

# 旭川 ASAHIKAWA Info

August 2018 VOL. 261

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## Hokkaido News Top 5



August 2018  
Compiled by AIC

### June 22

Kawasaki Kinkai Kisen Kaisha, Ltd., started a regular ferry service between Muroran and Miyako (Iwate Prefecture). It is the first time in 10 years for Muroran to have a regular ferry service, and the first time ever for Iwate Prefecture. It's expected to jump-start tourism and the distribution of goods between Hokkaido and the Tohoku (northeast) region.

### June 26

The Japanese government's Earthquake Research Committee has released the 2018 edition of the "National Earthquake Forecast Map", which predicts the probability of a major earthquake (with a Shindo seismic intensity level of Lower 6 or higher) occurring in Japan within the next 30 years. Compared to its 2017 edition, the eastern part of Hokkaido has shown a significant increase in the probability of a major earthquake. For example, Kushiro's probability is 69%, a 22 point increase, and Nemuro's probability is 78%, a 15 point increase.

### July 3

Over 130 millimeters of rainfall has been recorded in the city of Asahikawa, and major rivers including the Ishikari and Uryu flooded, disrupting transportation networks and forcing approximately 300 people to evacuate. Guests who were staying at the Tenninkyo hot spring in the town of Higashikawa were stranded temporarily, but were later safely evacuated to the town hall.

### July 11

The City of Asahikawa has announced that the torrential rains from July 2 to 5 has caused damage to food crops worth 50.6 million yen. The amount totals 4 times more than the 2016 damages caused by a typhoon. The following is a breakdown of the types of damage: 25 million yen for paddy-field rice, 9 million yen for soybeans, and 7.8 million yen for buckwheat.

### July 16

Reported incidents of bear sightings have increased, reaching three times more compared to last year's data. Sapporo shows an especially high rate of 1.9 times more than average. A bear was even spotted in a residential district of Sapporo (near Makomanai Park) where many schools are nearby. There have been 5 sightings alone in the second week of July, and authorities believe that it is the same brown bear.



### For further information

#### or to register for events contact:

Asahikawa International Committee  
(SUGANO Ayumi, Daniel LIZARRAGA,  
or SAITO Emmy)

#### Location:

International/City Affairs Division,  
Tourism, Sports and International/City  
Affairs Dept.

#### Address:

Asahikawa International Center Feeeel  
Asahikawa 7F, 1-jo-dori 8- chome,  
Asahikawa 070-0031

Tel: (0166) 25-7491

Fax: (0166) 23-4924

#### E-mail:

cir\_kokusai@city.asahikawa.hokkaido.jp

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**The Bear and the Boy – Exhibition of Original Artwork by ABE Hiroshi****クマと少年 あべ弘士原画展**

The original artwork of ABE Hiroshi's newest picture book, "The Bear and the Boy," will be on display at Gallery Puru Puru! It tells the tale of a boy and a bear who are raised together from birth in an Ainu village. They play and spend all of their time together as if they were true siblings. On the day before the Iomante (a traditional sacrificial ceremony to send a bear off to the gods), the bear escapes! The story continues 8 years later and the two see each other once more in a meeting of fate. Explore a story set in Ainu culture and enjoy ABE Hiroshi's powerful and emotion-invoking illustrations. Great for kids and adults alike!

**Date:** Now – 9/1 (Saturday)**Time:** 10:00-18:00 (Closed Mondays and Tuesdays)**Venue:** Gallery Puru Puru (7-jo-dori 8-chome)**Admission:** Free**For Further Information Contact:** 0166-73-8289**English Study Hokkaido – Meet up and Presentation on Japanese Tea****English Study Hokkaido – 日本茶と共に国際交流&プレゼンテーション**

Come learn about Japanese tea through a presentation by USAGIYA staff and participate in international exchange! USAGIYA is a traditional Japanese teashop that has adapted to modern times. Their cozy shop is great for those that prefer to relax and drink tea traditionally in a sit-down environment. On the other hand, they offer convenient, refillable bottles for tea-drinkers on the go. Meet new people and learn about new aspects of Japanese culture!

**Date:** 8/5 (Sunday)**Time:** 18:00-20:00**Venue:** USAGIYA (1-jo-dori 10-chome)**Admission:** ¥2,000 (Includes USAGIYA bottle, tea, and sweets)**For Further Information and to Sign Up:** <https://www.facebook.com/english.hokkaido/>**Notes:** Please visit the facebook page and press the "going" button for highest priority.**22<sup>nd</sup> Ginza Tanabata Festival****第22回 銀座七夕祭り**

Tanabata is here! On the old Ginza Shopping Street, you'll find many multicolored bamboo decorations blowing along in the wind. You will also be able to eat many delicious foods from Sendai, such as leaf-shaped fish cakes and soft, custard-filled pastries! Don't miss one of Japan's oldest and widely celebrated festivals!

**Date:** 8/7 (Tuesday) – 8/12 (Sunday)**Time:** All day long**Location:** Ginza Shopping Street (1-jo-dori through 4-jo-dori, 14-chome and 15-chome)**For Further Information Contact:** 0166-23-1210**Asahiyama Park "Family Nature Class"****旭山公園「自然体験教室」**

Looking for an fun summer activity for your child? Join Asahiyama Zoo Animal Keeper SUZUKI Yuta for an educational adventure outdoors! Search for hidden insects and plants throughout the Asahiyama Miura Garden. Learn about these cool critters up close, but don't forget to release them back into the wild! Notebooks will be handed out at the end so you can write about what you learned and experienced.

**Date:** 8/12 (Sunday)**Time:** 10:00-11:30**Venue:** Asahiyama Miura Garden, Asahiyama Park (Next to the Zoo)**Participation Fee:** Free**Capacity:** 10 groups (20 people)**What to Prepare:** Wear clothes and shoes suited for outdoor activities, a hat, a drink, a butterfly net, and an insect cage. Camera is optional, but good for recording your findings!**For Further Information and to Sign Up:** 0166-36-6811**Notes:** You can sign up by phone until the day before the event but remember that space is limited so the earlier the better. One child (elementary school age) and one guardian per group. Will be cancelled in case of rain.

## Tchaikovsky's Three Ballet Masterpieces チャイコフスキー 夢の3大バレエ

In 2017, the Kiev Ballet played over 120 performances throughout Japan, and now they are back again! They will be performing Tchaikovsky's three ballet masterpieces: "The Nutcracker," "Swan Lake," and "Sleeping Beauty." Even if you've never seen ballet before, this performance has enough grace and beauty to turn you into a fan!

**Date:** 8/17 (Friday)  
**Time:** Opens 17:30, Starts 18:00  
**Venue:** Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall, Large Hall (7-jo-dori 8-chome)  
**Admission:** General ¥4,000, Student ¥2,000  
**Ticket Office:** Coach and Four, Gyokkodo, Yamaha Music Store, Asahikawa Taisetsu Crystal Hall Office, Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall Office  
**For Further Information Contact:** 0166-25-7331  
**Notes:** Please refrain from bringing children age three and under.



## Violin Recital by OHIRA Mayumi, Concertmaster for the Sapporo Symphony Orchestra 札幌交響楽団コンサートマスター 大平まゆみヴァイオリンリサイタル

OHIRA Mayumi is a graduate of the Tokyo University of the Arts, and was invited to study abroad at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. She won the Coleman Chamber Ensemble Competition and the Tanglewood Music Festival's Silverstein Award for "Best Violinist." After graduating, she spent many years teaching, including at Stanford University. She now tours across Japan to fulfill her goal of conveying the power of music to the people.

**Date:** 8/19 (Sunday)  
**Time:** Opens 18:30, Starts 19:00  
**Venue:** Asahikawa Taisetsu Crystal Hall (Kagura 3-jo 7-chome)  
**Admission:** General ¥3,000, Student ¥1,500  
**Ticket Office:** Gyokkodo, Yamaha Music Shop, Taisetsu Crystal Hall Shop, Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall Shop, Coach and Four, and the Minami Music Academy  
**For Further Information Contact:** 080-3230-7697 to order tickets, or contact 0166-48-9454 for more information.



## The King with Donkey Ears 王様の耳はロバの耳

Once upon a time in a faraway land lived a selfish and mysterious king. Every so often he summoned a barber to the castle, but not one has returned. Now, the last barber in the kingdom received an invitation to the castle. What does fate have in store for him? What is the king's secret? Bring the family, sit back, and enjoy this suspenseful fairy tale brought to life!

**Date:** 8/20 (Monday)  
**Time:** Opens 18:00, Starts 18:30  
**Venue:** Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall, Large Hall (7-jo-dori 8-chome)  
**Admission:** For Adults: "S" Seating ¥5,400, "A" Seating ¥3,780, "B" Seating ¥2,700,  
 For Elementary and under: "S" Seating ¥3,240, "A" Seating ¥2,700  
**Ticket Office:** Gyokkodo, FM Riviere Ticket Box (Yoshitake Building 3F)  
**For Further Information Contact:** 0166-55-1443



## Asahikawa Medical University Female Chorus "Solfege" Concert 2018 "Ai to inochi" 旭川医大女声コーラス「ソルフェージュ」愛といのちのコンサート

The first half of this choir performance will feature Japanese music and the latter half will feature music by foreign composers. During the first half, enjoy songs like "Miyako wasure," "Mugi no uta," and "Inochi no uta." The second half will include Schubert's "Ave Maria," Mozart's "Lacrimosa," "Memory" from the musical "Cats," and more!

**Date:** 8/25 (Saturday)  
**Time:** Opens 13:30, Starts 14:00  
**Venue:** Asahikawa Taisetsu Crystal Hall, Concert Hall (Kagura 3-jo 7-chome)  
**Admission:** General ¥1,000, High school students and under are free  
**Ticket Office:** Asahikawa Taisetsu Crystal Hall Shop, Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall Shop



EVENTS IN ASAHIKAWA FOR AUGUST



# Hello Asahikawa!

**Name: James Mloma**  
**Home Countries: Malawi**  
**Interviewed: July 20th, 2018**

If you live in Asahikawa or are just passing through and would like to be interviewed for "Hello Asahikawa," email us at [cir\\_kokusai@city.asahikawa.hokkaido.jp](mailto:cir_kokusai@city.asahikawa.hokkaido.jp)!

**AIC:** **What brings you to Japan?**

**James:** My girlfriend was from Japan, so after a few years in our relationship we thought about getting married. After we married, we moved from Malawi to Japan as husband and wife. She lived in Asahikawa so that's why we decided to come here.

**AIC:** **How long did you live in Malawi with your wife before you came here?**

**James:** We lived there for 2 years. She came to work for JICA and we met there. After living in Malawi for a while we thought about coming to Japan.

**AIC:** **How do you like it here in Japan?**

**James:** I like Japan! The people of Japan are so friendly. I have also seen how people take care of animals compared to other countries. They pay attention to and respect nature. Those kinds of things make me feel good about living here.

**AIC:** **Is there anything in particular you like about Asahikawa?**

**James:** There are a lot of interesting places here, like the zoo and the many parks. I enjoyed the Asahi-yama Zoo. In our country we don't have things like that. I also like the flower fields in Furano and Biei. It was a real pleasure for me to go see them.

**AIC:** **How does Asahikawa compare to Malawi?**

**James:** Asahikawa is developed compared to our country. The way Asahikawa looks is comparable to the capital city of Malawi. I know Asahikawa is a minor city in Japan, but its size is comparable to our capital. Asahikawa is also a beautiful and clean city. People here know how to take care of the surroundings. Also, coming to Asahikawa was my first time seeing snow!

**AIC:** **Is there anything you miss about Malawi?**

**James:** I miss our staple food, Nsima. We eat it for lunch and dinner. Since I've come here it has been very difficult to find it. In our country we also eat many tangerines. In Japan, they are pretty rare. You can't find them that easily. I also miss my relatives a lot, but I'll be fine (laughs).



*Continued on Page 5*

**AIC:** What are your hobbies?  
**James:** I like watching movies and playing soccer. Right now I'm also doing a lot of running and other physical exercise.

**AIC:** If you like physical exercise, have you tried skiing or snowboarding yet?

**James:** No, because I haven't been able to make a lot of connections since I've been here. English isn't that common in Asahikawa. I think that once I am able to speak Japanese I can find more friends to do those types of activities with. I really want to try skiing.

**AIC:** Speaking of languages, what languages do you speak?

**James:** I speak our national language, Chewa. In Malawi we call it Chewa, and in Zambia they speak the same language but they call it Nyanja. It has different names in different places. I also speak a little bit of English, and now I'm studying Japanese.

**AIC:** That's great! How is your Japanese coming along?

**James:** It is my goal to learn how to speak Japanese. I'm working hard to learn how to write and read in Japanese. Right now I know how to read and write in Hiragana and a little bit in Katakana, but I want to do more than that.

**AIC:** You already speak two languages so I'm sure you'll improve in no time! How long do you plan to live in Asahikawa?

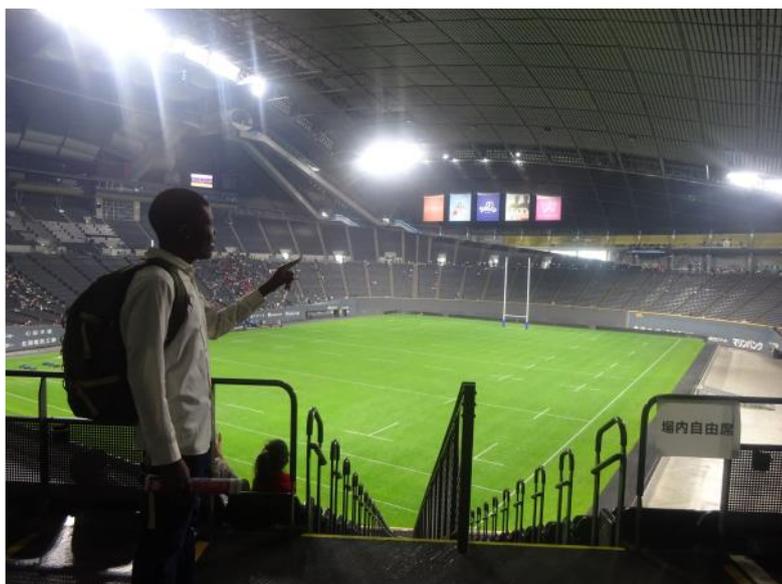
**James:** We are going to live here for... ever (*laughs*). We plan to stay here for a long time. If we go back to Malawi it will just be to visit people.

**AIC:** Do you like Karaoke?

**James:** I have never been. I like singing, so I would like to try.

**AIC:** You should definitely try it! If you like singing I think you'll have a lot of fun. I hope you enjoy your new life in Asahikawa!

**James:** Thank you for letting me do this interview with you. It was a pleasure. Thank you for letting me share about my home country. I think most people don't know much about Malawi. Many people ask me "Where is Malawi?" Once I mention Tanzania, most people have an idea of where it is. Again, it was a pleasure to have you come and interview me and know more about Malawi. Thank you!



# Explore Asahikawa!



*In this edition we interviewed Mr. Hayakawa, the owner of Italian Bar Omi. As an independent restaurant owner, he strives to create a restaurant atmosphere where customers can relax and enjoy themselves. Read more about Italian Bar Omi and Mr. Hayakawa's thoughts below!*

**AIC:** Are you from Asahikawa?

**Hayakawa:** No, I'm from Tochigi Prefecture in a city called Ashikaga in the Kanto region. It's a little north of Tokyo.



**AIC:** What brought you to Hokkaido?

**Hayakawa:** I enrolled in Tokai University in Sapporo. That was when I was 18, so about 22 years ago. After I graduated I started living in Asahikawa and I've been here ever since.

**AIC:** Did you think about becoming a chef when you were young?

**Hayakawa:** Not at all. I was in the Department of Architecture at my university and I thought I would get a job related to that after graduating, but I encountered a lot of setbacks and became worried about what to do.

**AIC:** Can you tell me about how you got started in the restaurant business?

**Hayakawa:** When I was a 4<sup>th</sup> year at university I worked as the assistant manager for a disco. We didn't serve food there and nobody knew how to make or prepare food. I thought a lot about it and decided to start learning how to cook. I was 22 at the time.

**AIC:** Where did you end up working from there?

**Hayakawa:** I didn't have a lot of luck looking for jobs. The first place that accepted me was a Chinese restaurant. I didn't think about what type of cooking I wanted to do at the time—I just knew I wanted to cook. I trained there for two and a half years and went on to learn French cuisine, and then Italian cuisine. I finally started my own restaurant when I was 28.



**AIC:** Why did you end up choosing Italian food over something else?

**Hayakawa:** There are a lot of traditional Japanese restaurants here in Asahikawa so I felt that doing something different from everyone else could be advantageous. I'm also a huge fan of pasta, which helps. Overall, I would say that Italian and French food match my personality more than Japanese food.

**AIC:** What made you want to open up your own shop?

**Hayakawa:** I had been telling my boss that my dream was to have my own shop for a while. The only problem is that when you're young, you don't have a lot of money saved up. That dream stayed a dream until my boss bought the building that my shop is now currently in. There was one vacant spot left in the building so he came to me and said, "How about starting your own shop there?" to which I replied, "Yes, I will!" It was both perfect timing and generosity that allowed me to get my foot in the door.

**AIC:** What do you like the most about your work as a chef/owner?

**Hayakawa:** We actually have another chef who works here so most of what I do now is related to managing the shop, but I help out with the cooking sometimes. One of the things I enjoy the most is seeing customers drink wine and enjoy themselves. I thought a lot about designing a restaurant that I would like to go to myself, although I have to say I still have a long road ahead of me. I have also been focusing on creating a menu with a reasonable price. If the food is too expensive, it won't match the eating habits of this generation. Working towards achieving the satisfaction of customers is both a fun and rewarding challenge for me.

**AIC:** Can you tell me a little about your menu?

**Hayakawa:** A lot of the dishes on our menu are dishes I tried and brought over from other Italian restaurants (*laughs*). We do our best to stick to the fundamentals of Italian cuisine and serve traditional dishes like *Vongole Rosso* (spaghetti with clams). Most of our ingredients are sourced in Hokkaido but we get some items like cheese from Italy. We have 6 varieties of wines, most from Italy but one from Portugal, and you can order by the glass or by the bottle to share with a friend. Many of our customers will come order wine and lightly snack on various cheeses. This is the type of casual, relaxed environment that we are striving for. Many Japanese people have trouble with the names of Italian dishes so in addition to the Italian name we give a simple description in Japanese on the side. We'll indicate if it's a sauté, a cutlet, a type of pasta, and so on. On the other end, if an Italian person looks at the menu and they see *Involtini*, they'll understand immediately. We feel like it adds an extra level of authenticity to the customer's experience. I believe things like this can help the people of Asahikawa understand more about Italian cuisine.



*Continued on Page 8*

**AIC:** What dishes are popular amongst customers?  
**Hayakawa:** Definitely the *Quatro Formaggi Pizza* (Four Cheese Pizza). We have many customers that come just to order this pizza. We also have a variety of dishes that are available in small portions that cost around ¥150 or ¥200 that are quite popular. If you only order one thing and get full, you won't be able to try the other dishes! There are some restaurants where if you get a single order of garlic toast you'll get four or five pieces. Who needs that many? (laughs) Most of the time just one or two is fine, and if you want another you should be able to just order another. A lot of customers appreciate that we do it like that because most of them enjoy trying a variety of dishes. Calculating the bill can be a bit difficult though. (laughs) If you bring ¥3,000, you'll be able to order a couple drinks, a variety of dishes, and leave satisfied.



**AIC:** Lastly, please give a message to our readers!

**Hayakawa:** I can't speak English but we have an English menu available. When you get tired of Japanese food, please give us a visit!

We would like to thank Mr. Hayakawa of Italian Bar Omi for granting us the opportunity for an interview. Thank you for reading and be sure to visit at: 4-jo-dori 7-chome 662.

## ★ *Movies ~ August* ★

\*The 1st day of every month is "Movie Day" in Asahikawa. Admission (tax included) is ¥1,100 for Adults, ¥800 for High School Students and Under at all theaters.

\*<Aeon Cinema Only> Every Monday is "Happy Monday." Admission is ¥1,100 (tax included) for all.

★ **Aeon Cinema:** Miyashita-dori 7-chome / 0166 - 74 - 6411  
 URL: [cinema.aeoncinema.com/wm/asahikawa](http://cinema.aeoncinema.com/wm/asahikawa) (Japanese)

### Now Showing

- Code Blue (Japanese)
- Bleach (Japanese)
- Mirai no Mirai (Japanese/Anime)
- Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom (English 2D, 3D)
- Pocket Monster: Minna no Monogatari (Japanese/Anime)
- Rainbow Days (Japanese) ~8/2
- Solo: A Star Wars Story (English)
- Recall (Japanese) ~8/2
- A Forest of Wool and Steel (Japanese)
- Shoplifters (Japanese/PG12)

### Coming Soon

- The Incredibles 2 (English/Anime) 8/1
- Sensei Kunshu (Japanese) 8/1
- Ao-Natsu Kimi ni Koishita 30-nichi (Japanese) 8/1
- My Hero Academia: Two Heroes (Japanese/Anime) 8/3
- Mission: Impossible - Fallout (English) 8/3
- Kamen Rider Build: Be the One, Phantom Thief Sentai Lupinranger vs Police Sentai Patranger en film (Japanese) 8/4
- Ocean's 8 (English) 8/10
- Penguin Highway (Japanese/Anime) 8/17
- Gintama 2 (Japanese) 8/17
- Killing for the Prosecution (Japanese) 8/24
- Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again (English) 8/24
- Drive Head the Movie: Tomika Hyper Rescue Mobile Emergency (Japanese/Anime) 8/24
- Sunny: Tsuyoi Kimochi Tsuyoi Ai (Japanese/PG12) 8/31
- Kasane (Japanese) 9/7
- Okasan to Issho: Hajimete no Boken (Japanese) 9/7
- The Meg (English) 9/7

Movie schedules change often. Please call the theater for confirmation and details.

## ★ Movies ~ August ★

\*<Cineplex 7 Asahikawa and Dinos Cinemas Only> Every Wednesday is “Ladies’ Day.” Admission is ¥1,100 (tax included) for women at all theaters.

\*<Dinos Cinemas Only> Every Thursday is “Men’s Day.” Admission is ¥1,100 (tax included) for men.

★ **Cineplex 7 Asahikawa:** Nagayama 12-jo 3-chome Western Powers Nagayama / 0166 – 49 – 1000

URL: <http://www.unitedcinemas.jp/asahikawa/index.html> (Japanese)

**Directions:** Take Dohoku Bus No. 66, 72 or 665 at Bus stop No. 18 in front of Feeeal Asahikawa Department Store (1-jo-dori 8-chome). Get off at “Nagayama 10 (ju)-jo 3 (san)-chome.”

### Now Showing

- Code Blue (Japanese)
- Mirai no Mirai (Japanese/Anime)
- Bleach (Japanese)
- Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom (English 2D/Japanese 2D, 4DX3D)
- Pocket Monster: Minna no Monogatari (Japanese/Anime)
- Rainbow Days (Japanese) ~8/2
- Punk Samurai Slash Down (Japanese) ~8/1
- Sore Ike! Anpanman: Kagayake! Kurun to Inochi no Hoshi (Japanese/Anime)
- Solo: A Star Wars Story (English 2D, 4DX3D/Japanese 2D, 4DX3D) ~8/2
- Shoplifters (Japanese/PG12)

### Coming Soon

- The Incredibles 2 (English/Anime) 8/1
- My Hero Academia: Two Heroes (Japanese/Anime) 8/3
- Mission: Impossible - Fallout (English 2D, 4DX) 8/3
- Kamen Rider Build: Be the One, Phantom Thief Sentai Lupinranger vs Police Sentai Patranger en film (Japanese) 8/4
- Gintama 2 (Japanese) 8/17
- HiGH & LOW The Movie (Japanese 4DX) 8/24~9/6
- Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again (English) 8/24
- Killing for the Prosecution (Japanese) 8/24
- March of the Penguins 2: The Call (English) 8/25
- Ant-Man and the Wasp (English 2D, 4DX) 8/31
- Sunny: Tsuyoi Kimochi Tsuyoi Ai (Japanese/PG12) 8/31
- The Meg (English 2D, 4DX) 9/7

★ **Dinos Cinemas:** Taisetsu-dori 5-chome / 0166 – 21 – 1218

URL: <http://cinema.sugai-dinos.jp/pc/> (Japanese)

**Directions:** Take Dohoku Bus No. 61, 62, 67 or 667 at Bus stop No. 18 in front of Feeeal Asahikawa Department Store (1-jo-dori 8-chome). Get off at “Nippon Seishi mae.”

### Now Showing

- Code Blue (Japanese)
- Bleach (Japanese)
- Rainbow Days (Japanese)
- Shoplifters (Japanese)
- Mirai no Mirai (Japanese/Anime)
- Jurassic World: Fallen Kingdom (English)
- Pocket Monster: Minna no Monogatari (Japanese/Anime)
- Solo: A Star Wars Story (English) ~8/16
- A Forest of Wool and Steel (Japanese)

### Coming Soon

- Ao-Natsu Kimi ni Koishita 30-nichi (Japanese) 8/1
- Sensei Kunshu (Japanese) 8/1
- The Incredibles 2 (English/Anime) 8/1
- Mission: Impossible - Fallout (English) 8/3
- Kamen Rider Build: Be the One, Phantom Thief Sentai Lupinranger vs Police Sentai Patranger en film (Japanese) 8/4
- Ocean's 8 (English) 8/10
- Gintama 2 (Japanese) 8/17
- The Seven Deadly Sins: Prisoners of the Sky (Japanese/Anime) 8/18
- Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again (English) 8/24
- Killing for the Prosecution (Japanese) 8/24
- Ant-Man and the Wasp (English) 8/31
- Let Me Eat Your Pancreas (Japanese/Anime) 9/1
- The Meg (English) 9/7

# Asahikawa Summer Festival!



Can you feel the heat? Grab your sunscreen because Asahikawa's annual summer festival is here! Experience three days packed full of unique events like the Fireworks Display, Citizen Dance Parade, Portable Shrine Procession, Disco Night, and more from **the 2nd (Thursday) to the 4th (Saturday)**!



Date	Time	Event	Location
8/2	18:00 to 19:30 19:45 to 20:45	Opening Ceremony Fireworks Display	Riverine Park Ishikari Riverside near Asahibashi
8/3	17:00 to 19:30 19:15 to 21:00	Citizen Dance Parade YOSAKOI Soran Night	Kaimono Koen Shopping Street 3-jo-dori 6-chome Special Stage
8/4	17:00 to 20:00 17:00 to 22:00 20:20 to 22:00	Portable Shrine Procession Rekka Summer Festival Disco Night	Kaimono Koen Shopping Street / Showa-dori Showa-dori and Tokiwa Park 3-jo-dori 6-chome Special Stage
8/2 8/3 8/4	16:00 to 22:00 14:00 to 22:00 11:00 to 22:00	Sanroku Festival	Around 3-jo-dori 6-chome

## FUN FRIDAYS

Interesting activities, such as quizzes, discussions, songs, games, handcrafts and many more, all in English! Come meet new people, relax, and relate on Fun Fridays!

**Dates:** August 10th & 24th, September 14th & 28th, October 12th & 26th

**Times:** 1:00pm-2:00pm ~Afternoon~ 2nd and 4th Friday of the month  
6:30pm-8:30pm ~Night~ 2nd Friday of the month

**Location:** Asahikawa International Center, Common Meeting Room (1)  
(Feeeal Asahikawa 7F 1-jo-dori 8-chome)

**Charge:** ¥1,500 for 3 months (Free for volunteer leaders)

The AIC offers many services to make your life in Asahikawa more enjoyable. Here are just a few:

**Volunteer Guide:** Volunteers are registered to help translate and interpret.

**Event Volunteer:** The AIC plans many exciting events throughout the year, such as Friendship Parties.  
Why not become a volunteer and help plan these events?

**Homestay:** Families are registered to welcome you into their homes for an overnight stay or just for an afternoon visit.

**For further information or to register, please contact AIC.**



The Asahikawa International Center (Feeeal Asahikawa 7F 1-jo-dori 8-chome) has free wifi available for public use free of charge. Registration for a user card is needed, if you are residing in Asahikawa. Please feel free to come by anytime, as well as check out some of the other services and activities available at the Asahikawa International Center .

## Spread the Word...

Contribute to the AIC newsletter and share any interesting information you may have with other readers. You may write on any topic including, items to buy or sell, offers for culture/language exchanges, or write an essay about your life in Asahikawa or your hometown. The article should not be profit related! Please send your submissions to us at the AIC.



Asahikawa International Committee

Asahikawa International Center Feeeal Asahikawa 7F, 1-jo-dori 8-chome, Asahikawa 070-0031

Tel: (0166) 25-7491 Fax: (0166) 23-4924

E-mail: cir\_kokusai@city.asahikawa.hokkaido.jp

**\*\*The opinions expressed in the essays are those of the writers and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Asahikawa International Committee or the City of Asahikawa.\*\***