

◆ Call for Guest Speakers for Community Exchange Events!

Come and talk about your native language and culture!

Location: Hyogo International Plaza Exchange Space

Info: We are looking for guest speakers to talk about the charms of their home countries and cultures for exchange events aimed at local residents! If you've ever thought, "I want everybody to know more about my country," "I want to have casual exchanges with locals," or "I want to share my story with others using my Japanese and English language skills," then this event is for you! Please apply via the instructions listed below.

Languages: Conversation-level Japanese and Conversation-level English

Qualifications: Foreign nationals residing in Hyogo prefecture who can use computers to create presentation materials and who like talking and interacting with others.

How to Apply: If you are interested in being a guest speaker, please apply using this form:

<https://forms.gle/wGAmStYdP3xwaTpNA>

Please note that not everyone who applies will necessarily be accepted as a guest speaker. We appreciate your understanding.

Inquiries: Please contact the Hyogo International Association Planning and Public Relations Division via phone or email with any inquiries. TEL: 078-230-3060 / Email: plaza@net.hyogo-ip.or.jp

For more information, please see our website: <https://www.hyogo-ip.or.jp/shisetsuannai/plaza/guestspeaker.html>

◆ Participate in a survey on "Japanese language learning and daily life of children from multicultural and multilingual backgrounds"

Hyogo Prefecture is conducting a survey for children and guardians living in multicultural and multilingual households to determine how to provide support. We would greatly appreciate your input.

Survey Target Audience: These surveys are for children aged 10–15 (from the fifth year of elementary school to the third year of junior high school) living in multilingual households and for the guardians of those children.

Submission Period: July 30, 2026, to September 30, 2026

Response Form: You can take the survey in ten different languages through HIA's website:

<https://x.gd/EPzTf>

◆ Kasai Global Festival 2026

We are holding a festival where you can “enjoy the world” to celebrate the first anniversary of the Kasai City Global Center.

Date: October 11, 2026 (Sun)

Time: 11:00 – 14:00

Location: Asuteer Kasai, 1st Floor, Kasai City Global Center

Info: Enjoy global stalls offering drinks and light snacks from around the world, international performances, games for children, a grand bingo contest, and more!

Sponsor: The NPO Kasai International Association

Inquiries: For inquiries, please contact the NPO Kasai International Association via phone at 0790-33-9455

For more information, please see: <https://kasai-kokusai.or.jp/events/kasai-global-festa/>

◆ Learn about the History of Kobe through Film

As a first step to advance multicultural coexistence, we invite foreign residents of Kobe to watch a film (composed of rare footage) in easy Japanese. By gaining a deeper understanding of the history of the city they live in as well as the course of residents' lives, we hope that participants will come to love Kobe and feel a sense of attachment to the community.

Date: September 26, 2026 (Sat)

Time: 14:00 – 16:30

Location: Chuo Ward Cultural Center, Room 1111

Info: Following a film screening of “Kobe: The Whispered Dreams of a City” (approx. 78 minutes),

compiled using rare film and photographs, participants can mingle and enjoy sweets made in Kobe.

Language: Easy Japanese

Number of Participants: 30

Participation Fee: 500 yen

Audience: Resident foreigners living in Hyogo Prefecture

Sponsor: The Relaxed Film Workshop

Deadlines for Applications: Applications will close once capacity is reached.

How to Apply: Advance registration is required. Please register via the form by following the link below or by scanning the QR code on the flyer. <https://x.gd/4ZiiG>

Inquiries: For inquiries, please email sh_th0409@yahoo.ne.jp

◆ Kobe Lantern Festival 2026

In Kobe, everyone is important! We're all connected; together we make Kobe what it is. Come enjoy this multicultural event and food from all over the world!

Dates: October 16-17, 2026 (Fri)

Time: 16:30 - 20:00

Please note that lantern lighting will begin on October 2.

Location: Locations include Taisho-suji Shopping Street, Futaba Gakusha 3rd Floor Auditorium, Futaba International Plaza, KICC, etc.

Info: Enjoy stalls offering food from different countries, stage performances (including a *chindon'ya* traditional Japanese marching band and a folk instrument performance), booths (ball-scoop games, a lottery game, and games from all over the world), a Spanish festival, a candy rally, and more!

Participation Fee: Free to participate. No payment, reservation, or application required.

Sponsor: The Kobe Lantern Festival 2026 Executive Committee

Inquiries: For inquiries, contact the NPO Kobe Foreigners Friendship Center (KFC).

TEL : 078-747-0280 / Email : kfc@social-b.net

For more information, see: <https://social-b.net/baiyu/rantern2026/>

◆ The 28th Himeji International Exchange Festival

Enjoy a very international autumn day in Himeji!

Date: October 25, 2026 (Sun)

Time: 10:00 - 15:00

Place: Otemae Park

Info: This festival provides an opportunity for foreigners and locals living in Himeji City to interact, learn about other cultures, and have fun experiencing lots of activities! Enjoy food from all over the world, stage performances like dancing and singing, trying on different traditional clothing, Aboriginal art, and much more!

Participation Fee: None, free to participate!

(Please note that food and participating in some activities does cost money.)

Audience: Everyone is welcome!

Sponsors: Himeji International Exchange Festival Executive Committee, the city of Himeji, and the Himeji Cultural and International Exchange Foundation

RSVP: No RSVP or registration necessary

Inquiries: For inquiries, please contact the Himeji International Exchange Festival Executive Committee Office via phone at 079-287-0820