

The Machida Tourist Times

Vol.12

SUMMER ISSUE, 2011

FREE Paper

Okinawa Eisa Dance Festival September 10th and 11th



The “Festa Machida” is one of the most well-known festivals in Machida City. Also it is often referred to as the “Okinawa Eisa Festival”.

The powerful Eisa dance was born in Okinawa and spread

throughout Japan. Machida City was no exception. There were groups of people who were attracted to the dance, and learned it themselves. Thus, they founded the Eisa Festival in Machida.

It has already been 20 years since the first

Eisa Festival was held. Throughout the years, it gained popularity, and became one of the biggest festivals in Machida attracting huge numbers of people.

At the Machida Tourist Gallery of

Festival

Dancers in colorful Okinawan Eisa costume dance with instruments. (Photo used from the MTCB website)

Machida Tourism & Convention Bureau, there is a recognizable increase in inquiries about the event around summer.

This shows how locals are looking forward to the festival.

This year, some people were concerned about cancellation of the event because of “self restraint”. They smiled when the staff told them that the festival would be held as planned.

Indeed, it will be a very special one amongst the Machida Eisa history, since it is going to be held after the historical quake and tsunami.

The official guide of the event will be handed at the Machida Tourist gallery. It has information of the stages and program to help you not miss the group you want to see!

Yukata Festival & the Bon of the Wind Returns

Machida sends thoughts to Tohoku via soothing bon dance



Spectators join the bon dancers in a circle. (Photo taken in 2010) The event will be upgraded with more contents this

The “Yukata Festival and the Bon of the Wind” is coming back to Poppo Machida on August 6th.

If you bring your yukata (summer kimono) and other items, such as sandals and obi (belt for yukata), people from Hakubi Kyoto Kimono Gakuin can assist you to be dressed in your yukata for free.

The bon dance will be performed by “Machida kaze no Bon Kikuchi Kai”.

Their parade through the town,

“Machi Nagashi”, is considered one of the best moments of the day.

Please also note that Hōzuki ichi, or Chinese lantern plants market, will be held simultaneously.

Finally, at the end of the night, everyone can participate in the bon dance as a grand finale at Poppo Machida.

If you have your yukata in the closet at home, it is a good opportunity for you to wear it and contribute to revitalization of the

Antique Market at Machida Tenmanguu The unique spot attracts tourists and collectors.

There is a place in Machida where antique collectors gather every month.

Machida Tenmanguu’s Antique Market is very famous in the region. Antique collectors come even from outside the city visit this market and find something precious.

The market is held once a month from 7am to 4pm, even on rainy days.

The items handled at the market vary from ancient china to tin toys. There are kimonos, tea ceremony goods, valuable coins, and more.

You can visit the

market and shop before work, or spend time on your day off.

If you have antiques, you are always able to sign up to be a hawker yourself!

In August and September, the market will be held on the 1st.

Double Dutch Champion, Haruka Uchida Appears in Machida City

There are many famous athletes in Machida, such as Machida Zelvia (soccer team), Pescado la (futsal team), and Kitataiki (sumo wrestler).

However, there are not many who know that a world champion works in Machida City.

Her name is Haruka Uchida. She belongs to the team “PEEK -A- BOO”, which won the double dutch world competition in 2010.

“My dream is to contribute to the distribution of the sport and to expand the horizon of the sport abroad,” says

Uchida.



Haruka Uchida, a 23 year old athlete has won a world competition.

Published by

Machida City Tourism & Convention Bureau

Address

Poppo Machida Bldg., 4-10-20 Haramachida, Machida City, Tokyo

Written and Edited by

Aya Itoh-Mathers

Official Website of the MTCB:

<http://www.machida-guide.or.jp/>

