

awa life

July 2015
300



TOPIA

THE 300th ISSUE OF AWA LIFE

In this issue:
The ***Yukata***

Japanese Lesson

The Great Tokushima Air Raid

and more



Awa Life is a Monthly Publication of the Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association

Every article you send us is appreciated so please consider becoming a writer! A few rules will apply though so please look below to see what content we encourage you to write about and what kind of stuff we cannot publish.

You can totally submit articles about concerts, lectures, and other event information, cultural, sporting, and other community group information, etcetera.

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

If you have something you would like to share with the Tokushima community, email the editors at:

[awalife@gmail.com!](mailto:awalife@gmail.com)

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Exchange Association (TOPIA)

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Download a PDF file of awa life or view the online version by going to TOPIA's website!

Summer School Japanese Lessons

Why not enroll your child in these Summer School Japanese Lessons? 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.

For: Elementary, Junior and Senior High School students whose first language is not Japanese.

When: July 21, 23, 24, 25, 28, 30, 31, August 1, 10:30 - 12:00

Cost: Free! URL: www.topia.ne.jp

Organizer and Location: TOPIA, Tokushima Station Clement Building 6F

夏休み子ども日本語教室

日本語の先生といっしょに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！！

対象：日本語を母語としない 小学生、中学生、高校生

日時：7月21日、23日、24日、25日、28日、30日、31日、8月1日 10:30～12:00

参加費：無料 URL：www.topia.ne.jp をご覧ください！

主催・開催場所：徳島県国際交流協会（徳島駅ビルクレメントプラザ6階）

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Jenifer Tanikawa & Till Dumke

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The 70th Anniversary of the Great Tokushima Air Raid

By Austin Smith

Tokushima was one of a number of Japanese cities that were heavily bombed on the night of July 3rd and the early hours of July 4th, 1945. News of the bombings was proclaimed on the front pages of newspapers in the USA to coincide with American Independence Day. Sixty-two percent of the city was hit by incendiary bombs from low flying B29 bombers, approximately one thousand

people died and about two thousand were injured. Many of the survivors fled to familiar locations in the city for safety – up Mt. Bizan, to Konpira Shrine and even into the Shinmachi River. Some of the few buildings that survived the bombing

were the thick-walled indigo storehouses and western-style, reinforced concrete buildings along the banks of the Shinmachi.



Every July, the “Tokushima Air Raids Archive”, a low-key photographic exhibition, is held in the former Takahara Building to commemorate the event. This renovated space is now known as the Kokusai Building and the second floor room in

which the exhibition is held retains the original windows which were cracked on that night. The photographs in the collection span the twentieth

century history of Tokushima, including pre-war, wartime and post-war images. While I would encourage you to visit the exhibition in person, it is also possible to view the collection online. The Tokushima Air Raids Digital Archive was launched in 2013 and is available

all year round. Last year I wrote English explanations for the collection to coincide with the 2014 exhibition.

This year, a group of JET Programme participants, including myself, have been voluntarily translating a

Tokushima Air Raid

collection of fifty-nine personal accounts of the Tokushima Air Raid in time for the 70th anniversary. This collection was compiled by the Tokushima City Government to mark the 65th anniversary in July, 2010. At that time, it was estimated that more than seventy percent of the population of Tokushima had not experienced the war firsthand. These accounts cover a broad spectrum of experiences from across the Greater Tokushima area. The contributors provide an insight into the lasting trauma caused by the air raids and subsequent war defeat; some of them were just children at the time of the bombings. These accounts are seen as the perfect complement to the photographs and descriptions provided in the



Tokushima Air Raids Digital Archive and, together, these resources can provide a broader understanding of the event to the international reader.

The Tokushima Air Raids Digital Archive and Personal Accounts of the Tokushima Air Raid can be found below with links to the full text in both English and Japanese:

Tokushima Air Raids Digital Archive:
<http://impressionsofeastasia.com/tokushima-air-raids-digital-archive>

com/tokushima-air-raids-digital-archive

Personal Accounts of the Tokushima Air Raid: <http://impressionsofeastasia.com/personal-accounts-of-the-tokushima-air-raid>

Austin Smith has been an Assistant Language Teacher (ALT) on the Japan Exchange and Teaching Programme in Tokushima since August 2011. He will start studying towards a PhD in Modern History

at the University of St Andrews, Scotland, from September. 2015, having been awarded a postgraduate studentship from the Great British Sasakawa Foundation. His research will involve placing the modern history of Tokushima in a national and international context.

Anan College of Technology at Idea Expo Hannover 2015

By Till Dumke

The Anan Institute of Technology (ACT) will be exhibiting a "Full Color LED Display Equipped with an Optical Sensor" at the Idea Expo Hannover 2015 from the 3rd until the 12th of this month.

The ACT has two ongoing relationships with German universities and has been exhibiting technology from Tokushima at the biyearly

Idea Expo in Hannover since 2011. ACT's partners in Niedersachsen, Germany are the University of Applied Science of Osnabrück, and the University of Applied Science of Wolfenbüttel. Both universities have been helping the ACT with its projects at the Idea Expo Hannover. Also Leibnitz University Hannover has always been helpful in making Anan's appearance at the Idea Expo a

great success.

Every semester the ACT welcomes German and other international students from India, Thailand, China and Korea to name a few to their campus to widen their horizon and get an insight to Japanese technology. But also students at the ACT benefit from its international ambitions by being able to study abroad in America or Germany and even having the

Idea Expo 2015

chance to gain work experience at different local companies in Germany. In Exchange German and Thai students can acquire important experiences at various Japanese companies such as NICHIA, SANYO, SHIKOKU KAKOUKI CO., LTD, and AWA PAPER MFG, CO., LTD.

The Idea Expo Hannover started in 2007 with the goal to spark the interest of German students for science and technology and a career in related fields. Quickly it has grown to be the biggest youth event for science and technology in all of Germany. On an area of 41,185 m² at Hannover Messe visitors will be able to interactively enjoy more than 500 exhibits and take part in more than 400 workshops. For 2015, 350,000 visitors are expected. Global players like ExxonMobil, VW, Komatsu, Volvo, BASF and many more present exhibits and continuously support Idea Expo.

The ACT will have its third appearance at Idea Expo Hannover this year. After exhibiting a "One Color LED-Display with Optical Sensors" in 2011 and a "Small Hydraulic Power Generating Device" in 2013, it will come back this year with a "Full Color LED-Display with Optical Sensors".

When LEDs are exposed to light they generate a small amount of energy which can be used to power a small optical sensor.

LEDs emit light in waves which means they basically flicker in a very high frequency, so high that to the human eye it looks like they are shining constantly. In the intervals where they do not emit light they assume their function of optical sensors and generate minimal amounts of power.

The information from the optical sensor is transmitted to a mini-computer which processes the input and can make the LEDs shine in different colors and/or shapes.

Like in 2011 the LED-display will come with a laser which allows visitors to try to hit the bulls-eye shown on the display from 4m distance. The display will also be equipped with different functions like laser drawing or color changing.

That last aspect of color changing seems marginal but actually has a great impact on our everyday lives. So great of an impact that the invention that made it possible was awarded with the Noble Prize in Physics 2014. Professor Nakamura, a former employee at Nichia Corp. Anan and current professor at University of California, Santa Barbara and a pair of professor and researcher (Hiroshi Amano, Isamu Akasaki) from Nagoya University won the Noble Prize for their invention of the Blue Light Emitting Diode. Previous to its invention, without the color "blue" it was not possible

to create white light. Now that LED-systems combining red, green and blue are made possible every color can be created by LEDs. When Shuji Nakamura first invented blue LEDs, he introduced them to dormitory students at Anan National College of Technology. However, the great benefit of the invention is not only that every color of light can be created, but that every color can be created by highly power efficient and long living LEDs. Their CO₂ footprint is very small and their disposal is considerably easy because they contain little toxic chemicals as opposed to for example fluorescent lights. Their broad applicability to everyday life makes the invention from Tokushima so valuable.

With its exhibit this year the ACT is aiming to educate German students about the high efficiency and environment friendliness of LED lighting systems. Through firsthand experience German students can understand the value and the properties of the blue LED. Also the promotion of safety and educated gun control is part of the exhibit through the laser shooting game.

We hope a lot of interested German students will make it to ACT's booth this year.

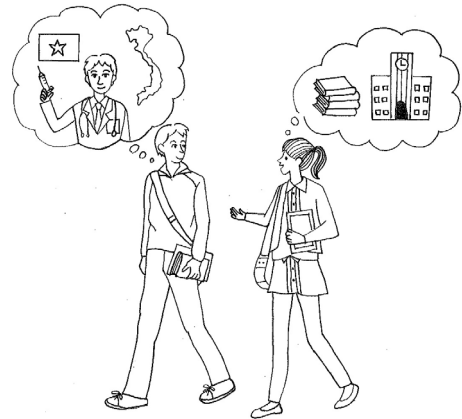
Japanese Lesson

By Michi Mori

This month we will be learning expressions that can be used when relaying information about our future plans to others. The following conversation takes place between exchange student A and exchange student B, who are about to graduate from school.

- A: Bさん、卒業したらどうしますか。
 B: 卒業したら、国に帰ろうと思っています。
 A: そうですか。国へ帰るんですね。
 B: 帰って家の仕事を手伝うつもりです。

- A: さんはどうしますか。
 A: 私は日本で勉強を続けようと思っています。まだ帰らないつもりです。



『意向形 (V よう) + と思っています』 This expression is used to relay the speaker's future course of action or plan to the listener: 「国に帰ろうと思っています」「勉強を続けようと思っています」. Looking at Ms. A and Mr. B's conversation, the listener can make out that they have a plan or have something in mind for the future.

There is a very similar expression: 『(V 辞書形) + つもりです』. Once Mr. B returns home he is planning on 「仕事を手伝うつもりです」. This expression is used to relay the speaker's future course of action or plan to the listener but in this case, the plan or future course of action is more concrete and is more or less set in stone. As well, Ms. A's response 「まだ帰らないつもりです」 uses the expression 『ない形 + つもりです』. By using the expression 『ない形 + つもりです』 she is strongly expressing her future desires: 「帰らない」.

Exercise

Change the words in the () to the appropriate form and write your answer on the underlined space.

- ① わたしは来週からピアノを (習います) _____ つもりです。
 ② 国へ帰ったら、わたしは先生に (なります) _____ と思っています。
 ③ 学校を卒業したら何を (します) _____ と思っていますか。
 ④ 夏休みに国へ帰りますか。 ・ ・ ・ いいえ、お正月まで (帰る) _____ つもりです。

① 帰らない ② なる ③ しよう ④ 帰る

Answers

Welcome Messages

By Terumasa Nagano and Toshiyuki Bando

Hello and nice to meet you all. My name is Terumasa Nagano and I am the new Vice President of TOPIA. I first began working at the Tokushima Prefectural Office in 1979 as a



civil engineer and since have been working in the same field. This will be my very first time doing any work related to international exchange so every day brings new surprises.

With my work in civil engineering, our job is to enrich and better the lives of the people through infrastructure, such as through maintenance of the rivers and the roads. We also work towards making the local area safer and sound and more resilient against disasters. Contrary to civil engineering, international exchange is about enriching people's lives through non-structural means, such as

creating a society where people with different values can live together. I hope to be able to see things through this different perspective.

At our association, we offer Japanese Classes, train volunteers, such as interpreters, hold a speech contest for foreign residents and among other things we also organize the Arasowa-ren dance troupe. We hope that you will be able to support us as we work towards deepening mutual understanding between the local Japanese and foreign communities.

Hello everyone, my name is Toshiyuki Bando and as of May 1st, I have been working at TOPIA as the executive director. This will be my first time working in the field of international exchange, but we sincerely hope that you will continue to support us, as myself and the Vice President of TOPIA work towards achieving our goal as an association of fostering a more multicultural society.

To tell you a bit about myself,

every weekend I play tennis with my friend. I'm not particularly good at it or anything but it's something that I really enjoy doing. I also enjoy watching soccer and baseball, so much so that I went to Kobe in April to cheer on the soccer team, INAC Kobe, who plays in the Nadeshiko League.

I'm also a supporter of the Tokushima Vortis soccer team but unfortunately they haven't been doing so well. If any of

you are interested, please cheer them on with me. Go! Vortis, Go!



Letter from SUKETO NAKAYOSHI

By Kazue Inoue (Center for Early Childhood Education and Care SUKETO NAKAYOSHI)

With the days growing warmer with each passing day, summer is finally upon us. In Japan, July 7th is when

Tanabata takes place, a festival originating from the Chinese Qixi Festival. Tanabata is associated with the folklore that tells

a tale of two star crossed lovers, Orihime and Hikoboshi, who are vanished to opposite ends of the Milky Way as a punishment

from God and are only allowed to meet once every year. During the festival, this story is often told to children and many people will also write wishes on slips of paper and will tie it to a bamboo. Let's all cross our fingers and hope for a clear starry night on July 7th this year.

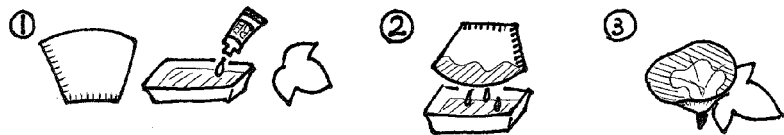
This month I would like to introduce ways that will help children drink medication more easily. In particular, powdered medicine has a rather strong bitter taste and is hard to consume. Mixing the powder with sweet or cold food or drink will help it go down more easily. Some of the items you can mix it with are, commercially available medicated jellies, and things that are more readily available are syrup, condensed milk, cake syrup and ice cream. (One word of caution: only mix the medicine into food that you

don't mind them forming an aversion to.) I will also like to introduce some food items you should not mix medicine with. Do not mix medicine with staple foods (especially because you eat it so often you don't want them to form a dislike towards the food). Do not mix antibiotics with sour foods as the chemical properties may be changed by the food (i.e., yogurt, orange juice, drinks with lactic acid bacteria, sports drinks, etc.). As well, depending on the type of medicine, whatever you mix it with may cause the medication itself to change or become bitterer so it is best to consult a doctor first.

* This Month's Craft *

Playing with Dyes: Making Morning Glories

- 1) Prepare the following: a coffee filter (white), paint mixed with plenty of water, morning glory leaf made from construction paper.
- 2) Dip the ends of the coffee filter into the paint to absorb the color.
- 3) Spread it open and allow it to dry. While holding the bottom portion of the filter, form the filter into a shape of a flower. Attach the paper leaf and you're done. You can mount it on another piece of paper and put it up on your wall or you can attach it to a paper fan.



Changes to the Road Traffic Laws

The police will be stiffening penalties for traffic law violators in hopes of reducing the number of bicycle-related accidents. Under the new law, which came into effect on June 1st of this year, those who are caught violating traffic regulations more than twice within 3 years will be required to take a safety course. The course is three hours long and will cost 5,700 yen. Anyone who does not attend the course after receiving the order will be fined

up to 50,000 yen.

Some of the traffic violations include: ignoring traffic lights, entering railroad crossings after the bar has come down, ignoring stop signs, drinking and cycling, etc.

5 Major Traffic Regulations

1. In principle, cyclists should ride on the street and use sidewalks only in exceptional cases.
2. Cyclists should ride on the left side of the street.

3. If you are cycling on the sidewalk, pedestrians have the right of way and cyclists should stay on the side closest to the road.

4. Cyclists must obey safety rules (a. Drinking and cycling, riding double and riding side by side are prohibited; b. Cyclists must use bicycle lights at night; c. Cyclists must obey traffic lights. As well, they must check for safety after coming to a full stop.)

5. Children must wear a helmet

The Yukata

By Melissa Palsenberg

It's almost summer again, which means it's time for hot nights, fireworks, festivals, and yukata (ゆかた). If you go to any festival in Japan, seeing young men and women in yukata is a very common sight. Compared to kimono, yukata are very easy to put on, and they are much cooler in the summer heat and humidity. But buying your first yukata can still be intimidating. Today, I'd like to give you some tips on what to look for when buying your own yukata.

How to identify a yukata

A yukata is an unlined, cotton garment. It's not a kimono, but the shape is the same, except for the collar. Kimono collars are usually twice as wide as yukata collars and have to be folded in half before putting it on. Yukata collars are already sewn in half. To tell the difference between a men's yukata and a women's yukata, take a look at the pattern and the sleeves. Women's patterns are loud, bold, and colourful, while men's patterns are darker and more subdued. The sleeves on a woman's yukata are only attached to the body along the top half of the sleeve and the sleeves are open

at the back. The sleeves on a men's yukata are attached to the body completely except for the bottom few centimeters, and the sleeves are sewn shut at the back.

How to find the right size.

Lots of people (even shopkeepers) think that a yukata is "one size fits most" which is far from the truth. There are three measurements you want to look for. First is the mitake (身丈) this is the length of the yukata. For men, a yukata should reach to your ankles when hanging straight down. For women, you need extra length to create the ohashori (the folded waist) in the yukata. Generally, if the yukata is around the same length as you are tall, you'll have enough fabric to make an ohashori.

The second measurement is the width of the yukata. There is no official name for this measurement in Japanese because usually the widths

of the individual panels are measured separately. Basically, the yukata should be wide enough so that when you wrap it around yourself, the edges of the fabric should be able to touch your hips on the opposite side.

Finally, you need to measure the yuki (裾). The yuki is the measurement from the center of your back to your wrist with your hands held out to the sides. The yuki is also half of the wingspan of your yukata. The sleeves of a well-fitting yukata should reach to your wrists.

Ready-made or Custom-made? The choice is up to you. If you find that you will fit into a ready-made yukata, then you have endless choices. They are cheap and available almost everywhere in the summer. The sizing on ready-made yukata can be listed a little differently from what I've described above, depending on the company that sells them.

Sometimes they're listed as M or L size, but they usually have hip, waist, length, yuki, and other measurements marked on the tag. If in doubt, you can ask the staff to take your measurements.

Custom make yukata have the



advantage of fitting perfectly. If you are taller or wider than the average Japanese person, or if you have long arms, it might be worth the cost to get a custom made yukata for yourself. However, this option is much more expensive than buying off the rack (usually around 30,000 – 40,000 yen) and it will take several weeks for your yukata to be made so plan accordingly.

What about the obi?

Both men and women have the option of

a traditional obi that you tie yourself, or a tsukue obi (pre-tied obi). Both are perfectly acceptable with yukata. If you decide to go for a traditional obi, men will want to look for either a kaku obi (stiff obi 角帯) or a heko obi (soft obi 兵児帯) in darker colours. Women will want to look for a hanhaba obi (half width obi 半幅帯). Women can accessorize their hanhaba obi with a colourful heko obi, but only young children wear a colourful heko obi by itself. For both men and women, choose a contrasting colour for your obi. It will make the obi stand out against your yukata. For women, a floral yukata and a floral obi can be flower overkill. A geometric or a solid coloured obi is a good fit for a floral yukata.

Accessories

While yukata don't need nearly as many accessories as a kimono, you still need a few ties to keep everything together.



For men, you need either a koshihimo (a cord that you tie 腰紐) or magic tape (a cord fastened with velcro マジックテープ). This holds the yukata closed at the waist. And that's it. Lucky men!

Women need a little more. First, I would recommend wearing a sports bra. Essentially, you are wrapping a flat piece of fabric around a curvy object. The more you can reduce the curves, the less wrinkles you have to worry about. Another trick I use is to fold a towel into thirds and wrap it around my waist. It works really well to smooth out an hourglass figure and it has the

added benefit of soaking up any sweat and preventing damage to your yukata.

Women also need a koshihimo or a waist belt (an elastic tie ウエストベルト) to hold the yukata in place at the waist, and a datejime (a wider tie 伊達締め) to keep your collars in place. There are lots of other accessories that you are free to use with yukata, but these are the absolute minimum.

What about footwear?

Geta (下駄) are the standard footwear for both men and women, but I find them extremely uncomfortable and usually go with sandals instead. If you do decide to go with geta, be sure you are getting the correct ones. Women's geta are smaller and rounder than the blockier, rectangular shape of men's geta. Geta are never worn with tabi socks.



Applications for the Arasowa-ren Dance Troupe

あらそわ連参加募集中

The chance to join the Arasowa-ren and to secure your place in the 2015 Awa Dance Festival is here! Make sure you sign up soon, as places go quickly! We are also looking for individuals to play the instrument or be a staff. To play an instrument with us, no experience is necessary, and there will be practice sessions before the event.

When:

Friday, 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. ★ Applications will be taken until 4PM that day.

日時:

8月14日(金)

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


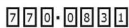
参加費(中学生以上):

日本人 3,000 円、外国人 2,000 円


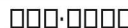
申込み方法: 往復はがきにて、①名前②性別③住所④電話番号⑤国籍⑥年齢(20歳未満の方のみ)をご記入の上 TOPIA までお申し込みください。また、女踊り(先着 30 名)ご希望の方はその旨をはがきにご記入下さい。(それ以外の方は男踊りとなります。)応募者には返信用はがきにより参加の可否をお知らせ致します。参加可能な方には郵便局の振込口座番号をお知らせしますので、返信はがき到着後 1 週間以内に参加費をお支払い下さい。尚、一度払い込まれた参加費は、いかなる場合でも払い戻しできませんのでご注意下さい。

注意: 電話・FAX での受付はご遠慮下さい。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。運営スタッフ及び鳴り物の方、大募集!

Front

 往信		<p>Tokushima Prefectural International Exchange Association (TOPIA)</p> <p>Clement Plaza 6F 1-61 Terashima Honcho Nishi, Tokushima City</p> <p style="text-align: center;">leave this space blank</p>
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Back

 返信		<p>Write the following information here:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. name 2. gender 3. address 4. telephone number 5. nationality 6. age (if under 20) <p>also state if you want a women's style dancing costume (subject to availability)</p> <p>write your name and address here</p>
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Events & Memoranda

2015 年 外国人による
徳島県日本語弁論大会

Tokushima Prefecture Japanese Speech Contest



Foreign residents whose native language is not Japanese will be giving a speech in Japanese on various topics such as cultural differences, their experiences with life in Tokushima, and more. Let's talk and exchange each other about our cultures.

Date: Monday, July 20, 2015 (holiday)

Time: 1:30pm – 4:30pm

Place: Awagin Hall, Small Hall 5F(あわぎんホール 5 階)
(Tokushima Prefecture Kyodo Bunka Kaikan)
TEL (088)622-8121

Sponsor: Tokushima Prefecture International Exchange Association
TEL (088) 656-3303



Seeking Instrumentalists for the TIA Awa Dance Group 阿波踊り連 TIA の鳴り物奏者を募集！

The Tokushima International Association (TIA) is looking for new instrumentalists (for big or small drums, flute, gong, shamisen, etc.) who can help liven up our international dance troupe with music. TIA will be dancing on August 12th. You don't need to have any experience to participate. We look forward to hearing from you! VIVA Awa Dance!

Contact: Satoru Fukui
TEL: 088-622-6066
E-mail: info@tia81.com

徳島市国際交流協会では阿波踊り連 TIA の鳴り物演奏者（大太鼓・締太鼓、笛、鉦、三味線等）を募集しております！一緒に演奏をし、TIA の国際的な連を盛り上げていきませんか。TIA 連は 8 月 12 日の徳島市の阿波踊りに参加します。未経験者も大歓迎です。ご応募をお待ちしております！VIVA 阿波踊り！

問合せ：福井暁
TEL: 088-622-6066
E-mail: info@tia81.com

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.

Everyday, 10:00 - 18:00 (closed during the New Year's holidays)
Tel: 088-656-3303 or 088-656-3320 (allows three-way conversations with an interpreter)