

EiGo Koriyama!

Nanokadō-maini

Monthly news and information about Koriyama City in English

Koriyama City Marathon 2020

A real staple of the Koriyama Golden Week-season, the 27th edition of **Koriyama City Marathon** will be held on the **29th of April** (Wed., Showa Day). There are various distances and categories to participate in. Want to give it a shot? Visit the below website and apply or check out the courses. Applications to run are open until the 31st of January, so don't miss your chance!

Distances: 1.5km, 3km, 5km, 10km, half marathon

Date: April 29th 2020, 8:30~ (may be cancelled in case of bad weather)

Participation fee: ¥1,000~¥5,000 (depending on category)

Venue: Koriyama Hirose Kaiseizan Athletics Stadium

Application deadline: January 31st 2020

WEB: koriyama-city-marathon.jp (Note: applications are handled by running-website RUNNET)



EVENTS

2020 Carp Cuisine Campaign

Did you know Koriyama City is Japan's largest producer of carp? For a long time, carp was the best source of protein for the people of Koriyama, using the high quality fresh water of the Asaka Canal. As other kinds of fish became more easily available, carp slowly started to disappear from local dining tables. In order to restore this culture, Koriyama is actively promoting it through various efforts, such as stimulating local restaurants to incorporate carp in their menus. This year, for the 5th time, Koriyama City is organizing a **Carp Cuisine Campaign** for local restaurants **between January 11th and February 14th**. Starting with only 3 restaurants the first year, now no less than **91 (!) restaurants** serve various special carp-dishes for you to try, from *oshizushi* (pressed sushi) to *namerō* (minced carp meat) and many others. Be sure to participate in the carp cuisine **Instagram Photo Contest** to win amazing prizes! For the list of restaurants and other info, visit: <https://www.fukulabo.net/is.shtml/koi/>.



Robot Festival

Together with the Pipe Robot Promotion Association and Robot Yuenchi, the Koriyama Fureai Science Center (Space Park) is organizing a Robot Festival. The event is aimed at getting kids more interested in robots, and will feature pipe robot races, a robot dance stage and opportunities to try your hand at operating a robot yourself.

Get your robot on at the Space Park!

Date: Feb 1st & 2nd (Sat.- Sun.)

Location: Koriyama Fureai Science Center (Space Park) (entrance on the 22nd floor of the Big-i building)

WEB: www.space-park.jp/contents/archives/202001/040900.html



NHK Symphony Orchestra, Koriyama Concert

On the **9th of February**, the world-renowned **NHK Symphony Orchestra** will visit Koriyama's Kenshin Cultural Center for a special concert. The orchestra will be led by Estonian conductor **Paavo Järvi**, and star Spanish violinist **Letitia Moreno**. The program features music by Prokofiev and Rachmaninoff.

Time: 15:00 (doors open at 14:30)

Venue: Kenshin Cultural Center

Tickets: ¥7,000 (¥3,500 for children and/or wheelchair seating), available at the Cultural Center, Usui Dept. Store., TicketPia (163-443) and Lawson Tickets (22098).



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

tinyurl.com/KoriyamaEigo



EVENT CALENDAR

JAN	Event & Location	FEB	Event & Location
11~	Koriyama Koi Cuisine Campaign (until Feb. 14th) Various restaurants throughout Koriyama City	1	Berlin Philharmonic Piano Quartet Koriyama City Cultural Center
18-19	Winter Sports Festa, Season '19 Big Palette Fukushima	1-2	Space Park: Robot Festival Koriyama Fureai Science Center (Space Park)
19	THE ADVENTURES Project014 Big Palette Fukushima	2	5th Orchestra Festival Koriyama City Cultural Center
19	Ongaku-no-Ehon (Music Picturebook) Koriyama City Cultural Center	2	Swing Marmalades Jazz Orchestra Concert 2020 Koriyama City Cultural Center
19	Ice Skating Day (free admission) Bandai-Atami Sports Park Koriyama Skating Rink	6	Shinshu Matsuri (New Sake Festival) Koriyama View Hotel Annex, 4F
19	Hula Honi Ke Aloha Koriyama City Cultural Center	9	NHK Symphony Orchestra, Koriyama Concert Koriyama City Cultural Center
-26	Museum of Art Exhibit: Christopher Dresser Koriyama City Museum of Art	9	Ishimushiro Fureai Farm, Snow Festival Koriyama Ishimushiro Fureai Farm
26	22nd Music City Koriyama Fureai Concert Koriyama City Cultural Center	9	Shohei Ueno Sax Concert Koriyama City Cultural Center
29	Firebonds vs. Gunma Thunder Cranes (Basketball) Horaiya Sogo Gymnasium	22-23	Firebonds vs. Ehime Orange Vikings (Basketball) Horaiya Sogo Gymnasium

Nanoka-dō Mairi 2020

From the evening of the 6th of January all throughout the night until 16:00 the next day, thousands of Koriyama citizens triumphed the cold winter air, and flocked to the Nyohōji Temple to pray for health and happiness in the new year during the Nanoka-dō Mairi festival. Besides the prayer, people also drew *omikujī* (fortunes), bought lucky charms to bless their houses for the new year, and enjoyed food from the various stalls lined up on the temple grounds and the nearby street (Hayama-dōri), such as *mochi*, *tonjiru* and *yaki-daijūku*.



Denso Airybees win V-League Premier Conference

The **Denso Airybees** have won the first place in the Premier Conference, one of the two groups in the highest class of professional women's volleyball in Japan, as well as the overall highest score of both groups (Regular League). The team - originally from Aichi Pref., but with **Koriyama as its official second home town** - defeated Hitachi Rivale with 3-1 on the 28th of December, and secured their first place with a two point lead over their biggest competitor. With various members of the national Japanese team including **Yurie Nabeya**, as well as MVP **Sinead Jack** (Trinidad & Tobago), the team has been on fire this year. The Airybees will play in the final group stage in January, aiming to claim their first national championship.



Koriyama's Priorities for 2020

What better way to start the new year than with New Year's resolutions? In order to create a more sustainable city for the future, Koriyama City has vowed to include the principles of the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in all of its policy-making. The following are Koriyama City's five main priorities for the new year:

3 Strengthening the community

Based on the vision of the future population, Koriyama City will revise its general strategy, using the city's characteristics and strengths, in order to make policies to effectively deal with upcoming population decline and a rapidly aging society.



1 SDGs Future City Plan

Last year, Koriyama City was designated as a SDGs Future City. Based on this philosophy, Koriyama aims to be a city of good health for people of all generations, working together with the neighboring cities and towns.



2 Climate-change adaptation

Koriyama aims to be a city that can adapt to climate change and possible natural disasters, by creating a Safe Community, through the strengthening of disaster-preparedness and (emergency) infrastructure.



4 5G-ready Digitalization

Besides improving convenience by promoting ICT at city hall and making it possible to do more paperwork online etc., the city will also introduce Robotic Process Automation to increase the efficiency and quality of the city's duties.



5 Promotion of Koriyama as a Hub for Knowledge

Through the collaboration with medical- and academic institutes, as well as between partners in industry, education, finance, government, labor etc., the city aims to create an environment in which all people and businesses can flourish.



Do You Know Koriyama?

Nyohō-ji Temple is located on Hayama-Dōri, the street leading from the station westwards, running parallel to Sakura-Dōri. Classified as a temple for the Shingon-shu Buzan-ha sect of Buddhism, it is said to have been established in **the year 807**, with the consecration of a statue of Hayagriva that Chōja (chief, or rich man) Toramaru received from Emperor Heizei. The temple still holds several artifacts that are considered 'Important Cultural Assets' by the Japanese Government. Nowadays, Nyohō-ji Temple hosts the annual **Nanoka-dō Mairi** from the 6th of January all throughout the night until the afternoon of the 7th, where people from the area come to pray for good luck, health and happiness in the new year. Furthermore, it hosts rituals for Setsubun ('seasonal division', the day before the start of spring). Besides the annual traditions, activities like yoga classes, cultural lectures and even concerts of Buddhist religious songs are organized.

MAP: goo.gl/maps/ULrVcr61WZU8DU987 - **WEB:** www.nyohouji.com

Photo by 'Sugikats' (2017, CC BY 4.0 (Wiki))



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