

awa life



January 2013

prosperous business = new year "ebisu"-ness

by lance kita

TOPIA

Starting off the new year in Japan requires a clean house, a new calendar, auspicious foods ...and a lot of luck.

Families will flock to temples and shrines for hatsumode 初詣, and buy lucky charms for health, safety, excellent studies, or prosperity.

Businesses are no exception, and the Kotoshironushi Shrine 事代主神社 in the heart of Tokushima City comes to life for three days in January for those seeking shobai hanjo 商売繁盛 (business prosperity) in the coming year. The shrine is located in the Toori-machi 通町 section of town between the station and the Shinmachi River.



The Ryogoku Shopping Arcade's merchant group "Ebisu Parade"

The Ebisu Festival えびす祭り, affectionately known at Ebessan えべっさん by locals, is held every year from January 9 to 11, 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Actually, the shrine above is also called "Ebisu Shrine"

(see Page 3 for further explanation).

Shop owners line up to buy bundles of sasa bamboo decorated with an arrow and other symbols that ward off evil and bring in good luck. These will be displayed next to the kami-dana 神棚 (Shinto altar) or in a

prosperous business = new year "ebisu"-ness ... con't on page 3

inside awa life this month

page 4-5: tokushima & lower saxony - 5 years of friendship;

page 6: irene's recipe corner;

page 7: letter from suketo hoikuen; page 8: japanese lesson;

page 9-12: events & memoranda

awa life

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Download a PDF file of **awa life** or view the online version by going to TOPIA's web-site!

show tokushima some love: awaglot

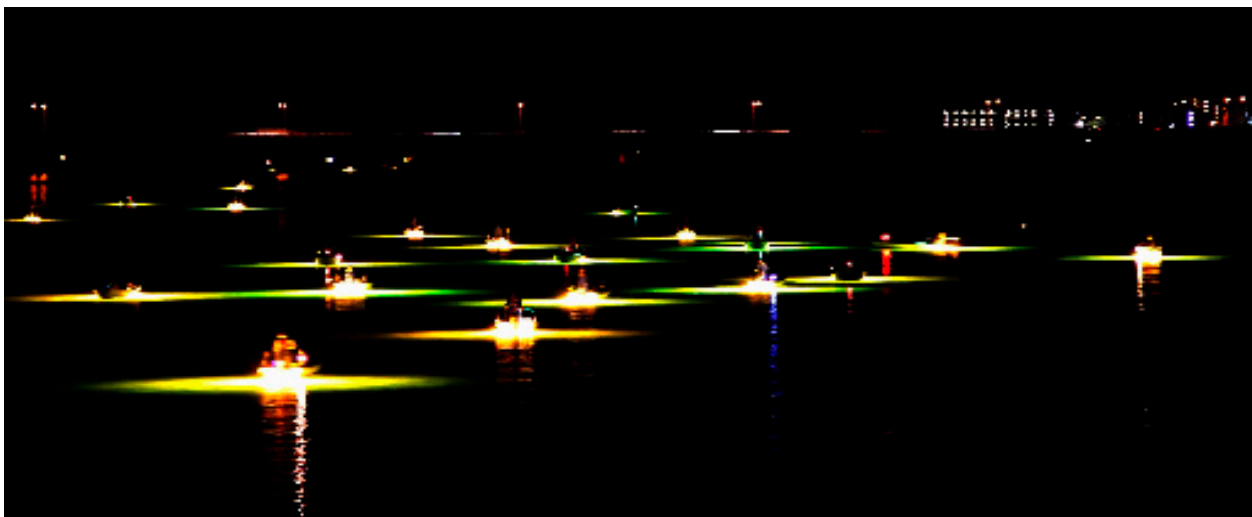
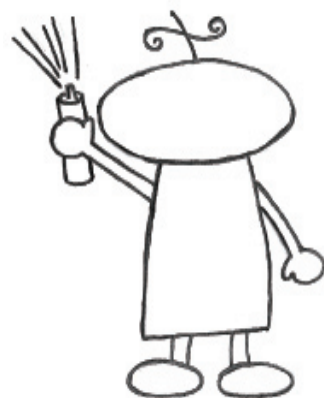
The literary corner of Awa Life, Awaglot, is a combination of the words "awa" and "polyglot", which means multilingual. Be it fiction, non-fiction, prose or poetry; funny, sad, long or short, we want your submissions! If you like to write, then express yourself!

There is also a classifieds section for you, our readers, to post ads in, but a few rules do apply!

The following will not be posted: Religious, political, or commercial activities, businesses searching for clients or employees, things the Awa Life editors deem inappropriate.

BUT, you can totally submit this stuff: offers to sell or exchange personal goods, concerts, lectures, and other event information, cultural, sporting, and other community group information, etcetera.

If you have something you would like to share with the Tokushima community, email the editors at **awalife@gmail.com!**



Whitebait fishing on the Yoshinogawa (photo by Junko Kimura)

prosperous business = new year “ebisu”-ness

prominent high position in the store. Families can also buy similar talismans for safety in the home.

The surrounding neighborhood beats off the mid-winter chill as booths line the streets, bringing both actual warmth (takoyaki, hot sweet sake, fried chicken, etc.) and convivial warmth with games and toys for children. Adding to the festive atmosphere are stalls selling live plants and kumade 熊手, bamboo rakes lavishly decorated with pine leaves and lucky symbols. These kumade further add luck to a shop or business.

Which Ebisu?

Ebisu is often depicted as a portly man garbed in hunter's clothes, carrying a fishing pole and a red sea bream. He is included in the Shichifukujin 七福神, Seven Lucky Gods revered by the Japanese.

However, a quick perusal of Wikipedia shows at least seven different ways to write “Ebisu” 夷、戎、胡、蛭子、恵比寿、恵比須、恵美須. It turns out that in addition to being one of the Lucky Seven, Ebisu is also the patron deity of the oceans revered by fisherman. So connected to the ocean is Ebisu that until recently, some fishermen referred to large sea creatures (dolphins, whales, whale sharks) as “ebisu.”



In addition to the Ebisu shrine talismans, shop owners can also visit a street booth and purchase a kumade (rake decorated with auspicious symbols) for the coming year.

He is also the grandson of Izanagi and Izanami, the Shinto gods who created the Japanese archipelago. This incarnation was originally named Kotoshironushi 事代主. Sounds familiar? Yes, the Ebisu Festival's shrine reveres this incarnation of Ebisu. The main shrine for this branch is Miho Shrine in Shimane. Other famous Kansai Ebisu festivals (held on the same January 9-11) are also of this line, including the Imamiya

Ebisu Shrine in Osaka and Nishinomiya Shrine in Hyogo.

Need to start off 2013 on the right foot? Join in the New Year festivities in your local community, or join the crowd around the Kotoshironushi Shrine January 9 to 11, 8:30 a.m. to 10 p.m. Ebisu is waiting, whether for business or just pure luck.



(Thanks to Mr. Shinichi Sato of Kotoshironushi Shrine for providing and clarifying some of the information in this article.)

Last year marked the 150th anniversary of the German-Japanese relations, started in autumn 1860 with the Prussian East Asian Expedition under Count Eulenburg. One year later Prussia and Japan signed a bilateral trade treaty, and the official diplomatic relations the both countries began. In 2011 there were a lot of events in both Germany and Japan to celebrate these relations and the friendship which grew from it.

It is now 2012 and another year has passed. Time really passes quickly. This year there was also an anniversary related to Germany and Japan - the 5th anniversary of the relationship between Tokushima Prefecture and federal state Lower Saxony in Germany. Governor Iizumi and the former minister president Wulff signed a bilateral exchange agreement in 2007. Whilst this may sound unexpected, there is actually a long history between the two areas.

In 1914 after the 1st World War, which Germany lost, soldiers from the German colonial Qingdao in east China, were brought to the prisoner-of-war camp Bando (present-day Naruto) in Tokushima in 1917. There the prisoners were treated very well and furthermore interacted in various ways with the Japanese people.



Vice Governor Saito meeting the Lower Saxony Environment Minister, Dr. Birkner at the State Chancellery reception (Interpreter: Martin Rathmann - me!)

One of the most famous stories from this time is the performance of Beethoven's Symphony No.9, which had its Asian debut in Bando. After the war the prisoners returned to their homes, and this story seemed to be forgotten, but one grandchild of one of the former war prisoners, who lived in Luneburg in Germany, found a newspaper article about Naruto. To make it short - the good treatment

and memories created a friendship, and this friendship resulted in the sister city relationship shared between Luneburg and Naruto (begun a long time ago in 1974).

This connection to Germany, a product of the Bando prisoner-of-war camp and the sister city relationship between Luneburg and Naruto built the base for the partnership between

5 years of friendship (part 1)



Tokushima and the federal state Lower Saxony (which Luneburg is belongs to).

So, this year in 2012 was the 5th anniversary of the partnership, and subsequently saw a lot of different events taking place in both Tokushima and Lower Saxony. In spring there was a scientific symposium about the demographic change and related problems. Two researchers from Germany, one from the Germany Institute for Japan studies and one from the University of Duisburg-Essen were invited to Tokushima to exchange opinions with care staff, researchers and residents. Another aspect of their visit was the inspection of Japanese care facilities to get an understanding of different approaches in different cultures.

Totally different but also interesting was the Tokushima Marathon in April. On account of the 5th anniversary, 5 marathon runners and 5 sport representatives

came to Tokushima from Germany. The aim was to participate in the marathon, but also to have talks about the future sport exchange. The talks went well, but unfortunately the marathon was a disaster. Untypical for April, there was a heavy storm and for a moment it was unclear if the marathon would even take place. In the end it did, but heavy rain and hurricane-like winds make it hard to finish the course. All 5 runners somehow made it through, and it made for an unforgettable memory about sport in Tokushima.

After this active Spring, the Summer was really relaxed, meaning so there was enough time to enjoy the Awa dance and Summer season. At the break of Autumn the exchange got very busy. The 5th anniversary saw a delegation including the Vice Governor and university representatives from Tokushima, (and myself!) visiting Lower Saxony. In Lower Saxony there were some festivities. There was a reception at

the guest house of Lower-Saxon State Chancellery with the Environment Minister as host and a lot of official guests, as well as a concert by the youth choirs Tokushima and Hannover in a church. Musical exchange agreements were signed between the choirs. There was also a German-Japanese seminar about energy change, and a meeting with the Prime Minister McAllister. It was an incredibly long, but interesting 6 days. I still do not understand the logic of travelling as far as Germany for only 6 days, especially when 2 of those are spent flying! I suppose this is just the Japanese approach to travel, but it is quite a cultural difference.

So, here I am at the end of my article and we've only just reached the Autumn! The Winter Season offered just as much excitement, so **stay tuned for Part 2 in next month's AwaLife!**



The Spring sports delegation (including Marathon runners and sports representatives)

good luck meal

Around the world different cultures celebrate / welcome the New Year with the hope of new beginnings.

In Japan, many people partake Ozoni soup, thanking the gods for the bounties of yester year and hoping the new one will be blessed as well.

Our fate might be sealed, but who says we can't entice the lucky stars for good fortune in the New Year?

Cooked greens; collards, kale and cabbage are widely consumed to welcome the New Year in many countries. The green leaves look like folded money thus symbolizing economic fortune and the dark green color denotes good health.

Pork/ham; pig symbolizes progress and whether made into a roast, in pork chops or just the plain old sausage, nothing compliments cabbage like pork.

**let's double
our luck!**



pork & cabbage

Ingredients

350 - 400g shredded cabbage
250-300g boneless pork cubed
2 medium sized onions, chopped
1 tsp minced fresh ginger
2 Tbsp soy sauce
1 tsp sugar
3 Tbsp salad oil.
Salt and pepper to taste.

Directions:

1. In a small bowl, blend well the soy sauce, sugar and ginger.
2. On medium flame, heat the skillet until very hot. Add the oil and fry the pork until browned on all sides about 5 minutes. Add the onions and continue cooking until the onions are soft and the pork is no longer pink.
3. Stir in the cabbage and the soy sauce mixture. Cover and simmer until cabbage is tender and the flavors are well blended. About 10-15 minutes.
4. Adjust the taste with salt and pepper.
5. Serve hot.



**Bon appétit, and Happy
New Year!**



happy new year!

I hope you enjoyed your fill of delicious Japanese New Year treats?

In Japan, the turn of the year is the time for dishes such as "Zoni", a rice cake soup, and "Osechi" - A week later, overindulged stomachs are given a rest. On January 7th, people turn to "NanaKusa Gayu" (7 types of spring vegetables eaten with creamy rice) as an expression of their hopes for good health in the coming year.

It's all too easy to catch a cold or the flu during the winter season, and this month I'd like to introduce you to some nutrients that can help you strengthen your body against those risks.

□ *Proteins* (Meat, Fish, Tofu etc): Proteins warm your body and maintain your strength.

□ *Vitamin A* (Carrots, Pumpkin): Vitamin A fortifies skin and mucus membranes, and helps to strengthen your body against viruses.

□ *Vitamin C* (Japanese radish, Chinese Cabbage, Mandarin Oranges): Vitamin C protects your body against stress and the cold, as well as suppressing viruses.

"NanaKusa" creamy rice is a great way to get these nutrients!

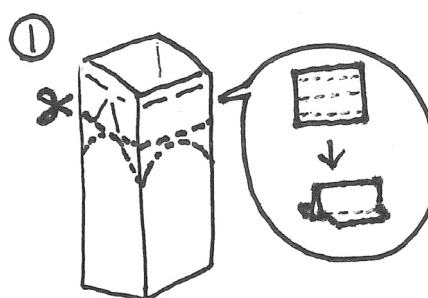
Spinning Top

Materials:

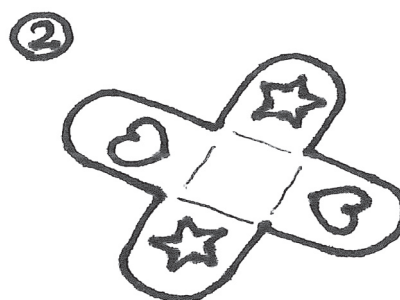
1000ml milk carton
Crayons
Tape

Instructions:

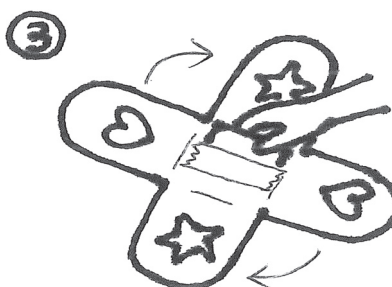
1. Make the handle of the spinner by cutting the top third of the Milk Carton off, and folding it as shown in the picture.



2. Cut down the 4 Corners of the remaining carton shaft, and use crayons to decorate the 4 sections.



3. Sellotape the handle to the center of the opened packet.

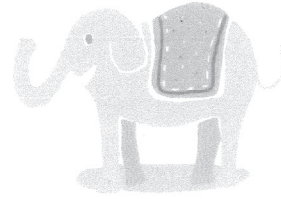


Spin the top & enjoy!



ゾウは ^{はな}鼻が 長い

- N₁: The topic is indicated by は
- N₂: Parts of N₁, objects of feelings or abilities, other things belonging to that topic.



日本語には「N₁はN₂が」の文型があります。以下に、トピアの日本語クラスで使われているテキスト「みんなの日本語Ⅰ」（スリーエネットワーク）に提出されている例文をまとめました。

In Japanese, we can use the sentence structure “N₁はN₂が”. Below is a summary of examples taken from Minna No Nihongo 1, the text used in TOPIA’s weekly Japanese classes:

(1) Parts of the topic

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| a) 東京は 人が ^{おほい} 多いです。 | a)' Tokyo has a big population. |
| b) サントスさんは 背が ^{たか} 高いです。 | b)' Mr. Santos is tall. |
| c) マリアさんは 髪が ^{なが} 長いです。 | c)' Maria has long hair. |
| d) わたしは のどが ^{いた} 痛いです。 | d)' I have a sore throat. |

(2) The object of feelings, etc.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| e) わたしは イタリア料理が ^{りょうり} 好きです。 | e)' I like Italian food. |
| f) わたしは テープレコーダーが ^い 要ります。 | f)' I need a tape recorder. |
| g) わたしは パソコンが ^ほ 欲しいです。 | g)' I want a personal computer. |

(3) The objects of abilities, etc.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| h) ミラーさんは 料理が ^{りょうり} じょうずです。 | h)' Mr. Miller is good at cooking. |
| i) わたしは 日本語が ^{すこ} 少しわかります。 | i)' I can understand Japanese a little. |
| j) (あなたは) スキーが ^{すこ} できますか。 | j)' Can you ski? |

(4) Things belonging to the topic, etc.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| k) (あなたは) 細かいお金が ^{かね} ありますか。 | k)' Do you have any small change? |
| l) わたしは 子どもが ^{ふたり} 二人います。 | l)' I have two children. |

* 参考図書：『どんな時どう使う日本語表現文型 200』アルク

* イラスト：「みんなの教材サイト」 <http://minnanokyozai.jp/kyozai/home/ja/render.do>



日本語指導ボランティア養成講座

県内には約 70 か国、5000 人弱の外国の方が住んでいらっしゃいます
地域の人々とのスムーズなコミュニケーションを図り、快適な生活を送るために、
日本語の習得が必要です。

日本語指導を通した国際交流にチャレンジしてみませんか？

* TOPIA ホームページにチラシが掲載されています *

* なお徳島県立総合大学校「まなびーあ徳島」の生活環境学部の講座です。

(前期・後期それぞれ 24 単位取得できます)

阿南市; 後期 受講生募集

【日程】(土曜日 4 回 9:30~12:30, 13:15~16:15)

① 2 月 9 日(土) ② 2 月 16 日(土) ③ 2 月 23 日(土) ④ 3 月 9 日(土)

【講師】後期 山田 多佳子先生 (トピア日本語講師)

【場所】阿南市富岡公民館 1 階 図書室

【定員】20 名程度

【教科書 (要購入)】後期:「みんなの日本語Ⅱ (初版)」を貸し出します。

* ただし、その後「みんなの日本語Ⅱ 第 2 版 (2 月末発行予定)
が発売されましたら一括購入いたします。

(スリーエーネットワーク発行・2500 円)

【参加費】無料

【お申込み・お問い合わせ】阿南市国際交流協会 (担当) 小野 TEL0884-44-6652

e-mail himawari_aia_2012@yahoo.co.jp 1 月 31 日までに TEL・メールにてお申込ください。

吉野川市; 前期後期受講生募集

【日程】午前 9:30~12:30、午後 13:30~16:30

【講 師】元木佳江先生 (徳島県国際交流協会日本語講師)

【場所】吉野川市文化研修センター 2 F 研修室 5 (JR 鴨島駅北側)

	開催日 (2013 年)	テキスト
前期 4 回	① 1 月 12 日 (土) ② 1 月 19 日 (土) ③ 2 月 2 日 (土) ④ 2 月 9 日 (土)	みんなの日本語Ⅰ (改訂版)
後期 4 回	⑤ 2 月 16 日 (土) ⑥ 2 月 24 日 (日) ⑦ 3 月 2 日 (土) ⑧ 3 月 9 日 (土)	みんなの日本語Ⅱ (改訂版は 2 月末発行予定)

* 2 月 24 日のみ日曜日開催になっています。ご注意ください。

* テキスト: スリーエーネットワーク発行 2500 円、一般大型書店やネットで購入できますが、
ご希望の方は一括購入いたします。なお後期のⅡのテキストにつきましては、改訂版が出版される
まで、初版 (第 1 版) を貸し出します。改訂版が出版されましたら当協会にて一括購入いたします。

【定 員】20 人程度 【参加費】無料

【お申込み・お問い合わせ】吉野川市国際交流協会 理事 萩森健治 (ハギモリ ケンジ)

TEL、FAX 0883-24-8653 e-mail ken248653@nexyzbb.ne.jp 携帯 070-5543-2842

* 1 月 5 日までに TEL・FAX・メールにてお申し込みください。

英語

This project is a model project receiving an official grant from the Social Welfare and War Victims' Relief Bureau of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare.



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Toll-Free



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*The toll-free number is accessible from anywhere within Japan

*Your privacy will be protected

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<http://279338.jp/>

観光庁主催・通訳案内士養成セミナー開催のお知らせ

報酬を受けて外国人に付き添い、外国語を用いて旅行に関する案内をする「通訳案内士」の制度や業務、通訳案内士試験について周知する「通訳案内士養成セミナー」が、次のとおり開催されます。

当日は、現役通訳案内士の貴重な体験談も聞ける予定です。外国語を使った仕事に興味のある方や、既にボランティアガイドとして活動している方、海外から日本を訪れるお客様と接する業務に従事している方など、幅広い方のご参加をお待ちしています。

日時：2月5日（火） 14:00～17:00

場所：徳島県 JA 会館（徳島市北佐古一番町）

定員：45名（先着順）

費用：資料代として一人300円

申込締切：1月21日（月）

問合せ・申込み：通訳案内士養成セミナー事務局

（社団法人 日本添乗サービス協会）（担当 中込、石田）

電話：03-3432-6032 FAX：03-3431-8698

Eメール：seminar@tcsa.or.jp

※詳細は、セミナー事務局ホームページでご確認ください。

（http://www.tcsa.or.jp/interpretation_guide/index.html）

queries concerning the new foreign resident system...?

外国人住民の住民基本台帳制度に対しての問い合わせ窓口

July 9th, 2012 saw the introduction of a new foreign registration system in Japan. The government has provided information on various aspects of this in a number of languages, so if you have any concerns, don't hesitate to take a gander at the websites or make a telephone enquiry.

Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications Call Center

TEL: 0570-066-630 (Navi Dial); 03-6301-1337 (IP Phone/PHS Calls)

Opening Hours: Monday - Friday (excluding public holidays) 8:30 - 17:30

02.04.2012 - 29.03.2013

Available Languages: Japanese; English; Chinese; Korean; Spanish; Portuguese

Procedures applicable to foreigners who recently entered Japan:

http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/jichi_gyousei/c-gyousei/pdf/english03.pdf (English)

http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/jichi_gyousei/c-gyousei/pdf/espanol18.pdf (Spanish)

http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/jichi_gyousei/c-gyousei/pdf/portugues23.pdf (Portuguese)

Procedures applicable to foreigners changing residences within Japan:

http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/jichi_gyousei/c-gyousei/pdf/english04.pdf (English)

http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/jichi_gyousei/c-gyousei/pdf/espanol19.pdf (Spanish)

http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/jichi_gyousei/c-gyousei/pdf/portugues24.pdf (Portuguese)

General Information:

http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/jichi_gyousei/c-gyousei/zairyu_english.html (English)

http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/jichi_gyousei/c-gyousei/zairyu_espanol.html (Spanish)

http://www.soumu.go.jp/main_sosiki/jichi_gyousei/c-gyousei/zairyu_portugues.html (Portuguese)

udatsu themed renaissance ikebana

Ikebana artist Shogo Kariyazaki, renowned for his superb artistic delicacy and sense, will hold an Renaissance Ikebana exhibition in Mima City.

The "Yoshida Jyutaku", a house which flourished from the Awa Indigo industry, provides the backdrop to the event, and arrangements include Cymbidium plants cultivated by Kawano Mericlone (a breeder of specialist Cymbidiums based out of Mima City), not to mention flowers, bamboo and wood from the nature-rich mountainsides of Mima City.

The exhibition offers adventure, delicacy and elegance, woven together to create an magical environment that will surpass even the most fantastical expectations. The flowers and arrangements, a fusion of East and West, are sure to touch your hearts and calm your worries.

When: January 9th - February 20th
9:00 - 16:30
Where: The Yoshida Home,
Mima City (Wakimachi area)
Cost: 500 Yen Entry
Info: Mima City Tourism Association
TEL: 0883-53-8599
Website: HP of the Mima Tourism
Association (Japanese)

假 屋 崎 省 吾 「うだつをいける 華ルネッサンス」

「美を紡ぎだす手を持つ人」と称される華道家假屋崎省吾（かりやざきしょうご）さんによる華道展「うだつをいける 華ルネッサンス」を、今年も開催いたします。

美馬市に拠点を置く世界的な洋ランのシンビジウム総合メーカーである河野メリクロンが丹精込めて育てたシンビジウムを中心に、山野の花・竹・樹木など美馬市の豊かな自然の素材を活かし、藍で栄え、重厚かつ趣き深い「吉田屋住宅」を舞台に、優雅で大胆、そして繊細にして華麗な時空を越えた世界を紡ぎ出します。

その花々と佇まいは、まさしく和と洋の融合であり、訪れた人々の心を和ませ、豊かにおもてなしをいたします。

日時: 2013/1/9(水)～2/20(水)
9:00～16:30
開催地: 美馬市脇町 うだつの町並み「藍商佐直
(あいしょうさなお) 吉田家住宅」
料金: 入場料 500 円
問合せ: 美馬市観光協会
TEL: 0883-53-8599
URL: 美馬市観光協会ホームページ

Counselling Service at TOPIA トピアの相談窓口

TOPIA offers a counselling and advisory service to all foreign residents to help with issues involving accidents, working conditions, housing, visas, international marriage, and more. Counselling is available in English and Japanese. Please note that although every effort will be made, we may not be able to deal with all cases.

Monday to Friday, 10:00 - 16:30

Tel. 088-656-3303 or 088-656-3320 (allows three-way conversations with an interpreter)

人権守って輝く明日