

Misawa International Association News

Japanese New Year Celebration

Jan 31, 2016, Sunday from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm
at Misawa International Center



Are you new to Japan? Or do you want to start off the New Year on a good note? Come join us as we demonstrate how to celebrate the New Year, Japanese-style! The New Year season is one of the most important holidays in Japan. Everyone goes home to spend time with the extended family and many activities are done to ensure good luck for the year- such as making Rolled-sushi, writing beautiful calligraphy and pounding mochi!

Fee for MIA member s :
¥1000 for adults (12 years/+)
¥600 for children (3-11years)

Fee for non-member s :
¥1,300 for adults (12 years/+)
¥900 for children (3-11 years)



Japanese Beginner's Class

Jan 18, 25, Feb 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Mar 7, 14, 21
Mondays, 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Fee: ¥2,500- for 10 classes

日本語 Nihongo Beginner Class

Dec 8 and 15
Tuesdays, 10:00 am - noon
Fee: Please Ask!

Come and learn Japanese conversation!

Japanese Intermediate Class

Jan 18, 25, Feb 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Mar 7, 14, 21
Mondays, 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Fee: ¥2,500- for 10 classes



ABC Circle

Dec 9, 16,
Wednesday, 10:30 am - 11:30 am
500 yen / circle for MIA member
800yen / circle for Non-MIA member

Join our cross-cultural exchange circle.
Make new friends as you learn some Japanese as well as teach some English

Bus Schedule

Between Sky Plaza Misawa and Misawa International Center

To MIEC*	Bus #75	Bus #63	Bus #75	Bus #63	Bus #63	Bus #75	Bus #63
America Hiroba	9:11	10:59	12:11	12:59	14:49	15:51	17:49
Ice Arena	9:30		12:30			16:10	
Fukaya *	9:31	11:23	12:31	13:23	15:13	16:11	18:13



To Sky Plaza	Bus #75	Bus #75	Bus #63	Bus #63	Bus #75
Fukaya *	9:09	11:09	12:21	14:21	14:39
Ice Arena	9:10	11:10			14:40
America Hiroba	9:28	11:28	12:46	14:46	14:58

MIEC: Misawa International Education Center
America Hiroba is front of Sky Plaza Misawa.
Fukaya: front of Taro Onsen.
(GPS coordinate: 40.675868, 141.392492)

All the classes and events will be held at Misawa International Center.
For more information, please contact Misawa International Association.

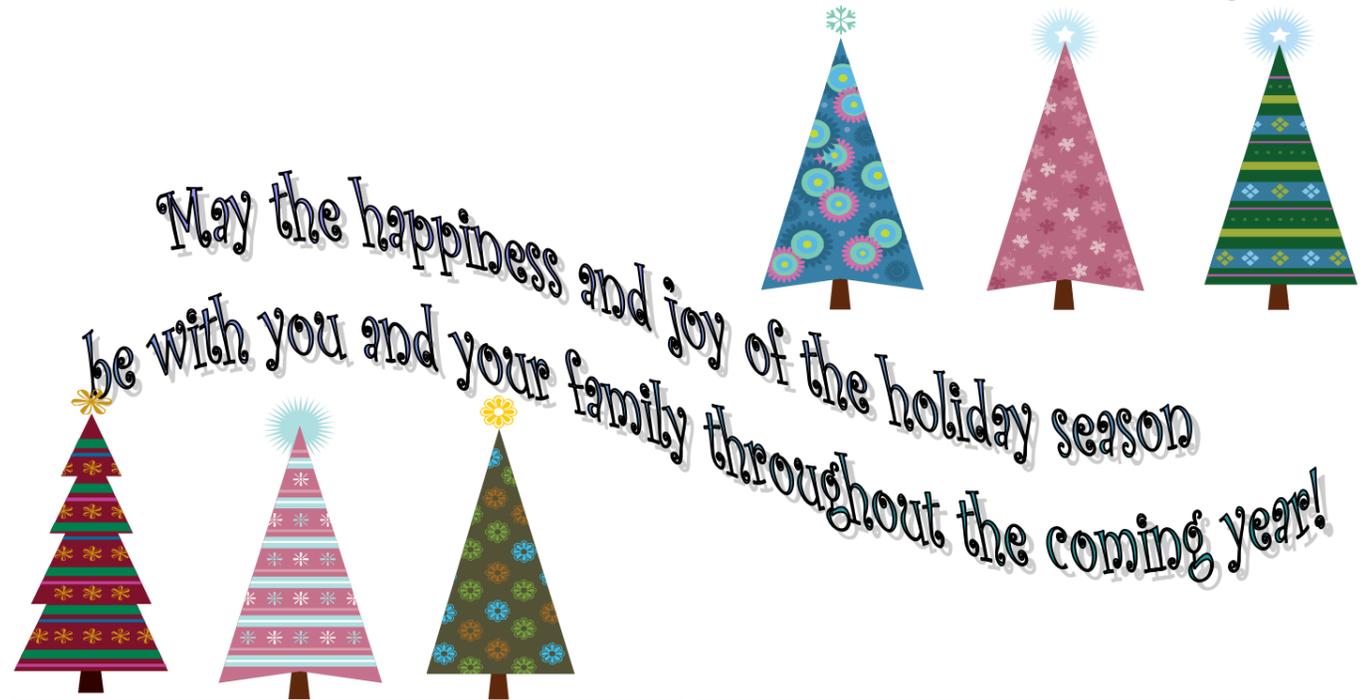
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みさわしていにゆーす

No.130

Misawa City News

December, 2015



Tonami Winter Fantasy

Dec 5 (Sat) - Dec 25 (Fri)
at Tonami Clan Memorial Tourism Village
GPS coordinate: N40.787243,E141.361916

On Dec 5, Saturday, Opening event will be held from noon to 6:00 pm. Local specialties booth, kids play area and fresh egg & milk free give away will be featured. The time for the Christmas Tree Lighting will be 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm during the above schedule.

Opening Events Schedule: Dec 5 (Sat)

13:00 Egg & Milk gives away
13:30 Stage Performance
14:30 Rice cake pounding
14:30 Meet Hokkina & Hokinosuke (Misawa's local mascots)
15:00 Meet Santa & Get Gift (free gift to the first 500 children)
16:00 Stage Performance
16:45 Illumination Lighting
17:00 Egg & Milk gives away Stage Performance
17:30 Fireworks

Christmas Illumination

Dec 18 (Fri) - 25 (Fri), from sunset to 10:00 pm
At Life community park Misawa
GPS coordinate: 40.681016, 141.364953

Stop by and see the beautiful illumination displays!!

Terayama Music World

Dec 20 (Sun) starting from 3:00 pm
At Misawa Civic Center

Local singer, kids and choir groups, and a brass band will perform at the 80th anniversary of Shuji Terayama. Admission is free!!

Art Towada Winter Light Displays

from Dec 4 (Thu) - 25 (Thu) from 4:30 - 9 pm
GPS coordinate: N40.614332,E141.209107

Around Koma Kaido Art Park (located in front of the Towada Art Museum) Enjoy a magical world of fantasy art, illuminated with about 300,000 blue LED lights!

Christmas Market in Kosaka

Every Saturday (Dec 5, 12 & 19) before Christmas Day
At Tenshi-kan in Kosaka town, Akita Pref.
GPS coordinate: N40.328324,E140.743112

Enjoy Germany in Japan --- in Akita! Get your Christmas shopping done; enjoy good German beer, gluhwein & foods, live shows, Christmas light displays and more! Fun for all ages!

Heart Full Concert

Dec 20 (Sun), starting from 4:00 pm
At the Misawa City Hospital in the Atrium (on the 1st Floor)
GPS coordinate: N40.6669614,E141.389802

They perform Christmas music and more. Fee is FREE!!!

The 38th Misawa Commercial High School Annual Concert

Dec 26 (Sun), starting from 4:00 pm
At the Misawa Civic Center, Authorial Hall

Enjoy the lively, robust sounds of their performance! Admission: ¥400. Doors open at 3:30 pm.

DECEMBER TIMELINE

師走 Shiwasu is a Japanese word for December which literally mean "teachers run around." This word reflects the busiest month of the year. Here are some things to know about December.

冬支度 Fuyujitaku: Getting ready for winter

You can clean the stove filter, setup the "Kotatsu" (wooden table frame with an electric heater underneath covered by a futon, or heavy blanket), find your winter jackets, scarf, glove, hat and warm socks; take out snow shovel, switch to windshield wipers and snow tires, keep teabags and hot chocolate in stock and don't forget to clean ski, snowboard or sled.

クリスマスイブ Christmas Eve

Celebrating Christmas in Japan is very different than in the west. You'll see a lot of couples walking and holding hands. You'll also find it difficult to book a reservation in a nice restaurant on that day. Depending on the family, Christmas cakes are consumed on Christmas Eve. Chicken is a common dish on that day!

大掃除 O-souji: Winter Cleaning

Just like Spring Cleaning, there is a saying for Winter Cleaning to prepare for the new year. It's special cleaning like wiping windows, washing screen doors, clean floors, deep cleaning of stoves and stoves and ventilation fan.

しめ飾り Shime-kazari: Sacred Straw Festoon

It consists of straw rope, pine and bitter orange and it's placed above entrance door to ward off evil spirits.

紅白歌合戦 Kohaku Utagassen:

Red & White Singing Festival

This an annual event divides the most popular music artists of the year into competing teams of red and white. The "red" team is composed of female artists and the "white" team is all male.

初夢 Hatsu-yume: The first dream of the year

The first dream you have in the new year. It is considered good luck to dream of Mount. Fuji, a hawk and an eggplant.

Early December

年賀状 Nenga-jo: New Year's Greeting Card

The Japanese have a custom of sending New Year's day postcards similar to the Western custom of sending Christmas cards. People edit store cards to create original designs and greetings. They are then mailed before December 4th to arrive on January 1st.

Mid December

お歳暮 Oseibo: Year-end Gift

In Japan, it's customary to give gifts to certain people, such as co-workers, bosses, parents and relatives to express gratitude. Popular items are vacuum-packed hams, cooking oils, assorted cooking spices, beer, coffee, sweets and so on. They are delivered before or around December 20.

December 24

仕事納め: Last business day of the year

December 28 is the last official day of the year and all business transitions end until after the new year. If this day falls on Saturday or Sunday, last business day will be Friday. This schedule may vary by each company.

December 28

御節料理 Osechi-ryori: New Years Dishes

There are traditional Japanese dishes which are eaten during the first 3 days of the new year. Each dish ingredients has a symbolic meaning. Dishes are usually prepared before New Years Day.

December 30

除夜の鐘 Joya-nokane: New Year's Eve Bell

According to Buddhist teaching, people have 108 bonnou (worldly desires). A temple bell is rung 108 times on New Year's Eve to rid a person of these bonnou.

December 31

年越しそば Toshikoshi-soba:

Year-crossing noodles

It's good luck to service and eat buckwheat noodles at the end the year and to wish a person to have a long and healthy life. The buckwheat noodles symbolize longevity.

A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Let's Speak in Nanbu! Part 23

Believe it or not, even though Japan is a small country, it has a variety of colorful accents and dialects. Not far from Misawa--- the area from southern Aomori to northern Iwate Prefectures--one of the main dialects is Nanbu-ben (ben 弁 means "dialect; speech-type"). Here are some useful expressions!

あずましい ゆっこさ はいって ぬくだまる

Azumashi yukko sa haitte nukudamaru

Get warm in comfortable onsen

Azumashi : comfortable

Yukko: Onsen (Natural hot spring)

Haitte: get in

nukudamaru: get warm



Misawa Aviation & Science Museum Event Schedule



Science Show - What color of fluorescent? : Now until Dec 29 (Tue)

What happens when you mixed red and blue light together? Come and learn about light at Museum Lab. The show is free but participants still need to pay for the museum entrance fee. No advanced sign up is required, just show up at the lab at the schedule time:
Weekday (1) 11:30 am (2) 12:30 pm (3) 3:30 pm Weekend (1) 12:30 pm (2) 3:30 pm

Work Shop - Make a fridge magnet: Now until Dec 29 (Tue) at Museum Lab

Come and make a fridge magnet using flour play-dough. This special weekend event is for first-come, first-served people, and it is limited to 20. Fee is only ¥200 per person including materials. Children must be accompanied by an adult all the time. Please sign up at least 30 minutes prior to the schedules below.
(1) 11:00 am (2) 2:30 pm.

Holiday Work Shop : Dec 12 - 13 (Sat - Sun), 9:00 am - 3:30 pm at the Special Exhibition Room

Looking for holiday decorations? See fun workshops below. Children must be accompanied by an adult all the time.
1. Fiber optic illumination tree: Fee is ¥500, first served basis limitedly up to 50 people per day.
2. Sweets shaped candle: Fee is ¥200, first served basis limitedly up to 60 people per day.
3. Snowman shaped candy soda balls "Ramune": Fee is ¥100, first served basis limitedly up to 60 people.
4. Shrink plastic keychain: Fee is ¥150, first served basis while supplies last.

Power Stone "Amber" accessory making: Dec 20 (Sun), at the Special Exhibition Room

Make accessories by carving and polishing Amber stones. 1st session: 10:00 am - noon, 2nd session: 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Necklace: Fee is ¥600, first served basis limitedly up to 10 people
Bracelet: Fee is ¥500, first served basis limitedly up to 20 people.



Toy Hospital in Museum: Dec 20 (Sun), 10:00 am - noon

Do you have any toys that need to be repaired? Toys worth repairing often have sentimental value, monetary value or both. Bring them to the Toy Hospital and have the toy doctor bring new life to your broken toys!! Medical care is FREE!!! We will ask you to pay for repair parts and hospitalization fee as needed. (¥100 / time). Please bring the power cable, instruction manuals and all accessories that comes with electronic toys. Dangerous toys such as "Toy Guns" are not acceptable due to safety reasons.

General Information: Misawa Aviation & Science Museum is open 9:00 am - 5:00 pm, every day except Mondays.

If a Japanese holiday falls on a Monday, then the museum will be open on that Monday but will be closed the following day. Admission: Adult ¥510; High School Student ¥300; Free for 15 years old and under. For more information, check out their website at <http://www.kokukagaku.jp/english.html>

地産地消フェア Misawa Local Produce Festival

Dec 6, Sunday, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm, At Misawa Fishery Port, GPS coordinate: N40.681175, E141.434998

What is Misawa's local specialties? The festival will feature the Misawa's local specialties such as Hokki-gai (Surf Clam), Squid, Gobo (root burdock), Nagaimo (Chinese Yam) and Paika baby back rib. There will be Misawa's Local hero "Hokki-Guy" show (①10:15 am, ②1:50 pm) live music performances, food booths and more! Come to try tasty foods and fun experience the festival fun!!

Misawa City Office, International Relations Division

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