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公益財団法人
福岡よかトピア国際交流財団
Fukuoka City International Foundation

FCIF Office is open on weekdays 9:00 - 18:00

Enjoy Art in Fukuoka

As the blazing heat and humidity of the summer begins to fade, the quiet and cool beauty of autumn enters. The cool and comfortable autumn is the perfect season for taking your time and appreciating works of art and working on your creations. This is the one of the reason of autumn is described as “芸術の秋” (“Geijyutsu no Aki”, meaning “Autumn is the season for the arts”). Aiming to become a city of art full of color, Fukuoka City is promoting “Fukuoka Art Next,” which aims to increase opportunities to come into contact with art in daily life and to support the growth of artists.

Fukuoka Asian Art Museum

This is the only museum in the world that systematically collects and exhibits Asian modern and contemporary art.
<https://faam.city.fukuoka.lg.jp/>



Fukuoka Art Museum

It is located in Ohori Park, surrounded by abundant greenery with a peaceful pond.
<https://www.fukuoka-art-museum.jp/>



Fukuoka Prefectural Museum of Art

It is located in Suzaki Park in Tenjin, Fukuoka City, and has a collection of works of artists associated with Fukuoka Prefecture.
<https://fukuoka-kenbi.jp/>



Kyushu National Museum

It opened its doors on 16 October 2005. The museum was established as Japan's fourth National Museum, and is part of the National Institutes of Cultural Heritage alongside Tokyo, Kyoto, and Nara respectively.
<https://www.kyuhaku.jp/>



Fukuoka City Museum

A museum where you can learn about the history and folklore of Fukuoka from various perspectives.
<http://museum.city.fukuoka.jp/>



Hakata Traditional Craft and Design Museum

This museum is located inside the Fukuoka City Museum. Traditional crafts related to Fukuoka and Hakata such as "Hakata-ori" (Hakata textile) and "Hakata-ningyo" (Hakata doll) are exhibited.
<https://hakata-dentou-kougeikan.jp/>



Fukuoka City Public Library

Anyone can browse and read approx. 1.2 million books, including approx. 5,000 books in foreign languages. In the Mini Theater, free screenings are held on a daily basis, and films mainly from Asia are screened in the video hall (Cinera).
https://toshokan.city.fukuoka.lg.jp/theater_schedules/detail



Street Piano in Fukuoka City

As of June 2022, Solaria Plaza has an upright piano and Bayside Place Hakata has a grand piano. Anyone can play. The pianos' available time: Solaria Plaza (10:00 – 20:00) / Bayside Place Hakata (10:00 – 17:00)

Nurseries and Kindergartens

In Japan, many children who have not yet entered elementary school go to nursery (「保育園」 Hoikuen) or kindergarten (「幼稚園」 Youchien). What is the difference between nursery and kindergarten? How do you apply for it? Here, we will introduce the characteristics of kindergartens and nurseries, and the general enrollment process.

	Kindergartens	Nurseries
Purpose	Early childhood education before entering elementary school	Childcare for parents who are working
Age	From 3 years old to before entering elementary school	From 3-month-old to before entering elementary school
Childcare time period	9:00 – around 14:00 (Standard childcare hours per day: 4 hours)	7:30 – around 18:00 (Standard childcare hours per day: 11 hours)
Lunch	Optional	Provided
Summer/winter holidays	Yes	No
Teachers' license type	Kindergarten teacher license	Nursery teacher qualification
Jurisdiction	Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare

In addition to kindergartens and nurseries, there are facilities that provide childcare services, including "Center for early childhood education and care" (「認定こども園」 Nintei Kodomoen) that combine the functions of kindergartens and nursery schools, and "Municipal level Childcare Services" (「地域型保育園」 Chiikigata Hoikuen) that take care of children aged 0 to 2 in small groups. There are also "company-led nurseries" operated by a company with a subsidy for operating expenses from the government.

Kindergarten

Step by step kindergarten application instructions

1. Choose a kindergarten you want after viewing a kindergarten or attending an open day and pick up the application form
2. Submit the application form to the kindergarten
3. Interview, tests such as aptitude test or ability test, ruffle, etc. (selection method varies depending on the kindergarten)
4. The kindergarten makes the decision to accept your child. Go through the kindergarten procedures and enrollment in kindergarten is settled

Fukuoka City Private Kindergarten Federation

On this website, there is information for parents or teachers, and you can search for kindergartens (117 kindergartens) that are members of the Fukuoka City Private Kindergarten Federation. <http://www.fyr.or.jp/> *The website is available in Japanese only

Nursery

Step by step nursery application instructions in Fukuoka city

1. Make a reservation in advance before pre-arranging a viewing of the nursery. Go to the viewing with your child and choose a nursery.
2. Prepare the necessary documents
 “Fukuoka City Nursery Facility Usage Guide” (福岡市保育施設等利用のご案内) this guide has all the important information you need prior to application, and is available at the Child Rearing Support Division of each ward and each nursery facility.
3. Submit necessary documents such as application form and certificate of employment
 - Apply for the new fiscal year (April 1 of the following year) – Submit during late October to early December Submit to the nurseries of your first choice (up to 5 nurseries can be requested)
 - Applications in the middle of the fiscal year – Submit 1 month before the date of starting nursery. Possible starting dates are on the 1st, 11th, and 21st of each month.
 - Apply at the Child Rearing Support Division of the ward office of the kindergarten you want to enrol in.
4. The ward office will process the application procedures and send the result to the applicant's home
5. Go through the nursery procedures and enrollment in nursery is settled

Hoikuno Hiroba ”保育のひろば” (Fukuoka City Nursery Association ”福岡市保育協会”)

You can search for information and availability of certified nurseries and Nintei Kodomoen (Centers for early childhood education and care) in Fukuoka City. <https://www.hoiku.or.jp/> *The website is available in Japanese only

How much does it cost to use it?

Childcare is free for children aged 3 to 5 who use a kindergarten or a nursery, also for children aged 0 to 2 who are exempt from residence tax. Childcare fees are charged for children aged 0 to 2 in households subject to residence tax, depending on their income.

*Childcare at kindergartens that have not transitioned to the new system will be subsidized up to 25,700 yen per month.

*In addition to childcare fees, there are expenses such as commuting fees, school lunch fees, and event fees.

Application for free tuition

You must apply in advance and through your kindergarten or Nintei Kodomoen (Center for early childhood education and care of kindergarten department) to apply for free tuition.

No special procedures are required to apply for free tuition for nursery or Nintei Kodomoen (Center for early childhood education and care of Nursery department).

Free early childhood education and childcare (Cabinet Office) Please check the website for more information.

It is multilingual: <https://www8.cao.go.jp/shoushi/shinseido/musyouka/about/en/index.html>



Where can I get advice about entering a kindergarten, nursery, etc.?

You can consult at the Child Rearing Support Division of the Health and Welfare Center of the ward where your childcare facility is located. The Fukuoka City Child Rearing Support concierge consults with parents, provides information on childcare services that meet the needs of each parent, and suggests available options.

Fukuoka Kodomo Jyoho by Fukuoka City

Information on child-rearing, information on child-rearing consultation desks, lists of child-care facilities, and Introductions to child-rearing exchange salons and events are also available. For further information, please check the website: <https://www.city.fukuoka.lg.jp/kosodate/kodomo-kosodate/index.html>

“Fukuoka and me”

In this section, we will introduce a foreign national living in Fukuoka.

Interview with Phillip Jacobson from Australia



Q1. Could you please tell us what brought you to Fukuoka and or Japan?

Initially it was mere curiosity I suppose that brought me to Japan. I had the opportunity to homestay with a Japanese family in Fukuoka for 10 days when I was 15 which was an eye-opening experience. As I was studying Japanese at school, it was insightful to see how the language and culture converged.

My interest was also in creating a business in Japan or with a connection to Japan. I enjoy speaking Japanese. I find the Japanese language, being a very high context language to be very intriguing. Honorific language (Keigo), Humble language (Kenjyogo), and Polite language (Teineigo) are concepts that don't exist in the same way in my own native tongue. I find that

Japanese culture mirrors the language and that is also reflected in people's characters. Australian English is rather informal and casual, which is in turn reflected by the happy-go-lucky nature of Australian people.

Q2. What kind of activities (work, etc.) are you currently doing in Fukuoka?

I run a English Education company. We focus on practical English (jissen) and conduct immersion programs in various places throughout Japan. We also run an English Gakudou (after school program in English), teaching English through activities, experiences, rather than reading, and/or one-way teaching. Our summer camp also attracts a number of American participants residing on the navy base in Sasebo.

Q3. How have you overcome any difficulties or obstacles in your activities or life?

I try my best to understand the culture, even at times when I feel it is arbitrary. Japanese culture values the perception of how things are done as well as the finished product. As such I try to understand the impact my behavior has on others who are around me. There are unseen and unspoken rules in Japan. It takes a while to gain knowledge of these things. It comes from trial and error. I think that the best advice would be to take responsibility for your life in Japan. Blaming Japan or a negative attitude towards your environment is self-defeating.

Q4. What are your thoughts on your current life in Fukuoka?

I feel like the work I do is fulfilling and I am able to make a contribution to society. Fukuoka itself has a good balance of country life and city life. It is great that mountainous areas are close by as well as the city and the seaside.

Q5. Could you please tell our readers if you have any more messages?

Language is the key to opening doors. So, try to understand the Japanese language. Japanese people can appear difficult to decipher at times, and it can be difficult to know where you stand at times. As I mentioned, it is a high-context culture,

The 20th International Japanese Speech Contest

Foreigners studying Japanese at Japanese language classes or schools in the Fukuoka area talk about how they feel about living in Fukuoka as well as their future dreams in Japanese. Please come and listen to our foreign residents' speech. Advance booking required to join the audience.

Date: Saturday, 29th October, 2022

Time: 13:00 – 15:30

Location: Science Hall on 6th floor in Fukuoka City Science Museum

Address: 4-2-1 Ropponmatsu Chuo-ku Fukuoka city

Audience application period: Saturday, October 1st to Thursday, October 20th

For more details or to apply, visit our website: <https://www.fcif.or.jp/en/en-language/speech-contest/>

Alternatively, contact us on 092-262-1744 (Weekdays 9:00 - 18:00)



Fukuoka City International Center and Fukuoka Asian Art Museum

Fukuoka Asian Art Museum's Art Cafe

It has an open space where you can enjoy art, cafe and books at the same time. There will be free concerts on :

Saturday, 29th October and Friday, 25th November.

<http://www.ffac.or.jp/news/detail650.html>

The Fukuoka City International Center, where our office is in, and the Fukuoka Asian Art Museum are located within a five-minute walk, and both have strong ties to the world, so we are working on a variety of projects together.

Welcome Event

We will hold a "Welcome Event" for international students who have newly arrived in Fukuoka.

Date: Sunday, December 18th

A small group of international students and Japanese supporters will enjoy a tour of the Fukuoka Asian Art Museum and a walk rally around the city of Fukuoka. There might be a little fun surprise at the event! Participation fee is free. The latest information will be available around mid-October, so please check our website for further information: <https://www.fcif.or.jp/>

Picture Book Reading

From October to November, we are planning to hold a "Picture Book Reading in a Foreign Language" at the Fukuoka Asian Art Museum. As soon as more details such as the date and time are set, we will inform you on our website and Facebook. Please follow us on Facebook:



The Pearls of Modern Indian Painting Nandalal Bose and Upendra Maharathi at Fukuoka Asian Art Museum



Nandalal Bose (1883-1966), one of the pioneers of modern Indian art, and Upendra Maharathi (1908-1981), who emerged in the next generation, are known as painters who were greatly influenced by the Bengali school of writers, including Abanindranath Tagore (1871-1951) in terms of thought and expression. At the beginning of the 20th century, the Bengali school emphasized traditional expressions and techniques over Western painting and interacted with leading figures of the Japanese art world, such as Tenshin Okakura and Taikan Yokoyama while sharing a sense of crisis that the art of our country was at risk of being lost in the wave of rapid westernization. Bose is a representative of this, and Maharathi, who stayed in Japan for two years in the 1950s, became devoted to Buddhist themes. This exhibition introduces a part of their painting career from the collection of the National Museum of Modern Art, New Delhi, along with related works from the collection of the Fukuoka Asian Art Museum. Please enjoy the pearls of modern Indian painting born from fateful encounters with artists from the Bengali school and painters from the Japanese art world.

Specialized Counseling Services at Fukuoka City International Center (0120-66-1799)

Legal Counseling

October 1st and 19th
November 5th and 16th
December 3rd and 21st

1st Saturday 10:30 - 13:30
3rd Wednesday 13:00 - 16:00

Appointment: Required
An interpreter is available upon request

Immigration, Residency, and Nationality

October 9th, November 13th and December 11th

2nd Sunday 13:00 - 16:00
(Reception until 15:30)

Appointment: Not required
English & Chinese interpreters are available.

Personal (Psychological) Counseling

Monday 9:00 - 17:45
Tuesday 9:00 - 11:45
Thursday 9:00 - 12:45

Appointment: Required
An English speaking professional is available.

Fukuoka City International Foundation Our Official LINE Account



LINE Official Account
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You can consult through "LINE Call" from July 20th, 2022 and receive useful information

