

Coming-of-age Ceremony

■ What is Ota City's 'Coming-of-age Ceremony People Turning to 20'?

- The ceremony is held to congratulate and celebrate the new departure in life for 20 year old while also sharing this moment of joy with adults, and to also encourage and promote their social awareness in order to be able to meet society's expectations. (It replaces the Coming-of-age Ceremony *Seijinshiki*, which was held until last year.)
- This ceremony is held on the Sunday before the Coming-Of-Age Day each year, and the youths who have their 20th birthday during the period from April 2nd of the year prior to April 1st of the current year are eligible. During the ceremony, there are congratulatory speeches by distinguished guests of the community, pledges from youths who have come of age, a commemorative DVD shooting, etc.

■ How to participate

- Eligible youths who have registered as Ota City residents will receive an invitation around mid-November.
- Eligible youths who have not registered as residents of Ota City but who wish to participate in this ceremony held in Ota are asked to go to the city website at the Lifelong Learning Division *Shogaigakushu-Ka* website (only in Japanese) from October onward.
- Participation in this ceremony is voluntary (of one's own free will).

■ Where

- The ceremony will be held in the OPEN HOUSE ARENA OTA. Details of the ceremony will be posted through either the Lifelong Learning Division website or Ota Public Newsletter (*Kouhou* / Ota Informa).

■ What to wear

There is no required attire, but men mostly wear either suits or *Hakama* and women usually wear *Kimono*. It's a great opportunity to wear traditional Japanese attire!



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