

# 旭川 ASAHIKAWA Info

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## Hokkaido News Top 5



October 2012

Compiled by TAKADA Nobuhiro

### August 25

“Guest House ASAHIKAWA,” a low cost accommodation which opened just a year ago, is filled with backpackers from all over the world this year. The visitors so far are from 35 countries and from other parts of Japan, and they have had a good time talking with each other and drinking beer in a shared space in the guest house, which is located in 6-jo-dori 7-chome. Its occupancy ratio is about 90 percent this summer thanks to the website the guest house has set up and leaflets placed at the tourist information center in the JR Asahikawa Station building.

### August 26

A photograph of “Blue Pond” in Biei has been chosen as one of wallpapers in Apple Computer’s OS X Mountain Lion. The photo was taken by Biei resident and professional photographer SHIRAISHI Kento, who sent the picture to National Geographic and was awarded a prize in its contest. The “Blue Pond” is literally a pond with clear blue water, which has been attracting many tourists.

### August 31

UENO Yoshie, a bronze medalist in 63 kilogram class women’s judo at the London Olympic Games, was presented the Citizen’s Honor Award in a triumphal celebration in Asahikawa. In her speech, she said that she won the medal thanks to the support from the people in Hokkaido, such as her coach in high school, her family and friends. Her sister UENO Masae has also won medals in women’s judo at the Athens and Beijing Olympics.

### September 4

Lots of headfishes were caught in fixed fishing nets off Kushiro this year. Fishermen spread the nets in the sea to catch saury in the fall, but half of the fishes they caught in this season were headfishes. It seems that rising sea temperatures from August on may attract headfishes, which usually live in the warm sea.

### September 11

MIURA Mitsuyo, who helped his wife, novelist MIURA Ayako write by dictation, announced plans to start an electronic publishing service of her works at a press conference at Asahikawa Grand Hotel. All 80 books by MIURA Ayako are scheduled to be published as e-books by major publisher Shogakukan Inc. 38 books of hers are out of print currently, and only about 20 out of the remaining 42 titles are available even here in her hometown of Asahikawa.



#### 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

**ICHIHARA ETSUKO AND MICKEY YOSHINO LIVE SHOW “A DANCE BALL JUST FOR TWO”**  
**市原悦子×ミッキー吉野のショーライブ「二人だけの舞踏会」**

This collaboration between famed actor ICHIHARA Etsuko (“Animated Japanese Fairy Tales” and “The Housekeeper Saw It!” Series) and musician Mickey YOSHINO (from the popular band “GODIEGO”) is a stage show featuring singing, dancing, music and spoken-word performances. Let the inimitable voice and talents of ICHIHARA Etsuko and playful, virtuosic keyboard music from Mickey YOSHINO take you away to a fantastic world.

**Date:** October 11th (Thursday)

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

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

**Admission:** All Seats ¥4,500 in Advance, ¥5,000 on 10/11.

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

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


**NAOKI ISHIKAWA & BOSTON BRASS PERFORMANCE**
**石川 直&ボストン・プラス演奏会**

The star drummer Naoki ISHIKAWA (formerly of the hit Broadway show “Blast!”) and sensational instrumental group “Boston Brass” have joined forces to present an unforgettable evening of classical and jazz music. Some of the pieces to be performed include “Will-o'-the-Wisp” from the ballet “Love, the Magician” by de Falla, a drum solo from Mr. Ishikawa and more. Don't miss the opportunity to experience this combination of exceptional drumming and genuine American brass music.

**Date:** October 11th (Thursday)

**Time:** Show 6:30pm

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

**Admission:** All Seats ¥5,300 (¥4,500 for MIN-ON Members),  
¥2,000 for University Students and Younger (Student ID Required)

**Ticket Offices:** Gyokkodo, Lawson

**For Further Information Contact:** 0166-57-0244 (MIN-ON Asahikawa)


**TENDO YOSHIMI 40TH ANNIVERSARY CONCERT— “THANKS TO YOU”**
**天童よしみコンサート・40周年～あなたにありがとう～**

Celebrating 40 years since her professional debut, queen of the enka (Japanese popular ballads) world TENDO Yoshimi is bringing her incredible singing voice and warm personality to Asahikawa as part of her concert tour. Fans young and old alike can expect to hear a wide variety of songs that celebrate her extraordinary career, with selections ranging from Showa-era favorites to anime theme songs, and finally her 40th anniversary commemorative song *Onna no Sanga* “A Woman's Path.”

**Date:** October 16th (Tuesday)

**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, Lawson, Ticket Pia (7-Eleven, Sankus)

**For Further Information Contact:** 011-261-9991 (TRUST PLANNING CREATE)


**2012 LOCAL SAKE FAIR IN ASAHIKAWA**
**あさひかわ地酒フェア2012**

Presented by the local sake breweries Otokoyama, Takasago and Godo Taisetsu no Kura, the 2012 Local Sake Fair is the perfect chance to experience the delightful sakes of the Asahikawa area. With sake tastings, demonstrations of new ways to enjoy sake, a sake knowledge quiz and raffle drawing, this event has something that everyone from novices to experienced sake drinkers can enjoy.

**Date:** October 18th (Thursday)

**Time:** 6:30pm to 8:00pm

**Venue:** Loisir Hotel Asahikawa 3rd Floor Ballroom (7-jo 6-chome)

**Admission:** ¥2,000 (Advance Purchase Required, Limited to 200 Participants)

**Ticket Sales:** Asahikawa-Liquor Retail Union 0166-23-2232, Loisir Hotel Asahikawa 25-8811, Otokoyama 48-1931, Takasago Brewery 23-2251, Godo Taisetsu no Kura 39-3788

**For Further Information Contact:** 0166-23-2232 (Asahikawa-Liquor Retail Union)





## SAPPORO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA "SAKKYO" PERFORMANCE IN ASAHIKAWA

### 札幌・札幌交響楽団旭川公演

The Sapporo Symphony Orchestra, conducted by UMEDA Toshiaki and featuring piano soloist KONDO Yoshihiro, will present an evening of classical favorites. The program consists of the Prelude from Mozart's "The Magic Flute," Beethoven's "Piano Concerto No. 5 in E-flat Major, Op. 73 'Emperor Concerto,'" and "Symphony No. 4 in E Minor, Op. 98" by Brahms.

**Date:** October 19th (Friday)

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

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

**Admission:** General: S-Seats ¥3,500, A-Seats ¥3,000

Students/Seniors/Disabled Persons: S-Seats ¥3,000, A-Seats ¥2,500

**Ticket Offices:** Gyokkodo, Yamaha Music, Kawai Showroom

**For further information contact:** 0166-25-7331 (Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall)



## ENSEMBLE BERLIN CONCERT

### アンサンブル・ベルリン公演

Experience a taste of classical chamber music for strings, oboe and bassoon performed by members from the Berlin Philharmonic. The program includes selections from Mozart's "The Marriage of Figaro," Rossini's "The Barber of Seville," Debussy's "Suite bergamasque" and many more. This is an excellent chance to enjoy classical music in a relaxed environment performed by some of the world's premiere musicians.

**Date:** October 24th (Wednesday)

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

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

**Admission:** General: ¥3,500, Seniors/Disabled Persons: ¥3,000, Students ¥1,500

**Ticket Offices:** Kawai Showroom, Gyokkodo, Yamaha Music, Taisetsu Crystal Hall, Civic Culture Hall

**For Further Information Contact:** 0166-69-2000 (Taisetsu Crystal Hall)



## SWING MESSENGERS ORCHESTRA CHARITY CONCERT 2012

### スイング・メッセンジャーズ・オーケストラ・チャリティーコンサート2012年

If you're looking for a fun night of big band jazz music, be sure to attend the Swing Messengers Orchestra Charity Concert. Featuring guest performers MASAKO on vocals and YO-SHIDA Tatsuan on guitar, the evening's program includes pieces such as Woody Herman's "Four Brothers," the hit song "This Masquerade" and more.

**Date:** October 28th (Sunday)

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

**Venue:** Loisir Hotel Asahikawa 3rd Floor Ballroom (7-jo 6-chome)

**Admission:** Adults: ¥1,000 Advance (¥1,200 on 10/28), Middle School Students: ¥500 Advance (¥700 on 10/28), Elementary Students and Under: Free

**Ticket Offices:** Yamaha Music, Kawai Showroom, Gyokkodo, Fukido

**For Further Information Contact:** 090-2053-5582 (Swing Messengers Orchestra)



## TAKARADA GAKUEN FRIENDSHIP CONCERT: HUGO WOLF TRIO VIENNA

### 旭川宝田学園フレンドシップ・コンサート:ウィーン・フーゴ・ヴォルフ三重奏団

The Hugo Wolf Trio Vienna, featuring Daniel Gaede on violin, Walter Delahunt on piano and Gustav Rivinius on cello, will perform a selection of works from Suk, Arensky, Faure, Ravel and others. These internationally-acclaimed talents are sure to create a memorable evening for music fans.

**Date:** October 29th (Monday)

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

**Venue:** Taisetsu Crystal Hall Music Hall

**Admission:** General: ¥3,000, Students/Seniors ¥2,500

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

**For Further Information Contact:** 0166-51-3220 (Asahikawa Meisei High School)



EVENTS IN ASAHIKAWA FOR OCTOBER



# Hello Asahikawa!

**Name:** Midori Ioshii  
**Hometown:** Curitiba, Brazil  
**Interviewed:** 28th August, 2012  
**By** AIC

**AIC:** *Please tell us about your hometown.*

**Midori :** My hometown is big, like Sapporo. It's called "The Green City" because it's full of parks and natural areas. On Sundays mainly, people like to go out for a walk in parks and ride bicycles. It's in southern Brazil, but it's not really cold and not very hot either. The weather can be crazy, however. It rains sometimes and then suddenly it's sunny again. It never snows, though. Portuguese is spoken most widely because a long time ago, Brazil was a colony belonging to Portugal. There are lots of people there from different countries, like Japan.

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

**Midori :** I came here through the AFS exchange program and I didn't choose Asahikawa especially. I was surprised that I was going to Hokkaido, I really had no idea. But it's a really nice city. I only wanted to go to Japan. I wanted to go to England too, but AFS doesn't offer exchanges there.

**AIC:** *What inspired you to want to come to Japan?*

**Midori :** I'm really interested in Japan's culture and I wanted to learn more Japanese. I studied Japanese for five years in Brazil at an after-school language course. My grandmother speaks a little Japanese, but my parents cannot speak it at all.

**AIC:** *What were your first impressions of Asahikawa and Hokkaido?*

**Midori :** Since it doesn't snow in my city I was really surprised when I arrived in March to see Asahikawa full of snow. It was my first time to see snow.

**AIC:** *Have you had a chance to travel around the rest of Hokkaido?*

**Midori :** During summer vacation I went to Shiretoko with my host family, and then we drove west to Obihiro.

**AIC:** *What do you like to do in your free time?*

**Midori :** I like to go shopping, read books, and watch American TV series. My favorites are "Once Upon a Time" and "Pretty Little Liars."

**AIC:** *What is a Japanese school like?*

**Midori :** After five months I've made friends and am having lots of fun. My school here is different from in Brazil because it's a girls' high school. We don't have this kind of school in Brazil. It's really easy to make friends here, because everyone is very open.

**AIC:** *Do you take part in any sports or clubs?*

**Midori :** I just entered the tennis club. I played tennis in Brazil for three years, but I'm not very good yet.

**AIC:** *Where else in Japan do you want to visit?*

**Midori :** I would like to visit Tokyo, but I really want to go to Osaka and Nagoya. I might not have the opportunity to visit those places this time, but I really want to come back someday and travel a lot.

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

**Midori :** I want to return to Brazil and study to become an architect. There are several good universities in my hometown.

**AIC:** *Thank you very much for your time Midori. Best of luck to you in the future!*

**Midori :** You're welcome.



## Summer Fun

*By: Dean and Sue ZEMKE*

We've lived in Asahikawa for almost 13 years and are here as missionaries at Chuwa Bible Baptist Church. We've grown to love the city and Hokkaido. It sometimes reminds us of our home in Wisconsin, USA, although Wisconsin is very flat. Even though we can't always take a long vacation, we enjoy doing shorter trips, some of which take a couple hours, some a portion of a day, and some a day or longer. We'd like to share some of the interesting things that we have recently done.

- **Creamery Gnome** (クリーマリー農夢) in Kamiubun sells the most delicious homemade milk, cheese, and ice cream, as well as other items. If you want to make your taste buds happy, please visit the Satake Family Farm!
- **Asahiya Zoo** has to be our year round favorite and we always get a zoo passport, as we go at least three times a year. It seems like the more we go, the longer we stay! We enjoyed going to the night zoo, which is only open a few days in mid-August.
- **Tokiwa Park** is a peaceful place with beautiful cherry blossoms and flower beds. It's a great place to chat with a friend!
- **Rice Paddy Art** (田んぼアート) in Higashitakasu is our new find this summer! If you've never seen it, it's worth the little drive! There are five different types of rice planted to show a different type of art each year. This year is zoo animals.
- **Lavender and flower fields** aren't that far away! Although places like Tomita Farm in Nakafurano are lovely, perhaps you don't want to take the time to travel that far. A small place just north of Biei on route 237, called Zeburu Heights (ぜるぶの丘), offers great photo opportunities, ice cream, souvenirs, and a nice walk or ride around the grounds and to an observatory. You can even rent a four-wheeler and take a spin around the main path.
- **Lake Kanayama** is in the Minamifurano area and is simply peaceful and beautiful. There are kayaking and canoeing opportunities on this serene lake.
- On your way to Lake Kanayama, we suggest a brief stop to take a picture at the **geographic center of Hokkaido – Furano**. There is a sign which points you to there, located outside an elementary school.
- **Sunsets** are beautiful over the Sea of Japan. The key here is timing, which we haven't been really good at lately. However, the Sea itself is still fun to romp around in even if you don't pick that perfect sunset evening!

There are many other nearby places we've visited in years past during our staycations (vacations where one doesn't necessarily go somewhere overnight.) Don't know what to do? Ask a friend, the tourist information bureau personnel, or watch the Hokkaido news, which periodically highlights points of interest around the island. Or feel free to chat with us! Our church has an English time on Sundays from 19:00 to 20:30, which includes a Bible message and a time of conversation. We'd enjoy meeting you!



## Be Kind to Your Eyes Day

By: *IKEDA Ayumi*

Every October is "Eye Protection Month" and October 10th has been designated as "Be Kind to Your Eyes Day." In general, October 10 is better known as Health Sports Day, but considering the worsening vision among Japanese, eye care is an important issue. The reason why that particular day was chosen is that October 10 is written as 10月10日 in Japanese, and when 10 and 10 are laid side by side, they look like eyes and eyebrows (they have no pupils, though...)

In Japan, it is said there are more than 70 million people, which accounts for 60%~70% of all Japanese, who have reduced vision due to myopia and are in need of corrective lenses. A couple of decades ago, it was uncommon to see school children with glasses. However, it is no longer a rare sight now. A similar trend can be seen in a survey conducted by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports and Science, and data collected of high school students in 2010 revealed that the percentage of students with vision of less than 1.0 (60/60) was 55.64%.

Why are there so many Japanese people with myopia? The exact cause of myopia is unknown even in current medicine, but it is considered to be from genetic and environmental factors. Children inherit myopia from their parents with a high probability of 89%, and genes associated with myopia have been found in the current research.

However, environmental factors also seem to have a strong involvement. First, written Japanese characterized by mixed kanji, hiragana, and katakana characters imposes a burden on the eyes because of the complex structure compared to an alphabet. Second, as this land is small and houses are concentrated in urban areas, people have little opportunity to look at distant things to give their eyes a rest. On the other hand, time spent looking at liquid crystal displays has increased because of PC and video games. Although it used to be said that visual acuity does not get worse until after growth has stopped at about 23 years old, Computer Vision Syndrome (CVS) is currently increasing at such a rate that rapid deterioration of vision resulting from focusing the eyes on a computer display is occurring even in people as young as 20 years old.

In this way, vision is affected by environment as well as inheritance. Given that the vision of some Africans is much higher, like 4.0 (80/20) or 6.0 (120/20,) vision may change to adapt to one's lifestyle. If you are in trouble of worsening vision, going to Africa might be a good choice. But why don't we start with trying not to strain our eyes and instead reviewing our lifestyles? Your eyes are your lifelong partners; please be kind to them.



# Hello Wild Flowers

## Wandering Among The Wildflowers Around Asahikawa By Hitoshi KUDOH

He meanders around a rolling meadow on an autumn day. He comes across dimly glowing purple clusters of bellflowers along the sunny edge of a field. He stops to admire them.

“Why! It’s September now and there they are still blooming! --- These lantern flowers.” He says to himself.

“When I was a preschool boy, I used to pick these plants to eat. It was during the Pacific War.” A pathetic recollection wells up in his mind. It was before he came to live in Hokkaido and the food shortage was severe under the tormenting air raids night and day. “Come to think of it, it reminds me of a luminous fantasy of a certain night. We skinny kids were collecting fireflies along the creek. Somebody suggested to put a firefly into this flower. All of us did so. Then there popped up some mysterious subdued lights in the gloom. It seemed to me a slight hope in the deep bitterness.”

**HOTARU-BUKURO** (螢袋) *Campanula punctata*

**Family:** Campanulaceae

**Common name:** Firefly-cage, Spotted-bellflower, Lantern flower, Chinese rampion, Pink octopus.

**Description:** A robust, hairy, stoloniferous perennial of dicotyledon. Late spring, a small leaf bud emerges at the terminal of threadlike underground rhizome. Gradually, several small leaves appear to make a basal rosette. Then a stalk begins to grow upright putting leaves. The basal leaves are cordate and long-stalked; the upper are oval to lanceolate and unstalked. They are alternate and serrated.

Flowers bloom in June – August. They are drooping bell-shaped tubular, which colours range from violet, purple, lavender, pink to white. Inside, there are purple spots on corolla, and 5 stamina envelopes a pistil at first. Later the stamina releases it for pollination. Its ovary is encased in the hard calyx. After pollination, the withered but tenacious corolla remains sticking to the calyx.

When corolla is shed, the drooping calyx turns back and grows large into a fruit. The fruit capsule contains specks of seeds.

In October, the dead stalk and leaves fade out. It goes dormant in winter.

**Height:** 20-80 cm tall.

**Edible:** Young leaves, flowers. Medicinal.

**Habitat:** Sunny or semi-shade hillside, riverbank, wasteland, low mountain.



*Water colour painting of a Hotaru-Bukuro  
By Hitoshi KUDOH*

# In Touch with Nature



**By: Richard H. MATTSON, Ph.D, HTM  
Professor, Horticultural Therapy  
Kansas State University, USA**

***The following is an address given by Dr. Mattson to the attendees of the Horticultural Therapy Conference at the Japan School of Horticultural Therapy in Sapporo on September 2nd, 2012.***

It's a warm summer day in Kansas with the first signs of autumn in the air. Monarch butterflies have been stopping by the gardens as they migrate south from Canada to the mountains of western Mexico. It has been a record drought this year in the mid-western United States, but rain showers are predicted for later this week.

At the Kansas State University Gardens, nature surrounds us and the gardens reflect signs of the changing seasons. Regardless of the size of a garden, or the season of the year, these plants and flowers provide us with stress-relieving effects. The healing and maintenance of human health begins with the air we breathe, the clean water we drink, the garden foods we grow and eat, the physical exercise used to grow these plants, the social interactions in the garden environment, and the beauty experienced in the reflections in the water, rock, and plants in living landscapes.

Needs of the human body, mind, and spirit are fulfilled through association with growing plants and nature. This symbiotic relationship of people and plants is the essence of horticultural therapy. When this therapeutic process is directed by a professional horticultural therapist, the benefits will multiply significantly.

Since the early 1970s, a significant number of undergraduate and graduate students from Japan, Korea, China, and Taiwan have completed horticultural therapy degrees at Kansas State University. These students have experienced and researched various people and plant interactions involving elderly, developmentally challenged, and other special people.

In 1987, the Crown Prince of Japan Akihito was visiting sites in the United States. He was scheduled to stop in West Coast states, Washington, D.C., and Kansas State University. At that time, Mr. Ohno, a master glass blower was employed by the Chemistry and Physics Departments at Kansas State University where he created glassware for scientific experimentation. In his spare time, Mr. Ohno created glass model ships and important historical buildings. One of these miniature buildings was a glass replica of the Imperial Palace in Tokyo to be presented during Akihito's visit at Kansas State University. Akihito was asked if there was anything he would like to see while on campus. He was given suggestions, such as a robotics lab, or engineering and architecture programs. Instead, he asked to observe the "Horticultural Therapy" program. At that time we were working in the Conservatory with a vocational training model for developmentally challenged adults. Before he was able to visit the Kansas State University campus, Akihito learned that his father, Emperor Hirohito had died. Akihito returned to Japan before he could visit Kansas State University and see the greenhouse conservatory filled with chrysanthemums in his honor.

I will be retiring soon. The administration at Kansas State University has decided to phase-out the on-campus undergraduate program in Horticultural Therapy. It will be replaced with distance education coursework. We will continue to offer the HT graduate student program.

Career opportunities are continuing to expand in Horticultural Therapy. A need exists to provide HT training through improved coursework and multiple clinical internship experiences. The HT program being developed at the Japan School of Horticultural Therapy is of utmost importance in providing this future training.



 **Movies ~ October** 

\*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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

*\*Please be aware that scheduled screenings might be cancelled due to planned power blackouts. Make sure to contact the cinema before going to see a movie.*

**★ 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	Coming Soon
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Anata e (Japanese)</li> <li>● Ruroni Kenshin (Japanese)</li> <li>● Prometheus (English 3D)</li> <li>● The Avengers (English 3D)</li> <li>● Okamikodomo no Ame to Yuki (Japanese/Animation)</li> <li>● Umizaru - Brave Hearts (Japanese)</li> <li>● Himitsu no Akko-chan (Japanese)</li> <li>● The Hunger Games (English)</li> <li>● The Bourne Legacy (English)</li> <li>● Hotel Transylvania (Japanese Dub/Animation)</li> <li>● Odoru Daisosasen The Final (Japanese)</li> <li>● Yumeuru Futari (Japanese)</li> <li>● Resident Evil 5: Retribution (English)</li> <li>● Tenchi Meisatsu (Japanese)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Tsunagu (Japanese) 10/6</li> <li>● The Lorax (Japanese Dub/Animation 3D) 10/6</li> <li>● Atarashii Kutsu wo Kawanakucha (Japanese) 10/6</li> <li>● The Raven (English) 10/12</li> <li>● The Expendables 2 (English) 10/20</li> <li>● Resident Evil: Damnation (English/Animation) 10/27</li> <li>● Tsui no Shintaku (Japanese) 10/27</li> <li>● Evangelion:3.0 You Can (Not) Redo. (Japanese/Animation) 11/17</li> </ul>

**★ 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	Coming Soon
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The Avengers (English 3D)</li> <li>● Prometheus (English 3D)</li> <li>● Umizaru - Brave Hearts (Japanese)</li> <li>● Ruroni Kenshin (Japanese)</li> <li>● Okamikodomo no Ame to Yuki (Japanese/Animation)</li> <li>● Odoru Daisosasen The Final (Japanese)</li> <li>● Safe House (English)</li> <li>● Bakugyaku Familia (Japanese)</li> <li>● Resident Evil 5: Retribution (English)</li> <li>● Mirror Mirror (English)</li> <li>● Key Of Life (Japanese)</li> <li>● Tenchi Meisatsu (Japanese)</li> <li>● The Intouchables (French)</li> <li>● The Hunger Games (English)</li> <li>● The Bourne Legacy (English)</li> <li>● The Mystical Laws (Japanese/Animation) 10/6~11/2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Outrage 2 (Japanese) 10/6</li> <li>● The Lorax (Japanese Dub/Animation) 10/6</li> <li>● The Raven (English) 10/12</li> <li>● The Expendables 2 (English) 10/20</li> <li>● Uchu Keiji Gavan THE MOVIE (Japanese) 10/20</li> <li>● Argo (English) 10/26</li> <li>● FAIRY TAIL Houou no Miko (Japanese/Animation) October</li> <li>● Abraham Lincoln: Vampire Hunter (English) 11/1</li> <li>● Paranormal Activity 4 (English) 11/1</li> <li>● Nobou no Shiro (Japanese) 11/2</li> <li>● Kita no Canaria-tachi (Japanese) 11/3</li> <li>● Fly With The Gold (Japanese) 11/3</li> <li>● Cirque du Soleil Worlds Away 3D (English) 11/9</li> <li>● Ninkyo Helper (Japanese) 11/17</li> <li>● Evangelion:3.0 You Can (Not) Redo. (Japanese/Animation) 11/17</li> <li>● By Rule of CROW’s Thumb (Japanese) 11/23</li> </ul>

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

# Korean Picture Book Readings

This month the Asahikawa Japan-Korea Friendship Association is hosting a Korean picture book reading event for children and their parents. Ms. GWON Sun Ni from the Asahikawa branch of the Korean Residents Union in Japan will lead the event with a reading from several Korean children's picture books, followed by readings in both Korean and Japanese. Afterwards, Korean citrus tea will be served and participants will receive a lesson in conversational Korean.



**Date:** October 14th, 1:30pm~2:30pm  
**Venue:** Asahikawa International Center, Feeeal Asahikawa 7F 1-jo-dori 8-chome  
**Fee:** Free (Max. 30 Participants)  
**For More Information Call:** 0166-25-7491

## Fun Fridays

## International Center Announcement

**Halloween** is coming to the Asahikawa International Center! From **October 22nd to the 31st**, the center will take on a new look as ghouls, goblins and other assorted ghosts come to turn it into a haunted space. Please come by to see it for yourself!



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

**Dates:** *Autumn Sessions:* October 12th, November 9th, December 14th

**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)

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.**

**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.



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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.\*\***