

March 2020

EiGo Koriyama!

Monthly news and information about Koriyama City in English

EVENTS

Sakura Season in Koriyama City!

After the short, relatively warm winter, the cherry blossoms are expected to arrive earlier than usual. If you are looking for the best spots in Koriyama to see them, look no further than **Koriyama's Sakura Monogatari** (www.kanko-koriyama.gr.jp/sakura). Check out all the locations on this handy Google Map: goo.gl/4Vx6sZ

Blossom periods vary per year and area. For blossom predictions, visit: sakura.weathermap.jp



Koriyama Public Hall



Kaiseizan Park



Fujitagawa Fureai Zakura



Tenjin Meotozakura



Ageishi Fudozakura



Akatsu Goenzakura



Gohyakubuchi Park



Sasaharagawa Senbonzakura



Benishidare Jizozakura



Koriyama Station



Japanese Language Course for Foreign Residents

The Koriyama International Exchange Association (KIEA) organizes a Japanese language course for foreign residents. Enjoy studying Japanese with residents from many different countries. Apply now for the next course-period: **May 13th~July 16th** (10 classes) (**Wednesday mornings**: 10:00~11:30 or **Thursday evenings**: 19:00~20:30; please note that the Wednesday morning class requires the ability to read/write Hiragana/Katakana and to understand the teacher's instructions in easy Japanese is required). Please apply by the 11th of May! (**Note: there is a possibility that the course will be cancelled for COVID-19 prevention. Applicants will be notified.**)

Venue: Sogo Fukushi Center (behind City Hall)

Fee: ¥3,000 for 10 classes

Please apply by e-mail or phone (EN/JP)

or the **online form** at <https://goo.gl/5gRKG2>

E-mail: intl-salon@city.koriyama.lg.jp

TEL: 024-924 2970 (JP/EN)



Regarding cancelations for COVID-19

In order to prevent the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19), many events organized by Koriyama City have been cancelled. Consequently, please be aware that events listed in this EiGo Koriyama may be subject to cancellation. Please use the hyperlinks provided in the PDF- or e-mail version of this EiGo Koriyama for the latest information. The PDF-version can be accessed at tinyurl.com/KoriyamaEigo.

Click on the events in the PDF or subscribe to the monthly newsletter for more info!

tinyurl.com/KoriyamaEigo



EVENT CALENDAR

MAR Event & Location

- 14-15** **Firebonds vs. Sendai 89ers**
Horaiya Sogo Gymnasium
- 19** **Ayumi Hamasaki - Trouble Tour 2020 A**
Koriyama City Cultural Center
- 21** **Eriko Moore: Gospel Enka - Tsuite yukimasu, doko made mo**
Myuukaru Gakuto-kan
- 21-22** **Firebonds vs. Yamagata Wyverns**
Horaiya Sogo Gymnasium
- 28** **Tokyo 2020 Torch Relay in Koriyama**
Koriyama Station to Kaiseizan Park
- 28** **Fukushima Japanese Sword Exhibit and Sale**
Big Palette Fukushima
- 28-29** **Koriyama Railways Festival**
Big Palette Fukushima
- 29** **Tezukuri & Waku-waku Marche (Crafts Market)**
Big Palette Fukushima
- 29** **Kuwabara Ongaku-Kyoshitsu: 31st Piano Recital**
Myuukaru Gakuto-kan

APR Event & Location

- 11-12** **Firebonds vs. Ibaraki Robots**
Horaiya Sogo Gymnasium
- 17-19** **Zakka Carnival in Fukushima vol. 2**
Big Palette Fukushima
- 18** **Yasuyuki Okamura - 2020 Spring Tour**
Koriyama City Cultural Center
- ~19** **Museum of Art: Tomoko Ishida Exhibition**
Koriyama City Museum of Art
- 19** **Koriyama Wind Orchestra Spring Concert feat. Akira Miyakawa** - Koriyama City Cultural Center
- 24-26** **3rd Koriyama Japanese Swords Market**
Big Palette Fukushima
- 29** **Koriyama City Marathon**
Kaiseizan Athletics Stadium (start and finish)
- 29~** **Fukushima Ramen Show 2020**
Kaiseizan Park
- 30** **E. Yazawa 'Rock Must Go On' Tour 2020**
Koriyama City Cultural Center

Regarding the new Coronavirus (COVID-19)

of cases in Japan is growing, as of March 12th, there have been no reported cases of people infected with COVID-19 in Koriyama City. There is no need to panic. Nonetheless, proper precautions are beneficial not just for the prevention of COVID-19, but for the common cold, the regular seasonal flu and other infectious diseases as well. Here are the most important steps you can take to prevent infection:



Precautions

- Washing your hands properly and regularly with soap and/or alcohol-based hand rubs
- Observing proper coughing etiquette
- Disinfecting surfaces with alcohol
- Refraining from touching your face
- If you develop a fever or other symptoms: please refrain from going to work/school, and if you need to go out, be sure to wear a mask.



(Multilingual) Information Sources

In times like this, good, reliable information is of the utmost importance. Please use the websites below to stay informed:

- www.clair.or.jp/tabunka/portal/info/contents/114517.php
Information in various languages for foreign residents by the **Council of Local Authorities for International Relations**
- www.who.int/health-topics/coronavirus
Information about the virus and the latest developments from the **World Health Organization**
- www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/tags/82
News about developments around the coronavirus in Japan from **NHK World**, NHK's international news outlet
- <https://bit.ly/2TDDsHd>
The Japanese **Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare's** English webpage, featuring the latest statistics and policies
- www.city.koriyama.lg.jp/korona/22883.html
The official information page regarding COVID-19 from **Koriyama City** (Japanese)

Regarding the Toilet Paper Shortage

You may have noticed that toilet- and kitchen paper have been sold out recently in stores. The rumor that the supply of toilet paper is in danger due to the coronavirus outbreak is based on false information. Almost all of toilet paper in Japan is produced domestically.

IF YOU SUSPECT YOU MAY HAVE COVID-19

In the following cases, please contact your local Public Health Center:

- If you have a fever of 37.5 or higher for more than three days
- If you experience heavy fatigue and/or trouble breathing

Public Health Centers:

Koriyama:	0249-242163	Minami-Aizu:	0241-630306,
Ken-chu:	0248-757827	Soso:	0802-8070489
Ken-poku:	0245-344108	Fukushima City:	0245-358662
Ken-nan:	0248-218188	Iwaki:	0246-278596
Aizu:	0242-295203		

If you require **on-the-phone interpreting** (11 different languages), please contact the **Fukushima Pref. International Exchange Association** at **024-524-1316** (Tuesday - Saturday, 9:00 - 17:15)

Cancelled Events

Several events in the city have been cancelled in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. At least one event that was announced/listed on the events calendar in previous editions of EiGo Koriyama has been cancelled. Please visit the respective events' website for the latest info.

■ Keropons Family Concert

Temporary Closure of Schools & Facilities

Public schools have been closed as of the 3rd of March. The following city facilities have been (partially) closed until further notice. Please visit their respective websites for more information:

- **Niko-Niko Kodomo-kan** (1F Playroom and 4F exercise corner)
- **PEP Kids Koriyama** (whole facility)
- **Koriyama City Library** (Chuo, Kibogaoka, Asaka and Fukuyama)
- Study Rooms, Study- & Reading Corners of the **Chuo Community Center** and **all regional community centers**
- Bathing- and lodging facilities of **various elderly citizens' facilities**
- **Koriyama City Citizens Plaza** (Study- and Reading Corners)
- **Sankaku Plaza** (Nursery- & Study Rooms, Info- & Reading Corners)

For more multilingual information from Koriyama City, visit the **Multilingual Portal**:

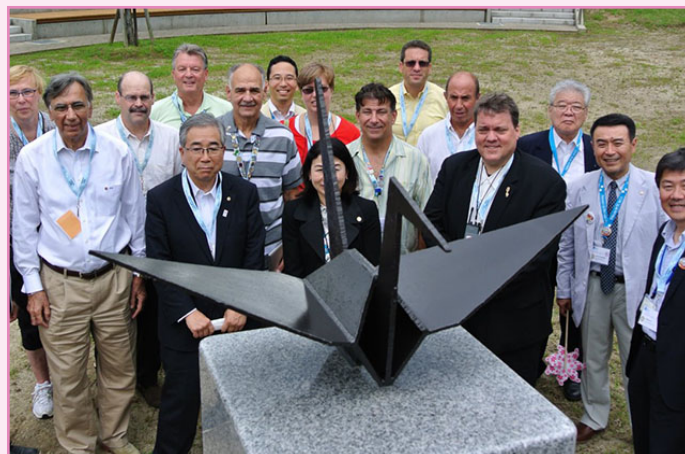
www.city.koriyama.lg.jp/multilingual



Do You Know Koriyama?

On the southwest side of Kaiseizan Park, there is a statue of an origami crane, made of steel. The most peculiar thing about it, is that it is made out of wreckage of the World Trade Center that was destroyed in the 9/11 attacks in 2001. After the 9/11 attacks, many paper cranes were sent to New York from Japan in prayer for the victims. Folding a thousand paper cranes to wish for good luck is a common practice in Japan, made especially famous by victim of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, **Sadako Sasaki***. Inspired by this gesture, the statue was donated by the **September 11th Families' Association**, as outreach to the victims of the March 11th disaster of 2011. The statue was given a place and unveiled in 2012 in the presence of several 9/11 survivors, some of which have returned to Koriyama several times afterwards. It continues to be a symbol of hope, and the power of sharing grief.

*Sadako Sasaki's brother Masahiro, together with writer Sue DiCicco recently published a book sharing his sister's story: 'The Complete Story of Sadako Sasaki' (Tuttle, 2020)



For information, questions or tips, contact:

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The EiGo Koriyama!-newsletter is available in print at various Koriyama City facilities, or online at tinyurl.com/KoriyamaEigo. Please subscribe to the monthly e-mail newsletter at tinyurl.com/EiGo-Mailinglist to receive the newsletter in your inbox. EiGo Koriyama is published by the Koriyama City International Policy Division. Koriyama City is not liable for any errors in the information included.

