

VIVA ! ひめじ

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<People> What do you know about 'Vietnam?'

A Japanese speech contest and convivial party were held by Vietnamese at the hall in Mutsumi town on Sunday, March 27. Many Vietnamese residents are living in Himeji city, especially people in Toko and Hanada junior high school areas among others in Hyogo prefecture. People who belong to the community, women's association and PTA, who teach Japanese language gave their cooperation to make the contest happen.

Japanese communication is necessary to live in Japan. Vietnamese who came to Japan with their dreams and hopes are trying to learn Japanese as soon as possible. They planed this contest so that it would be an opportunity for showcase and their ideas and what they had studied in their Japanese classes.

Eleven Vietnamese people from elementary school students to workers or house wives, who have just arrived at Japan or had stayed for more than 10 years made speeches. They spoke about their thoughts in their own words.



- I want to get much much better at Japanese and get a more demanding job than I have now.
- Though I felt a bit confused about Japanese schools at first because they were different from Vietnamese, I want to get used to Japanese schools as soon as possible and study hard.
- I am impatient about being able to get back to Vietnam because my grandfather is sick, and it is difficult for my family for various reasons. I have talks with the whole family about what should we do. I want to help my mother who does best as much for the family as possible. An elementary school student who took the top spot in this contest said that she wanted to go and see her favorite grandfather soon.

In Addition a young mother said, "I am trying to attend school events as much as I can. I couldn't cook any Japanese dishes, so I brought a boxed meal from the convenience stores for an athletic meet and ate together. I want to get much better at Japanese and get along with everyone." At the convivial party after the contest she said, "I work, leaving my children in an after school care program. I mostly cook Vietnamese food at home." To the question "What are your specialties?" she replied cheerfully, "My specialty is Pho like Japanese noodle. It is easy to cook and delicious. I order ingredients to be delivered by telephone."

It is hard for foreigners to find work, even if they have the will to work, physical strength or abilities. There is discrimination against foreigners. Meetings called 'Multiracial Convivial Society!' are held here and there. Shall we start anything we can do no matter how small it is, such as getting rid of barriers from your mind and talking to willing people? We hope to expand our friendships.

Scholastic Plans after Junior High School Graduation

In Japan, it is difficult to find a job for junior high school graduates. What sort of choices do you have after junior high school? First of all, you should think about what you want to do.



1. Do you want to go to school, in efforts to find work? In addition do you want to go to university?
2. Do you want to work your way through high school?
3. Do you want to learn skills, and then start work?

If you want to go to school, and then want to work. Also want to go to university.

Work your way through high school.

There are public (prefectural, municipal) and private high schools. Public high schools include full-time, evening and part-time high school and correspondence courses.

Public schools in Hyogo prefecture have school fee reduction and exemption (half or all) systems for students who have economic difficulties. Working students at evening high school and correspondence courses also can get a scholarship. Please ask teachers or Japanese acquaintances about school choices and the application method of exemption.

Full- time high school **All-day courses**

Complete in 3 years. If attendance is low, you may be held back. Examination fee ¥2,200, admission fee ¥5,650 tuition ¥9,600/month, also school trip accumulation fee etc. It costs about ¥20,000/month. Most high schools have general course, however there are many specialized schools such as Himeji Commercial High School, Himeji Industrial High School and Shikama Industrial High School. In municipal high schools, there are Shikama High School Health and Human Services courses and Kotogaoka High School international cultural courses. In addition, in prefectural high school, there are Shingu High School of Nursing (5 years), including a welfare course, Kamigouri High School with agricultural and gardening courses, Akashi High School with art courses and International High School with international courses (examination for admission as transfer students required).

Evening high school **Night school**

Study from 17:15 to 20:55. Have school meal. Need 3years or more.

Hyogo Prefectural Himeji North High School 68-70 Honmachi Himeji-shi Tel:(0792)81-0118 <http://www.hyogo-c.ed.jp/~himekita-hs/> Admission fee ¥2,100 tuition ¥2,600/month. Overhead in April. From May around ¥11,000/month. There is a special selective process for adult students selected by essay and interview.

Part- time school **Choose time zone and study**

There are three time zones, 1st (8:40~) 2nd (10:40~) 3rd (17:30~), 4 hours of classes per day. Complete in 4years, but if you want you can finish in 3 years.

Hyogo Prefectural Shikama Industrial High School 319 Hosoe Shikama-ku Himeji Tel:(0792)35-1951 <http://www.hyogo-c.ed.jp~shikama-ths/> Admission fee ¥2,100 tuition ¥2,600/month. Overhead in April (including uniforms). From May ¥11,000/month.

Correspondence courses **Home Study**

Study by yourself with high school textbooks, and hand in papers. Go to school twice a month for an interview. Have an achievement test. Complete in 3 years or more. It takes a lot of will to complete it.

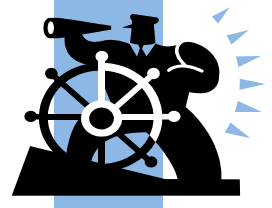
Hyogo Prefectural Aboshi High School 259-1 Shinzaike Aboshi-ku Himeji-shi Tel (0792)74-2014
<http://www.aboshi-hs-c.jp/> Fees ¥15,000 - ¥16,000/year, textbooks ¥20,000

Want to learn skills, and then start work.

Technical collage Wants to be an engineer?

Study for 5years, and complete high school and university courses. This is for students who become an engineering trainer. Furthermore, after finishing advanced courses (2years), students get a university degree.

Akashi National Collage of technology 679-3 Nishioka Uozumi-chou Akashi-shi Tel: (078)946-6017
<http://www.akashi.ac.jp/> tuition ¥234,600/year. Pay half in April and June.
Exemption and scholarship are prepared. There are some Asian students such as Vietnamese.



Schools under Land, Infrastructure and Transportation Ministry

Love the ocean? Wants to be a sailor?

National Tateyama Maritime Polytechnical School Add: Taiga Tateyama-shi Chiba Tel: (0470)22-1921 <http://www.awa.or.jp/home/seaman/> You can obtain a high school diploma and can take a college entrance exam. Examination, admission, dormitory fee: free. Tuition ¥48,000/year. Need overhead around ¥150,000 in April. Student loan ¥25,000/month for applicant (have selection). Have loan program for entrance reserve. There are 5 other schools in Nagasaki, Saga and so on.

Industrial training school Learns skills, and gets a job

Hyogo Prefectural Himeji Industrial Training School 108-3 Tyounotsubo Himeji Tel: (0792)98-0990
<http://www.010.upp.so-net.ne.jp/himegi/>

General course (starts from April, 2years) Domestic architecture course, coating course and welding course: no tuition for 2years. Admission fee ¥100,000 (including overhead). Have scholarship for student with economic difficulties. Examination (Math and Japanese) twice/year (Dec. Mar.). No admission fee. Placement rate is almost 100%.

Also we have a short course (starts Apr. and Oct., 6 months). It is not for recent graduates.

Higher vocational school (private)

Wants to be a nurse? assistant nurse training institution

Tkasago Assistant Nurse Higher Vocational School 2F Takasago Education Center 2301-1 Sone-chou Takasago Tel: (0794)48-7130 Examination twice a year (Nov. Mar.) Japanese, Mathematics and interview. Tuition ¥300,000/year, pay half in Mar. and Sep. Admission fee ¥120,000 payment for educational facilities ¥200,000 etc.



Scholarships from Hyogo prefecture and Japan Student Service Organization are available. Both have selection process .

Instructor of outdoor activity

Outdoor Business School 499-4 Kou Abo Himeji Tel: (0792)22-1185 <http://www.odbs.jp/> Advanced course (for after junior high school) for 3 years. Outdoor business course (can obtain a high school diploma and can take a college entrance exam). Scholarship(tuition reduction ¥436,000 ¥348,000) for student who continue sports club.

In this notice, we have referred to last year fees. Please ask for details directly from each school.

You can use the Internet in the library, 4F Egret, free for 1hour.

We have counseling service at "Himeji Hatsu Sekai" (free and confidential)

Day: 2nd and 4th Sunday 14:00 – 17:00 Spanish, Portuguese, Vietnamese, English and Chinese.

Phone: (0792)87-0821

Inquiry counter: Himeji International Association (Egret Himeji) 4F Consulting room.

Recycling of Home Personal Computers

It is your legal obligation to recall and recycle consumers' personal computers and be charged since October 2003.

Type: notebook computers, desktop computers, computer screens, standard attached items (mouse, keyboard, speaker, cable, etc).

Exception: personal computer which are under 1 kilogram, printers, peripherals such as scanners, word processors, etc...

Method of Recall

1. Email or call the manufacturers, follow their instructions. It cost from 3150 yen to 5250 yen depending on the kind of personal computer. (It is free for personal computer which have a PC recycle sticker attached (see right) .
2. Contact the Center below if you don't know the product's manufacturer .
3. There is a possibility that you can trade in your old computer for a new one. Please ask the shops.



Notes: When you hand over your computer, you should be careful to protect your personal information. You need to eliminate data on the hard desk.

How to eliminate data

- Remove the hard desk and destroy it.
- Set up again. (Some information may remain.)
- Buy exclusive soft ware and overwrite it.

If you need more information, ask *PC 3R Promotion Center* (Tel: 03-5282-7685 <http://www.pc3r.jp>) or the manufacturers and shops.

Be Careful with Food Poisoning.

When it gets hot, the amount of food poisoning increases. Be careful with food poisoning which may happen at home.

Suggestions for protecting from food poisoning

1. Check the expiration date and buy fresh foods.
2. Place raw foods in a refrigerator or a freezer immediately.
3. Wash your hands carefully before you cook.
4. Wash a cutting board thoroughly and keep it dry.
5. Heat foods more than 1 minutes with 75 .
6. Don't eat raw meet, fish, and shellfish.
7. Don't keep foods which you finish to reheat.
8. Keep left overs in a refrigerator and heat again before you eat.



Event Information



The Yatai Festival in Himeji

This year's theme "Men, women, children of the whole world get together and come alive in Himeji"

Date: June 4th, 2005 Saturday 10:00 AM start June 5th, Sunday, when it rains

The eve of the festival: June 3rd, 2005 Friday 18:00 start (rainout)

Place: Himeji Castle Sannomaru square, Otemae Street(North of National Highway 2) etc.

This event started 2004, in order to display Himeji's tradition and culture with the costar "The beauty of cultural heritage of Himeji castle (a national treasure)" and "The power of the Yatai Festival"

The last time, Yatai was carried at the "Nada Fight Festival", there were over 150,000 in attendance. It was highly successful event.

This year, two Yatai carry will be introduced as follows,

1. "Yatai carry Daibasashi (4 Yatais) in Shikama
24 men will lift two tons Yatai highly.
2. "Ikkizashi (3 Yatais)" in Tsuda Men will quickly lift up and carry a Yatai from the ground over their heads in a narrow space within the shirine

On the eve of the festival, there will be "Japanese drumming (Taiko)", "Shishimai". "The Women Festival" will open the festival. About 500 women will parade and dance on the shopping street accompanied by a female singer. And there will be many events around the festival ground as follows.

- * Admission free to the City Zoo
- * Children's Entertainment
- * International food in Otemae Park

* Heavy traffic is expected. So please use public transportation (train, bus) to and around Himeji Station.

* When you attend this event, please be careful, because there is the danger of the Yatai or people falling.

Inquiry: the Festival Yatai in Himeji Executive committee(organizer)

TEL: 0792-87-3659 Home page: <http://www.himeji-cci.or.jp/yatai/>

Himeji Yukata festival

Date: June 22nd (Wednesday) to June 24th (Friday) 2005

Place: Osakabe shrine, Otemae Park, Himeji Castle Sannomaru square, Otemae Street etc...

"The Himeji Yukata Festival" reminds us of the begging of summer. When the owner of Himeji Castle (Sakakibara Masamine) left Himeji, a festival was started in which the public (not only the Samurai) could pray at Osakabe shrine 260 years ago. During this festival, people wore Yukata instead of ceremonial clothes, and people got into the habit of wearing Yukata to the shrine every year. This led to current "Yukata festival".

In this festival, children will parade with "Soumato" (revolving shrine lanterns). There will be about 800 stalls nightly, the best of Western Japan. The light of the night stalls will make it a beautiful night.

Please obtain detailed information on the Himeji Yukata Festival promotion discussion (Himeji City sight-seeing promotion) and Himeji sightseeing association.

Inquiry: Himeji Yukata Festival promotion discussion

TEL: 0792-87-3655

Home page: <http://www.city.himeji.hyogo.jp/kankoshin/>

Himeji sightseeing association home page: <http://www.himeji-kanko.jp/>



Information about the Himeji International Association

“A Japanese language course for foreign residents in 2005” (first semester)

An experienced professional teacher will teach this course. Please enroll in the course if you want to study Japanese from the basics.

Qualifications: foreign residents

Term: Wednesday and Thursday, from April to July, 2005, 15 classes which are separated into levels

Level: beginning and intermediate. Advanced courses are available at Himeji Dokkyo University.

Place: Himeji International Exchange Center, 4th floor

Price: 4,000yen + cost of textbook

The course has already started from April. Please apply at the office if you would like to enroll. Phone: 0792(87)0820



We need volunteer translators!!

We invite translation assistants on 「VIVA!ひめじ」. The languages needed are English, Chinese, Portuguese, Spanish and Vietnamese. The publication is once every three months. If you can offer your help, please contact the office.

Phone: 0792(87)0820 E-mail: nmiwa@himeji-iec.or.jp

Editor's Postscript

We think it is time for people who are getting their new lives started from April to become comfortable with their environments. Some newsletter editing members left Himeji because of new employment or were transferred and also new members joined. Various opinions and messages of gratitude about 「VIVA!ひめじ」 have been increasing recently. We hope we will provide useful information to you.

Now, that the comfortable season is over, and the rainy season is coming soon. We hope you find the article about food poisoning on this newsletter of some help, Please be careful!!

Publication of the next issue of 「VIVA!ひめじ」 No.14 is planned in late July. Don't miss out! We welcome your opinions and comments. Please send them to the following address.

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Only those permitted printing are carried. We really appreciate all your help.

We always invite translation assistants and native proofreaders on 「VIVA!ひめじ」. If you are interested, please contact us at the following address or phone number. We're waiting for your replies.

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