8/16 *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 Tel: (025) 225-2727

## Consultation

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	Weekdays 10:00-17:00 English, Russian, Chinese, Filipino, Thai, Vietnamese		
Helpline for Foreigners TEL: 0120-279-338 (toll-free)	Press 2 after the Japanese guidance		
Niigata Medical Care Information Network URL: http://qq.n	English, Chinese, Korean		
Hello Work, Foreigner Advisory Service TEL: 025-280-8609 Niigata Misaki Godo Chosha #2 (1-2-1 Misaki-cho, Chuo	1 <sup>st</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed 13:00-16:00 English & Chinese		
Immigration Bureau Consultation	3 <sup>rd</sup> Tue. of the month (8/19 & 9/16) 1pm-4pm Thai, Vietnamese, Russian	Make a reservation by phone or email in advance.	
Gyoseishoshi Association of Niigata Consultation	4 <sup>th</sup> Wed. of the month (8/27&9/24) 10am-5pm Chinese, Russian	Place: Multilingual Consultation Center of Niigata (formerly Foreign Resident Consultation Center) (2nd floor of Toki Messe)	
Free Legal Consultation for Foreign Residents Length of Consultation: 40 minutes per person	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thur. of odd numbered months (9/18) lpm–5pm Russian		
Houterasu Free Legal Consultation for Foreign Residents Length of Consultation: 40 minutes per person	3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon. of even numbered months (8/18) 1pm-5pm English, Filipino, Russian	Contact: TEL: 025-241-1881 Email: <u>nia10@niigata-ia.or.jp</u>	
Education Consultation	Every Tue. 13:00-17:00 English, Chinese, Thai, Vietnamese, Russian	*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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**Tel**: (025) 225-2727 **E-mail**: kyokai@nief.or.jp (Written and edited by Alyssa Williams & Ayako Homma)

CrossPal will be closed Aug. 25<sup>th</sup> & Sep. 22<sup>nd</sup>