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## The Japanese cultural experience was a lot of fun!



The other day I tried wearing a Japanese kimono for the first time!

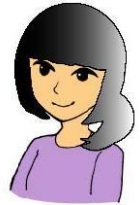


Mini straw sandals



Torn paper collage

Really? I'm jealous! Where did you try it on? I also want to try wearing one!



I participated in the Utsunomiya City International Association's (UCIA) "Japanese Cultural Experience Event" that is held every year.



Flower arranging

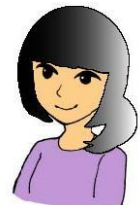


Tea ceremony

I was able to try the tea ceremony, flower arranging, mini straw sandal making, decorative paper cord making, and calligraphy, as well as enjoy the taiko drumming and Okinawa Eisa traditional dance, etc. stage performances! Next year let's participate together!



I don't think I can wait until next year.



At UCIA a variety of international exchange events take place in addition to this one, so please refer to the UCIA website (<https://www.ucia.or.jp>) or page 4 where you can register as a friend on LINE.



Taiko drumming

## Please pick up your My Number Card before moving

If you applied for a My Number card and have received an issuance notice (postcard with information about receiving your My Number card) and move out of Utsunomiya City before picking up your My Number card, then you will no longer be eligible to receive your My Number card in Utsunomiya City. If that is the case, please apply for a My Number card again in the city or town you moved to. It is recommended that you complete your moving procedures after receiving your My Number card.

It takes 2 or more months to receive a My Number card after applying for it. When going to pick it up, please be sure not to forget your My Number issuance notice, etc. Please carefully check over the content of your issuance notice before going to pick up your My Number card.

Inquiries regarding picking your My Number card:

Citizen's Division (*Shimin-ka*) ☎ 028-632-5266

## Japanese classes starting in April 2023

If you would like to study Japanese, feel free to join in. Please sign up in advance.

Location & Address	Day	Time	Level/grade	Cost
Utsunomiya International Plaza (UIP) (4-1-1 Baba-dori, 5F Omotesando Square)	Sunday	1:30PM - 3:30PM	N1 - N4 JLPT Japanese Classes	2,000 yen/month
		10:00AM - 12:00PM	Elementary school 4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> grade, junior high school, high school	1,000 yen/month for each location
	Monday	1:30PM - 3:30PM	Beginner - Advanced	
	Tuesday	1:30PM - 3:30PM	Advanced	
	Wednesday	10:00AM - 12:00PM	Beginner - Intermediate	
		1:30PM - 3:30PM		
	Saturday	1:30PM - 3:30PM		
Sugatagawa Chiku Shimin Center (805-1 Nishikawata-machi)	Tuesday	10:00AM - 12:00PM		
		6:30PM - 8:30PM		
Sogo Fukushi Center (1-1-15 Chuo)	Thursday	6:00PM - 8:00PM		
Kita Shogai Gakushu Center (3-12-25 Wakakusa)	Saturday	6:30PM - 8:30PM		

Inquiries: Utsunomiya City International Association (UCIA) ☎ 028-616-1870 ✉ [ucia@ucia.or.jp](mailto:ucia@ucia.or.jp)

## Festa my Utsunomiya 2023

~There will be an international exchange area~

🕒 April 30 (Sun) 10:00AM - 3:00PM

😊 <Booths>

Try doing the Japanese tea ceremony and enjoy Brazilian, Taiwanese, and other ethnic cuisine, as well as other international exchange group informatory booths.

<Stage performance>

Hula dance, Japanese drum performance, djembe and African dance, etc.

Sign up Not necessary

@ Utsunomiya Castle Park (*Joshi Koen*) (1-15 Honmaru-machi)

☎ Utsunomiya City International Association 028-616-1870



### International Exchange Salon 🎵

🕒 Every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday 4:00PM - 6:00PM

April 22 (Sat)

😊 An event at which you can talk with people from various countries 🎵

Cost Free

@ Utsunomiya International Plaza  
(4-1-1 Baba-dori)

☎ 028-616-1563



### Premier Film Festival

#### "Inochi no Ringo" ("The Apple of Life")

🕒 April 23 (Sun) 2:00PM - 4:00PM

(Screen time: 120 min)

😊 A documentary film telling the story of a miraculous apple that saved the life of a woman

Cost Free

Limit First 300 people

@ South Library  
(*Minami Toshokan*)  
(56-1 Suzumenomiya-cho)  
Southern Cross Hall

☎ 028-653-7609



### Multicultural Experience

#### International Exchange Event Playing Mōlkky

🕒 April 15 (Sat) 10:00AM - 3:00PM

😊 Enjoy international exchange through Mōlkky (a sport of the Karelia region of Finland) and cuisine from around the world with people of various countries living in Utsunomiya

Cost Free

@ Former Tochigi Prefectural Hall site  
(*Moto Tochigi Kaikan Shikichi*)  
(12-1 Honcho)

☎ Utsunomiya Junior Chamber of Commerce  
(*Utsunomiya Seinen Kaigijo*)  
028-637-1006

### Short Theater Performances

🕒 April 16 (Sun) 1:30PM - 4:00PM

- 😊 • 1:40PM: Cherries & Mandarin Oranges  
(*Sakuranbo Mikan*)
- 2:20PM: Theater Co. Candy Shop Pengu  
(*Gekidan Dagashiya Pengu*)
- 3:30PM: Stage Arts Creation Agency SAI  
(*Butai Geijutsu Souzou Kikan SAI*)

Sign up Starting April 5 (Wed) at 2:00PM by phone

@ South Library  
(*Minami Toshokan*)  
(56-1 Suzumenomiya-cho)  
Southern Cross Hall

☎ 028-653-7609



We asked Rosa, who helps out with a variety of work at UCIA, to tell us about her life, child rearing, and work in Utsunomiya!

### Hola! (That is Spanish for “Hello.”)

Rosa is from Barcelona, Spain. She has been living in Utsunomiya for 9 years.

Barcelona is a port town abounding in art.

### UCIA What do you like about Utsunomiya?

Rosa It is an urban area and near to Tokyo, but I like the fact that it has a lot of nature.

### UCIA Has any difference between Japan and Spain ever surprised you?

Rosa I was shocked when I heard that “35-year-old women are already considered to be old women.” In Spain, age 35 is thought to still be young. Even women age 60 enjoy being fashionable and appeal to their feminine character.

### UCIA How is child rearing in Utsunomiya?

Rosa I am happy to be able to experience Japanese events and festivals with my child at preschool.

We often play at a big park on our days off. I hope that I can become friends with other parents and children and enjoy barbecues and camping with them.

### UCIA Has anything been difficult for you?

Rosa It was hard not to be able to drive a car and go where I wanted to freely. That is why I got a driver's license. Now I can go to a lot more places!

### UCIA What kind of job do you do usually?

Rosa I do work using Spanish and English at a company that does trade with foreign countries. At UCIA I tell Japanese people about Spain and assist with translation and interpreting. Every week on Thursday from 9:00AM – 12:00PM I am available for consultation at the consultation window on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the city hall, so please feel free to stop by.

UCIA **Gracias for sharing various things with us!**  
(Gracias is Spanish for “Thank you.”)

## Utsunomiya International Plaza (UIP) Services

### Consultation for Foreign Residents

※Communication in other languages is also possible using a tablet capable of multilingual interpretation and translation.

		Spanish Portuguese	Vietnamese	Chinese	Thai	English
<b>UIP</b> ☎028-616-1564	3:00PM - 6:00PM	Mon	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Mon	Tues	Wed	Fri
		4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month (Appointment needed)				
<b>City Hall</b> ☎028-632-2834 (During office hours)	9:00AM - 12:00PM	Thurs	—	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	—	1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs
	2:00PM - 5:00PM	Thurs	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thurs	—	1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs	3 <sup>rd</sup> Thurs

Clipart on pages 1, 3, 4 provided by: Sachie Kin  
Clipart on page 1 provided by: Yurika Usui & Natsuki Nemoto

## UCIA LINE

Fun exchange event and life information is publicized on UCIA's LINE.

Register as a friend and use this as a tool to keep informed.



“Oh-!” is published in easy Japanese, English, Chinese, Portuguese, Thai, and Vietnamese. You can also read it on the UCIA website.

<https://www.ucia.or.jp/>

