



①Lotus, the National Flower of Vietnam  
②Mid-Autumn Festival Star Lantern ③Traditional Moon  
Cake ④ Handmade Mid-Autumn Festival Toy

Children Listening to Mid-Autumn Festival Explanation→



Vietnamese  
Moon Festival  
IN SAIJO 2021

## Vietnamese Moon Festival

Oct. 24, 2021 at Welfare Center Assembly Hall

With the help of our instructors, Hong and Le, we were able to make some cute lanterns made from vinyl and bamboo after a lot of hard work.

Though we were about one month late, we enjoyed learning about the Mid-Autumn Festival and took photos alongside our handmade lanterns, Vietnamese mooncakes, and beautiful lotus flowers.

### What is the Vietnamese Mid-Autumn Festival?

Known as Tết Trung Thu in Vietnamese, it is celebrated annually on the 15th of the 8th month on the lunisolar calendar (Sep. 21 on the Gregorian calendar). It is a traditional holiday in which children play a leading role, engaging in moon-viewing and giving thanks for a good harvest. About 2 months before the festival, mooncake stalls open, and they have sales competitions like the ones held in Japan around Christmas. While children play with brilliant paper lanterns, the adults make mooncakes filled with mung beans, quail eggs, and pork, and the whole family parties into the night.

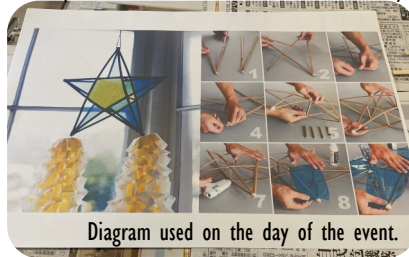
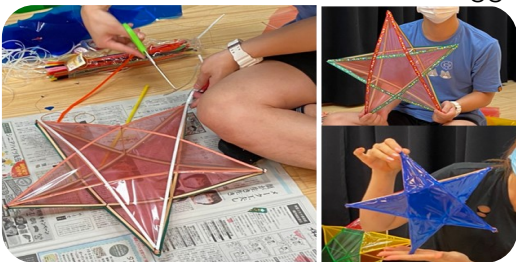
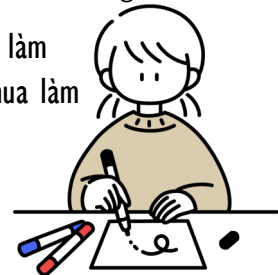


Diagram used on the day of the event.

Thăng làm  
vua, thua làm  
giặc.



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### Become an SIEA Member for 2021!

Every year, SIEA recruits new members interested in cross-cultural activities. Paying membership dues is one way to help support SIEA and get involved.

【Yearly Dues】Individuals: 1,000 yen, Students (up to HS) 500 yen, Groups 10,000 yen

【Membership Length】Day of Sign-up ~ March 31, 2022

【Application Process】After filling out the Member Application Form, please submit it to the SIEA office.

(Download the form from the official website of City Hall, every Branch Office, or every Community Center, or the SIEA homepage.)

※ Members receive information on SIEA activities, the SIEA newsletter, and discounts on SIEA events. For more information, please contact the SIEA office.



**SIEA**

International Relations SAIJO is a newsletter published by the Saijo International Exchange Association (SIEA). Feel free to contact us with your comments, questions, and submission requests.

## Intl. Exchange Events

Here's our report on events that were held between August and October of 2021! Due to COVID-19, large social events couldn't be held, and events that were held had to abide by mask regulations, sanitization rules, and attendee limits to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

※For event updates, check our homepage or our Facebook page!



### 8 English Writing Camp

【Aug. 9, 2021 ~ All 4 Sessions Online】



Gee, I haven't gone camping in years.

The English Writing Camp was held over 4 sessions, starting on Aug. 9 and ending on Aug. 31. Two of our local ALTs, Andrew and Megan, ran the camp, with 11 Saijo residents, ranging from high school students to adults, in attendance. Despite having to hold the event online due to the spread of COVID-19, both the lecturers and attendees quickly adapted to the changes, and everything went smoothly.

In the lesson where teachers and students introduced their favorite books, I was amazed by the amount of reading everyone did, from famous books like "MOMO" and the Harry Potter series to more niche titles. By the way, my favorite Western book is "Curious George."



### 8 From Saijo to the World

The **Intl. Exchange Promotion Team** held its "From Saijo to the World" exhibition. Held from Aug. 4 (Wed.) to Sep. 30 (Thurs.) in the Saijo Branch Office of Iyo Bank, many visitors stopped by and deepened their knowledge about foreign cultures.

【Aug. 4, 2021 ~ Sep. 30, 2021 •Iyo Bank, Saijo Branch】



Besides the information board, there were real jackets, dresses, and hats on display. We can't wait to see what they have in store for us next!







\Important Message from SIEA/

## Putting Your Hometown Taxes to Work

SIEA is one of Saijo's designated non-profit organizations, with its funding primarily derived from hometown taxes.

The hometown tax system allows you to receive refunds on your income tax and deductions on your resident tax for the portion of your donation exceeding 2,000 yen, up to the maximum deduction amount. Both Saijo residents and people living outside of Saijo are eligible to receive these tax deductions. 90% of the donated amount goes towards SIEA activities. However, Saijo does not offer any added benefits or gifts for donations. Some of you may have already paid hometown taxes to other cities, towns, or villages, but please consider making a donation if you haven't already hit the maximum deduction amount.



Please take care of us from now on!

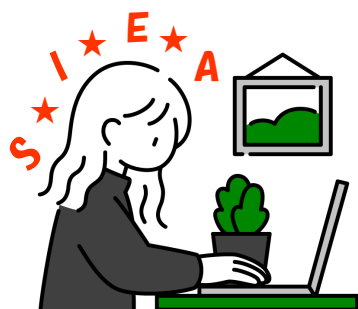
If you are considering paying hometown taxes, please contact the SIEA office.

You can also search for 「ふるさと納税 西条市NPO指定寄付」 (currently only available in Japanese) on Google, Yahoo!, or any other search engine, and at the top...

There should be a link by Furusato Choice, titled, “ふるさと納税を活用した「NPO等指定寄附制度」を開始しました!”. You can also use the link below:

<https://www.furusato-tax.jp/feature/detail/38206/7461>

You can make donations directly through this website, so please consider donating.

INTERNATIONAL  
UNDERSTANDING  
LECTURE SERIES

International Relations INFO

12/19/2021 13:30 ~ 15:30

Location: Welfare Center, Meeting Room 2

Date and Time: 2/19/21 (Sun.)

1:30 p.m. ~ 3:30 p.m. (Doors open at 1:10 p.m.)

For ES Students and up • Apply in advance!

※ Please contact SIEA to apply.

Free  
Of  
ChargeIndonesia  
Republik Indonesia

Find the right one for you!

Japanese  
Language  
Class

Know anyone looking for the right Japanese class?  
SIEA helps foreigners studying Japanese find the perfect class for them.  
Attend a Japanese class that fits your schedule and needs, and enjoy your time in Saijo! You can visit our homepage, call our phone number, or meet with us in-person for more information!

Editorial  
Comments

There's only one more month left in 2021!  
I look forward to your continued support next year too!

International Relations SAIJO Staff:  
Minoru Tokumasu  
Kondo

Readable in  
Full Color!



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