



Ei英GoKoriyama!

News and Information about Koriyama City in English

Koriyama City Museum of Art: Brueghel Exhibition

The Koriyama City Museum of Art will organize a very special exhibition from **January 11th until March the 31st**. As the only location in the Tohoku-region, Koriyama will host the **Brueghel-exhibition** that has been touring Japan since January 2018. Painter Pieter Brueghel (the Elder) is said to have been born in the area of Breda, a city located in the Netherlands, but spent most of his life in Belgium (then part of The Netherlands). He is known as one of the most prominent painters of the Low Countries (the Netherlands and Belgium) of the Renaissance Era, especially thanks to his masterpiece 'the Tower of Babel,' which was on display in Tokyo in 2017. His son, Pieter Brueghel the Younger too was a venerated painter. Works from both generations will be on display at the Koriyama City Museum of Art.

Date: Jan. 11th ~ Mar. 31st, open 09:30 ~ 17:00 (closed on Mon.), except on the 14th of Jan. and the 11th of Feb. (closed on the subsequent days).

Admission: ¥1500 (¥900 for (university) students / 65+ citizens)

WEB: www.fct.co.jp/brueghel



UPCOMING EVENTS

'Shinshun-no-Daiku' (9th of Beethoven)

Started out of the desire to revive from the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake Disaster, and first held in 2013, the performance of the 9th Symphony of Beethoven, by the citizens-choir 'Minna-de-Utau-Daiku-no-Kai' has become one of the staple events of the new year in Koriyama. The choir consists of **more than 400 singers**, joined by school choirs and led by professional soloists and musicians. This year's edition will be held on the 6th of January. The soloists this year are *Ayaka Oki* (Soprano), *Ikuko Najima* (Meso-Soprano), *Keiro Ohara* (Tenor) and *Akiya Fukushima* (Baritone), with the orchestra being led by concertmaster *Reika Okura*. The conductor is Koriyama City's very own *Morihiro Sato*. *Alle Menschen werden Brüder!* (*All people become brothers)

Date: January 6th (Sun.) (Doors open at 13:00) **Tickets:** ¥2,000 (¥300 for high school students and younger) available at Koriyama City Cultural Center, Usui Department Store, Yamaha Music Koriyama and Kawai Koriyama Shop.



Event Calendar

December

- 14 **X'mas Whistle Concert**
(Koriyama City Chuo Library)
- 15 **Swing Set Jazz Orchestra: X'mas Concert 13**
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 16 **Mariko Senju – Classic Christmas Concert**
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 16&23 **Ice Skating Class**
(Bandai-Atami Sports Park – Koriyama Skating Rink)
- 22-23 **Winter Sports Festa Season 18**
(Big Palette Fukushima)
- 22-24 **Dream Art World 2018**
(Big Palette Fukushima)
- 23 **Dragon Quest Concert: 'World of Dragon Quest'**
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 23 **FCT Koriyama Boys & Girls Choir**
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 24-25 **Christmas Night – A Present from the Starry Sky**
(Koriyama City Fureai Science Center - Space Park)

January

- 6 **'Shinshun-no-Daiku' (9th of Beethoven)**
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- ~7 **Thomas the Tank Engine: Thomas & Friends Children's Exhibit**
(Koriyama City Fureai Science Center - Space Park)
- 20 **Ongaku-no-Ehon (Picturebook of Music)**
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 20 **AsakaZA x Dance Square: Joint Performance**
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)

Fukushima Firebonds Schedule for December & January

Koriyama City is home to a professional basketball team, active in Japan's B.League's B2 division (East-District): the **Fukushima Firebonds**. In 2018, the Firebonds signed an agreement for collaboration with Koriyama City. Right now, they can use the support of all Koriyama's citizens, so be sure to catch one of their home games. The upcoming home games for the Firebonds at the **Horaiya Sogo Gymnasium** in Koriyama will take place on:

December: 12 (vs. Ibaraki Robots), 15 & 16 (vs. Ehime Orange Vikings)
January: 5 & 6 (vs. Gunma Crane Thunders), 28 & 29 (vs. Ibaraki Robots)

To keep track of the Firebonds' game schedule, visit <https://firebonds.jp/schedule>. The Firebonds tend to play 4 or 5 home games per month, so visit their games, cheer them on and become a real Firebonds-fan!



Winter Sports Festa – Season 18

With the days getting shorter and colder, we are closing in on the winter sports season. Koriyama is lucky to not only be close to various ski-resorts, but also a great number of sports stores. Added to this, is the big 'Winter Sports Festa – Season 18', held at **Big Palette Fukushima** (Koriyama) on the **22nd and 23rd of December**. You can shop to your heart's content for the latest gear, clothing and accessories for winter sports, such as skiing and snowboarding. **Admission is free**, so come down and get ready for this season's winter sports!

Date: Sat. 22nd – Sun. 23rd of December (10:00 – 18:00, no entry after 17:30)

Admission: Free

Venue: Big Palette Fukushima

WEB: www.fuyusupo.jp



New Batch of Asaka-Mai Rice Officially Presented

One of Koriyama's most famous and beloved agricultural products is its very own brand of rice: 'Asaka-Mai', named after the Asaka Plains, the rich and fertile soil on the south-west side of Koriyama. Known for its rich taste and full texture, it is labeled as a first-class brand of rice by the inspection of agricultural products. Needless to say, it is a must-have product in Koriyama's kitchens. Asaka-Mai is available in various places throughout Koriyama, such as supermarkets and JA Farmers Market. It can also be ordered online, or found at satellite shops selling Fukushima products. In order to assure the quality of the rice, there are certain conditions for rice from Koriyama to be labeled 'Asaka Mai':

1. Flavor quality: > 88 points
2. Protein content: < 6.1%
3. Sieved with 2.0mm
4. Granulation: > 80%
5. Specially cultivated rice
6. Striving towards GAP (good agricultural practices)
7. Eco-Farmers Authorization



Koriyama Swimming Day

On the 28th of October, the brand-new Koriyama Shinkin Kaiseizan Pool was the stage for the Koriyama Swimming Day, an event to promote swimming among kids in the city.



Special guests were a group of professional competitive swimmers, among which was Aya Terakawa, winner of a bronze medal during the London Olympic Games in 2012 (100m backstroke). Around 2000 kids from in- and outside of Koriyama joined in the fun and participated in classes, games and other activities, and watching a performance by athletes from the Japanese national synchronized swimming team. All-in-all it was a fun, active and inspiring day for the kids and athletes alike.



LED Lighting for Crime Prevention Lights

In an effort to save energy consumption, Koriyama City is investing in LED lighting for its more than 30,000 crime prevention light posts in the city. Introducing LED lighting cuts energy consumption by 60%, reducing energy costs by 57%. LED lights also have a lifespan that's 7 times longer than the old lighting. At this point in the process, the total amount of crime prevention light posts in the city is 31,111, of which 21,449 (68.9%) is currently LED.

Koriyama City Delegation to Essen, Germany

As part of the EU Urban Cooperation program with the city of Essen in Germany, Koriyama sent a delegation to Germany from the 13th to 18th of November, incl. the vice-mayor, as well as members from Nihon University, the Fukushima Medical Device Development Center and the Minami-Tohoku Hospital, among others. The program consisted of visits to various organizations and events in the fields of medical device manufacturing and renewable energy, such as the MEDICA & COMPAMED trade fairs. Finally, vice-Mayor Kanno officially signed a memorandum of collaboration with mayor Kufen of Essen. Koriyama aims to increase collaboration in business and science with Essen in the future.



Foreign Resident 'Madoguchi-Seminar'

With the growing number of foreign residents and the prospected growth in the near future, it is important for the staff to be able to appropriately interact with non-native Japanese speakers. For this purpose, on the 19th of November, Koriyama City organized a communication seminar for its staff. The staff was first presented with data on the growth, countries of origin and languages of foreign residents. Next, Mrs. Junko Makuta from the Fukushima Pref. International Exchange Association gave a class and workshop on 'Yasashii Nihongo', an effort to speak a simplified Japanese to be more easily understandable for foreign residents. Foreign exchange students were invited to help identify communication difficulties and practice rephrasing Japanese to *Yasashii Nihongo*. This way, staff in Koriyama will be more aptly prepared to answer questions and help make life easier for foreign residents.

Do you know Koriyama?

Koriyama City Museum of Art

In the mood for some high-brow culture? In the Tobu-district (the east-side of the station) lies the **Koriyama City Museum of Art**. The museum was established in November 1992 by the Koriyama City Board of Education, which is still the managing body of the museum. Not only the collection, but also the building itself is a sight to behold (even winning the BCS Architecture Prize in 1994), and includes a cozy, artistic café. The museum has a large permanent collection of mainly English art, by artists like *William Turner* and *Edward Burne-Jones*, as well as modern Japanese art from after the Meiji Restoration, with which it regularly holds special exhibitions. After having been closed for more than 9 months for a large-scale renovation, the museum was reopened in July 2018. For an inspiring and educational day, why not pay a visit to this museum? The museum is easily accessible by bus from Koriyama Station in about 10 min. (*Bijutsukan Keiyu Tobu New Town-Line*).



For more information, questions or tips, contact:

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