



Winter, FY 2021

Issued by: Matsudo International Exchange Association (MIEA)

A Public Interest Incorporated Foundation

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English version



MIEA STATION



~Event Report~

Visitors Experience World Cultures at 26th Matsudo International Cultural Festival

On October 24, visitors enjoyed International Exchange Day events at the Matsudo Citizens' Hall (Shimin Kaikan). They could come into contact with world cultures through exhibits and experiences, which served as opportunities for international exchange.

Lecture: "Restoring Forests for Koalas"

By Dr. Yousuke Amano, staff member of Forest & Wildlife, WWF Japan

Affected by climate change, bushfires in Australia caused great damage in 2019, the worst in the country's history. Koalas were burned and young kangaroos were orphaned. Many wild animals lost their habitats.

Nature conservation and environmental conservation are not slogans, but are choices each of us choose to make in everyday life, while thinking about the environment. The first step is to be aware of environmental conservation that can be done in daily life.



Ventriloquist Ikkoku-dou Gives Awesome Performance!

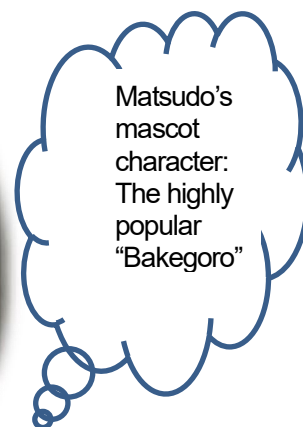


Ikkoku-dou came to the Matsudo International Cultural Festival and entertained the audience with many puppets called "dummies" (namely friends). George, Satoru, and the Teacher are some of Ikkoku-dou's famous dummies. The audience was astonished by how lifelike the dummies appeared to be.

A representative animal of sister city Whitehorse and Australia is the Koala. Yukinoshin, a Koala dummy, took his first step on the stage at the Matsudo International Cultural Festival! The hall resounded with the laughter of many children.






🐱 One Scene from the Cultural Festival







Upcoming Events

※ To prevent the spread of COVID-19, please note that events in this issue are subject to change or cancellation.

| | | |
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| <p>January 15 (Sat.) — March 26 (Sat.) (Excluding February 19)</p> <p>13:00–14:30 (Total 10 lessons)</p> | <p>Online Korean Class for Beginners — Let's have fun learning Korean using Zoom —</p> <p>Textbook: 「新装版 できる韓国語 初級Ⅰ」 (Shinsoban Dekiru Kankokugo Shokyu I) Please purchase this textbook on your own.</p> <p>Instructor: Ms. Choi Hyoyoung (originally from Korea, currently a prefectural high school Korean instructor)</p> | <p>Capacity: First 15 applicants Fee: ¥ 10,000 (MIEA members) ¥ 12,000 (non-members) Eligibility: Those who can read Hangul and make simple conversation</p> <p>Application form </p> |
| <p>January 16 (Sun.) February 27 (Sun.)</p>  | <p>🚩 Chinese & Korean Salons 🚩 English Conversation Salon</p> <p><i>Enjoy conversations with native speakers!</i></p> <p>Time: 10:15–11:45 Chinese & Korean 13:00–14:30 English</p> <p>Come to our English, Korean and Chinese salons where you can enjoy chatting freely in a relaxing atmosphere!</p> <p>Facilitators: High school instructors, ALTs, CIRs, others</p> <p>Sponsor: Matsudo City Board of Education</p> | <p>Capacity: 10 for Chinese, 5 for Korean, 15 for English (Selection by lottery if many apply) Venue: Salon Space at Cultural Hall (Bunka Hall) Fee: Free (MIEA members) ¥ 500 (non-members) Deadline: 10 days before event</p> <p>Application form </p> |
| | <p>We're Looking for Volunteers</p> <p>MIEA is recruiting interpreters, translators and host families.</p> | <p>Languages sought: Vietnamese, Spanish, Chinese</p> <p>Inquiries: Contact MIEA</p> |

See MIEA on Facebook & Instagram. Sign up for the latest info!



| | | |
|--|---|--|
| February 19 (Sat.) 13:30 –  | <i>Recruiting Audience Members for 30th Japanese Speech Contest for Foreigners</i> <p>Foreigners who live, work or study in Matsudo and its surrounding cities will express their feelings and thoughts in Japanese. Please come and listen to them give speeches that they have worked hard on for this day. We look forward to seeing you there.</p> | Venue: Matsudo Citizens' Theater (Shimin Gekijo) Fee: Free (registration required) Capacity: First 100 applicants Application form  |
| January 7 – Applications accepted from December 15  | <i>Japanese Language Courses for Beginners (3rd term)</i> <i>(face-to-face and online classes)</i> <p>If you know any foreigners who have trouble with Japanese, please let them know about these language courses. Eligibility: Open to those born on or before April 1, 2006 (over 15 years old) ※ Junior high school students are not eligible. ※ Applicants must be members of MIEA.</p> | Registration: ※ For first-time applicants, please call the MIEA office. ⇒ Tel: 047-366-7310 ※ For continuing students or those who have taken courses before, please use the QR code below.  |

- ◆ Course fees: ¥ 1,000 per class (each term) (MIEA membership fee of ¥ 1,000 is required.)
※ Please contact the MIEA office for details about the classes and levels.
※ Students who have taken courses in the 2nd term need to register again for the 3rd term.

Face-to-Face Courses

| Level | Class | Day | Time | Period |
|------------------|-----------------------|-----------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Beginner I | Minna no Nihongo I | Tuesday | 10:10 – 12:10 | January 11 – March 15 |
| | Minna no Nihongo I | Tuesday | 18:45 – 20:45 | January 11 – March 15 |
| | Minna no Nihongo I | Friday | 12:30 – 14:30 | January 7 – March 18 |
| | Minna no Nihongo I | Sunday | 10:10 – 12:10 | January 9 – March 13 |
| Beginner II | Minna no Nihongo II | Tuesday | 10:10 – 12:10 | January 11 – March 15 |
| | Minna no Nihongo II | Friday | 10:10 – 12:10 | January 7 – March 18 |
| | Weekly J | Tuesday | 18:45 – 20:45 | January 11 – March 15 |
| | Weekly J | Sunday | 12:20 – 14:20 | January 9 – March 13 |
| Pre-Intermediate | Pre-Intermediate | Wednesday | 13:00 – 15:00 | January 12 – March 16 |
| Kanji | Daily kanji | Tuesday | 18:45 – 20:45 | January 11 – March 15 |
| | Daily kanji | Wednesday | 10:10 – 12:10 | January 12 – March 16 |
| | Daily kanji | Sunday | 14:30 – 16:30 | January 9 – March 13 |
| All levels | Japanese conversation | Thursday | 13:30 – 15:30 | January 13 – March 17 |

Online Courses (You may take face-to-face courses at the same time.)

| Level | Eligibility | Capacity | Day & Time | Period |
|--------------------|--|-----------|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| Beginner Class | For those who can: 1) Read hiragana and katakana and speak a little Japanese 2) Attend classes on Zoom | 12 people | Thursday 10:00 – 12:00 | January 13 – March 17 |
| Conversation Class | For those who can: 1) Read hiragana and katakana and make simple everyday conversation in Japanese 2) Attend classes on Zoom | 12 people | Tuesday 13:30 – 15:30 | January 11 – March 15 |

Venue: Matsudo City Cultural Hall (Bunka Hall) 4F, International Friendship Room (Kokusai Yuko Room)


Address: Matsudo Building 4F, 1307-1 Matsudo, Matsudo City ※ Students bear their own expenses for Wi-Fi and mobile phone use.

Childcare Subsidy for Students in Japanese Classes

We will subsidize the childcare expenses for parents who need short-term care for their children while taking Japanese classes.
Please apply in advance at the MIEA office. (Available to the first 15 applicants)

News from the Association of Japanese Language Volunteers in Matsudo

* Please contact JLV directly for more information. (Ms. Fujisawa, Tel. 080-5379-6017)

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| <p>January 13 – March 17</p> <p>Meets every Thursday Total 10 lessons</p> <p>10:10–12:10</p> <p>Applications are currently being accepted</p>  | <p>Easy Japanese for Caregiving</p> <p>This course covers basic Japanese words and kanji used in caregiving and how to communicate.</p> <p>Contents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Basics on how to greet, expressions for speaking • Communication skills for mealtime, excretion, bathing, mobility and dressing assistance. How to read kanji. • Words for communicating with other caregivers, how to read kanji | <p>Capacity: First 15 people Venue: International Friendship Room(Kokusai Yuko Room), Matsudo Building 4F</p> <p>Fee: ¥ 1,000 (In addition to annual MIEA membership fee of ¥ 1,000)</p> <p>Eligibility: Foreign nationals who want to work in caregiving, are already working in caregiving, but are anxious about kanji and communication, or are interested in caregiving</p> |
| <p>February 1 – February 28</p> | <p>FY 2022 Registration for Association of Japanese Language Volunteers</p> <p>We're recruiting people who want to teach Japanese.</p> | <p>Details: Please see the JLV website in February for more information. http://jlvmatsudo.cloud-line.com</p> <p>※ Those who registered in FY 2021 must register again for FY 2022.</p> |

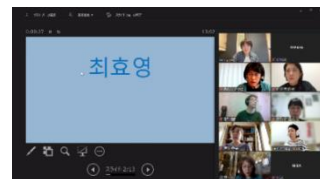


Activity Report on MIEA

Online

FY 2021 Beginning Korean Course Held Online (Sep. 4 – Nov. 27)

Seven people participated in the course taught by Ms. Choi Hyoyoung, a Korean language instructor at Matsudo Kokusai High School. Some used Zoom for the first time. "The group discussions were enjoyable" and "the course was very useful" were two of the many comments given as feedback.



Korean class online

😊 Comments from a participant

"During this stay-at-home period, I became interested in watching Korean dramas. I wanted to read more Hangul and thought it would be nice if I could speak Korean, so I decided to take this course. At first, I felt anxious about online lessons, but the teacher's jokes and talks were interesting, and now I enjoy the classes. The others taking the course provide good stimulation and motivation. I can now read Hangul, which appeared to be only symbols before, and I can speak a little Korean, too. Thanks to this course, I feel my world has broadened."



MIEA STATION is published in Japanese, English, Chinese, Vietnamese and Spanish.

Many thanks to the translators of the winter issue!

Mr. Gary Tsuchida (English)
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Ms. Fan Xiaoyun (Chinese)
Mr. Sesaru Sone (Spanish)



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Happy New Year
2022

Best wishes to everyone for a
wonderful year in 2022!