



Niigata University 75th Anniversary Celebration Ceremony

Date:

Saturday, October 19, 2024

Venue:

ANA Crowne Plaza, Niigata, Japan

Schedule at a Glance:

DAY 1 Thursday, October 17	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arrival Date (1)
DAY 2 Friday, October 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arrival Date (2)• (AM) Cultural tour in Niigata City* <u>*Please see the explanation "Niigata City Bus Excursion on page 3."</u> (1) Nikko Hotels International Observatory (2) The Shinanogawa River Cruise by water shuttle (3) Shopping at Niigata Local Products Center, Furusato Mura (4) Lunch at Niigata Grand Hotel• (PM) Meeting with Faculties *If you have any appointments with faculty members of NU, you will be contacted by respective faculty or administrative staff separately. *Please keep in touch with a contact person of each faculty, and follow their directions as necessary <u>(please see the explanation on page 4).</u>
DAY 3 Saturday, October 19	<p><u>Niigata University 75th Anniversary Celebration</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 15:00-15:50 Anniversary Ceremony• 16:00-18:00 Celebratory Party

DAY 4 Sunday, October 20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departure Date
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Program of 75th Anniversary Celebration (DAY 3):

Date	Agenda
<p>Saturday, October 19 at 15:00-15:50</p>	<p><i>*Simultaneous interpretation will be provided (Japanese - English).</i></p> <p>[Anniversary Ceremony]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Registration <u>Please come to the reception desk on the 2nd floor by 14:50.*</u> <u>*Please see the “Note for Participants” on page 4.</u> • Opening Remarks by President USHIKI Tatsuo • Introducing speakers • Remarks from honored guests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (2) Governor of Niigata Prefecture (3) Mayor of Niigata City (4) Partner Universities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Harbin Medical University (China) ii. Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (India) iii. University of Technology Sydney (Australia) • Celebratory Performance by NU Orchestra (String Quartet) • Closing Remark
<i>(Break Time) *Move to the 3rd Floor</i>	
<p>Saturday, October 19 at 16:00-18:00</p>	<p>[Celebratory Party]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buffet Party • Events to take place: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Celebratory greetings - Furumachi Geigi(Geisha) Performance* - Screening NU’s 75th Celebratory Video - Sake Barrel Opening (Kagami Biraki)* <p><u>*Please see the explanation “Furumachi Geigi Performance” and “Sake Barrel Opening” on page 4-6.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NU Brass Band Club Performance

Program QR Code:



Event Venue:

Crowne Plaza – ANA Niigata

5-11-20 Bandai, Chuo-ku, Niigata-shi, Niigata

950-8531 Japan

URL: <https://www.ihg.com/crowneplaza/hotels/gb/en/niigata/kijcp/hoteldetail>



Schedule of Events to Take Place on DAY 2 (October 18):

Niigata City Bus Excursion:

If you registered to participate in the short excursion on Day 2, please check the information below.

- Date: Friday, October 18
 - Meeting Time: AM 08:45
 - Meeting Point: Hotel reception lobby on the 1st floor
 - Itinerary and Destination:
 - (09:00) Departure from Crowne Plaza ANA Niigata (Hotel) - (09:15-09:40) Nikko Hotels International Observatory - (10:00-10:53) The Shinanogawa River Cruise – (11:00-12:00) Shopping at Niigata Furusato Mura – (12:30-13:40) Lunch at Niigata Grand Hotel – (13:50) Crowne Plaza ANA Niigata – (14:00) Asahimachi Campus* – (14:35) Ikarashi Campus*
- *If you have any appointments with faculty members of NU in the afternoon on October 18, the bus will take you to Asahimachi/Ikarashi campus following the excursion. Our staff of each faculty will meet you up in each campus.



■ **Notes:**

- (1) A guided bus tour in English will be provided.
- (2) Free lunch will be provided at Niigata Grand Hotel.
- (3) A free shuttle bus will be provided to the hotel/Asahimachi Campus/Ikarashi campus after the lunch.

Meeting with NU Faculties:

(1) For those who will attend the short excursion:

If you have any appointments with NU faculty members after the tour, we will transport you to Ikarashi/Asahimachi campus by bus following the excursion. Regarding the meeting with faculties, a contact person from each faculty will contact you separately and provide you with necessary information. Please follow their directions as necessary.

(2) For those who will not attend the short excursion:

If you have a meeting with faculties of NU, you will be contacted by each faculty separately and will be informed of the details such as meeting time and the events to take place. Please follow their directions as necessary.

Events to Take Place on DAY 3 (October 19):

Anniversary Ceremony:

■ **Note for Participants:**

We ask the highest-ranking official from each university will take their seat on the stage. Other participants will be asked to take their seat on the floor. At the reception, each participant will be informed of their assigned seat and escorted to their seat by a university staff.

Also, we respectfully request that the three partner universities listed below make a celebratory remark at the ceremony. When each university's turn comes, please go to the podium and give a speech in English. The content of the ceremonial address will be projected on a large screen on stage in Japanese as the speaker addresses in English.

- (1) Harbin Medical University (China).
- (2) The Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology (India).
- (3) University of Technology, Sydney (Australia)

Furumachi Geigi Performance:



■ What is Geigi?

The geisha of Furumachi, called geigi, are highly skilled artists who perform traditional Japanese dance, accompanied by shamisen (a three-stringed traditional instrument) music and singing. Events are regularly organized at traditional Japanese restaurants in Furumachi, allowing guests to enjoy geigi performances, along with witty conversations and parlor games, in private tatami rooms.

■ History

During the Edo period (1603-1867), Furumachi was a flourishing port town that attracted sailors and merchants from all over Japan. Its lively geisha quarter was considered one of the Japan's top three entertainment districts, alongside Gion in Kyoto and Shinbashi in Tokyo. Today, Furumachi is a business area of Niigata City that still retains the old days atmosphere and where it is possible to experience an authentic geisha performance.

* JNTO (Japan National Tourism Organization)

<https://www.japan.travel/en/japans-local-treasures/niigata-furumachi-geigi-2022/>

Sake Barrel Opening:

■ What is Sake barrel opening?

The sake barrel opening ceremony ("Kagami wari" or "Kagami biraki" in Japanese) is a traditional Japanese ceremony where the sake barrel is broken using a mallet. This is to wish health and well-being at times of celebration and new beginnings.



■ How to proceed the barrel opening at the NU's celebratory party

We invite one participant (the highest-ranking official) from each institution to take the stage and participate in the barrel opening during the party.

For details on how to proceed with the event, please see the directions below.

- (1) Guests will be notified when to participate in the barrel opening and asked to gather around the stage for preparation.
- (2) Guests will receive a mallet and a traditional Japanese happi coat. Please wear the happi coat, take to the stage and stand by the sake barrels.
- (3) Guests use the wooden mallet to break open the barrel's spherical lid, symbolizing good fortune.
- (4) Please walk off the stage and take off the happi coat.

■ History

The fourth Tokugawa shogun, Tokugawa Ietsuna, initiated this ceremony 300 years ago. Before going to war, he gathered his daimyo (feudal lords) in his castle to break open a sake cask. When victory was achieved, this practice became a tradition. Nowadays, the ceremony occurs at various events, including weddings, housewarmings, and company openings.

Contact:

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