https://www.city.kure.lg.jp/soshiki/111/ ※Illustrations created by Gemini / ChatGPT / Microsoft Copilot & いらすとや

Web Site

HIRO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CENTER

KOHO HIRO

NOVEMBER ISSUE

HIRO COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



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【Editorial and Publishing Office】
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Population of HIRO
At the end of July, compared to June
Total 41,823(−4)
●M E N 20,342(+12)
●WOMEN 21,481(−16)

This is an image for reference.



If you have to show people how hard you're trying, you still have a long way to go. No matter how much others tell you, nothing changes until you realize it for yourself. And once you do, there's nothing stronger. Fall down, get back up, and keep moving forward. Tomorrow, surpass who you are today. That's what it means to give it everything you've got. ***Yanagiya Kosanji***

Ebisu: The God Who Stays to Watch Over Us

A hint of autumn can finally be felt in the morning and evening air. It is a season to celebrate the harvest and enjoy the richness of local culture, art and tradition. From November 18 to 20, the streets of ***Hiroshima*** come alive with the ***Ebisu*** Festival, known locally as ***Ebes-san***. One of ***Hiroshima***'s traditional festivals, it celebrates prosperity and good fortune.



At its center is ***Ebisu***, the cheerful god of good fortune, traditionally depicted with a fishing rod in his right hand and a sea bream in his left. Originally a god of fishermen, ***Ebisu*** came to be worshiped as a bringer of abundant catches, bountiful harvests and success in business. Over time, he became widely known as a god of prosperity and good fortune.



According to an old Japanese tradition, the tenth month of the lunar calendar is known as ***Kannazuki***, or "the month without gods." The gods are said to leave their local shrines and gather at ***Izumo Grand Shrine***, where they discuss human relationships and the fortunes of the coming year. ***Ebisu***, however, stays behind to watch over the communities he calls home. ***Ebisu*** is also the only one of Japan's ***Seven Lucky Gods*** to have originated in Japan. ***Daikokuten***, ***Bishamonten*** and ***Benzaiten*** came from India, while ***Fukurokuju***, ***Jurōjin*** and ***Hotei*** have their roots in China. These deities from different cultures are traditionally depicted together aboard a treasure ship, bringing good fortune to people—a fitting symbol of Japan's long tradition of welcoming and embracing diverse cultures.

While the other gods are away in ***Izumo***, ***Ebisu*** remains behind to look after us. Knowing this story makes his familiar, gentle smile seem all the more reassuring. Shrines dedicated to ***Ebisu*** can be found in ***Hiro-honmachi***, ***Nigata-Honmachi***, ***Kure-Nakadori*** and ***Mitarai*** in ***Tutaka-machi***. When you visit one, why not quietly say, "It must be a lot of work looking after everyone by yourself this month"? Perhaps ***Ebisu*** will smile and reply, "In that case, I'll send a little extra good fortune your way." Imagining such a conversation may be one of the small pleasures of ***Kannazuki***.



Director ***Hosokawa***

Information from Hiro C.D.C.

Short Courses: Registration Opens Friday, November 20

New Year's Container Garden

Create a beautiful container garden using several types of plants, including ornamental kale

Adult Course



Eligibility: Adults aged 18 and older
Date & Time: Wednesday, December 16, 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.
Location: Hiro Civic Center, Room 606
Fee: ¥3,200 **Capacity**: 10 participants

Information from Hiro Library

Opening Hours: 9:30 a.m.–8:00 p.m.
Closed: Thursdays and national holidays
Closed in November: **3, 5, 12, 19, 23, 26**
※Please note that the Picture Book Reading Session will not be held in November.



Inquiries: ☎71-7470

News from the HIRO Collaboration Center

"Kure Community Development Roundtable"

Interested in getting more involved in your local community? Do you have something you would like to do in your community, but aren't sure where to start? Come and share your thoughts with us! Talking with others may help you discover new ideas, possibilities, or a place to start. This is a relaxed and casual gathering where you can simply talk and exchange ideas. Feel free to drop in and join us!



Date & Time: Friday, November 27, 2026 10:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m. You are welcome to join late or leave early.
Location: Hiro Community Collaboration Center 4F, Hiro Civic Center **Who Can Attend**: Residents of Kure City **Fee**: Free **Registration**: No registration required
For More Information: Kure Community Collaboration Center
Tel: 0823-25-5602 Opening Hours: Tue.–Sat.: 9:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m. Sun. & public holidays: 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Closed on Mondays. If Monday is a public holiday, the center will be closed on the following day.

Walking Event Information



◎ **Date**: Monday, November 23, 2026
◎ **Meeting Place**: Hiro Civic Center
◎ **Meeting Time**: 9:00 a.m.

RAINED OUT

Route: *Round trip to Marino Ohashi Bridge – 5 km*

Hiro Civic Center → ***Nijimura Ohashi*** Bridge → ***Hoei Minami*** Park→ ***Marino Ohashi*** Bridge (round trip) → ***Hiro*** Civic Center

※The route may be changed or the event may be canceled due to weather conditions or other circumstances.

For inquiries, please contact **Mr. Hori**: 📠 080-1919-6088

Please sign in at the reception desk for accident insurance purposes.

* ***This event is held as part of the Hiro District Education Festival.***

Organized by: Hiro District Health and Exercise Promotion Council and Higashi Health Center, Kure City Public Health Center
Co-organized by: Hiro District Federation of Neighborhood Associations and Hiro District Council of Social Welfare

Information from Higashi Health Center

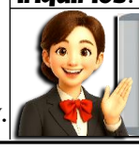


Participants Wanted! "Stay Healthy and Active"

Exercise Class for Preventing Frailty This exercise class is designed to help participants maintain and improve their physical strength through exercises and stretching.

Eligibility: Residents of Kure City aged 65 or older. For safety reasons, participation may be restricted depending on your health condition. **Capacity**: 25 participants **Fee**: Free **Dates and Time**: Every Friday, 1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m. December 11, 2026–March 19, 2027(12 sessions in total) **Location**: Higashi Health Center, Multipurpose Room(2nd Floor, Hiro Civic Center) **How to Apply**: Please apply in person between October 9 and November 2, 2026, at the service counters of any of the following locations: ***Hiro*** Civic Center, ***Aga*** Civic Center, ***Nigata*** Civic Center, ***Gōhara*** Civic Center, **Senior Citizens Support Division**, Any **Senior Citizens Consultation Office** (Community Comprehensive Support Center) in Kure City. You must complete an application form. Applications cannot be made by telephone. If there are more applicants than available places, participants will be selected.

Inquiries: Senior Citizens Support Division Tel: 25-3104



Our office is normally closed on 4th Monday
Monday, November 30

Ebisucho, Naka Ward, is named after merchants who brought Ebisu from Yoshida, Akitakata, in 1603. The Ebisucho Grand Festival is one of Hiroshima's three major festivals, along with Toka-san and Sumiyoshi Festival.

Yanagiya Kosanji was a rakugo master known for his natural style, skillful pauses, and distinctive "makura." He received the Purple Ribbon Medal in 2005 and was designated a Living National Treasure in 2014.

Parking is limited during the festival. Please use public transportation.

The 78th Hiro District Education Festival



<1F Civic Gallery> *1:The final day ends at 4:00 p.m. & 2: ends at 3:00 p.m.

1. **Joint Exhibition of Works by Nursery School & Kindergarten Children**
   Saturday, October 31–Tuesday, November 3
2. **Children's Association Wall Newspaper Exhibition**
   Saturday, October 31–Friday, November 13
   Theme: ***"What you are working on & what you would like to work on"***

<3F Hall — Stage Performances>

Hiro Cultural Organizations Federation Stage Performances

Saturday, November 7 12:00 p.m.–2:05 p.m.



1.*Yojiro no Kai* 2. *Rishokai* 3. *Rihokai* 4. *Shoseikai*

Sunday, November 8 11:30 a.m.–3:45 p.m.

1. STUDIO E.M.I 2. *Yuzuriha Narukokai* 3. Enjoy *Kimono* Club
4. WORKOUT STUDIO 5. *Kyushu* Hawaiian Association *Hiroshima*
6. *Ondo Kiyomori Taiko* Preservation 7. *Kawaguchi* Ballet Studio

Classes & Clubs Stage Performances



Saturday, November 14 1:00 p.m.–3:30 p.m.

1. 3B Exercise 2. Japanese Dance (*Fujima* School) 3. Chorus
4. Classical Ballet / *Manabi* Ballet



Sunday, November 15 10:00 a.m.–11:40 a.m.

1. Himawari 21 2. *YOSAKOI* 3. Tai Chi
4. Healthy Hula for Beginners



The program for Nov. 23 will be announced in the Dec. issue.

<5F–6F — Exhibitions>

Saturday, October 31–Tuesday, November 3 9:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.
Closes at 4:00 p.m. on the final day

Joint Exhibition of Elementary, Junior High, and High School Students' Works Room 502

Saturday, October 31–Tuesday, November 3 9:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.
Closes at 4:00 p.m. on the final day

Elementary and Junior High School "Letters" Exhibition

Theme: ***"To My Future Self"*** Room 503

Saturday, November 21–Monday, November 23 (national holiday)
10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

5F Room 501: Sewing Club
Room 502: Calligraphy, Painting, *Senryu*, *Haiku*, Rattan Craft *Origami*, *Suzume-kai*, *Etegami* Art Club *Hiro* Class
Room 503: Easy Sewing
Room 504: **Ikebana**- *Saga Goryu*; *IKEBANA Akatsuki-kai* (from Nov. 22)
6F Rooms 604 / 605: **Tea Ceremony** — *Urasenke* (Nov. 23 only)
Room 606: **Ikebana**- *Ikenobo* (from Nov. 22)



7F — Awards Ceremony
Monday, November 23 (national holiday) 9:30 a.m.–10:30 a.m.
Room 702: **Hiro Sports Association Sports Achievement Awards**

Information from HIRO Sports Association

These three events are part of the 78th Hiro District Educational Festival.

67th Hiro Community Martial Arts Tournament — Judo Division



Date & Time: Sunday, November 15, 2026, from 10:00 a.m.
Venue: ***Shishinyo*** Oak Arena, Martial Arts Hall
Eligibility: Preschool and elementary school children who either live in the Hiro area or neighboring areas, or attend a kindergarten, nursery school, or elementary school in these areas.
Applications: Please apply to the Hiro Sports Association Office by Sunday, October 25.

Hiro Sports Association Office ☎ 71-2151 73-5034

67th Hiro Community Martial Arts Tournament — Kendo Division

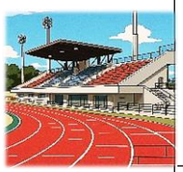


Date & Time: Monday, November 23, 2026, from 9:30 a.m.
Venue: ***Shishinyo*** Oak Arena Sub Arena
Eligibility: Residents of the Hiro area, or anyone who attends a kindergarten, nursery school, elementary, junior high, or high school, university, or workplace in the Hiro area. Open to everyone from preschool children to adults.
Applications: Please apply to the Hiro Sports Association Office by Friday, October 23.

Hiro Sports Association Office ☎ 71-2151 73-5034

2nd Hiro Distance Challenge

Date & Time: Sunday, December 6, 2026, from 9:00 a.m.
Venue: Kure General Sports Center (***Gohara***)— Athletics Stadium
Eligibility: People who live in the Hiro District or attend an educational institution or work in the Hiro area. **Entry Fee**: Free



Categories: 1. **Family Run**: Preschool children and their parents/guardians (must cross the finish line together)
2. **Elementary School Division**: Boys and girls in grades 1–6
3. **Junior High School Division**: Boys and girls in grades 7–9
4. **Open Division**: Adult men and women, including high school students

Courses:1. **1,000 m course** (2.5 laps): **Family Run**; elementary school students in grades 1–4 2. **2,000 m course** (5 laps): Elementary school students in grades 5–6; junior high school students; adult women
3. **3,000 m course** (7 laps): Adult men



Applications: Please apply to the Hiro Sports Association Office by Friday, October 23. Elementary and junior high school students should generally apply through their schools.

Hiro Sports Association Office ☎ 71-2151 73-5034

Other Information: If the event is canceled due to inclement weather, the decision will be made based on the condition of the grounds as of 7:00 a.m. on the day of the event. For injuries sustained during the event, only first aid will be provided, and no further responsibility will be assumed. However, the Hiro Sports Association will provide one-day accident insurance coverage for all participants.

61st Hiroshima Prefecture Open Soft Tennis Tournament

Hiro Sports Association Office ☎ 71-2151 73-5034

Date & Time: Sunday, November 15, 2026, from 9:00 a.m.
Venue: National Institute of Technology, Kure College
Eligibility: General adult men and women. *Students from elementary, junior high, and high schools are not eligible to participate.*



Registration: Please apply to the Hiro Sports Association Office *by 5:00 p.m.* on Thursday, October 22.
Inquiries: Yatsu, Head of the Soft Tennis Club 090-8363-1400 ☎ 73-5351

Results of the 58th Open Women's Volleyball League



Date & Time: Tuesday, August 11, 2026, from 9:00 a.m.
Venue: ***Shishinyo*** Oak Arena

Division A: **1st** : Hiro Club		**2nd** : With	
Division B: **1st** : GOD•HAND		**2nd** : Naka-Kurose Volleyball Club	
Division C: **1st** : Nakamachi Club		**2nd** : Misakaji Sho Volleyball Club	

Results of the 32nd Hiro Town Residents' Kyudo Tournament



Date & Time: Sunday, August 23, 2026 , from 9:00 a.m.
Venue: Kure City Archery Range (Short-Distance Range)

High School Girls' Division : 1st ***Yuzu Obata*** (K. M. H. S.)
2nd ***Ryoko Domoto*** (K. M. H. S.) 3rd ***Mikoto Nakagawa*** (K. M. H. S.)
High School Boys' Division : 1st ***Haruma Wada*** (Mitsuta H.S.)
2nd ***Jinya Kawakami*** (Mitsuta H.S.) 3rd ***Hiroshi Ichikawa*** (Mitsuta H.S.)
Women's Open Division : 1st ***Naomi Hamasaki*** (K. C. K. F.)
2nd ***Chiyo Obayashi*** (H. S. A.) 3rd ***Yoshie Kakihara*** (K. C. K. F.)
Men's Open Division : 1st ***Hideo Minowa*** (H. S. A.)
2nd ***Shizuki Shindo*** (H. S. A.) 3rd ***Koki Murakami*** (K. C. K. F.)
Outstanding Archer Award : ***Naomi Hamasaki*** (K. C. K. F.)
Awarded to the archer with the highest number of successful hits.

Editorial Note *The Seven Lucky Gods & the Treasure Ship*



The Seven Lucky Gods (***Shichifukujin***) were not originally a group of seven gods. From the ***Muromachi*** period through the ***Edo*** period, they gradually came together in Japan as people sought gods associated with business prosperity, wealth, longevity, wisdom, and the arts.

The number seven itself was also considered especially auspicious. The sail of the treasure ship carrying the Seven Lucky Gods bears the following words: "**After a long night, everyone awakens from deep sleep. How pleasant it is to hear the sound of a ship riding the waves.**" Remarkably, these words form a palindrome in Japanese—they read the same backward as they do forward. Now that I know about this clever little touch, I think I'll go to sleep tonight hoping the treasure ship will sail into my harbor—right up to my front door! ⓚ

This is a Japanese palindrome.NA-GA-KI-YO-NO TO-O-NO-NE-MU-RI-NO MI-NA-ME-ZA-ME NA-MI-NO-RI-BU-NE-NO O-TO-NO-YO-KI-KA-NA