

U.F.R.A. NEWS



Kanda University's Thai Music and Dance Club will perform at the Urayasu Global Festival

Global Festival

Urayasu's Global Festa takes place on **Saturday, November 18** at Shin-Urayasu Station Plaza from **10:00 am - 3:00 pm**. This festival highlights the city's support for globally-oriented groups and organizations and features exciting performances of world music and dance.

Once again, UFRA will hold a **bake sale** at our booth with breads, cakes and cookies prepared by our members. We are looking for members to bake or help out at the booth! Just bring your baked goods to the booth on the day of the festival. Wrap your treats in advance, and write down a price in **increments of ¥100**. However, for better coordination, it would be appreciated if you contact **Monika Kamiya** at the UFRA gmail below whether you are baking or wish to help out.

The money raised will go to a charity - probably an organization in Japan this year though this has not yet been decided for sure.

UFRA is sponsoring a performance of Thai classical music and dance by students from Kanda University of International Studies. These talented students perform on authentic instruments under the direction of Somkanok Yimsanit, a musician and dancer from Thailand. This year the group has been active, performing at elder care homes, Buddhist festivals as well as the big Thai Food Festival in Yoyogi Park last May.

UFRA Art Exhibition

UFRA's annual exhibition of works created by our members will be held on **Saturday - Sunday, November 18-19** at the **WAVE Gallery**. UFRA members are cordially invited to the opening ceremony, which starts from **5:00 pm** on **November 18 (Sat)**. Visitors will enjoy a buffet of light snacks and a selection of California wines

UFRA Christmas Party

Tickets are now on sale for UFRA's Christmas Party. Dinner at the Brighton Hotel. Music by the Irish band, Wee Dram who promise to get the crowd dancing and perform some holiday music as well. Arrangements are still being made, but you can expect door prizes, maybe a raffle, a fine dinner and plenty of fun.

Date: Sunday, 3 December, 18:00.

Venue: Urayasu Brighton Hotel, Feast Hall

Tickets: UFRA members : ¥ 5,000; Non-Members: ¥ 6,500

Reservations: Call or visit the UFRA office at the Local Network Section at Urayasu City Hall, 3rd fl.

Korean Cooking Workshop

Congratulations to Yoonsue Mannaga and Mika Otsuka for a successful Korean Cooking workshop. They report that 30 people attended and learned to make Bibimbap, Kongnamul-Kuk and Kkakdugi (Radish Kimchi).

Wine Note: Beaujolais Nouveau is Coming

On Thursday November 16, Beaujolais Nouveau goes on sale around the world, giving wine lovers their first taste of 2017. How was the vintage? Tough! French vigneron in Burgundy and Beaujolais had to reckon with killer spring frosts, violent summer hailstorms and drought - all of which reduced the size of the crop - though not, apparently, the quality. Indeed, the words I hear describing 2017 Beaujolais are Opulent, Joyful, Silky, Fresh and Vibrant.

But is it worth paying ¥1,800... ¥3,000... or even ¥6,000 for a bottle of recently fermented grape juice? For me, Beaujolais Nouveau is lively and fun and a great excuse for a party. But the air freight may cost more than the wine itself! You can spend the same amount on a good bottle of (non-nouveau) Beaujolais-Villages. Or seek out a "cru" Beaujolais named for the village of its origin - Morgon, Moulin-à-Vent, Fleurie, Brouilly or St. Amour. These are wines that prove Beaujolais can be as good and complex as Bourgogne!

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