

## SEPTEMBER

### ■ *Yabusame*

A festival celebrating the traditional art of horse-back archery, *yabusame*, will hit Machida City in November.

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### ■ Campus Festivals

There are a number of school festivals at colleges and universities in Machida in the fall.

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### ■ "Machida Ethnic Gourmet"

The *Machida Ethnic Gourmet* is a gourmet map for ethnic cafes and restaurants near Machida Station.

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### ■ Machida Tourist Gallery

The Machida Tourist Gallery is the visitor center of Machida. It is in the Poppo Building near the Machida Station. English service for tourism information in Machida is available when English-speaking staff member is available.

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## Horseback Riding Archers Strike Machida

***Yabusame* archers set their sights upon *Serigaya* park near Machida station, to hold an exciting exhibition this November!**

It is always fascinating to be exposed to foreign traditional arts that you have never seen. In fact, some residents from abroad might have already been taking the initiative and learned a tea ceremony, *Ikebana* (Japanese flower arrangement), or *karate*.

However, it does not apply to some arts which require a certain environment and unique equipment, such as *yabusame*.

Therefore, the hardship to experience *yabusame* bears another unfavorable circumstance; an opportunity to witness such art hardly comes around, which makes it even harder to imagine what *yabusame* is like.

*Yabusame* is a traditional archery form that takes place while galloping on a horse at top speed. The archer uses special arrows which have "turnip heads" to break wooden targets set on the course. The control over the horse is manipulated only by his knees, since he must use both of his arms for controlling the bow and arrow to strike targets.

Nowadays, *Yabusame* is usually performed only when big events take place to please *shintō* gods at relatively famous shrines. However, most audiences want to witness the art of archery for sheer enjoyment, rather than for religious reasons.

Fortunately, a rare chance to witness *Yabusame* in Machida has come at last.

Machida City Tourism & Convention Bureau is going to hold a *Yabusame* festival at *Serigaya* Park on November 28<sup>th</sup>.

The festival will start from 10 am with *jidai gyōretsu*, or 'parade' in which people dress themselves up in historical costumes such as *samurai* armors and *kimonos*. The performers will walk through Hara-Machida market areas near Machida station, heading toward the park.

After the parade arrives at the park, various Japanese martial arts exhibitions will begin: *iai*, or way of sword, *hōjutsu*, or way of gunnery, *aikidō*, and more, offered by several groups. Then finally, the *yabusame* archers will have their turn. Not only the archers, but the entirety of the members of the festival are ready to wow the audience.



(Above) A *yabusame* archer leaves the audience breathless while galloping at maximum speed.

## *Machida Yabusame* (Horseback riding archery)

**Date: November 28<sup>th</sup> (Sun), 2010**

**Place: Serigaya Park**

**(Historic costume parade will start from 10am in Hara-Machida area)**

**Time: 10am-3:30pm**

**PLEASE COME JOIN US!!**

# The Machida Tourist Times

Vol.3

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FREE Paper



## Campus Festivals Rocking Machida City

**It's the season to rush to colleges and universities in Machida City to have some fun!**

There are so many wonderful things to enjoy in autumn: fall foliage is extraordinarily beautiful, vegetables that are harvested in autumn contain ample vitamins; there is even a saying, "autumn with the sky clear and blue, and horses growing stout".

Additionally, Japan has a tradition of having campus festivals in the fall.

In short, it is a season in which fatigue from April will pile up (as you may know, most companies and schools start their year in April). Schools attempt to gain freshmen for the next year by promoting events going on at their school, in order to increase their recruitment ratio. This is also when students are trying to decide where to go to schools.

Machida city, of course, is no exception. There are numerous festivals coming soon, offered by colleges and universities. Contents of festivals vary from one to the other, but they usually have food stands, concerts, standup comedy shows, performances by clubs, and more unique events. Some schools even invite celebrities and professional comedians for these big occasions.

Even if you are not planning to take an exam to enter the school, it could be a very enjoyable event to participate in. Why don't you invite your friends to visit a school festival this year in Machida City?

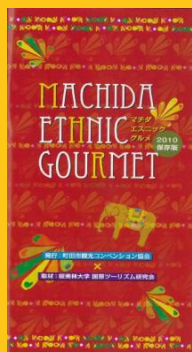
\*<sup>1</sup>Please note that the Campus #13 (Tokyo Tanaka College) on the map above does not exist anymore, due to the dismissal of the school.

\*<sup>2</sup>For further information, please inquire the university directly, or at the Machida Tourist Gallery.

\*<sup>3</sup>The campuses on the maps are; 1.Hōsei University Tama Campus: 2.Tokyo Kasei Gakuin University Machida Campus: 3.Yamano College of Aesthetics: 4.Tama Art University: 5.Salesian Polytechnic: 6.J.F.Oberlin University: 7.Azabu University: 8.Aoyama Gakuin University Sagami-hara Campus: 9.Keisen University: 10.Wakō University: 11.Tamagawa University: 12.Tsurukawa Women's Junior College: 13.N/A: 14.Shōwa Pharmaceutical University: 15.Tokyo Jogakkan College

### Advertisement

## MACHIDA ETHNIC GOURMET



Price: **FREE**

Available at:  
**Machida Tourist Gallery**

Language:  
**English/Japanese**  
\*Japanese version: ¥105

Are you into ethnic food? Do you live in or near Machida? If your answers to these questions are "yes", then this is what you want to get! Visit the Machida Tourist Gallery in the *Poppo Machida* Building and ask for the "Machida Ethnic Gourmet".

## There IS Tourism in Machida

**Machida Tourist Gallery can help you get tourism information in Machida City.**

A visitor's center in Machida called "Machida Tourist Gallery" has been open since April this year. It offers information on tourism in Machida in English at the main counter, when an English speaking staff member is available.

Some of you may have thought that tourism does not exist in Machida City. However, there IS tourism going on in Machida. The city has several beautiful parks that locals are proud of, unique museums, a well-reserved Japanese garden, and various festivals and events throughout the year. There will be a number of discoveries if you take a bus and go to remote areas from Machida station.

Please feel free to visit Machida Tourist Gallery in the Poppo Machida building, to find out where you might want to go with your family or friends on the weekend.

Published by Machida Tourism & Convention Bureau

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