

GIFU BULLETIN

Vol. II | No. 6

Featuring News, Events, and Updates from Around the Geefs

June 2016



UPCOMING EVENTS

<p>Ceramics Exhibition Museum of Modern Ceramic Art Tajimi City May 21st – July 10th Event Link</p>	<p>Nan yarou ne? Art Exhibit Gifu Museum of Fine Art Gifu City 330 yen Until June 5th Event Link</p>	<p>Amago Trout Fishing Tournament Ogawa, Gujo City 3000 yen June 5th Event Link</p>	<p>Firefly Festival Akasaka Cho, Ogaki 100 yen June 4th – 11th (From 10pm) Event Link</p>
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News – First PA Conference 2016: Counselling Supports

On Monday and Tuesday of this week, all of the PAs from across the country descended on Shibuya for the first PA conference of 2016 where we attended workshops dealing with subjects such as planning SDCs, the online counselling service and effective outreach. A second conference is held later on in the year for first year PAs arriving in the new JET year. There were a couple of interesting nuggets of info from the conference

Changes to the Online Counselling Service

Skype sessions will be limited to 5 times a year. CLAIR stated this is to ensure that people in need of long term assistance don't rely on the service and to make it available to more people. There is no change to the mail service. Changes come into effect from July of 2016

Reminder - Change to the Counselling Assistance Programme

CLAIR can subsidize the cost of counseling assistance for up to 20,000 yen per JET per year. This is up from the previous total of 10,000 yen. This increase came into effect in April.

Japanese Phrase of the Month

For when things don't make sense

Muri ga tooreba doori hikkomu

無理が通れば道理引っ込む

Logic gives way to the illogical

Note: This proverb accepts the idea that what is logical must sometimes give way to what is without reason.

Special Report – Former Gifu ALT Recognized in Speech by US President

Elizabeth Phu, a Vietnamese American and former Gifu JET ALT who taught at Hashima High School, was recognized in President Obama's remarks during his stop in Vietnam earlier this month.

“With just \$20 in their pocket, Liz’s parents started to build a new life in California. They taught their children about the importance of education. And after years of studying and hard work, Liz -- a proud Vietnamese-American -- ended up becoming one of my top advisors on Asia in the White House. And we've relied on her for all kinds of incredible policy work that we've done over the last several years.”

Full remarks [HERE](#)

Hayano 先生 found this story and asked me to share.

Regional Spotlight — CHUNO

Chuno you wanna visit!

Hello everyone! Now that cherry blossom season has finished in Gifu Prefecture and there's no more golden week to look forward to, you might find yourself in need of a little pick-me up. Well say no more! There are lots of activities, festivals, and things to see all around the Chuno region that are guaranteed to make your week better. Here are just a few of those things that JETs in Gifu Prefecture have taken advantage of in the Chuno region.



Photo taken by Sarah

First off we have the Mino Festival in Mino. Held in April every year, giant floats carrying hand-made cherry blossom trees made entirely out of *washi*, or Japanese paper, are paraded through the town. The float carriers are also provided with an abundance of sake to drink. Gifu region's very own Tom Black was even given a taste of the sake by some tipsy float carriers. We're glad to see that JETs from all over the prefecture came out to enjoy the festival!



Photo taken by Sarah Demery

If you're feeling bummed because you missed it, don't worry because you can still get your beautiful paper fix this fall at the Mino-Washi Akari Art Exhibition. Held the weekend after Fitness Day, the town of Mino showcases some of the most intricate, abstract and beautiful paper lanterns you've ever seen. These are not your average *chochin*, that's for sure. If you can't make that weekend, you can visit the Akari Art Gallery in Mino which is open year round.



Photos taken by Josiah Wilson



Photo taken by Jasmine Bernhardt

Next on our spotlight is *ukai* in Seki. You've probably heard of the *ukai* in Gifu City, but you might not know that Seki also hosts its own *ukai* every year. Beginning in May, it's said to be less touristy and more traditional than the Gifu City *ukai* event.

Last on our spotlight is the Otaki Limestone Cave in Gujo, the largest system of limestone caves in the Tokai region! The section open to the public is about 700m and takes about 30 min to walk through. As you walk along, there are many stalactites for you to gaze at while the path eventually opens up into an underground waterfall!

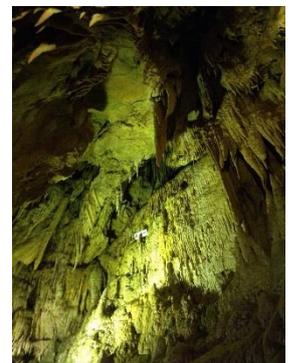


Photo taken by Meryl Jordan

Peace out, from Kristen Elrod and Josiah Wilson! (Chuno RPAs)

What did you think?

What would you like to see in future issues?
Send us an email at gifupas@gmail.com



See you next time !