

Newsletter of the Ama City International Association (ACIA) for International Exchange Programs

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Edited and issued by the ACIA's editorial team

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What is the Ama City International Association (ACIA) ?

We are a non-profit organization aimed at committing to creating a safe and caring community by working in close cooperation with foreign residents, while promoting international exchange and fostering international understanding. The following are the events for you. Please join us so you can reach anyone.

- * Management of Japanese classroom: Japanese Language classes to help foreign residents by JJ Nihongo Club .
- * International understanding and exchange: Promoting cultural understanding and exchange with friendship countries, Vietnam, Mali, Azerbaijan and countries of foreign residents living in Ama City.
- * Management of African music classroom: African Drums, Djembe practice twice a month and performance activities by Djembe Music Band.
- * Other programs for foreign residents: Training session for disaster prevention, providing information and consultations.

Holding of the 2012 Gathering of Ama Residents for International Exchanges, with 160 Participants Enjoying International Cuisine and Developing Friendships between Countries

Held in Jimokuji Kaikan on February 12, the 2012 gathering offered an opportunity to learn how to prepare national dishes of the world under the guidance of some foreign residents, from South Korea, the United States, Nepal, Taiwan, and Brazil, with attendees enjoying such food and *Sekkyo-Genji-Bushi* puppet theater—one of the traditional performing arts of Ama—along with a hula performance.

Guitar and oboe playing, as well as events performed by community groups and organizations for disaster preparedness, language teaching, and civic engagement, were also featured. Over 20 foreign residents joined this year and interacted with local people.

Upcoming program information

Japanese language class in the Jimokuji district: In FY 2012, the class will be offered again three times (May, September, and January). Each class will consist of 10 lessons held on Sunday morning, Wednesday morning and evening, and Saturday morning.

Location: Jimokuji Kominkan Contact for inquires: 090-6578-8048 (Takayama-san) or 080-2617-7575 (Sato-san)

Japanese language class in the Miwa district (participants recruited for trial lessons): Before officially starting in September this year, the class will present trial lessons for beginning learners of the Japanese language. Local residents volunteer as instructors under the direction of a professional Japanese language teacher. Scheduled date and time: 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Sundays during April Location: Miwa Joho-Fureai Center, a five-minute walk north from Meitetsu Kida Station

Fee: Free of charge Contact for inquires: 090-3932-5931 or ohsumiysh@yahoo.co.jp

Community event information: Ama Africa (African festival), Saturday, June 2 and Sunday, June 3, which will feature *djembe* percussion and other African drum playing, dancing, a fashion show, an African exhibition, and other programs Location: Amashi-Miwa Bunka Kaikan, a 10-minute walk north from Meitetsu Kida Station Recruiting for volunteer staff members Contact for inquires: 080-5297-7665 or amafrica2012@gmail.jp

Volunteer recruiting for assisting foreign nationals living in the city

Volunteers are needed to help non-Japanese residents who seek guidance regarding life in Ama.

- Languages: Chinese, Portuguese, Filipino, English, Vietnamese, and others
- Non-Japanese volunteers are also welcome, but they need to have enough Japanese proficiency to perform this task. Contact for inquires: 090-6578-8048 (Takayama-san)

Useful Multilingual website :

* Aichi Medical Interpretations System starts: Available in English, Chinese, Portuguese, and Spanish
www.aichi-iryoku-tsu-yaku-system.com

* Aichi International Association : including Multilingual Consultation. [www2.aia.pref.aichi.jp /](http://www2.aia.pref.aichi.jp/)