

Oh-i!




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## Enjoy June!





 Golden Week in May is over and June is the one month of the year when there are no national holidays. What a drag!

 Yep, but Tochigi Prefecture's "Citizen's Day" is in June.


①

 When is Tochigi Prefecture's Citizen's Day?

 It's on June 15! There are many facilities for which the admission fee is reduced for Tochigi Prefecture citizens for commemorative events or on specific days in June, so check out the QR code for details. You can look at the Tochigi Prefecture website too!



③


 What is Prefecture's Citizen's Day?


It is a day established by each prefecture's regulations as a commemorative day for the purpose of allowing its citizens to gain a deeper understanding of the prefecture in which they live. (Some prefectures do not have a Citizen's Day.)


Public facilities (gyms, museums, etc.) have free admission and events are held too. Companies within the prefecture also contribute, making the admission to leisure facilities (zoos, amusement parks, etc.) reduced or free.

In other prefectures, for example in Chiba Prefecture (where Tokyo Disneyland is) "Citizen's Day" is on June 15, and schools, etc. are closed. So, even if that is a weekday Tokyo Disneyland is crowded.

②

 By the way, all months aside from June have national holidays, so does that mean that Japan has a lot?

 In Japan there are 16 national holidays a year. America has 10, the United Kingdom has 9, Germany has 10, France has 11, and Italy has 13 national holidays.

 I always thought that Japanese people work a lot, but actually they have more national holidays than other countries!

④

## How to separate and dispose of garbage



There are many items amongst garbage that can be reused. Be careful to take note when putting out your trash.

### Use garbage stations (garbage collection sites) correctly!

#### ★ How to dispose of garbage at garbage station

- ◎ Put out garbage by the specified time (morning) on the specified day.
- ◎ Put garbage in clear and semi-clear plastic bag. (Paper items are to be tied up in a cross manner.)
- ◎ Do not put out garbage after it has been picked up, at night, or on a non-specified day.
- ◎ Garbage put out in violation of the rules is to be taken back home by that individual.

#### ★ Please separate garbage into the following 5 categories and 13 types ①~⑬.

	Category	Garbage type	Category	Garbage type
Recyclables (items that can be reused)	① Newspaper	Newspaper (including advertisements)	⑥ Bottles & cans	Beverage bottles & cans (juice, beer, etc.), food jars & cans, medicine bottles ※Remove lid and dispose of lid in ⑪ Non-combustible garbage
	② Cardboard	Cardboard	⑦ PET bottles	PET bottles containing beverages, soy sauce, alcohol, etc.
	③ Magazines & other paper	Books, magazines, packaging paper, memo paper, snack boxes, calendars, etc.	⑧ White foam trays	White foam (polystyrene) trays with no color or design that are used for fish, meat, side dishes, etc.
	④ Milk cartons	Paper cartons for milk or juice that are white inside	⑨ Plastic containers	Plastic containers and packaging such as snack bags, egg cartons, PET bottle caps, shampoo bottles, etc. (Items used to insulate products so they don't break)
	⑤ Fabrics	Clothing, futon covers, towels, etc.		
⑩ Combustible garbage (burnable garbage)	Food scraps, Aluminum foil, leather products, shoes, bags, CDs & CD cases, plastic products (closing cases, toys, ball pens, etc.) etc.			
⑪ Non-combustible garbage (non-burnable garbage)	Ceramics (plates, tea cups, etc.), pans, kettles, glass cups, broken glass, heat-resistant glass products, wire hangers, umbrellas, cords, metal caps for bottles and cans, etc.			
⑫ Hazardous garbage (dangerous garbage)	Batteries, fluorescent lights, light bulbs, cutlery, mirrors, lighters, spray cans, etc. ※Use up all of the content in a spray can and puncture it with a nail outside before putting disposing			
⑬ Oversized garbage (big garbage)	Large size garbage such as furniture, futons, blankets, carpet, bicycles, etc. that is over 50cm ※Take oversize garbage to the waste disposal center (free) or request to have it picked up by calling the Oversize Garbage Disposal Center (☎028-643-5371) (Fee: 830yen per item)			
Garbage that isn't collected	Computers, TVs, washing machines, refrigerators, air conditioners, tires, motorcycles, medicines, mattresses and sofas with springs, etc. ※Make a request to stores selling such products or an authorized disposal company for disposal			

Inquiries: Gomi Genryo-ka (Garbage Reduction Division) 028-632-2413



People using Smart Phones are encouraged to install the garbage separation "Sanaru" app which is great for confirming about how to separate garbage and check on the collection days.



Fun events 🎵 🎵



## Factory Tour in Nasu



- 🕒 July 10 (Tues) 7:00AM – 5:30PM
- 😊 Enjoy Japanese tradition, technology, history, nature, etc. with exchange students and foreign residents.
- Cost** Exchange students: 2,500 yen, Utsunomiya City International Association (UCIA) members: 4,000 yen, adults: 4,500 yen, elementary school students: 1,500 yen
- Max** First 40 people to sign up
- Sign up** Call, FAX, or e-mail UCIA and provide your name, address, telephone no., and date of birth. Please pay the participation fee by June 17 (Sun).
- @ ① Bridgestone Tochigi Factory → Tour with a guide  
② Nasu Canal & Nasunogahara Museum → Tour on your own  
Eat lunch at Karasugamori Park  
③ Shimazaki Sake Brewery Azumarikishi → Doukutsu Tour & tasting
- ☎ Utsunomiya City International Association (UCIA) 028-616-1870



## International Exchange Salon 🎵

- 🕒 Every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday 4:00PM – 6:00PM  
June 23 Tanabata decoration making
- 😊 Enjoy Japanese culture while making Tanabata decorations with people from various countries 🎵
- Cost** Free
- @ Utsunomiya International Plaza  
028-616-1563



👉 **Held every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month!**

## International Home Cooking Classes



🕒 June 21 (Thurs) 10:00AM – 12:30PM	🕒 July 5 (Thurs) 10:00AM – 12:30PM
😊 Brazilian Gnocchi	😊 Taiwan beef noodles

- Enjoy making home-style food of various countries and eating it with others 🎵
- Cost** Ingredients fee
- Bring** Apron & hair cover cloth
- @ Kamikawachi Shogai Gakushu Center  
(181-3 Nakazato-cho)  
☎ 028-674-3131



## Do the Yosakoi Dance at the Miya Festival 🎵

- 🕒 August 5 (Sun) evening (performance)
- 😊 At the “Miya Matsuri” Japanese and foreign residents come together to dance the “Miya Yosakoi” as one. Anyone is welcome to practice, even if it is your first time. 🎵

Practice schedule		Venue
July 1 (Sun) 2:00PM – 4:00PM July 14 (Sat) 2:00PM – 4:00PM July 22 (Sun) 2:00PM – 4:00PM	July 8 (Sun) 2:00PM – 4:00PM July 18 (Wed) 7:00PM – 9:00PM	Chuo Shougai Gakushu Center Room 302 (Tatami room)
July 28 (Sat) 7:00PM – 9:00PM	August 4 (Sat) 7:00PM – 9:00PM	Sogo Fukushi Center 7F (TatamiRoom)
August 11 (Sat) 12:00PM – 3:00PM (Evaluation meeting)		Chuo Shougai Gakushu Center Room 302 (Tatami room)

- Sign up** Please call UCIA.
- ☎ Utsunomiya City International Association (UCIA) 028-616-1870





## "I Can Surely Overcome Any Difficulty"

My name is Geirai Ri. "Gei" comes from the Japanese word meaning "art," and "rai" means "bud." My parents hoped I would become good at art, so that is why they gave me this name.

In 2011 I graduated from the electric organ department of a music university in China, and to make my dream come true, I came as an exchange student to Japan in the fall of 2012.

I studied at a Japanese language school for one and a half years, studied as a researcher at Utunomiya University for a half year, and in 2015 I was able to enter the Graduate School of Music at the Tokyo University of the Arts.

I thoroughly enjoyed the two years I was there, but I had many difficulties with the language and training. The one thing I will never forget is writing my thesis prior to completing the program. I wanted to meet the expectations of my teachers and family, as well as not have any regrets myself, so I worked very hard. However, no matter how much of an effort I made, my instructing professor would always say, "Please try a little harder." I was difficult to get approval, so it was very hard for me. However, thanks to the warm encouraging words from my teachers at that time, and support from Okubo Sensei, a Japanese instructor volunteer at UCIA who always provided support for me, I was able to complete the program in March of this year.

I believe the words of my teachers who have told me that "You will surely be able to overcome any difficulty," and intend to continue to work hard in the future.

※This is an extract from his speech. We will also post other presenters' speeches in subsequent issues. Don't miss it!

### Utsunomiya International Plaza (UIP) Services

#### Consultation for Foreign Residents



		Spanish Portuguese	Chinese	Thai	English
<b>UIP</b> ☎028-616-1564	3:00PM - 6:00PM	Mon	Tues	Wed	Fri
		4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of month (appointment needed)			
<b>City Hall</b> ☎028-632-2834 (during office hours)	9:00AM - 12:00PM	Thurs	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	—	—
	2:00PM - 5:00PM	Thurs	—	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs
<b>Administrative Scrivener</b> ☎028-616-1564	3:00PM - 5:00PM	3 <sup>rd</sup> Monday (appointment needed)			

#### Interpreter Volunteer Service

Go with someone needing language assistance to such places as national and prefectural facilities and the city hall, and interpret for them

- ▶ Monday – Sunday 8:30AM – 7:00PM
- ▶ 1 time (2 hours) 2,000 yen
- ▶ Please fill our application form at UIP, pay the fee, and submit the application.

"Oh-i!" is published in easy Japanese, English, Chinese, Portuguese, and Thai, and is also available on the UCIA website. <http://www.ucia.or.jp> There, you can enjoy reading past issues of the "Oh-i!" too.