

Art Exhibitions in Moriya

A number of Moriya citizens take pleasure in art activities in many art fields. We have four community centers, and each of them has their own art exhibitions every year.

March · · Moriya Artist Exhibition at the Central Community Center.

This is the first art exhibition of the year. The exhibited works have already won a prize or were highly valued in the other bigger art exhibitions. The works are oil paintings, woodcarving prints, arts&craft, shodo (calligraphy) and photography.

June & November · · · The Central Community Center Exhibition.

Every work that joins art circle activities is exhibited. We like to see many kinds of arts & crafts. nihonga, oil paintings, woodcarving prints, arts&craft, photography, calligraphy, chado (tea ceremony), kado (Ikebana), pottery, embroidery, dyeing cloth etc.

“*Nihonga*”: Japanese painting. Traditional Nihonga artists generally paint flowers, birds, the moon and nature. Nihonga is simple and graceful and has a simple outline. One does not use a wide range of colors to convey passion and feelings. The artists use crushed rock color paint that was melted with gelatin. The picture is painted on Japanese paper, called “Washi”.

Exhibitions: Central Community Center Entrance Hall. Central Library 2nd floor.

“*Shodo* “: Calligraphy, Script Art. One uses brush and ink, and writes on Japanese paper. Japanese children learn Calligraphy at junior and middle school. Originally Calligraphy consisted of only Chinese characters , but it developed in the Japanese style by adding Kana (the 2 Japanese syllable alphabets). “*Kanji!*”: Chinese Character, Ideogram. “*Kana*”: Phonogram
“*Dō*”: the way, the path, Chado (Tea), Kado (flower arrangement), Shodo (Calligraphy)

It is important to not only think about the development of one’s skill but also of propriety, moral, truth, the way of life.

December · · · Arcus Open Studio in Manabi no Sato Community Center.

The Ibaraki prefecture supports Art activities. “Arcus” = Art x Focus Arcus means “gate” in Latin. This name was chosen to show that Moriya is an entrance to the global art scene. Arcus Project invites young modern artists and supports their creative activities. The Artist in Residency Program is at its core and has initiated many cultural exchange programs in the community. The Artist in Residency Program is a pioneer of this kind of art activity in Japan.

Exhibition...The entrance of the City Hall “The Mother of Dreams” by an

artist from Thailand. He had been thinking about the concept of “The woman’s pelvis” before he came to Japan, and produced his work while staying in Moriya.

Central Community Center 2nd floor historical display

People have been living in this area since ancient times. There are several excavation sites in Moriya. One can learn a lot about life in those times while studying the relics.

Jomon doki...Earthenwares that were made more than 3000 years ago. Vessels from this era were decorated with distinct rope patterns.

Hajiki...Red vessels that were baked at 850 degrees. This style developed in the 4th~5th century.

Sueki...Sueki pottery is very hard and strong. Many skilled Korean potters came to Japan and introduced the potter’s wheel. The pieces were baked at 1000 degrees . They are colored black or gray.