

# SynthesAizu

October 2024  
Volume 4 Issue 10

## Association News

# 2024 International Festival: SPECIAL EDITION

The World Adventure  
~into the future beyond!~

**Oct 5 (Sat) 10:00-15:00**  
Tsuruga-jo Castle Gym



Our biggest event is here at last!

It's been two years since the community got together to share culture, language, food, and friendship with everyone! Thanks to our volunteers and community, we're ready for a day of World Adventure together!

Join us for Stage Performances, Culture Booths, and Food Stalls from people from all over the world! Residents from a variety of countries will be introducing their culture/countries, and groups related to international exchange and cooperation will be showcasing their activities! We even have a stamp rally! Come step into the future beyond, right here in Aizu!

Check out the details inside!



### Looking for Volunteers!

We need your help! There's still a lot to be done, so stop by and help if you can!

★Day Before: Oct 4th (Fri) 13:00-19:00  
Venue Set-up, Hanging Decorations, Booth Set-up etc.

★Event Day: Oct 5th (Sat) 8:00-16:30  
Venue Prep, Helping with Booths, Info desk, clean up, etc

\*\**(Contact us for details, and to let us know if you can help!)*\*\*



Volunteer  
Sign-up

## FIND English Convo. Club

Why not come and speak English with people from all walks of life? Everyone is welcome, no matter your English level. Enjoy an activity then free talk in this casual event.

When	Saturday, <b>October 19th</b> 10:00~11:30
Place	City Learning Centre (Keikodo) 3F Rm 1
Sign Up	Contact <a href="mailto:mail@awia.jp">mail@awia.jp</a> by <u>Friday, Oct 18th</u>

## Aoi HS Presents: BOOK CLUB

Every year, Aoi High School has their students head out into the community and embark on independent research projects. MUTO Konoka, a second year student, has chosen to try her hand at organizing an event! Join us for an afternoon perfect for book lovers.

Enjoy international exchange and expand your world by telling others about a book that you love! Bring along your favourite book available in English, Japanese and/or more languages to talk about and hear from others about theirs!

The event will take place using Japanese, so we recommend having conversational/basic Japanese.

When	Saturday, <b>Oct 12th</b> 13:30~15:00
Place	AWIA Office Lion D'or Garden 5th Floor
Sign Up	via QR code by <u>Friday, Oct 11th</u>
Bring	A book to introduce, or a picture of it. Recommend it be available in 2 or more languages (Japanese, English, etc.)



## AtsuHana Japanese Convo. Club.

Speak Japanese in a casual way with many people and have fun with Japanese culture.

Check out next month's newsletter for more info!

When	Saturday, <b>November 9th</b> 10:00-11:30
Place	City Learning Centre (Keikodo) 3F Rm 1
Sign-up	Contact <a href="mailto:mail@awia.jp">mail@awia.jp</a> by <u>Friday, November 8th</u>



会津若松市国際交流協会

TEL (0242) 27-3703

EMAIL: [mail@awia.jp](mailto:mail@awia.jp)

**AIZU WAKAMATSU INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION**

# >Watch a World of Dance on the Stage!<

International and local community members have been practicing hard to bring you the diverse traditions of dance from all over the world! Come along for unique live experience of international karaoke too! There's even a quiz. Want your moment in the limelight? Check out the Open Mic below!



## STAGE SCHEDULE

TIME	PERFORMANCE	PERFORMER
10:00 – 10:10	Opening Ceremony	
10:15 – 10:25	Sri Lankan Song and Dance	Team Sri Lanka
10:30 – 10:40	Raqs Sharqi Belly Dance	Erin Hughes
10:45 – 11:00	Kimono Fashion Show	National Dress Promotion Association
11:05 – 11:30	★Hula Dance	Hiromi Hula Dance School
11:35 – 12:05	International Karaoke	Tithira, Chany and more!
12:05 – 12:35	★Open Mic	You! Sign up on the day and show the world!
12:40 – 13:00	Chinese Dance	~Tsubasa~Japanese-Chinese Roots Support Group
13:05 – 13:15	Latin Dance	Las Vacas Rojas
13:20 – 13:50	★QUIZ TIME!	International Festival Volunteer Staff
13:55 – 14:25	★Djembe- African Drums	Aizu Djembe Club Ronco
14:30 – 14:50	★Indonesian Dance	Komunitas Fukushima Indonesia
14:55 – 15:00	Closing Ceremony	

(All events may be subject to change without notice.)

★Join in yourself!!



## You Can Join the Adventure Too!!

### Open Mic

Take the stage, show the world your talent!

★Sign-up : Day of (Oct 5th): 10:00~12:35

first come-first served

★Place: Stage reception (near the stage)

★Set Length: 2 mins      ★Cost: FREE

10 slots available



Got a talent to show off? Just want to take this chance to get up there? From poetry to freestyle jazz, stand up comedy, skits or even dad jokes, come along on the day, get up on stage and perform.

Isn't this an adventure too?



- \*Shoes are not permitted on the stage. Please bring indoor shoes or use the gym slippers.
- \*Please perform responsibly and refrain from any acts that may endanger or offend others.
- \*Please have your act ready. AWIA cannot prepare any music, sound effects, props etc.
- \*You may be asked to stop if your performance is more than two minutes

# >Taste an Adventure of Flavour at the Food Booths!<



**A World of Food!** (in no special order) ✖️**Located Outside**

- China (Chinese Tea, dumplings, shrimp gyoza)
- Bangladesh (kebab sandwich etc.)
- Philippines (breads, chicken porridge etc.)
- Philippines (chicken skewers, fish balls etc.)
- Indonesia (nasi goreng etc.)
- Malaysia (roti canai etc.)
- Thailand (Green curry, pad kaprao rice etc.)
- Thailand (Thai Yakisoba, chicken pho etc.)
- Cuba (Cuban Sandwich etc.)
- USA (Hamburger, French fries etc.)
- Vietnam (Pho, banh mi etc.)
- Raw Food & Healthy Food (makunouchi bento)
- Korea (Chijimi, oden, japchae etc.)
- Türkiye (Kebab, Turkish ice cream etc.)
- AWIA! (World teas selection)



### ECO friendly

Bring your own container and utensils to reduce waste!

# 2024 International Festival

We look forward to seeing you there!

➤ Travel the world at the International Booths! ⚡

## Stamp Rally!!!



**Go on an adventure!** Visit booths, clear missions, collect stamps and win prizes! Who knows what treasures you will discover along the way!

**Where?** Get a stamp rally adventure map at the Stamp Rally Booth!

**Prizes?** 300 prizes available (1 per person, first come first served)



*Festival Committee Head, MUROTA Ayaka and Erika hope you have fun!*

### International Groups!

(in no particular order)

Introducing groups connecting the world through friendship and cooperation!

- Fukushima Pref. International Assoc.
- AILA Aizu International Ladies Assoc.
- JICA Tohoku
- NPO Lotus
- Miyazaki Tea Ceremony Class
- National Dress Promotion Assoc.
- NPO Think About Education in Rwanda
- Fukushima JICA OBOG Association
- Fukushima-Sri Lanka Friendship Assoc.
- Aizu VISA Support Office
- Aizu-Thailand Friendship Association
- Chinese Student Association of UoA
- Labo Party



### Culture Booths!

(in no particular order)

Learn about the culture, language, and history etc. of countries directly from the people!

- Sri Lanka (Culture introduction)
- France (Brittany Region Info & goods sales)
- Australia (Quiz, origami koala)
- India (Accessories etc. sales)
- Philippines (Philippine games etc.)
- Vietnam (Culture Intro, Coffee & Tea tasting)
- Cambodia (Culture Introduction)
- Rwanda (Coffee beans, etc. sales)
- Italy (Culture Introduction)
- USA (Comics and prints sales)
- Japan (Origami Folding)



### The World Square and Kids' Corner!

Come enjoy a variety of experiences and unique opportunities at the different booths!

- Write your name in a foreign language
- Kind Japanese (やさしいにほんご) Experience
- Free Visa Consultation
- Wood Crafts Making
- Dried Flower Arranging
- Original Bracelet Making



- Kimono experience
- Origami Folding
- Language Quizzes
- Kids Corner (fun and games!)
- Matcha Tea Ceremony Experience
- Hand/Face painting and more!

For baby changing or breast feeding facilities please ask the staff at the AWIA Booth HQ.



### Photo Spot!

Why not take a cute photo to remember your adventure with seasonally appropriate Halloween panels, or in one of the cute face cut outs drawn by French artist Emily? Maybe the real treasures were the memories we shared along the way.



### AWIA Booths

- Association Info Booth! - Learn about AWIA
- Stamp rally!
- Chit-Chat- come chat with a variety of people! You can even volunteer some of your time!
- "SamurAizu" Introducing Aizu to the world, the official English SNS account! @samurai\_aizu
- Teas from all over the world (outside)



# Events in October


## Other Information

1	TU		
2	WE		
3	TH	18:30 Japanese Conversation Class (PM)	
4	FR	10:00 Japanese Conversation Class (AM) 13:00 Festival Preparations	
5	SA	★AWIA International Festival★ (Office Closed)	
6	SU	Closed	
7	MO	Closed	
8	TU	Closed	
9	WE	Closed	
10	TH	18:30 Japanese Conversation Class (PM)	
11	FR	10:00 Japanese Conversation Class (AM)	
12	SA	13:00 Aoi HS Presents: Book Club	
13	SU	Closed	
14	MO	Closed (Sports Day Holiday)	
15	TU		
16	WE		
17	TH	18:30 Japanese Conversation Class (PM)	
18	FR	10:00 Japanese Conversation Class (AM)	
19	SA	10:00 FIND: English Convo. Circle 15:00 Children's Nihongo Hiroba	
20	SU	Closed 	
21	MO	Closed	
22	TU		
23	WE		
24	TH	18:30 Japanese Conversation Class (PM)	
25	FR	10:00 Japanese Conversation Class (AM)	
26	SA	13:30 Newsletter Preparation	
27	SU	Closed	
28	MO	Closed	
29	TU		
30	WE		
31	TH	18:30 Japanese Conversation Class (PM)	

**Digital Newsletter:** Mail postage cost will be increasing from Oct 1st 2024. Want to help us cut costs and save on paper? Sign up to receive your newsletter by email only! Contact us at [mail@awia.jp](mailto:mail@awia.jp)

## Aizu Shiokawa Balloon Fest

**10/13 (Sun) + 10/14 (Mon-Holiday)**

See hot air balloons up close and personal! 

**Place:** Nippashi River Green Belt Park (Biwanago Shiokawamachi Tota, Kitakata)

**Balloon Flight:** 6:30-9:00am **Balloon Rides:**(lottery) 7:00-10:00am

**Night Glow** (light up): Oct 13th 17:30-17:50

(Event subject to weather: May be cancelled)

**More Info:** <https://www.city.kitakata.fukushima.jp/soshiki/sangyos/50930.html>

## Japan Heritage Festival 2024

**10/26(Sat) 10:00-17:00 +**

**10/27(Sun) 10:00-16:00**

It's heritage! Coming to Tohoku for the first time, the Japan Heritage Festival will be hosted by Aizu this year. Aizu will be representing the 33 Kannon Temple Pilgrimages of Aizu, and you can also enjoy 90 booths from Heritage sites from all over the country. Enjoy lectures, workshops, and even food stalls! Stop by the Gym early on Oct 26 and catch performances by the Tajima Drum Troupe, and Samurai Artist KAMUY.

**Place:** Tsuruga-jo Gym: inside and out, Aizu Culture Centre etc.

**Cost:** FREE!!

**More Info:** <https://aizu33.jp/festival/>



## Aizu Koto Concert

**11/4 (Mon- Public Holiday)**

A rare chance to hear a variety of music on the koto (a traditional Japanese stringed instrument) performed live!

**Place:** Inawashiro Experience Exchange Hall

(Taiken Kouryukan Manabina, Inawashiro Machi)

**Open:** 13:00 **Performance:** 13:30-15:20

**Tickets:** Adults ¥2000 Children ¥1000

**More Info:** [https://www.ticketpay.jp/booking/?event\\_id=51959](https://www.ticketpay.jp/booking/?event_id=51959)



## Call for Newsletter Volunteers!

Come help us fold, stamp, and pack our monthly publications for mailing! No need to sign up, just drop by if you can!

**Date:** October 26th, Saturday

**Time:** 13:30~

**Place:** Aizu Wakamatsu International Association Office



### We're on Instagram!

Follow us for photos and news about our upcoming events!



**AWIA\_PHOTO**

<https://facebook.com/awiajp>



Visit our Facebook page for updates in multiple languages?



Use this QR Code to access our email form to sign-up for events