

Winter  
2016

Publishing Date:  
January 1, 2016  
No. 43

# Shinjuku News



Published by: Multicultural Society Promotion Division, Regional and Cultural Affairs Department, Shinjuku City  
1-4-1 Kabuki-cho, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo 160-8484 Tel: 03-5273-3504 Fax: 03-3209-7455

<http://www.city.shinjuku.lg.jp/foreign/english/>

## Let's Protect Ourselves from Disasters! Multicultural Disaster Prevention Festa Shinjuku 2016



Date and time:

**February 6 (Sat.)  
10 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

(This event will be canceled if the weather is bad. An announcement will be made via the Shinjuku City website.)

Location:

**Okubo  
Park**

(2-43 Kabuki-cho)

### Are you prepared for an earthquake or other disaster?

Japan is a country that has frequent earthquakes. In March 2011, a major earthquake struck northeastern Japan, and a major tremor may hit Shinjuku as well. At this event you can find out how to prepare for an earthquake, and what to do when an earthquake strikes. There will be various first-hand learning corners as well as fun programs, food and dancing from various countries, and a stamp rally with disaster prevention goods gifts.

Interpreters will be available at the event. We look forward to welcoming you!

Main  
Programs

- **Disaster prevention corner**  
(an earthquake simulation truck, fire engine display, fire-extinguishing practice, emergency first-aid/rescue drills and more)
- **Multicultural gourmet**  
(foods from various countries)
- **Multicultural stage performances**  
(dance and musical performances)

How to  
Participate

Simply come to the venue on the day of the event.

Fee

The disaster prevention experiences and stage performances are free of charge.



**Inquiries:** Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza (Hygeia 11F, 2-44-1 Kabuki-cho, Tel: 03-5291-5171), Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. (closed on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month, national holidays and during the year-end/New Year holidays)

The next issue of *Shinjuku News* will be published in April 2016. *Shinjuku News* is available at various public facilities, including the Shinjuku City Office, Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza, Branch Offices and public libraries.

# Have You Received Your Individual Number ("My Number") Notification Card?



When you receive your notification card, please keep it in a safe place because it is a required document when completing tax and social security application procedures.

If you are asked to show your individual number at the City Office service counter, please show this notification card along with some form of personal identification, such as your residence card.

If you have not yet received your notification card, please contact the Shinjuku City Individual Number Card Consultation Counter. If you have lost your notification card, you can apply for a new one (handling fee: ¥500). It will take a few days to process your request.

**Note:** The notification card does not serve as documentation to verify personal identification.

## Newly Required Procedures

**If you change your address or your name due to a move, marriage or other such reason, you must complete procedures to update the information on your notification card (such as your name, alternative name or address). Please complete the designated procedures at your local municipal office within fourteen days of the change.**

## Do You Want an Individual Number Card?

To obtain an individual number card, please remove the application form attached to your notification card, fill in the required information, attach an ID photo to your application, and submit it at the City Office service counter. Starting from January 2016, cards will be issued at the Shinjuku City Office (Main Bldg. 1F).

The individual number card is a plastic IC card with an ID photo. You can use it as an official form of personal identification, as well as for e-Tax filing of your income tax return.

### Inquiries

**Note:** Closed during the year-end/New Year holidays.

☎ "My Number" Comprehensive Free Dial (Toll-free)	
<b>In Japanese</b>	<b>Tel: 0120-95-0178</b> <b>Hours</b> 9:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. (until 5:30 p.m. on Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays)
<b>In foreign languages</b> (English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese)	<b>Concerning the system:</b> <b>Tel: 0120-0178-26</b> <b>Concerning notification cards/individual number cards:</b> <b>Tel: 0120-0178-27</b> <b>Hours</b> English: 9:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. (until 5:30 p.m. on Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays) Other languages: Monday through Friday (except national holidays), 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.

☎ Shinjuku City Office Service Counter	
<b>Hours</b>	Monday through Friday (except national holidays), 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
<b>Concerning the system:</b> Planning and Policy Division (Main Bldg. 3F) (in Japanese) <b>Tel: 03-5273-3894</b> <b>Fax: 03-5272-5500</b>	
<b>Concerning notification cards/individual number cards:</b> Individual Number Card Consultation Counter (City Office Main Bldg. B1F) <b>Note:</b> Inquiries are accepted in Japanese, English, Chinese and Korean. <b>Tel: 03-5273-4359</b> <b>Fax: 03-3209-1728</b>	



## Please Follow the Rules for Disposing of Garbage and Recyclable Resources

When setting out your garbage and recyclable resources, it is important to follow the rules to avoid causing problems for your neighbors.

### Day of the week

The collection day varies depending on the community where you live. Please sort your garbage and recyclable resources properly and dispose of them on the designated day.

### Fee

As a rule, household garbage and recyclable resources are collected free of charge. There is a fee, however, for the collection of large amounts of garbage and oversized garbage. There is also a fee for the collection of all garbage and recyclable resources from businesses, such as shops and offices. As a rule, the business must contract a garbage collection company or recyclable resource collection company to pick up garbage and recyclables.

### Oversized garbage

(1) Please call to arrange a time for collection. Reservations are handled by the Oversized Garbage Reception Center.

#### Oversized Garbage Reception Center

**Tel: 03-5296-7000** (Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.)

**Website: <http://sodai.tokyokankyo.or.jp/>**



(2) Please purchase the official Shinjuku City oversized handling fee tickets, attach them to your oversized garbage items in an easy-to-see location, and take the items to the designated location on the designated day. The tickets are sold at shops, convenience stores and supermarkets with the identifying handling location mark, as well as at the Waste Collection Office and Waste Collection Centers, local Branch Offices and the Waste Reduction and Recycling Division, which is located on the seventh floor of the Shinjuku City Office Main Building.

Information on how to dispose of garbage and recyclable resources is available in English, Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, Nepalese and Myanmarese.

**Available locations:** Foreign Resident Advisory Corner/ waiting room (Shinjuku City Office Main Bldg. 1F), Waste Reduction and Recycling Division (Shinjuku City Office Main Bldg. 7F), Shinjuku Waste Collection Office (2-1-1 Shimo-Ochiai), Shinjuku-Higashi Waste Collection Center (25 San-ei-cho), Kabukicho Waste Collection Center (2-42-7 Kabukicho), Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza (Hygeia 11F, 2-44-1 Kabukicho) and local Branch Offices\*

\* Information in English, Chinese and Korean is available.

### Inquiries (in Japanese)

Shinjuku Waste Collection Office, Tel: 03-3950-2923; Shinjuku-Higashi Waste Collection Center, Tel: 03-3353-9471; Kabukicho Waste Collection Center, Tel: 03-3200-5339



To Residents  
Turning Twenty  
**Come Celebrate  
Coming-of-Age  
Day Together!**

In Japan, a person becomes an adult at twenty years of age, acquiring various social rights and responsibilities. The Coming-of-Age Ceremony celebrates this change and encourages youth who are striving to become self-aware as adults. Please feel free to join the celebration in formal dress as well as suits, etc.

**Date and time:** January 11, 2016 (Mon., a national holiday), 1 to 3 p.m. (reception opens from noon)

**Location:** Keio Plaza Hotel (2-2-1 Nishi-Shinjuku)

**Eligibility:** Shinjuku City residents born between April 2, 1995 and April 1, 1996

**Note:** Information on this event will be mailed in early December. Please bring it to the venue on the day of the event. Even if you have lost the information, however, you can participate. Please say that you received the invitation when you visit the reception desk on the day.

**Program:** Ceremony and buffet party

**Inquiries:** General Affairs Section, General Affairs Division (Shinjuku City Office Main Bldg. 3F), **Tel:** 03-5273-4209 (in Japanese)

Let's Enjoy Japanese Culture!  
**International Exchange  
Residents' Gathering  
Hina Matsuri (Doll Festival)**

You can try on a kimono and experience various aspects of Japanese culture, such as flower arrangement, tea ceremony, calligraphy and painting in India ink. There will also be a seven-tier display of *hina* dolls and a display featuring Japanese games. Come join the fun!

**Date and time:** February 27 (Sat.), 2016, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (closing time is subject to change)

**Location:** 3F small hall, 4F meeting room, and B1F exhibition room of Shinjuku Bunka Center (6-14-1 Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku)

**Fee:** ¥500 (Free of charge for elementary school children and younger)

**Application:** No application is necessary; simply come to the venue on the day of the event.

**Inquiries:** Regional Exchange Division, the Shinjuku Foundation for Creation of Future, **Tel:** 03-3232-5121



## Recruiting Students for Shinjuku City Japanese-Language Class (January through March)

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: For those who need to learn basic Japanese necessary for everyday living. However, those junior high school age and younger are not permitted to join the class.

**Date and time:** Weekdays, January through March 2016. There are classes that meet once a week and those that meet twice a week. Schedules vary depending on the class location. Class hours are 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. and 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. (Evening classes are on Mondays and Thursdays only.)

**Location:** 10 locations in the city, including Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza

**Fee:** Classes that meet once a week—¥1,500; classes that meet twice a week—¥3,000

**Inquiries:** Please contact the Regional Exchange Division below.

**Website:** [www.regasu-shinjuku.or.jp/?p=273#sjc](http://www.regasu-shinjuku.or.jp/?p=273#sjc)

**E-mail:** [sjc@regasu-shinjuku.or.jp](mailto:sjc@regasu-shinjuku.or.jp)



### Enjoy Studying with Your Kids!

## Family Japanese- Language Classes for Foreign Residents

Babysitting  
Services Are  
Available

Wouldn't it be fun to learn Japanese with your family? There are babysitting services, so families with infants and toddlers can study in a worry-free environment. You can join in at any time.

**Eligibility:** Foreign children and parents whose Japanese is at an introductory or beginner level

**Date and time:** Every Saturday from January 9 (Sat.) through March 12 (Sat.), 2016, from 10 a.m. to noon for a total of 10 sessions

**Location:** Okubo Elementary School 3F, Tsutsuji Room (1-1-21 Okubo, Shinjuku-ku)

**Fee:** ¥500 per person (total of 10 classes); babysitting services are free of charge

**Capacity:** 20 families on a first-come, first-served basis

**To apply:** You can apply by fax, e-mail or postal mail to the Regional Exchange Division below. Please be sure to supply or write down (1) the parent's name (including *furigana*) and language he/she usually speaks; (2) the child's name (including *furigana*), age, and language he/she usually speaks; (3) address; (4) telephone number; (5) fax number (if you have one); and (6) name of the class.

**Website:** [www.regasu-shinjuku.or.jp/?p=40305](http://www.regasu-shinjuku.or.jp/?p=40305)

**E-mail:** [chiiki@regasu-shinjuku.or.jp](mailto:chiiki@regasu-shinjuku.or.jp)



## Shinjuku Spring Holiday Children's Japanese- Language Class

If you are an elementary or junior high school student who wants to learn basic Japanese expressions necessary for school life, let's learn them together during spring vacation!

**Eligibility:** (1) Students attending a Shinjuku municipal elementary or junior high school who are not fluent in Japanese; (2) children transferring to a Shinjuku municipal elementary or junior high school from the 2016 academic year beginning in April

**Dates and time:** March 26 (Sat.) through March 31 (Thu.), 2016, 10 a.m. to noon

**Location:** Shinjuku Multicultural Plaza (Hygeia 11F, 2-44-1 Kabuki-cho, Shinjuku-ku)

**Fee:** ¥500 (for six sessions)

**Capacity:** About twenty persons (on a first-come, first-served basis)

**To apply:** You can apply by fax, e-mail or postal mail to the Cultural Exchange Division below. Be sure to write (1) the child's name (with *furigana*), (2) gender, (3) date of birth, (4) all languages he/she often uses; (5) the name(s) of the child's parent(s), (6) address, (7) telephone number, (8) fax number (if you have one), (9) the name of school the child is attending/transferring to, (10) grade/year, (11) when the child came to Japan, and (12) name of the class.

**E-mail:** [chiiki@regasu-shinjuku.or.jp](mailto:chiiki@regasu-shinjuku.or.jp)



### Inquiries concerning the abovementioned Japanese-language classes:

Regional Exchange Division, the Shinjuku Foundation for Creation of Future (within Shinjuku Cosmic Center), 3-1-2 Okubo, Shinjuku-ku 169-0072, **Tel:** 03-3232-5121, **Fax:** 03-3209-1833

# Bringing Individuals Together to Form a Community —Town Councils/Community Groups

Town councils and community groups promote friendship between community residents. Residents form these councils and groups with the objective of making life in the city safer, more pleasant and more comfortable. Shinjuku City has about two hundred town councils and community groups, and they conduct unique programs that make the best use of the characteristics of the community.

### Relaying Information



Passing along information from the town council or community groups via published bulletins and bulletin boards

### Cleanup Activities



Collecting recyclable resources and carrying out street cleaning activities

### Disaster Prevention Activities



Besides conducting disaster prevention drills, the local town council and community groups manage the evacuation sites at the local elementary school and elsewhere when an earthquake strikes.

## Primary Activities of Town Councils and Community Groups

### Events

Putting on community events, such as festivals, *bon-odori* folk dancing, and *mochi-tsuki* rice-cake making



### Crime Prevention Activities



Programs include neighborhood watch anticrime patrols and monitoring of intersections during the national traffic safety period

## Interview: Ibuki Town Council Chairperson

We spoke with Shoji Ota, chairperson of the Ibuki Town Council (Okubo 1-chome).



### Promoting a Multicultural Environment

Shinjuku City's Okubo district, where Ibuki Town Council is located, is home to many foreign residents. It is also well known as "Korea Town," and draws many tourists to visit the area.

The town council considers foreign residents—who may tend to feel isolated in Japan—as equal to the Japanese residents of the community. In this day and age where there is little chance to meet your next-door neighbor, the town council looks for ways to help foreign residents make friends with their neighbors.

One of our town council events is the summer festival held at Okubo Elementary School. This year marks the fifteenth festival, and we have had more and more foreign residents participating in recent years. Japanese and non-Japanese residents can get to know one another at these types of events, which give for people who rarely have the chance to talk with one another opportunities to listen to each other's ideas. We are encouraging the Shinjuku City Office and the Japanese-language schools in various areas to have even more foreign residents participate in these events. We also want to create an environment that encourages people to participate in these programs regularly.

## Why Not Participate in Your Town Council/Community Group?

Being a member of your local council/group has the following merits:

- If there are any problems, such as a disaster, town council/community group members can offer help in a friendly manner
- You receive information on Shinjuku City and your local community via the circulating bulletin (in Japanese)
- You can talk with fellow residents at events and activities, and develop friendships
- You can help create a comfortable living environment with your fellow community residents

To those interested in their area's town council/residents associations  
To those who want to join

**Inquiries:** Lifelong Learning Community Division (Shinjuku City Office Main Bldg. 1F), Tel: 03-5273-4127 (in Japanese)