



Ei Gokoriyama!

News and Information about Koriyama City in English

February 2019

Ringo Starr And His All Starr Band – in Koriyama!

Ask anyone what the most legendary pop band of all time is, and the name you're most likely to hear is, of course: The Beatles. In April, one of the Beatles will be in Koriyama City. Drummer **Ringo Starr** has assembled a team of rock legends such as Steve Lukather (TOTO), Colin Hay (Men At Work) and Gregg Rolie (Santana) for a Japan Tour, as '**Ringo Starr and his All Starr Band.**' The band will give a show at the Koriyama City Cultural Center on Tuesday the **2nd of April**. The show will start at 18:30. **Tickets** are ¥16,000 for S-seats, ¥15,000 for A-seats; for wheelchair seating, please contact the number stated below before purchasing), no admission for kids of 5 years or younger. Tickets are available at the Cultural Center, Usui Dept. Store, Lawson Tickets (L-code 21494), Ticket-pia (P-code: 133-893), e+, Seven-Tickets and CN Playguide. **Inquiries:** 022-266-7555 (JP), **WEB:** <https://goo.gl/YVFZ67>



Photo credit: Henry Diltz

UPCOMING EVENTS

Memories of Ghibli - Orchestral Dream Concert

Feeling like an afternoon of wallowing in nostalgia and beautiful music? On Sunday the **3rd of March**, the Koriyama City Cultural Center will be the stage for the '**Memories of Ghibli - Orchestral Dream Concert.**' The 'Dream Chamber Orchestra' will play legendary composer Joe Hisaishi's amazing music from the soundtracks of the films My Neighbor Totoro, Ponyo, Spirited Away, Castle in the Sky, Kiki's Delivery Service and Princess Mononoke. Voice actress from various Ghibli films (incl. the voice of Nausicaä from the film 'Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind') will guide you through Ghibli's forest of dreams, supported by vocal group The Breeze Adventures, and led by conductor Takao Tsukada. Tickets are ¥2,000 (¥1,000 junior-/senior high school students, ¥500 for younger, half price for wheelchair seating), and are available at the Cultural Center and the Usui Dept. Store (5F). The show will start at 14:00. **Inquiries:** 024-934-2288 (JP); kc-center@bunka-manabi.or.jp



Event Calendar

February

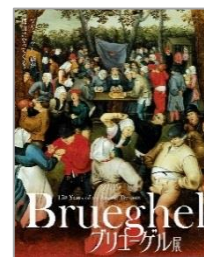
- 15 **14th Domestic Tourism Revitalization Forum in Fukushima (tourism booths open to the public)**
(Big Palette Fukushima)
- 24 **ASAKA Chorverein 26th Regular Concert**
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 24 **Koriyama Citizens Cultural Arts Festival**
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 24 **Toridori – Handmade Products Exhibit/Market**
(Big Palette Fukushima)

March

- 1 **Brueghel: Lecture Concert**
(Koriyama City Chuo Community Center)
- 3 **Memories of Ghibli - Orchestral Dream Concert**
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 9 **Sonar Pocket 10th Anniversary Tour**
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 11 **Fukushima Soul 2019**
(Big Palette Fukushima)
- 21 **Tetsuya Kumakawa K-BALLET COMPANY Spring Tour 2019**
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- 22-24 **FCT: Chu-Tele Matsuri**
(Big Palette Fukushima)
- ~31 **Brueghel: 150 Years of an Artistic Dynasty**
(Koriyama City Museum of Art)
- 31 **DA PUMP – LIVE DA PUMP 2019 THANX!!!!**
(Koriyama City Cultural Center)
- ~4/7 **Planetarium Show: Ultraman Zero VR**
(Koriyama City Fureai Science Center – Space Park)

Brueghel: Lecture Concert at the Chuo Community Center

Koriyama City Museum of Art's grand exhibition 'Brueghel: 150 years of an Artistic Dynasty,' is still on display until the 31st of March. The museum invited the two amazing musicians to help bring the exhibition to life with a special **Lecture Concert** on the **1st of March**. At the **Koriyama City Chuo Community Center** (note: not at the museum!), harpsichordist/pianist **Toshiki Tsumuraya** will perform music of the time of the Brueghel dynasty (16th-17th century). In the latter half of the concert, violinist **Noé Inui** will give a performance. Inui studied at the Royal Conservatory of Brussels, and has strong ties with Fukushima Prefecture, having performed here on various occasions. Admission is free, but seating is limited to 500 people. Please visit the official Brueghel website (www.fct.co.jp/brueghel) for reservations and more info (JP).



Free Counselling Session for Foreign Residents

Applications are open for a **free consultation session** for foreign residents and their families with city hall staff on **March 10th**, for all questions regarding taxes, pensions, national health insurance, education etc. All consultation sessions are **free** and strictly **confidential**. Be sure to make an appointment (required!) **before March 5th** (5 groups max., first come-first serve). **Date:** March 10th (Sun.), 13:00 – 17:00 **Location:** Niko-Niko Kodomo-Kan (west of City Hall) 3F (volunteer room) **Languages:** English, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese, Tagalog, Japanese **Questions/registration:** Fukushima International Association (FIA) **TEL:** 024-524-1316 (Tue. ~ Sat., excl. holidays) **E-mail:** ask@worldvillage.org (possible in the above-listed languages)

Speed Skating Inter-High in Koriyama

The speed skating tournament of Japan's biggest high school sports event, the 'Inter-High School Championships,' was held at the Bandai-Atami Ice Skating Rink from the 23rd until the 26th of January. 306 participants from all over Japan assembled at the opening ceremony at YRACS (Yurakkusu) Atami, where one of the athletes from Koriyama gave the Fair Play-pledge. Various students from schools in Koriyama (Koriyama Commercial High School and Koriyama Kita Technical High School) participated as well. The events were the 500m, 1,000m, 1,500m, 5,000m, 10,000m, 2,000m relay and the Team Pursuit. The girls of the Koriyama Commercial High School won the bronze medal in the Team Pursuit; an amazing performance, considering these are the top athletes of Japan in their age group. It was also the first time for Fukushima Pref. to win a medal at this prestigious event!



Koriyama's new Frontier Ambassadors: GreeeeN!

Koriyama has a number of prominent (former) residents and people with ties to the city, who promote Koriyama in- and outside of Japan. They include famous artists, athletes, academics and many others. The latest addition to this eclectic group: the one and only **GreeeeN!** The music group GreeeeN was formed when the four members HIDE, navi, 92 and SOH met each other while studying dentistry at the Ou University in Koriyama. They keep their faces hidden and never reveal their identity, in order for it not to interfere with their careers as dentists. They are best known for their smash-hit 'Kiseki' which was number 1 in the Japanese charts when it was released in 2008, and has become a karaoke-staple ever since. The song is also the first thing many people here when they first set foot in Koriyama, as it is the chime that plays after a bullet-train has stopped at Koriyama Station. You can also find the big green door in front of Koriyama Station set up in honor of this band. As the latest Frontier Ambassadors for Koriyama, they will help promote the city's affairs and activities.



Source: Official GreeeeN website - www.greeeen.co.jp



Denso Airybees' First Home Games in Koriyama!

On the 2nd and 3rd of February, the **Denso Airybees** played their first games in Koriyama in a sold-out Horaiya Sogo Gymnasium, against the **Okayama Seagulls** and the **Hisamitsu Springs** (Kobe/Tosu). Preparing red Airybees t-shirts for all visitors, the gymnasium was painted red and was buzzing with anticipation, although the buzzing may have been caused by the Airybees' mascot **Bun-Bun**. During breaks, Bun-Bun joined the Airybees' cheerleading squad the Ray-Glitters, as well as the cheerleading club of Koriyama High School (Blue Sparkle) and the Koriyama Women's University-attached High School's marching band. Despite losing their two games (Okayama: 0-3 and Hisamitsu: 2-3), the aggressive and playing style and the enthusiastic attitude of the players made a great impression. Especially the game against Hisamitsu Springs was exciting until the end, with the last set ending in 21-23, despite the Springs having 8 (!) national team players! Find out more about the Airybees in 'Do You Know Koriyama' below!



Do you know Koriyama?

Denso Airybees

In 2018, Koriyama City signed a collaboration agreement with the automotive parts manufacturer *Denso's* women's volleyball team '**Denso Airybees**' to become the team's second home-city. The connection was established thanks to Denso's large factory in the neighboring Tamura. In the summer of 2018, athletes and trainers from the Airybees organized a volleyball-school for local junior high school students for several weeks.

The Airybees play in the professional V. League (women's division, Eastern conference), meaning they are part of the national top. The star player is **Yurie Nabeya**, who also plays for the national team. Koriyama City can expect more Airybees-home games and exchange activities in the future. Come cheer them on!

Let's go, BEES!



For more information, questions or tips, contact:

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