

# 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  
\* All information may be subject to change

November 10, 2015 Vol. 40

## EVENT CALENDAR

### NOVEMBER

21-22 -  
Aizuwakamatsu  
Goods Fair

### DECEMBER

5 - Disaster  
Preparedness  
Training  
5 - Oppama Night  
Bazaar  
23 - Kurihama  
Christmas  
31 - Yokosuka  
Countdown

### JANUARY

10 - New Years Fire  
Review  
24 - Japan Festival in  
Yokosuka

For English info about events in Yokosuka call the **Yokosuka Call Center 046-822-2500**. Operators may need time to search for info. **8am-8pm daily**.

## KURIHAMA CHRISTMAS!



**When:** Dec. 23 (Wed.) 10:00-16:00 (national holiday)

**Where:** Area in front of Keikyū Kurihama Station.

**What:** Get ready for Christmas Yokosuka-style with Santa Claus and Sukarin! Check out great shopping, special food booths, an exhibition of kids' Santa art, and great music performances.

## Japan Festival in Yokosuka

**When:** Jan 24 (Sun.) 10:00-16:00

**Where:** Sogo Fukushi Kaikan

**What:** This annual favorite was moved out of the fall and into January! It's a great chance to experience Japanese culture. Tea ceremony, kimono, martial arts, and more. Different activities will be available at different times.

\*Most activities are free, but some require a small fee.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

ALL EVENTS FREE UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

### Aizuwakamatsu Fair

**When:** Nov. 21 (Sat.) & 22 (Sun.)  
10:00-16:00

**Where:** Yokosuka Port Market

**What:** In celebration of Yokosuka's friendship with Aizuwakamatsu, Fukushima, the Yokosuka Port Market will be specially featuring newly harvested koshihikari rice, juicy fuji apples, fresh vegetables, and special sweets all brought direct from Aizu!



### Disaster Preparedness Training

**When:** Dec. 5 (Sat.) 10:00-12:00

**Where:** Municipal Disaster Prevention Center Anshinkan

**What:** Anshinkan is a great resource for learning about how to prepare for natural disasters. This educational event will include a special presentation from the fire department about multiple disasters, videos about the 3/11 tsunami, and the chance to experience a magnitude 7 earthquake.



### Oppama Night Bazaar

**When:** Dec. 5 (Sat.) 14:00-19:00

**Where:** Area around Oppama Station

**What:** A night filled with fun, friends, and FOOD! Try out any of the great food stalls specializing in local produce and Miura Seafood Hot Pot! Play games with friends as you explore the festive area. The whole area will be lit up with special Christmas lights!

### Yokosuka Countdown

**When:** Dec. 31 (Thur.) 18:00-25:00

**Where:** VERNY Park

**What:** A New Years celebration only possible in Yokosuka. Enjoy navy ships covered in lights and a splendid fireworks show to ring in the New Year.



### New Years Fire Review

**When:** Jan. 10 (Sun.) 10:00-12:00

**Where:** Umikaze Park

**What:** This annual event is a chance for firefighters to show off their skills and for residents to celebrate all of the great work that firefighters do for the city and learn about fire safety.

## YOKOSUKA MUSEUM OF ART

Exhibit:  
"Modern Yokosuka in the Floating World"  
Nov. 14 - Dec. 23

General admission: ¥ 800  
High school, university, 65 and over: ¥ 600  
Jr. high and under: FREE



Exhibit:  
Yamanaka Sou Collection  
Dec. 19 - Apr. 3

General admission: ¥ 310  
High school, College, 65 and over: ¥ 210  
Jr. high and under: FREE



Exhibit:  
"Local Children's Art Exhibit"  
Jan. 9 - Jan. 25

Roughly 3,000 pieces made by children from all of Yokosuka's municipal schools will be on display.

Free admission



## MEET YOKOSUKA'S CHILD POLICIES ADVISOR

### Brief Introduction:

I am Yoshie Komuro. I'm the mother of two young children and the president of a consulting company which helps businesses rethink their work culture. I have been working as Yokosuka's child policies advisor since 2014.

### What do you like about Yokosuka?

I love the outdoor spaces - the greenery, the sea, the big parks. I also love the fresh seafood (shirasu, yum!), brought in every morning. I always stop at the Port Market.

### Any places you especially recommend for kids?

Yes. I had a fantastic day with my kids on Sarushima Island. We spent the day BBQing, swimming, and playing volleyball. It was so fun. My kids said that they had never had such a fun day. There are lot of other spots too. There are hiking courses, Soleil Hill out in Nagai, and more. For indoor fun, the Children's Library in Chuo has a great collection of English kids' books!



## YOKOSUKA LIVING

### New, Old Friends

Prior to coming to Yokosuka, I had never even heard of official domestic friendships, so imagine my excitement at seeing the number of Yokosuka's friendships double during my time here, bringing the grand total to two. The first city, Aizuwakamatsu (often shortened to Aizu), is in Fukushima prefecture. The second is Tomioka in Gunma prefecture. These relationships are based on historical ties, but it's difficult to find information in English about them.

Aizuwakamatsu, a city of about 120,000 people located deep in the mountains of Fukushima prefecture, is famous as a samurai city and for its delicious *basashi* (raw horse). Its connection with Yokosuka goes back almost a thousand years, beginning when the Miura clan received land in Aizu for its help in a battle. Then, in 1810, Aizu samurai came to the Miura peninsula to guard Tokyo Bay; they brought their families and turned the area into an Aizu territory. Later on, Oguri Kozukenosuke's wife stopped in Aizu during the turbulent end of the Edo Period to give birth to a child. The relationship between the two cities spans many centuries but was formalized in 2005.

Yokosuka's historical connection with Tomioka began in the late nineteenth century and, like most everything that happens in Yokosuka this year, is



related to the Yokosuka Arsenal. Some of the French engineers who developed the Arsenal went to Tomioka to found that city's famous silk mill. The silk mill was enormously important in developing Japan's economy, but it could not have been created without the influence of the Arsenal. Indeed, the buildings of the silk mill were constructed with bricks produced at the Arsenal. The friendship agreement is set to be finalized in November 2015.

The purpose of friendship agreements is to boost local economies. So if you are looking for a new place to visit in Japan, why not check out one of Yokosuka's official friends?

*Marshall Smith, a native of Illinois, U.S.A., is Yokosuka's coordinator for international relations. "Yokosuka Living" is in every issue of What's New in Yokosuka and includes useful information for everyday life in Japan.*

## MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

**Name:** Brad Stevenson

**Brief Intro:** Came to Japan about two years ago to run the U.S. Naval Base recycling program.

**Your team won the Tug of War in September.**

**Congratulations!**

Thank you. The Tuggernauts were an unstoppable force! We had so much fun, and everyone was so friendly. I can't wait to defend our title next year!

**What made you put a team together?**

We've participated in a number of different Yokosuka events and had a blast at each one. When I saw the flyers for the tug of war, I knew I had to get the ol' team back together. After I signed up (simply had to send an email) we immediately began training for this event by eating bacon every day! The event was wonderful as were the city staff!

**Any advice for other foreign residents in Yokosuka?**

Don't be afraid to participate in community events! Many times the flyers will have both Japanese and English on them. Keep your head on a swivel, because you may just stumble onto a great experience!



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