

SHINJUKU NEWS



Foreign Language Website <http://www.city.shinjuku.tokyo.jp/foreign/english/>
Please make your inquiries in Japanese when calling the coordinating division.

No. 14

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Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza Celebrates Its Third Anniversary

Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza (hereafter referred to as the "Plaza"), which opened in September 2005 as a place where Japanese and non-Japanese residents can have friendly exchanges, is celebrating its third anniversary.

The plaza has welcomed visitors from 114 countries around the world, and in peak months, more than 2,000 people use this venue.

Visitors can use the plaza for various purposes, including learning Japanese, using consultation services, and learning about the culture of other countries. Please feel free to drop by for a visit.

Multipurpose Space

Besides Japanese language classes, International Exchange Salon is held on the 2nd Friday of the month.

In addition, there are classes and seminars that introduce the language and culture of various countries and areas. Why not tell everyone about the language and culture of your country as well?



Dance performance by Peruvian children (at the Latin culture class)



International Exchange Salon is bustling with participants every month.

Japanese Language Study Corner

There are many teaching materials and textbooks available here. Of course, you can study independently or receive help from volunteers of the Shinjuku Nihongo (Japanese-language) Network (SNN) on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday afternoons. (Please call for more information about the hours and program for a particular day of the week.)



How I Use the Plaza

I use the plaza to study Japanese. I cannot practice speaking at home, but here at the plaza I can practice communicating in Japanese. If I have any questions, the volunteers teach me in a really friendly manner, and that helps me a lot.



Dibaba Daniel (Ethiopia)

Foreign Residents' Advisory Corner

Consultations are provided in various languages for foreign residents who are experiencing difficulties in everyday life in Japan. Consultations are offered free of charge to help resolve any concerns.

Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.
Korean (Afternoon only)	Chinese and Thai	English (Except when the building is closed on the 2 nd and 4 th Wednesdays of the month)	English, Chinese, and Myanmarese	Korean and English (3 rd Friday of the month only)

* Consultations concerning visas and everyday living (in Japanese only) are conducted on the 2nd Friday of the month, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Hours: 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Closed: 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month and during the year-end/New Year holidays (December 29 through January 3)

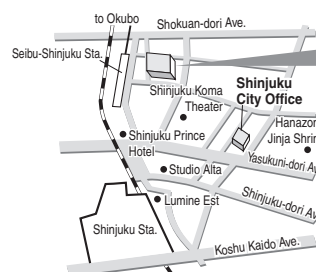
Inquiries: Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza

Tel: 03-5291-5171 Fax: 03-5291-5172

U R L : <http://www.shinjukubunka.or.jp/tabunka/japanese/index.html>

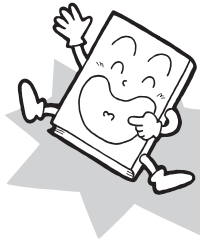
Address: Hygeia 11F, 2-44-1 Kabukicho, Shinjuku-ku 160-0021

A 10-minute walk from JR Shinjuku Station East Exit, and a five-minute walk from Seibu-Shinjuku Station.



Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza (Hygeia 11F)

The next issue of Shinjuku News will be published in January 2009. Shinjuku News is available at various public facilities such as Shinjuku City Office, Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza, Branch Offices and public libraries.



Let's Enjoy Reading! Special Feature on Libraries in Shinjuku City

Autumn is the best time of year for sports, autumn is the best time of year for art, and autumn is the best time of year for reading—as these Japanese sayings suggest, autumn in Japan is definitely a comfortable time of year. In this issue, we will describe libraries in Shinjuku City. Why not look for a book or magazine that you like and enjoy reading it at your leisure?

Shinjuku City has 10 libraries, with a total of more than 830,000 volumes of books and over 45,000 audiovisual materials. In particular, there are many foreign-language publications at the Children's Library (approximately 300 volumes), Yotsuya Library (roughly 4,000 volumes), Kita-Shinjuku Library (about 1,900 volumes), and Okubo Library (around 1,200 volumes), and you can read newspapers and magazines in English, Chinese, and Korean there.

At the Chuo Library, there are Chinese-language storytelling events, and at Kita-Shinjuku and Okubo Libraries, there are Korean-language storytelling events. At the storytelling events, Japanese fairy tales and stories for children are read. Because admission is free, simply come to the site on the day of the event!

Let's Use the Library!

Borrowing books: A library card is required to borrow and reserve books and materials. Please bring documentation showing your name and address, such as your foreign resident registration card, to the nearest municipal library to register for a library card. Registration is restricted to those who live in the metropolitan Tokyo area and those who work or go to school in Shinjuku City.

Returning books: Books and materials can be borrowed for up to two weeks. Please return the books and materials to the

counter during library hours. Books and magazines can be returned through the book post located at the entrance only when the library is closed. Because audiovisual materials may become damaged, please be sure to return them to the counter during library hours.

Library information: A pamphlet entitled *Shinjuku City Libraries* (in English, Chinese, and Korean) is available for free at each library. You can read the PDF version on the Shinjuku City foreign-language Web site (www.city.shinjuku.tokyo.jp/foreign/english/pdf/other/lib_e.pdf).



Schedule of Storytelling Events		
Okubo Library (picture book section)	Korean	October 18 (Sat.), from 3 p.m.
Kita-Shinjuku Library (Kita-Shinjuku Lifelong Learning Hall 2F, Recreation Hall)	Korean	January 17 (Sat.), 2009, from 2 pm.
Chuo Library	Chinese	To be determined

	Location	Tel.	Hours	Closed
(1) Chuo Library	1-9-8 Shimo-Ochiai An eight-minute walk from Takadanobaba Station on the JR Line, Tokyo Metro Tozai Line, and Seibu-Shinjuku Line	3364-1421	General Library: Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sundays and holidays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Audiovisual Room: Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	· Mondays · Inventory days (3rd Thursday of the month)
(2) Children's Library	(Chuo Library 2F)	3364-1421	Tuesday through Sunday (including holidays), 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	
(3) Yotsuya Library	87 Naitomachi A five-minute walk from Shinjuku Gyoen-mae Station on the Tokyo Metro Marunouchi Line	3341-0095	Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Sundays and holidays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	· Mondays · 3rd Sunday in May, August, November, and February · Inventory days (2nd Thursday of the month)
(4) Tsurumaki Library	521 Waseda-Tsurumakicho A seven-minute walk from Waseda Station on the Tokyo Metro Tozai Line	3208-2431		
(5) Nishi-Ochiai Library	4-13-17 Nishi-Ochiai A five-minute walk from the Nishi-Ochiai Itchome bus stop on the Toei Bus and Kanto Bus Line	3954-4373		
(6) Toyama Library	2-11-101 Toyama An eight-minute walk from Wakamatsu-Kawada Station on the Toei Oedo Subway Line	3207-1191		· Mondays · Inventory days (3rd Thursday of the month)
(7) Kita-Shinjuku Library	3-20-2 Kita-Shinjuku A 10-minute walk from either JR Higashi-Nakano Station or JR Okubo Station	3365-4755	Tuesday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.	
(8) Nakamachi Library	25 Nakamachi A five-minute walk from Ushigome-Kagurazaka Station on the Toei Oedo Subway Line	3267-3121		
(9) Tsunohazu Library	4-33-7 Nishi-Shinjuku A 10-minute walk from Tocho-mae Station on the Toei Oedo Subway Line	5371-0010		· Mondays · 4th Sunday in May, August, November, and February · Inventory days (2nd Thursday of the month)
(10) Okubo Library	2-12-7 Okubo An eight-minute walk from JR Shin-Okubo Station	3209-3812		· Mondays · 3rd Sunday in May, August, November, and February · Inventory days (2nd Thursday of the month)

- In addition to the above-mentioned schedule, the libraries are closed during the year-end/New Year holidays (December 29 through January 4) and on special inventory days. It is a good idea to call the library to confirm its schedule before dropping by.
- If a national or other holiday falls on a Monday, then the library is closed the following day. If a national holiday falls on an inventory day, then the library is closed the following day for inventory.
- The children's book section of the Toyama Library and Tsurumaki Library is open daily until 6 p.m.
- Please call the particular library you are interested in for more information.

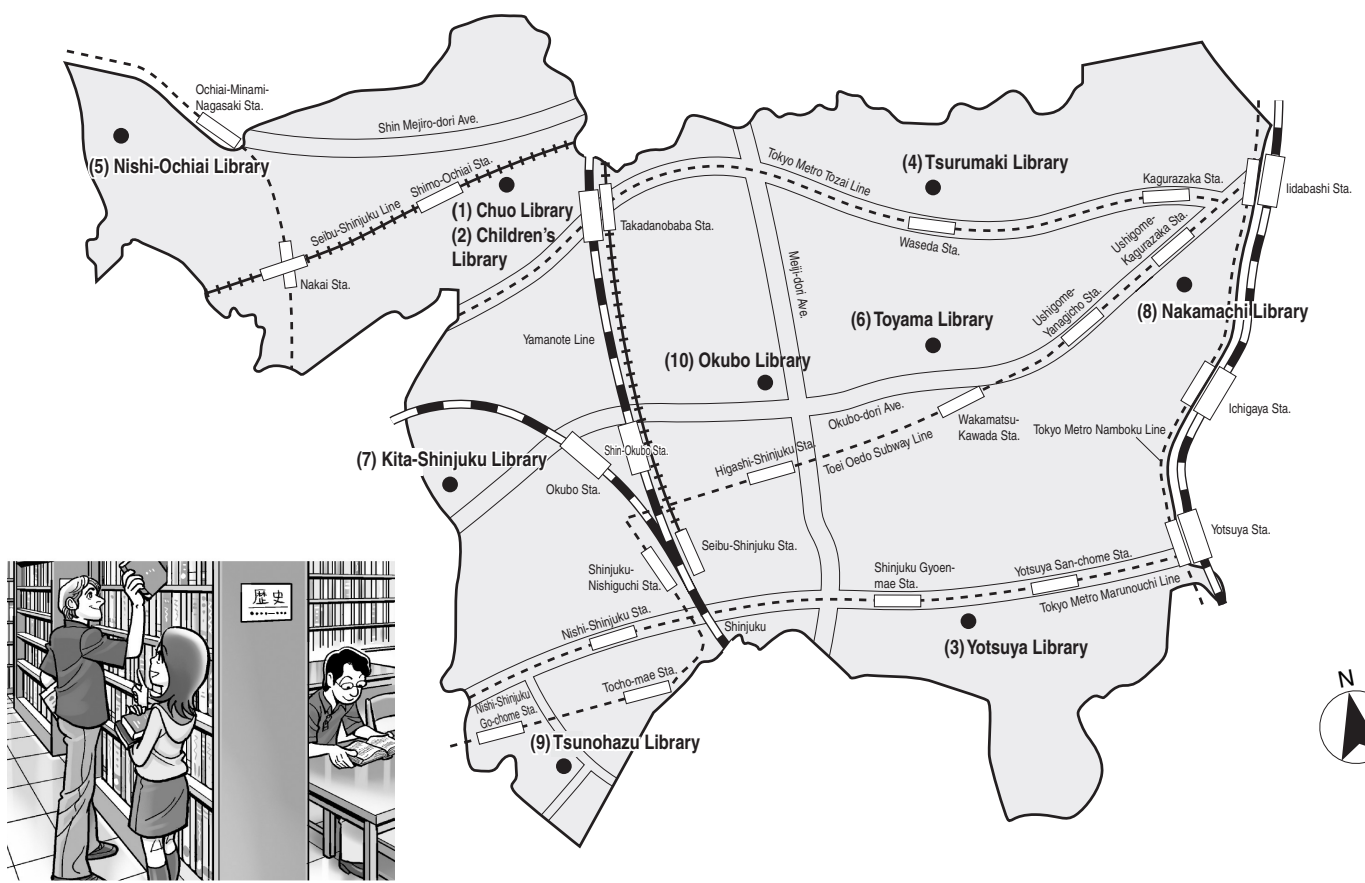
Enjoy Reading Magazines and Newspapers in Your Mother Tongue

The libraries of Shinjuku City have a wide variety of magazines and newspapers in foreign languages. Although new issues can only be read inside the library, you are allowed to borrow back issues.

Foreign-Language Newspapers		
Newspaper	Language	Available Location (Library)
<i>The Times</i>	English	Chuo
<i>The Daily Yomiuri</i>	English	Yotsuya
<i>International Herald Tribune</i>	English	Chuo and Yotsuya
<i>The Wall Street Journal Asia</i>	English	Yotsuya
<i>The Japan Times</i>	English	Chuo, Yotsuya, Kita-Shinjuku, Tsunohazu, and Okubo
동아일보	Korean	Chuo, Yotsuya, and Okubo
日本新华侨报	Chinese	Chuo
留学生	Chinese	Chuo and Yotsuya
人民日报 (海外版)	Chinese	Chuo, Yotsuya, and Okubo

Foreign-Language Magazines		
Magazine	Language	Available Location (Library)
<i>The Economist</i>	English	Chuo and Yotsuya
<i>Esquire</i>	English	Chuo and Yotsuya
<i>Scientific American</i>	English	Chuo and Yotsuya
<i>Sports Illustrated</i>	English	Yotsuya
<i>Tokyo Journal</i>	English	Chuo and Yotsuya
<i>National Geographic</i>	English	Chuo and Yotsuya
<i>The New Yorker</i>	English	Chuo and Yotsuya
<i>House & Garden</i>	English	Yotsuya

<i>Publishers Weekly</i>	English	Yotsuya
<i>Business Week</i>	English	Chuo and Yotsuya
<i>Hiragana Times</i>	English	Chuo and Yotsuya
<i>Fortune</i>	English	Chuo and Yotsuya
<i>Foreign Affairs</i>	English	Chuo and Yotsuya
<i>U.S. News & World Report</i>	English	Chuo
<i>Reader's Digest</i>	English	Chuo and Yotsuya
<i>Rolling Stone</i>	English	Yotsuya
<i>J Select</i>	English	Yotsuya
<i>Far Eastern Economic Review</i>	English	Yotsuya
<i>Time</i>	English	Chuo, Yotsuya, Tsunohazu, and Okubo
<i>Newsweek</i>	English	Chuo, Yotsuya, and Kita-Shinjuku
신동아	Korean	Yotsuya
월간중앙	Korean	Yotsuya and Okubo
人民中国	Chinese	Chuo and Yotsuya
大众电影	Chinese	Yotsuya
读者文摘	Chinese	Chuo and Yotsuya
亚洲周刊	Chinese	Chuo, Yotsuya, Kita-Shinjuku, and Okubo
<i>Der Spiegel</i>	German	Chuo and Yotsuya
<i>Vogue Paris</i>	French	Yotsuya
<i>Elle</i>	French	Yotsuya
<i>Paris Match</i>	French	Yotsuya
<i>Marie Claire</i>	French	Yotsuya



**Special
Feature**

Keep an Eye on Your Status of Residence

The number of foreign residents living in Japan is increasing with each passing year. Sometimes, a foreign resident may be ordered to leave Japan because he/she has unintentionally invalidated his/her visa for lack of knowledge of his/her status of residence and the documents that need to be submitted. It is wise to have accurate information concerning your status of residence to avoid unwanted circumstances.

In this issue, we spoke with Mr. Nobuo Kurosawa of the Foreign Resident Visa Research Group, a nonprofit organization that conducts programs to support foreign residents, concerning one's status of residence.



Mr. Nobuo Kurosawa, Foreign Resident Visa Research Group

▶ Foreign Students and Dependents—Working Part-time in Japan

Foreign residents whose status of residence is college student, precollege student, or dependent are not allowed to work part-time unless they obtain authorization for activities other than that permitted under their status of residence. This authorization is given for activities that are not permitted under the aforementioned status of residence only if such activities do not conflict with the original visa status and are considered appropriate. An application for authorization can be submitted in person or through the school that one attends. Please be sure to complete the designated procedures at the appropriate service counter.

Part-time work for foreign college and precollege students is approved if the hours do not conflict or interfere with studies, which is the activity for which the original visa was granted. College students can work up to 28 hours per week (up to 14 hours per week for auditing university students or research trainees), and precollege students can work up to four hours per day. The restrictions placed on the number of hours a dependent may work are the same as those for college students.

Please note that there are penalties for engaging in unauthorized part-time work, i.e., activities other than that permitted under one's status of residence, or working more than the number of hours allowed. Also, please note that you cannot work in establishments in the amusement or entertainment industries, such as bars, cabarets, panchiko parlors, or mah-jongg shops.

▶ Foreign Students—Finding Employment in Japan

For a foreign student to be able to work full-time, his/her status of residence must be changed from college student to a status that permits him/her to work.

For a foreign student in Japan to be granted a status of residence that would allow him/her to work, he/she must obtain a job that is related to his/her field of study at vocational school or college. For example, a student who is studying economics cannot receive authorization for a job as a computer programmer.

After receiving a job offer, you must complete application procedures to change your status of residence from college student to specialist in humanities/international services or engineer, for example, and obtain authorization before being officially employed. (It takes about one to three months to process an application.)

If you would like to continue looking for a job after graduating from college or vocational school, you will need to change your status of residence to temporary visitor. As a temporary visitor, you can renew your status of residence once; therefore, the longest period permitted under this status is 180 days.

▶ Extending Your Period of Stay

Please be sure to check the expiration date of your visa. Your period of stay in Japan is determined along with your status of residence upon entering the country; a foreign resident may not stay in Japan beyond that period. For this reason, if you would like to live in Japan under the same status of residence beyond the stated period of stay, you must obtain authorization to do so.

You cannot extend your period of stay if you have fulfilled the purpose of your stay or if your status of residence becomes invalid. For example, if a foreign student graduates from school and finds a job, he/she must change his/her status of residence; and if a foreign resident changes jobs, then he/she must complete designated procedures for an employment certificate.

Because applications to extend one's of period of stay are accepted up to two months before one's visa expires, the required procedures should be completed as early as possible. If you stay in Japan illegally beyond the expiration date, this is grounds for deportation.

▶ Precautions for Dependents

If a foreign resident has a college student or precollege student status of residence or a working visa and wishes to bring his/her spouse and child(ren) to Japan, the spouse and child(ren) are given a dependent status of residence. Therefore, care must be taken because if the foreign resident's visa status becomes invalid for some reason, then the status of the spouse and child(ren) (dependants) will also become invalid.

If dependants plan to work part-time, authorization to engage in activities other than that permitted under their status of residence must be obtained. If they work without proper authorization, this is considered illegal employment and is grounds for deportation.

▶▶ IMPORTANT ◀◀

For details concerning the various application procedures, please call the information center of the regional immigration bureau in the area where you reside. If you have any questions or concerns about the application procedures, it is wise to obtain the advice of a specialist rather than trying to do things by yourself.

Inquiries concerning Various Immigration and Visa Procedures

Please note that application forms are not processed/accepted at these service centers.

Shinjuku Foreign Resident Center

Consultation Hours: Weekdays (except the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month), 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 to 4 p.m.
Tel: 03-3209-6177

Foreign Resident Visa Research Group

Consultation Hours: 2nd Friday of the month, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. (in Japanese)

Location: Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza, Hygeia 11F, 2-44-1 Kabukicho, Shinjuku-ku 160-0021



Safety First—Let's Ride Our Bicycles according to the Rules

Do you ride a bicycle to go to school or to go shopping? Bicycles are convenient, but violating the rules can lead to serious accidents. Be sure to properly follow all rules and ride your bicycle in a safe manner.

● In general, ride your bicycle on the left side of the street.

Bicycles are allowed on sidewalks in the following cases:

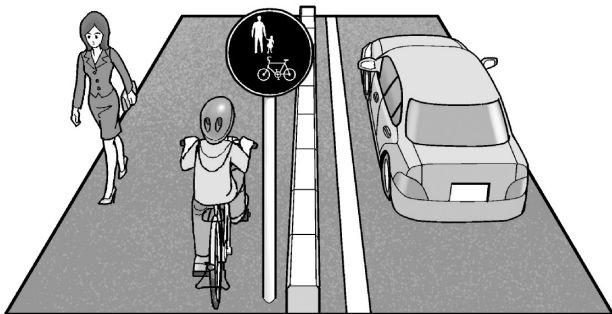
- If there is a sign that indicates bicycles are allowed
 - If the cyclist is a child who is 12 years old or younger, an elderly person who is 70 years old or older, or a physically disabled person
 - If road or traffic conditions do not allow bicycles to be ridden on the street (e.g., if there is a car parked on the street)
- However, if you are told not to ride your bicycle on the sidewalk by a police officer to ensure the safety of pedestrians, you must comply.

Penalty: Up to three months in jail or a fine of up to ¥50,000

● When riding your bicycle on the sidewalk, be sure to ride on the side nearest to the street and give pedestrians the right of way.

If, while riding your bicycle, you obstruct pedestrian traffic, stop or get off your bicycle and walk while pushing your bicycle along with the flow of pedestrian traffic.

Penalty: A fine or penalty of up to ¥20,000



● Preschoolers and school children aged 12 or younger should wear helmets.

In 2007, approximately 60% of the injuries sustained by children in traffic accidents in Tokyo (in which the child was riding with a parent) were head injuries. A person who is responsible for a preschooler or school child aged 12 or younger should strive to have that child wear a helmet whenever giving him/her a ride on a bicycle.

IMPORTANT!

- Choose a helmet that fits your child by having your child actually try the helmet on for size.
- Choose a helmet that has the identifying SG mark, which indicates that it fulfills safety standards and offers compensation programs.
- Do not use a helmet that has sustained even one impact.

● Riding under the influence of alcohol, carrying a passenger on a bicycle, and riding two abreast (two people riding side by side) are not permitted.

Safety Rules and Penalties

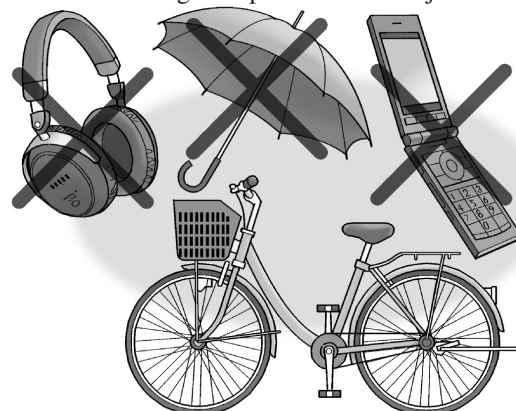
Riding your bicycle under the influence of alcohol is prohibited.	Carrying a passenger on a bicycle is prohibited (except when the passenger is five years of age or younger).
Penalty: Up to five years in jail or a fine of up to ¥1,000,000	Penalty: A fine or penalty of up to ¥20,000
Two people riding abreast is prohibited (except where there is a sign indicating that riding side by side is permitted).	Use headlights and taillights at night.
Penalty: A fine or penalty of up to ¥20,000	Penalty: A fine or penalty of up to ¥50,000
Obey traffic lights.	Stop at intersections and check for oncoming traffic/pedestrians before proceeding.
Penalty: Up to three months in jail or a fine of up to ¥50,000	Penalty: Up to three months in jail or a fine of up to ¥50,000

● Do not use your cell phone, listen to music with earphones, or use an umbrella while riding a bicycle.

Bicycles can go faster than you realize. You may cause an accident if you fail to notice a pedestrian or an obstacle in your path in time to avoid them because you were distracted or if you are unable to steer around them because you were riding your bicycle with just one hand on the handlebars.

Listening to music while riding your bicycle may distract you from surrounding sounds, and you may not be aware of approaching cars. Also, riding a bicycle while holding an umbrella is dangerous. When it is raining, it is already dangerous to ride a bicycle because visibility is poor. Holding an umbrella and riding with just one hand on the handlebars may prevent you from using your brakes properly. It is best to avoid riding your bicycle or, if you must ride, to wear a raincoat instead of using an umbrella when it rains.

Try to ride a bicycle safely so that you will be able to instantly stop or steer clear—whatever the situation calls for—to avoid colliding with pedestrians or objects.



Shinjuku Art Heaven 2008



October 12 (Sun.)



There will be a parade of approximately 1,000 people making its way through Shinjuku, from east to west, blending brass bands and folk entertainment. This year, there will be a special parade of police officers from around the world. You can enjoy spectacular entertainment, such as street performances and cheerleading, at each site. Please enjoy everything the town of Shinjuku has to offer when it is transformed into a stage.

Parade—Starts at 11:10 a.m.

Parade Course: Intersection of Shinjuku-dori Avenue and Meiji-dori Avenue – Shinjuku-dori Avenue – in front of Alta Building – O-Guard – Shinjuku Station West Exit – Kogakuin University

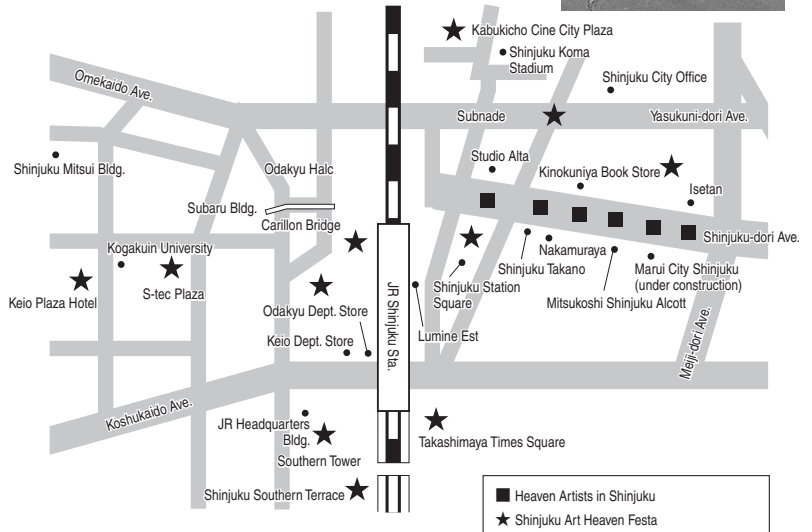
★Festivities—1 to 5 p.m.

Location: Various sites in all directions, radiating from Shinjuku Station (Shinjuku Station Square, Shinjuku Southern Terrace, and other locations)

Program: Marching bands, cheerleading performances, street performances, and more

Heaven Artists in Shinjuku—1:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Location: Six locations on Shinjuku-dori Avenue
Program: Street performances



Inquiries: Culture, Tourism and International Affairs Division, Tel: 03-5273-4069

Fureai Festa 2008

October 19 (Sun.), 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

This annual festival will be held in spacious Toyama Park. You can enjoy various performances, such as music and dance shows, at two stage areas. There will be plenty of events in eight plazas that are fun for everyone, from children to adults. Why not step out with your family to enjoy the city's biggest festival? There is never a dull moment, even if you spend the entire day here!



Powerful performance by a 100-gun-toting troop



The mini-SL is popular with children.

Location: Toyama Park, Okubo area (3-5 Okubo)
A three-minute walk from Nishi-Waseda Station on the Tokyo Metro Fukutoshin Line, an approximate 10-minute walk from Takadanobaba Station on the JR Yamanote Line or Seibu-Shinjuku Line, or a roughly 15-minute walk from JR Shin-Okubo Station
Because there is no parking available, please refrain from coming by car.

Inquiries: Culture, Tourism and International Affairs Division, Tel: 03-5273-4069

Sports Recreation 2008

October 13

Your body cannot help but move instinctively! There will be all kinds of fun events on Sports Day in Shinjuku! There will be exhibitions of activity groups of Shinjuku City, and at Regasu Grand Sumo Land, there will be real sumo wrestlers from the Hanaregoma-beya training stable!



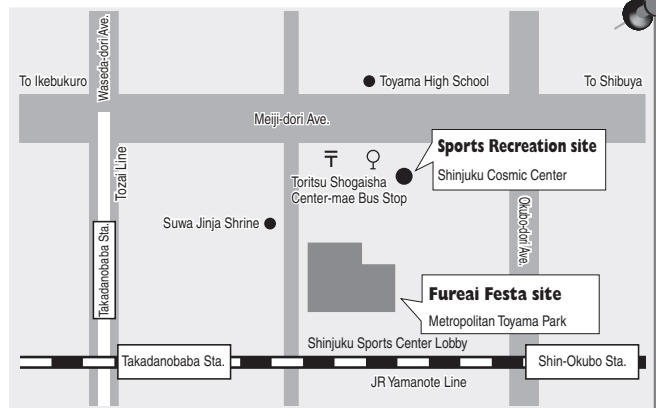
The popular beauty and health programs will be free of charge, and you will be able to try everything without advanced reservation!

Simply come to the site on the day of the event dressed in comfortable sportswear.

Date and Time: October 13 (Mon., a national holiday), 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Location: Shinjuku Cosmic Sports Center (3-1-2 Okubo), Shinjuku Sports Center (3-5-1 Okubo), and other locations

Inquiries: Shinjuku City Lifelong Learning Foundation, Tel: 03-3232-7701



Let's Get Immunized

Inquiries: Disease Prevention Section, Public Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Division (Shinjuku City Office Annex 2, 3F), Tel: 03-5273-3859

Measles-Rubella 3rd Term and 4th Term Immunizations (Free of Charge)

Because of the measles epidemic last year, immunization programs for 1st year junior high school students (3rd Term) and 3rd year high school students (4th Term) were added. Immunization slips have been mailed to those of eligible age. Please get immunized as early as possible.

Optional Measles Immunization (Free of Charge)

Eligibility: If your child is of eligible age (see below), please call the City Office. An immunization slip will be mailed to you shortly thereafter.

⇒ If your child was born within the dates indicated in (1) through (3) below and has never been immunized against nor infected with the measles virus:

- (1) Those born between April 2, 1991, and April 1, 1995
- (2) Those born between April 2, 1996, and April 1, 2000
- (3) Those born on or after April 2, 2003, and are at least two years old on the day of immunization

⇒ If your child was born between April 2, 2000, and April 1, 2002, and has either never been immunized against nor infected with the measles virus or has been immunized just once

Autumn Polio (Cerebral Palsy) Immunization (Free of Charge)

Date, Time, and Location: See chart on the right. Reception is from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m.

Immunization provided at Shinjuku Municipal Genki-kan is on a reservation basis (first 100 people). If you would like your child to be immunized, please call the Disease Prevention Section of the Public Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Division (Tel: 03-5273-3859) on or after October 14 (Tue.), from 8:30 a.m.

Eligibility:

- (1) 1st Time Immunization: Those born between January 1, 2008, and June 30, 2008
- (2) 2nd Time Immunization: Those born between July 1, 2007, and December 31, 2007
- (3) Those who are under 90 months old and have not been immunized twice.

Immunization slips will be mailed to those who are eligible under (1) or (2) above. Please call if you moved to Shinjuku on or after August 31 or are eligible under (3) above and have not received an immunization slip.

Location	Dates
Ushigome Public Health Center (50 Bentencho) Tel: 03-3260-6231	October 10 (Fri.) and 24 (Fri.) November 5 (Wed.) and 28 (Fri.)
Yotsuya Public Health Center (4-17 Yotsuya) Tel: 03-3351-5161	October 16 (Thu.) and 30 (Thu.) November 20 (Thu.)
Genki-kan (3-18-1 Toyama) (on a reservation basis)	October 18 (Sat.)
Nishi-Shinjuku Public Health Center (7-5-8 Nishi-Shinjuku) Tel: 03-3369-7151	October 14 (Tue.) and 28 (Tue.) November 25 (Tue.)
Ochiai Public Health Center (4-6-7 Shimo-Ochiai) Tel: 03-3952-7161	October 3 (Fri.) and 22 (Wed.) November 7 (Fri.) and 19 (Wed.)

Influenza Immunization for the Elderly

Dates: October 1 (Wed.), 2008, through January 10 (Sat.), 2009

Eligibility: (1) Those who live in Shinjuku City, are 65 years old or older as of December 31, 2008, and would like to receive immunization and (2) those who are between 60 and 64 years of age as of December 31, 2008; have serious disabilities concerning their heart, kidneys, or respiratory organs or have serious disabilities due to the human immunodeficiency virus; and would like to receive immunization (equivalent to Level 1 of the Handbook for the Physically Disabled)

Application: Immunization slips will be mailed out on September 25 (Thu.) to all Shinjuku residents who are 65 years old or older as of September 30, 2008, and to Shinjuku residents between 60 and 64 years of age who received the same immunization in FY2007. Furthermore, immunization slips will be mailed to those who will be turning 65 years old between October 1 and December 31, 2008 (one day before their 65th birthday).

If you moved to Shinjuku City on or after September 1 and are 65 years old or older or if you are a Shinjuku resident who is between 60 and 64 years of age, are eligible under (2) above, and would like to receive immunization for the first time, please call to apply for immunization. An immunization slip will be mailed to you shortly thereafter.

Immunization Procedures: Please take your immunization slip to a medical institution designated by Shinjuku City to receive immunization.

Fee: ¥2,200 (once a year; free for households that receive public financial assistance for everyday living)

Seeking Nursery School Children, Kindergarten Students, and Yotsuya Kodomo-en Children

Nursery schools provide childcare on behalf of parents who are unable to look after their children at home due to work or illness. Although the age of eligibility varies with each nursery school, a child can be admitted from as early as 43 days after birth up to the age at which he/she enters elementary school.

Applications for enrollment in nursery schools in April of the following year will be accepted from mid-December through mid-January. The deadline to apply for enrollment in a nursery school in other months of the year is around the 15th of the previous month.

Inquiries: Enrollment Section, Nursery School Division (Shinjuku City Office Main Bldg., 2F), Tel: 03-5273-4527

Kindergartens are educational facilities for preschoolers who are three to five years old. There are municipal and private kindergartens. Applications for enrollment in kindergartens in the next school year (starting in April) are accepted from mid-October of every year.

Please call the kindergarten where you wish to enroll your child for more information concerning enrollment procedures.

Inquiries: Call the kindergarten of your choice or Kindergarten Section, School Management Division (Shinjuku City Office Annex 1, 4F), Tel: 03-5273-3103

Kodomo-en functions as both a nursery school and kindergarten, offering childcare and education with the objective of fostering the development and growth of children, from newborns up to those entering elementary school. Please call for more information concerning enrollment procedures.

Inquiries: Yotsuya Kodomo-en (2-6 Yotsuya), Tel: 03-5369-3775



Living Together

“Multicultural living” refers to people of different nationalities and ethnic races living together, and accepting and understanding the differences between their cultures.

In this issue, we will report from the front lines of multicultural living.

Have you ever experienced aspects of Japanese culture or tradition? There are many aspects of this culture that are uniquely Japanese, such as the tea ceremony, flower arrangement, sumo, and kabuki.

Becoming familiar with culture is the first step toward creating a multicultural society! Therefore, for this issue, we asked Ms. Sejin Kim, a student from South Korea, to try her hand at *sen-shoku* (dyeing), one of Shinjuku’s local industries.

Foreign Student’s
Hands-on Report

Trying Shinjuku’s Traditional Art *Senshoku* (Dyeing)



Profile:
Ms. Sejin Kim
From Seoul, South Korea; currently a sophomore at Waseda University School of Education; and winner of the FY2008 Shinjuku City Foreign Student Scholarship

Recently, I gave traditional dyeing a try at an atelier called Some-no-Sato Futaba-en. The atelier, which is located along the railway tracks, is on the ground floor of a condominium building and has an atmosphere that can be described as being both traditional and contemporary in a harmonious blend.



▲ Mr. Tomidokoro, a craftsman, teaches the art carefully.

uniquely Korean aspects of culture that we can be proud of, such as *hanji* (Korean paper), *hanbok* (Korean costumes), and palace cuisine.

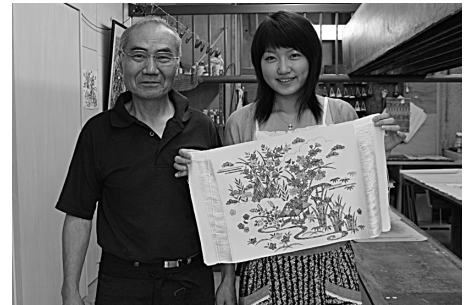
Thanks to the “Korean boom” that has taken place over the past few years, many people now know more about South Korea. However, most of it is popular culture that has become popular as entertainment, and I feel a little sad that this is different from the aspects of traditional culture that exist in everyday life among the people of South Korea. As a foreign student from South Korea, I hope to be able to tell people about traditional Korean culture. Shinjuku is a city in which one out of every 10 people is a foreign resident, and because the city has such great facilities as the Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza, I hope we can spread Korean culture among not only Japanese people but also foreign residents through friendly exchanges.



▲ Because the process involves always bending forward, it is a little strenuous.

Almost as soon as I entered the atelier, I was able to start my experience in dyeing. I tried my hand at a process called *kata-zome* (pattern dyeing). Using 10 paper patterns and five colors, I made a design using different colors and different hues. The silk that was used for the material for the dyes had a pretty floral background pattern, and with a brush made out of deer tail hair, I brushed layer upon layer of the dyes on top of the paper pattern. By changing the paper pattern, the design became even more vivid, and the finished product was very colorful.

Experiencing this aspect of Japanese culture made me think about the traditional culture of my own country, South Korea. Perhaps because South Korea and Japan share the same Asian cultural background, there are many similar aspects. Albeit a little different in form, South Korea also has a tradition of dyeing. There are many other



▲ “I think dyeing is very therapeutic. Next time, I would like to try the *shamisen* and tea ceremony!”

Some-no-Sato Futaba-en

Location: 2-3-6 Kami-Ochiai

Days: Tuesday through Saturday

Hours: 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

How to Get There: A four-minute walk from Nakai Station on the Toei Oedo Subway Line or Seibu-Shinjuku Line

Tel: 03-3368-8133 (in Japanese)

Admission: Free of charge (There is a fee for trying dyeing.)

Web site: www.futaba-en.jp/

● Designated the Shinjuku Mini Museum, you can see works of art using the hand-dyed techniques of Tokyo Some Komon and Edo Sarasa as well as observe craftsmen at work.

