

What's Up Aichi

— Timely Tourist Information On Aichi Prefecture And The Surrounding Central Japan Region —

International Art Festival in Aichi



Artist: Kenji Yanobe
Title: SUN CHILD, 2011
Photo Courtesy of the Artist

The Aichi Triennale attracts modern artist from home and abroad and has become one of Japan's largest international art festivals. The theme for the upcoming Aichi Triennale 2013 is "Awakening – Where Are We Standing? - Earth, Memory and Resurrection."

This summer, over 100 international artists, theater companies, dance groups, and filmmakers are participating in the art festival. The exhibitions and artistic displays will be on display at venues such as the Aichi Arts Center, Nagoya City Art Museum, and the Chojamachi, Nayabashi, and Okazaki areas.

The Aichi Triennale 2013 will begin August 10th and will be wrapping up on October 27th. The inaugural Aichi Triennale was in 2010, and consecutive festivals are held every 3 years.

<http://aichitriennale.jp/english/>

Goodwill Volunteer Guide Network

愛知おもてなしガイド

The Goodwill Guide Volunteer Program in Aichi, JAPAN

A new website dedicated to introducing Aichi's large group of volunteer tour guides just went live. The site features easy accessibility for everyone including support for the visually impaired, software supported reading, character expansion, and quick translation provided by Google. This is most comprehensive accessibility

support offered on Aichi Tourism Bureau websites.

Aichi supports the largest number of volunteer guides in the country. Currently there are 61 tour groups and many active volunteers. There are no application fees, and most tours are provided free of charge for any group of 2 or more people. The website has full details on what routes and activities are possible and accommodations will be made for those with special needs. There are many volunteers that can provide English tours, and two groups that specialize in English tours.

Main Website:

<http://www.aichi-voluguide.jp/about/>

English Tour Groups:

<http://www.aichi-voluguide.jp/guide/detail.php?id=40>

<http://www.aichi-voluguide.jp/guide/detail.php?id=11>

Anime Enthusiasm in Nagoya

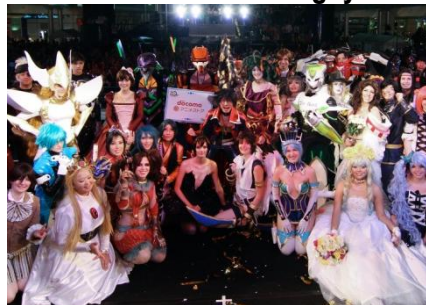


Photo Courtesy of World Cosplay Summit and Aichi Television Broadcasting Co.

The "World Cosplay Summit" is an annual event and competition that attracts tens of thousands of cosplay enthusiast from around the world. The first World Cosplay Summit was held in the Osu district of Nagoya in 2003. 3 countries were represented in the competition but this year a total of 20 countries will be competing in the final pageant. For those of you who don't know "Cosplayers" dress up in elaborate (usually handmade) costumes based off manga and anime.

The competition involves more than just a judging the best costume but a pageant also involves re-enacted fights, romantic scenes, and funny dialogue to determine which cosplayer is the best embodiment of their character. Currently, all around the world hundreds of thousands are competing in preliminary rounds, and in August the main competition will be between the best teams.

People-watching in Japan is always interesting, and at the Cosplay Summit you can see some of the most elaborately dressed people in all of Japan. This is one of the best opportunities to see one of Japan's more vibrant subcultures.

www.tv-aichi.co.jp/wcs/e

The Sweetest Castle in the World



The exterior has been used in TV and Movies

Everyone has dreamt of visiting a house made entirely out of candy, but at the Sweet Castle (Okashi No Shiro) you can have the next best thing. This unique building in Inuyama, Aichi has been a local attraction for almost 30 years and is undeniably the sweetest place in Aichi.

The Castle is based on traditional Western European design and it is often featured in commercials and photos. The design is borrowed from the Meiji-era style and is the best place to get sweets from a fairy tale building.

The Castle and the surrounding grounds are meant to entertain people of all ages and interest. There is the 'Confectionery Passage' where visitors can watch the sweets being made, on the 'Marchen Path' where visitors can see famous landmarks recreated in confectionery, and a bakery where visitors can take confectionery classes and bake original cookies. There is even a 46ft tall sugar cake, which is said to be one of the tallest cake in the world! If you wish to take home a souvenir, pick from hundreds of seasonal cakes, puddings, ice cream, original parfaits, crepes, or a local favorite called uiro.

<http://www.okashino-shiro.jp/english.html>

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