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Living Information

Disaster Preparation and Volunteer Day, Disaster Preparation and Volunteer Week

January 17th is "Disaster Preparation and Volunteer Day" and from January 15th to January 21st is "Disaster Preparation and Volunteer Week."

Fourteen years have already passed since the Great Hanshin Earthquake occurred on January 17th, 1995. We must recall the devastating effects of that earthquake in order to prepare for future disasters.

*As a standard procedure of Disaster Preparation, Osaka City provides information on pre-caution measures against earthquakes, tsunamis, typhoons, and other natural disasters. Safety concerns and evacuation instructions announced by Osaka Prefecture are also available through a mobile text message service.

*Information will be provided only in Japanese and English.

Registration: Free (Note: Telephone charge may be applied for mobile text message.)
How to register: Send your unwritten e-mail to touroku@osaka-bousai.net, and then you will receive a message confirming your registration.

For further information: <http://www.osaka.osaka-bousai.net/>

Inquiries: Office of Emergency Management, Osaka City
Tel: 06-6208-7388 Fax: 06-6202-3776

Influenza Alert!

It is easy to catch the influenza virus in winter, due to the cold and dry weather. The symptoms are similar to a cold; however there is a possibility of serious illness arising from high fever, pneumonia, encephalitis, brain cancer or other complications. Infants, elderly people and those who have chronic respiratory disease or heart disease are likely more susceptible to getting influenza. Remember to take precautions such as washing your hands and thoroughly gargling.

■□□Prevention Techniques

- Remember to wash your hands and gargle when you get home.
- When you have a cough or a sneeze, please wear a mask when going out.
- Eat nutritious meals and get sufficient sleep to stay healthy.
- Maintain an appropriate humidity in your room (app. 50-60%)
- Try to avoid going to crowded places when the influenza virus is going around.
- Take the preventive vaccinations

The following could be signs that you have been infected with influenza:

- * a sudden fever over 38 °C

- * sore throat
- * runny nose
- * headache
- * joint or muscular soreness

In the case of these symptoms we advise you to wear a mask and consult a doctor at your earliest convenience.

For further information:

<http://www.city.osaka.jp/kenkoufukushi/kansensyou/>

Inquiries: Infectious Disease Prevention Department,
Osaka City Public Health Office
Tel: 06-6647-0656 Fax: 06-6647-1029

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Event Updates

Japan and Beyond through Diplomats' Eyes 2008
"Japan through Diplomats' Eyes" Photographic Exhibition in Osaka

Photographs taken by diplomats will be put on display, showing their perspectives of Japan, in an effort to deepen international understanding.
(Including 54 exhibitors from 37 countries.)

Date & Time: Thursday, Jan.8th – Monday, Jan.12th
11:00 – 18:00 (Admissions close at 22:00)

Venue: International House, Osaka Gallery

Admission: Free

For further information:

<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/i.house/010/diplomats-eyes2008.html>

Inquiries: Planning and Communications Division
Osaka International House Foundation
TEL: 06-6773-8182 FAX: 06-6773-8421

E-mail : johokikaku@ih-osaka.or.jp

International Human Rights Symposium

Popular comedians and DJs will talk about their experience of international marriage and parenting. Comedy duo, Pakkun and Makkun will emphasize on cultural differences and talk in English and Japanese. Please come and join us!

Date & Time: Saturday, Jan. 10th 14:00 – 16:00 (Doors open at 13:30)

Venue: International House, Osaka Main Hall

Spaces Available: 1000 (No need to book. In order of arrival)

*You may not enter if all seats are taken on the day.

Sign language interpreting will be provided.

Admission: Free

Inquiries: Human Rights Awareness Department, Citizens' Affairs Bureau

Tel: 06-6208-7631 Fax: 06-6202-7076

For further information:

http://www.city.osaka.jp/shimin/topics/081205_symposium.html

Japanese Movie Screening with Subtitles in Foreign Languages

i-house and The Japan Foundation Kyoto Office will present special screenings of famous Japanese movies with subtitles in English and Spanish on the 3rd Friday of January, February and March 2009.

Schedule:

【1st Screening】

2009/1/16 Fri 18:30-20:45

“Tokyo Story” Subtitles in English

(Director: Yasujiro Ozu/1953/135min.)

【2nd Screening】

2009/2/20 Fri 18:30-20:39

“Memories of Matsuko” Subtitles in English
(Director: Tetsuya Nakashima/2006/129min.)

【3rd Screening】

2009/3/20/ Fri 18:30-19:58

“Tora-san’s Runaway” Subtitles in Spanish
(Director: Yoji Yamada/1970/88min.)

Venue: International House, Osaka (i-house) – MET Hall (2F)

Admission: 500 yen / 1 screening

Tickets: Tickets are available at the Information Center of i-house

*The visual quality of some these movies may be poor in certain scenes,
so please take this into consideration before attending.

Inquiries: Osaka International House Foundation

2-6 Uehommachi 8-chome, Tennoji-ku, Osaka

Tel: 06-6773-8182 Fax: 06-6773-8421

E-mail: johokikaku@ih-osaka.or.jp

<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/i.house/010/h20japanese-movie.html>

International Picture Book Readings "AI-AI"

"AI-AI" International Picture Book Readings is for children and parents of all nationalities to enjoy. We provide an opportunity to make friends while experiencing different languages and cultures through picture books from all around the world. Not only can you enjoy book readings in various languages, but there are also sing-along and panel theaters.

No need to book, just turn up on the day! It's free, so please come and enjoy some fun reading!

★ We are looking for native English, Chinese and Korean speaking volunteers for picture book readings. For further information, please see contact details below.

<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/i.house/010/aiaivolunteer.html>

<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/i.house/english/032/post-9.html>

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Japanese Lessons

Fureai Salon

Enjoy learning Japanese with experienced volunteer teachers!

The initial class is free.

No booking needed. Visit us on the class day!

※Fureai Salon will be closed on Jan 31st.

Classes: Classes are usually taught on a one-on-one basis.

(In some cases you may have a group lesson depending on the number of participants)

Date & Time: Every Saturday 14:00 - 15:30

Venue: International House, Osaka
(Map: <http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/map/map.html>)

Tuition: ¥500 for registration - ¥1,500 for 12 lessons (valid for one year)

Application: Visit us at the Information Center on the day of the class (Saturday).

* Free trial lessons are available.

* We accept participants of any level.

For further information:

<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/i.house/english/031/post-6.html>

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>> Please Introduce Your Culture

i-house Culture Salon - Native Volunteers Required

We are looking for foreign residents who are able to introduce their culture to Japanese people at the next i-house culture salon. Please feel free to inquire.

Inquiries: Planning and Communications Division
Osaka International House Foundation
Tel: 06-6773-8989 Fax: 06-6773-8421

E-mail: johokikaku@ih-osaka.or.jp
<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/i.house/english/032/post-10.html>
(Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese)

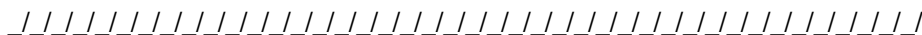
Volunteer Indonesian Interpreters Required

We are looking for volunteer Indonesian interpreters who are able to interpret between our staff and people seeking advice.

Conditions for Volunteering:

- * You are able to work at home.
- * Indonesian interpretation applicants must be able to work Wednesdays.
- * Registration fee to volunteer is 300 yen per year.

Inquiries: Planning and Communications Division
Osaka International House Foundation
Tel: 06-6773-8989 Fax: 06-6773-8420
E-mail: info-staff@ih-osaka.or.jp
(Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese)



Living Information Services Available in 7 Languages

Information Plaza Osaka

Information Plaza Osaka offers free consultation and counseling services by professionals over Telephone or in person, for issues relating to life in Osaka.

<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/i.house/english/020/information-center.html#i-osaka>

Counseling for Foreign Residents

Counseling services for foreign residents including legal advice are available in 7 languages (English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese, Indonesian and Thai).

<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/i.house/english/030/post-4.html>

Living Information

Have you seen the website with useful living information for foreigners in Osaka? There is information about various topics such as medical agencies with foreign language services, living procedures (i.e. registration for foreign residents), habitation, as well as others. (Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean, Spanish, Portuguese)

Access at: <http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/enjoy/en/index.html>

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Access to International House, Osaka

<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/i.house/900/map.html>

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i-koko

This website is hosted by International House, Osaka, to provide information on international exchange events held by other organizations and volunteer activities. (Japanese only)

<http://www.i-koko.com/>

Should you wish to change your registration details or stop receiving this Ezine, please enter the email address you used to register in the Member Registration.

To update: http://www.ih-osaka.info/asp/user_mail_top.asp?Lang_flg=1

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<http://www.ih-osaka.or.jp/i.house/english/>