

Asahikawa Info

July 2022, Vol. 308

Published by the AIC

Inside this issue...

- 1 Hokkaido News Top 5
- 2 Upcoming Events
- 4 Life in Asahikawa
- 6 Hello, Asahikawa!
- 8 Movies
- 10 Bulletin Board



For further information or to register for events, contact:

Asahikawa International Committee (AIC)

(SUGANO Ayumi, SAITO Emmy, or GONZÁLEZ Gabriel)

Location:

International/City Affairs Division, Tourism, Sports and International/City Affairs Dept.

Address:

Asahikawa International Center Feeceal

Asahikawa 7F, 1-jo-dori 8-chome,

Asahikawa 070-0031

Tel: (0166) 25-7491

Fax: (0166) 23-4924

Email: cir_kokusai@city.asahikawa.lg.jp

Hokkaido News Top 5

May - June 2022, compiled by the AIC

Odori Beer Garden to be Held For First Time in 3 Years, 5/20

The Sapporo Summer Festival's executive committee announced on May 19 that the Sapporo Odori Beer Garden will take place 7/22-8/17, from noon to 9PM. Although it had been canceled for the past two years due to COVID-19, this year to limit the risk of infection they have limited seating to less than half of its original 13,000 seats in 2019 and set a two-hour time limit. The venue will remain the same as in previous years and will consist of three fenced-off themed areas: a venue for four major beer companies, an international beer square and the Sapporo German Village.

Japan's First-Ever Pedestrian Paradise Turns 50, 6/2

On June 1, Asahikawa's main street Heiwa Dori Kaimono Koen reached its 50th anniversary after its inauguration as a vehicle-free zone in 1972. A commemorative ceremony was held by the Asahikawa Heiwa Dori Revitalization Association with over 400 citizens in attendance. Asahikawa Central's junior high brass band performed a mini-concert as attendants simultaneously released dove-shaped paper balloons into the sky to celebrate the half-century milestone. However, in recent years the street has seen a decrease in foot traffic due to store closures and the growth of suburban shopping.

Honey Production on the Rise in Hokkaido, 6/4

Hokkaido farmed 419 tons of honey in 2020, 14% of the nation's entire yield, overtaking Nagano Prefecture as the top Japanese honey producer. Honey consumption in Japan survived well into the COVID-19 in large thanks to the popularity of recent health trends, while in previous years foreign tourist demand for high quality products was the main driver. Whether Hokkaido can consistently increase its yield depends mainly on the stability of nectar sources for the honeybees. While Japanese bee populations are growing, government assistance is needed to find more potential plant options.

Alpacas Get Ready for the Summer in Kenbuchi, 6/5

Viva Alpaca Farm, a tourist farm in Kenbuchi, held an alpaca shearing show for all to see. Originally from South America, the alpaca is a member of the camel family. To prevent heat exhaustion, the farm routinely gives each of their twelve alpacas a shearing once every two years. On the day of the show, it was Gin's (10-year old male) turn. Three farm workers used grooming clippers and scissors to trim off around 20 cm of the black fur. Visitors cheered him on and were later gifted the fur clippings. One four-year old visitor, Hana Saito commented: "He's so cute and his fur is so fluffy!"

Asahikawa Ramen Costs Become Unbearable for Shop Owners, 6/18

The cost of produce, especially imported wheat, has been hit with a major price spike, with reverberations felt throughout the restaurant community. Soy sauce, miso and eggs, indispensable ingredients in any Japanese recipe, have all seen a price increase across the board. Ramen shops such as Aji no Sanpei have had to decide to slightly raise menu prices to compensate for this, but even so struggle to make a decent living. One store owner said: "We have our regulars to think about. We can't just change the price or what goes in and how much. But we still have to make them a price they'll understand..." An economics professor from Asahikawa University has argued for a bigger focus on local ingredients to counterbalance the costs.

Asahikawa Documentary Festival 2022

あさひかわドキュメンタリーフェスティバル

Enjoy a film viewing or two of this first installment of the Asahikawa Documentary Film festival! This year's selections are *Midnight Traveler* and *Absence*, both films with similar themes of the life and struggles of refugees. This year's festival tries to understand how war, especially the currently ongoing war in Ukraine, still affects those who have escaped from the warzone.

Date: Film 1 (*Midnight Traveler*): 7/2 (Saturday), Film 2 (*Absence*): 7/3 (Sunday)

Time: Saturday showings: 1) 10:00-, 2) 14:00-, 3) 19:00- / Sunday showings: 1) 10:00-, 2) 14:00-, 3) 19:00- (*In the case of a quasi-state of emergency, the final show time for both films will begin at 18:30.)

Place: Machinaka Bunkagoya (Asahikawa, 7-jo-dori 7-chome Migi 10)

Admission: ¥1,000/showing (+¥200 for on-day sales) *¥200 off for members and students

Ticket Office: Machinaka Bunkagoya, Kodomo Fukido, Junkudo Asahikawa

For further information, contact: 0166-23-2801 (Machinaka Bunkagoya) or bunkagoya@sky.plala.or.jp



Shiki Theatre Company presents: *Robot in the Garden*

劇団四季ミュージカル ロボット・イン・ザ・ガーデン

Adapted from an English novel of the same name by Deborah Hill, this original Japanese musical looks at the unlikely bond between a broken down robot and a broken down man. A tale of journeys, growing up and learning about the important things in life that is not to be missed!

Date: 7/4 (Monday)

Time: Opens 17:45, Starts 18:30

Place: Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall (Large Hall), (Asahikawa, 7-jo-dori 9-chome)

Admission: S-seats ¥9,900, A-seats ¥6,600, B-seats ¥3,300

Ticket Office: Shiki On-line Ticket (<http://489444.com>) Lawson Ticket (L-code: 11438), Ticket Pia (P-code: 511-263), JR Hokkaido Midori No Madoguchi, FM Riberu Ticket Box (Yoshitake Park building 3F), Doshin Playguide, Sapporo Community Plaza Ticket Centre

For further information, contact: 0570-008-110 (Shiki Theatre Company)



Bouquet of Modern Western Prints: from the Tomoda Collection at the Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art And Other Collections

ヨーロッパ版画の花束 北海道立近代美術館 友田コレクションを中心に

This exhibition will present the private print collection of renown poet and children's book author Takio Tomoda, as well as other related museum collections. Works by Rouault, Chagall, Fougita, Picasso, Dali and more will be on display.

Date: From 7/9 (Saturday) until 9/4 (Sunday)

Time: 9:30-17:00 [Extended Hours (-19:00): 7/15, 7/29, 8/12, 8/19, 8/26 (All Friday)]

Place: Kushiro Art Museum, Hokkaido (Kushiro, Saiwai-cho 4-chome 1-ban 5-go)

Admission: [Permanent exhibit] General ¥800(*¥600), High school and university student ¥300(*¥200), Elementary and Middle school student ¥100(*¥50) (*Groups of 10+) / [w/seasonal exhibit] General ¥1,200, High school and college student ¥400

For further information, contact: 0154-23-2381 (Kushiro Art Museum, Hokkaido)



Mansaku no Kai: Kyogen Public Performance

万作の会 狂言公演

Come and enjoy an evening of kyogen, traditional Japanese comic theater presented by Mansaku no Kai, a performance troupe that has performed worldwide with several of its members designated as Living National Treasures. They will be performing two kyogen plays, *Kazumo* and *Futari Bakama*.

Date: 7/13 (Wednesday)

Time: Opens 17:30, Starts 18:30

Place: Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall (Large Hall), (Asahikawa, 7-jo-dori 9-chome)

Admission: General ¥5,000, Students and those with disabilities ¥2,500

Ticket Office: Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall, Asahikawa Taisetsu Crystal Hall, Coach and Four Asahikawa (Music Corner), Gyokkodo (3F Aeon Mall)

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



Ota Kosuke: First Solo Exhibition in Asahikawa

太田宏介 旭川初個展

Along with his older brother, OTA Kosuke presents his first exhibition in Asahikawa on the theme of brotherhood. Through his art, both will speak their feelings on their shared severe autism and how it has shaped their relationship with each other and others, in the hopes of sharing with others who have similar mental disabilities and allies.

Date: From 7/14 (Thursday) until 7/18 (Monday)
 Time: 10:00-17:00 (-16:00 on last day of exhibit)
 Place: Gallery Junku, Junkudo (5F Feeeel, Asahikawa 1-jo-dori 8-chome 108-banchi)
 Admission: FREE
 For further information, contact: 0166-26-1120 (Junkudo)



Dino World: Explore and Learn about the Age of the Dinosaur!

恐竜ワールド 探検して学ぶ恐竜時代

As a part of the city's centennial celebrations, the Asahikawa Science Museum will be setting up a new exhibit with fun games and workshops for everyone to learn more about dinosaurs! Plus, check out the dino-bot!

Date: From 7/16 (Saturday) until 9/25 (Sunday)
 Time: 9:30-17:30 (Entry ends at 16:30), [*8/11-8/15, hours will be extended until 20:00 (Entry ends at 19:00)]
 Place: Asahikawa Science Museum, (Asahikawa, Miyamae 1-jo 3-chome 3-ban 32-go)
 Admission: High school and above ¥900, 3 years old to middle school age ¥600, ages 2 and under FREE
 Ticket Office: [*You *must* make a reservation beforehand, either online or at museum desk. A LINE account is required to make online reservations. On-day ticket sales will be open if sports are available.] <https://www.city.asahikawa.hokkaido.jp/science/20/d075263.html>
 For further information, contact: 0166-31-3186 (Asahikawa Science Museum)



Kyobun Traditional Arts Series: Nogaku Now

教文伝統芸能シリーズ「能楽なう」

Come and appreciate the unique acting styles of the Kanze and Hoshu schools of Nogaku, a blend of Kyogen and Noh as they perform *Aoi no Ue* and *Hanagatami*, respectively.

Date: 7/20 (Wednesday)
 Time: Opens 12:00, Starts 13:00
 Place: Sapporo Education and Culture Hall (Large Hall), (Sapporo, Chuo-ku Kita 1-jo Nishi 13-chome)
 Admission: S-seats) ¥6,000, A-seats ¥4,000, First-time visitors) ¥2,000, Under 25 (S-seat) ¥4,500
 Ticket Office: Kyobun Playguide (011-271-3355), Doshin Playguide (0570-00-3871, <https://doshin-playguide.jp>), Sapporo Community Plaza Ticket Center, Ticket Pia (P-code: 510-512), Lawson Ticket (L-code: 12578)
 For further information, contact: [Ticket information] 0570-00-3871 (Doshin Playguide), [Performance information] 011-271-5822 (Sapporo Education and Culture Hall)



The Gift of Music: Waiwai Concert!

音楽のおくりもの わいわいコンサート

Why not enjoy a music concert made especially for families and young children where they will be playing selections such as: Eine Kleine Nachtmusik (Mozart), Turkish March (Beethoven), The Parade of the Tin Soldiers (Jessel), My Neighbor Totoro (Hisaiishi), a Disney medley, and more?

Date: 7/31 (Sunday)
 Time: Opens at 13:00, Starts at 14:00
 Place: Asahikawa Taisetsu Crystall Hall (Music Hall), (Asahikawa, Kagura 3-jo 7-chome)
 Admission: Adult) ¥1,500, Child (3-Middle school age) ¥500 (*+¥500 for on-day sales)
 Ticket Office: Asahikawa Taisetsu Crystall Hall (0166-69-2000), Asahikawa Civic Culture Hall (0166-25-7331)
 For further information, contact: 0166-69-2000 (Asahikawa Taisetsu Crystall Hall)



July Events in Asahikawa

*I am a Child of the Sea...
A beach where the white surf is humming,
Under a row of pine trees standing tall,
A humble thatched hut from where
A line of smoke from a fire pit rises overhead—
That is what my heart longed for...*

-KITAMURA Tadao (2022)

Sea Day

Every third Monday of July is Sea Day, one of sixteen Japanese national holidays.

It may be rather uncommon for a day to be designated as a national holiday without any actual political, national or religious importance or meaning behind it, but Sea Day has no such reason for its establishment. It is simply because of the people's love for the sea.

The Japanese archipelago is surrounded on all sides by the ocean and seas. The total length of the coastline comes up to 27,751 km, which is the 6th longest in the world. On top of that, the total extent of the Territorial Water and the Exclusive Economic Zone amounts to 4.47 million km² (ranked 6th in the world). All Japanese people love the sea and are very proud of that.

A genealogical myth in the *Kojiki* (a famous mythological chronicle of early Japanese history) tells us:

Prince Hoori borrowed an angling set from his brother Hoderi to catch something in the sea, but he could not catch anything. Then, a hook that his brother treasured dearly was taken away. Hoderi became angry and severely demanded that Hoori give his hook back, but Hoori did not know what to do.

Hoori stood still, alone at the seaside. Then, the god Shiotsuchi appeared and gave him a very light boat made of weaved bamboo, showing him the way to the Kingdom of Sea. There he saw a pretty princess named Toyotama who was King Wadatsumi's daughter. They fell in love and spent a wonderful time in sea paradise for three years. Meanwhile, King Wadatsumi found the hook that Hoori had lost and been looking for inside the mouth of one of his subject's named Sea Bream. The king returned it along with a gift of two magic orbs. Hoori went home on the back of a big Shar Greacek.

Hoori returned the hook to his brother and obtained good social status thanks to the two orbs given to him by the princess's father. The princess later went in search of Hoori and gave birth to a son by the seashore.

The boy would go on to become the father of the first Emperor of this nation.

Another tale is this true story from the 19th century:

Manjiro was a fifteen-year old assistant boy on a small fisher-boat with five crewmen. The boat had been struck by a rampaging typhoon on the off shore of Shikoku and had landed onto an unknown desert island. The fishermen managed to keep their lives as Robinson Crusoe did. Fortunately, an Ameri-

can whaleship sailor named John Howland found and rescued them.

Captain Whitfield of the same whaleship was a very warmhearted person. He took in Manjiro and brought him to his hometown of Fairhaven, Massachusetts where people welcomed him very kindly. There he grew to have a splendid personality. Afterwards, he became a very presentable seaman and sailed the seven seas. He was forced to join his old shipmates in Hawaii, however, because of Japan's isolationist policies at the time. He made a plan to venture back onto the soil of their homeland. In January 1853, they succeeded in their efforts and landed on Okinawa, but they had to endure a long series of arrogations and detentions for a year and a half.

At last they saw their dear old fishing village; old pine trees were standing, a long line of white surf was humming, and in a humble thatched hut Manjiro saw his aged mother, tears welling up profusely.

It had been twelve years since the shipwreck.

-KITAMURA Tadao



AIC: Please tell us about yourself and where you are from.

Luke: Hello, Asahikawa! My name is Luke Hodgson and I am from the sunny Gold Coast in Queensland, Australia. I am 33 years old, have two beautiful cats and wonderful family and friends back home. I have a degree in Musical Theatre and a Masters in Primary School Teaching. I am in the process of studying Japanese in the form of a Diploma of Languages at Griffith University but have put that on hold to experience life in Japan. In late 2021, I felt like I need an adventure! An opportunity came up to live in Takasu for 1-2 years as an ALT; I applied for the position, and the rest is history!

AIC: How did you get interested in Japan?

Luke: I first became interested in Japan in high school because I had an amazing Japanese teacher! She is actually married to a Japanese man from Asahikawa. (It's a small world after all!) They live in Australia now but we still keep in touch. She instilled

Hello, Asahikawa!

a passion for the Japanese language and culture in me. She did this by making her lessons interesting and fun. In grade ten, Sensei took our class to our sister school in Yamanashi, Honshu. We did a homestay and ever since then I always seem to be drawn back to Japan.

AIC: Is this your first time in Japan? How long have you been here?

Luke: I have been to Japan twice before. The first time was in high school way back in 2004, but the second time was in 2017. During the second trip I fell back in love with the country, travelling to places like Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto and Disneyland! Wonderful! I even got to see the monkeys in Nagano and the deer in Nara! Being an animal over, these two experiences were highlights of the trip. When my time ended in Japan in 2017, I told myself that I would visit Hokkaido one day and here I am. This time around though I have been in Japan since the beginning of April and although I am riding the waves of homesickness, I am loving every minute.

AIC: What brings you to Asahikawa in particular?

Luke: I am currently working and living in Takasu as an ALT. The Gold Coast City Council and the Takasu Town Council have been sister cities since 1995 and I am the 24th person to be in the position. It is a wonderful opportunity and I am loving the small town with such a tight-knit community. I've planted rice, foraged for wild vegetables and seen beautiful cherry blossoms. It is also fortunate that I can jump in my car and travel in Asahikawa to have some city experiences.

AIC: What kind of work do you do?

Luke: In Australia, I was an elementary school teacher



Name: Luke Hodgson
Home Country: Australia
Interviewed: 2022/06/22

If you live in Asahikawa or are just passing through and would like to be interviewed for "Hello Asahikawa," email us at: cir_kokusai@city.asahikawa.hokkaido.jp

but now my official role is an assistance language teacher (ALT) of English in Takasu. Because of their long relationship with the Gold Coast I am able to enjoy many other wonderful experiences in town performing international relations. I assist in teaching English at Kitano Elementary and Takasu Junior High. The staff and students at the schools are so welcoming and it is a joy to go to school throughout the week. I also teach at some local kindergartens throughout each month where the children seem to absorb English so quickly! It is amazing to be a part of. Every Wednesday I meet with the students of the ななかまど大学 and we go on all sorts of amazing adventures. Again, they are always very welcoming and although there is a language barrier, that doesn't stop us from chatting and laughing together. Takasu is very special because it is lucky enough to have two ALT's! I get to work with Jess from the JET Programme (who was in this column a few months back) and I think we make a great team. Jess is here with her husband and it's wonderful to have some Aussies in town to share experiences with.

AIC: Any places you would recommend to others (restaurants, sight-seeing, etc.)?

Luke: In Takasu, I would have to say Pallet Hills. It is so beautiful; I was able to view the cherry blossoms back in May and the stunning light-up festival. Even now you can head up there and read a good book to relax, have a picnic and just enjoy the area. In Asahikawa,



I have two favorite places. The first is the Asahiyama Zoo. It has such a wide range of animals to see and I've heard in winter the penguins march throughout the zoo. Something I must return to see! The other is a small café in the main street of Asahikawa called the Coffee

Stand Container. I love coffee and miss Australian lattes! The coffees and cakes at this place are to die for. Anytime I am in the area it's a must for me.



AIC: Do you mind sharing any frustrations or challenges you have encountered thus far?

Luke: I think my only frustration has been with my lack of Japanese. I am a bit rusty and have realized there is a big difference between studying Japanese and actually using it in day-to-day life. The locals are always very understanding and help me out the best they can.

AIC: Do you have any goals or things you are looking forward to doing here?

Luke: I want to improve my Japanese the best I can without putting too much pressure on myself. I meet all of these wonderful Japanese people from different walks of life and everything they have in common is that they try to speak English or speak slowly in Japanese to me. This inspires me to continue my Japanese study and improve enough to hold a conversation Kindness really does go a long way. My other goal is to experience as much of Hokkaido as possible in my time here. There are so many places to visit and I want to see it all.

AIC: Is there anything else you would like to say to our readers?

Luke: Even though I have only lived here for a short period of time, I have been able to see the similarities between Japanese people and Australians. We have so many things in common. Remember to keep being friendly and open to new experiences. I feel so welcomed into town by my colleagues and it really makes my day to know that I am so supported. I like to think that I am just as supportive back. All those years ago, in my high school Japanese class, I said to myself, "One day, I'll live in Japan." Here I am, doing it eighteen years later. You're never too old for an adventure!

Movies - July

*The 1st day of every month is "Movie Day" in Asahikawa. Admission (tax included) is ¥1,100 for Adults, ¥800 for High School Students and Under at all theaters.

Aeon Cinema Only: Every Monday is "Happy Monday." Admission is ¥1,100 (tax included) for all.

Cineplex 7 Asahikawa and Dinos Cinemas Only: Every Wednesday is "Ladies' Day." Admission is ¥1,100 (tax included) for women at all theaters.

Dinos Cinemas Only: Every Thursday is "Men's Day." Admission is ¥1,100 (tax included) for men.

★ **Aeon Cinema:** Miyashita-dori 7-chome / 0166 – 74 – 6411 URL: cinema.aeoncinema.com/wm/asahikawa (Japanese)

Now Showing

- Soreike! Anpanman: Dororin and the Transforming Carnival (Japanese/Anime)
- Fullmetal Alchemist the Final Chapter: The Last Transmutation (Japanese)
- Broker (Korean)
- Tokyo 2020 Olympics Side: B (Japanese)
- Yokai Sharehouse (Japanese)
- The Pass: Last Days of the Samurai (Japanese)
- The Hound of the Baskervilles (Japanese)
- Dragon Ball Super: Super Hero (Japanese/Anime)
- Teasing Master Takagi-san (Japanese/Anime)
- The Way of the Househusband (Japanese)
- Tokyo 2020 Olympics Side: A (Japanese)
- Top Gun: Maverick (English)
- 5-tobun no Hanayome (Japanese/Anime)
- Shin Ultraman (Japanese)
- Detective Conan-the Bride of Halloween (Japanese/Anime)

Coming Soon

- Lightyear (English/Anime) 7/1
- Elvis (English) 7/1
- My Boyfriend in Orange (Japanese) 7/8
- Thor: Love and Thunder (English 4DX) 7/8
- Zannen na Ikimono Jiten (Japanese/Anime) 7/8
- Minions: The Rise of Gru (English/Anime) 7/15
- Kingdom 2 (Japanese) 7/15
- Ghost Book (Japanese) 7/22
- Kamen Rider Revice & Avataro Sentai Donbrothers (Japanese) 7/22
- RE:cycle of the PENGUINDRUM Pt2 (Japanese/Anime) 7/22
- Jurassic World: Dominion (English 4DX) 7/29
- Konya, Sekai kara kono Koi ga Kietemo (Japanese) 7/29
- TANG (Japanese) 8/4
- One Piece Film Red (Japanese/Anime) 8/6
- Osomatsu-san ~ Hipipo-Boku to Kagayaku Kajitsu (Japanese/Anime) 8/12
- Sonic the Hedgehog 2- Sonic vs. Knuckles (English/Anime) 8/19
- Violence Action (Japanese) 8/19
- Offbeat Cops (Japanese) 8/26
- PAW Patrol Jet to the Recue (Japanese/Anime) 8/26

★ **Dinos Cinemas:** Taisetsu-dori 5-chome / 0166 – 21 – 1218 URL: <http://cinema.sugai-dinos.jp/pc/> (Japanese)

Now Showing

- Donbass (Ukrainian, Russian)
- Aria (Japanese)
- Wandering (Japanese)
- Utsukushiki Tennen (Japanese)
- Moruerani no Kiri no Naka (Japanese)
- Ring Wandering (Japanese)
- Wandering (Japanese)

Coming Soon

- School Meals Time Graduation (Japanese) 7/1
- Hameln (Japanese) 7/1
- This is Amiko (Japanese) 7/8
- Towa no Ai (Japanese) 7/8
- Final Cut (English) 7/15
- Ikitoshi Ikeru Mono (Japanese) 7/15
- Saturday Night Fever (English) 7/15~7/29
- Flashdance (English) 7/15~7/29
- Kodomo Kaigi (Japanese) 8/5

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

Movies - July

*The 1st day of every month is "Movie Day" in Asahikawa. Admission (tax included) is ¥1,100 for Adults, ¥800 for High School Students and Under at all theaters.

Aeon Cinema Only: Every Monday is "Happy Monday." Admission is ¥1,100 (tax included) for all.

Cineplex 7 Asahikawa and Dinos Cinemas Only: Every Wednesday is "Ladies' Day." Admission is ¥1,100 (tax included) for women at all theaters.

Dinos Cinemas Only: Every Thursday is "Men's Day." Admission is ¥1,100 (tax included) for men.

★ **Cineplex 7 Asahikawa:** Nagayama 12-jo 3-chome Western Powers Nagayama / 0166 - 49 - 1000

URL: <http://www.unitedcinemas.jp/asahikawa/index.html> (Japanese)

Now Showing

- Fullmetal Alchemist the Final Chapter: The Last Transmutation (Japanese)
- Soreike! Anpanman: Dororin and the Transforming Carnival (Japanese/Anime)
- Broker (Korean)
- The Lost City (English)
- The Pass: Last Days of the Samurai (Japanese)
- Yokai Sharehouse (Japanese)
- PLAN75 (Japanese)
- Dragon Ball Super: Super Hero (Japanese 4DX/Anime)
- The Way of the Househusband (Japanese)
- Inu-Oh (Japanese/Anime)
- Top Gun: Maverick (English 4DX)
- Detective Conan-the Bride of Halloween (Japanese 4DX/Anime)

Coming Soon

- Free! the Final Stroke Pt2 (Japanese 4DX/Anime)
- Lightyear (English/Anime) 7/1
- Elvis (English) 7/1
- Tengaramon (Japanese) 7/7
- Thor: Love and Thunder (English 4DX) 7/8
- Minions: The Rise of Gru (English/Anime) 7/15
- Kingdom 2 (Japanese) 7/15
- Ghost Book (Japanese) 7/22
- Kamen Rider Revice & Avataro Sentai Donbrothers (Japanese) 7/22
- Jurassic World: Dominion (English 4DX) 7/29
- Konya, Sekai kara kono Koi ga Kietemo (Japanese) 7/29
- One Piece Film Red (Japanese/Anime) 8/1
- TANG (Japanese) 8/11

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



AIC Bulletin Board

Color Your Japanese!

Need Help?



Improve your Japanese communication skills by using this FREE online resource! Irodori offers Japanese language textbooks and audio files for the A1 and A2 levels of the CEFR language scale. Made to help foreign migrants improve their everyday Japanese, this resource focuses on communication over grammar, words or kanji. It also includes mini-cultural lessons for you to better understand Japanese society! To access, go to: www.irodori.jpf.go.jp

If you ever find yourself in need of assistance, know that the Hokkaido Foreign Resident Support Center is there for you! They are able to provide you with consultation services in various languages (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Russian, Indonesian, Thai, Nepalese, Burmese) on residence procedures, employment, medical care, welfare, childbirth, child care, education, and more for FREE! Call them at **011-200-9595** or go to: www.hiecc.or.jp/soudan



Interesting activities such as quizzes, discussions, songs, games, handicrafts and much more, all in English! Come meet new people, relax and relate on Fun Fridays!

Dates: June 10th & 24th, July 8th & 22nd, August 12th & August 26th
Times: 1:00pm-2:00pm ~Afternoon~ 2nd and 4th Friday of the month
 6:30pm-8:30pm ~Night~ 2nd Friday of the month
Location: Asahikawa International Center, Common Meeting Room (1)
 (Feeeal Asahikawa 7F 1-jo-dori 8-chome)
Charge: ¥1,500 for 3 months (Free for volunteer leaders)

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.



The Asahikawa International Center (Feeeal Asahikawa 7F 1-jo-dori 8-chome) has free Wi-Fi available for public use and is free of charge. If you reside in Asahikawa, registration for a user card is required. Please feel free to come by anytime, as well as check out some of the other services and activities available at the Asahikawa International Center!

Spread the Word...

Contribute to the AIC newsletter and share any interesting information you may have with other readers. You may write on any topic including, items to buy or sell, offers for culture/language exchanges, or write an essay about your life in Asahikawa or your hometown. The article should not be profit related! Please send your submissions to us at the AIC.



Asahikawa International Committee
 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