

awa life

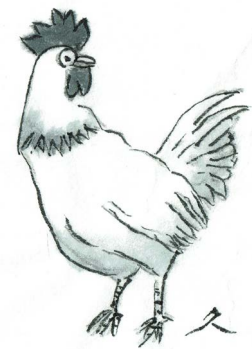
明けまして
おめでとうございます！

January 2017
318



Awa Shoku: Renkon – Hole-y
Roots, Earthy Vegetable

Current Events:
**TOPIA International
Understanding Forum**



Manners for **Visiting a
Shrine**

Suketo Nakayoshi:
Happiness Comes to
Those Who Smile!

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

Happy New Year or *Akemashite omedeto gozaimasu* (あけましておめでとうございます)! We hope that you all had a great holiday season! As we enter into the new year, we hope that you are able to start with great enthusiasm and are able to take a few steps to achieve your resolutions. According to the Chinese zodiac calendar, 2017 is the year of the rooster. Let's have a fun and successful year. Wishing you the best!

For all of those who like writing, please feel free to submit an article to us at any point in time about basically anything. There are a few limitations though, such as you can't write about religion, politics, commercial activities or businesses or anything that we deem inappropriate. But, other than that, we would be more than happy to receive articles about anything and everything including but not limited to, concerts, lectures, other events, culture, sports, community group information or anything cool that's happening in your local community.

We highly appreciate all of your articles and we love reading them. So if that writing bug of yours is buzzing about, grab a pen or a computer and write and send away! Please send all submissions to our email:

awalife@gmail.com

Your editors,
Daralyn and Franziska

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Shinobu Watari, French Students

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International Understanding Forum

By Seiko Mori



From L to R: Mr. Katsuhisa Ueta, Ms. Alounsoulia Aly, and Ms. Xielifuguli Keranmu

There are over 5,000 foreigners from over 70 countries and regions living within the population of Tokushima, supporting the internationalization efforts of the prefecture. It has become necessary to understand each other's cultures while living in this society, along with learning ways to support the broadening of horizons to overseas. Therefore, in order to learn how to think on a global scale, and also how to put the word "glocal" in to practice with a local perspective, we held an International Understanding Forum on December 11 at TOPIA.

First, Mr. Katsuhisa Ueta of the non-profit organization Aiyon Educational Financial Support Association gave a lecture on how we can support international efforts abroad. He spoke in great detail of the efforts of afforestation in order to prevent desertification in Inner Mongolia, China, how he met high school teacher Ms. Uyun (who is a resident of Kokufu, Tokushima City

and was a war-displaced child) and started an educational support fund, and also about how he taught people to raise sheep in order to help them build a steady lifestyle basis. His last words to the audience were "Put in to practice and continue the things that have spoken to your heart" and "A true volunteer is one who does not seek something back in return". These words truly resonated in the hearts of the audience. Following Mr. Ueta, Ms. Alounsoulia Aly from Laos, registered as an International Understanding Lecturer at TOPIA, along with Ms. Xielifuguli Keranmu of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, China, gave presentations introducing their respective countries and their thoughts about living abroad in Tokushima. Lastly, at the exchange party, Ms. Xielifuguli Keranmu performed a beautiful dance to a song from the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. The speakers and the forum participants were able to have a harmonious time speaking together.

This year's International Understanding Forum was a great opportunity to think about international support efforts that we could take part in individually and to be able to exchange opinions, learn from others and was a great opportunity to raise our conscious to move into action.

Winter Motifs in Japan

By Melissa Palsenbarg

What's the first thing you think of when you hear the word winter? Probably the cold weather. Snow. Ice. The smell of kerosene. But I bet flowers and plants weren't among them for most of you, did they? There are actually several flowers and plants that immediately spring to mind in Japan when talking about winter. Many of them are associated with **O-shogatsu** (お正月 Japanese New Year) and those motifs are considered auspicious, so you may see them all throughout the year. Let's take a look at all the flowers and plants that are associated with winter in Japan.

(1) Camelia/*tsubaki* (椿)

Tsubaki are often called the rose of winter, and at higher altitudes, it's common to see them blooming while there is still snow on the ground. *Tsubaki* were an unpopular and inauspicious flower for samurai and their families. *Tsubaki* blossoms drop to the ground as a complete flower instead of petal by petal like most flowers. To the samurai, this was uncomfortably close to the way a head hit the ground after it was cut off. *Tsubaki* can be identified by its tightly packed clump of stamen at the center of the flower. There are usually five to nine petals arranged in a single layer around the middle. In stylized versions, the petals will meld into one large, undulating ring around the center.

(2) Plum Blossom/*ume* (梅)

Ume are the harbingers of spring in Japan. Even if it's still cold outside, when the *ume* blooms, you can be assured that spring is on its way. *Ume* usually bloom around February, right around the time that students are taking their high school and university entrance exams. There is a strong association between the *ume* and academic success. This is due to a man called *Sugawara no Michizane*, a scholar and student of Chinese literature in the Heian period. During his career, he rose high in the imperial bureaucracy, but was falsely accused of treason and was exiled. After his death, he was exonerated and enshrined as

a Shinto deity of scholarship, Tenjin. Many of the temples dedicated to him adopted his favourite flower, the *ume*, as their symbol. Many students and their families go to these shrines to pray for success on their exams. *Ume* blossoms can be identified by their five round petals. They can be depicted as an actual flower or more symbolically as five circles arranged in their own circle.



(3) Pine Tree/*matsu* (松)

Matsu is not only a winter motif, but also an auspicious one, representing longevity. It's prominent in decorations used for **O-shogatsu** (お正月 Japanese New Year), in particular **kadomatsu** (門松 gate pines). These decorations are placed on either side of doorways and provide a home to any gods who choose to come and visit during the New Year period. The link between the Gods and *matsu* extends to the other eleven months of the year as well. *Noh* plays usually feature at least one supernatural character, and the background for all *noh* stages is a painting of a single pine tree. Even in the regular world, *matsu* has a large role to play. The wood itself is used for a myriad of items including lumber, bonsai, and windbreaks. The soot from pinewood is used to create calligraphy ink, and without a pine tree to grow under, the delicious **matsutake** mushroom couldn't be enjoyed by everyone during the autumn. *Matsu* bears an uncanny resemblance to a hat. The foliage forms the hat while the branches form the strings underneath.

(4) Bamboo/*take* (竹)

Bamboo has taken on many different meanings and associations over its long history in Japan. It represents several things including long life, prosperity, immortality, fidelity, and chastity. It's an integral part of Japanese culture and is used in thousands of products. Bamboo's association with winter is thanks to its inclusion in *kadomatsu*, the decorations that are used for **O-shogatsu**. Like all motifs that are associated with **O-shogatsu**, this makes bamboo an auspicious motif as well as a winter motif. Bamboo can be depicted in

Winter Motifs in Japan

two different ways. The first is *take* (竹) which is a long, straight stalk of bamboo with visible joints at regular intervals. The second depiction is *sasanoha* (笹の葉) which are bamboo leaves. There can be three, four, or five long, thin, pointed leaves arranged in a clump and all pointing down.

(5) *Shou-Chiku-Bai* (松竹梅)

The kanji that make up *shou-chiku-bai* include *matsu* (pine) *take* (bamboo) and *ume* (plum blossom). The name comes from the Chinese reading of the characters instead of the Japanese reading (*shou* = pine, *chiku* = bamboo, and *bai* = plum blossom). This combination is known as the “Three Friends of Winter.” It’s a very auspicious combination, and although all the motifs are associated with winter, it can be used year round. It is especially popular during the Japanese New Year due to the inclusion of pine and bamboo in *kadomatsu*.

While you’re out and about this winter, keep an eye out for some of these motifs. And stay warm!

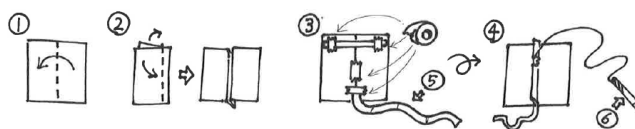


Letter from SUKETO NAKAYOSHI

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

Happy New Years! How did you spend your New Year’s Holiday? I am hoping that everyone has a year full of fortune and happiness. This month I would like to introduce a way that can bring you happiness. That is, to smile! It is said that “Good fortune will come to those who smile”. Isn’t that the perfect proverb for us as we enter the New Year? When children are interested, amused, having fun, or are happy, they express those feelings with a smile. Children are very honest, so when they are not feeling well, they are unable to smile due to their temperament. In other words, people smile when they become comfortable and are able to relax. In addition to feeling very relaxed and energetic, other positive effects include defending disease causing bacteria, increasing the capacity for healing, and is also connected to the ability to reduce stress. Smiling can also effectively give the brain an opportunity to grow and take in more information, as well as provide a way to develop hormones and reduce pain. Of course this also goes for adults, and this is why spending time smiling as a family every day is a great way for a family to grow strong in health and spirits.

Traditional Japanese New Year’s Activity: Kite Flying



Directions:

- 1) Fold a piece of origami in half, in the middle.
- 2) On the perforated line, make a small valley crease on both edges.
- 3) Cut a straw and tape it to the origami so that there is space between the straw and the origami.
- 4) On the back side of the origami, attach a 1-2 m long kite string on the back side of the kite, 5 cm from the end of the corner.
- 5) Cut 4 small strips of origami, connect them together vertically and tape it on to the front side.
- 6) Roll up some advertisement paper to create a stick. Tape it to the already attached kite string so that you are able to hold on to the kite. This will give the kite some lifting power.

*Hold the stick and move the kite from right to left. This will give the kite some lifting power.

Manners for Visiting a Shrine

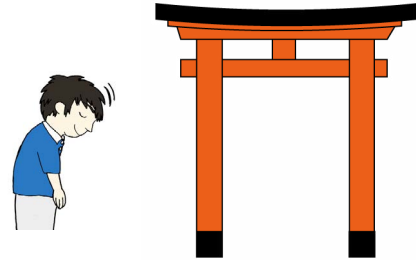
By TOPIA staff

In last months Awa Life we introduced the manners for visiting a temple. Visiting a shrine or a temple is one of the many Japanese New Year's Traditions. This month we will be sharing about the manners for visiting a shrine. Be aware

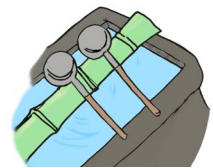
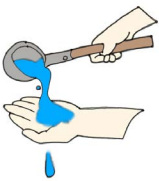
that the manners for visiting a shrine can depend on the region you are in, or even the type of shrine that you are visiting. If you are unsure, observe some of the locals, or ask a staff member.

- ① Bow to the main shrine gate
- ※ Go under each gate in order from the first gate.
- ② Walk on either side of the approach
- ※ The middle is a path for the gods.
- ③ Purify yourself at the *chouzusha* (手水舎 Purification site to cleanse your hands and mouth)

*Due to sanitary concerns, it is also okay to go through the motions for this step.



- 1) Hold the ladle with your right hand and cleanse your left hand.
- 2) Hold the ladle with your left hand and cleanse your right hand.
- 3) In your left hand, take in some water and use it to rinse your mouth.
- 4) Rinse your left hand.
- 5) Return the ladle back in to its original spot faced down.



- ④ Bow once gently to the worship hall

- ⑤ Give an offering, then ring the bell



- ⑥ Bow twice (at about a 90 degree angle), clap twice (put your hands together and move your right hand slightly below the finger tips of your left hand), bow deeply once. (It is probably best to make your wish when clapping twice or bowing once)



- ⑦ Bow once gently

- ⑧ Before leaving the shrine, turn back and bow once more to the main shrine gate



French Students in Tokushima

By Shinobu Watari and French Students

Joto High School in Tokushima city has a sister school relationship with St. Joseph in France. Every two years, about 20 students participate in this exchange program. This year 21 St. Joseph students, their principal, and two teachers visited Joto High School in late October of 2016. The Joto students will visit St. Joseph in late March, 2017.



All students in the exchange participate in a home stay, have lessons at each school, and experience a variety of activities. The St. Joseph students also had the opportunity to visit Kyoto and Osaka. This year marks the 9th exchange.

Studying at Joto High School: Lilian Delamare

At first, I thought that Japanese school, just like Japan in general, would be different from what I knew. From a French point of view, it really was a great change. I found that Japanese school life, particularly Joto's, resembled the American type of school life: staying after lessons to participate in club activities, such as sports, music or art. Japanese school life differed from our European system, where most of the students come to school just in time for their lessons, and come back to their homes as soon as the day ends. Hence, Joto High school is greatly equipped to allow students to participate in various club activities. They have loads of athletic facilities, music rooms with two grand pianos, a concert room and a lot of other equipment. That's where the Japanese system is interesting, the high school becomes a place of being, rather than a place of studies. The two things that amazed me the most during my time at the Joto High School

were the knowledge and the level of the students in the math class. My class was one year younger than me and they were sometimes at a level of math that is not expected from a specialized student in math of my age in France!

Why I choose to learn Japanese language: Gwenaelle Vigouroux

If you ask me why I chose to learn Japanese language, I would tell you that it's to break down the wall that was standing between me and Japanese culture. Since I was a young girl, Japan has always been an important place in my life. I was and am still fond of its culture and its history. I started loving Japan for its manga and step-by-step, I started doing my own research about Japan: its history, morals, and politics. I began to be more and more passionate about Japan. In order to understand this country, I had to learn its language so that I would be able to speak with its citizens. I always thought that learning a new language was the best way to avoid wars. If you learn a language, you must take an interest for its culture and learn about the way of life of people living in a country completely different from yours. Doing this will open your mind and you will become more tolerant. I'm 17 years old right now and I want to be the bridge that connects Japan and France. I want to be an interpreter to help the French discover Japan like I did, and also help the Japanese discover France, for the sake of a better world.

My experience in Tokushima Theodore Marghitu

My visit here in Tokushima has been an incredible experience, and has greatly enlarged my horizons. The city was extremely beautiful and close to attractions such as the Naruto whirlpools, while at the same time containing all the necessary commodities of a city. My host family lived in the city, so we did not have to go a long way to get to school. I was blessed with an incredibly caring host family that really wanted me to have the time of my life during my stay in Japan. They sacrificed their time in order to take me out so that I could try new Japanese things, which I

really enjoyed. Thanks to them, I found out so much about Japanese culture and the Japanese way of living, two things that I wanted to learn during my stay. They have accepted me in to their family with their arms wide open, which made me feel like I was a Japanese student going to high school. I cannot forget the numerous gifts and treats that my correspondent's mother would always prepare for me, which sometimes made me realize how short our stay in Japan really was. Although we stayed there for only 10 days, my memories and feelings for Tokushima and my host family will last forever.

Amazing trip to Japan Doriane Delaporte

During the trip we visited three beautiful cities, Tokushima, Kyoto, and Osaka. The one that I liked most was Tokushima. We built an attachment to this city due to our one week stay and our three main activities. One of the activities was indigo dying, which certainly surprised many people, for the practice and the final result took some time as well. During the indigo experience we were



also able to see a Japanese traditional house, which was very interesting and beautiful to see! In Tokushima, we visited the Tokushima Castle Museum, where there was a magical oriental garden! Also we were able to see an

exhibition where we saw the history of Tokushima Castle, and wear the traditional costume “*Juni-hitoe*”, which is the ceremonial attire of a Japanese court lady. That was a very interesting experience! We were able to experience Sumo as well!

Another one of our favorite cities was Kyoto, for the temples and landscape. We took pictures with a girl dressed beautifully in a Kimono! We went to visit the Kinkaku-ji Temple and loved it! Seeing the opposition between modern Japan and old Japan was fantastic. Finally we did shopping and bought tea, kimono, and other traditional things!

We also visited Osaka Castle, that has eight floors, and were surprised due of the beauty of this monument. We enjoyed learning about the story of the castle! Our trip was amazing!

The Editor's Corner

By Daralyn Yee and Franziska Neugebauer

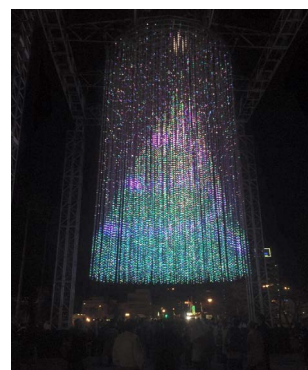
It has been five months since we have arrived in Tokushima. Here are a few pictures from our life here so far! Thank you for all of your support!



The sweets in Tokushima are amazing!



Enjoying one of the many nice restaurants in Tokushima. (Photo taken by our fellow CIR Liu-san!)



A Christmas tree made out of LED lights!

Japanese Lesson

By Haruko Miyoshi

If you are invited to something...

In December there were Christmas parties and end-of-the-year parties. In January there are New Year's parties, in February there are events related to *Setsubun* and Valentine's Day, in March there are going away parties, and in April there are many welcome parties. Furthermore there are more events during the year in which people gather. You may be invited yourself!

1. When you are invited and **can go to the event**, how will you respond? Within the three sentences listed below, there is one sentence that is incorrect. Which one is it? (The answer is in the corner of this newsletter.)

- (1) ありがとうございます。行きます。
- (2) ありがとうございます。ぜひ行きます。
- (3) ありがとうございます。かならず行きます。



2. When you are invited but **can't go to the event**, how will you answer? First, answer with something like 「残念ですが、行けません。」 If you had to say something after that, what would you say? Within the three sentences listed below, there is one sentence that is incorrect. Which one is it? (The answer is in the corner of this newsletter.)

- (1) ぜひまた誘ってください。
- (2) この次はぜひ行きたいです。
- (3) この次はぜひ行きます。



The word 「ぜひ」 (definitely), is used in the situations of a request, invitation, desire, aspirations, and thus masu- verbs 「ます形」 can't be used together with this word.

The word 「ぜひ」 is often paired with words such as 「～てください」, 「～ましょう」 or 「～たいです」.

“Definitely” 「ぜひ」

◎徳島には海も山も川もあります。いいところですよ。ぜひ遊びに来てください。

◎あした、ともだちと人形浄瑠璃を見に行きます。おもしろいと思いますよ。ぜひ一緒に行きましょう。

◎阿波踊りを見たことはありますが、踊ったことはありません。来年は、ぜひ踊りたいです。

In addition, words like 「～てほしいです」 「～てもらいたいです」 are also used together with 「ぜひ」.

Awa Shoku: Renkon – Hole-y Roots, Earthy Vegetable

By Lance Kita

My first memories of Tokushima were the flooded fields of lotus in Matsushige Town, In contrast to the carpet of sweet potato vines, large round leaves swayed on stalks taller than children. I rode my bicycle among this sea of green parasols all summer, and watched them topple after a really bad typhoon. When fall came, I expected to witness the harvest, but the fields were mowed down and left as muddy graveyards well into the new year. At the coldest part of the year, the farmers would wade into the half-frozen mud and exhume long knobby roots with pitchfork-like tools.

A heavenly landscape and a hellish harvest yields a root vegetable with hole-y character: lotus root (**renkon** 蓮根) can grow several meters long, but are segmented into nodules about 30-40 cm long. Slice one open crosswise to behold its distinctive floral pattern of 8 holes.

January is the peak season for renkon, but it can be found from late fall through early summer. Naruto City is one of the top producers in the country. It's said that 90% of the lotus root sold in Kansai comes from Tokushima.

Sliced renkon shows up in the traditional array of New Year foods known as **osechi-ryori** (御節料理), often pickled to take advantage of its crispiness and stained red on the outside to complement the white flesh. Crosswise slices are the most popular way to prepare lotus root, which are fried as tempura or kushikatsu, sautéed **kinpira**-style (金平 soy sauce, sugar, sesame oil), **hasami-age** (挟み上げ minced meat or shrimp sandwiched between two slices and fried), or simmered with other vegetables in a soy dashi. Recently, they have even been turned into crunchy chips. One of my recent discoveries at izakaya are slices of renkon with melted cheese (try this at home with your toaster oven!). Renkon adds visual and textural appeal to any dish.

What's not as well-known is that grated lotus root is sticky, earthy, and creamy. **Renkon mochi** (蓮根餅) is reminiscent of a glutinous rice cake,

and is sometimes featured in kaiseki dishes, covered with a lightly thickened dashi. For a more home-style usage, try mixing grated renkon with seasoning and ground meat or tofu, then shape into patties for a soft, moist lotus root hamburger. Add diced lotus root for some crunch,

The next time you see renkon's crispy flowers blooming in a dish at your local izakaya or from your own kitchen, think back to the hard work of the farmers who brave the cold to bring it to us at its peak quality. I'm sure you'll root more for this wonderful vegetable.



Lotus root can also be grated for a chewy, sticky texture.



Sliced lotus root shows off its "hole" beauty.

Events & Memoranda

Community Interpretation Seminar コミュニティ通訳研修

徳島県に暮らす外国人は約 5,000 人であり、2020 年に開催される東京オリンピックを見据え、訪日外国人観光客が大幅に増加することが予想されます。その中には、言葉や母国との制度の違いにより、役所の手続き、医療・教育現場などの社会生活の様々な場面での対応や、今後、起こりうる災害時に支援が必要とすることが想定されます。また今年 3 月には善意通訳組織「徳島 GG クラブ」が発足し、観光通訳中の災害時対応や、病気、事故等による医療通訳を必要とする場面に遭遇する可能性も増加すると考えられます。このような状況に対応するため、コミュニティ通訳研修を行います。なお、本研修では、コミュニティ通訳の講演・ワークショップに先立ち、徳島県立防災センターの職員の方による「災害時ボランティア活動」に関する防災講座があります。言葉の壁などから、十分な情報が得られないことの多い外国籍の皆さんへの対応などを一緒に考えましょう！

講師：飯田 奈美子氏
(多言語コミュニティ通訳ネットワーク共同代表)
日時：2月26日(日)
13時～16時30分
開催場所：(公財)徳島県国際交流協会(徳島市寺島本町西1-61 クレメントプラザ6階)
参加料：無料
内容：講演・ワークショップ
お申し込み：
〒770-0831 徳島市寺島本町西1-61 クレメントプラザ6階 公益財団法人 徳島県国際交流協会「コミュニティ通訳」担当宛
TEL:088-656-3303 FAX:088-652-0616
Email: coordinator1@topia.ne.jp (木村)
※2月20日(月)までに氏名、住所、電話番号、Email、言語(英語、中国語等)を記載の上お申し込み下さい。
※携帯電話キャリアメールは届かない場合がございますので、電話でのお申し込みをお願い致します。

13th Snowball Fighting Shikoku Championships 第13回 雪合戦四国大会

Registration for the competition is now over, but come out to see an intense game of snowball fighting right in front of your eyes!

When: January 28 - 29 (Sat, Sun)
Where: Iyashi no Onsen-kyo Ground
28 Sugeoi, Higashi-Iya, Miyoshi City
TEL: 0883-72-7620

参加申込みは既に終わっていますが、是非とも熱い雪合戦を見ににきてください！

日時：1月28日～29日(土・日)
場所：いやしの温泉郷グランド
三好市東祖谷菅生28
TEL: 0883-72-7620



Taisan-ji Temple Mochi Carrying Competition 大山寺の力餅

The event takes place every year at Taisan-ji Temple. Men, women, children and toddlers will carry rice cakes totaling 169 kg, 50 kg, 10 kg, and 5 kg respectively, and will compete to see who can carry it the farthest in this thrilling competition.

When: January 15 (Sun)
Where: Taisan-ji Temple Grounds
TEL: 088-694-5525

正月の初会式の行事として毎年1月第3日曜日に大山寺境内で行われます。男169kg・女50kg・子ども10kg・幼児5kgの餅をかつぎ、歩いた距離を競います。見物する方も力が入り、思わず歓声を上げてしまう程の名物行事です。

日時：1月15日(日)
場所：大山寺境内
お問い合わせ：大山寺
TEL: 088-694-5525

Events & Memoranda

Awa Jurobe Yashiki Ebisu Festival
阿波十郎兵衛屋敷「えびす祭り」

Come to see the performance of the God of Fortune, Ebisu, who caught a large snapper fish while fishing. Take home a year's worth of fortune while watching a performance of "Ebisu Mai" put on by the Awa Jurobe Yashiki, that hope that the audience will be able to have a safe household and good business for the upcoming year.

When: January 10 (Tue) - January 11 (Wed)
Where: Awa Jurobe Yashiki
Info: Awa Jurobe Yashiki
TEL: 088-665-2202

浄瑠璃人形のルーツである福の神「恵比須」が大きな鯛を釣りあげて、商売繁盛、家内安全を祈願する阿波十郎兵衛屋敷の「えびす舞」で1年の福をお持ち帰りください。

日時: 1月10日(火)～11日(水)
場所: 徳島県立 阿波十郎兵衛屋敷
お問い合わせ: 阿波十郎兵衛屋敷
TEL: 088-665-2202

Shogo Kariyazaki Flower Arrangement Exhibition
華道家 假屋崎省吾「うだつをいける～悠久の美と共に～」

With the historical stage of the Udatsu Townscape as a background, "Udatsu wo ikeru" will display Shogo Kariyazaki's beautifully created flower arrangements. There will also be cymbidium, Otani Pottery, and other displays of things from around Tokushima to enjoy.

When: January 8 (Sun) - February 19 (Sun)
9:00 - 17:00 (Last entry is 16:30)
Where: Aishou Sanao Yoshida Residence
(Mima-shi Wakimachi Oaza Wakimachi
55, Udatsu Townscape)
Info: Mima City Tourism Association
TEL: 0883-53-8599

歴史ある景観が残るうだつの町並みを舞台に、華道家・假屋崎省吾が美を紡ぐ美しく華やかな華道展「うだつをいける」。シンビジウムや大谷焼など、徳島が誇る美の競演をご堪能ください。

日時: 1月8日(日)～2月19日(日)
9時～17時(最終入館 16時30分)
場所: 藍商佐直 吉田家住宅
(美馬市脇町大字脇町 55 うだつの町並み)
お問い合わせ: 美馬市観光協会
TEL: 0883-53-8599

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)

Correction:

The name in the caption of the picture on the bottom of Pg. 4 in the December 2016 edition of Awa Life was misspelled. The correct spelling of the name of the photographer is Tomoyo Nakayama. We apologize for the error.

訂正・お詫び:

阿波ライフ 12月号・4ページの下の写真見出しの名前に誤りがありました。誤: Tomoya Nakayama 訂正: Tomoyo Nakayama 関係者の皆様、読者の皆様にご迷惑をお掛けしたことを心からお詫びいたします。