

## -TRY WASHI ENJOY WASHI-

On November 18(Saturday) and 19(Sunday) Washi Festival 2023 in Higashi-Chichibumura was opened at Michi-no-Eki Washi-no-Sato Higashi-Chichibu. Both the days, with various events and rich of visitors, joyful voices and smiling faces decorated the festival.

Did you feel the charms of traditional Japanese paper and the taste of the village, visiting the Washi festival ? We hope the festival was a memorial one forever with the magnificent aspects. Here, we recall the many charms of Washi festival...

### November 18(Saturday)

The first day, by the students of Musashino University of Art, Washi Live art was effected. In the open space of Michi-no-eki Higashi-Chichibu Washi-no-sato convincing works with the animals of this year's sexagenary cycle on a big traditional Japanese paper was exhibited. Also, the traditional Japanese paper making experience and "exciting adventure with parents" were effected. Pointing at the little children and their guardians as the target, singing songs game, reading picture books and the traditional Japanese paper making were practiced. The participating children were happy enough from the beginning point with their smiling faces. The lantern night, limited to the 18<sup>th</sup> night, was the top event. Many lanterns were lighted up at 5 o'clock in the evening, the place was illuminated fantasy, as each lantern had a unique, original, only one design in the world. Outdoor live event was also practiced resulting in a big boost.

### November 19(Sunday)

On the 2nd day of traditional Japanese paper festival "Calligraphy art!" was effected with the participation of all the people. Wide range of people from children to adults participated. China ink was not limited to black only, but light blue, red and pink colored many calligraphy works.

In the afternoon Japanese drums experience and exhibition were made by the group of Ondekoza. Many people participated to the event joyfully and

enjoyed the contact with the drums. The performance by the Ondekoza group gave all the visitors fascination and emotion.

Hereinafter we will continue events transferring to many people the practical use of the traditional Japanese paper, its wonder and the charms of Higashi-Chichibumura.

☆The works of Washi live art and those of Calligraphy are exhibited at Michino-eki Higashi-Chichibu. We recommend that you enjoy them with enough time.