

# What's New in Yokosuka

<http://www.city.yokosuka.kanagawa.jp/0140/english/welcome/documents/cultureinfo.pdf>

Inquiries in English: Yokosuka City, International Relations Division 046(822)8138

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## JAPANESE CULTURE INFO!

### Experience Japanese Culture (日本文化体験教室)



Spend your Saturday weekend with Japanese culture! You can experience lots of hands-on cultural experience including Flower Arrangement, Origami, Calligraphy, Tea Ceremony, play a Japanese Harp, wear a Kimono, and many more! It's a great way to get to know more people living around Yokosuka through the interest of Japanese culture.

When: June 9<sup>th</sup> (Sat.) 13:00 – 17:00

Where: Sogo Fukushi Kaikan Hall 6<sup>th</sup> flr. (総合福祉会館6階)

Fee: Free Admission (some activities require fee for materials)

[Yokosuka International Association 046-827-2166]



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Kurihama Perry Festival (久里浜ペリー祭)



This event is held every year which includes ceremony (details below), bazaars, and parades. At night, the first fireworks in Yokosuka will light up the sky!

When: July 14<sup>th</sup> (Sat.)

Where: Kurihama Port Area

Fee: Free [Kurihama Administration Center 046-834-1111]



#### • Ceremony of the Landing of Commodore Perry (水師提督ペリー上陸記念式典)

This ceremony is held in commemorating the day of Commodore Perry's landing at Kurihama on July 14, 1853, which is a historic event for both Japan and the U.S.

When: July 14<sup>th</sup> 14:30 – 15:00

Where: SEA Hall in Yokosuka Sogo High School (市立横須賀総合高等学校 SEAホール)

Fee: Free [International Relations Division 046-822-8138]



## Poppy Festival at Flower World (くりはま花の国 ポピーまつり)

Poppies are already in bloom at Kurihama Hana-no-Kuni Flower World! Poppies will be free to pick on June 3<sup>rd</sup> from 14:00 – 16:00, so don't forget to bring a pair of scissors!

When: April 7<sup>th</sup> (Sat.) – June 3<sup>rd</sup> (Sun.)

Where: Kurihama Hana-no-Kuni Flower World (くりはま花の国)

Fee: Free

[Kurihama Hana-no-Kuni Flower World 046-833-8282]



## Spring Rose Festa (春のローズ・フェスタ)

If you've enjoyed the cherry blossoms in Verny Park, then it's almost time to come back and see the 2,000 roses in bloom! There will be a flea market, sale of rose seedlings, and musical performances. Bring your camera to take lots of pictures of these astounding roses while spending a breezy spring season!

When: May 19<sup>th</sup> (Sat.) – 20<sup>th</sup> (Sun.) 10:00 – 15:00

Where: Verny Park (ヴェルニー公園)

Fee: Free

[Mikasa Park Administration Office 046-824-6291]

## Iris Festival (花しょうぶまつり)

The 140,000 irises will be at their peak from late May to late June, and a traditional Japanese harp performance held every Sunday. There is an admission fee of 300 yen except for the day of the Kinugasa Iris Festival (details below).

When: June 1<sup>st</sup> (Fri.) – 30<sup>th</sup> (Sat.) 9:00 – 19:00 Where: Shobu-en Iris Garden (しょうぶ園)

Fee: Adult 300yen // Elementary – Middle School Children 100 yen

[Shobu-en Iris Garden 046-853-3688]

### • Kinugasa Iris Festival (衣笠しょうぶ祭)

Free Admission ONLY on this day! What better way to spend the first June weekend than enjoying the blooming Irises! (Programs held outside will be cancelled in the event of rain.)

When: June 2<sup>nd</sup> (Sat.) 9:00 – 16:00

Where: Shobu-en Iris Garden (しょうぶ園)

Fee: Free Admission but there will be a parking fee

[Kinugasa Sightseeing Association 046-853-1611]



## Tiger Dance (虎踊り)



Tora Odori, or Tiger Dance, is a form of folk entertainment arranged in Kabuki style. The performance begins with the introduction of the main protagonist Watonai, followed by the young girl's dance and the tiger dance, and finishes with Watonai subduing the tiger. The one introduced here is the Uruga version which features two tigers, parent and child. Another version is the Nobi tiger dance which differs in that it involves just one tiger and the dance is repeated five times, each time with minor variations.

When: June 9<sup>th</sup> (Sat.) Approximately 19:30

Where: Tametomo Shrine (為朝神社)

Fee: Free

[Lifelong Learning Division 046-822-8484]





## Otsu Suwa Shrine Summer Festival (大津諏訪神社 夏越しの大祓 茅の輪くぐり)

Come and enjoy this unique Japanese tradition which is meant to cleanse the soul of unconscious sins. There will be a large wreath which visitors walk through and pray for their health and well-being. The wreath will occur twice for about an hour (times shown below) on June 30<sup>th</sup>.

When: June 30<sup>th</sup> (Sat.) 1<sup>st</sup> Round 16:00 // 2<sup>nd</sup> Round 18:00

Where: Otsu Suwa Shrine (大津諏訪神社)

Fee: Free

[Otsu Suwa Shrine 046-836-3570]



## Harvesting Melon (メロン狩り)

Come and harvest a sweet flavorful melon at Tsukuihama Tourist Farm! Melons grown here are taken great care in a greenhouse at the right temperature bringing out its sweetness. Each melon weighs about 1.8kg-2.5kg; a very large size making it a great souvenir! As shown below, you will only be able to harvest ONE melon plus eat 1/4 of a melon for 2,500 yen or tour around the farm and taste 1/4 of a melon for 500 yen. This farm is popular for picking seasonal fruits and vegetables every year and is about a 20 minute walk from Tsukuihama Station. A wonderful place for kids to go during their summer break!

When: June 30<sup>th</sup> (Sat.) – July 16<sup>th</sup> (Mon.) 9:00 – 15:00

Where: Tsukuihama Tourist Farm (津久井浜観光農園)

Fee: Harvest 1 Melon and taste 1/4 of a melon: 2,500 yen

Tour around the Farm and taste 1/4 of a melon: 500 yen

[Tsukuihama Tourist Farm 046-849-5001]



## A New Residency Management System starting Monday, July 9, 2012!

Who will be subject to the new residency management system?

The new residency management system will apply to all foreign nationals legally residing in Japan for a “mid to long-term” with a resident status under the Immigration Control Act. (e.g. those married to a Japanese national as well as Japanese descendants (“Nikkei”), whose status of residence is “Spouse or Child of Japanese National,” “Long Term Residents,” etc., those working for an employer in Japan, whose status is “Engineer,” “Specialist in Humanities/International Services,” etc. as well as technical interns, students and permanent residents.

Do I need to immediately replace my current alien registration card with the new residence card?

You are not required to replace your alien registration certificate with a new resident card immediately after the start of the new residency management system. The current Alien Registration Cards will be considered the same as the new residence card for a fixed period of time. If you'd like to apply for your residence card, you may do so at the Immigration Bureau of Japan.

A residence card will be mainly issued on the following occasions

- 1.) When arriving in Japan and receiving a landing permit
- 2.) When receiving permission to extend your period of stay, or change your resident status, etc.
- 3.) When applying for re-issuance in case your name changes or your residence card is stolen
- 4.) When applying for updating the validity period of your residence card (permanent residents and those under 16 years old)

Please visit the following website for more details on the new Residency Management System:

[http://www.immi-moj.go.jp/newimmiact\\_1/en/](http://www.immi-moj.go.jp/newimmiact_1/en/)



## Japanese Survival Tips

Spring is finally in the air! Although cherry blossom season was a bit delayed this year, I hope many of us were able to enjoy the eating, viewing, and drinking part of hanami (cherry blossom viewing)! As the warm air is shifting-in, we are about to enter the rainy season also known as *tsuyu*, or *baiu* (梅雨). The season of humidity and SWEAT! The weather is very unstable during *tsuyu* season so grab an umbrella before going out. With the light but frequent rainfalls, you may want to bring in your laundry before leaving your house. Keep the room aired out to prevent mold from growing! You can also purchase small and cheap dehumidifying products for your room and closet. The list can go on forever to survive the rainy season.

In Japanese custom, children make *teru teru bozu* (てるてる坊主) meaning “shine shine monk.” These traditional dolls are frequently made by children when they wish for a sunny day. To make a *teru teru bozu*, simply get a white cloth, stuff cotton (anything soft) inside to make the head, and wrap it with a string or a rubber band. Finally, draw the face and voila! You got yourself a *teru teru bozu*! (image above) After your *teru teru bozu* is complete, hang it on your window and wish for a sunny day!

For those who can't stand the humidity, it's a great opportunity to try-out some food eaten in Japan during the summer. My favorite is *hiyashi chuuka* (冷やし中華)! These are cold noodles (similar to *ramen*) topped with ham, cucumber, tomatoes, and eggs with a slight vinegar flavor. Japanese cuisine has a wide-selection of delicious seasonal foods so why not explore through various Japanese dishes to endure the *tsuyu* season! For more info on restaurants around Yokosuka, you can visit Yokosuka 1chiban at: [http://www.vws.jp/sukaichi\\_e/](http://www.vws.jp/sukaichi_e/) Stores with the base friendly sticker (image to the right) means they have English menu available!

*Miho Tanaka, a native of Georgia, U.S.A., is Yokosuka City's Coordinator for International Relations. "Japanese Survival Tips" in every issue of What's New in Yokosuka features fun information useful for everyday life and cultural encounters in Japan.*



## Event Calendar

MAY					
12	• Yokosuka Curry Festival (-13 <sup>th</sup> , 9:00 – 16:00 at Mikasa Park)	3	• Community “Fureai” Festival (10:00 – 15:00, Sogo Fukushi Kaikan Hall)	16	• Aicle Fair (10:00 – 15:00, Aicle)
19	• Spring Rose Festa (-20 <sup>th</sup> ) • Kurihama Hana-no-Machi Fair (-20 <sup>th</sup> , Kurihama Hana-no-Kuni Flower World )	9	• Experience Japanese Culture • Tiger Dance	21	• Umikaze Carnival (-22 <sup>nd</sup> , 9:30–15:00 Umikaze Park)
		30	• Otsu Suwa Shrine Summer Festival		
JUNE		JULY			
1	• Iris Festival (-30 <sup>th</sup> )	14	• Kurihama Perry Festival		* <i>What's New in Yokosuka comes out again on July 10<sup>th</sup>!</i>
3	• Kurihama Hana-no-Kuni Flower World: Poppy picking	15	• Oppama Festival (11:00 – 18:00, Oppama Ginza dori Shopping District)		* <i>The schedule posted may be subject to change.</i>

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