

Introduction

The NPO Association for International Youth Exchanges will be holding a Ski and Snowboard Event for International Students again this year. There will be many events planned including winter sports and a party for students of all countries to enjoy. This is an excellent chance to make some special memories of your time in Japan and to make new friends from all over the world. International students and Japanese students are both welcomed to attend this event; you can attend with friends or come by yourself!

- What you can expect from the event -

■ A beautiful ski slope in the middle of nature

The slope, Cupid Ballet, is Niigata's premier slope and has a 4,000 meter long course with excellent quality snow. Lift tickets for three days are included in the participation fee so students ranging from beginner to expert can fully enjoy this experience.

■ Ski and snowboard lessons for beginners

There will be a full day of lessons for beginning and intermediate level students on the first day of the program. (Last year's program had about 70% beginner level students)

■ Lodging in a beautiful log house

You will be staying in a log house in Cupid's Village. The first floor is for your luggage, the second is a living room, and the third is bedrooms. You can relax in this clean and open space and enjoy your time after you are done skiing.

■ Delicious buffet meals

Both dinner and breakfast are delicious. There are buffet style meals with both Japanese and Western selection of food. There are also fruits and cake for dessert, the meals can be enjoyed both by male and female students.

■ An open air bath in the snow

There is a "Snowman onsen" located close to the ski resort. The lodgings are equipped with showers for students who do not wish to use the onsen, but every student will receive free admission tickets to the onsen to experience it if they wish.

■ Exchange with local residents

On 2/26 local residents will help beginning students practice skiing. This will be different from the pro-instructor lessons and should be a fun experience.

■ **Slalom Ski Competition**

There will be a competition held for all levels to try. There will be prizes given to the winners.

■ **Exciting international exchange party**

This will be held on the evening of 2/26. There will be a buffet as well as beer and alcohol for students over the age of 20. This will be a chance to speak more with local residents and the ski instructors from the slope.

■ **Food culture of the Japanese Inaka**

Students who wish to can take part in a food culture experience on 2/27 in the morning. They can make mochi and sushi. (There is an extra 1,000 yen fee for taking part in this activity)

Rules for Application

◆ Qualifications for applying

1. Healthy students who can live with other students for the duration of the program.
2. Those who can follow the rules of the 4 day program regardless of race or religion.

◆ **Capacity:** 90 students (first come, first served – sign up soon to avoid disappointment)

◆ **Dates:** February 23-26, 2014 (1 night in the bus, 2 nights at the lodge)

◆ Facilities

1. Ski slope: Cupid Ballet Ski Slopes (Joetsu City, Niigata Prefecture)
2. Lodgings: Cupid Village (within the ski resort)

◆ Participation Fees: 29,400 yen

<Includes: Bus fees from Shinjuku to Niigata, 2 night stay in Cupid Village, 2 breakfasts and 2 dinners, exchange party fee, 3 day lift tickets, onsen entry ticket, other facility entrance, insurance fees>

Additional Fees not included

<Breakfast on 2/24 and all of the lunch fees through, ski/snowboard rental fees – see below, Japanese inaka food experience fee (1,000 yen and optional), etc.

Type	Rental Contents	Price (for 3 days)
1) Full Set	2+3+4	7,000 yen
2) Ski/Snowboard Set	Board, Boots (Ski poles)	4,000 yen
3) Gear Set	Ski Wear (top and bottom)	2,500 yen
4) Accessory Set	Goggles, gloves, hat	1,500 yen

**Participants must choose either ski or snowboard, both cannot be rented.

Individual rental of boots, goggles, hat, etc are not possible. Rental fees must be paid in full at the ski slope.

◆ How to Apply

- 1) Receive an application form from the Office of International Students and Scholars and send it by email, FAX, or postal mail.
(Those who can read Japanese can apply directly from the website at http://kokusaikoryu.com/event/ski_board/application.html)
- 2) You will receive an email with more detailed info within one week of your application being received.

3) Pay by bank transfer using the information you received in your email.

◆ **Deadline: February 17, 2014**

If you need to cancel, please do so as soon as possible. Those who cancel before 2/14 will have the full fee returned. Those who cancel between 2/15-2/21 will receive 50%. Those who cancel after 2/22 will not be refunded any of the participation fee. Please contact the organization if you are not able to pay by the payment deadline.

Ski and Snowboard Trip Schedule

February 23, 2014	Building
22:00 Meeting and Departure from Shinjuku Station West Exit/Meiji Yasuda	(Spend night on bus)
<hr/>	
February 24, 2014	beginners & intermediate level or Free
6:00 Arrive at Cupid Ballet Ski Resort	Ski/Snowboard
7:00 Orientation	17:00 Check in at Cupid Village
8:00 Resting/Preparation	18:30 Dinner (Buffet)
9:15 Opening Ceremony	20:00 ~ Free time (can go in onsen, talk with other participants, etc)
9:30 - 16:00 Ski/snowboard class for	
<hr/>	
February 25, 2014	13:00 - 14:00 Slalom Competition
7:30 Wake up	14:00 - 16:00 Free ski and snowboard
8:00 Breakfast	17:00 Free time
9:00 - 12:00 Local volunteer lesson for beginners, free ski for intermediate and above	18:30 - 20:30 Exchange party
	21:00 Free time
<hr/>	
February 26, 2014	
7:00 Wake up (packing)	
8:00 Breakfast	
9:00 - 12:00 Free ski/snowboard (optional food program mochi and sushi making)	
12:30 Prepare for departure	
13:15 Depart Niigata	
19:00-19:30 Arrive in Shinjuku	