

### 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, Mondays, 5 pm - 6 pm  
Fee: ¥2,500- for 10 classes

### Japanese Intermediate Class

Jan 18, 25, Feb 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, Mondays, 6 pm - 7 pm  
Fee: ¥2,500- for 10 classes

### Japanese Advanced Class

Jan 18, 25, Feb 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, March 7, 14, 21, Mondays, 6 pm - 7 pm  
Fee: ¥2,500- for 10 classes

### 日本語 Nihongo Beginner Class

Jan 12, 19, 26, Feb 2, 9, 16, 23, Mar 1, 8 and 15, Tuesdays, 10 am - noon  
Fee: ¥5,000 for 10 classes  
Come and learn Japanese conversation!



### ABC Circle

Jan 13, 20, 27, 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 Education 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.

Phone: 080-6022-1349 Email: kokusai@city.misawa.lg.jp



This year is the Year of the 申 Saru (Monkey) in the Chinese zodiac. There are 12 symbolic animals for each year and the cycle is completed after the 12th year. Like Western astrology, each animal represents a basic personality type or certain characteristics. For relationships, each animal gets along with certain animal personalities better than others. Quite simply, everyone is born under a Chinese zodiac animal, which comes once every 12 years. Years of the Monkey include 1920, 1932, 1944, 1956, 1968, 1980, 1992, 2004 and 2016. Here is personality people born in a year of the monkey; quick-witted, optimistic, ambitious, adventurous and smart. The 12 Symbolic Animals: (Which one is you?)

子 Rat - 丑 Ox - 寅 Tiger - 卯 Rabbit - 辰 Dragon - 巳 Snake -  
午 Horse - 未 Sheep - 申 Monkey - 酉 Rooster - 戌 Dog - 亥 Boar

新年明けまして  
おめでとーうございます

**SGER WARS & Mochi Pounding**  
On Jan 2 (Sat) and 3 (Sun)  
Starting from 9:30 am - 3:00 pm  
at the Misawa Aviation Museum  
GPS coordinate: 40.708487, 141.390411

There will be held questionnaire event on both days. When you entered the museum you will receive questionnaire answer sheet and complete the mission you will have chance to win prizes. Also they will have hand making new year tradition "Rice cake": pounding steamed rice with a wooden hammer and bowl. And enjoy the taste it after finish making some. The show is free and it will be held at entrance area. Mochi pounding will be held at noon both days.

**New Year Mochi Pounding**  
On Jan 4, Monday, at 10 am & 2 pm  
at the Lake Ogawara  
Citizen's Forestry Park  
GPS coordinate: N40.733162, 141.359365

Experience this Japanese New Year's tradition--and maybe make it one of your own, during your stay in Japan! Nowadays, mochi is more commonly made by machine-- which makes this traditional method all the more endearing.

**The 25th Fresh New Year Concert**  
On Jan 6, Wednesday  
starting from 6:30 pm  
At the Misawa Civic Center

Start off the new year on a good note! Sit back and enjoy the musical talents of the students and graduates of several local music college. Plus, it's FREE!

**Heart Full Concert**  
On Jan 31 (Sun), starting from 4:00 pm  
At the Misawa City Hospital  
in the Atrium (on the 1st Floor)  
GPS coordinate: N40.6669614, E141.389802

Local choir group will perform Japanese winter songs. Fee is FREE!!!

**Coming of Age Ceremony**  
On Jan 10, Sunday,  
starting from 1:00 pm  
at the Misawa Civic Center

This day is a big celebration for all the young men and women in Japan who was born between April 2, 1995 and April 1, 1996. Feel free to wish them well as well as see them in their best finery!

**Misawa Folklore Performing Arts Show**  
On Jan 11, Monday, starting at 10am  
at the Misawa Civic Center

Ten local performing art groups will be perform a traditional Japanese story. It will be for the 41st time this year and will have special event such as photo taking with wearing traditional costumes. It's FREE!!

**Performance Live Vol. 4**  
on Feb 8, Sun, at 1 pm.  
at the Misawa Civic Center

This event will be features live music, dance, comedy. All presented by Misawa's own local high students! Come and show your support for the young people of Misawa! Best of all, the show is FREE!!!

**Oirase Winter Light 2014**  
from now till February 28 (Sat)  
from 4:30 pm - 10 pm  
GPS coordinate: N40.580009, E140.995009

Love skiing or snowboarding? After you enjoying it at Yakeyama Ski Site or Mt. Hakkoda, stop by the Oirase hot spring village for the 30,000 illumination lights Art Festival.



# JANUARY TIMELINE

## 初詣 Hatsu mode:

### First visit to a shrine of the year

Many Japanese visit a shrines or temple to make wishes for the coming year at the beginning of the new year. At a shrine, we wash our hands to purify ourselves then place a monetary offering in the box, bow twice deeply, clap our hands slowly and bow once deeply. Don't forget draw your Omikujji: Fortune telling paper strip.



## 書初め Kaki-zome: The first writing

It is the first Shodo (art of writing using a brush and black writing ink) of the New Year. People would write words in Kanji about New Year such as long life or their new year resolutions. Also it is popular assignment for elementary and junior high students during their winter recess.



## 七草がゆ Nanakusa Gayu: Seven-Herb Rice Soup

It is a custom of eating rice porridge containing the seven herbs to wish good health for the year.

The seven edible wild herbs are:

- Water dropwort - *Seri*
- Shepherd's purse - *Nazuna*
- Cudweed - *Gogyo*
- Chickweed - *Hakobera*
- Nipplewort - *Hotokenoza*
- Turnip - *Suzuna*
- Radish - *Suzushiro*



## 成人の日 Seijin no hi: Coming of Age Day

Is a Japanese holiday held annually on the second Monday of January. It is held in order to congratulate and encourage all those who have reached the age of majority (20 years old) over the past year or will be before April 1st, and to help them realize that they have become adult. Many women celebrate this day by wearing furisode, a style of kimono with long sleeves that hang down and sandals. Men sometimes wear traditional kimono with hakama. As an adult, Japanese are allowed to smoke, buy & drink alcohol, and vote.



## Let's Speak in Nanbu! Part 24

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!

このケーキ食べてもいげべが?  
Kono Keki Tabetemo Igabega?  
Can I eat this cake?

Kono Keki : This cake  
Tabetemo : Eat  
Igavega: can I?



正月 Shogatsu; New Year is provably the most important holiday in Japan and it lasts for two weeks from January 1. During the New year, you will see and hear "初 Hatsu" (means "first") everywhere. Hatsu-mode (First visit a shrine), Hatsu-yume (first drem of the new year), Hatsu-uri (first sale at the store), Hatsu-gama (first tea ceremony) and more. Here are some things to know about January.



January 1

## 初日の出 Hatus Hinode:

### The First Sunrise of the year

Before dawn of January 1, a great number of Japanese go to the mountains or seashores to view the first sunrise of the year. According to the Shinto (Japanese religion), the sun goddess is the head deity. To greet the sun and catch the first sunrays, it's a breathtaking experience. See next page for more details.



January 2

## 仕事始め Shigoto Hajime:

### The beginning of the work week in Japan

January 4th is the first business day of the year in government administration offices. It was established by law in 1873 and almost all companies follow this practice. When January 4th falls on Saturday or Sunday, Shigoto Hajime will be on the following day.



January 4

January 7

## 鏡開き Kagami Biraki:

### Breaking and eating of the Mochi

Another New Year's custom of eating pounded rice cake that is made at the end of last year. This event traditional falls on January 11th (odd numbers are associated with good luck in Japan) but in western Japan, they celebrate it on January 15th.



January 11

January 15

## どんど祭り Dondo Matsuri:

### The burning of the New Year's decoration

During the final days of the New Year's celebration, people bring their gate decorations and last year's talisman to local shrine and they are burned in a bonfire.

January 21

## 大寒 Daikan: The coldest day in the year

On the Japanese's calendar, the coldest season happens on or around the middle of January. This year's Daikan is January 20.



# Misawa Aviation & Science Museum Event Schedule



## Science Show - What principle of lever? : Jan 2 (Sat) - 31 (Sun) at Museum Lab

Why can people lift up heavy things easy? Come and learn about principle of lever 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) 11:00 am (2) 12:30 pm (3) 3:30 pm Weekend (1) 12:30 pm (2) 3:30 pm

## Work Shop - Make a kaleidoscope: Jan 2 (Sat) - 31 (Sun) at Museum Lab

Come and make a kaleidoscope by using polarization plate, cellulose tape. 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 30minutes prior to the schedules below.

(1) 11:00 am (2) 2:30 pm.

## Toy Hospital in Museum: Jan 24 (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>

# 初日の出



In Japanese, the name of Japan is spelled 日本, and is read as *Nippon* or *Nihon*, which literally means the "place where the Sun originates from". More poetically, Japan is "the land of the rising sun". In Shinto, the sun goddess, Amaterasu, is the head deity. And so, another New Year's tradition in Japan is to greet the sun and catch the first sunrays of the new year--- even better, from the East Coast! --- for good fortune, health, and happiness. This year, the sunrise in Misawa will be 6:55 am (6:50am in Tokyo). So rise and shine, and head to one of the most popular places to catch the first rays!



## ① Sabishiro Beach [GPS#: 40.749070, 141.413415]

Head North on Route 338. After about a 10-minute drive, you'll see a sign on your right. Turn right at the sign. Drive down the country lane, to the beach parking lot. This beach was place where Ms. Veedol took off in 1931.

## ② Konpira Shrine [GPS#: 40.699764, 141.423865]

Head North on Route 338, towards Rokkasho. You will see the shrine on your right.

## ③ Misawa Fishing Port [GPS#: 40.677597, 141.440411]

Head South on Route 338, towards Hachinohe. You will see a sign on your left. Turn left at the traffic light.

## ④ Kabushima Island [GPS#: 40.538781, 141.557598]

Head South on Route 338 and it turn onto Route 45, towards Hachinohe. After 4.3km, turn left onto Route 19. After 11.8 km, turn left at the 蓮沼 (Hasunuma) intersection then turn right at the first traffic light. Then turn right at the first light and stay about 4.5 km. Turn left onto Route 1. After 1.3km, turn right and turn left at the corner. You will see Kabushima Island on your left. Kabushima shrine was burned on Nov 5, 2015 and it's under reconstruction now.

## ⑤ Ashigezaki Lookout [GPS#: 40.538535, 141.578428]

Head South on Route 1 from Kabushima Island. After about 5 minutes you will see parking lot, coffee shop "ホロンバイル" and lookout on your left.

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