

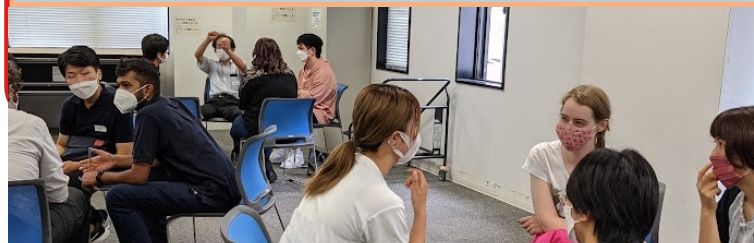
Events in September

1	TH	18:30 Japanese Conversation Class (PM)
2	FR	10:00 Japanese Conversation Class (AM)
3	SA	
4	SU	Closed 9:30 "Little Trip" Seminar - Mid-Autumn Fest.
5	MO	Closed
6	TU	13:30 Nihongo Salon
7	WE	
8	TH	18:30 Japanese Conversation Class (PM)
9	FR	10:00 Japanese Conversation Class (AM)
10	SA	15:00 Festival Booth Info. Session
11	SU	10:00 Children's Nihongo Hiroba
12	MO	Closed
13	TU	13:30 Nihongo Salon
14	WE	
15	TH	18:30 Japanese Conversation Class (PM)
16	FR	10:00 Japanese Conversation Class (AM)
17	SA	10:00 FIND English Conversation Club
18	SU	Closed 10:00-12:00 Intl. Parents Salon Adventure Play
19	MO	Closed
20	TU	13:30 Nihongo Salon
21	WE	
22	TH	18:30 Japanese Conversation Class (PM)
23	FR	Closed
24	SA	13:30 Newsletter Preparation
25	SU	10:00 Children's Nihongo Hiroba
26	MO	Closed
27	TU	13:30 Nihongo Salon
28	WE	
29	TH	18:30 Japanese Conversation Class (PM)
30	FR	10:00 Japanese Conversation Class (AM)

"FIND" English Conversation Club

AWIA member-led "FIND" is meeting again! FIND was started by and for high school students to have a space for English learners to practice casual conversation skills. It's a great way for way to meet people interested in speaking English. Join as a language volunteer! Contact the AWIA to join.

Date/Time	Saturday, Sept 17 10:00~11:30
Place	Aizu Wakamatsu City Learning Center 3F Room 1
Sign Up	Contact mail@awia.jp by Friday, Sept 16



Intl. Parents Salon - Adventure Play

This month's Parents Salon will be at a special event! Run by 'Play Workers,' this event allows children to play in the outdoors in a fun, and independent way. It is all day, so you can join anytime! A AWIA staff will be there from 10:00-12:00 for support.

Please use the nearby paid parking when attending.

The event is rain or shine. Double-check the AWIA Facebook in case of bad weather.



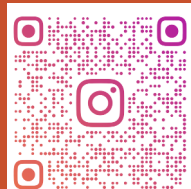
Date/Time	Sunday, Sept 18 10:00~15:00
Place	Omachi Byakko Koen Park (Byakkomachi 87-3)
Sign Up	Contact mail@awia.jp by Sept 16

Call for Newsletter Volunteers!

Come hang out with us while we fold, stamp, and pack our monthly publications for mailing! Chat with other AWIA members and enjoy this casual volunteer activity. No need to sign up, just drop by if you can!

Date: September 24th, Saturday **Time:** 13:30~
Place: Aizu Wakamatsu International Association Office

★ This month's SynthesAizu is brought to you by: ★
Erika Csanyi



We're on Instagram!

Follow us for photos and news about our upcoming events!



AWIA_PHOTO

<http://facebook.com/awiajp>



Visit our Facebook page for the latest updates in multiple languages!

965-0871 Fukushima-ken, Aizu Wakamatsu-shi, Sakae-machi 2-14, Lion D'or Garden 5th Floor

TEL: (0242) 27-3703 | FAX: (0242) 27-3704 | EMAIL: mail@awia.jp | SITE: <http://awia.jp>

AIZU WAKAMATSU INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION MONTHLY ENGLISH NEWSLETTER

SynthesAizu

September 2022
Volume 2 Issue 9

Association News

2022 International Festival!

Oct 9 (Sun)
10:00-15:00
Tsuruga-jo Castle Gym

It's almost here!! The 2022 Aizuwakamatsu International Festival is next month! The Festival's theme is "WOW! World of Wonders" and we hope you will be 'wow'-ed by the booths and events at the Festival. Come have fun with us!



We need volunteers!

Volunteers wanted for festival preparations both on the day and leading up to the event! Contact the AWIA for more information.

- ★General festival prep: poster and leaflet distribution, decoration making, etc.
- ★Oct 8 (Sat) 13:00-19:00: Purchase of equipment, venue/booth setup
- ★Oct 9 (Sun) 8:00-16:30: Preparation, venue guides, booth/stall support, clean up etc.

Please consider sponsoring us!

- In order to put on the best event we can, we are seeking donations to be put towards the festival.
- ★Sponsorship amount: ¥3,000 (or from ¥1,000 for individuals)
 - ★How to become a sponsor: Please apply directly at the AWIA offices. If you would prefer a bank deposit slip to be issued for your donation, please contact us.
 - ★All of our group and individual sponsor's names will be featured in our event pamphlets (only if desired).



Free Admission!

Cosplay Parade: Wear your costumes!

- ★We will have a cosplay parade this year and we're looking for participants. Have a Halloween costume? A lovingly made cosplay? Come show it off at the festival! People who come in costume will get a special treat!



Stage Performance

Samurai Artist

KAMUI

See page 3 for more details

Booth Info Session

If you are running a booth, or food stall for the first time this year, feel free to attend our info session!

Date: Sat Sept 10

Time: 15:00-16:00

Place: AWIA (or ZOOM)

Contact mail@awia.jp



会津若松市国際交流協会

TEL (0242) 27-3703

EMAIL: mail@awia.jp

AIZU WAKAMATSU INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION

Autumn Japanese Classes have started!

Give your Japanese skills a boost!

The AWIA has started our autumn semester of Japanese language courses. With the aid of our experienced volunteer teachers, we offer courses from beginner level to advanced. Our classes strike a balance between reading, writing, and conversational skills. Class sizes are small, and some students may even have 1 on 1 lessons! Classes have started, but please contact us if you would still like to join. Online lessons are also available on request. Come kick-start your Japanese skills with us this autumn!

	Morning Course	Evening Course
Day	Fridays (12 classes)	Thursdays (12 classes)
Time	10:00-11:30	18:30-20:00
Course Duration	Sep 2-Nov 25 (no class Sep 23)	Sep 1-Nov 24 (no class Nov 3)
Fee (for all 12 classes)	AWIA members ¥4,000 Non-members ¥6,000	
Location	Aizu City Learning Centre (Keikodo)	
Apply	Contact the AWIA by the end of Oct.	

NEW COVID PROCEDURES

Online Positive Result Registration

Because of the overwhelming cases of COVID-19, Fukushima Prefecture has started a new system to ease the burden on the medical system.

To Use the System:

Requirements:

- ☆ Fukushima Resident
- ☆ Positive Result
- ☆ Mild or no symptoms
- ☆ No underlying conditions

Starting August 22nd:

Fukushima residents with a positive COVID-19 result can register their result online instead of visiting a medical centre. The process is simple: upload a photo of your ID and your positive at-home test. In about 24 hours, a doctor will confirm your results and register your data. You will be notified of the registration by email.



For more information, and the application link, please visit the Official Fukushima website:

<https://www.pref.fukushima.lg.jp/site/covid19-portal/yousei-touroku.html>

FREE COVID-19 Test Kits

Fukushima Prefecture is providing free COVID-19 tests to residents who are showing symptoms, or have recently been in close contact with someone with COVID-19.

If you need a test kit, contact the Fukushima Pref. Office.

Deadline	Oct 31st 2022
Eligibility	① Close contact with infected person ② Showing symptoms
Apply:	Fukushima Pref. COVID-19 Kit Distribution Centre - https://fukushima-testkit.jp
Online	
By Phone	0120-941-546 (9:00-19:00)

Close Contact Isolation Period Reduced

The amount of time you must self-isolate after being a close contact has been shortened. It has been reduced from 7 days to 5 days. Close-contacts are free to leave their home on the 6th day, but the city is encouraging people to still refrain from higher risk activities until after day 7.



Japan has been seeing an increase in COVID-19 infections due to the BA.5 and other variants of the Omicron COVID strain. Please take care of yourselves!

Free Vaccination Period

The period for receiving a vaccine free of cost will end on **September 30 (Fri)**. Anyone has not received their initial two vaccines or the booster should book an appointment as soon as possible. The city expects reservations to be in high demand in September, and only a limited number of clinics are providing 1st-3rd vaccinations now. To make an

appointment, please use the online booking system, or call the reservation hotline.

Online bookings: <https://vaccines.sciseed.jp/aizuwakamatsu/login>

Reservation hotline: 0120-050-503 (Mon-Sun, 9:00-18:00)
For more information, contact the Aizuwakamatsu COVID-19 General Call Centre (0570-026-263)

☆ 1st/2nd vaccination reservations by hotline only

☆ You need your vaccination voucher number when making a reservation.

September Events

Aizu Matsuri 2022

The Aizu Festival is back! (on a small scale)

Every year, the Aizu area holds its largest festival on September 22-24th.

Coinciding with final battles of the civil war between the new Meiji Government and the Tokugawa Shogunate in 1868 (the Boshin War), the Aizu Matsuri celebrates Aizu's enduring samurai spirit. Though the Aizu Clan was on the side of the Shogunate, and lost the war, the people of Aizu take this time to remember their ancestors, and celebrate their history.

The biggest event is the Aizu Clan parade. Check it out!



Aizu Bandai-san Dance

Date: Sept 22, 23 - 19:00-20:30

Place: Shinmei street
(in front of the Association Building)

How to Participate:

Everyone must send in an application for their group. (Groups from 1 - 10 people must fax in a 'Individual (個人)' form.) The application form can be found at this link (Japanese only)

<https://www.aizukanko.com/kk/festival/info/11673>

If you have any questions or any difficulty applying, please contact the AWIA.

EVENTS



- Sept 22:** Children's Lantern Parade
Aizu Bandai-san Dance
- Sept 23:** Aizu Clan Parade
Aizu Bandai-san Dance
- Sept 24:** Nisshinkan Children's Parade
Marching Band

(All events may be subject to change without notice in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.)



Learn the Aizu Bandai-san Dance!



Samurai Artist - KAMUI



Samurai Artist KAMUI will be gracing our stage with a special performance. You may recognize them from the Fukushima Tourism Promotions "DIAMOND ROUTE JAPAN" from 2017-2018.

They have performed in over 30 countries, and 130 cities around the world!

Look forward to more info in the next month!



Photo Spots!

There will be a few photo panels around the venue for you to take fun photos with your friends!

Including a panel from our Halloween Event last year!



Stage Performances

Kokusai Karaoke:

Good at singing and want to perform on stage?

Join our International Karaoke Performance. Looking for people who want to sing songs in their native language.

If you want to participate, contact us at mail@awia.jp

