

Welcome to Obihiro, Miao-San!

This April, we are happy to welcome the newest CIR (coordinator for international relations) to Obihiro City, Ms. Miao Shujin! All the way from China's Fujian Province, Ms. Miao comes to Obihiro for the first time. Obihiro Pioneer had the opportunity to interview her.

Obihiro Pioneer: Ms. Miao, welcome to Obihiro! This is your first time to Obihiro, but not to Japan. Please share with us your previous experiences in

ミオさん、帯広へようこそ！

Japan.

Miao: That is correct. I've been fascinated with Japan since I was a university student and have done a 6-month long study abroad program. During that time, I was surprised by the kindness of Japanese people. From then on, I wanted to know more about Japan.



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Spring Tea Ceremony 2017

Experience traditional Japanese Tea ceremony at the Tokachi International Relations Center's tea room this spring!
Place: Tokachi International Relations Center, West 20, South 6-1-2

Date/Time: May 28th, 10:00-14:30

• Morning sessions (4x):
Tea Ceremony

• Afternoon sessions (2x):
Tea Serving Etiquette

Participants: Tokachi Foreign Residents

& Obihiro citizens, 13 and older

Fees: FREE for foreign residents.

森の茶～春～

For Obihiro citizens, 300 yen for a tea ceremony experience, 500 yen to experience making tea and learning etiquette.



Contact/Reserve: Please call the TIRC office to reserve your spot! Reservations can be made from May 6th to the 26th.

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Miao-San Interview
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Events at TIRC and in Tokachi and Obihiro

When	What	Where/Contact
5/10 (Wed) 19:00-21:00	International Mini-Volleyball Night Meet new friends from around the world while enjoying a fun and easy sport.	Tokachi International Relations Center 森の交流館・十勝 0155-34-0122 tirc@city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp
5/13, 5/27 (Sat) 16:00-18:00	Japanese Conversation and Learning Table Improve your Japanese language skills in a friendly environment.	
5/13 (Sat) 18:30-20:00	61st International Talk (China) Learn more about the countries of the world and exchange ideas with other participants. This month, the newest CIR from China will talk about her journey before coming to Obihiro and will introduce China and its cultural differences of Japan.	
5/20 (Sat) 10:00-11:30	41st Kids Playground (Kenya) Come with your children to learn and play while meeting local families. This month you can enjoy Kenyan hand play, crafts, storytelling and much more. Come and interact with an international student from Kenya! Fee: Free of charge (no registration required) For children 0-6 years old and their parents/guardians.	
5/28 (Sun) 10:00-14:30	Spring Tea Ceremony Come and experience the traditional Japanese way of serving tea. TIRC Tea Room “Sei-Fu-An” Sessions 1-4: Tea Ceremony 10:00/10:30/11:00/11:30 Sessions 5-6: Tea Serving Etiquette 13:00/13:50 Seats: Tokachi foreign residents: first 50 people / free Obihiro citizen: first 10 people / with charge *For junior high school students or older Tea ceremony: 300 yen per person Tea serving etiquette: 500 yen per person Signup period: May 6th (Sat) ~May 26th (Fri) at TIRC	

Welcome to Obihiro, Miao-San! (continued)

ミオさん、帯広へようこそ！

OP: Wow! We're happy to hear that you had a good experience. Is that why you came back to work in Japan?

M: Yes! I want to learn more about Japan while sharing my own culture with everyone I meet. I also have many friends in Japan who have supported me.

OP: We're looking forward to learning more about you and China! Speaking of which, tell us about your hometown.

M: I'm from the Fujian Province. You may have heard of it before as it is famous for its delicious tea.

OP: From Fujian to Obihiro, what are some things you would like to try while here in Obihiro/Hokkaido?

M: I've always been interested in Hokkaido. First, I want to try cheese made with Hokkaido milk! Next, I want to see the horse track and farms. I'm also looking forward to ice skating in the winter! I've heard about the beautiful

winter scenery, but I can't even begin to imagine it! Also, I want to try riding a horse!

OP: Sounds like you have a full schedule ahead of you! Lastly, could you share a bit about yourself?

M: Gladly! My hobbies include cooking,

exercising and listening to music. I love food! I

especially enjoy milk, cheese and various seafood. It's been a while since the last time I lived alone, so I hope to live it to the fullest!

We thank Ms. Miao for her time and wonderful interview! We hope that Hokkaido is everything you dreamed of and more!



Ms. Miao on the left in a beautiful Japanese yukata!

International Talk

Want to learn more about Obihiro's newest CIR? Come to this month's **International Talk** at the **Tokachi International Relations Center** on **May 13th 18:30-20:00!** Ms. Miao will be going in-depth about her journey and experiences before coming to Obihiro as well as what she hopes to do while here in Hokkaido. This talk will be held both in English and Japanese, for everyone to enjoy!

Movies At Cinema Taiyo, in Obihiro

(Nishi 3, Minami 11)
Tel: (0155) 20-1525

Times and movies are subject to change! (for space reasons not all movies are listed)
To confirm, call or check online at: http://www.taiyogroup.jp/cinema/theater/_obihiro/movie.shtml

Title	Language	Dates
Beauty and the Beast	Dub/Subtitled	All Month
The Fate of the Furious (Wild Speed: Ice Break)	Dub/Subtitled	All Month
Guardians of the Galaxy Vol. 2 (Guadians of the Galaxy Remix)	Jpn Dubbed	From 12th
Detective Conan: Crimson Love Letter (meitantei konan karakurenai no rabu reta)	Japanese	All Month

Events Continued

When	What	Where/Contact
5/5 (Fri)	第26回歴舟川清流鯉のぼりミニイベント 26th Rekifune River Koi Kate-Flying Mini Event Experience high-heights on top of a cherry picker vehicle. There will also be activities including a bouncy dome and memorial picture-taking.	Taiki Bridge River Bank 大樹橋上流河川敷 大樹町観光協会事務局 01558-6-2114
5/14 (Sun)	第59回本別山溪つつじ祭り 59th Honbetsu 「Tsutsuji」 Festival Come see the flowers of Hokkaido purple rose trees (tsutsuji) and enjoy a variety of activities and food.	義経の里本別公園 本別町企画振興課(本別町観光協会事務局) 0156-22-2141
Mid-May	さらべつ すももの里まつり Sarabetsu Sumomo Peach "Village" Festival Enjoy looking at nearly a 1000 blooming Sumomo peach trees. There will be a food and drink corner, along with other activities.	Sarabetsu Sumomo Peach "Village" Sarabetsu Tourism Association 更別村観光協会 0155-52-2211
5/28 (Sun)	第37回足寄ふるさと花まつり 37th Ashoro Hometown Flower Festival Welcome Ashoro's spring at the flower festival which will include a stage show, a lottery and more!	Ashoro Town Hall Parking Lot 足寄町役場駐車場 足寄町経済課 0156-25-2141

Obihiro Pioneer can be found at the following locations: Obihiro City Hall, Tokachi International Relations Center, Obihiro University International Center, Obihiro Tourism and Convention Center inside the Obihiro JR Station, Obihiro Public Library, Tokachi Plaza, Cinema Taiyo, Joy English Academy and online at www.city.obihiro.hokkaido.jp (click on "Information for Foreigners")

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