



TOPPY

252

July

## 阿波ライフ

## AWA LIFE

*The Japanese Country Twang*

Susan Peavy

Six Japanese men in cowboy hats, vests and plaid flannel shirts, a group by the name of Cabin Home, fiddled, strummed and jammed away Typhoon Songda's howling winds as they took the stage on Sunday, May 29th.

I was an attendee of the fifth semi-annual Tokushima Bluegrass Festival, supporting Fumio Fukui-sensei, the machinery and electromechanical systems

teacher at my technical high school. After eight months of working together, he had finally shared his secret with me: not only is he fluent in English, but he also plays and sings country, bluegrass and folk music.

"[Bluegrass music] is very simple and easy," Fukui-sensei told me. "Everyone can play and sing, but it is very deep. Bluegrass and country music have [a] good message to live peacefully."

As I discovered at the festival, Fukui-sensei isn't the only musician in Tokushima to have fallen in love with these traditional American styles. Cabin Home was just the first of a full day of performers to bring the bluegrass spirit to the other side of the world.

Under the stage name Dr. F, Fukui-sensei played a bilingual rendition of "Lorena," a lament of lost love written in 1865. He has translated between ten and fifteen songs from English to Japanese.

"The bluegrass population is small, so the network is very strong," Fukui-sensei said. Throughout the performances, musicians joked, sipped beer and cheered each other on in an atmosphere of family, old friends and celebration. But as I participated in this ultra-niche corner of Tokushima culture, I wondered how they had all discovered the foreign genre.

"I started to play music in classical guitar," Fukui-sensei said. "When I entered



*Cabin Home, the first performers of the day*



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# AWA LIFE

## This month in Awa Life

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Hello faithful readers,

There is a lot going on this summer, and I for one have a full plate these days, with work and a booming social schedule. I waffle between thinking of it as a blessing and a curse, but at the end of the day it's good to be active and out and about.

To show you some of the stuff people are up to this summer we have a new contributor, our good friend Susan Peavy, writing about the recent Bluegrass Festival, an application to dance with Arasowa-ren this summer, a sequel Saginaw article from Matt Lindsay, and so much more. Eat your heart out!

Best,  
Sarah

PS: We want to apologize for a small mistake made in the previous issue. Our contributor Robert Frost was not a former Tokushima ALT, but a former Tokushima high school student.

## awa life

is a monthly publication of the Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association (TOPIA).

### **Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association (TOPIA)**

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An electronic version of Awa Life is also available for download from the TOPIA homepage.



*Thirty Grass Boys take a break from warming up*

high school, [a] *sempai* was playing bluegrass music in [the] music club, so I started to play guitar and banjo." Since then he has added the fiddle and the flat mandolin to his repertoire, and is now, along with his wife, experimenting with the Irish tin whistle.

In his twenties, Fukui-sensei explored the roots of bluegrass music in the United States, road-tripping down the Blue Ridge Parkway through

Virginia before hitting West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and Indiana, where he attended the oldest bluegrass festival in America.

"Dianne said my English has a southern American accent", Fukui-sensei said (Dianne, another Assistant Language Teacher, also works with him).

With a little interpretation help from my friend Stephen Burke, I also had the chance to chat with the four-member group Thirty Grass

Boys as they warmed up in a tatami room. Bassist Yoshihisa Kubota discovered bluegrass music in college, and Shigehito Haba found bluegrass through his interest in the mandolin. As their name suggests, the group has been together for thirty years.

Through this whole experience, from getting to know to Fukui-sensei for the first time, to exchanging CDs and seeing him perform at the Tokushima Bluegrass Festival, I've learned that music is a powerful cultural bridge. It transcends language and nationality and brings people together.

If you want to experience it for yourself, Fukui-sensei and some others perform at 7:00 on the last Wednesday of every month at Beretta Restaurant in Tokushima City. As for the festival, the verdict is in. In the words of Burke, "It was folk-in' awesome."



## *Tokushima Awa Odori Live Stream*

**S**ummer 2011.

The Tokushima Awa Odori 2011 will be sent out to the world via internet (USTREAM). We are currently looking for foreigners who want to support our broadcast as commentators. How about bringing the atmosphere of Awa Odori to your home country?

### **Organisator:**

Tokushima Prefecture  
Federation of Associations for  
Promotion of Shopping Streets,  
Young Division

### **Website:**

<http://sudachiboys.jp/world>

### **Information :**

[web@sudachiboys.jp](mailto:web@sudachiboys.jp)  
080-4034-0235 (Hasegawa)



*Fumio Fukui, a.k.a. Dr. F*

**Want to contribute to Awa Life?  
Then send us your proposal or  
article to [awalife@gmail.com](mailto:awalife@gmail.com)**



# Arasowa-ren Participants Wanted!

阿波踊り「あらしわ連」参加者募集

The chance to join the Arasowa-ren and secure your place in the 2011 Awa Odori Festival is here! Make sure you sign up soon, as places go quickly! You can also sign up to play an instrument. No experience is necessary, and there will be practice sessions before the event.

## WHEN:

- Sunday, August 14

## LOCATION:

- Meet at the Awa Kanko Hotel

## TIME:

- Assemble from 15:00 - 16:00
- Opening Ceremony and pre-dance party from 16:20
- Dancing from approximately 17:40 - 21:30

## PARTICIPATION FEE:

- 3000 yen for Japanese
- 2000 yen for non-Japanese participants

## APPLICATIONS:

- Apply in person at TOPIA or reply via paid postcard (see below)
- On receiving your application, TOPIA will mail you whether you can participate or not. We will include a post-office bank account number to where you can pay the participation fee within one week. Or you can pay at TOPIA.

**PLEASE NOTE:** We cannot accept applications by fax or telephone. ***You cannot apply on the day of the event.*** Also, we cannot refund the participation fee for any reason. In the event of rain, the party and dance will take place inside the Awa Kanko Hotel. Participants will be limited to the first 80 applicants.

## 日時:

- 8月14日(日)

## 集合場所:

- 阿波観光ホテル

## スケジュール:

- 15:00 ~ 16:00 集合
- 16:20 ~ 開会式
- 17:40 ~ 踊り開始
- 21:30 踊り終了

## 参加費(中学生以上):

- 日本人 3,000 円、外国人 2,000 円

**申込み方法:** 往復はがきにて、①名前②性別③住所④電話番号⑤国籍⑥年齢(20歳以下の方のみ)を御記入の上 TOPIA までお申し込み下さい。また、女踊り(先着30名)ご希望の方はその旨をはがきに御記入下さい。(それ以外の方は男踊りとなります。)応募者には返信用はがきにより参加の可否をお知らせ致します。参加可能な方には郵便局の振込口座番号をお知らせしますので、返信はがき到着後1週間以内に参加費をお支払い下さい。尚、一度払い込まれた参加費は、いかなる場合でも払い戻しできませんのでご注意下さい。

**注意:** 電話・FAXでの受付はご遠慮ください。当日参加は不可能です。募集定員80名になり次第締め切ります。★当日受付は午後4時で終了いたします。

Front

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <p>往信</p> <p>Tokushima Prefectural<br/>International Exchange<br/>Association (TOPIA)</p> <p>Clement Plaza 6F<br/>1-61 Terashima Honcho<br/>Nishi, Tokushima City</p> | <p>770-0831</p> <p>leave this space<br/>blank</p> |
|---|---|

Back

|   |  |
|---|--|
| <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 40px; height: 40px; margin: 0 auto;"></div> <p>返信</p> <p>write your name and<br/>address here</p> | <p>□□□.□□□□</p> <p>Write the following<br/>information here:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. name</li> <li>2. gender</li> <li>3. address</li> <li>4. telephone number</li> <li>5. nationality</li> <li>6. age (if under 20)</li> </ol> <p>also state if you want a<br/>women's style dancing<br/>costume (subject to<br/>availability)</p> |
|---|--|

Fold the postcard so the address of the intended recipient is facing out and post it like a regular postcard. Return-paid postcards ( 往復ハガキ -oufuku hagaki) can be purchased at the post office or at TOPIA for 100 yen.

# Saginaw Shows Tokushima Some Love

Matthew Lindsay

SAGINAW — An excused absence from school didn't keep 13-year-old Connor Meyers from getting an education today. The Midland Central Middle School sixth-grader was one of about 40 people to attend a ceremony at Michigan, Saginaw's Japanese Cultural Center and Tea House, which celebrated its 25th year along with the 50th anniversary of Saginaw's sister city status with Tokushima, Japan.

"They signed me out of school to get some culture," said Meyers, a Saginaw resident and the son of Jim and Holly Meyers. "It's my mom's fault." The younger Meyers said his mother, as a child, traveled to Tokushima and passed on her taste for Japanese culture to him.

As a result, the younger Meyers watched during a warm and sunny Thursday afternoon as a delegation

of 50 Tokushima residents performed a Japanese tea ceremony with their American audience, dressed in traditional Japanese attire and performed Japanese music and a puppet show. "I find the music, the language and the food are great," he said. "This is pretty cool."

Cole Strieter, a 7-year-old from Unionville, said he was a fan of the ceremony's Japanese uniforms and music. His mother, 36-year-old Tracey Streiter, said she wanted to expose her son to a different culture. "By the time he's older, the world will be more interconnected than it is now," she said. "I'm just glad it's a beautiful day and I could bring him here."

Hideki Hara, Tokushima's mayor, through an interpreter said he was impressed with the turnout and hoped the crowd



*Making confections*

left the gathering more enlightened. "We must accept different cultures," Hara said. "I'm very pleased the people of Saginaw showed up with great interest in our Japanese culture. I hope that friendships like ours will be continued."

Hara and the rest of Tokushima's group — a hodge-podge of musicians, politicians, journalists and puppeteers — kicked off their two-day tour of Saginaw on Wednesday. They checked out Saginaw sites such as the Temple Theatre, Castle Museum of Saginaw County History, Hoyt Library and Saginaw Art Museum, and performed music at the Saginaw Arts & Sciences Academy. The group also attended a luncheon at Saginaw Valley State University, whose sister university, Shikoku University, is in Tokushima.



*Tokushima Mayor and Cultural Center Director planting a cherry tree*







*Left: An Awa Ningyo Joruri puppet blesses an infant in the audience!*



*Above: Everyone joins in for Awa Odori.*



*Left: a lovely koto quintet performance.*

*Audience members are invited to share a drink with the puppet...yeah.*





明日連

## Apply to Ashita-ren Awa Odori Troupe!

- ◆ Performance: August 13, 2011 (Sat.)
- ◆ Practice at: Tokugin Tomoni Plaza (Tokushima Youth Center)  
3F Big conference room
- ◆ Participation fee: 2,500 yen ※ Accepting a few instrument players, and male or female participants for the male dance.  
There is no female dance.
- ◆ Deadline to apply: August 6 (Sat.) (office hours 9:00 - 18:00, except every 2nd and 4th Wednesday)
- ◆ Place to apply: Tokugin Tomoni Plaza 1F (Tokushima Danjo Sankaku Seishounen Ka Bunshitsu)
- ◆ Participants: 70
- ◆ Info: Tokushima Danjo Sankaku Seishounen Ka Bunshitsu (Tokugin Tomoni Plaza 1F)  
Tel. 088-625-6166 Fax. 088-625-6228  
Email: mine-lovelyshop@ac.auone-net.jp (English OK!)
- ◆ Application: <http://www.pref.tokushima.jp/docs/2011052000113/>

## TIA Awa Odori

- ◆ When:: August 12 (Fri.) for more detailed information please inquire around mid July
- ◆ Info: Tokushima City International Association  
Tel. 088-622-6066

## 「外国にルーツを持つ子どもたちのための日本語指導者養成セミナー」

1. 開催目的 外国にルーツを持つ子どもの学習に必要な日本語の指導ができる指導者を養成し、支援体制の充実を図る。
2. 開催時期 2011年7月23日(土)、30日(土)、8月6日(土)、27日(土)  
9:00～12:00 および 13:00～16:00 ※総時間 24時間 (1回3時間×8回)
3. 開催場所 ヒューマンわーくぴあ徳島(徳島市昭和町3丁目35-2 TEL 088-625-5111)
4. 内容 ① 子どもたちの日本語指導の概要および教授法(第1回～第7回)  
② 県内公立学校での取り組み事例報告(第8回前半)  
③ 外国にルーツを持つ子どもたちの教室開設と運営について(第8回後半)
5. 講師 公益社団法人国際日本語普及協会  
関口 明子氏(地域日本語教育担当理事)ほか、同協会講師
6. 対象 ① 学校教員および退職教員  
② JTMとくしま会員  
③ 日本語指導・支援の経験者で、修了後、子どもの日本語支援活動に参加できる人
7. 定員 40名
8. 参加費 無料、ただし資料代として500円(全8回分)
9. 主催 JTM とくしま日本語ネットワーク
10. 後援 徳島県教育委員会 徳島市教育委員会 財団法人徳島県国際交流協会 鳴門国際交流協会 小松島市国際交流協会 阿南市国際交流協会 吉野川市国際交流協会 藍住町国際交流協会 石井町国際交流協会 特定非営利活動法人「美馬の里」 NHK徳島放送局 社団法人徳島新聞社 四国放送株式会社 (以上、予定)
11. その他 ① 受講に関しては、選択履修も可とする。  
② 期間中、希望する受講者は、「親子にほんご寺子屋」の見学または支援に参加することができる。

This month we are going to take a look at the expressions 「たらいいい」、「といい」、「ばいい」

【Practice!】 Please put a ○ for the correct answers and an × for incorrect answers into the brackets of the sentences below.

## 1. (希望) (hope)

- ① あした、マリアさんに会ったらいいなあ。( )  
 ② 正月には国へ帰れるといいいなあ。( )  
 ③ わたし、S会社に就職すればいいいなあ。( )

## 2. (勧め) (recommendation)

- ① 先生に質問してみたらいいじゃないか。( )  
 ② 危ないから、そこへ行かないといい。( )  
 ③ 若いときは何でも自分のやりたいことをやってみればいい。( )

## 3. (相手に指示を求める言い方) (Speaker seeks direction from listener)

- ① 電車の中にかばんを忘れてしまったのですが、どうしたらいいですか。( )  
 ② 眠れないとき、どうするといいですか。( )  
 ③ この本はいつまでに返せばいいですか。( )

### 【Answer and Explanation】

1. ① (×) The correct sentence would have to be ・会えたらいいいなあ。 ② (○) ③ (×) The correct sentence would have to be ・就職できればいいいなあ。・ ・ ・ \* In both cases [～・いい] you don't use words that include the intention of the speaker at the 「～」 part.

2. ① (○) ② (×) The correct sentence would have to be ・行かない方がいい。・ ・ ・ \* In case you recommend someone not to do something, you have to use 「V ない方がいい」.  
 (ex. × しないといい。→ ○ しない方がいい。) ③ (○)

3. ① (○) ② (×) When you want to ask how to do something, you can not use 「といい」. You should use 「たらいいい / ばいい」. You can, however, use this pattern when giving the answer to such a question. (ex. ○ 本を読むといいでしょう) ③ (○)

Whereas 「たらいいい / ばいい」 indicate that "this is necessary and sufficient" in order to achieve a specific result, 「といい」 indicates that "in general, things like this would be appropriate". For example, saying: 歌が上手になりたければ、田中先生に(習ったらいいい / 習えばいい) = means you need to do nothing else if you want to become good at singing, but saying (習うといい) = means that learning with Tanaka-sensei will in be useful if you want to become good at singing.



# Letter from Suketo Hoikuen

Kazue Inoue

While perusing the Tokushima Dentists Association's health reports of recent years, I found an article about the increasing number of children who don't or can't chew their food properly. A section on "The Benefits of Chewing" was also included, which I will share with you here:

1. Obesity Prevention: Thoroughly chewing your food will help your brain sense when your stomach is full and keep you from overeating.
2. Develop the Palate: If you savor and chew your food properly you can appreciate its flavor more!
3. Clear Pronunciation: By chewing and exercising the muscles of your mouth, your expression will improve and your pronunciation will become stronger and clearer.

4. Mental Development: the exercise of chewing invigorates brain cells, sharpens kids' intellectual development, and helps prevent the onset of dementia for the elderly. :D

5. Improve Physical Strength: chewing thoroughly will stoke your physical strength!

6. Accelerate Metabolism: chewing thoroughly will increase the number of digestive enzymes produced to break down food.

7. Prevent Cancer: the enzymes in saliva help destroy cancer-causing substances.

8. Prevent Dental Diseases: chewing thoroughly produces a lot of saliva, which protects against tooth decay and periodontal disease.

Are you all living healthy by chewing properly?

This month's activity:  
**Propeller Boat**

1. Take a plastic meat or fish tray you can find at the grocery store and cut it as seen below. Take the cut-out piece, and tape a rubber band to it with tape, making a propeller.

2. Cut a notch on both sides of the tray, and hook the rubber band from step 1 onto both sides.

3. Write a name on the side of the tray with a marker, and you're done! Twist the propeller, set the boat on the water, release it, and watch it go!

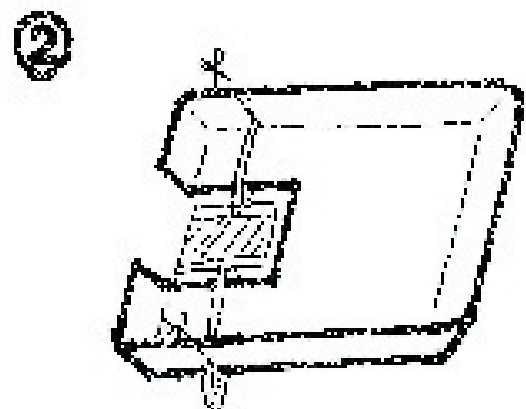
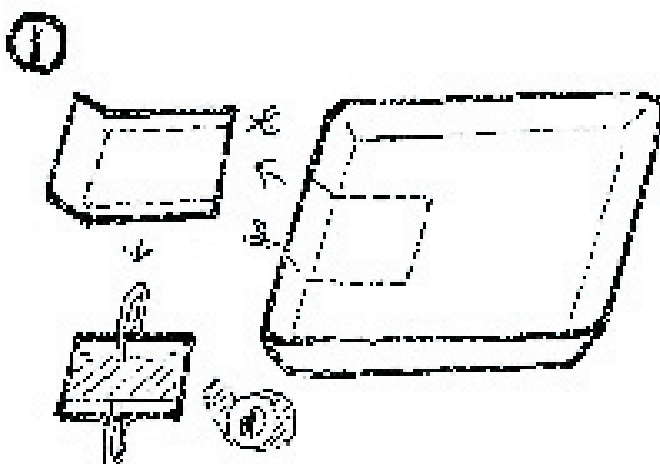


## Japanese Lessons at Suketo Hoikuen

**When:** Every Thursday, 11:00 - 12:00

**Cost:** Free, and child care is also available!

**Info:** Call TOPIA at  
TEL 088-656-3303



For the most recent news and event information, check Living in Tokushima at [our.pref.tokushima.jp/e\\_living/](http://our.pref.tokushima.jp/e_living/). To post an event of your own, send the details via email to Awa Life at [awalife@gmail.com](mailto:awalife@gmail.com).

## Japanese Language Class “Yes, I Can! 2011”

### わかる！できる！！日本語教室2011

**When:** June 12 (Sun.) - November 27 (Sun.), 2011  
every Sunday 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.  
**Where:** Butsudan no Mori Hall (at Ikiiki-kan), Omatsu-cho, Tokushima (on Route 55)  
**Cost:** Free  
**Info:** Komatsushima International Exchange Association  
contact MURAKAMI  
TEL 080-6399-7593  
e-mail: komatsushimaitnl@yahoo.co.jp

Let's study essential Japanese for easy living in Tokushima! Have you been able to explain your condition at the hospital when you were injured or sick? What should you do, when you face a fire or an earthquake? Did you have any difficulties understanding your children's school events or system? Would you like to cook easy Japanese dishes? Can you dance Awa Odori well? Can you use Japanese polite words? Of course, you can take Japanese language lessons from beginner to intermediate.

## Futsal at Tokugin Tomoni Plaza

### とくぎんトモニプラザでフットサル

**When:** July 10 (Sun.)  
1:00pm-2:00pm (Children's Class)  
2:00pm-5:00pm (Open Kickaround)  
**Where:** Tokugin Tomoni Plaza (Seishounen Center)  
2-1, Jonai, Tokushima-cho, Tokushima-shi  
**Cost:** Free (all ages)  
**Info:** Contact Mr. Fukui at TIA (090-4976-9402)  
Joshua Fries (080-4036-6596)

Once a month, the TIA hosts a futsal event at Tokugin Tomoni Plaza. From 1pm-2pm, there is a class on futsal basics for young children (elementary school age) taught by local English teachers and football enthusiast Adam Gibson and other volunteers. From 2 p.m. -5 p.m. the older groups take over and have a kickaround. The kickaround includes participants from the Shikoku Daigaku futsal team, ALTs, and many others from Tokushima and abroad. All this happens on the new sporting court in Tomoni Plaza in Tokushima city. So come out and enjoy some futsal and international exchange with us!

## Japanese Lessons at Suketo Hoikuen (free)

### 助任保育園の日本語教室 (無料)

**When:** Every Thursday, 11:00 - 12:00  
**Cost:** Free, and child care is also available!  
**Info:** Call TOPIA at  
TEL 088-656-3303

**日時:** 毎週木曜日、11:00 ~ 12:00  
**金額:** 託児付き (無料)  
**問合せ:** トピアまで  
TEL 088-656-3303

## Tsukimigaoka Official Opening of the Swimming Beach Season

### 月見ヶ丘海水浴場海開き

**When:** July 15 (Fri.) - August 15 (Mon.), 2011  
**Where:** Tsukimigaoka Swimming Area, Toyo'oka Aza Yamanote area, Matsushige-cho, Itano-gun  
**Info:** Tsukimigaoka Swimming Area Management Committee  
**TEL:** 088-699-3574

At the south side of Tsukimigaoka Kaihin Koen the beach area will be opened soon. Because of the airport being nearby, from the beach, you can watch the gallant figure of airplanes taking off and landing on full impact.



# Tokushima Prefecture 2011 Japanese Speech Contest

## 2011 年度外国人による 徳島県日本語弁論大会

This speech contest seeks to give a voice to the international residents of Tokushima Prefecture and engage them in a dialogue to further discourse on international understanding and cooperation. Come out and support the contestants!

**When:** July 18th, 2011 (Monday, a public holiday),  
13:30 - 16:30

**Where:** Awa Gin Hall, 4F Main Conference Room

**Info:** TOPIA

**TEL:** 088-656-3303

**Cost:** Free!

今大会では、県内在住の外国人の率直な意見を聞き、意見交換の場を持ち、国際交流・協力の輪を広げることを目的とします。参加者を応援してください！

**日時:** 2011 年 7 月 18 日 (月・祝日) 13:30 ~ 16:30

**場所:** あわぎんホール 4F 大会議室

**問合せ:** 財団法人徳島県国際交流協会

**TEL:** 088-656-3303

**入場料:** 無料！

## Summer School Japanese Lessons サマースクール夏休み子ども日本語教室

"I want to learn kanji and Japanese words."

"I want to do summer homework."

"I want to make some friends."

If this sounds like your child, why not enroll them in Summer Japanese Lessons for Children? Japanese teachers are here to help you out. Your child can do his/her summer homework in class, and there will be fun activities as well, like games and quizzes.

### Things to bring:

writing tools, summer homework, school textbooks, workbooks and things your child wants to study.

### Participation is free !

### Eligible participants:

Children (Elementary, Junior High and High School Students), whose first language is not Japanese.

**Where:** Tokushima Prefecture International Exchange Association (TOPIA)

Tokushima Station Clement Building 6F

**When:** July 26, 27, 29, August 2, 3, 5.  
From 10:30 to noon

**Instruction:** JTM Tokushima Nihongo Network

**Application:** Fill out the application form and submit by fax, mail, e-mail, or in person by Wednesday, July 19.

\* This Summer School is sponsored by the Tokushima Prefectural Government in conjunction with TOPIA.

\* It may be possible to participate even if you miss the deadline, so please contact us if you want to join.

**Contact:** TOPIA, Attn: Mrs. Nomizu

**Tel:** 088-656-3303

**FAX:** 088-652-0616

**Email:** [coordinator2@topia.ne.jp](mailto:coordinator2@topia.ne.jp)

漢字や言葉の勉強がしたい。

夏休みの宿題がしたい。

友達を作りたい。

そう思ったら日本語教室に来てみませんか。日本語の先生たちがやさしく助けてくれます。夏休みの宿題をしたり、ゲームやクイズをしたりしながら楽しく勉強しましょう。

### 持ってくる物:

筆記用具、夏休みの宿題や教科書、ワーク (勉強したい物)

**対象:** 日本語を母語としない 小学生、中学生、高校生

**場所:** 徳島県国際交流プラザ会議室 (クレメントプラザ 6F)

**日時:** 7 月 26 日、27 日、29 日、8 月 2 日、3 日、5 日  
午前 10:30 ~ 12:00

**講師:** JTM とくしま日本語ネットワーク

**参加費:** 無料

**申込み締切:** 7 月 19 日 (火曜日)

**申込み方法:** 申込書を、申込み先に送ってください。(郵送、ファクシミリ、持参、申込書と同じ内容を書いて e-mail 送付も可。)

※申込みがなくても参加できる場合があるので、申込み締切日以降でもお問い合わせください。

※このサマースクールは、徳島県の事業としてトピアの協力のもと実施されます。

**申込み・問合せ先:** 財団法人徳島県国際交流協会、野水

**電話:** 088-656-3303

**FAX:** 088-652-0616

**Email:** [coordinator2@topia.ne.jp](mailto:coordinator2@topia.ne.jp)

## *Parent-Child Nihongo Terakoya*

**When:** (Children Lesson)  
July 24, August 7, 21, 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
(Parent and Children Lessons - separate)  
July 17, August 28, 1:30 p.m - 3:00 p.m.  
**Where:** Children Lesson at TOPIA  
Parent and Children Lessons at Tomoni Plaza  
**Info:** JTM Tokushima Nihongo Network  
TEL 088-625-8387, FAX 088-625-5113  
**Cost:** Free!  
**Organisator:** JTM and the Agency for Cultural Affairs

Why not come to Nihongo Terakoya and apply for it now. Nihongo Terakoya offers Japanese classes for kids and parents who need to acquire better communication skills in Japanese. Instructors are Japanese specialists. Children will get help with their homework, they will learn how to read out aloud and much much more. Parents will learn how to communicate with teachers and how to read and understand letters that they receive from their children's schools. Did we draw your interest? Then come and join us!

## *Beach Cleaning and Hamabo Festival*

**When:** July 16th from 10am-12:30pm  
(Meet before 9am at Naruto High School if you want a ride, 9:30am at Shimadajima Elementary School or 10am at Tajiri beach)  
**Where:** Tajiri Beach, Shimadajima, Naruto  
**Info:** Email Anthony at hutchy7@gmail.com or call Naruto High School and ask for Shimada Sensei: TEL 088-685-3217  
**Cost:** Free!

Come and join us for Hamabo Festival and beach cleaning at Tajiri Beach on Shimada Island! Several times a year Naruto High School students along with local members of the community descend on the Shimadajima beaches to pick up the rubbish that has collected there. As part of the Hamabo Flower Festival volunteers will be serving drinks and sweet bread. Please let us know if you need a ride from Naruto High School to the beach so we can organize transportation. Everyone is welcome!

## *From Analog to Digital*

In Japan, all analog TV broadcasting transmissions will be terminated by July 24, 2011. Digital Terrestrial TV broadcasting (DTV) started in the Kanto, Chukyo and Kinki regions in December 2003 and has been expanding to eventually make the complete transition from analog TV to digital TV by July 24, 2011. Unfortunately, we will no longer be able to watch digital TV programs on existing analog TV sets, and they will require devices, such as digital terrestrial tuners, connected to them in order to watch digital TV. Alternatively, you could just ditch your analog TV and get a new digital one. Get a head start on DTV reception! Visit the Japan Cable Television Engineering Association website for more information: <http://www.catv.or.jp/jctea/english/digital/index.html>.

## *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 a.m. - 16:30 p.m.

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

## 受け止めていますか人権の重み