

# Voice of Tohoku Gakuin Podcast

## Episode 12: Sendai Pageant of Lights

R= Ryuusuke

Y= Yuuri

N=Namiko

A=Ayaka

All: Hello! Welcome to the voice of Tohoku Gakuin. This podcast is produced by the students at Tohoku Gakuin University.

Y: We are students of Tohoku Gakuin University and study intercultural communication. First of all, we are going to introduce about ourselves.

Y: My name is Yuuri. My hobby is dancing. I have performed at school festival three times.

R: My name is Ryuusuke. I like taking pictures. I mainly take portraits.

A: My name is Ayaka but everyone calls me sugar. I like watching TV dramas. I am into Korean TV dramas now.

N: My name is Namiko. My hobby is watching comedy TV shows. Especially, I like Tidori.

Y: Today's topic is the Sendai light pageant.

R: I heard that it is one of the popular winter event in Sendai. But I don't know too much about it. Do you?

N: Yes!! Of course. It is held on Jozenji Douri Street and many people visit there every year. So, it is very crowded in Sendai during this event.

R: Is it crowded? I don't know if I want to go.

N: Really? It is very beautiful. A line of Keyaki trees are decorated by lights.

R: That sounds beautiful but what is a Keyaki tree? I haven't heard of it before.

A: You don't know the Keyaki tree? The Keyaki tree is a symbol of Sendai.

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R: Really?? Why??

A: Everyone used to call Sendai “The Sendai desert” because it was burnt-out area during the world-war II. People who lived in Sendai at the time planted Keyaki trees to revive the city. Therefore, Keyaki are important for Sendai citizens.

R: I see. how did the Sendai light pageant start?

N: In the winter, the roads are dirty because cars driving on the snow. Sendai citizens wanted to look good. So, they decorated Keyaki trees with lights. That is the start of Sendai light pageant.

R: Interesting!! I think I will go with my girlfriend.

Y: you have a girlfriend?

R: Of course!!

Y: Do you know about the pink light? There is the only one in 600,000. Rumor, has it. If you find it, you will be happy. By the way, you should also go to the Sendai winter park. It is an outdoor ice rink. That is nearby.

R: Oh! Ok!! Then maybe, I will be cool like the skater Yuzuru Hanyu.

Y: Definitely, you can be.

A: You can also see the pageant car which Santa Claus rides in. If you are lucky, you can meet him. Also, you can see the event called “star light wink”. It is when the light goes off for one minute and then all the light come on. It is so beautiful that there are shouts of joy. You can see it 3 times a day at 6, 7 and 8pm.

R: I don't want to miss it. It is held at Jozenji Dori Street right? So what time can I see it and until when will it be held??

N: The light pageant starts and ends from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and December 31 is last day. The pageant happens every night in that period. You should go there.

Y: Ok!! Everybody. It is time to finish.

All: Ok!! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!! See you next time.