

旭川 ASAHIKAWA Info

September 2011 VOL. 178



Hokkaido News Top 5



September 2011

Compiled by TAKADA Nobuhiro

July 24

28 elementary and junior high school students from Minami Soma in Fukushima Prefecture have arrived in Asahikawa and Higashikagura to spend their summer vacation in Hokkaido. Minami Soma is one of the cities which has been affected by March 11th disaster and nuclear accident. According to the Kamikawa Branch Office of Hokkaido Government, more than 400 students from the affected areas in Tohoku are planning to spend the summer in the Kamikawa region.

July 28

Three people were killed and one injured in a crash of a Civil Aviation College aircraft in the mountains around Memuro, near Obihiro. The surviving trainee was found walking down a path. Two instructors and one trainee were killed in the accident. The plane took off from Obihiro airport at 9:11 am for a training flight.

July 30

It was announced today that Sapporo and Obihiro will be connected by an expressway by October. The Eastern Hokkaido Expressway, between Yubari Interchange and Shimukappu Interchange, will be open to public on October 29th. It will take about three hours from Sapporo to Obihiro using the expressway.

August 2

Hokkaido University has opened its office in Seoul in the hope of attracting international students. This is the second overseas office alongside the one in Beijing which was opened in 2006. Emeritus Professor Akira Suzuki, last year's Nobel laureate for chemistry, gave a commemorative speech to mark the opening.

August 18

The Number Three Reactor at Tomari Nuclear Power Plant has become the first to resume operations since the March 11th disaster. The Governor of Hokkaido, Harumi Takahashi, has given official approval for the resumption of commercial operations after its five-month test-run and final inspection by Nuclear and Industrial Safety Agency.



For further information or to register for events contact:

Asahikawa International Committee
(SASAKI Mai, Sergej NESIC, 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

Inside This Issue...

Hokkaido News Top 5 <i>By TAKADA Nobuhiro</i>	1	Life in Asahikawa "Autumn" <i>By KITAMURA Tadao</i>	7
Upcoming Events	2-3	Hello Wildflowers "Hime-Miogisuisen" <i>By Hitoshi KUDOH</i>	8
Hello Asahikawa "Lynda Addo" <i>Interviewed by AIC</i>	4-5	Movies	9
Asahikawa Nights "Night View if Asahikawa" <i>By SAKURABA Satoshi</i>	6	Bulletin Board	10

Special Thanks to KAWAI Tatsuo
Proofreader & Advisor

ISHIWAKI MIEKO MODERN BALLET STUDIO RECITAL

石脇美恵子モダンバレエスタジオ 発表会

The recital by this popular ballet studio will be comprised of three acts. The first act will include Vivaldi's "Four Seasons (Spring and Autumn)," "Polka," and others. The second act will include music from the movie and Broadway musical "Sister Act." The third act will include images of spring.

Date: September 4th (Sunday)

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

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

Admission: General ¥1,000

For further information contact: 66-0677 (Studio)



CHAGALL, PASCIN, & ECOLE DE PARIS ARTISTS EXHIBITION

シャガール、パスキンとエコール・ド・パリの綺羅星たち

Marc Chagall and Jules Pascin were members of the 1920's art movement named "Ecole de Paris" (School of Paris) which also included Picasso. They painted in the styles of Post-Impressionism, Cubism, and Fauvism. The movement was made up of young non-French painters who came to the "The City of Light" in the early 20th century attracted by the city's exciting arts scene. The exhibited works are part of the Sapporo Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art's collection and also include works by other Ecole de Paris artists.

Date: September 16th (Friday) to November 13th (Sunday)

Time: 9:30am~5:00pm (last entry 4:30pm) Museum is closed on Mondays.

Venue: Hokkaido Asahikawa Museum of Art (Tokiwa Park)

Admission: General ¥800(* for groups of over 10 people ¥600) University & High School Students ¥500(* ¥400.) Junior High & Elementary School Students Free.

Ticket Office: Hokkaido Asahikawa Museum of Art

For further information contact: 25-2577 (Hokkaido Asahikawa Museum of Art)



FUNAKOSHI YASUTAKE & FUNAKOSHI KATSURA'S EXHIBITION "QUIET POETRY"

舟越保武・舟越桂「静かな詩」展示会

A collection of bronze, marble, and sandstone sculptures by these two artists taken from the NAKAHARA Tejiro Museum prize-winners collection, Sapporo's Mori Arts Museum, and Hokkaido Asahikawa Arts Museum.

Date: Now ~ October 16th (Sunday)

Times: 9:00am ~ 5:00pm (Last entry 4:30pm)

Closed Mondays (or the Tuesday after a Monday holiday)

Venue: NAKAHARA Tejiro Memorial Sculpture Museum (Shunko 5-jo 7-chome)

Admission: General ¥300, High School Students ¥200, Junior High School Students and Under Free

For further information contact: 52-0033 (NAKAHARA Tejiro Memorial Sculpture Museum)



ATCBB 60th ANNIVERSARY "2011 BARBER & BEAUTY FESTIVAL"

旭川理容美容専門学校60周年記念「理容&美容フェスティバル」

The barber and beauty festival is organized by the Asahikawa Technical College of Barber Beauty. This year's festival will be comprised of four parts and will feature as special guest "CanCam" professional model, MAIKAWA Aiku. The first part will be a skills contest by first year students, the second part will be a hair show by second year students, the third part will be a "Beauty Talk" by MAIKAWA, and fourth part will be the award ceremony.

Date: September 18th (Sunday)

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

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

Admission: Free

For further information contact: 22-1331 (ATCBB)



7th ANNUAL TOKYO METROPOLITAN BRASS QUINTET'S ASAHIKAWA CONCERT

第7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 are Tokyo Symphony Orchestra's top brass players, and also recognized as the finest brass musicians in the country. Affectionately known as the "Kinkangojuso" (Brass Quintet) it is made up of TAKAHASHI Osamu on trumpet, NAKAYAMA Takashi on trumpet, SAIJO Takato on horn, ODAGIRI Hiroyuki on trombone, and SATO Kiyoshi on tuba. The first part of the concert will feature music by Tchaikovsky (Nutcracker) and the second part, as always, will feature music from SUGIYAMA Koichi's "Dragon Quest" which will include narration by SUGIYAMA.

Date: September 20th (Tuesday)

Time: Doors 6:30pm, Show 7:00pm

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

Admission: General ¥2,000 (¥2,500 at the door), High School Students & Under ¥1,000 (¥1,500 at the door)

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

For further information: 25-8825 (MIZUNO)



16th ANNUAL "NOSTALGIC MUSIC" CONCERT

第16回 望郷の鐘コンサート

This year's concert will feature school songs from the Showa Period written by KOSEKI Yuji. Performers will include GOROBE Teshiro on tenor and KUROKAWA Nakako on piano. They will be joined by AMP Chorus Choir and accompanied by MURAI Sachiko on piano and KOMURA Keiko on electric organ.

Date: September 11th (Sunday)

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

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

Admission: General ¥1,000

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

For further information contact: 62-2785 (TONAMI), 55-3540 (YAMAGUCHI)



ASAHIKAWA TOEI HIGH SCHOOL'S 19th ANNUAL PERIODICAL CONCERT

北海道旭川東栄高等学校吹奏部 「第19回定期演奏会」

This year's regular brass performance will include "Sergey Montage," "Houou (Phoenix)," "Pirates of the Caribbean," a prelude to "Tokeidai no Kane (The Clock Tower Bell,) and many more.

Date: September 22nd (Thursday)

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

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

Admission: General ¥1,500

Ticket Office: Gyokkodo, Asahikawa Yamaha Music Store

For further information contact: 080-2873-7700 (Brass Music Section)



ASAHIKAWA MINAMI HIGH SCHOOL BRASS BAND'S 3rd ANNUAL REGULAR CONCERT

旭川南高校吹奏部 「第3回定期演奏会」

This year's performance will consist of two parts. The first part will include "Kagayaki no Umi e (Towards the Bright Sea)," "Last Letter From Murdoch," and more. The second part will include "JIN-Main Title," "Dixie on Parade," plus more.

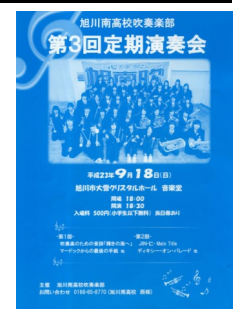
Date: September 18th (Sunday)

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

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

Admission: General ¥500 (available at the door)

For further information contact: 65-8770 (Minami High School)



EVENTS IN ASAHIKAWA FOR SEPTEMBER



Hello Asahikawa!

Name: Lynda Addo

Hometown: Accra, Ghana

Interviewed: 2nd August, 2011

By AIC

AIC: *What do you do here in Asahikawa?*

Lynda: I am a student of the Asahikawa Medical College. I'm studying Molecular Medicine and I hope to graduate with a Ph.D. in that field with Haematology as my major.

AIC: *Why did you choose to do your Ph.D. course at Asahikawa Medical College?*

Lynda: Actually, I'm on a Japanese government scholarship. The Monbu-kagakusho (Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, "MEXT") Scholarship. I was very keen to pursue further studies but, unfortunately, that's very expensive back home in Ghana. I saw an advertisement in a Ghanaian newspaper for applications to study in Japan, and I applied. Fortunately I was successful, so here I am. I am one of only three successful applicants from Ghana. There's one at Kochi University and the other is at Tokyo University.

AIC: *How long have you been in Asahikawa?*

Lynda: I arrived in April of this year. Even though it's been barely three months, I already really love it here. The course is for a total of five years.

AIC: *How well are you getting used to life here?*

Lynda: In the beginning it was somewhat difficult. Primarily, I had difficulties with the food, but looking back at it now I'm so surprised that I had these problems. I've quickly grown to love Japanese food. The real difficult problem was the weather. As you know the winter here in Asahikawa is very cold and extreme, but I guess it's just something I'll have to get used to. The people here are so friendly and helpful that I've managed to adjust very quickly and I couldn't be happier.

AIC: *What kind of food did initially have problems with?*

Lynda: Miso soup. At first it tasted very different and strange, but like I said with time I grew to love it! *Natto* (fermented soy beans) though is something I still find difficult to enjoy. I've tried it once and I'm quite sure that I won't be trying it again. Though I've heard it's very healthy and does take time getting used to, so I'll say "never say never." I have no problems with other Japanese dishes, including *Sushi* and *Sashimi*. Back home in Ghana I had certain reservations about Sushi and raw seafood in general, but I surprised myself at how easily I took to it. I loved it from the time I tried it. It was squid sashimi.

AIC: *How is Japanese food different to Ghanaian food?*

Lynda: Here in Japan the people's diet seems to be made up of mainly rice and vegetables. In Ghana; however, our diet is mainly carbohydrates based. Vegetables are very expensive in Ghana, so we only occasionally eat them.

Continued on Page 5

Continued from Page 4

AIC: *Tell us a little bit about your hometown.*

Lynda: Both of my parents come from eastern Ghana, but I was born in Accra, the nation's capital city. I've only visited my parents' home town twice in my whole life. Accra, geographically is rather small compared to other regional cities. However, it is the most densely populated city in Ghana. The way the system is structured in Ghana all the major domestic and international institutions are concentrated in the capital, Accra. All the foreign embassies, universities, the biggest hotels, restaurants, and so on, are located in the city. Therefore, people migrate to Accra from all over Ghana. This is somewhat of a national problem, as more and more people are leaving rural and regional areas to move to Accra. This is creating great population pressure on Accra, especially on the outskirts of the city. The suburban area is very different to the city center. Recently, oil has been discovered in Ghana, so there are many foreign investors rushing into Accra. The western region of Accra, where the oil has been found, is developing rapidly with new hotels, shopping centers, universities, etc. springing up.

AIC: *What did you do back home?*

Lynda: I studied science in junior and senior high school, and later entered the University of Ghana from which I graduated in Biomedical Science. Upon the completion of my studies I gained employment at the university as a research assistant. I worked there for two years before coming to Japan.

AIC: *Was it difficult to enter University of Ghana?*

Lynda: If you pass high school with good grades it's relatively easy to enter. I didn't have any problems in entering the university. However, it is very competitive as there are very few universities in Ghana. Also, there are more and more private universities being opened, but the tuition fees are very high, meaning that they are out of reach for most Ghanaians. There are three main public universities in Ghana and the rest are private. Tuition fees at the public universities are much lower than that of private ones, but if a student's grades aren't sufficient to enter a public university they can enter as a full-fee paying student. Naturally, these fees are very high and are charged in US dollars.

AIC: *Which places have you visited in Japan so far?*

Lynda: I haven't traveled outside of Hokkaido yet, as I'm very busy with studies. The most interesting places I've visited thus far are Furano and The Asahiyama Zoo. However, on my summer break I'll be participating in "Japan Tent" in Kanazawa, Ishikawa Prefecture. I'll be doing a six-day homestay with a local family. I'm really looking forward to it, though I'm a little bit nervous as I don't know what their expectations are regarding my Japanese. I love languages, I've studied French and German, so I thought that I'd have it easy with Japanese. However, it's turned out to be more difficult than I thought. I'm sure with regular studying I'll get better over time. I can already read and write Hiragana and Katakana.

AIC: *What are your plans for the future?*

Lynda: During my time in Japan I wish to build on my career by attending international conferences, engage with other researchers, and ultimately publish my own work in foreign journals. I'm already working on my first manuscript. It should be ready for publishing by the end of this year. When I return home I will continue my work at the University of Ghana where I'll be promoted to lecturer. The opportunity I've been given to study at the Asahikawa Medical College is so important in fulfilling this goal. It's always been my dream to contribute to specialized education in Ghana and I'm very excited about the future.

AIC: *Well, thank you very much for your time, Lynda.*

Lynda: You're welcome.

Asahikawa Nights

The Night View of Asahikawa

By **SAKURABA Satoshi**

I love enjoying a night view against a starlit sky. I believe that viewing the lights is a great way to relieve stress. Needless to say, the characteristics of night views vary with each location.

For instance, the night view of Hakodate, which is one of the most famous views in Japan, is typified by the lights following the shape of the land. In Sapporo there are an enormous number of lit up buildings, street lighting, and so on. In Asahikawa there are a moderate number of lights to grace the night view. However, they are very well-balanced with a starlit sky. Among other viewing attractions, I guess the lights on bridges of Asahikawa are particularly attractive.

Every year, I return to Asahikawa during Obon (the Festival of Souls), and I always look forward to gazing the night view from the rooftop of my relative's house. Since there is an appropriate amount of lighting, each stands out. What gives the night view its unique brilliance is the lighting located alongside bridges.

As you might already be aware, a number of rivers run through Asahikawa, with hundreds of bridges crossing them. Therefore, the lighting on the bridges is one of the characteristics of Asahikawa.

When cars pass over the bridges their spotlights also add to the night view spectacle. As I'm unable to enjoy these views in Sapporo, experiencing the night view of Asahikawa is my favorite pastime. Without enjoying a night view of Asahikawa I may not be in a mood to resume working when I get back to Sapporo.

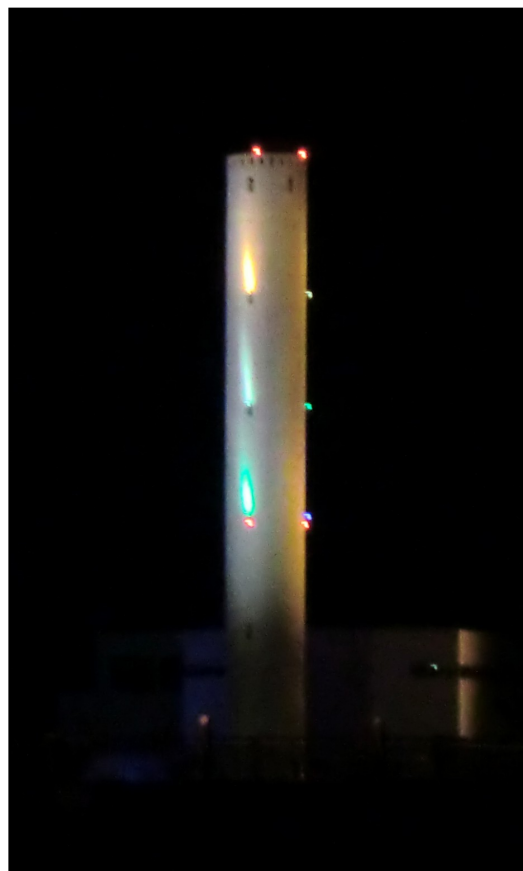
As I mentioned, Asahikawa's night view is "well-balanced." That is, the night view is concordant with the starlit sky. Although the night view in Sapporo is characterized by the amount of the lighting, Asahikawa's night view can be enjoyed each light at a time. I tried locating the Perseid Meteor Shower from the rooftop, and while I was able to enjoy a night sky full of stars I couldn't see any shooting stars (I stared up for so long that my neck began to ache).

Asahikawa is also appropriate for star gazing.

You can enjoy the night view of Asahikawa while also enjoying a star filled night sky. I strongly recommend that you too experience the joy of viewing

these night scenes of Asahikawa! (However, please be careful not to catch a cold).

Incidentally, one of my favorite night views is of the "Chikabumi garbage disposal facility." Although it's a "garbage disposal facility," the facility's tower is illuminated with changing colors.



*Chikabumi Garbage Disposal Facility
(Saturday, 13th August)*

Life In Asahikawa

AUTUMN

By *KITAMURA Tadao*

September 23rd is the Autumnal Equinox Day. During September, remnants of summer still linger in most places in the Japanese archipelago. However, here in Asahikawa during this month the air of autumn heralding the onset of winter can be surely felt.

You might have heard of a Japanese idiomatic prose expressing the pleasantness of autumn: “the season when horses fatten under a high and clear sky.”

Referring to this, an American writer Jack Seward puckishly puts forward a question through the lips of one of the characters in his story. “Why the Japanese would prize obesity in their

horses? Surely they did not eat them.” I am not sure too, why it is a good season for horses to fatten. However, I think this prose expresses a farmer’s pleasure in the harvest season and he would say “the sky is clear and my horses are healthy, my harvesting work won’t be a problem, so the crop should be bountiful.”

Anyway, September in Asahikawa is visually beautiful and pleasant. The tinted scenery of autumn is what the people here are particularly proud of. We even don’t hesitate to claim that it is the best in the world.

People say that abundant solar energy here,

with sharp changes in air temperature in the mountains, causes bio-chemical reactions inside of plants so active that color substances in their leaves become very prominent.

Mountain tinting begins first on the hill-sides of the Taisetsu Mountain Range in around the middle of September; you’ll be amazed seeing brilliantly colored leaves of alpine plants such as JIMUKADE, *Harrimanella stellerriana*, URA-

SHIMA-TSUTSUJI, *Arctous alpinus*, and CHINGURUMA, *Geum pentapetalm*, which all contrast the green of creeping pines. Later in the month, surrounding hills of KOGEN-ONSEN and GIN-SENDAI, as well as the highlands beyond SOUNKYO spa become a paradise of colors, as the various rowan family plants, such as *Sorbus sambucifolia* and *S.matsumurana*,



Arashiyama in September

join in the beauty contest.

Later on, the autumnal tinting moves down to villages, towns and finally arrives in Asahikawa around mid-October. Then, you will be enchanted with beautifully colored leaves on rows of NANAKAMADO (*Sorbs commixta*, or Mountain Ash) trees that grace the roadsides. Colored maples, cherries, birches, and poplars are also fantastic. The English name for ICHO, *Ginkgo biloba*, is ‘Maidenhair tree’; and what a wonderful naming it is for this charming tree! Also, larch forests throughout the suburbs of Asahikawa begin to show off their golden radiance before they are fully covered with snow.

Hello Wild Flowers

WANDERING AMONG THE WILDFLOWERS AROUND ASAHIKAWA BY Hitoshi KUDOH

“Thanks for having given me a ride,” says the man whom I’ve met on the mountaintop. “Don’t mention it. If you were in your country France, you’d do the same thing,” replying so, I pull over my car along the river. “Let’s have a break around here. We can have a fresh air and a scenery.”

“Oh, you have a great colony of montbretia in common with other countries!” says he. “Yes, you can say that again. These plants are native to South Africa, aren’t they.” I agree.

“That reminds me of two Afrikaner teachers I met in Switzerland last year. They had been traveling because their school had been off during the world football tournament taking place in their city,” he recollects, “On the way, they denied the notorious APARTHEID saying they had never discriminated nor slaved nor exploited any Bantustans. Saying they had treated any races fairly.” He goes on, “It is regrettable educators distort history. At the same time, it implies the grave misery the oppressed suffered. These burning scarlet flowers might indicate the heartrending cry of the aborigines toward the outer world.”

HIME-HIOGISUISEN (姫檜扇水仙)

Crocosmia lucifer family Iridaceae

Common name: Montbretia, Coppertips;

Description: Herbaceous perennial of monocotyledon. Run away horticultural hybrid to the wild native of South African species. Vigorous, clump-forming, corm-rooted plant spreads mainly by means of stolons. Corms form vertical chains with the youngest at the top and oldest and largest buried deeply. Stems are stiff and erect, usually branched in the upper part. Leaves are parallel-veined, sword-shaped linear, alternate and 5-20mm wide.

The orange flowers, 25-55mm long, are borne in horizontal to spreading, 2-sided spikes. The corolla is tubed below but has 6 lobes in the upper half. 6 petal-like tepals recurve to outwards. Each tepal has a guide mark on its inner base. All 3 stamens face down. The protruding style is tri-forked at the apex. Whole corolla is shed except the style, and a fruit appears. The 3-parted dehiscent capsule splits to scatter seeds.

Habitat: Woodland, hedgerows, waste ground, abandoned cultivation, river and lake margins.

Distribution: Widely naturalized all over the world.



Watercolour painting of Montbretia
By Hitoshi KUDOH



Movies ~ September



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

*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 Marui Imai Department Store (1-jo-dori 8-chome). Get off at "Nagayama 10 (ju)-jo 3 (san)-chome."

Now Showing

- Usagi Dropp (Japanese)
- Nichirin no Isan (Japanese)
- Kamisama no Karute (Japanese)
- Transformers - Dark of the Moon (English 3D)
- Naruto - Blood Prison (Japanese/Animation)
- Cars 2 (English/Animation)
- Cars 2 (Japanese/Animation 3D)
- Kokurikozaka (Japanese/Animation)
- Pokemon - Best Wishes & Bikutoni To Kuroki Eiyu (Japanese/Animation)
- Kung-Fu Panda 2 (Japanese/Animation 3D)
- Kamen Rider - Woderful/ Gokaija (Japanese)
- Shanghai (English)
- Tantei Bar Ni Iru (Japanese)

Coming Soon

- The Smurfs (Japanese/Animation 3D)
- The Smurfs (English/Animation 3D)
- Winnie The Pooh (English/Animation)
- Green Lantern (English)
- Sanctum (English)
- Battle: Los Angeles (English)
- The Answer (Japanese)

★ **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 Marui Imai Department Store (1-jo-dori 8-chome). Get off at "Nippon Seishi mae."

Now Showing

- Kochi Kame (Japanese)
- Basara – The Last Party (Japanese/Animation)
- Transformers - Dark of the Moon (English 3D)
- Naruto - Blood Prison (Japanese/Animation)
- Cars 2 (English/Animation)
- Rock - Wanko No Shima (Japanese)
- Nintama Rantarō (Japanese)
- Piranha (English 3D)
- The Tree of Life (English)
- Harry Potter & The Deathly Hallows Pt.2 (English)
- Kokurikozaka (Japanese/Animation)
- Kung-Fu Panda 2 (Japanese/Animation 3D)
- Kamen Rider - Woderful/ Gokaija (Japanese)
- Life (English)

Coming Soon

- Tantei Bar Ni Iru (Japanese)
- Full Metal Alchemist (Japanese/Animation)
- Battle: Los Angeles (English)
- The Answer (Japanese)
- Moteki (Japanese)
- Bokutachi wa Sekai wo Kaerukoto ga Dekimasen(We Can't Change the World) (Japanese)
- The Smurfs (Japanese/Animation 3D)
- The Smurfs (English/Animation 3D)

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

Opening of the Asahikawa International Center

Located in the Feeeal Asahikawa complex this new center will serve as the base of international activity in the city and the region. Offering various facilities and services to locals and foreign visitors alike the Asahikawa International Center promises further multicultural awareness and regional internationalization. Over the weekend of the center's opening an international booth plaza will be set up with countries from Australia to Latvia represented. Come and be part of this historic event.

Date: September 17th (Saturday) thru 19th (Monday)

Time: 10:30am ~ 5:00pm

Place: Asahikawa Feeeal 7th Floor (1-jo 8-chome)

Regular Operating Hours as of September 20th:

10:00am ~ 7:00pm

For further information contact AIC: 25-7491



Fun Fridays

AIC Book Collection

If you have unwanted new or second-hand books in languages other than Japanese, the AIC would love to place them in our AIC book corner.

To donate contact AIC.

Tel: 25-7491

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

Dates: Summer Session: July 8th, August 12th, September 9th

Time: 1:00 ~ 3:00pm & 6:30 ~ 8:30pm, 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)

To register contact AIC.

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 has many exciting events planned for this year, including Friendship Parties and a Halloween Party. 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.

AIC Computer:

The AIC has a computer available for public use free of charge in the International Corner (6-jo-dori 10-chome). There is a time limit for use. 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 AIC.

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.****