



Shinjuku News

No. 34

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Regional and Cultural Affairs Department, Shinjuku City

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www.city.shinjuku.lg.jp/foreign/english/

Please make your inquiries in Japanese when calling the coordinating division.



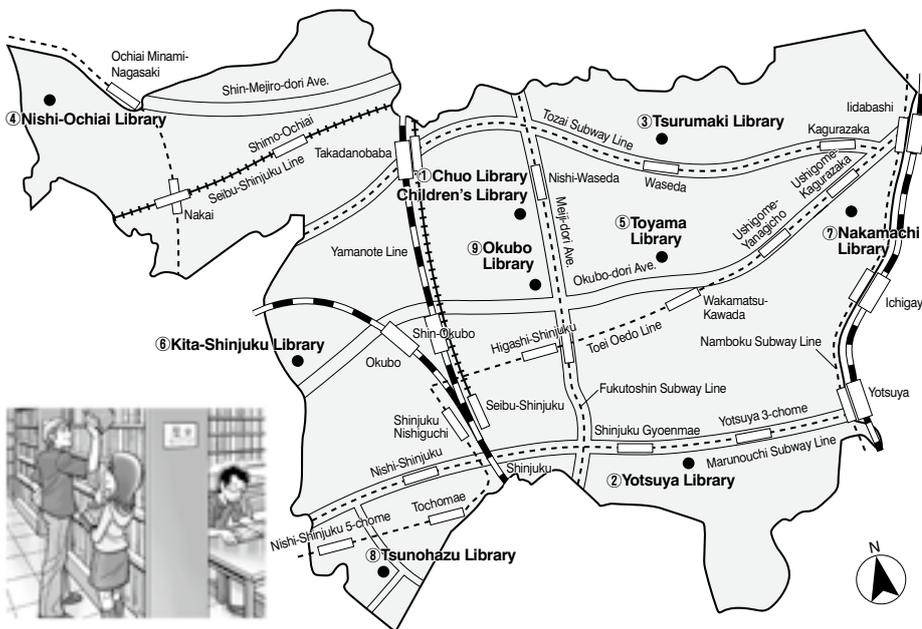
Discover the Pleasures of Your Local Library!



Special Feature on Shinjuku City Libraries



Fall in Japan is a very comfortable time of year, and as one saying goes, "Autumn is perfect for reading." Why not enjoy a few books at the library this fall? Feel free to read, spend time in a relaxing environment, and take advantage of everything else our libraries offer.



About Shinjuku City Libraries

There are ten public libraries in Shinjuku City with over 882,000 books and more than 48,000 DVDs and videos, as well as 65 different newspapers and 703 different magazines. Yotsuya Library and Okubo Library store more foreign publications than the other libraries, and you can read magazines and newspapers in various foreign languages.

Okubo Library is also featured on Page 7.

How to Use the Library

For detailed information on library hours, holidays, how to borrow and reserve books, and other services, please read the "Shinjuku Municipal Library Guide" (in English, Chinese and Korean), which is available at every library. You can also look through this publication on the foreign-language edition of the Shinjuku City website.

List of City Libraries (inquiries handled in Japanese only)

Library	Address	Telephone No.	Number of Foreign Materials
① Chuo Library/ Children's Library	3-1-1 Okubo	03-3364-1421	English: 3 newspapers, 12 magazines, 323 books Chinese: 3 newspapers, 2 magazines Korean: 1 newspaper, 1 magazine Other languages: 2 magazines
② Yotsuya Library	87 Naito-machi	03-3341-0095	English: 4 newspapers, 14 magazines, 1,730 books Chinese: 1 newspaper, 4 magazines, 730 books Korean: 1 newspaper, 2 magazines, 821 books Other languages: 5 magazines, 76 books
③ Tsurumaki Library	521 Waseda-Tsurumaki-cho	03-3208-2431	-
④ Nishi-Ochiai Library	4-13-17 Nishi-Ochiai	03-3954-4373	-
⑤ Toyama Library	2-11-101 Toyama	03-3207-1191	English: 44 books
⑥ Kita-Shinjuku Library	3-20-2 Kita-Shinjuku	03-3365-4755	English: 2 newspapers, 2 magazines, 681 books Chinese: 1 magazine, 590 books Korean: 1 magazine, 428 books Other languages: 30 books
⑦ Nakamachi Library	25 Nakamachi	03-3267-3121	English: 52 books Other languages: 33 books
⑧ Tsunohazu Library	4-33-7 Nishi-Shinjuku	03-5371-0010	English: 1 newspaper, 1 magazine 34 books
⑨ Okubo Library	2-12-7 Okubo	03-3209-3812	English: 1 newspaper, 2 magazines, 611 books Chinese: 1 newspaper, 1 magazine, 436 books Korean: 1 newspaper, 1 magazine, 475 books Other languages: 32 books

The next issue of *Shinjuku News* will be published in January 2014. *Shinjuku News* is available at various facilities in the city, including the Shinjuku City Office, Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza, Branch Offices, and public libraries.

"Shabeleon '13" Japanese-Language Speech Contest Held on June 8

Shabeleon marked its 23rd year this year with a record 21 participants from 11 countries, including students from Japanese-language schools and university students.

Living in Japan—a country whose environment is different than that of their homelands—participants gave seven-minute speeches in Japanese based on their values and perspectives. Because the speeches were impressive, three special awards were presented in addition to the regular awards.



Interview with First Place Winner (Torgayev Tamirlan)



Congratulations! What led you to come to Japan?

Well, Japan is world-famous for its advanced technology. Since Kazakhstan and Japan are physically distant and their cultures are also extremely different, not many people there dream of going to college here.

However, I once met a Japanese person in Kazakhstan. As we got to know each other, I realized that there's not too big of a difference, and I started getting interested in Japanese culture. With the goal of going to college in Japan, I applied for a Japanese-language course in my home country.

Since I felt unsure about whether I really wanted to study in Japan, I participated in a short-term study abroad program. During that time, I gained valuable experience and liked Japan very much. I continued to study without giving up, and was able to return to Japan.

How did you feel when you won first place?

At first I thought, It's finally over. I can rest! Then I realized that this is just the first step toward my dream of entering a Japanese university. Since

I succeeded in my first speech contest, I have gained self-confidence. I would like to thank the Japanese-language teachers who helped me, my parents who made my dream of studying abroad come true, and so many people in Japan.

What kinds of things would you like to do in Japan in the future?

I would like to graduate from a Japanese university and go into mechanical research. I will do my best to make my dream come true!

Congratulations on winning, Tamirlan, and for answering the questions from the master of ceremonies so well! We wish you all the best as you strive to make your dreams come true!

Torgayev Tamirlan

From Kazakhstan

Currently studying at Shinjuku Japanese Language Institute

At Shabeleon, he gave a speech entitled "Personal Changes."

Working to Create a Multicultural Society— Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza



Foreign Resident Consultation Corner



Offers feedback on the questions and concerns of residents who come in for advice.



Japanese-Language Study Corner



Offers Japanese-language study materials and a study space.



Multipurpose Space

Japanese-language classes and classes and events with the themes of international exchange and multicultural living are held here.



Information and Reference Corner

The corner offers many useful materials and information that are helpful in everyday life.



Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza

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

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

How to Get There: A 10-minute walk from JR Shinjuku Station's east exit or a five-minute walk from Seibu-Shinjuku Station

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

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

Website: www.city.shinjuku.lg.jp/foreign/english/plaza.html



Consultation Support Center for Foreign Residents

The center provides consultation services concerning immigration and visa procedures free of charge.

Influenza Immunizations

From October 1, 2013 through January 31, 2014, influenza immunizations will be subsidized for the following groups.

Receiving immunizations before an illness becomes widespread is an effective way of preventing infection and/or serious cases of the disease. It is therefore a good idea to receive immunizations as early as possible.

■ Elderly Influenza

Eligibility: Residents of Shinjuku City that on the day of immunization are (1) 65 or older; or (2) between 60 and 64 years of age and have a Level 1 disability (according to the *Handbook for the Physically Disabled*) related to their heart, liver, respiratory or immune system function and wish to receive the immunization.

No. of immunizations: One

Immunization fee: ¥2,200 (free of charge for some people, such as residents 75 or older and those who belong to a household that receives public financial assistance for everyday living)

Location: A medical institution designated by Shinjuku City (or one designated by any of the other 22 wards of Tokyo)

Application: A preliminary checkup sheet will be mailed to eligible residents. If you do not receive a preliminary checkup sheet, please contact the Public Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Division.

Note: Residents who fall under Category 3 must apply in advance.

■ General Influenza (Residents Under 65 Years of Age)

Eligibility: Shinjuku City residents who meet either of the following criteria as of October 1, 2013: (3) between 13 and 64 years of age in a household that receives public financial assistance for everyday living, or (4) 12 years of age or younger born on or after Tuesday, October 3, 2000

No. of immunizations: One for (3); two for (4)

Immunization fee: Free of charge for (3); ¥1,500 for (4)

Location: A medical institution designated by Shinjuku City

Streptococcus Pneumoniae Vaccine Available for the Elderly

As of April 2013, pneumoniae vaccine immunizations are available for the residents noted below, primarily to prevent pneumonia. By getting this immunization at the same time as the one for influenza, we hope to prevent complications due to influenza. A preliminary checkup sheet has already been mailed to eligible residents. Please call the number below if you would like to receive this immunization but do not have a preliminary checkup sheet.

Eligibility: Shinjuku City residents that on the day of immunization are (1) 65 or older; or (2) between 60 and 64 years of age and have a Level 1 disability (according to the *Handbook for the Physically Disabled*) related

to their heart, liver, respiratory or immune system function, and wish to receive the immunization.

No. of immunizations: One

(However, residents who have received immunizations during the past five years are not eligible.)

Immunization fee: ¥4,000; free of charge to residents who belong to a household that receives financial assistance for everyday living

Location: At a medical institution designated by Shinjuku City

Inquiries Disease Prevention Section, Public Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Division, Health Department **Tel** 03-5273-3859

Health Checkups and Cancer Checkups

When it comes to lifestyle-related illnesses and cancer, early detection leading to treatment is of the utmost importance. It is wise to undergo a health checkup and cancer checkup once a year to assess the state of your health. Please call for more information on how to apply.

■ Health Checkups

Description: Physical measurements, blood test, urinalysis, and more

Eligibility: Shinjuku City residents between 16 and 39 years of age

Residents between 40 and 74 years of age enrolled in Shinjuku City National Health Insurance, or who receive financial assistance for everyday living

Residents 75 years of age or older enrolled in the Medical Care System for the Older Senior Citizen or who receive financial assistance for everyday living

Fee: Free of charge

Checkup Period: Until December 31, 2013

■ Cancer Checkups

Description: Stomach cancer, colon cancer, lung cancer, breast cancer, uterine cancer, and prostate

cancer

Eligibility: Shinjuku City residents (checkup varies depending on your age)

Fee: There is a fee, and exemption programs to offset the cost. Please call the number below for details.

Checkup Period: Until Monday, March 31, 2014

Location: (1) Local medical institutions; (2) Residents' Health Centers

Inquiries: Health Checkup Section, Health Promotion Division (Shinjuku City Office Annex 2, 1F), Tel: 03-5273-4207

HIV/AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) Are Immediate Problems

Shinjuku Public Health Center offers HIV and STI testing and consultation for free on an anonymous basis. Anyone can be infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) or have a sexually transmitted infection (STI). Because some STIs have no apparent symptoms, it is easy to infect your partner unknowingly. Early detection and early treatment are extremely important in curing these illnesses, so it is a good idea to seek consultation and undergo testing if you suspect the slightest possibility of having these diseases.

1 HIV Consultation and Testing in Foreign Languages

Languages: English, Portuguese, Spanish, and Thai

(1) HIV/AIDS Telephone Consultation, Tel: 03-3369-7110

Consultation Days: Thursdays, 1 to 5 p.m. (This service is offered in Thai twice a month, on days that HIV testing is conducted.)

(2) HIV and STI Testing

Testing Details: HIV and STI (syphilis and chlamydia) testing are given. Please come directly to the site during reception hours to get tested. No reservations are necessary.

Testing Days: As a rule, testing is conducted two Thursdays a month.

The schedule from October through December is as follows:

October 3, 17, November 7, 21, December 5, and 19

Note: Please come again to the site a week after getting tested. The results will be given there.

Reception Hours: 1:30 to 3 p.m.

Location: Nishi-Shinjuku Public Health Center (7-5-8 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku)

For a detailed schedule and other relevant information, please visit the city's foreign-language website and see the latest updates.

www.city.shinjuku.lg.jp/foreign/english/oshirase/teiki/aids.html

2 HIV Consultation and Testing in Japanese

(1) HIV/AIDS Telephone Consultation

Tel: 03-5273-3862 (Health Consultation Section, Public Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Division)

Consultation Days: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

(2) HIV and STI Testing

Reservations (A reservation is required for the testing in Japanese.)

Tel: 03-5273-3859 (Disease Prevention Section, Public Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Division)

Note: The schedule, testing details, and location are the same as shown at left.

Public Health Promotion and Disease Prevention Division, Shinjuku Public Health Center, Tel: 03-5273-3859

Grand Shinjuku City Festival

From October 1 (Tue.) through 20 (Sun.), two big events and 26 community festivals will be held at various sites in Shinjuku City. This page features the programs of the two big events—Shinjuku Art Heaven 2013 and Fureai Festa 2013.

Shinjuku Art Heaven 2013

From October 1 (Tue.) through 6 (Sun.), cooperating shops near Shinjuku Station will put on special events, including a fashion show.

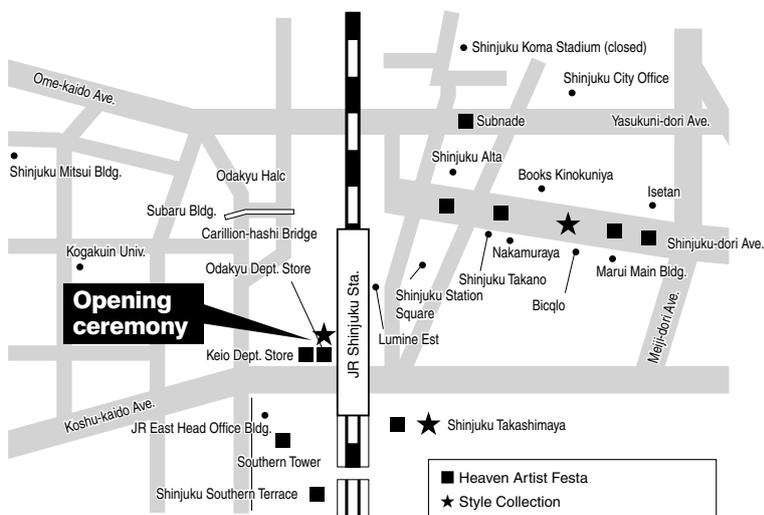
☆ Shinjuku Heaven Artist Festa

- Date** October 6 (Sun.)
- Location** Various locations around Shinjuku Station's east, west and south exits (Shinjuku-dori Ave., Odakyu Department Store's grand stairway, the entrance of Keio Department Store, Shinjuku Takashimaya 2F, Shinjuku Southern Terrace, in front of the JR headquarters building hall, and the Subnade underground shopping mall)
- Program** Various types of entertainment, such as street performers, music and dance



☆ Shinjuku Style Collection

- Date** October 6 (Sun.)
- Location** Various sites around Shinjuku Station's east, west and south exits (Shinjuku-dori Ave., Odakyu Department Store's grand stairway, and Shinjuku Takashimaya 1F)
- Program** Various types of special events, such as fashion shows
- Inquiries** Shinjuku Art Heaven Executive Committee Office, Tel: 03-3347-9099
- Website** www.shinjukuku-kankou.jp

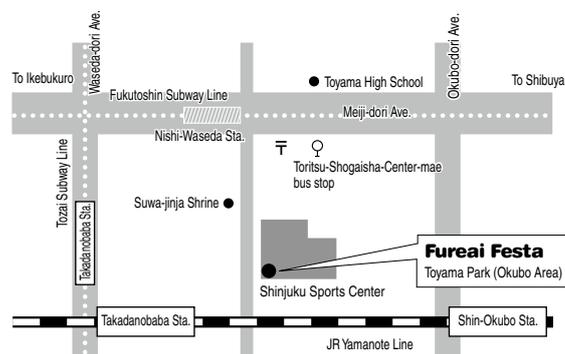


☆ Fureai Festa 2013



This festival put on by city residents is held every year at Toyama Park. There will be various performances—such as wind instrument concerts, *taiko* (Japanese drums) playing, jazz music, dancing and folk art—on three stages. A performance featuring children's songs from foreign countries is also scheduled.

There will be eight plazas with refreshment stands, vendors selling local specialties, a mini-zoo, Japanese traditional games, hands-on corners where you can try dyeing and bookmaking, a disaster prevention corner and a healthcare corner. There will be something fun for everyone, from children to adults. Please come with your family to enjoy the city's biggest festival!



- Date and Time** October 20 (Sun.), 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Location** Toyama Park Okubo Area (Okubo 3-chome)
- How to Get There** A three-minute walk from Nishi-Waseda Station on the Fukutoshin Subway Line; a ten-minute walk from Takadanobaba Station on the JR Yamanote Line or Seibu-Shinjuku Line; or a 15-minute walk from JR Shin-Okubo Station
- Note** Because there is no parking available, please refrain from coming by car.
- Inquiries** Culture and Tourism Division, Tel: 03-5273-4069
- Website** www.city.shinjuku.lg.jp

The 34th Gathering of Refugees Settled in Japan

An awards presentation for refugees and those who receive support is set for October 20. The event will include performances of songs and dances from the home countries of the refugees—such as Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia—and a performance by famed magician Mr. Maric. We look forward to welcoming as many people as possible!



Date and Time	October 20 (Sun.), 2013 1 to 4:10 p.m. (the hall opens at 12:30 p.m.)
Location	Shinjuku Bunka Center (6-14-1 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku)
Eligibility	Everyone is welcome.
Capacity	1,000 people (unreserved seating)
Fee	Free of charge
To Apply	No reservations are required. Simply come to the site on the day of the event.
Inquiries	Refugee Assistance Headquarters (RHQ), Foundation for the Welfare and Education of Asian People Tel: 03-3449-7012 Website: www.rhq.gr.jp/

World Dance Festa in Shinjuku City 2013

The World Dance Festa is an international exchange festival held in the cosmopolitan city of Shinjuku, where about 10 percent of the population comes from foreign countries.

This marks the fifth year of the festival, and the event is packed with multicultural experiences, including dance and musical performances from around the world, interactive cross-cultural experiences, tourist information booths, and sales of various products.

Date and Time	October 26 (Sat.), 2013
Time	11 a.m. to 5 p.m. (subject to change)
Location	Shinjuku Bunka Center (entire building)
Program	Performances of dances from various countries, sales of products, foods and beverages, workshops, and more
Tickets	Free of charge
Reservation	No reservations are required.
Sponsor	The Shinjuku Foundation for Creation of Future, World Dance Festa in Shinjuku City 2013 Executive Committee
Application/Inquiries	Cultural Exchange Division, the Shinjuku Foundation for Creation of Future 6-14-1 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku 160-0022 Tel: 03-3350-1141

Shinjuku Fashion Field 2013

In the fall, you'll have a great chance to see some unique fashions up close.

A fashion contest with the theme "Cosmopolis Dreaming" will be held in late November. It will be fascinating to see how the designs capture images of the international city of Shinjuku and the fashion culture. Fashion models will wear the entries that pass the preliminary screening, and a grand prize-winner will be chosen.



Date and Time	November 23 (Sat.), 2013, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Location:	Shinjuku Bunka Center (6-14-1 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku)
Fee	Free of charge
Inquiries	Cultural Exchange Division, the Shinjuku Foundation for Creation of Future 03-3350-1141



Shinjuku City Japanese-Language Class, 2nd Term Recruiting Students

Let's learn basic Japanese for everyday living!
If there is an opening, you can start in the middle of the term.

Eligibility	Beginning level. Those who need to learn basic Japanese necessary for everyday living. However, those who are of junior high school age and younger are not permitted to join the class.	Fee	Classes that meet once a week—¥2,000 Classes that meet twice a week—¥4,000 Note: There will be no refunds of fees.
Date and Time	Weekdays, September through December. There are classes that meet once a week and those that meet twice a week. Schedules vary depending on the class location. 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. (Evening classes are on Mondays and Thursdays only.)	To Apply	Complete an application form and send it to Shinjuku Bunka Center by mail or fax. Application forms are available at Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza, the Foreign Resident Advisory Corner in the Shinjuku City Office, and Shinjuku Bunka Center. You can also download the form via the Shinjuku Foundation for Creation of Future website (www.regasu-shinjuku.or.jp/?p=273).
Location:	10 locations in the city, including Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza (total of 12 classes)	Application	Shinjuku Bunka Center or the Cultural Exchange Division, the Shinjuku Foundation for Creation of Future
		Inquiries	6-14-1 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku 160-0022 Tel: 03-3350-1141, Fax: 03-3350-4839 E-mail: bunka@regasu-shinjuku.or.jp



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 article we report from the front lines of multicultural living in Shinjuku City.

When you think of Shinjuku, the first things that come to mind may be high-rise buildings, crowded streets lined with department stores, electric appliance shops, and restaurants. If you take a stroll through Shinjuku, however, you will see a different side of this city.

We asked Jin Fanxing, an international student from China, to explore Okubo—which includes the Shin-Okubo area and is known as a multicultural town—and then give us his thoughts.

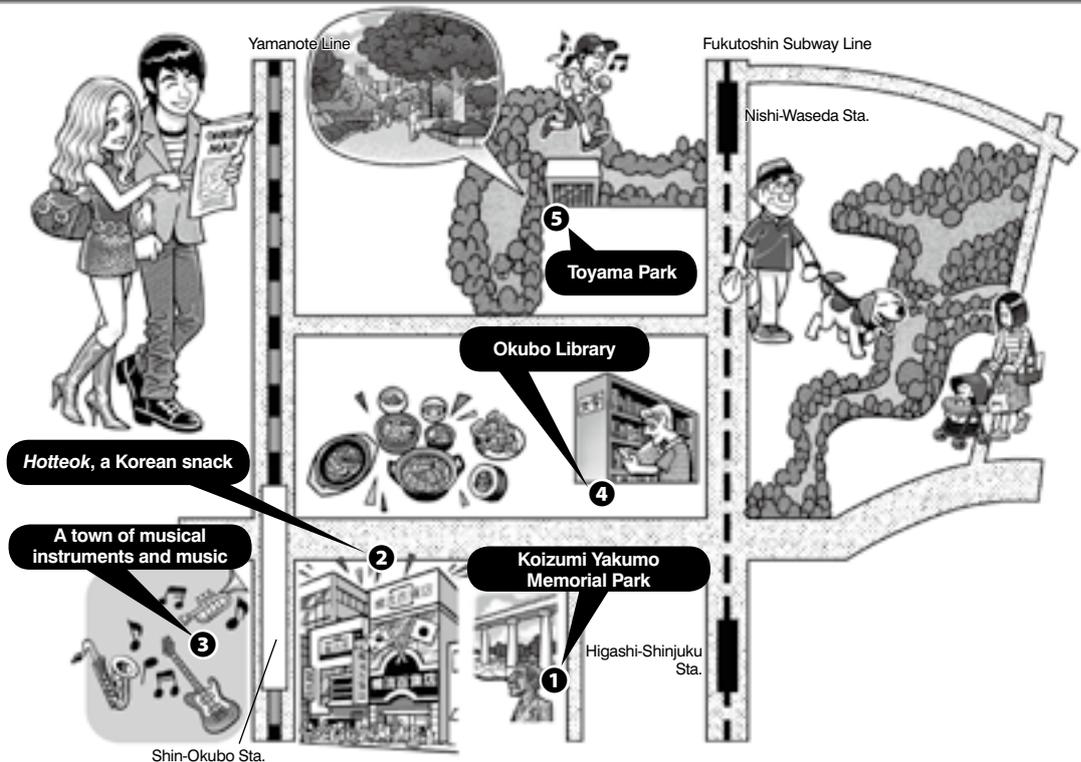
Strolling through Shinjuku



Okubo Course



Name	Jin Fanxing
School	Department of Japanese and Japanese Language Education, Faculty of Foreign Language Studies, Mejiro University
Native Country	China
Dream	I would like to study the Japanese language and Japanese-language education, become a Japanese-language teacher, and teach students in various countries around the world.



1 Koizumi Yakumo Memorial Park

When you think of a park, you probably picture play equipment such as a swing, seesaw and slide. This park, however, is a little different. Its design features a plaza surrounded by flowerbeds, a medieval building, and ancient-looking pillars that create an atmosphere reminiscent of Greece. The flowerbeds are well tended, and I was deeply impressed by all the beautiful flowers in bloom.



Who Was Koizumi Yakumo?

A writer of the Meiji Period, Koizumi Yakumo was born in 1850 to an Irish father and a Greek mother on a Greek island in the Ionian Sea called Lefkada. His birth name was Patrick Lafcadio Hearn. In 1896, he became a naturalized Japanese and took the name Koizumi Yakumo. He is famous for his many Japanese ghost stories, such as "Hoichi the Earless," "Yuki onna," and "Rokurokubi."

Since Yakumo lived his last years in Okubo in Shinjuku, Shinjuku City signed a friendship city agreement with the town of Lefkada in 1989. Koizumi Yakumo Memorial Park opened in 1993.

2 Hotteok, a Korean snack

Are you familiar with *hotteok*? It's a confection in which sweet bean paste is folded into batter and cooked on an iron grill. There are many types of fillings in addition to sweet beans, however, such as spicy kimchee and chocolate. This time I tried a *hotteok* with a cinnamon filling—a flavor that could be addictive! *Hotteok* are apparently very popular, especially among women, and is a snack that can be casually enjoyed.



If you walk while eating, by the way, please remember to mind your manners!



3 A Town of Musical Instruments and Music



When people talk about Okubo, many of them imagine a richly international town with many Korean restaurants and shops offering Korean goods. Did you know that Okubo is also known as “the town of musical instruments” or “music town”? The Shinjuku Station area has many shops that professional musicians trust that sell both modern and traditional musical instruments.

What particularly caught my eye were the shiny brass instruments. Gazing at the display in the front of the shop made me lose track of time.

An International Town—Okubo

The area around Shinjuku Station is famous as an international place for being home to many foreign people. There are numerous shops here and there related to Korea, with restaurants offering authentic Korean cuisine at reasonable prices, stores offering Korean pop idol goods, and specialty shops selling Korean ingredients. It is a place that dating couples, families, and friends can enjoy, of course, but one that solo visitors can enjoy as well.



4 Okubo Library

What left a deep impression in my mind was that the Okubo Library had quite a few magazines and books in foreign languages. Although it is a bit far from my university, I would like to come here to do my homework or study for tests. Since there are many Japanese magazines and newspapers, this would also help me in my Japanese-language studies.



Three Multicultural Services

- **Consultation for Researching Books in Foreign Languages**
Library staff can help you look for foreign books or do research in Korean or Chinese. There are also staff members who speak English, Chinese and Korean.
 - **Multicultural Books Corner**
The library has a Multicultural Books Corner with an assortment of books in Korean, Chinese and English. You can also file a request for a foreign-language book using a Multicultural Book Recommendation Card.
 - **Storytelling in Foreign Languages**
Storytelling events in foreign languages geared for children are also held on an ongoing basis.
- Note:** Please see page 1 for information on where to call for inquiries.



5 Toyama Park (Okubo Area)

The last place I visited was Toyama Park, which is divided into an eastern section and a western section. I took a stroll through the Okubo area in the western section. I was able to enjoy natural greenery for the first time in a long time, since I do not usually stop by the park. People told me about Hakone Mountain, the highest (at just 44.6 meters) within the Yamanote Line in the Hakoneyama area in the eastern section. I would definitely like to see it when I have time!



Shinjuku Sports Center

This Shinjuku municipal sports facility is in Toyama Park. The center has a heated swimming pool, children’s gymnastics room, training room, and a multipurpose court, so you can enjoy various sports according to your purpose and goal. Various classes are also offered for a fee, and everyone from children to the elderly can receive professional instruction.



Address: 3-5-1 Okubo
Tel: 03-3232-0171
Hours: 9 a.m. to 10 p.m.

After My Walk Through Town

Although I'd had a strong image of Okubo as a town filled with crowded streets like Kabukicho, after this stroll I was able to experience a side of Shinjuku that I never knew about. This proved to be a valuable experience for me.

The 3Rs— Let's Do What We Can

The promotion of garbage reduction and recycling is an indispensable key to using our limited resources efficiently. Hopefully, each and every one of us will bear in mind the importance of leading a life that conserves our resources!

What Are 3Rs? The “3Rs” concept refers to the three keys to reducing garbage: reduce, reuse, and recycle.



R EDUCE... Reduce the amount of garbage you generate

- Take a bag with you when you go shopping instead of accepting plastic shopping bags at the checkout counter.
- Refuse to accept two or three layers of wrapping
- Select household products (hand soap, etc.) that are refillable.
- Prepare meals using leftover foods, etc.

R EUSE... Use items until they wear out, or recycle them

- Repair broken household appliances and continue using them.
- Repurpose items that are no longer needed, such as make cleaning rags out of old clothes.
- Make good use of flea markets and recycle shops.

R ECYCLE... Recycle items as resources

- Take food trays, milk cartons, and plastic PET bottles to the storefront collection boxes at supermarkets.
- Return used returnable bottles—such as issho-bin (1.8-liter sake bottles), beer bottles, and milk bottles—to the shops that sell such products.
- Deposit button-type batteries and rechargeable batteries in the collection box at electric appliance shops provide.

Shinjuku Art Project

Let's Dance Together
and Beat the Drums!

Dance & Percussion Workshop

Multicultural Wa (Harmony) Created through Dancing and Drumming

Dance and percussion practice is held at Shinjuku Comprehensive Children's Center once a month, attracting children with roots in various countries such as Japan, China, Korea, and the Philippines. While hesitant at first about dancing and playing musical instruments, they practice with all their might.

While the children were nervous about meeting other children for the first time, their nervousness seemed to melt away as they grasped the rhythm and breathed in unison. In the end they were all smiles, and went home saying, "I want to come again next time!"

A multicultural circle of *wa* (harmony) is growing through the solidarity and creativity of performing together on one stage.

Percussion

The children generate rhythm using instruments that are rarely available here in Japan, such as the *darabucca* (a percussion instrument of the Middle East) and the frame drum.



Dance

A professional instructor carefully guides the students through street dance steps and choreography to the beat of the percussion instruments.



Participating in the Okubo Festival

The goal is for the children to participate in the Okubo Festival parade, which will take place on Monday, October 14 (a national holiday), and to show the fruits of their hard practice. Don't miss the opportunity to watch the children perform!

Come to the Dance and Percussion Workshop!

Date and Time November 7 and December 5, 2013
January 9, February 6, and March 6, 2014
For all dates: Thursday, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Eligibility Elementary through high school students who live or go to school in Shinjuku City

Location Shinjuku Comprehensive Children's Center (7-3-9 Shinjuku)
B1F, Children's Corner

Lecturer GAN, FUSE (dance), and NATSU (percussion)

To Apply Please apply in advance by telephone.
Tel: 03-3232-0695

Capacity Thirty people per session on a first-come, first-served basis.

What Is the Shinjuku Art Project?

The Shinjuku Art Project is a joint program adopted through the Shinjuku City Cooperative Program proposal system and conducted jointly by Shinjuku City and a volunteer group. The project helps children with roots in foreign countries and Japanese people in the community develop a deeper understanding of multiculturalism through creative activities. In addition to dance and percussion, various workshops—such as in photography, film, and music—will be conducted during FY2013.

Inquiries: Multicultural Society Promotion Division, Regional and Cultural Affairs Department, Tel: 03-5273-3504
Shinjuku Art Project on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ShinjukuArtProject>