

August 27, 2020



From now until **September 30**, celebrate with us the **Japanese Film Festival ONLINE Vol.2**, and enjoy streams of movies from emerging Japanese filmmakers. Japanese language teachers, this **Saturday** is the **Marugoto Teaching Material Project** - tune in to learn about various reference materials you can use to teach the Marugoto textbooks. We're presenting 2 online talks in September. The first, **The Many Lives of a Japanese Classic**, will take place on **September 17**. And the second, **Re-engineering Reproductive Futures in Japanese Science Fiction**, will be on **September 30**. For details about exciting JFT events as well as recommendations of online exhibitions, festivals, performances, movies, and more, see **further details below >**

Schedule at a Glance

August 21 - September 30	Film Screening	JFF ONLINE Vol.2: MOOSIC LAB X Japanese Film Festival
August 29	Teachers' Professional Development	Marugoto Teaching Material Project: Document Collection Presentation

September 3	Teachers' Professional Development	17th 'Sawakai': Sharing Teaching Experiences - Prof. Aoki (University of Alberta)
September 17	Online Lecture	The Many Lives of a Japanese Classic
September 30	Online Lecture	Re-engineering Reproductive Futures in Japanese Science Fiction

JFT NEWS

Japanese Language Proficiency Test

Due to COVID-19 restrictions the December 2020 JLPT in Canada has been cancelled. For more information, please visit the websites of the individual test sites:

[Ottawa \(Carleton University\)](#)
[Toronto \(York University\)](#)
[Edmonton \(University of Alberta\)](#)
[Vancouver \(Langara College\)](#)



Performing Arts Japan

Deadline November 2, 2020

The Japan Foundation is now accepting project proposals for Performing Arts Japan (PAJ) touring and collaboration grants for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. To apply for the program, please read the guidelines carefully and complete the application procedures.

[More details here >](#)



Film Screenings

JFF ONLINE Vol.2: MOOSIC LAB X Japanese Film Festival

Friday, August 21 - Wednesday, September 30



Japan Foundation has launched the second version of the popular MOOSIC LAB X Japanese Film Festival where viewers from all over the world can enjoy works by emerging Japanese filmmakers for free. The 10 works produced by MOOSIC LAB are new works based on fusion of film and music. The first volume attracted 95K views in 3 months and had a great amount of positive feedback. Each week we will highlight some of the films from Vol. 2. [More details >](#)

***The Sleeping Insect* 眠る虫**

Director: KANEKO Yurina; Music: Tokiyo (And Summer Club)
Duration: 60 min. (2019); Sci-fi, Fantasy

Kanako Seri is on a packed bus heading to band practice. She becomes fascinated by a melody being hummed by a fellow passenger, an old man, a stranger. When the bus reaches Kanako's stop, she doesn't get off, she continues on a journey that turns out to be weird adventure. This film won the 2019 MOOSIC LAB Grand Prix.

[Watch here >](#)

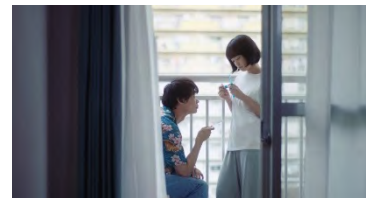


***Dong Teng Town* ドンテンタウン**

Director: INOUE Kohei; Music: SUGAWARA Shinichi
Duration: 61 min. (2019); Drama

Singer-songwriter Sora has moved to an apartment complex in Dong Teng Town. In the closet, she stumbles upon a large number of old cassette tapes filled with the "inner voice" of a former resident, Tokio. Sora and Tokio were never meant to meet, but their summertime tale where memory and reality intersect has started.

[Watch here >](#)

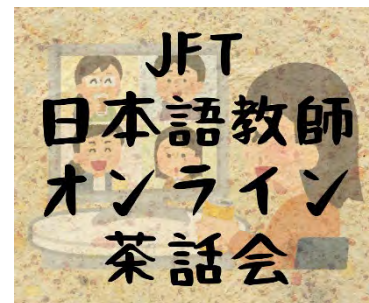


**Online Teachers' Professional Development
JFT Online 'Sawakai' for Japanese
Teachers**

17th 'Sawakai': Thursday, September 3, 6:00 PM - 6:40 PM (EDT)

Topic: Sharing Teaching Experiences - Prof. Aoki (University of Alberta)

@ONLINE, admission free, registration required



The JFT Online 'Sawakai' for Japanese Teachers is a place where teachers can share with others how their online classes are going. All topics are welcome, including if you have any ideas you would like to try out, anything you feel a little stuck on, etc. Why not take the opportunity to talk with other teachers from across Canada?. (*These gatherings will be conducted in Japanese.)

[Click here for details >](#)

Online Teachers' Professional Development Marugoto Teaching Material Project: Document Collection Presentation

Saturday, August 29, 1:00 PM - 3:30 PM (EDT)

The Marugoto Teaching Material Project aims to create a collection of materials to be used as a reference by teachers in order to make it easier for the Marugoto textbooks to be used in Japanese-language education in Canada. Our aim is that this "Reference Collection" will be useful in both synchronous and asynchronous online classes through bringing together useful digital resources, videos, etc. that can be used with the Marugoto textbooks.



This project meeting will be a presentation of materials collected and/or created for use with the Marugoto Intermediate B1 textbook by the Canadian Japanese-language teachers who were members of the 1st Marugoto Teaching Materials Project.

[Details >](#)

Online Lecture The Many Lives of a Japanese Classic

Thursday, September 17, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM (EDT)
@Online, registration required

The large corpus of literary works by accomplished and highly educated women writers that emerged during the Heian period (794-1185) in Japan played an important role in the creation of a national literary tradition.



This talk by Dr. Gergana Ivanova (University of Cincinnati) considers the fixed images of Japanese women writers of the distant past and the constructed nature of their writing focusing on one text, *The Pillow Book* (*Makura no sōshi*, early 11th c.). It examines interpretations of the work and images of its author Sei Shōnagon that emerged in the years between the 17th century and the early 20th century and shows that although they were not shaped through references to historical documents and direct interactions with *The Pillow Book*, these views still linger in contemporary scholarship and popular culture.

[Details and registration here >](#)

Online Lecture Re-engineering Reproductive Futures in Japanese Science Fiction

**Wednesday, September 30, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
(EDT)**

@Online, registration required

Aliens, cyborgs, and bio-engineered bodies - tune in for a talk with Dr. Kazue Harada (University of Miami) on how Japanese female science fiction authors use the genre to critique reproductive futurism, which is the idea that humans must reproduce to ensure a stable future. Hear how these authors use nonhuman perspectives and entities to re-engineer alternative futures of reproductive bodies and reproductive family to critique the extant heterosexual and patriarchal family system.

Authors to be discussed include MURATA Sayaka, JFT's guest for the 2018 Toronto International Festival of Authors, and UEDA Sayuri, winner of the 32nd Japan Science Fiction Award in 2011.

[Details and registration here >](#)



JFT Library Re-open

The JFT Library is now open with reduced hours and modified services. Visitors are allowed to return or pick-up library items. Please make a request for items you wish to borrow before visiting the library. For more information: [Library Visitor Policy](#).



August New Arrivals

New Arrivals for August! New titles include the English version of the beloved children's book, *Bam and Kero Go Shopping* by SHIMADA Yuka; the novel and film adaptation of the romantic comedy, *The Night is Short, Walk on Girl* in both Japanese and English; and many more! They are now available for circulation. Please contact the library at library@jftor.org to place a hold for pick up.



[Details >](#)

Exhibition Re-Opening: By Appointment Only Manga Hokusai Manga



July 23, 2020 - September 18, 2020 <-- Extended date!

Curated by Professor Jaqueline Berndt, Kyoto Seika University

The Manga Hokusai Manga exhibition is back with extended exhibition dates. Visits to the Gallery are by appointment only. Please visit our [website](#) for details.

Before you come to our gallery, take a look at the drawing process of SAMURA Hiroaki, one of the Manga artists introduced in Manga Hokusai Manga exhibition: [Mugen no Junin](#).

Unlike past exhibitions of Hokusai's work, Manga Hokusai Manga approaches the Hokusai Manga from the perspective of contemporary Japanese comics, focusing on genre, pictorial storytelling and participatory culture rather than the integration of word and image or the role of popular characters. And instead of aiming at a historiographic verification of influences, the exhibition invites viewers to ponder their own notions about manga by comparing works from different periods while exploring the diversity therein.

[Details >](#)

Japanese Language Classes Registration Now Open!

Are you interested in joining a Japanese language class? We offer online courses for everyone from complete beginners (Starter A1) to intermediate speakers (Intermediate B1).

This year we have two formats to choose from:

- [JFT Online MARUGOTO Japanese Language Courses:](#) Term-based Japanese language courses using the textbook series Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture, which was developed by the Japan Foundation. Students will meet once a week, and over the course of the three terms students will cover one level of our textbooks.
- [JFT Online Teacher-Support Japanese Language Courses:](#) Students will have an online meeting three times a term to practice what they have learned with their classmates and instructor, and at the end of each term will be evaluated on what they have learned. During the rest of the term, students will study and complete assignments on their own using the Japan Foundation's online e-learning website [Minato](#).



JAPAN FOUNDATION SUPPORTED EVENTS

Virtual Japan Festival CANADA 2020

Saturday, August 29, 7:00 PM (EDT)

This year, Japan Festival CANADA goes virtual!

Japan Festival CANADA has been hosted in one of the multicultural countries in the world, Canada, to introduce and promote genuine Japanese food, culture and technologies.

The concept of Japan Festival CANADA is to contribute in further success of establishing Canada and Japan Diplomatic Relations. Since the first year event in 2016, Japan Festival CANADA has been hosted annually in the summer. Japan Festival CANADA 2019 was successfully hosted welcoming 90,000 attendees.

Japan Festival CANADA is the largest Japanese Cultural Event in North America with the exciting entertainments such as traditional and modern performance, Pop Culture stage performance as well as the tasteful Japanese foods and many more to experience and enjoy Japan.

[Details >](#)



The Toronto Japanese Film Festival Moves Online for 2020



Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre's 9th annual Toronto Japanese Film Festival will be held online from October 3 to 22 and features over 20 films using the SHIFT72 festival platform. Screening will also take place live in Japan during the same period in Tokyo Hibiya Midtown Centre. The festival has now grown into the largest film event of its kind in North America and is recognized by the Japanese film industry as a vital conduit for bringing Japanese film to the world.

[Click here](#) to find out the first wave of films announced for TJFF 2020.

ONLINE RESOURCE RECOMMENDATIONS

New Japanese Language Resource "Erin's Challenge! I can speak Japanese" Contents Library



While the "Erin's Challenge! I can speak Japanese" website closed at the end of July, there is a new "Erin's Challenge! I can speak Japanese" Contents Library where you can view all the videos from the website!

All 200 videos from the web version of "Erin" are available for viewing, and educational materials can be downloaded to support the study of Japanese and increase cultural understanding.

Both teachers and learners of Japanese should check it out!

[Details >](#)

Gallery Recommendations Historical City Travel Guide: Edo (Tokyo), Early 19th Century



In this delightful The British Museum blog, you will be taking a trip back to early 19th-century Japan and visiting Edo - modern-day Tokyo - as curator Alfred Haft reveals the unmissable sights, the cuisine you've got to try and the best places to stay in this historical travel guide.

[Click here to read >](#)

Masterpiece of the Week

Each week, we will feature one of Japan's National Treasure and Important Cultural Properties

Important cultural property
Sundial of Young Women (Musume Hidokei)
娘日時計 むすめひどけい
A set of five Ukiyo-e prints by Utamaro
Edo period / 18th century

Please note the image on this page shows only one of the six prints. [Click here](#) for a detailed guide and complete images in high resolution.



SEIKATSU KOGEI: Objects for Intentional Living

SEIKATSU KOGEI
OBJECTS FOR INTENTIONAL LIVING



Ends **August 29, 2020** <-- **This Saturday!**

This exhibition organized by our colleagues at The Japan Foundation, Sydney in Australia explores the Japanese craft movement that began in the 1990s known as Seikatsu Kogei, or lifestyle crafts. Included in this exhibition are some 70 works by 22 currently-active Seikatsu Kogei artists. The objects on display are made from a variety of materials, including wood, ceramics, lacquer, glass, metal, bamboo, paper and clay. The virtual gallery includes artist profiles as well as a fantastic interview between woodworker and proponent of the movement MITANI Ryuji and YAMAMOTO Tadaomi, of Gallery Yamahon.

[Click here to view >](#)

Future and the Arts: AI, Robotics, Cities, Life - How Humanity Will Live Tomorrow, Mori Art Museum 3D Walk through

In this exhibition presented by the Mori Art Museum, you will be able to take a look at the not-too-distant future with its potential for enormous changes thanks to advances in technology.

The exhibition combines not only contemporary art with historical and scientific objects, it also includes exhibits not confined to the contemporary art genre, but also including urban theory and architecture, design and product innovation, bio-art, and even movies and manga, in an endeavor to develop a unique style of art exhibition. There is much to see with over 60 artists and collaborators presenting.



You can now walk through this exhibition virtually which originally ran November 2019 - March 2020. Selected works in the walk through are explained in Japanese by FUMIO Nanjo, curator of this exhibition and Senior Advisor of Mori Art Museum.

[Virtual walk through here >](#)

[More details >](#)

Webinar Recommendations

Conjuring a Sense of Movement - Japanese Graphic Designers and Sports Posters

Japan Foundation, London and DNP
Foundation for Cultural Promotion

Wednesday, September 2, 7:00 AM (EDT)

@Online, Registration required



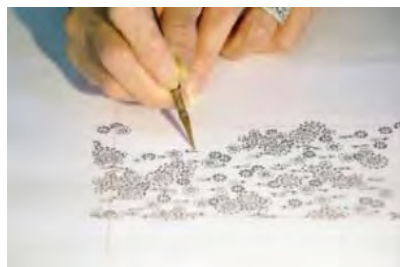
Our colleagues at Japan Foundation, London (UK) will hold a special talk focusing on Japanese posters which were created for sports or sporting events since the time of the previous Tokyo Olympics in 1964. Japan has been the birthplace of a significant amount of talent in the field of graphic design, particularly in poster design. With fresh and ground-breaking aesthetics, the outcome quite often exceeds a mere tool of communication.

[Details >](#)

Katagami Stencils: Historical Influence and Contemporary Practice

Tuesday, September 8, 1:30 PM (EDT)
@Online, Registration required

The Japan Society, UK is pleased to announce a special online talk on Katagami with researcher Mamiko Markham, Head of Collections at the Museum of Domestic Design & Architecture (MoDA) Zoë Hendon, and practitioner Sarah Desmerais.



Katagami are Japanese resist-printing stencils for textiles that were originally used for applying patterns to kimono cloth. In the past, Katagami stencils were created simply as tools; they were part of the process of dyeing coloured designs onto cloth used to make anything from everyday work wear to the finest silk kimonos. More recently katagami have come to be appreciated as remarkable and beautiful objects in their own right.

[Details >](#)

Photo by OKOSHI-KATAGAMI Inc.

Film Recommendations

Fantasia International Film Festival

Thursday, August 20 - Wednesday, September 2

Japan Foundation, Toronto is pleased to support the 24th Fantasia International Film Festival, North America's largest genre film festival which includes 21 films from Japan. The festival has shifted online, which enables audiences from across Canada to enjoy the films. Some Japanese film highlights include: *Tezuka's Barbara* (TEZUKA Macoto), *Sayo* (Jeremy Rubier), *Life: Untitled* (YAMAMOTO Kana) and *No Longer Human* (NINAGAWA Mika).

[Details >](#)



Performing Arts Recommendation
**Streaming of Bunraku Puppet Theatre:
Ohan and Chōemon**

Full title: Katsuragawa Renri no Shigarami (The Love of Ohan and Chōemon)

Recorded at National Bunraku Theatre, Osaka, in November of 2018, this streaming of bunraku puppet theatre is available to stream on YouTube until August 31, 2020.

Duration: 1 hr. 35 min.

0:00:48 Scene I: Obiya (The Obi Store)

1:13:01 Scene II: Michiyuki Oboro no Katsuragawa (The Travel Dance at the Katsura River in a Dim Moonlight)

No English subtitles

[Click here for English synopsis >](#)

[Click here to watch >](#)



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