

旭川 ASAHIKAWA Info

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Hokkaido News Top 5



April 2013

Compiled by TAKADA Nobuhiro

February 17

TAKANASHI Sara, a ski jumper from Shimokawa, near Nayoro, won the Women's Ski Jumping World Cup held in Slovenia. She marked her 8th victory in this season. According to the International Ski Federation, TAKANASHI is the youngest winner in the championship's history.

February 18

A 59-year-old snowmobiler from Asahikawa was found frozen to death on Mt. Teshiodake. He was one of the missing three snowmobilers who went searching for another snowmobiler who slid down a cliff. The three snowmobilers got lost on the mountain due to darkness and a snowstorm. The snowmobiler who slipped down the cliff walked down the mountain around 10:00am the same day.

March 1

The low cost carrier (LCC) Peach Aviation celebrated the first anniversary of its inaugural flight between Chitose and Kansai airports. Peach, which along with fellow LCCs Jet Star Japan and Air Asia Japan features one way standard fares under 5,000 yen, has brought a combined total of 800,000 passengers to Chitose Airport from Narita and Kansai airports in one year. Although the inexpensive fares have attracted lots of travelers, flying on time is the next challenge for LCCs to deal with.

March 4

Nine people were found dead across Hokkaido after the fierce snow storm from March 2nd to the 3rd had passed. All the victims were caught up in the storm while they were driving. A mother, her son and her two daughters died of carbon monoxide poisoning in their car stuck in a snow drift and five others got lost in the whiteout storm and froze to death after leaving their cars.

March 18

A pilot and cameraman on a motor glider were killed in a crash in the mountains near Obihiro. The plane took off from Memambetsu Airport next to Kitami a little after 9:00am on March 15th and was bound for Shikabe Air Station in southern Hokkaido. The wings and cockpit were severely damaged, and the cause of the accident is under investigation.



For further information or to register for events contact:

Asahikawa International Committee
(SASAKI Mai, Kenton KNOP, or SAITO Emmy)

Location:

International Affairs Division, Civic and Community Services Dept.

Address:

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

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Special Thanks to KAWAI Tatsuo, Proofreader & Advisor

ASAHIKAWA PUBLIC HALL REOPENING COMMEMORATIVE CONCERT 旭川市公会堂リニューアル記念コンサート

Asahikawa Public Hall, which opened in 1958, has just finished undergoing extensive renovations after half a century of operation and will celebrate its reopening with a commemorative concert featuring members from the Sapporo Symphony Orchestra. Come and help celebrate the rebirth of this Asahikawa landmark, which is sure to be a center of culture in the community for many years to come.

Date: April 3rd (Wednesday)

Time: Doors 6:00pm, Show 6:30pm

Venue: Asahikawa Public Hall (At Tokiwa Park)

Admission: Free (Tickets Required)

Ticket Offices: Gyokkodo, Yamaha Music, Taisetsu Crystal Hall, Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall

For Further Information Contact: 0166-25-7331 (Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall)



RAKUGO PERFORMANCE: SANYUTEI ENRAKU VI

六代目三遊亭円楽・独演会

The *rakugo* (traditional comedic storytelling) performer SANYUTEI Enraku VI is widely-known for his many appearances on the long-running comedy show *Shoten* (Laughing Points), where he is famous for his intellectual and irreverent brand of humor and frequent jabs at *Shoten* host KATSURA Utamaru. Don't miss this rare chance to see his signature "black-hearted character" in a solo performance here in Asahikawa.

Date: April 10th (Wednesday)

Time: Doors 6:00pm, Show 6:30pm

Venue: Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall (7-jo 9-chome)

Admission: S-Seats ¥4,000, A-Seats ¥3,500

Ticket Offices: Gyokkodo, Coach & Four, Ticket Pia, Lawson Ticket, Doshin Play Guide

For Further Information Contact: 0138-51-3339 (Seagull)



ASAHIKAWA CUP WHEELCHAIR BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

第6回旭川カップ車椅子バスケットボール全道大会

The 6th Asahikawa Cup Wheelchair Basketball Tournament promises to be an exciting event, with 7 teams from around Hokkaido clashing in two days of fierce competition, as well as 4 teams competing in exhibition matches. Come cheer on the competitors as they aim for the top!

Date: April 13th (Saturday) and 14th (Sunday)

Time: 4/13 12:30pm, 4/14 9:30am

Venue: Asahikawa Municipal Gymnasium (Hanasaki 5-chome)

Admission: Free

For Further Information: <http://asahikawacup.web.fc2.com/> (Event Executive Committee)



YOSHII KAZUYA GOOD BY TOUR 2013 LIVE SHOW

吉井和哉 TOUR 2013 GOOD BY YOSHII KAZUYA

Musician, singer and songwriter YOSHII Kazuya will come to Asahikawa as part of his 2013 solo tour. The former singer and guitarist of the influential rock band The Yellow Monkey, YOSHII has built up an impressive solo career. Although he first began his solo career in 2003 using the stage name "Yoshii Lovinson," he has performed using his real name since 2006 and is well-known for his flamboyant stage presence.

Date: April 14th (Sunday)

Time: Doors 5:00pm, Show 5:30pm

Venue: Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall (7-jo 9-chome)

Admission: All Seats: ¥6,800

Ticket Offices: Lawson Ticket, Ticket Pia, E+ (E-plus)

For Further Information Contact: 011-211-5600 (Mount Alive)



MURATA NORIAKI PIANO RECITAL

村田憲秋 ピアノリサイタル

Asahikawa-born piano teacher and nature photographer MURATA Noriaki is holding his first-ever recital at Taisetsu Crystal Hall for everyone to enjoy. Pieces to be performed include selections from classical works such as Tchaikovsky's *The Seasons* and Chopin's *Minute Waltz*.

Date: April 14th (Sunday)

Time: Doors 1:30pm, Show 2:00pm

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

Admission: All Seats: ¥1,000

Ticket Offices: Taisetsu Crystal Hall, Yamaha Music, Kawai Showroom

For Tickets and Further Information Contact: 0166-32-2400 (MURATA Piano School)



KAWANAKA MIYUKI CONCERT ~ PERSON, SONG, HEART

川中美幸コンサート~人・うた・心

KAWANAKA Miyuki, a star of the *enka* (Japanese popular ballads) world, radio personality and a regular performer on NHK's yearly *Kohaku Uta Gassen* (Red-White Song Contest), is known for her hit songs such as *Futari-zake* (Drinking Together) and *Nirin-so* (Anemone). KAWANAKA will come to Asahikawa as part of her "Person, Song, Heart" tour, where she is sure to please fans with her warm personality and singing talent.

Date: April 17th (Wednesday)

Time: Afternoon Show: 2:00pm, Evening Show: 6:30pm

Venue: Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall (7-jo 9-chome)

Admission: S-Seats: ¥6,500, A-Seats: ¥6,000

Ticket Offices: Gyokkodo, Coach & Four, Lawson Ticket, Ticket Pia

For Further Information Contact: 011-261-9991 (Trust Planning Create)



65TH ASAHIKAWA BROADCAST CHOIR PERIODICAL CONCERT

旭川放送合唱団・第65回定期演奏会

The Asahikawa Broadcast Choir, which is celebrating the 68th anniversary of its founding this year, will hold its yearly concert at Taisetsu Crystal Hall. The first half of the concert features beloved songs made famous by SAKAMOTO Kyu and the choral suite *Chikyu Banzai* (Hooray for Earth!) The second half, themed "Songs of the Heart," consists of works by famous poets such as NAKAHARA Chuya and YAGI Jukichi set to music.

Date: April 21st (Sunday)

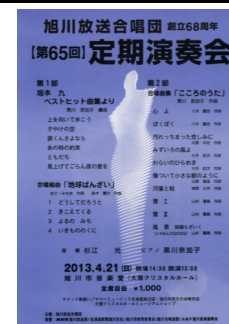
Time: Doors 2:30pm, Show 3:00pm

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

Admission: All Seats: ¥1,000

Ticket Offices: Yamaha Music, Civic Culture Hall, Taisetsu Crystal Hall

For Further Information Contact: 0166-55-3540 (YAMAGUCHI)



SAPPORO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: AKIRA'S MODERN CONCERT IN ASAHIKAWA

札幌交響楽団旭川公演・アキラさんのモダンコンサートin旭川

MIYAGAWA Akira, musician and composer of hit songs such as "Matsuken Samba No. 2" as well as lead performer on NHK's children's music show *Quintet*, will join the Sapporo Symphony Orchestra as guest conductor for an evening of great music. The first part of the program features a piano concerto with pieces such as Joplin's *The Entertainer*, and the second part will present modern favorites including the theme from the landmark animated series *Space Battleship Yamato*.

Date: April 26th (Friday)

Time: Show 6:30pm

Venue: Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall (7-jo 9-chome)

Admission: General: ¥3,000, High School Students and Younger: ¥1,000

Ticket Offices: Civic Culture Hall, Taisetsu Crystal Hall, Kawai Showroom, Yamaha Music, Ticket Pia, Sapporo Symphony Online Ticket

For Further Information Contact: 0166-25-7331 (Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall)



EVENTS IN ASAHIKAWA FOR APRIL



Hello Asahikawa!

Name: Evan Agnew

Hometown: Nelson, New Zealand

Interviewed: February 25th, 2013 by AIC

AIC: *Please tell us about where you're from.*

Evan : I'm from a town called Nelson in New Zealand, which is on the top of the south island. It's a very spread-out, very old town. During the gold rush it was very populous during the 1800s. It's not a very big town, with about 40-50 thousand people spread out over a large area. It's got everything you need though. As far as size goes, it's probably about the same size as Asahikawa for land, but there aren't as many buildings and it's not as populated. It's got the small-town feel because it's so spread-out, and you constantly see the same people around. It's very café-oriented and has lots of art. We used to have the World of Wearable Art there, which is basically a fashion show of wearable art, but it moved to Wellington, the capital of New Zealand, a few years ago. Most of the tourist places around Nelson are pretty much adventure tourism, like hiking and whitewater rafting. There are a lot of rivers, and actually it feels quite similar to Hokkaido, with lots of hills and greenery. There are a lot of farms, vineyards, and orchards, where they grow apples and a lot of grapes as well. Most of the wines made there come from the Marlborough region at a place called Blenheim, which is about 45 minutes' drive from Nelson. There they produce a brand called Montana, which has a lot of white wines which are world-famous. They've won a lot of awards in Europe for their white wines. They also brew a lot of organic beer in Nelson, so the city is very popular for that too. The city gets the most days of sun in New Zealand. It's not the hottest place in New Zealand, but we get the most days of sun, so it's called "Sunny Nelson."

AIC: *What brought you here to Asahikawa?*

Evan : My wife, actually. We weren't married when we moved here. I lived in Australia for about six years, and I met her about three years into that. I had gone back to New Zealand for a few months and came back to Australia with no real intention of coming back or staying permanently. I was staying at a backpackers hostel and we met, and we moved out of the backpackers hostel and into a place with some other people, and eventually got our own place. We've been together for about four years, and about one year ago we decided to move here. We got married six months ago.

AIC: *What have been your impressions of Asahikawa so far?*

Evan : Well, I came here a couple years ago for a holiday. That was during the summer. It was very hot. Obviously, coming from Australia, Australia is a very hot place as well, but it was a different type of heat. Where I was living in Australia was on the Gold Coast, where everybody walks around in singlets and board shorts and flip-flops. We lived right on the beach. I could have thrown a stone and it would have landed in the water. We lived in a big high-rise apartment building, like a beach resort, so we had a swimming pool, spa pool, sauna, tennis court and all that sort of thing. It was really nice. But most people, if not shirtless, walk around in a just pair of shorts, so you can deal with the heat a lot better, as opposed to here, where a majority of people wear shoes, trousers and a shirt. So, dealing with the heat is a little more difficult when you're all clothed-up. You don't want to look inappropriate walking the streets in a singlet and a pair of shorts, especially when you already stand out being a foreigner. So that was a bit different, and obviously the culture is very different, so it was really interesting to come here and see the different types of food, the different people. Just the way people live here is very different. The hospitality is amazing compared to most other countries. I liked the place when I came here, and we did a little bit of the touristy things like we went to Asahiyama Zoo and Biei, and went to Date Jidai-mura, which isn't in Asahikawa, but was really cool. They do shows with ninja and samurai. We went up to the hot springs and that was pretty cool. But then we moved here in the middle of winter, so again that was a real shock, coming from 30-degree heat in the middle of summer in Australia to -10 to -15 temperatures. But I was just looking forward to snowboarding. I'd never lived in a place with so much snow, so for me it was an experience. I'd like to experience as much as possible in my life, so the chance to live in a foreign country with a foreign language, a different culture, different food, and a different climate appealed to me.

Interview Continued on Next Page



Evan Agnew Interview Part Two

AIC: *Is there a favorite food you've discovered since you came here?*

Evan : I like all sorts. Soba, especially cold soba, with lots of wasabi. Sushi as well. My wife's father makes really good barbeque pork, so I could eat a lot of that.

AIC: *How did you first get interested in Japan?*

Evan : Actually, when I was young I practiced karate. My father is actually an instructor, so he's been doing karate for about 26 years. So I was exposed to that aspect of Japan when I was very young, and, you know, most kids are into ninja and samurai and things like that. So there were a lot of things about Japan I really liked, and I thought were really cool. And obviously I practiced karate as well. We used to speak in Japanese, all of our moves were referred to by their Japanese names, and we would also count in Japanese. So I could count to ten in Japanese since I was five years old and knew different Japanese words. But I never had any intention of living in Japan. I liked Japanese cartoons like Dragon Ball Z, things like that. I liked the cartoons, not so much now, but they're still cool. Sometimes people buy me little toys, like ones of Spongebob Squarepants, and I'll put them in my classroom for a bit of fun.

AIC: *What kind of work do you do?*

Evan : I teach English at E.M.A. English. Before I left Australia I initially had a job lined up here. I'm a dual citizen and have both a New Zealand and a United Kingdom passport. Because I was living in Australia I had to apply through New Zealand for my working holiday visa and had to send my passport to my mother in New Zealand, who then applied for the visa on my behalf. Unfortunately, when it came to the financial aspect, I sent them a bank statement and they forgot to take into consideration the currency exchange rate between Australian and New Zealand dollars, so they thought I didn't have enough money. Because it was going through my mother to them, the process was slowed down, so by the time I was ready to leave, my New Zealand passport was still in New Zealand, therefore I had to leave Australia on my United Kingdom passport and had to arrive in Japan on my United Kingdom passport on a holiday visa. That gave me 90 days in the country, but I was not allowed to work. Therefore I had to call up the company and tell them I couldn't legally start working. Eventually we got it all sorted in New Zealand, and they posted my New Zealand passport with my working holiday visa in it to me which then allowed me to work. By this time the company had already filled the position and I couldn't take the job. In hindsight, doing what I'm doing now, I actually feel that I'm in a better position now than I would have been if I had taken that job. So that was the situation, but speaking to another English teacher in Asahikawa, he actually gave me some really good information and talked me into just working for myself, working as a private English teacher. So I went around to a few of the student-teacher matching websites, and slowly but surely starting getting students through word-of-mouth, friends and family, and built a group of students who I'm currently teaching. Obviously as a teacher you need to know what you're talking about, but to get students, to get people through the door to come to trial lessons and so on is probably the most difficult part as far as the whole business aspect of it goes. So knowing people helps get students through the door, and then knowing your contents, knowing how to speak English and knowing how to teach effectively, that's what keeps the students. It was a little bit of a headache when I first arrived, and it cost me a lot more money than I thought it would because I couldn't start working. But looking back on it, it was a good experience; it made me mentally stronger.

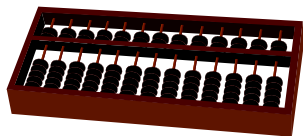
AIC: *What are your future plans?*

Evan : We're actually looking at staying in Japan. I have no immediate intention to move, or to leave Japan. We're looking at buying a house and starting a family, so I'd like to stay in Japan. I just started Japanese lessons and will have my first lesson next week.

AIC: *Thank you for your time, Evan! We wish you the best in the future!*

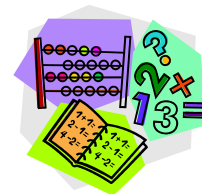
Evan : You're welcome!

Culture Corner



Soroban

By: Kenton KNOP



Have you ever found yourself in the situation where after enjoying dinner together with friends and it's time to pay, the restaurant refuses to split the check? At this point, nearly everyone takes out their phones to calculate how much each person owes, but what if you were able to figure all of that out in your head, and much faster than using a calculator too? You don't have to be a mathematics genius either; if you can add and subtract simple numbers and know your multiplication tables, that is all the math ability you need. How is this possible? The answer lies in a calculation tool which has ties dating back to antiquity: the Japanese abacus, or *soroban*.

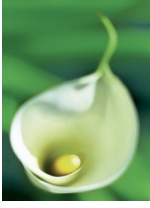
The history of the abacus stretches back thousands of years to the ancient civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece and Rome. The abacus first took its familiar form in China in the year 1371, and is thought to have been introduced to Japan in 1444 by visiting merchants. The modern *soroban* consists of a rectangular frame with several wooden rods set inside, each having a fixed number of wooden beads carved in a diamond shape which are free to slide along the rod. This format was derived from the Chinese abacus, which is largely the same design but has a different number of round-shaped beads. The rods are each divided into an upper and lower part. The upper part, with one bead that has a value of five, and the lower part, which has four beads that each have a value of one, can be combined to represent values ranging from zero to nine. Each rod then represents a single "digit," and depending on the total number of rods on the *soroban*, numbers of great magnitude can be displayed.

Performing operations on the *soroban* is very simple. To add a number, you simply push the corresponding number of beads toward the divider in the center and push them back to the outer side of the frame to subtract. Similar to written arithmetic, if you have two numbers that exceed ten, you "carry the one" over to the next rod. Multiplication consists of multiplying the individual digits making up the numbers in one's head and then adding the products to one another on the *soroban* to get the final result. Division is performed in the opposite way by using multiplication and subtracting the products from one another.

The *soroban* is indeed a useful tool to have on hand for performing calculations, but its real value comes from not using one at all. Through consistent practice with an actual *soroban*, students eventually become able to visualize one in their minds which they can use to make lightning-fast calculations. There are few other activities which can develop such an incredible facility with numbers, and it is for this reason that many parents enroll their children in *soroban* schools from an early age. The League of Japan Abacus Associations specifically promotes *soroban* study for building not only number sense, but also creativity, concentration and determination. The League holds national competitions each year and the most popular event is one involving mental calculation called "Flash *Anzan*." This event involves flashing a series of numbers on a screen, which the competitors must then quickly process to produce an answer. The fastest competitors process the numbers so quickly that they end up with the correct answer but have no memory of the numbers they calculated.

The notable benefits of working with *soroban* have led to growing popularity overseas, and there are now several countries across the world that are introducing it in their schools to boost students' confidence using numbers. It isn't too late to start learning either, as there are now classrooms and instructional books aimed toward those who are already out of school. Even with calculators now standard on every mobile phone, being able to do simple calculations on one's own saves time and makes for good mental exercise. Using a *soroban* is one of the easiest and most fun ways to build those vital skills, so why not give it a try? With some practice, you might even find yourself volunteering to calculate what everyone owes when out with friends!

Life in Japan



Flower Language By: KAWAI Tatsuo

In Japan, much attention is given to flowers and the meanings that have come to be associated with them. When you give someone flowers, be careful not to give ones that send the wrong message.

- Agapanthus (紫君子蘭 *Murasaki Kunshiran*)
Flower of love
- Ageratum (霍香薊 *Kakkoazami*)
Everlasting youth
- Agrimony (金水引 *Kimmizuhiki*)
Gratitude to one's parents
- Allium (白馬浅葱 *Shirouma-Asatsuki*)
Justified assertion
- Amaranth (アマランス *Amaransu*)
Dressed up; stylist
- Anemone (秋牡丹 *Akibotan*)
Diminishing love
- Anthurium (紅団扇 *Beniuchiwa*)
Passion
- Apple Blossom (林檎の花 *Ringo-no-hana*)
Honor and fame (friend's promotion)
- Aster (アスター *Asuta*)
Love to believe
- Baby's Breath (霞草 *Kasumiso*)
Innocence
- Blue Star (かがいも *Kagaimo*)
Blessing for the bride
- Bouvardia (寒丁字 *Kanchoji*)
Gratitude, disagreement (two contradictory flower languages)
- Burnet (吾木香 *Waremoko*)
Variety
- Calla (オランダ海芋 *Oranda-kaiu*)
Respectable virgin
- Caceolaria (巾着草 *Kinchakuso*)
Assistance
- Camellia (椿 *Tsubaki*)
Ideal love (In Japan, it is disliked because it looks like a Samurai's death when it falls)
- Carnation (カーネーション *Kaneshon*)
Beauty of mass meeting (originated from coronation)
- Cattleya (カトレア *Katorea*)
Graceful woman
- Chinese Bellflower (桔梗 *Kikyo*)
Eternal love
- Chinese Red Bud (花蘇芳 *Hanazuo*)
Betrayal (cannot be sent to a close friend)
- Christmas Rose (クリスマスローズ *Kurisumasu rozu*)
I am a ninja
- Clematis (鉄線花 *Tessenka*)
Noble-mindedness
- Corn-flower (矢車菊 *Yaguruma-giku*)
Elegance; delicate feeling
- Cosmos (コスモス *Kosumosu*)
Longing for
- Crimson Rose (クリムソンローズ *Kurimuson rozu*)
I'm in love with you
- Dendrobium (デンドロビウム *Dendorobiumu*)
Selfish beautiful lady
- Eucharis Amazon Lily (ユーチャリス アマゾン百合 *Yucharisu Amazon yuri*)
Pure heart
- Freesia (フリージア *Furijia*)
Innocent, naive

Hello Wild Flowers

Wandering Among The Wildflowers Around Asahikawa

By: Hitoshi KUDOH

Frau und Herr Waltz are showing around Mr Aoi the still-snow-patched suburb of Basel. They walk through the woods that are still without foliage.

“Gucken Sie mal! Es gibt hier viele Wald-Gelbsterne!” says Frau Waltz to Mr Aoi.

“Wie bitte? Let me see,” responds Mr Aoi quickly and peers at one of the flowers. “Oh! It’s Kibanano-Amana, which means a sweet vegetable of yellow flowers. We have them back in Asahikawa, too. Indeed! What a happy coincidence! A great colony of them!”

“Meine Frau macht eine gute Gemüsesuppe aus diesen Zwiebeln. Es ist sehr lecker,” says Herr Waltz. “Genau. Die sind süß und gut. Probieren Sie mal heute Abend im Heim,” adds Frau. “Da bin ich aber sehr gespannt. Usually we don’t pick up their bulbs, for the sake of preservation, in Japan. We gather only upper parts, so it’ll be my first time, you know,” smiles Mr Aoi happily.

KIBANANO-AMANA (黄花甘菜) *Gagea lutea* Family: Liliaceae

Common name: Yellow Star-of-Bethlehem

Description: A spring ephemeral, bulbous, perennial. It shoots and blooms in April before trees make up a canopy. It has a basal leaf, 10~20cm. The leaf and bracts are bluish green. Tepals are yellow inside and greenish outside.

Actinomorphic 3 tepals double to a perianth of 6 tepals like a star.



Water Colour Painting of a
Kibanano-Amana
By Hitoshi KUDOH



Movies ~ April



*Every Wednesday is "Ladies' Day." Admission is ¥1,000 (tax included) for women at all theaters.

*<Dinos Cinemas Only> Every Thursday is "Men's Day." Admission is ¥1,000 (tax included) for men.

*The 1st day of every month is "Movie Day" in Asahikawa. Admission (tax included) is ¥1,000 for Adults, ¥800 for Senior High School Students and Under at all theaters.

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

URL: <http://www.kadokawa-cineplex.co.jp/asahikawa/> (Japanese)

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

Now Showing

- A Good Day to Die Hard (English) until 4/5
- Flight (English) until 4/5
- Strawberry Night (Japanese) until 4/5
- Bachelorette (English) 15+
- Oz: The Great and Powerful (English/Japanese Dub 3D)
- Doraemon: Nobita no Himitsu Dogu Hakubutsukan (Japanese/Animation)
- Platina Data (Japanese)
- Precure All-Stars New Stage 2 Kokoro no Tomodachi (Japanese/Animation)
- Jack the Giant Slayer (English/Japanese Dub 3D)
- Wreck-It Ralph (Japanese Dub/Animation)
- Daijyobu 3-kumi (Japanese)
- Bokutachi no Kokan Nikki (Japanese)
- Dragon Ball Z: Battle of Gods (Japanese/Animation)

Coming Soon

- Chinese Zodiac (English/Japanese Dub) 4/13
- Fune wo Amu (Japanese) 4/13
- Hana Kappa ~ Hana Sake! Pakkan Cho no Kuni no Daiboken (Japanese/Animation) 4/12
- Lincoln (English) 4/19
- Steins;Gate Fuka Ryoiki no Deja Vu (Japanese/Animation) 4/19
- Detective Conan: Private Eye in the Distant Sea (Japanese/Animation) 4/20
- Crayon Shinchan: Bakauma! B-kyu Gourmet Survival! (Japanese/Animation) 4/20
- Iron Man 3 (English) 4/26
- Wara no Tate (Japanese) 4/26
- Super Hero Taisen Z (Japanese) 4/27
- Library Wars (Japanese) 4/27

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

URL: http://www.geodinos.jp/cinema/asa_schedule.php?StoreID=5 (Japanese)

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

Now Showing

- No-Otoko (Japanese) until 4/12
- Flight (English) until 4/12
- Django Unchained (English) 15+ until 4/12
- Oz: The Great and Powerful (English/Japanese Dub 3D)
- Cloud Atlas (English) until 4/12
- Platina Data (Japanese)
- Himawari to Koinu no Nanoka-kan (Japanese)
- The Man Who Became King (Korean/Japanese Sub) until 4/5
- Jack the Giant Slayer (English/Japanese 3D)
- Aibo X Day (Japanese)
- Bokutachi no Kokan Nikki (Japanese)
- Wreck-It Ralph (English/Animation)
- Dragon Ball Z: Battle of Gods (Japanese/Animation)

Coming Soon

- Vehicle 19 (English) 4/6
- Fune wo Amu (Japanese) 4/13
- Lincoln (English) 4/19
- Detective Conan: Private Eye in the Distant Sea (Japanese/Animation) 4/20
- Wara no Tate (Japanese) 4/26
- Jackie Cogan (English) 4/26
- The Last Stand (English) 4/27
- Library Wars (Japanese) 4/27
- Super Hero Taisen Z (Japanese) 4/27
- Tantei wa Bar ni Iru 2 (Japanese) 5/11
- Kuroyuri Danchi (Japanese) 5/18
- Kuchizuke (Japanese) 5/25
- Oblivion (English) 5/31

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

Become an AIC Volunteer!

Are you currently living in the Asahikawa area and interested in being a part of Asahikawa's international community? If so, apply to become an AIC volunteer! We have many different ways to participate that can fit any schedule, such as being a volunteer guide, volunteer staff member at the Asahikawa International Center front counter, or even a homestay volunteer. Japanese ability is helpful, but not required! Come help share Asahikawa with the world as an AIC volunteer!

For more details, please visit us or contact us at:

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



American Corner - Jazz Month

April is **Jazz Appreciation Month** at the Asahikawa International Center **American Corner!** Everyone is invited to check out our music selection, which contains several **jazz masterpieces** from **Miles Davis** and **John Coltrane** on CD. In addition, we also have the entire **documentary series Jazz** by **Ken Burns** available on DVD for viewing in the center. If you are looking to get a better understanding of this influential and fascinating musical form, this is the perfect place to start!

Fun Fridays

Leaders coordinate a variety of interesting activities such as games, discussions, introductions, and quizzes. Meet new people, relax, relate, and communicate through English.

Dates: April 12th, May 10th, June 14th

Time: 1:00 ~ 3:00pm & 6:50 ~ 8:50pm, 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.

Center Computers: The Asahikawa International Center (Feeeal Asahikawa 7F 1-jo-dori 8-chome) has two computers available for public use free of charge. There is a time limit for use and prior registration is necessary. Please feel free to come by and use it 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, International Affairs Division
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.****