



MIA news

Miyakonojo International Association

Miyakonojo International Association
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Hello Miyakonojo!

Hello Miyakonojo! My name is Seth Steele and I am originally from Charlotte, North Carolina in the United States but have lived in both Hirakata, Japan and Wilmington North Carolina for a considerable length of time. Additionally, I spent my summers and winter breaks in North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina.



With my parents in North Myrtle Beach

From Charlotte, North Carolina to North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, despite the starkly different topographical diversity between the two, I spent my youth surrounded by lakes and oceans. I enjoyed my summers of tubing and scooping up catfish with our hands in Charlotte as well as my winters jumping in 4AM freezing South Carolina

high tides for the thrill of adventure and mischief. However, I always longed to live and work in Japan.

Japan was a place that seemed like the opposite side of the coin to my prepubescent and adolescent brain. This greatly intrigued me. I am 22 years old and I just graduated college with majors in Film and Philosophy but I began to study Japanese 8 years ago and minored in it as well. I continue to strive for better and better Japanese till this day. I also studied Japanese culture in college pertaining to both of my majors. From a filmic lens, I found the differences in artistic expression and the crea-

tive landscapes between ideologies spawned from cultural trends extremely fascinating. From the philosophy perspective, I studied why those differences are important and how understanding can help us now. I studied Japan because I wanted to learn as much as I could and grow as much as I could. I wanted to confront myself with conflicting ideas. Then, use what I've learned on my journey for growth to foster a global community of increased tolerance and understanding of cultural differences. Therefore, my new position as Miyakonojo's English Speaking CIR perfectly aligns with both my professional interests and personal fulfillment goals.

My interests concerning global affairs and culture spread to more than just Japan. I am a conversationally fluent Spanish speaker with special interests in the Mexican and Chilean dialects and it is an ongoing goal of mine to reach a collegiate level of proficiency. I also plan to learn Korean through Japanese here soon while in Miyakonojo in pursuit of my goal of obtaining a PHD in linguistics.

However, for most of my youth and adult life my biggest all-consuming interest has been martial arts, in particular, Tang Soo Do Korean Karate. I am a second degree black belt and have won over 40 tournaments, including the United States' national tournament twice. I hope to continue my martial arts journey in Japan as well by completely emptying my cup of what I think I know and learn something new. For instance, for many reasons, Kendo and Judo seem like excellent opportunities to dive into. I look forward to making friends with the community by becoming a member of a Dojo.

I am so excited to embark on this journey of living in Miyakonojo and am overjoyed at the thought of meeting so many of its denizens! Thank you for having me!



Movies info C-Plaza Cine-port (Tel: 0986-24-2571)

17-9 Nakamachi, Miyakonojo, Miyazaki Map-Code (GPS): 117 488 540*55



- *Tokyo Revengers 2: Bloody Halloween Finale* (Japanese)
- *Meitantei Conan: Kurogane no Submarine* (Japanese)
- *Fast X* (Japanese Dub)
- *The Super Mario Brothers Movie* (Japanese Dub)
- *The Flash* (Japanese Dub)
- *Indiana Jones and the Dial of Destiny* (Japanese Sub)

- *The Little Mermaid* (Japanese Dub)
- *The First Slam Dunk* (Japanese)

*The 1st of every month is ¥1,100 for everyone.

*Every Wednesday is 'Ladies' Day', all ladies ¥1,100.

*The cinema is closed every Tuesday.

*For session times visit: <http://movie.walkerplus.com/th286/schedule.html> (Japanese)