

JTF  
MARCH 2019

International Association News

Members' Social:

Mini-Sports Day & Dinner



Come join us for a mini-sports day! We'll be playing typical *undokai* games like *tama-ire* (ball-toss game), spoon racing, plus an Australian game, and conclude with an international folk dance lesson! Afterwards, we'll have izakaya food at a soba place nearby. Feel free to join for either the sports event or dinner, or both. *The AWIA office will be closed from 1pm onwards on the day of the event.*

**Date, Place & Time:** Sunday, March 24th

*Sports event* [Aizu Kinro Seishonen Home](#), 3-5pm

*Dinner:* [Kojuan](#), 5:30pm~

**Cost:** Participation in the sports event will be 100 yen for members and 200 yen for non-members (there will be prizes!); dinner will be 3,500 yen (with a 500 yen discount for students)

**Sign-up** by Friday, March 22nd.



Language Volunteers Meeting

For those interested in getting to know the history of Aizu, giving English tours, or getting involved in our volunteer activities—come check out our language volunteers meetings! This month, we will be continuing our discussion of limoriyama, and summarizing the major sightseeing points in English.

**Date:** Sunday, March 10th, 10am-11:30am

**Location:** Aizu Keikodo, Floor 3, Room 1

**Sign up** by Saturday, March 9th.



Spring Japanese Classes

Get ready to kick off your Japanese studies in 2019 with our upcoming spring semester of classes! Whatever your level, we'll be sure to match you with a teacher and class that are right for you.

**Thursday evening classes:** April 4-June 27 (excluding May 2), 6:30-8pm

**Friday morning classes:** April 5-June 28 (excluding May 3), 10-11:30am

**For:** Anyone who wants to improve their Japanese in small, individual groups geared to his/her level

**Cost:** 4,000 yen for members / 6,000 yen for non-members (for a total of 12 classes)

**Sign up** by Thursday, March 28th.

## Aizu Events



### Tadami Snow Sports Festival

Saturday, March 2—Sunday, March 3  
Kameoka Sports Park, Tadami-machi

On Saturday evening, take part in a free sky lantern event starting from 5pm, where you'll be able to light your own paper lantern and set it adrift in the evening sky. Sunday will be a sports day with different competitions occurring, including snow volleyball, snow futsal, and a treasure hunt in the snow. \*You must sign up in advance to participate in the sports.

For more details: <https://www.tadami-net.com/topics/20190127/12484>



### Aizu New Era: Tap Dance Show

Sunday, March 3, 2pm (doors open 1:30pm)  
Aizu Wakamatsu Bunka Center  
General tickets: 2,000 yen; Students: 1,000 yen

Come support local musicians and dancers of all ages in the fourth year of Aizu tap dance! These dancers have an originality and passion that are unique to Aizu; last year's performance included a song choreographed by all the troupe members, and this year's theme will be "Boshin."

Poster: <http://aizu-bunka.jp/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/5dfd9e3593bda65373127694fd4f9219.pdf>

### Aizu Higan-Jishi

Thursday, Sunday 21 (national holiday), 10:30am-3:30pm  
Tsurugajo, Amidaji Temple, and other sites

Did you know the tradition of the Aizu Higan-Jishi is over 1,000 years old? In ancient times, *shishi* referred to deer and serows, who, because they descended from the mountains where the gods lived, were thought to be divine messengers or even incarnations of the gods. The Aizu Higan-Jishi is a dance involving three people dressed as *shishi*; the dance serves as a prayer to the gods, especially for good health and harvest at the end of the long winter.



### Tsurugajo Projection Mapping

Thursday, March 21-Saturday, March 23  
6:30pm, 7:15pm, 8pm, 8:45pm

Must sign up in advance through the following website:  
<https://reservation-fukushimasakura.net/form/open/>

This is the 7th year of this project mapping event, which was begun in 2013 to support disaster recovery efforts and boost morale. The video projected onto the castle this year will be similar to last year's "Boshin no Kaze: Hana no Kumo (Boshin Wind: A Cloud of Flowers)," reflecting the indomitable spirit of the warriors who fought in the Boshin War 150 years ago, and their strength against opposition. As a finale, opera singer Kumiko Mori, from neighboring Miyagi Prefecture, will perform the song "Hana wa Saku (Flowers Will Bloom)" from the castle tower.

