



# Ei Gokoriyama!

News and Information about Koriyama City in English

## Dragon Quest Concert

One of Japan's most popular and legendary video game series is 'Dragon Quest'. On Sunday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of December, the Koriyama City Cultural Center will be the stage for a concert exclusively featuring music from this series, from the classics to the newer installments: 'the World of Dragon Quest'. The music, composed by 'the big boss of game music' Koichi Sugiyama, will be performed by the Yamagata Symphonic Orchestra. Guiding the orchestra will be conductor Kosuke Tsunoda, who was trained in Berlin and despite his young age has a great deal of international experience.



**Date:** December 23<sup>rd</sup> 2018, 15:00 (doors open at 14:30)

**Venue:** Koriyama City Cultural Center (Main Hall)

**Tickets:** ¥3,500 (¥1,750 for high school students or younger, or wheelchair seating) (available at the Cultural Center, Usui Dept. Store, Lawson Tickets (21427), TicketPia (123-491). **More info:** <http://bunka-manabi.or.jp/kc-center/event/201812/post-351.html>

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Koriyama City

#### Museum of Art: Dr. Kitetsu Imaizumi Collection

From the 8<sup>th</sup> of October until the 24<sup>th</sup> of December, the Koriyama Museum of Art presents its latest exhibition, the Dr. Kitetsu Imaizumi Collection'-exhibition.

"Doctor Kitetsu Imaizumi (1907-2009), a medical doctor who was honored as an honorary citizen of Koriyama City, made a great contribution to the establishment of the Japanese corneal transplant system and the foundation of the establishment of the eye bank. Imaizumi interacted with various artists during the period of residing Morioka City, Iwate Prefecture, and formed a large collection of modern contemporary art." His collection, consisting of 180 pieces, will be on display, with an exhibition of Imaizumi's background and the story of his art acquisition.

**Venue:** Koriyama City Museum of Art ([goo.gl/maps/FNoYd8zKBOU2](http://goo.gl/maps/FNoYd8zKBOU2))

**Date:** Oct. 8 ~ Dec. 24 2018

**Admission:** ¥800 (¥500 for high school/university students or 65+, free for junior high or younger)

**WEB:** [city.koriyama.fukushima.jp/bijyutukan/index\\_e.html](http://city.koriyama.fukushima.jp/bijyutukan/index_e.html)



### October

### Event Calendar

- 21 **TOSHIKI KADOMATSU Special Live Tour**  
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 27 **Curling School 2018**  
(Bandai-Atami Ice Arena)
- 28 **NHK Symphony Orchestra Concert**  
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 28 **Koriyama Swimming Day**  
(Koriyama Shinkin Kaiseizan Indoor Pool)
- 28 **Omotosando Marche**  
(Nakamachi Omotesando Street, near Koriyama Station)]
- 28 **Oldtimer Exhibition - Famous Cars from the Showa-Era**  
(Bandai-Atami Tourism & Products Hall)
- 30-31 **Ice Hockey: Tohoku Freeblades vs. Daemyung Killer Whales (South-Korea)**  
(Bandai-Atami Ice Arena)

### November

- 1 **Koriyama Culture Festival**  
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 3-4 **Japan School Ensemble Competition – National Grand Contest**  
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 10 **Tsukemen Live 2018 'X'**  
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 11 **42<sup>nd</sup> JFA All-Japan U12 Soccer Fukushima Tournament**  
(Bandai-Atami Football Center)
- 16 **Big Tree Pageant Festa in Koriyama**  
(Koriyama Station West-Exit Square)

### Koriyama Swimming Day

Since last year, Koriyama is the proud owner of a top-notch indoor swimming pool: the Koriyama Shinkin Kaiseizan Swimming Pool. In order to promote swimming as a sport in Koriyama, the city is organizing

the annual **Swimming Day** on the 28<sup>th</sup> of October (Sunday).

As special guests, the event will feature professional swimmers, including Olympic athletes, like Tomoko Hagiwara, Hanae Ito, Aya Terakawa and Fukushima's very own Izumi Kato, for swimming exhibitions and clinics. The event is free for spectators.

**Date/Time:** October 28<sup>th</sup> 2018 (Sun.), 9:30 – 18:00

**Location:** <https://goo.gl/maps/sAWoxrQPXMA2>



### Easy Cooking in Easy Japanese

Have you ever wanted to learn how to make typical Japanese home-made dishes, all the while practicing your Japanese language? Want to meet other foreign residents and make new friends? Well, here's your chance! The Koriyama International Exchange Association (KIEA) is hosting the class 'Easy Cooking in Easy Japanese'! During this class, you will be taught in easy-to-understand Japanese how to make 'Niku-dofu' (Simmered Beef and Tofu). For only ¥500, you get to participate in the class and enjoy your own cooking after with your classmates.

**Date:** November 5<sup>th</sup>, 18:30 – 20:00 — **Venue:** Sogo Fukushi Center

**Fee:** ¥500 — **Max. participants:** 12 (foreign residents)

To apply, please contact KIEA at TEL 024-924-3711 (JP/EN) or by e-mail at [kokusai-kouryuu@city.koriyama.fukushima.jp](mailto:kokusai-kouryuu@city.koriyama.fukushima.jp) and pay the participation fee before Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> (please include your phone number in the e-mail).

## Oranda Feest (Holland Festival) 2018

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of September, Koriyama celebrated the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its sister city ties with the town of Brummen (NL) and its status as Host Town for the Netherlands for the 2020 Olympics, with the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual **Oranda Feest (Holland Festival)**. Especially the stage-show by beloved children's character **Miffy** drew a large crowd. Special guests for the event were the **mayor of Brummen Alex van Hedel** and his wife, as well as the Dutch deputy ambassador to Japan, mr. Cees Roels. During the opening ceremony, the mayors of Brummen and Koriyama looked back at the 30 years of friendship and pledged to further strengthen the ties. The ceremony ended with awards given for best paintings of Holland by elementary students. Finally, after giving a skating clinic for local kids in the morning, former-speed skater and **Olympic gold medalist Hiroyasu Shimizu** gave a lecture in which he touched on time spent in the Netherlands, his career and his life after retiring from professional sports.



## The Hungarian Swimming Team chooses Koriyama!

The Koriyama Shinkin Kaiseizan Indoor Pool will officially host the swimming team of Hungary for their preparation campaign towards the 2019 World Aquatics Championship in South Korea, as well as for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. Hungary is a real powerhouse in swimming, winning 7 medals during the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro. One of those medalists will also be present during the training camp in Koriyama. The camp will take place **between the 15<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of October**. It is expected that the athletes and coaches will also make time for meet & greets or possibly swimming clinics for kids.



## Frontier Farmers

Since October 2018, Koriyama started a new program to promote local farmers with innovative projects and mindsets: '**Frontier Farmers**'. On the website and Instagram account, photos and interviews with local farmers will be featured. First farmer to be featured is MINOZEN, located in the Konan-area of Koriyama. Support local producers by checking out Frontier Farmers!

**WEB:** <http://frontier.starfree.jp>

**Instagram:** [instagram.com/koriyama\\_farmers/](https://www.instagram.com/koriyama_farmers/)

For more information, questions or tips, contact:

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## Pepper at Koriyama City Hall!

If you visited Koriyama City Hall's West-building lately, you may have noticed a new friend. Pepper, the semi-humanoid robot from SoftBank Robotics is available to help you with many different requests, such as showing you the way to the division or department you want to visit or give information about local tourism destinations. Of course, Pepper is also always up for a chat, or even for a game, like various quiz games (around 20 apps available). Pepper can be found in the West-building on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor. Come have a chat!



## Do you know Koriyama?

### Koriyama's agriculture

Koriyama has a rich soil, producing great products both in quality and volume. But it was not always like that. Until the latter half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Asaka Plains (current Koriyama) were barren due to a lack of a viable water source. When the Asaka Canal from Lake Inawashiro was drawn, however, the field became bountiful and the area of Koriyama started producing ample amounts of rice and vegetables. The most famous type of rice from Koriyama is called **Asaka-Mai**. The canal also spurred the production of **carp**, which added to the local food culture.

The history of the Asaka Canal, registered as Japan Heritage, is now also being honored, through the city's **Japan Heritage Brand-registration** for local products such as sweets, beverages and set dishes, as well as organizations actively promoting the city's Japan Heritage. Visit [goo.gl/HUappa](https://goo.gl/HUappa) for a list of the registered brand products. Koriyama also actively promotes producers in the city, to revitalize the agricultural sector after the 2011-disaster and enhance the local food culture with high-quality products, through projects like **Frontier Farmers**.

