

# Asahikawa Info

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(SUGANO Ayumi, SAITO Emmy, or GONZÁLEZ Gabriel)

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## Hokkaido News Top 5

*May - June 2022, compiled by the AIC*

### Zoos and Aquariums Partner Up for Wildlife Conservation, 4/20

On April 19th, eight institutions of the Japanese Association of Zoos and Aquariums (JAZA) announced the beginning of their partner project "Hokkaido Life Conservation Project," a rare agreement, even at the national level, through which they will work to protect Hokkaido wildlife and nature. A press conference was held in Sapporo in conjunction with Caring for Animals Day, with project members including the Asahiyama Zoo participating. Hoping to encourage environmental activism, they are working at spreading awareness through rotating exhibits and joint staff training.

### Gundam Manholes to be Installed in 3 Hokkaido Municipalities, 4/23

In an effort to revitalize interest in areas around Japan, Bandai Namco Group has decided to donate six manhole covers with depictions of the mecha that appear in the popular robot anime "Mobile Suit Gundam" to Toyotomi, Teshio and Wakkanai. Hokkaido became the first region to receive the manhole covers after Bandai had been sent an application connecting the vast fields of Hokkaido to outer space, the setting in which the anime was placed. Each cover has its own unique design with images of popular tourist sites appearing alongside the mecha, acting as further PR for the municipalities.

### Western Art Museum Opens in Otaru, 4/29

Nitori, a major retail furniture and interior design company, has opened its Western art museum in Minato's former Naniwa Storehouse, a historic structure along the Otaru Canal. The CEO of Nitori Holdings commented he was very happy to be able to open Japan's first full-fledged Western art museum. It is the fourth institution of the Otaru Art Base run by the Nitori Cultural Foundation, and houses around 600 works of Western art produced primarily in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Museum hours are 9:30-17:00, with general entry fees of ¥500. Open every day until the end of Oct.

### Hanatabi Soya to Embark at Long Last, 5/15

JR Hokkaido launched the "Hanatabi Soya," a special express train that can go roundtrip on the Asahikawa-Wakkanai Soya line in two days. Although planned out two years ago, it had been postponed due to the coronavirus pandemic. Twenty-two years since there had last been an express train, it is comprised of three sightseeing train cars and welcomes passengers from in and out of Hokkaido with local bento at every station on the line. Around 80 railway fans waited cameras in hand at the JR Asahikawa Station for the train's departure at 10:41. While the train will be running until June 5th, the seats have all unfortunately been sold out.

### Landing Strip at Sapporo Okadama Airport to Extend by 300 m, 5/15

The city of Sapporo has made clear its proposition to extend the currently 1,500 m landing strip at the Sapporo Okadama Airport to 1,800 m. Although the airport's regional jet airliners were only meant to fly in the summer, they anticipate the current number of 30 total arriving and departing flights per day to increase to 70 if winter service becomes possible. They aim to complete the project within ten years, costing between 25-35 billion yen. Japan will have to decide after consultation with the surrounding residents of the airport whether such an enlargement is feasible. An increase in noise level, costs, construction time, traffic and operation hours remains an issue.

## Kawai Concert No.2316, JJ Jun Li Bui: Piano Recital

### カワイコンサートNo.2136 JJ ジュン・リ・ブイ ピアノリサイタル

Come and listen to J.J. Jun Li Bui, a Canadian-born pianist, as he performs a variety of musical pieces, including: selections by Chopin (Four Mazurkas, Op. 33; Polonaise in B-flat minor, "Adieu" Op. posth.; Ballade No. 1 in G-minor, Op. 23; and Polonaise-Fantaisie in A-flat major, Op. 61), selections by Debussy (No. 7-12 from Études), and Suite from The Firebird by Stravinsky/Agosti.

Date: 6/4 (Saturday)

Time: Opens 18:00, Starts 18:30

Place: Asahikawa Taisetsu Crystal Hall, Concert Hall (Asahikawa, Kagura 3-jo 7-chome)

Admission: General ¥2,500, Pair ¥4,000, Student/Member ¥2,000

Ticket Office: Kawai Asahikawa Shop (0166-22-7461), Coach & Four (Music Corner, 0166-76-4002)

For further information, contact: 0166-22-7461 (Kawai Musical Instruments Manufacturing)



## Hana Saisai: Blossoming in Literature

### 花・彩々—文学の中に咲く—

With the arrival of spring in Hokkaido comes a blossoming of colors and hues brought on by the flowers and plants that surround us. In celebration of the new season, the Hokkaido Museum of Literature will be presenting a temporary exhibit on depictions of nature found in books originally from Hokkaido.

Date: Until 6/5 (Sunday)

Time: 9:30-17:00 (Entry ends at 16:30), Closed Mondays

Place: Hokkaido Museum of Literature (Sapporo, Chuo-ku, Nakajima Park 1-4)

Admission: (For event) FREE; (For general admission) General ¥500 (¥400\*), \*\*High school/college students ¥250 (¥200\*), those over 65+/middle school and under FREE (\*Groups of 10+) (\*\*High school students are FREE on Saturdays)

For further information, contact: 011-511-7655 (Hokkaido Museum of Literature)



## The Great British Masters

### 偉大なる英国の巨匠たち

Why not enjoy an afternoon listening to works by composers from the British Isles that have left an impressive mark in the realm of music? Those to be performed include: Walton, Williams, Elgar, Britten and Delius.

Date: 6/18 (Saturday)

Time: Opens 13:00, Starts 14:00

Place: Sapporo Cultural Arts Theater hitaru (Sapporo, Chuo-ku Kita 1-jo Nishi 1-chome)

Admission: General ¥3,000, Under 25 ¥1,500

Ticket Office: Sapporo Community Plaza Member Site (<https://sapporo-cp-members.jp>), Sapporo Community Plaza Ticket Center (Sapporo Community Plaza 2F), Doshin Playguide (0570-00-3871, <https://doshin-playguide.jp>), Ticket Pia (P-code: 213-495), Lawson Ticket (L-code: 11596)

For further information, contact: 011-271-1000 (Sapporo Cultural Arts Theater hitaru, 9:00-17:00)



## Asahikawa Rakugo Arts Association, Sankyo Yanagiya and Kyotaro Yanagiya: Mentor and Mentee

### 旭川落語芸術協会主催 第四十一回旭芸寄席 柳家さん喬 柳家喬太郎 親子会

If you bring two Rakugo masters onto the same performance, who knows what could happen? Take the plunge and find out in this evening with rakugo mentor and mentee Sankyo Yanagiya and Kyotaro Yanagiya!

Date: 6/26 (Sunday)

Time: Opens 17:15, Starts 18:00

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

Admission: SS-seat ¥4,000, S-seat ¥3,500 (\*Prices increase by ¥500 for on-day ticket sales)

Ticket Office: Ticket Pia (P-code: 510-416), 7-11 (Please use multi-copy machine, may have additional fees), Gyokkodo (3F Aeon Mall, 0166-73-8801), Kodomo Fukido (Asahikawa, 7-jo Kaimono Koen, 0166-23-3169), Machinaka Bunkagoya (Asahikawa, 7-jo Kaimono Koen, 0166-23-2801), Mai Furendo Café (Asahikawa, Suehiro 5-jo 1-chome 2-17, 0166-54-0404)

For further information, contact: 090-3773-0853 (Kobayashi)



## Hikaru Han'yu: View of the Eternal Cape—Japanese-style Paintings

### 日本画家 羽生輝展 悠久の岬を望む

Born in Tokyo and brought to Hokkaido at the age of 7, Hikaru Han'yu has long been depicting scenes of Kushiro through his painting. This exhibit takes a look at the life and work of the artist, with around 60 pieces stretching back to his youth to more recent projects, as well as other documents detailing the trajectory of his life. His art connects people to nature through his own unique gaze upon the land he calls home.

Date: Until 6/26 (Sunday)

Time: 9:30-17:00 (Entry ends at 16:30), Closed Mondays

Place: Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art (Sapporo, Chuo-ku Kita 1-jo, 17-chome)

Admission: General ¥1,000 (¥800\*), High school/college students ¥600 (¥400\*), Middle/elementary school students ¥300 (¥200\*), Preschool and under FREE (must be accompanied by guardian)

For further information, contact: 011-644-6882 (Hokkaido Museum of Modern Art)



## Let's Go to the Art Museum! Learn How to Enjoy Modern Art with Dick Bruna

### 美術館に行こう！ディック・ブルーナに学ぶモダン・アートの楽しみ方

Come and have fun learning about how to appreciate art and design in this collaborative exhibition with Miffy and Dick Bruna's book "Miffy Goes to the Art Museum."

Date: Until 6/26 (Sunday)

Time: 9:30-17:00 (Entry ends at 16:30), Closed Mondays

Place: Hokkaido Asahikawa Museum of Art (inside Tokiwa Park, Asahikawa)

Admission: ¥1,100 (¥900\*), University and High School students ¥600 (¥400\*), Middle School students ¥300 (¥200\*), Elementary and under FREE (must be accompanied by adult) \*groups of 10+

Ticket Office: (Pre-sale tickets until 4/22, regular tickets after 4/22) Hokkaido Asahikawa Museum of Art, any Fukido in Asahikawa, Lawson Ticket (L-code: 11938), Seven Ticket (Seven-code: 092-741), Ticket Pia (P-code: 685-915), Doshin Playguide (in Sapporo), Doshin Playguide online store, etc.

For further information, contact: 0166-25-2577 (Hokkaido Asahikawa Museum of Art)



## 2022 Junretsu Concert

### 2022 純烈コンサート

Boy idol group Junretsu will be coming to Asahikawa to perform their 2022 concert! Come out and enjoy a night out with Kazuyoshi Sakai, Shota Gogami, Yujiro Shirakawa, and Ryohei Odai!

Date: 6/29 (Wednesday)

Time: (Day performance) Opens 13:15, Starts 14:00; (Night performance) Starts 17:15, Opens 18:00

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

Admission: S-seat ¥5,000, A-seat ¥2,500

Ticket Office: Ticket Pia (P-code: 209-255), Lawson Ticket (L-code: 12518), Doshin Playguide (0570-00-3871)

For further information, contact: 011-533-7711 (A-DASH)



## Teruo Yamamura: Asahikawa's Very Own Manga Artist

### 旭川ゆかりの漫画家 山村輝夫展

The Asahikawa Museum of Literature will be setting up an exhibit on the life and work of Teruo Yamamura, an award-winning manga artist and picture book illustrator that hails from our very own Asahikawa!

Date: Until 6/30 (Thursday)

Time: 10:00-16:00, Closed Sundays & Mondays, holidays

Place: Asahikawa Literary Museum (inside Tokiwa Park, Asahikawa)

Admission: FREE

For further information, contact: 0166-22-3334 (Asahikawa Literary Museum)



June Events in Asahikawa

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

**Justen:** 旭川、こんにちは！ My name is Justen Williams, I am 29 years old and from the sunny Gold Coast in Australia. I am the second eldest of five children and got married in September last year.

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

**Justen:** I was very interested in cars growing up and really loved classic Japanese sports cars and *bosozoku* culture when I was in high school. I also watched some Japanese animation during that time. My favorites were Princess Mononoke and Neon Genesis Evangelion! As an adult, I wanted to visit Japan for the beautiful scenery, kind people, interesting culture and of course, the great food!

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

**Justen:** I have actually come to Japan for a holiday several times before I moved here. It is very convenient from Australia and there is so much to see and do! Some of my favorite places to visit are Iya Valley in Shikoku (very beautiful and peaceful), Miyajima in Hiroshima (delicious oys-

# Hello, Asahikawa!

ters and breath-taking views), Matsuyama in Ehime, Nara and now Asahikawa! My wife and I moved here in late October of 2021 and have been really enjoying our time here. The winter was very exciting as we don't get much snow in Australia and the spring sakura were lovely to see.

**AIC:** What brings you to Asahikawa in particular?

**Justen:** My wife was accepted into the JET program and has an ALT position here. I wanted to come along for the ride and could not be happier that we were placed in this town. The climate is fantastic and we're right in the middle of Hokkaido, which makes travelling very easy.

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

**Justen:** At the moment I have two part-time jobs. My main work is in disability care. It's a fun job which has its challenges. We organize lots of activities for our customers such as sports, music, games and reading. I work with lots of lovely people. I also work at a café in Asahikawa. My work there is great, I get to work in the city and make tasty coffee and share some latte art with people.

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

**Justen:** I love music and I play the guitar and sing. I started guitar when I was twelve. I taught myself using Youtube. I initially wanted to play to learn metal music. As I got older my musical tastes changed and I found passion for the blues, classical, and pop music. Now, I write my own music. I usually write folk or jazz music! I also enjoy watching films, cooking, photography, hiking, snowboarding and spending time with friends.

**AIC:** Do you have any favorite Japanese foods?

**Justen:** I really love *tonkatsu ramen* with *miso*. *Ramen* is such a special dish. It's incredibly hard to make at home. I appreciate each bowl of *ramen* as there is so much time and care put into preparing it. Nothing beats *sushi* in Japan. It's fresh, deli-



**Name: Justen Williams**  
**Home Country: Australia**  
**Interviewed: 2022/05/25**

**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](mailto:cir_kokusai@city.asahikawa.hokkaido.jp)**

cious and affordable. I particularly love tuna *sushi*. *Sushi* in Australia is really different to *sushi* in Japan. For example, we have *sushi* with cheese on top! *Sushi* in Japan is much better. *Toriton* is our favorite so far! I have really been enjoying the Hokkaido specialty of *jingisukan*. It's delicious. I love how friends and family can all share and cook a meal together. It's an intimate and lovely dining experience! Please go if you can.

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

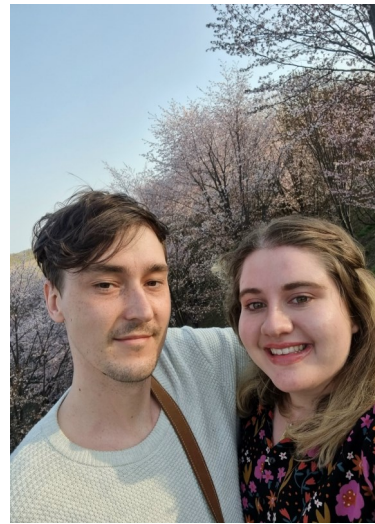
**Justen:** I would recommend Yoshinori for coffee. The product is awesome and some of the best coffee I have ever had. I really like Sunusu for their pancakes. Try the plain pancakes with butter and syrup, you will be in heaven! Definitely go to Freehouse the Yeast for craft beer. The people there are so friendly and they have rotating craft beer taps. I spent a lot of time snowboarding with



friends at Pippu Ski Links. It's really affordable and has some great runs. It's usually full of locals who can ski really well and teach me a lot! I also recommend travelling around Hokkaido via car/van and staying at a *Michi-no-Eki*. My wife and I just did this recently and it was a cheap and fun way to see Japan. I loved the freedom of being able to stop anywhere, go to a good *onsen* and then fall asleep. I want to do lots more travelling in Hokkaido. (If you ever travel to the Gold Coast, you should go to Tallebudgera beach to drink coffee, eat croissants and surf the waves!)

**AIC:** What have been your impressions of Asahikawa so far and how does it compare to your hometown?

**Justen:** Asahikawa is a really nice place with lovely people. I love the backdrop of the Daisetsuzan mountain range. It's absolutely stunning. I really enjoyed my first snow season, too. I enjoyed the snow festival, seeing the ice sculptures and going ice skating in the city. I enjoyed visiting



the various ski fields, such as Santa Present Park, Kamui and Pippu. My hometown is the complete opposite of Asahikawa. The Gold Coast has the backdrop of a stunning beach and endless summer. It never snows there! Lots of people go surfing and it is home to a lot of surfing competitions. Another difference

includes vegan ramen— on the Gold Coast vegan ramen is very popular. This is ramen made by only vegetables, no meat products at all! It's surprisingly delicious! However, I do think ramen in Japan is the best. There are some similarities. Such as, there is lots of beautiful hiking. I can't wait to go hiking when the snow finishes melting and the weather cools again. September is a good time for hiking, so I will go then!

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

**Justen:** Besides the usual language barrier frustrations that anyone experiences living in a different country, I have found tackling the Japanese paperwork to be quite difficult. In Australia, online banking is extremely common and easy. It has been quite the challenge to adapt to changing the way I pay bills and access information. Also, whilst I have been exploring Japanese supermarkets and the options available, I do miss some Australian produce. Australia is a very tropical country so we have access to products such as mangoes, lychees, dragon fruit and big potatoes. The cost of fruit in Japan is quite high, too. It's much cheaper in Australia. However, my favorite food is mush-



## Hello, Asahikawa! Cont.

rooms. I love all the different types of mushrooms Japan has to offer such as *enoki*, *shitake*, *matsumake*. I loved visiting Aibetsu and enjoying a feast of only mushroom ingredients.

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

**Justen:** I want to visit all the beautiful places of Hokkaido. During the summer holidays I want to do a trip to Wakkanai and Rebun-to. I want to do the 8-hour hike there. It looks absolutely stunning! Rebun-to has a special flower that only grows in the summer. I want to get better at Japanese and make more friends. My Japanese has definitely improved a lot since arriving here. Every time I study its extremely rewarding. I am able to talk to my Japanese friends in new ways and learn more about them. I really want to improve my kanji skill too, then I will be able to understand more of the world around me.

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

**Justen:** Study English hard! Learning languages is a gateway to meeting new people. If you have an interest in living in a different country, then definitely do it. It takes a lot of effort and can be difficult but it's truly the best thing in the world. I have learnt so much about Japan and myself during my time living in Asahikawa.



# Movies - June

\*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.

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

### Now Showing

- Inu-Oh (Japanese/Anime)
- Top Gun: Maverick (English)
- Taiga e no Michi (Japanese)
- Haken Anime! (Japanese)
- Fullmetal Alchemist the Final Chapter: Scar the Avenger (Japanese)
- Shin Ultraman (Japanese)
- Bubble (Japanese/Anime)
- Wandering (Japanese)
- Lesson in Murder (Japanese/PG12)
- Doctor Strange in Multiverse of Madness (English)
- xxxHolic (Japanese)
- Crayon Shin-chan: Mononoke Ninja Chinpuuden (Japanese/Anime)
- Detective Conan-the Bride of Halloween (Japanese/Anime)
- Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore (English)

### Coming Soon

- Life is a Miracle! (Japanese) 6/3
- The Way of the Househusband (Japanese) 6/3
- Yes, I Can't Swim (Japanese) 6/10
- Dragon Ball Super: Super Hero (Japanese/Anime) 6/11
- The Pass: Last Days of the Samurai (Japanese) 6/17
- The Hound of the Baskervilles (Japanese) 6/17
- Yokai Sharehouse (Japanese) 6/17
- Fullmetal Alchemist the Final Chapter: The Last Transmutation (Japanese) 6/24
- Broker (Korean) 6/24
- Lightyear (English/Anime) 7/1
- This is Amiko (Japanese) 7/8
- Minions: The Rise of Gru (English/Anime) 7/15

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

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**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](http://cinema.aeoncinema.com/wm/asahikawa) (Japanese)

**Now Showing**

- Odd Taxi: In the Woods (Japanese/Anime)
- Eien to Ya to Wa no Ai (Japanese)
- Top Gun: Maverick (English)
- 20-Year-Old Soul (Japanese)
- 5-tobun no Hanayome (Japanese/Anime)
- Taiga e no Michi (Japanese)
- Haken Anime! (Japanese)
- Fullmetal Alchemist the Final Chapter: Scar the Avenger (Japanese)
- Bubble (Japanese/Anime)
- Wandering (Japanese)
- Shin Ultraman (Japanese)
- Lesson in Murder (Japanese/PG12)
- Doctor Strange in Multiverse of Madness (English)
- xxxHolic (Japanese)
- Radiation House (Japanese)
- Free! the Final Stroke Pt2 (Japanese 4D/Anime)
- Crayon Shin-chan: Mononoke Ninja Chinpuden (Japanese/Anime)
- Detective Conan-the Bride of Halloween (Japanese/Anime)
- Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore (English)

**Coming Soon**

- Kisaragi Station (Japanese) 6/3
- Life is a Miracle! (Japanese) 6/3
- The Way of the Househusband (Japanese) 6/3
- Tokyo 2020 Olympics Side: A (Japanese) 6/3
- Alivehoon (Japanese) 6/10
- Yes, I Can't Swim (Japanese) 6/10
- Teasing Master Takagi-san (Japanese/Anime) 6/10
- Dragon Ball Super: Super Hero (Japanese/Anime) 6/11
- Yokai Sharehouse (Japanese) 6/17
- Watashitachi wa Otona (Japanese/PG12) 6/17
- The Pass: Last Days of the Samurai (Japanese) 6/17
- The Hound of the Baskervilles (Japanese) 6/17
- Soreike! Anpanman: Dororin and the Transforming Carnival (Japanese/Anime) 6/24
- Fullmetal Alchemist the Final Chapter: The Last Transmutation (Japanese) 6/24
- Broker (Korean) 6/24
- Tokyo 2020 Olympics Side: B (Japanese) 6/24
- Lightyear (English/Anime) 7/1
- My Boyfriend in Orange (Japanese) 7/8
- Thor: Love and Thunder (English) 7/8
- Zannen na Ikimono Jiten (Japanese/Anime) 7/8
- Minions: The Rise of Gru (English/Anime) 7/15
- Kingdom 2 (Japanese) 7/15

★ **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**

- Top Gun: Maverick (English)
- Blue Birthday (Korean)
- Fullmetal Alchemist the Final Chapter: Scar the Avenger (Japanese)
- Haken Anime! (Japanese)
- Taiga e no Michi (Japanese)
- Seventeen Power of Love: The Movie (Korean 4DX)
- Wandering (Japanese)
- Shin Ultraman (Japanese)
- Bubble (Japanese/Anime)
- Doctor Strange in Multiverse of Madness (English 4DX)
- Radiation House (Japanese)
- xxxHolic (Japanese)
- Crayon Shin-chan: Mononoke Ninja Chinpuden (Japanese/Anime)
- Free! the Final Stroke Pt2 (Japanese 4D/Anime)
- Detective Conan-the Bride of Halloween (Japanese 4DX/Anime)
- Fantastic Beasts: The Secrets of Dumbledore (English 4DX)

**Coming Soon**

- Mobile Suit Gundam: Cucuruz Doan's Island (Japanese/Anime) 6/3
- The Way of the Househusband (Japanese) 6/3
- Yes, I Can't Swim (Japanese) 6/10
- Dragon Ball Super: Super Hero (Japanese 4DX/Anime) 6/11
- The Pass: Last Days of the Samurai (Japanese) 6/17
- PLAN75 (Japanese) 6/17
- Yokai Sharehouse (Japanese) 6/17
- Fullmetal Alchemist the Final Chapter: The Last Transmutation (Japanese) 6/24
- Soreike! Anpanman: Dororin and the Transforming Carnival (Japanese/Anime) 6/24
- Broker (Korean) 6/24
- The Lost City (English) 6/24
- Lightyear (English/Anime) 7/1
- Minions: The Rise of Gru (English/Anime) 7/15
- Kingdom 2 (Japanese) 7/15

# 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](http://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](http://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 & 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.



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