

旭川 ASAHIKAWA Info

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Hokkaido News Top 5



November 2018
Compiled by AIC

September 28

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries announced the crop index of rice. Hokkaido obtained a "90" (normal year = 100), the lowest in the nation. It was the first time in 9 years that Hokkaido dropped below average for the September index. The low yield was caused by a lower than normal temperature in mid-June to mid-July combined with a lack of sunlight.

October 14

This fall, Hokkaido is experiencing a poor harvest of fruits and nuts, such as acorns. According to research sponsored by the Hokkaido government, the frequency of brown bears encroaching into human living areas is higher than usual. The government is urging people not to leave garbage with food waste outside, preventing easy access to food for bears.

October 16

The Japan Tourism Agency announced data for "minpaku" (an airbnb style private accommodation) usage from June 15 to the end of July. The number of guests that stayed in Japan using "minpaku" during this period was 83,238. Among those, 37,042 guests stayed in Hokkaido, making it the most popular destination. Hokkaido has the second most registered minpaku accommodations, next to Tokyo.

October 19

KYB (Kayaba System Machinery Co., Ltd), a manufacturer of seismic isolation/mitigation materials for buildings, and its subsidiary disclosed the names of 70 buildings that used or are suspected of having used substandard earthquake shock absorbers in their construction. The names include the Sapporo Sosei Square, a large complex building where the Sapporo Community Plaza and many business offices are located.

October 20

At a meeting attended by the national government and Hokkaido government concerning railway lines, JR Hokkaido proposed a plan for a fare increase around the time of the sales tax increase scheduled next year in October. The exact price increase for fares was not mentioned, but it is known that JR Hokkaido aims to increase its total revenue by 4,000,000,000 yen annually.



Inside This Issue...

For further information

or to register for events contact:

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(SUGANO Ayumi, Daniel LIZARRAGA, or
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Women in Japanese Modern Art**描かれた女たち**

The new rotating exhibition at the Hokkaido Asahikawa Museum of Art will arrive mid-September! It will focus on the female image in Japanese modern art, and will explore the motifs of “form,” “reality,” and “dreams.” The exhibition ends soon, so go see it while you can!

Date: Now – 11/7 (Wednesday)

Time: 9:30-17:00

Venue: Hokkaido Asahikawa Museum of Art

Admission: General ¥1,000, High school ¥600, Junior high and below is free

For Further Information Contact: 0166-25-2577

Notes: The museum is closed on Mondays. If a national holiday falls on a Monday, the museum will close the next day on Tuesday

**Asahikawa Fire Department Band Evacuation Training Drill Concert 119 Autumn Fair 2018****旭川消防音楽隊 避難訓練コンサート 119オータムフェア2018**

The Fire Department Band is not only putting on a performance, they are organizing special Fire Department related activities in the lobby of the Asahikawa Civic Culture Center from 13:00-16:00. They will be playing a medley of songs that celebrate the 150th anniversary of the naming of Hokkaido, including “Kita Sakaba,” “LOVE LOVE LOVE,” and more!

Date: 11/10 (Saturday)

Time: Opens 13:00, Starts 14:00

Venue: Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall, Large Hall (7-jo-dori 8-chome)

Admission: Free, but a numbered ticket is needed to enter

Ticket Office: Yamaha Music Store, Kawai Music Shop, Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall Office, Asahikawa Taisetsu Crystal Hall Office, any Fire Department or branch office within the city

For Further Information Contact: 0166-23-4556

**Asahikawa Citizen's Mandolin Ensemble 45th Regular Concert****旭川市民マンドリンアンサンブル 第45回定期演奏会**

Hear the beautiful melodies of mandolin and guitar combined and join the Asahikawa Citizen's Mandolin Ensemble for a night to remember. In three parts, you will hear music from all over the world, including: “Brazilian Samba,” “Walking in a Winter Wonderland,” “Cavalleria Rusticana,” “Mademoiselle de Paris,” “In a Persian Market,” “March of the Mandolinists,” and more! You won't get more variety in one concert!

Date: 11/10 (Saturday)

Time: Opens 18:00, Starts 18:30

Venue: Asahikawa Taisetsu Crystal Hall, Concert Hall (Kagura 3-jo 7-chome)

Admission: General ¥700

Ticket Office: Asahikawa Taisetsu Crystal Hall, Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall, Yamaha Music Store

For Further Information Contact: Matsuda at 0166-31-5808

**12th Tokyo Metropolitan Brass Quintet Asahikawa Concert****第12回 東京メトロポリタン ブラス・クインテット 旭川公演**

The Tokyo Metropolitan Brass Quintet is said to be the best brass ensemble in Japan, and they are coming to Asahikawa to play music from the famous video games series, Dragon Quest! You will be able to hear various compositions from Dragon Quest III and XI. To top it off, the main composer for the series, SUGIYAMA Koichi, will be in attendance and will be talking with the musicians about the music.

Date: 11/13 (Tuesday)

Time: Opens 18:30, Starts 19:00

Venue: Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall, Small Hall (7-jo-dori 8-chome)

Admission: General ¥2,000 (Purchase day of ¥2,500), High school and below ¥1,000

(Purchase day of ¥1,500)

Ticket Office: Asahikawa Taisetsu Crystal Hall Museum Shop, Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall Shop, Yamaha Music Shop

For Further Information Contact: 090-3111-9844



Asahikawa City Wind Orchestra 39th Regular Concert 旭川市吹奏楽団 第39回定期演奏会

Listen to “Blue Impulse March,” “Sakura no Uta” (Winner of the 22nd Asahi Musical Composition Award), “Elsa’s Procession to the Cathedral” from the opera Lohengrin, and “Symphonic Movement for Wind Orchestra” from Othello, and more!

Date: 11/17 (Saturday)
Time: Opens 18:00, Starts 18:30
Venue: Asahikawa Taisetsu Crystal Hall, Concert Hall (Kagura 3-jo 7-chome)
Admission: General ¥800
Ticket Office: Yamaha Music Store, Taisetsu Crystal Hall Museum Shop, Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall.
For Further Information Contact: 0166-46-4320



Asahikawa Symphonic Wind Orchestra 45th Regular Concert 旭川交響吹奏楽団 第45回定期演奏会

In the first half of the concert, the orchestra will perform a variety of pieces written primarily by Italian composers. The second half will feature well-known compositions so you are sure to hear some songs that you are familiar with!

Date: 11/18 (Sunday)
Time: Open 13:30, Starts 14:00
Venue: Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall, Large Hall (7-jo-dori 8-chome)
Admission: General ¥700 (Purchase day of ¥800)
Ticket Office: Yamaha Music Store, Asahikawa Taisetsu Crystal Hall Museum Shop, Coach and Four, Fukido, Junkudo
For Further Information Contact: Sato from 19:00-22:00 at 080-5595-2436



16th Trinity Concert 第16回 トリニティーコンサート

Asahikawa area high schools and junior high schools are collaborating on an incredible performance! See brass band groups, dance groups, and even a taiko drum group perform at this special event. Asahikawa Jitsugyo High School, Asahikawa Ryukoku High School, Asahikawa Higashi High School, and many other junior high schools are participating so don't miss out on this opportunity to support students in the greater Asahikawa area.

Date: 11/23 (Friday, Holiday)
Time: Opens 13:30, Starts 14:00
Venue: Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall, Large Hall (7-jo-dori 8-chome)
Admission: General ¥500, Elementary school and under is free
Ticket Office: Yamaha Music Store, Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall Shop, Gyokkodo, Coach and Four, Asahikawa Public Hall.
For Further Information Contact: 090-2695-3646
Notes: Tickets will also be offered the day of the concert at the same price



Gospel Concert 2018 Sing for Life ~You are Wonderful~ Gospel Concert 2018 Sing for Life ~あなたは素晴らしい~

The Asahikawa gospel group “Soul Expression” formed in 2004 and has been performing concerts throughout Asahikawa. Their music radiates feelings of hope and gratitude because they know that no matter how hard life gets, God will help them overcome. They brought in quite a few new members recently, so get ready for an even more exciting performance this year. To top it off, the famous gospel group “The Soulantics” will be making an appearance as well!

Date: 12/2 (Sunday)
Time: Opens 15:30, Starts 16:00
Venue: Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall, Large Hall (7-jo-dori 8-chome)
Admission: General ¥2,500 (Purchase day of ¥3,000), Junior high and below ¥1,000
Ticket Office: Coach and Four, Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall Museum Shop, Asahikawa Taisetsu Crystal Hall Museum Shop, Fukido
For Further Information Contact: 080-5725-0474



EVENTS IN ASAHIKAWA FOR NOVEMBER

Life in Asahikawa

Jack Frost is Coming

By KITAMURA Tadao

Winter is just around the corner, and November is the month when the people of Asahikawa are especially busy. They have to swap the tires on their cars for winter tires and they have to work hard in their gardens to protect their plants from hazardous cold conditions by covering them with straw mats (artificial rather than natural) propped up by thin bamboo poles and ropes.

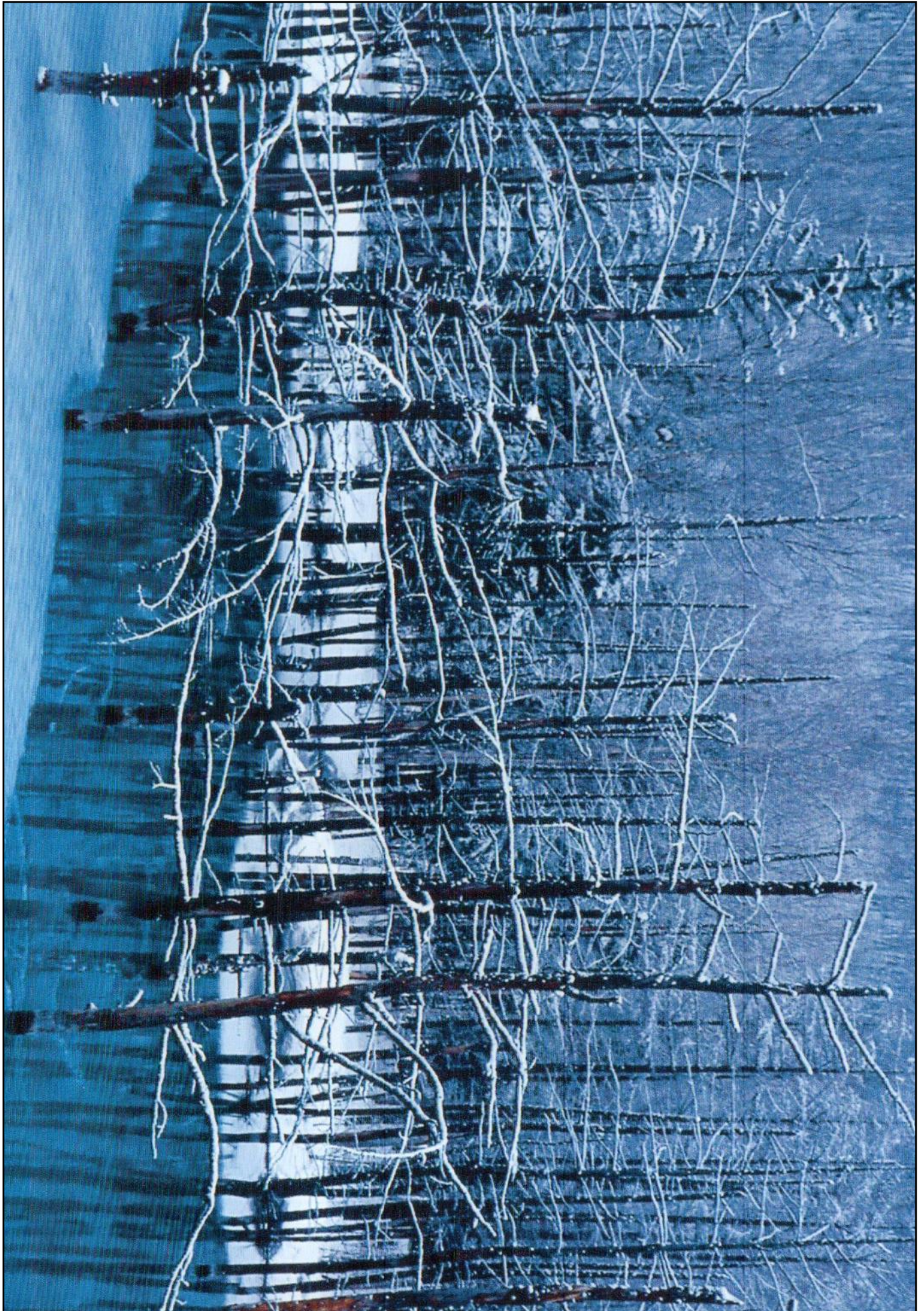
Naturally, professional gardeners are very busy in public parks or formal Japanese gardens. They conduct their winter preparations neatly and skillfully, following traditional methods passed down from long ago. You might be able to see some of the Japanese gardens after they have finished their winter preparations. Yukitsuri (雪吊り) is one method that uses straw ropes neatly and skillfully to keep pine trees protected from damage by snow stacked on the branches, and it is surely a sight to behold. Famous scenery with pine trees protected by yukitsuri can be seen in Kenroku-en Park in Kanazawa, Ishikawa prefecture.

Many people begin searching for fresh vegetables for their pickle-making before winter arrives. Pickles, tsukemono (漬物) used to be an essential food for the winter season. Vegetables were not easily obtainable during the winter several decades ago because the intranational market system was not well developed. These days, tsukemono-making is a hobby. People share their own recipes with each other and will sometimes use many kinds of vegetables, including: radishes, turnips, cabbages, Chinese cabbages, etc. They also use dried fish, such as herring, salmon, squid for flavor. There are many other ingredients that can be used as a base to pickle the vegetables, including: nukamiso (salted rice-bran paste), miso (fermented soybean paste), and koji (malted rice), etc. Go out and pick a peck of pickled vegetables and taste a traditional Japanese dish!

You might wake up one morning and see the first snow of the year, perhaps around the beginning of this month. Scenic areas lightly covered in snow showcase a different type of beauty that can't be found during the middle of winter. Shown in the picture on the following page is Aoi-ike (青い池: Blue Pond) near Shirogane Onsen (白金温泉) in November. It has become quite a popular tourist destination.

Old Man Winter is coming soon, but do not worry! Snow also brings much delight, especially around the Daisetsu-zan Mountain area where peppy young people on the slopes are already enjoying the fresh powder snow.

(photo by Minoru Kubota)





Hello Asahikawa!

Name: Wasim Abed
Home Country: Canada
Interviewed: October 17th, 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

AIC: So Wasim, what brings you to Japan?

Wasim: Well, I was originally interested in studying Japanese language and learning about Japanese culture. I studied Japanese in university as well as Japanese culture and history. After a few years of studying, I wanted to see it first hand. I decided to look for a job in Japan, and that's what brought me here the first time.

AIC: How did you get interested in Japan in the first place?

Wasim: Interesting story. I had a lot of Asian friends growing up, and one of them showed me anime for the first time. This was probably more than 20 years ago and we were watching it with Chinese subtitles so I assumed it was Chinese. I later learned that it was Japanese and started watching fansubs (unofficial translations of shows by fans). They were often pretty bad and I could tell that they weren't accurate, so I wanted to understand it for myself. I decided to study Japanese from there.

AIC: And where are you from originally?

Wasim: Montreal, Canada.

AIC: How does Asahikawa compare to Canada?

Wasim: Interestingly enough, it's very similar. Asahikawa is a smaller city, of course, but the weather is almost the same. It snows a lot in Montreal, so the weather is roughly the same in the winter.

AIC: Have you lived in other areas in Japan before?

Wasim: Yes I have.

AIC: Is there anything you like about Asahikawa compared to the rest of Japan?

Wasim: Yeah, I really like the food. Asahikawa and Hokkaido in general have really great food. I gain weight every time I come here (laughs). The ramen is great, and I love Jingsukan and the seafood. Well, I'm not a big seafood guy but I do like crab. I've also been itching to go to the Asahiya Zoo. It's such a famous place and I really want to go, but I haven't had the chance. I also like outdoors activities like hiking. I heard that Asahidake and Kurodake are famous mountainous areas near Asahikawa so I'd very much like to see them.



AIC: Is there anything you like specifically about Japan compared to Canada?

Wasim: The food of course I mentioned is fantastic. I love Japanese food. I love the restaurants that they have here, especially Izakayas. It's a type of restaurant that we don't have in Canada. You have this kind of atmosphere where you're sitting surrounded by people, drinking and having fun. It's a really nice environment.

AIC: What are some of your favorite places here?

Wasim: I haven't really been to that many. Well, I do like the mall that opened up by the station. It wasn't there when I was last here 4 years ago. I also like that there's a game center because I love game centers. The movie theater is nice because I'm off Mondays and tickets are cheaper on Mondays (laughs).

AIC: That's true! I'm jealous (laughs).

Wasim: Yeah! Works out for me very well. I love movies.

AIC: Speaking of which, what are your hobbies?

Wasim: Watching movies is one of them. I like to watch T.V. shows and dramas. I try to keep up with them, although admittedly I am very far behind by now. I also like reading comics and watching anime, but not as much as I used to. Oh, and video games.



AIC: Do you do any winter sports?

Wasim: I'm from Canada so, I used to cross country ski. The key word is "used" to. I've been living in Kanto for a long time and spent some time in Kyushu and a few other areas, but not in any areas with heavy snow. I've done ice-skating a few times. I liked ice-skating, but the ice rink that I went to was in Yokohama and it was summer so it was fantastic because it was nice and cool, but it was also incredibly crowded. You had people jumping and spinning in the common area. You're practically wearing knives on your feet, so... yeah (laughs). It was a bit frightening. I've tried snowboarding a couple times, and I like it, but it hasn't clicked so much. I want to try downhill skiing next time.

AIC: I hope you get the chance to do that while you're still here! Do you speak any other languages?

Wasim: Yes I do. I speak English, of course. I speak French because I grew up with English and French in Montreal. I also grew up speaking Arabic at home with my parents. Since before coming to Japan I've been studying Japanese, so I also speak Japanese.

AIC: Wow! You speak four languages?

Wasim: I used to speak five but I forgot all the Chinese that I learned (laughs).

AIC: So, how long do you plan to be in Asahikawa?

Wasim: I'm not really sure. It's not up to me. I'd like to stay at least until after the Ice Sculpture Competition in Asahikawa. I've seen the sculptures the last time I came here and I was stunned. There were guys with chainsaws and chisels and the sculptures went all the way up to the station. It was amazing. I took a lot of pictures and I'm looking forward to seeing that again.



Continued on Page 8

AIC: Do you like Karaoke?

Wasim: I actually love karaoke.

AIC: What kind of songs do you like to sing?

Wasim: I like to sing a variety of songs from the 80s and the 90s, and I've learned a lot of Japanese songs from friends since coming to Japan. I used to go to karaoke a lot when I first came.

AIC: Did you ever go in Canada?

Wasim: In Canada, yes I did, actually. Back in the days of the "Laser Discs."

AIC: Laser what?

Wasim: Maybe you don't know about them. So in Canada, this was back in the late 90s, we had some karaoke places run by either Chinese or Koreans. Before they had the satellite ones they do now, it was literally a guy in the front who would get your song order and find the corresponding laser disc and load it for you. Songs were often missed. It was a long time ago (laughs).



AIC: Whoa, I had no idea! That concludes our interview. Thank you so much!

Wasim: My pleasure!

★ Movies ~ November ★

*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 (Japanese)

Now Showing

- The Traveling Cat Chronicles (Japanese)
- Is the Order a Rabbit? ~Dear My Sister~ (Japanese/Anime)~11/1
- Million Dollar Man (Japanese)
- Nichi Nichi Kore Kojitsu (Japanese)
- Angel: Mienai Koibito (Japanese/PG12)
- Are You Ready? Hey You Girl! (Japanese)
- The House With a Clock in its Walls (English)
- Perfect World (Japanese)
- Anoko no Toriko (Japanese)
- Monster Strike the Movie: Sora no Kanata (Japanese/Anime)
- Chiri Tsubaki (Japanese)
- One Cut of the Dead (Japanese)
- Cafe Funiculi Funicula (Japanese)
- Waka Okami wa Shogakusei (Japanese/Anime)
- Christopher Robin (English)
- Killing for the Prosecution (Japanese)
- Gintama 2 (Japanese) 11/1
- Code Blue (Japanese)

Coming Soon

- Antiquarian Bookshop Biblia's Case Files (Japanese) 11/1
- Venom (English/PG12) 11/2
- Smartphone o Otoshita dake nanoni (Japanese) 11/2
- Run! T High School Basketball Club (Japanese) 11/3
- Bohemian Rhapsody (English) 11/9
- Shinichiro Ueda's Short Movie Collection (Japanese) 11/9~11/15
- Anohana: The Flower We Saw That Day (Japanese/Anime) 11/16~11/29
- The House Where the Mermaid Sleeps (Japanese) 11/16
- Kasan ga donna ni boku o kirai demo (Japanese) 11/16
- The Gun (Japanese/R15+) 11/17
- Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald (English) 11/23
- Family Story (Japanese) 11/23
- Neet Neet Neet (Japanese) 11/23
- Nutcracker and the Four Realms (English) 11/30
- Sergio & Sergei (English) 12/1
- It Comes (Japanese) 12/7

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

★ Movies ~ November ★

*<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

- HUGtto! Precure Futari wa Precure: All Stars Memories (Japanese/Anime)
- Oz Land (Japanese)
- Kimi no Tori wa Utaeru (Japanese)
- Hotel Transylvania 3: A Monster Vacation (Japanese/Anime)
- Detective Conan: Zero Executor (Japanese/Anime 4DX) ~11/8
- Hanalei Bay (Japanese/PG12)
- Death Wish (English/R15+)
- Onryo o Agero Tako! Nani Utatten no ka Zenzen Wakanne Nda Yo!! (Japanese)
- Uchu no Hou: Reimei-hen (Japanese/Anime)
- The Equalizer 2 (English/PG12)
- Monster Strike the Movie: Sora no Kanata (Japanese/Anime)
- Perfect World (Japanese)
- You are the Apple of My Eye (Japanese)
- Girls und Panzer: Dai 63 Kai Senshado Zenkoku Kokosei Taikai (Japanese/Anime 4DX)
- Chiri Tsubaki (Japanese)
- Cafe Funiculi Funicula (Japanese)
- Christopher Robin (English)
- Killing for the Prosecution (Japanese)
- Code Blue (Japanese)

Coming Soon

- Antiquarian Bookshop Biblia's Case Files (Japanese) 11/1
- Venom (English/PG12) 11/2
- The Last Sharknado: It's About Time (English 4DX) 11/2
- Run! T High School Basketball Club (Japanese) 11/3
- Bad Genius (Japanese/PG12) 11/9
- Bohemian Rhapsody (English) 11/9
- Uncle Drew (English) 11/9
- Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them (Japanese 4DX2D) 11/16~11/22
- Sicario: Day of the Soldado (English/PG12) 11/16
- The House Where the Mermaid Sleeps (Japanese) 11/16
- Sicario (English/R15+) 11/17
- Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald (English) 11/23
- Gangoose (Japanese/R15+) 11/23
- The Man Who Invented Christmas (English) 11/30
- Hereditary (English/PG12) 11/30
- jam (Japanese/PG12) 12/1
- It Comes (Japanese) 12/7

★ **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

- Ai Ai Gasa (Japanese)
- Papa wa Warumono Champion (Japanese) ~11/8
- Small Hero: Crab and Egg and Transparent (Japanese/Anime) ~11/2
- Non Non Biyori Vacation (Japanese/Anime)~11/2
- Uchu no Hou: Reimei-hen (Japanese/Anime)
- The Equalizer 2 (English/PG12)
- Monster Strike the Movie: Sora no Kanata (Japanese/Anime)
- Hibiki (Japanese) 11/1
- Christopher Robin (English)
- Natsume Yujincho: Utsusemi ni Musubu (Japanese/Anime)
- A Quiet Place (English)
- Killing for the Prosecution (Japanese)
- Gintama 2 (Japanese)~11/1
- Code Blue (Japanese)

Coming Soon

- Venom (English) 11/2
- Smartphone o Otoshita dake nanoni (Japanese) 11/2
- Kyokunshi (Japanese) 11/3
- Johnny English: Revenge of (English) 11/9
- Bohemian Rhapsody (English) 11/9
- Uilove (Japanese) 11/9
- Eureka Seven: High Revolution (Japanese/Anime) 11/10
- The House Where the Mermaid Sleeps (Japanese) 11/16
- Re:Zero – Starting Life in Another World (Japanese/Anime) 11/17
- Police Story: Reburn (Chinese) 11/23
- Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Gridelwald (English) 11/23
- It Comes (Japanese) 12/7
- The Grinch (English/Anime) 12/14
- Dragon Ball Super: Broly (Japanese/Anime) 12/14
- Yo-Kai Watch: Forever Friends (Japanese/Anime) 12/14

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

Creations in Wood

木をめぐる美術

Wood is one of the many precious resources we acquire from nature. The Ainu people native to Hokkaido have been using wood in countless types of crafts, tools, and furniture since long ago. The museum will celebrate the 150th anniversary of Hokkaido by opening up an exhibition of some of Hokkaido's most beautifully constructed wood creations.

Date: 11/14 (Wednesday) – 01/14 (Monday)

Time: 9:30-17:00

Venue: Hokkaido Asahikawa Museum of Art

Admission: General ¥800, University and High school

¥500, Junior High and Elementary ¥300

For Further Information Contact: 0166-25-2577

Notes: The museum is closed on Mondays. If a national holiday falls on a Monday, the museum will close the next day on Tuesday. There are discounts available for groups over 10.



Asahiyama Zoo Winter Preparations and Opening

Asahiyama Zoo will be **closing from November 4th (Sunday) to November 10th (Saturday)** to prepare for the winter season! They will be using this time to repair and maintain facilities, clean the feeding grounds, and replace exhibit signs. Be sure to take note of these closure days before you plan any trips up to the Asahiyama Zoo!

The zoo staff hopes that you will be able to enjoy the wonderful winter exhibits when they **reopen on November 11th (Sunday)**. If there is snow on the ground, you may even get to see the penguins out and about on their winter walk. That's right! Penguins will be walking around zoo ground in one of the zoo's most well attended events. It only happens two times a day, so don't miss it!

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: November 9th & 22nd (Thu.), December 14th & 28th, January 11th & 25th

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)

FUN FRIDAYS

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.

FREE Wi-Fi

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

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****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.****