

# 旭川 ASAHIKAWA Info

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## Hokkaido News Top 5



June 2013

Compiled by TAKADA Nobuhiro

### April 23

The total number of passengers flying with low cost-carriers (LCCs) arriving at and departing from New Chitose Airport reached one million passengers at the beginning of April since Peach Aviation began service to Kansai Airport in March 2012, said the airport office. About 40 percent of passengers on the Kansai, Nagoya and Narita routes now take flights operated by LCCs. They have contributed to promoting tourism in Hokkaido by stimulating new demand and gaining repeat visitors.

### April 28

“The 32nd Lake Toya Long-run Fireworks Display” began at the edge of Lake Toya at a hot spring resort. This year, about 450 fireworks will be shot off every night between 8:45pm and 9:05pm until the end of October. The fireworks show has been held every year from spring to fall to attract tourists since 1982, five years after a volcanic eruption at nearby Mt. Usu.

### April 29

A seventeen-year-old high school girl in Sapporo has become a neighborhood association board member. IJIMA Yuka, the youngest board member of the “Kitano Makiba” neighborhood association, is appointed to the post responsible for the sound upbringing of youth and is expected to host ten events a year and write a column for a community newsletter. In Hokkaido, middle-aged and elderly citizens make up almost all of the board members, and it is unusual for high school students to join the board.

### May 3

Three Hokkaido-based ramen shop chains plan to expand business in Southeast Asian countries instead of China, Hong Kong and Taiwan, where running ramen shops has been highly competitive. The ramen shop chains Ramen Santoka, Baikoken and Mutsumiya are going to open at least 12 ramen shops in total in the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia and Indonesia by 2015. Owners of the chains have an eye on those countries where the number of factories and offices of Japanese manufacturers are on the increase and the income level in the area has been rising.

### May 11

Officers from Sapporo Chuo Police Station arrested a 45-year-old woman in Otaru on charges of stealing a golden craftwork worth 5.3 million yen. She turned herself in to the police and confessed that she had stolen a golden Buddhist ritual article called “Orin” displayed in a sale and exhibition of craftworks made of gold in the Sapporo Mitsukoshi Department Store on May 2nd. “Orin” is a small bell shaped like a bowl which a Buddhist monk rings while reciting sutras.



**ASAHIKAWA  
INTERNATIONAL  
COMMITTEE**

**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

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Special Thanks to KAWAI Tatsuo, Proofreader & Advisor

## AN EVENING OF TRADITIONAL ENTERTAINMENTS

## 寄席普及公演

This evening of *rakugo* (traditional comedic storytelling), paper-cutting art and acrobatics is meant to expose the traditional entertainment arts to new audiences. Featured performer HAYASHIYA Shozo is notable for being the first 3rd-generation star in *rakugo* history. Paper-cutting artist HAYASHIYA Shoraku will delight audiences with his intricate designs, and the KAGAMI Senzaburo Acrobatics Troupe is sure to provide plenty of thrills with their tremendous feats of skill and dexterity.

**Date:** June 5th (Wednesday)

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

**Venue:** Takasu Melody Hall (Takasu Minami 2-jo 4-chome)

**Admission:** All Seats: ¥2,500

**Ticket Offices:** Gyokkodo, Takasu Melody Hall, Yamaha Music, Taisetsu Crystal Hall

**For Further Information Contact:** 0166-87-2500 (Takasu Melody Hall)



## THE NEWSPAPER IN HOKKAIDO

## ザ・ニューズペーパー社会風刺コント集団 in 北海道

Question: Where can you find Prime Minister Abe, President Obama, and several other prominent politicians and celebrities all in one place? Answer: In The Newspaper! Get ready to see them and many others when social satire comedy group The Newspaper comes to Asahikawa to perform their trademark brand of current events humor. Formed in 1988, the group specializes in skits, songs and impersonations making fun of politics and society.

**Date:** June 7th (Friday)

**Time:** 6:30pm

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

**Admission:** All Seats: ¥4,500

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

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



## ROBERT HONEYSUCKER BARITONE CONCERT

## ロバート・ハニーサッカークー バリトンコンサート

Internationally-acclaimed opera and concert singer Robert Honeysucker is coming for his first-ever performance in Asahikawa. Singing a wide range of pieces from classical works such as Mozart's *The Magic Flute* to spirituals, his performance in collaboration with pianist YASUDA Noriko and special guest Asahikawa-based soprano singer TSURUTA Reiko is certain to delight music fans.

**Date:** June 11th (Tuesday)

**Time:** 7:00pm

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

**Admission:** General: ¥2,000, High School Students and Under: ¥1,500 (+¥500 on 6/11)

**Ticket Offices:** Yamaha Music, Taisetsu Crystal Hall, KUMAGAI Mie Music School

**For Further Information Contact:** 27-3203 (Event Committee-KUMAGAI)



## 2013 ASAHIKAWA FLOWER FESTIVAL

## 花フェスタ 2013 旭川

The Asahikawa Flower Festival will help welcome summer to the city with a variety of beautiful flower and plant displays both inside and around Taisetsu Arena. Some of the highlights include a flower wedding show and spectacular displays crafted by area flower associations. Be sure to bring a camera to capture all the colors of the season in Asahikawa's largest yearly flower event.

**Date:** June 12th (Wednesday) to June 16th (Sunday)

**Time:** 9:00am~5:00pm (10:00am~ on 6/12)

**Venue:** Asahikawa Taisetsu Arena (Kagura 4-jo 7-1-52)

**Admission:** Free

**For Further Information Contact:** 0166-24-5285 (Flower Festival Promotion Committee)



## KIKI GOSPEL LIVE HOKKAIDO TOUR 2013 KEEP ON PRAYING KIKI GOSPEL LIVE 北海道ツアー2013 KEEP ON PRAYING～祈り続けて～

One of Japan's foremost gospel singers and choir directors, KiKi and her band of all-star performers will come to Takasu Melody Hall as part of her 2013 Hokkaido tour. Audiences around Japan have been inspired by her remarkable musicality and touching messages of hope and persistence. Don't miss this uplifting event, which also includes local gospel choir group Crystal of Joy in a joint performance.

**Date:** June 13th (Thursday)  
**Time:** Doors 6:30pm, Show 7:00pm  
**Venue:** Takasu Melody Hall (Takasu Minami 2-jo 4-chome)  
**Admission:** Advance: ¥3,500, On 6/13: ¥4,000  
**Ticket Offices:** Gyokkodo, Taisetsu Crystal Hall, Yamaha Music, Takasu Melody Hall  
**For Further Information Contact:** 011-272-2221 (Applause)



## CHICK COREA & STANLEY CLARKE DUET チック・コリア & スタンリー・クラーク DUET

Two giants of modern jazz, pianist Chick Corea and bassist Stanley Clarke first joined forces in 1971 on the legendary jazz fusion band Return to Forever. Now, they are teaming up again to bring their incredible talents to Asahikawa. Since first playing at Taisetsu Crystal Hall nearly 20 years ago, Corea has held Asahikawa in a special place in his heart and this show marks his fifth performance here. This dream collaboration is something all jazz fans can't afford to miss!

**Date:** June 18th (Tuesday)  
**Time:** Doors 6:00pm, Show 7:00pm  
**Venue:** Asahikawa Taisetsu Crystal Hall (Kagura 3-jo 7-chome)  
**Admission:** General: ¥7,000, Students/Disabled Persons: ¥5,000 (+¥1,000 on 6/18)  
**Ticket Offices:** Gyokkodo, Taisetsu Crystal Hall, Coach & Four Asahikawa, Yamaha Music  
**For Further Information Contact:** 0166-22-3567 (Jazz Month in Asahikawa)



## J&Y LIVE TOUR 2013 ACOUSTIC JAZZ DUO 岩見淳三 & YAYOI

Jazz guitarist IWAMI Junzo has earned his reputation as one of the top guitarists of the jazz world through playing with several famous bands such as HARA Nobuo's Sharps & Flats and now is a regular performer with the Malta Jazz Big Band. He is accompanied by talented jazz vocalist YAYOI, and together they have made it their goal to put on live performances of their signature acoustic jazz sound for audiences all over Japan.

**Date:** June 18th (Tuesday)  
**Time:** Doors 6:30pm, Show 7:00pm  
**Venue:** Takasago Sake Brewery (Miyashita-dori 17-chome)  
**Admission:** ¥2,000  
**For Further Information and Tickets Contact:** 23-225 (YAMAZAKI - Takasago Sake)



## 29TH ANNUAL ASAHIKAWA WIND ORCHESTRA POPS CONCERT—NEW SOUNDS IN BRASS 2013 第29回旭吹ポップス・コンサート～NEW SOUNDS IN BRASS 2013

Founded in 1979 and led by conductor IWAI Naohiro, the Asahikawa Wind Orchestra is one of the city's main musical institutions. Their program for this year titled "New Sounds in Brass" includes the theme from the original TV *Star Trek* series, and several jazz/Latin standards such as "Take the A-Train," "Copacabana" and "Miami Beach Rumba." This evening of fun and energetic music will leave you tapping your feet all the way home.

**Date:** June 29th (Saturday)  
**Time:** Doors 6:00pm, Show 6:30pm  
**Venue:** Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall (7-jo 9-chome)  
**Admission:** General ¥800, Students (High School and Younger) ¥500 (+¥200 on 6/29)  
**Ticket Offices:** Yamaha Music, Civic Culture Hall, Taisetsu Crystal Hall  
**For Further Information Contact:** 46-4342 (Asahikawa Wind Orchestra)



EVENTS IN ASAHIKAWA FOR JUNE



# Hello Asahikawa!

**Name: Laura Nixon**

**Hometown: Durban, South Africa**

**Interviewed: May 15th, 2013 by AIC**

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

**Laura :** I am originally from a very hot, sticky African city called Durban, which is on the east coast of South Africa. I am here with my South African husband, Ross. We've been here for about 2 years. Durban is the most African of the three major cities of South Africa. It has a very large Indian population and a very large African population. It's beautiful and like I said, hot and sticky. It has a beautiful ocean and coastline. A famous Durban icon is the newly-built Moses Mabhida Stadium. With the FIFA World Cup that happened in 2010, the city embarked on a huge project to overhaul the city's beachfronts, which were a bit run-down. With the FIFA World Cup our city got a facelift, and is now really beautiful. We have fantastic promenades that run for about 5-10 kilometers up and down the coast that are very famous. So there are the promenades, the beaches, and Moses Mabhida Stadium. And then we have the largest shopping mall in the southern hemisphere called "Gateway." I think it's about 1.2 kilometers long, and has 2 or 3 stories. It used to have its own wave pool, but I think they've closed that now. We've got a really beautiful city hall. South Africa was once a colony of England, and so our old business center, the Central Business District or CBD as we call it, has a lot of beautiful art-deco buildings that are world-famous. Unfortunately they have fallen into some disrepair, but we've got some really beautiful art-deco architecture, and we've got some incredibly beautiful old British-style buildings that house our courts, city hall and things like that.

**AIC:** *What brought you here to Asahikawa?*

**Laura :** In South Africa, both of us decided that we needed a change. We had both been slugging away at our jobs, and we had an opportunity to do the JET (Japan Exchange and Teaching) Program, which kind of came up. We applied and didn't think we would get in, but both of us were short-listed and we got in. We got sent to Hokkaido and Asahikawa was where we were placed, so that's how we found ourselves here.

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

**Laura :** Asahikawa is incredibly different with the environment and the way the city is laid out. The four seasons are incredibly stark here. In Durban we mostly have just two seasons: one that is extraordinarily hot, and another with temperatures that are okay. We mostly have those two seasons without much variation between them. The different seasons here have been wonderful to experience. During the winter season my husband and I picked up snowboarding, though my husband is much better at it than I am. I still really enjoy living in a place that snows and having the opportunity to snowboard in such fantastic conditions. Also, it sounds strange, and people from first-world countries probably would think I'm crazy, but just the fact of public transport being safe and effective and clean to some degree is really novel to us. It's fantastic that we can get around the city very easily by hopping on a bus or train to get where we need to be. It's really been good. And soup curry! Soup curry is great. I love soup curry! I suppose there are many places that are very different from South Africa, but I'd say Hokkaido is probably one of the most starkly different places. The language, the people, the culture are incredibly different from South Africa, which is quite like a sunny, direct, hardy kind of culture, really quite similar to Australian culture. South Africans are quite tough, hardy people. They have to work hard for everything that they get, and are quite pragmatic and very practical. Everything with them is very direct.

**Continued on the Next Page**



## Laura Nixon Interview Part Two

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

**Laura :** I've always wanted to travel and I did a degree in politics and then did a law degree. After I did my law degree I did the requisite internship program of two years at a law firm. Then I completed that, wrote my exam and got admitted as an attorney. Just then I thought that I'm never really going to get the opportunity to travel if I don't make it a priority. I was about to get married to Ross, and we just thought it would be great to do our first year of marriage traveling and figuring things out for ourselves. But we wanted to at least get some experience like working somewhere. Financially, it would just make more sense to do a kind of working holiday, and so we looked around at different programs and the JET Program and thought "Well, Japan is really different, let's try that. We'll just give it a bash and see if we get in." We actually didn't know much about Japan and only started to know anything about Japan during the application process when we started reading more and getting more interested in what was going to be our potential home. So I kind of feel a little embarrassed because there are people who have life-long dreams about living in Japan, and we were just like "Oh, let's go to Japan. That sounds different." But then we made the trip, and now we're here.

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

**Laura :** Ross and I are both JET ALTs (Assistant Language Teachers), which means that we frequent high schools in the area. I'm based at Asahikawa Commercial High School, but I visit about five or six other schools. I'm lucky to have a varied visiting schedule because I visit high schools, but I also get to visit *yogo* schools, schools for people with disabilities. So that's been an incredible experience, and I've been so impressed by the teachers of those schools and the facilities they have available to those people and their level of care and kindness. I do think it's quite a unique ALT placement. I think it could be quite tough for some people, but it's been a really good growing experience for me having to work with those kinds of schools and I've learned a lot. The kids really are incredible and I'm so impressed with them. I visit Asahikawa Rogakko, which is a school for the hearing-impaired, and I was just so impressed by the teachers there. Some of the kids there have better English than some of my high school classes. They are able to sign out *hiragana* and *katakana*. They also learn *kanji* and actually learn English through *katakana*, but their vocabulary and ability to communicate is fantastic. I wish I could take some of my other students to see them communicate and realize how despite the obstacles and challenges that they have, that it is possible to be motivated.

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

**Laura :** I think that we will make our way home in the next few years, but for now I think we just want to enjoy Asahikawa. There's a lovely ALT community here and our Japanese is terrible, but it is growing, so we are able to engage more with local people more often, which has been great. So we just really want to enjoy the last year or so that we have in Asahikawa.

**AIC:** *Thank you for your time, Laura!*

**Laura :** You're welcome!

# Looking Towards the Future

## Co-operative Type Small-Scale Multifunctional Institute

By: Mrs. KOBAYASHI Ikuko,  
Member of Hokkaido Prefectural Assembly  
English Translation By: KAWAI Tatsuo

The small-scale multifunctional nursing care which has three functions of “commute,” “stay,” and “visit,” serves not only aged persons but also persons with disabilities and/or children. The institute is aimed at adding diversified services to meet the region’s needs, tying up with other facilities or institutes, and realizing mutual support in the “aspect” of the region.



# Local Literature

## MIYAZAWA Kenji and Asahikawa By: Kenton Knop

The poet, author, and supporter of agricultural causes MIYAZAWA Kenji (1896-1933) is best known for his beloved children’s stories such as *Ginga Tetsudo no Yoru* (Night on the Galactic Railway) and his influential poem *Ame ni mo Makezu* (Not Defeated by the Rain). However, it was not until after his death that most of his works were published and his talent as an author at last widely recognized.

In 1923, while working as a teacher at Hanamaki Agricultural High School in Iwate, MIYAZAWA traveled to the northern island of Karafuto (now Sakhalin) to help one of his former students with finding work. During his journey his train stopped in Asahikawa on August 2nd around 5am. With some free time until his noon train to Wakkanai, MIYAZAWA hired a horse-drawn wagon and went into the city in search of the Hokkaido Agricultural Experimentation Grounds said to be at 6-jo 13-chome. However, he was not aware that the agricultural grounds had actually been moved to Nagayama in 1904, with the Asahikawa Junior High School (now Asahikawa Higashi High School) standing in its place. One might imagine MIYAZAWA feeling disappointed at not finding what he was looking for, but he left behind a cheerful poem titled *Asahikawa* that reflects upon his short time in the city and his pleasant ride to the school grounds. In honor of the 100th anniversary of Higashi High School’s founding and the 80th anniversary of MIYAZAWA’s visit, a memorial plaque was unveiled at an anniversary ceremony on August 2nd, 2003. The plaque is engraved with the poem *Asahikawa* in the style of the author’s handwriting and greets visitors at the school’s front gate. The following is a translation of the plaque.

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## Local Literature

MIYAZAWA Kenji and Asahikawa  
Part TwoMIYAZAWA Kenji Memorial Plaque  
Outside Higashi High School

Asahikawa.

MIYAZAWA Kenji

The enjoyment of riding this kind of colonial-style  
wagon alone early in the morning.

“Please go to the agricultural experimentation  
grounds.”

“It’s at 6-jo 13-chome.”

The bells on the horse ring, the driver grunts.

My black blanket flaps; it already feels like the  
October winds are here.

A group of mounted soldiers leading a line of horses

By chance, these horses are Hackneys

Their manes sway like fire

The pleasantness of the vibration of the cart

My black blanket has slipped off

This small, nimble horse must pull harder

From the early morning I drive it through the town

It will surely attain supreme happiness in the next  
world

As I now turn onto 6-jo

Oh! Larches, larches and then trembling green  
poplars

Coming here, there is a row of majestic official  
residences in the colonial style and  
Asahikawa Middle School

With a roof of yellow and red stripes

Who wouldn’t want to have a truly gypsy-like  
wagon like this one?

Two people on horseback come this way

Although the sky is cold and white

This person smiles, showing white teeth.

Babylon willows, plantains and Dutch clover.

All of them are heavy with cold morning dew.

旭川。

宮沢賢治

植民地風のこんな小馬車に *Shokuminchi-fu no konna kobasha ni*

朝はやくひとり乗ることのたのしさ *Asa hayaku hitori noru koto no tanoshisa*

「農事試験場まで行って下さい。」 *「Noji shikenjo made itte kudasai.」*

「六条の十三丁目だ。」 *「Rokujo no jusancho me da.」*

馬の鈴は鳴り馭者は口を鳴らす。

*Uma no suzu wa nari gyosha wa kuchi wo narasu.*

黒布はゆれるしまるで十月の風だ。

*Kuronuno wa yurerushi maru de jugatsu no kaze da.*

一列馬をひく騎馬従卒のむれ、*Ichiretsu uma wo hiku kibajusotsu no mure,*

この偶然の馬はハックニー *Kono guzen no uma wa Hakkunii*

たてがみは火のやうにゆれる。*Tategami wa hi no yo ni yureru.*

馬車の震動のころよさ *Basha no shindo no kokoroyosa*

この黒布はすべり過ぎた。 *Kono kuronuno ha suberisugita.*

もっと引かないといけない *Motto hikanai to ikenai*

こんな小さな敏捷な馬を *Konna chiisana binsho na uma wo*

朝早くから私は町をかけさす

*Asa hayaku kara watakushi wa machi wo kakesasu*

それは必ず無上菩提にいたる *Sore wa kanarazu mujo bodai ni itaru*

六条にいま曲れば *Rokujo ni ima magareba*

おゝ落葉松 落葉松 それから青く顫へるポプルス

*Oo karamatsu karamatsu sore kara aoku furueru popurusu*

この辺に来て大へん立派にやってゐる *Kono hen ni kite taihen rippa ni yatte iru*

植民地風の官舎の一ならびや旭川中学校

*Shokuminchi-fu no kansha no ichinarabi ya Asahikawa Chugakko*

馬車の屋根は黄と赤の縞で *Basha no yane wa ki to aka no shima de*

もうほんたうにジブシイらしく *Mo honto ni jipushii rashiku*

こんな小馬車を *Konna kobasha wo*

誰がほしくないと云はうか *Dare ga hoshikunai to io ka*

乗馬の人が二人来る *Joba no hito ga futari kuru*

そらが冷たく白いのに *Sora ga tsumetaku shiroi no ni*

この人は白い歯をむいて笑ってゐる。

*Kono hito wa shiroi ha wo muite waratte iru.*

バビロン柳、おほばことつめくさ。 *Babiron-yanagi, obako to tsumekusa.*

みんなつめたい朝の露にみちてゐる。 *Minna tsumetai asa no tsuyu ni michite iru.*

## Hello Wild Flowers

## Wandering Among The Wildflowers Around Asahikawa

By: Hitoshi KUDOH

He is strolling up the gentle slope of a larch woods. He comes to a clearing where larches have just worn fresh soft canopy on their branches. Just then he finds a wide colony of Pink Wintergreens, who blush together all at once.

He feels a bit guilty about something and asks one of the Pink Wintergreens, "What is the matter with you! It seems you all are greatly embarrassed with something else! Have I done anything to offend you?"

The Wintergreen flushes more, "Not that," she stutters an apology, "The fact is they call us PARASITES, saying we depend on larches, and rely too much on mycorrhizae. So we lead a reclusive life as hermits in this secluded hill. We are ashamed of ourselves."

"Oh, that's irrelevant, I believe. Every living thing relies on each other. For example, we human beings keep lots of enteric bacteria in our alimentary canals," says he assuredly.

**BENIBANA-  
ICHIYAKUSÔ**

(紅花一葉草)

*Pyrola incarnata*

Family: Ericaceae

Common name:

Pink Wintergreen,  
Japanese Shine-leaf

**Description:** An evergreen herbaceous perennial. Its green rosette leaves survive under the heavy snow during the winter. A new flower stalk appears in the centre and new leaves replace over-winter-leaves in spring. They are glossy basal leaves, 10~20 cm. When crushed, the leaf gives off a scent of wintergreen oil. They grow in shade of cool forest and bear brilliant pink flowers.



Water Colour Painting of  
a Benibana-Ichiyakusô  
By Hitoshi KUDOH





## Movies ~ June



\*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

- Detective Conan: Private Eye in the Distant Sea (Japanese/Animation)
- Iron Man 3 (English) until 6/7
- Wara no Tate (Japanese)
- Library Wars (Japanese)
- Tantei wa Bar ni Iru 2 (Japanese) PG12
- Kencho Omotenashi-ka (Japanese)
- Chugakusei Maruyama (Japanese)
- Jinjin (Japanese)
- Don't Stop Believin': Everyman's Journey (English) until 6/7
- Beasts of the Southern Wild (English) until 6/7
- Taishibokei Tanita no Shain Shokudo (Japanese)
- Oblivion (English)
- The Grandmaster (Chinese)
- Steins;Gate Fuka Ryoiki no Deja Vu (Japanese/Animation)

### Coming Soon

- Petal Dance (Japanese) 6/8
- G.I. Joe: Retaliation (English/Japanese 3D) 6/8
- Olympus Has Fallen (English) 6/8
- Kiseki no Ringo (Japanese) 6/8
- The Great Gatsby (English/Japanese 3D) 6/14
- Bill Cunningham New York (English) 6/15
- The Serialist (Japanese) 6/15
- Evil Dead (English) 6/15 18+
- After Earth (English/Japanese Dub) 6/21
- The Hangover Part III (English) 6/28 PG12
- Galileo: Manatsu no Hoteishiki (Japanese) 6/29

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

URL: [http://www.geodinos.jp/cinema/asa\\_schedule.php?StoreID=5](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

- Detective Conan: Private Eye in the Distant Sea (Japanese/Animation)
- Wara no Tate (Japanese)
- The Last Stand (English) 15+
- Library Wars (Japanese)
- Super Hero Taisen Z (Japanese)
- Iron Man 3 (English/Japanese Dub 3D)
- Tantei wa Bar ni Iru 2 (Japanese) PG12
- Kuroyuri Danchi (Japanese)
- Kuchizuke (Japanese)
- Oblivion (English)
- The Grandmaster (Chinese)
- Hentai Kamen (Japanese) PG12 until 6/7
- Real ~ Kanzen naru Kubinaga Ryu no Hi (Japanese)

### Coming Soon

- G.I. Joe: Retaliation (English/Japanese 3D) 6/8
- Kiseki no Ringo (Japanese) 6/8
- Hakoiri Musuko no Koi (Japanese) 6/8
- The Great Gatsby (English) 6/14
- Sango Ranger (Japanese) 6/15
- Code Name: Jackal (Korean) 6/15
- After Earth (English) 6/21
- 100-kai Naku Koto (Japanese) 6/22
- Galileo: Manatsu no Hoteishiki (Japanese) 6/29
- Monsters University (Japanese Dub/Animation) 7/6
- Fast & Furious 6 (English) 7/6
- Nintama Rantarō (Japanese) 7/6
- Gintama Kanketsuhen (Japanese/Animation) 7/6
- Pokemon Best Wishes! Shinsoku no Genosect (Japanese/Animation) 7/13
- Kaze Tachinu (Japanese/Animation) 7/20
- Toriko: Bishokushin no Special Menu (Japanese/Animation) 7/27
- Emperor (English) 7/27

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

# The Hokkaido Grand Parade of Marching Bands

With a history reaching back to 1929, the Hokkaido Grand Parade of Marching Bands is one of Asahikawa's biggest summer events. The parade's route starts at Asahikawa Riverine Park, passes through the central traffic circle and continues down Eiryubashi-dori to 1-jo 10-chome before reaching the end point at Nisshin no Mori Park. Pick a favorite place along the route and enjoy seeing bands from all over Hokkaido perform in this musical spectacle.

**Date:** June 8th (Saturday)

**Time:** 1:00pm

**Venue:** Downtown Asahikawa (Eiryubashi-dori)

**For Further Information Contact:** 0166-23-0090 (Event Executive Committee)



## American Corner News

June is LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered) Pride Month at the Asahikawa International Center American Corner! To celebrate, we will introduce several prominent LGBT Americans who have distinguished themselves in many different fields in a special display. Please stop by to take a look the next time you visit!

## 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:** 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

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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.\*\***