



Welcome to Okinawa City! Full of Smiles and Memories

Already friends! Don't forget this valuable experience. Students from Nawa Junior High School and Miyazato Junior High School face the camera with energetic smiles (Junior High School Exchange Program: Miyazato Junior High School Gymnasium)

Okinawa City Population Statistics

TOTAL: 138,453 (+5)
Male: 66,982 (-11)
Female: 71,471 (+16)
Households: 56,019 (+47)

Foreign Residents:
Total: 1,184 (-4)
Male: 687 (+4)
Female: 497 (-8)

Dear Reader,
Obon is right around the corner, and we all know what that means! Obon is a big family event where locals welcome and host visiting ancestors, but for many of us, it means only one thing: EISA! Youth associations all around the island gather in their communities and practice Eisa for long hours into the night. If you listen closely, you may be able to hear the beating of the drums in the distance. Hope to see you at the Eisa Festival!

Free and convenient postal and emailing services! Would you like us to mail or email our monthly newsletters to you? Let us know! Fill out the form below and return it to us by fax, mail, email, or directly at the Culture & Tourism Division service window (Okinawa City Hall 5F), or contact us by phone!

Address: 26-1 Nakasone-Cho, Okinawa City, Okinawa JAPAN
Email: international@city.okinawa.okinawa.jp TEL: (098) 929-0261 FAX: (098) 939-7341

Name:
Address:
TEL:
Email:

OKINAWA CITY NEWSLETTER

Okinawa City Hall Announcements for Registered Residents of Okinawa City
August > September 2013 Vol. 13, No. 8

58th Okinawa Island-Wide EISA Festival
August 30, 31 & September 1

August 30 (FRI)
PM 18:30~21:00

Eisa parade around Goya intersection. Traffic regulation will apply around Route 330, Gate 2 Street and Nakanomachi areas starting at PM 6:00.

August 31 (SAT)
September 1 (SUN)
PM 15:00~21:00

Eisa festival at the Okinawa Koza Sports Athletics Stadium. Don't miss the laser show and fireworks!

Viewing the festival from the field is FREE. The following ticket prices apply to stadium bleacher seats only.

STADIUM TICKETS

Table with 2 columns: Advance, Same-Day and 3 rows: S, A, B with corresponding ticket prices.

*All stadium seats (except B seats on the outer edges of the stadium) are assigned seating. *Purchase advance-tickets at the Okinawa City Tourism Association on the 1F of Koza Music Town (next to Baskin-Robbins).

Okinawa Zento EISA Festival Executive Committee
098-937-3986 zentoeisa@city.okinawa.okinawa.jp
http://www.zentoeisa.com



Table with event details, including dates (8/30, 8/31, 9/1), times, and ticket prices for various seating areas.

*The articles in this newsletter are Okinawa City Hall announcements published in the Okinawa City KOHO, translated into English to better serve our community of foreign residents. Administrative services are provided in Japanese only (unless otherwise indicated). For inquiries in English, please email: international@city.okinawa.okinawa.jp. We kindly ask for your patience and understanding as our free services are always a work in progress!



EISA 101



Eisa is a dance that is performed by youth on the main and outlying islands of Okinawa Prefecture during the midsummer *Bon* Festival. Its aim is to give repose to the spirits of deceased ancestors. The name *Eisa* originated in the cry "EISA EISA" that the performers utter to keep time as they dance and play the drums...The night air resounding with the dynamic beating drums, the cries of "EISA EISA" and "HIYA SASA EI URI SASA," the lively whistling through the fingers, and young men and women dripping with perspiration while dancing energetically are all part of the vibrant summer scenery in Okinawa.

The *Eisa* Contest sponsored annually by Koza City (now Okinawa City) in the postwar years was instrumental in creating the *Eisa* as we know it today. Participation in the contest became very important for youth associations throughout Okinawa, leading to their total involvement in *Eisa*. Today, *Eisa* is performed not only during the BON Festival period, but presented throughout the year.

An *Eisa* troupe is composed of scores of young men and women. 7 or 8 young men play the big-barrel-shaped drums, about 20 young men play the laced drums (or the *paranku*), and the rest, including all the young women, dance. Several ludicrously attired young men called *sanda*, or *chondara*, or *chogina*, two of whom carry sake pots, play the role of clowns. As the *sanshin* players sing, the dancers respond with the rhythmic utterances and dance vivaciously.

OBON in Okinawa

The *Bon* Festival is celebrated from the 13th to the 15th of the seventh lunar month. During the *Bon* Festival, incense and meals are offered to the ancestral spirits. Although *Eisa* can be heard all throughout the *Bon* Festival, it was usually performed on the night of the 15th until the next day to let the spirits know that it was time for them to go back to their world until next year. This year, OBON in Okinawa will be observed on August 19, 20 and 21.



(EISA, Okinawa Prefecture 1998)

What else is happening?...

U.S.-Japan Joint Concert

September 14 (Saturday); [Open] 18:30 [Program] 19:00~21:00
 Venue: Okinawa Civic Hall (Main Hall)
 A joint concert by the JGSDF 15th Brigade Band and 3rd MEF Band.
 Entrance Free: FREE *numbered ticket
<http://okinawashiminkaikan.com>



FREE Koza Music Town Ongaku Hiroba (1F) Events (August 16~September 14)



AUG16; 19:00~21:00	"Korekara Daze! Tanoshinde Ikouze! Vol.1" (live music event)
8/17; 16:00~21:00	Street Live
8/18; 12:00~	MT Battle (U-20, free-style, solo dance battle)
8/23; 16:00~18:00	Yutaka Solo Live http://ip.tosp.co.jp/i.asp?i=YUTAKACHAOS
8/24; 13:30~17:10	Rough Diamond vol.4 Supported by Victor Entertainment
8/29; 10:00~14:00	Dream Garden (hand-made goods & entertainment)
8/30; 18:00~21:00	"Michijunee" (first day of the Zento Eisa Festival)
SEP 6; 18:00~19:40	Tokyo Joe (live performance)
9/7; 13:00~15:30	2013 Promenade Concert (brass band performance)
9/14; 18:00~20:00	21st Street Live

*The schedule is subject to change. Otoichiba 932-1949 <http://www.otoichiba.jp/>

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 SERVING THE FOREIGN COMMUNITY IN OKINAWA CITY



Okinawa City Central Community Center Presents: Ganju Class

In support of those who are 60 years old or older to live a healthy and meaningful life ♪
Opening Ceremony (reserve by phone; open to first 100 persons): SEP 5; PM 2:00~4:00
 Venue: Community Center Lobby Lecturer: Dr. Manabu Kudaka, Director of Mamma-ya Clinic

"HIBISCUS CLASS"

Uchinaguchi Radio Taiso (open to 20 persons): September 10; PM 2:00~3:30

Get your mouth, hands, feet and your whole body moving! Feel energized ♪

Venue: Kariyushi-en Instructor: Hitoshi Kyan, Okinawan Folk Singer

Bus Tour Fun With Everyone ♪ (open to 20 persons): September 17; AM 9:30~PM 4:00

Okinawa City Folk Museum → Lunch → Garden Viewing → Appreciating Ryukyu Dance
 Venue: Meet at the Civic Hall Parking Lot Tour by: Okinawa City Folk Museum Kowa Kai Group
 Participation Fee: ¥600 (includes lunch, tea and insurance)

"SUNFLOWER CLASS" (Same program as the Hibiscus Class)

Uchinaguchi Radio Taiso (open to 20 persons): September 24; PM 2:00~3:30

Venue: Central Community Center Training Room Instructor: Hitoshi Kyan, Okinawan Folk Singer

Bus Tour Fun With Everyone ♪ (open to 20 persons): October 1; AM 9:30~PM 4:00

Venue: Meet at the City Civic Hall Parking Lot Tour by: Okinawa City Folk Museum Kowa Kai
 Participation Fee: ¥600 (includes lunch, tea and insurance)

Ganju Class will be held in Japanese only. This class is open to those living or working in Okinawa City who are at least 60 years old. The application period is August 1~27. Please contact the Okinawa City Central Community Center to reserve a spot (if applicants exceed the limit, participants will be selected by a drawing. Selected participants will be notified by mail.)
Okinawa City Central Community Center 939-0033 (FRI~SAT, except holidays; AM8:30~PM5:00)

 *Inquiries regarding services/events are conducted in Japanese only (unless otherwise indicated). Schedules are subject to change. Please visit the given websites to confirm dates and times.

22nd 2014 Okinawa Marathon T-Shirt Design



Last year's selected design.

The Okinawa Marathon Executive Committee is looking for next year's Okinawa Marathon commemorative t-shirt design.

Design: The design should reflect the appeal of the 22nd marathon and be an image that is pop and positive. It should portray characteristics unique to Okinawa that people domestically and internationally can relate to. Include either "おきなわマラソン" or "OKINAWA MARATHON" in the design. The fabric of the t-shirt will be ROYAL BLUE. The selected work will be given a monetary prize.

Entry Provisions: Entries are limited to unpublished works and must be 3 colors or less (Not including ROYAL BLUE, the color of the t-shirt).

Submission Deadline: August 30, 2013 (FRI); 5:00 PM. (Submissions mailed on the date of the deadline will be accepted if the date is stamped on the envelope)

Submit designs to: Okinawa Marathon Executive Committee Office
 2-17-14 Uechi, Okinawa-City, Okinawa, Japan 904-0031
 TEL 930-0088 FAX 930-0101 <http://okinawa-marathon.com/eng/>

CORRECTION: Central Okinawa City Bus Fare

Bus Fare: ¥100 (flat rate) ※Free for disabled persons or children under 13 years old.

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 SERVING THE FOREIGN COMMUNITY IN OKINAWA CITY



Current Status Notification For Single Parents

Those who receive Child Rearing Allowance (*jido-fuyo-teate*) or Special Child Rearing Allowance (*tokubetsu-jido-fuyo-teate*) are required to submit a "Current Status Notification" (an "Income Status Notification" for Special Child Rearing Allowance) every year.

If you fail to submit this notification, you will not be able to continue receiving benefits for August and thereafter, even if you qualify.

*Notifications must be submitted even if payments have been suspended due to the income limit (not necessary for Special Child Rearing Allowance recipients) and can only be submitted by the recipient (not by a representative).

*If you fail to submit the required notifications for 2 consecutive years, you will lose qualifications to receive child allowance.

Where and when can you submit notifications? Okinawa City Hall Basement 2, Main Hall

Child Rearing Allowance - August 1~ 30 Special Child Rearing Allowance- August 12~ 23

What are the hours? Weekdays AM 9:00~ 11:00, PM 1:00~ 4:00 (Submissions will also be accepted on August 18, Sunday). *In order to prevent overcrowding, we will send notices to individuals with designated dates and times.

Children's Welfare Division Child Rearing Allowance Administration (ext. 3195~3197)

Current Status Notification For Special Disability (Special Child Welfare/ Welfare) Allowance Recipients

Recipients of allowances must submit a current status notification in order to verify their qualifications to continue receiving benefits. Please submit notifications within the specified period.

*If you fail to submit notifications, your benefits may become suspended, or you may lose qualifications to continue receiving benefits if you do not submit a notification for 2 consecutive years.

Where and when can you submit notifications? Okinawa City Hall Disabilities Welfare Division (1F)

August 12~ September 10; 9:00 am~ 4:00 pm

What do you need to bring? ①Notification form sent to you (have it filled out) ②Inkan ③Form of document to verify benefits you received in 2012 (payment notifications or bank passbook) ④Taxation certificate (for all household members) if you were not living in Okinawa City as of January 1, 2013.

Disabilities Welfare Division Special Disabilities Allowance Administration (ext 3155, 3156, 3157)



Stomach Cancer Screening



As of February 2013, health insurance coverage applies to diagnostic testing and treatment for Helicobacter pylori infection. This infection can cause various ailments such as stomach cancer, inflammation and ulcers, which can be prevented with early detection and treatment. In Okinawa City, a stomach cancer screening will be implemented during the residents mass health examination, which will be held in August, and you can get screened as an option (for a fee of ¥4,200). This method of screening determines whether or not you are likely to develop stomach cancer or inflammation by detecting infection and gastric mucosal atrophy through a blood test.

A prostate cancer screening (PSA test: ¥2,000) will also be available as an option. If you are interested in receiving any of these screenings, please tell the receptionist on the day of the mass health examination. Please look at your examination form for examination dates.

What does the screening entail?

Helicobacter Pylori Test: A test to see if you are infected. Children can also become infected with this bacteria, but as you get older it can cause stomach cancer, inflammation, etc.

Pepsinogen Test: A test to see the aging of the gastric mucosa (degree of atrophy). This is not an exam which directly detects cancer, but some stomach cancers can develop due to advanced atrophy of the mucosa.

*This screening will not detect cancer itself, but will determine if you are likely to develop stomach cancer, inflammation, etc. By also receiving the conventional stomach cancer screening (barium X-ray), you can further increase your chance of detecting stomach cancer.

City Residents Health Division Health Section (ext. 2240)

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SERVING THE FOREIGN COMMUNITY IN OKINAWA CITY



DT (Diphtheria and Tetanus) Vaccination!

Date	Elementary School District Go to the Okinawa City Civic Hall (NOT THE SCHOOL) to receive vaccinations!
8/6	Mihara, Noborikawa
8/12	Takahara, Kitami
8/13	Bito, Hiyagon
8/14	Nakanomachi, Moromi, Goeku
8/15	Misato, Awase, Chatan
8/22	Miyazato, Shimabukuro, Koza
8/23	Ageda, Yamauchi

This is the vaccination your child is now recommended to receive in addition to the DPT vaccination they received when they were an infant.

Who is eligible for the vaccination? Children at least 11 and under 13 years old (up to 2 days before their 13th birthday).

A vaccination notice will be addressed and sent to children in the 6th grade who reside in Okinawa City. ※If your child has already entered their first year of junior high school, but has not yet received their DT vaccination shot, they are still eligible to receive it for free up until 2 days before their 13th birthday.

Where are the vaccinations given at? Okinawa City Civic Hall (medium hall)

What time are the vaccinations given? PM 12:45~ 1:30 (Come on time!)

How much does it cost? Vaccinations are free (All expenses covered by Okinawa City)

★Children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

★If your child is not able to be vaccinated on the scheduled date, they can get vaccinated on any of the dates indicated on the schedule chart.

★Vaccinations and vaccination schedules in foreign countries (including military bases) may differ. Please come to the service window along with your mother-child health record book to confirm your child's vaccination history.

Child Consultation/ Health Division Vaccination Section (ext. 2232, 2233) ENGLISH OKAY!

Okinawa City Loan System for Small to Medium Scaled Businesses

If you own a small to medium scaled business enterprise within Okinawa City and have been running the operation for at least one year, loans to finance operations, equipment, change of employment funds and etc. are available. However, it is required that you have been recorded in Okinawa City's Basic Resident Register since January 1st of last year and have continued to be a resident since then (this requirement does not include representatives of a business, who may reside outside of Okinawa City). Other terms and conditions apply.



Application Period: April 2, 2013 ~ last day of March, 2014

Loan Limit: ¥7,000,000 (700 man yen)

Interest Rate: General Loan Annual Interest—2.30%

Special Loan Annual Interest—2.10%

(There is a separate guarantee charge.)

Loan Period: Within 7 years (payment deferment possible)

Payment Method: Monthly installments

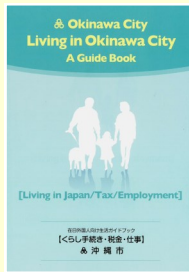
Collateral and Guarantor: Collateral may not be needed, but a co-signer will be requested if necessary. In addition, the Okinawa Credit Guarantee Corporation also conducts guarantees of special loans.

Banking Facilities: Bank of Okinawa (*Okinawa Ginko*), Bank of the Ryukyus (*Ryukyu Ginko*), Koza Shinkin Bank (*Koza Shinyo Kinko*), Okinawa Kaiho Bank (*Okinawa Kaiho Ginko*) in Okinawa City or their branches.

Application /Contact: Industrial and Commercial Development Division Business Section (ext. 3224)

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SERVING THE FOREIGN COMMUNITY IN OKINAWA CITY



Living In Okinawa City: A Guide Book

Living in Japan/ Tax/ Employment

NOW AVAILABLE!

Pick up your copy at the Okinawa City Hall Culture & Tourism Division (5F)

2013 Okinawa City Disaster Drill

Okinawa Prefecture Earthquake & Tsunami Evacuation Drill (held simultaneously)

In order to improve the disaster management system, an evacuation drill will be held all throughout Okinawa Prefecture to educate citizens on earthquake and tsunami disaster preparedness and verify tsunami evacuation plans.



When will the drill take place?

September 4 (Wednesday) from 10:00 a.m.

Which districts are subject to the drill?

All cities and their districts under Okinawa Prefecture.

Who is subject to participate in the drill?

All citizens are subject to participate in the drill (schools, voluntary disaster management organizations, companies, all households, etc.)

What does the drill entail?

10:00 AM— Assume that an earthquake has hit and conduct earthquake evacuation drill (determine safety, extinguish initial fires, first-aid training, etc.)

10:03 AM— Assume that a tsunami warning has been announced and conduct tsunami evacuation drill (citizens who live in low-lying areas should evacuate to higher ground)

Other— On the day the drill is carried out, an Area Mail will be sent by Okinawa Prefecture.

※Drill Cancellation— The drill will be cancelled if there is a storm (due to a typhoon, etc.)
Disaster Prevention Division (ext. 2349, 2047)

まいにち Japanese For Your Livelihood

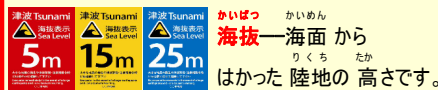
にほんご

ちいき あなたの地域は だいじょうぶ?

おきなわ つなみ 沖縄で津波がおこったとき、あなたの住んでいる場所は、安全ですか? あなたのいる場所の高さ、ひなんできる場所のめじるしをみつけて、まんがいちのひなんにそなえましょう!

あなたがいる場所の高さを教えるサイン

— 電信柱などにはられています。



ひなんできる場所にはられるサイン

— どの建物が安全か、しらべておきましょう



ENGLISH: Is Your Community Prepared?
Would your neighborhood be safe if a tsunami hit Okinawa? Find signs around your neighborhood that shows how high you are and where you can evacuate to in case of an emergency.
Signs that show how high you are.
— These are posted on utility poles
Sea Level— The height of land from the sea's surface.
Signs posted in areas where you can evacuate to.
— Check for safe buildings where you can evacuate to. Take a look at the disaster management map you can receive from the Okinawa City Hall, and be ready to evacuate at any moment!



Eames Eating at Roguui

Coming to Roguui is an experience in and of itself. The building is an old military house, but made into a friendly, cozy place with a relaxed atmosphere. On the walls and shelves are different knick-knacks from around the world and some of them are even for sale. Mismatched furniture, possibly from the base flea markets, somehow all fit together here at Roguui. A display is dedicated to local events, including music concerts or cultural exhibitions. Roguui has exotic and tasty cuisine, and with this homey place, it really combines for a trendy, friendly and warm feeling. Aromas from Greece, maybe Turkey and of course Japan fill the air along with the scents of freshly baked bread and bakery treats, which are also for sale.

The two girl workers, looking like sisters, flutter around the kitchen, in and out. We later learned that they always wear hats as part of the feel of the place, and today they are wearing beanies. They are the chefs, the cashiers, the hostesses and the servers. I guess that's how things are when it's just you and the other person running a cafe that can seat about 40. But you wouldn't be able to tell that from what they put together — it is delicious, and the cafe is well-run, clean and has just the right feel to help you enjoy your meal.

They usually only have four or five things written up on the menu—fish, chicken, curry, and a sandwich. This time, we enjoyed the fish, curry, and chicken dishes. The fresh tuna was perfectly fried tempura style. It had some kind of relish that had bits of corn, pickles, and some mayo. I'm sure there were more ingredients, but whatever it was, it was delicious. The chicken was a version of chicken katsu with a fresh tomato sauce. The curry was a vegetable curry—somewhat Thai, somewhat Japanese. All the main dishes were delicious. With sides being a lentil onion mix, a salad, some type of Japanese root, and onion soup, we were all stuffed by the end of our meal. Bread, rice, or brown rice and a drink also came with our meals.

Our family has really enjoyed this place. The first time we came here, it was for date night in the pouring rain. One of the ladies walked us out with an umbrella when our date was over. The next time we visited, we came with the kids and Grandpa, who was visiting from New York. Grandpa really enjoyed the food! The room they put the whole family in was perfect. It had a little play area with a tent and blocks and toys for the kids. On the other side were some Japanese books—a few translated from the English versions. Our kids did not want to go, they really enjoyed the tent! When we were ready to leave at the end of the meal, one of the ladies walked us out again. Both times, it felt like we were visiting an old friend. This is definitely one of our favorite places to eat, and we hope you enjoy it too!

To get to Roguui, head out of Awase on 85 and go uphill, passing by McDonalds onto the new road to the old Awase Golf Course. On the way up the hill, you will see an overpass with a small access road on the left just before the bridge. The entry is small, so be careful not to miss it. Take a right after the access ramp and continue to the top of the hill. At the top, take a right, and head almost all the way down the hill, Roguui will be on the right in a little white old-base construction house. Parking is either in the little cutout parking, or behind the building. If you reach the stop sign at the bottom of the hill, you've gone too far. (2-11-38 Yagi, Okinawa City)

