

December 24, 2020



Happy holidays from the JFT staff! This is our last newsletter of the year. Before we go on holiday, we wanted to leave you with something joyous to ruminate on over the next two weeks. Check out our new **Holiday Books and Movies** page for details and our **Performing Arts Recommendations** for some more holiday cheer. Come the new year, we will hit the ground running with our **Teachers' Professional Development** workshops, a lecture about **STEAM learning in Japan**, an exciting series on **fermented Japanese food** featuring 4 films and 4 talks, a **JFT Book Club**, and **Japan Film Festival Plus**.

For now, we will just say, "良いお年を" (Yoi otoshi o), and see you soon!

### **SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE**

<b>January 6</b>	TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	25th 'Sawakai': Happy New Year!
<b>January 7</b>	ONLINE TALK	Cultivating the Next Generation of STEAM Thinkers

January 12, 19, 26, & February 2,	TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Trying Out Free Online Resources: "Hirogaru: Get more of Japan and Japanese"!
January 13	TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	4th Online Nihongo Salon: "Let's make haiku!"
January 14	TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Let's get together! Japanese-Language Teachers in Canada
January 15 - 31	FILM & TALK SERIES	Healthy Hakko: The Fermented Culinary Arts of Japan
January 20	TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	26th 'Sawakai': Sharing Teaching Experiences – Ms. Kinoshita (Montreal Japanese Language Centre)!
February 5 - 14	FILM SCREENINGS	Japan Film Festival Plus
February 11	LIBRARY	JFT Book Club Online

## JFT NEWS



### Holiday Books and Movies

Spend this year's holiday season with a good book and movie! Name a Japanese book/movie you would enjoy during this holiday season by using the hashtag **#JFTatHome** and leaving a comment on our [website](#), [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#).



### Ushi-doshi Origami

Let's celebrate the coming of 2021, Year of the Ox! Check out the origami oxen, bulls and cows virtually on the [Library Displays and Events page](#). Origami designs are folded and by the members of [The Origami Society of Toronto](#). May the New Year of the Ox be a happy, healthy and prosperous year for everyone!



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

**25th 'Sawakai': Wednesday, January 6, 2021, 6:00 PM - 6:40 PM (EST)**

**Topic: "Happy New Year!"**

**26th 'Sawakai': Wednesday, January 20, 2021, 6:00 PM - 6:40 PM (EST)**

**Topic: "Sharing Teaching Experiences – Ms. Kinoshita (Montreal Japanese Language Centre)!"**

@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.)

[Details >](#)



Online Talk  
**Cultivating the Next Generation of STEAM Thinkers**

**Thursday, January 7, 2021, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM (EST)**

@ONLINE, admission free, registration required

What is STEAM education? How is it different from STEM education? In this talk, Dr. Rie Kijima (University of Toronto and SKY Labo) and Dr. Mariko Yang-Yoshihara (Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education & SKY Labo) will discuss key concepts related to STEAM learning in the 21st century. Discussion will include the gender gap in STEM, what it takes to reverse this trend, and the importance of key mindsets, such as failing forward and thinking out of the box. The talk will centre around an innovative education program offered for female youths in Japan that utilizes design thinking to cultivate the next generation of STEAM thinkers.

[Details and registration >](#)



## Library News Staff Pick Review

Read our new Staff Pick review about the animated film *A Silent Voice* by director YAMADA Naoko at Kyoto Animation. This emotional drama is based on one of the most critically-acclaimed manga of the same name about a girl who can't hear and the boy who bullied her.

Check out past book and movie reviews and thematic booklists on our [Booklist webpage](#) to look for library items without having to browse the shelves onsite.



## Online Teachers' Professional Development Online Nihongo Salon for Japanese-Language Teachers

**4th Online Nihongo Salon:**  
**Wednesday, January 13, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (EST)**  
Topic: "Let's make haiku!"

The Japan Foundation, Toronto has launched a Nihongo Salon series for Japanese language teachers with the aim of providing a place where Japanese language teachers in Canada who would like to maintain Japanese language proficiency can speak Japanese regularly and network with other teachers.

[Details >](#)

## Online Teachers' Professional Development Trying Out Free Online Resources: "Hirogaru: Get more of Japan and Japanese"!

**January 12, 19, 26, and February 2, 2021, 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM (EST)**  
@ONLINE, admission free, registration required

As classes continue to be held online at many educational institutions, we will hold a series of workshops where teachers can try out the free online resource "Hirogaru: Get more of Japan and Japanese." Through using Hirogaru's educational materials, teachers will have the opportunity to think about how to handle Japanese culture and circumstances in their own lessons, how the materials can be arranged, how it can fit the goals of their class, etc.

[Details >](#)



Online Teachers' Professional Development  
**Let's get together! Japanese-Language Teachers in Canada**

**Thursday, January 14, 2021, 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM (EST)**

**Theme: コンテストを企画したい人、集まれ～！**  
@ONLINE, admission free, registration required

As more and more programs are being conducted online there are increasing opportunities for those involved in Japanese-language education in Canada to gather and share information. There is great variety in the levels and areas being covered within Japanese-language education, however, and this gathering aims to target specific groups and themes to allow for deeper discussion of relevant topics.

[Details >](#)



**JANUARY 15 ~ 31, 2021**



Film and Talk Series

**Healthy Hakko: The Fermented Culinary Arts of Japan**

**Friday, January 15, 2021 - Sunday, January 31, 2021**

@ONLINE, admission free, registration required (more details to come)

Miso, sushi, shoyu, sake, katsuobushi -- these are the essential flavours of Japan, and they have all undergone fermentation. Over the course of 3 weekends in January, we will present 4 documentary films about fermented Japanese foods, as well as 4 talks by experts, who will share their insights on the origins, health benefits and the special place that fermented foods hold in Japan's culinary culture and traditions.

[Details >](#)

**Part 1: Friday, January 15, 9:00 AM - Sunday, January 17, 9:00 PM**

We will screen *Dashi, Essence of Japan & Shoyu and the Secrets of Japanese Cuisine*, both directed by Shohei Shibata, and release a talk by **Dr. Eric Rath** (premodern dietary culture) and **Dr. Greg de St. Maurice** (cultural food heritage) on the history of fermented sushi and regional variations of miso.

[Click here to register for the talk >](#)

[Click here to register for the films >](#)

**Part 2: Friday, January 22, 9:00 AM - Sunday, January 24, 9:00 PM**

We will screen *The Genealogy of Sake*, directed by Kaori Ishii and release two talks: a discussion between **Dr. Victoria Lee** (fermentation science in modern Japan) and **Dr. Stephen Lyman** (Epidemiologist and Shochu expert), and another between **Mr. Michael Tremblay** (Sake samurai and sommelier) and **Kaori Ishii** (director).

Registration to come.

**Part 3: Friday January 29, 9:00 AM - Sunday, January 31, 9:00 PM**

We will screen *Katsuo-Bushi*, directed by Yu Nakashima, and *Fermented*, directed by Jon Cianfrani. The screenings will be accompanied by a discussion between **Sandor Katz** (author and educator on fermentation) and **Shiori Kajiwara** (writer and koji specialist).

Registration to come



**Film Festival  
Japan Film Festival Plus**

**Friday, February 5, 2021 - Sunday, February 14, 2021**  
@ONLINE, free admission, registration required

SAVE THE DATE! For the first time, the Japan Foundation is presenting a global online film festival travelling virtually to 20 countries, including Canada. Explore the fascinating world of Japanese cinema, as we stream our selection of close to 30 of Japan's most acclaimed films. More details will be revealed in the new year.

In the meantime, enjoy some great articles about film over the holidays:

[The Enchanting World of Anime Director Satoshi Kon: A Conversation Between Masao Maruyama & Hsin-Yin Sung](#)

[Demon Slayer movie breaks Japan box office records in first ten days](#)

[Kiyoshi Kurosawa's Wife of a Spy praised by Cate Blanchett](#)

[Movies About the Minutiae of Everyday Life: The Cinematic World of Director Shuichi Okita](#)

[Beyond Hatsumode And Otoshidama: New Year Traditions As Seen In Japanese Movies](#)



## Library News JFT Book Club Online

Thursday, February 11, 2021, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (EST)  
@ONLINE, RSVP required

Join our first book club of year 2021!

We will discuss the highly acclaimed novel *The Memory Police* (密やかな結晶) by OGAWA Yoko, shortlisted for the 2020 International Booker Prize and finalist of the 2019 National Book Award. Include this surreal story about the power of memory to your list of holiday readings for the next book club! Please email [library@jftor.org](mailto:library@jftor.org) to reserve your spot.

[Details >](#)



## Video Recording KATSUSHIKA Oei: A Woman Artist in the Floating World

If you missed our live co-presentation with the Japan Society, a recording the December 12 talk is now available to watch on our YouTube channel!

[Click here to watch >](#)



## Library News Contemporary Japanese Fiction at JFT Library

Although the library is currently closed, you can still browse for library items online for your next pickup! Check out our new complete list of Contemporary Japanese Fiction, available at JFT Library. Available in PDF format, discover new books and authors, as well as old favourites, without having to browse the shelves onsite. Stay tuned for more booklists to be available for download on the [Library Online catalogue](#).



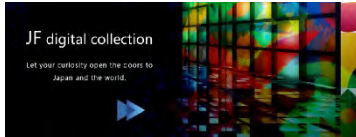
## Video Recording Re-engineering Reproductive Futures in Japanese Science Fiction

A live recording of our online lecture with Dr. Kazue Harada is available to watch on our YouTube channel until **January 6**. Tune in from home to learn about some

of Japan's best modern female sci-fi writers and how they use the genre to subvert ideas of reproductive futurism.

[Click here to watch >](#)

## JAPAN FOUNDATION SUPPORTED EVENTS



**JF Digital Collection - Let your curiosity open the doors to Japan and the world.**

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected many aspects of our society and individual lives, and greatly limited our opportunities to connect with one another. Although international cultural exchange programs around the world have also been curtailed, we believe that this situation shouldn't discourage our innate curiosity to one another.

As Japan Foundation's response, we are proud to present JF digital collection, an online platform showcasing a variety of online programs created by JF headquarters and our offices overseas. We hope this will serve as a way to bridge the gap between our audience, Japan, and the world.

Now featuring the Japan Foundation, Toronto's Fellow Gallery!

[Details >](#)



Japan Foundation, Sydney Presents  
**Hiroshi Nagai: Paintings for Music**

**Now - Saturday, January 23, 2021**

This exhibition explores an era that encapsulated the new young urban lifestyle in Tokyo through the lens of NAGAI Hiroshi's paintings. His dreamy visual palette and associated city pop hits epitomised the cultural reverberations of Japan's economic boom, providing a soundtrack and aesthetic for young urbanites lusting after endless summers by the poolside and an indulgent city nightlife.

[Details and online catalogue >](#)

Bilingual Multilingual Children's Net (BMCN)  
**International Forum on "Japanese Language Education Promotion Law":  
To promote heritage language education to foster global human talent**



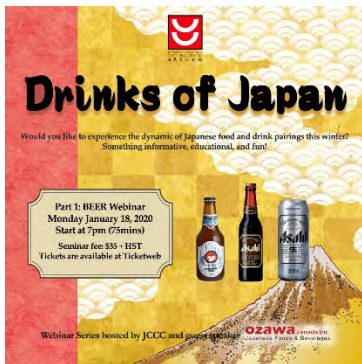
**October 2020 - March 2021**

@ONLINE, admission free

This online international forum is planned to promote native and heritage language education in Japan and abroad. From October 2020 for 6 months, connecting Japan with five overseas regions, we will promote "understanding of areas and issues" and "promotion of exchange / cooperation activities" by country / region and "summary of important items" and "promotion of public support" for the future. Website is in Japanese only.

[Details >](#)

## COMMUNITY NEWS



JCCC Presents

### Drinks of Japan - Beer Webinar

**Monday, January 18, 2021, 7:00 PM (EST)**

@ONLINE, registration required

Gain in-depth insights into different Japanese drinks through this JCCC online seminar series led by Shotaro Ozawa, Sake Expert and Japanese food specialist and president of Ozawa Canada. There are also curated food and beverage pairings on offer from local businesses that sound absolutely scrumptious.

[Details and Registration >](#)

## ONLINE RESOURCE RECOMMENDATIONS



Performing Arts Recommendation

### Christmas Carol Medley by BACH COLLEGIUM JAPAN

Conducted by SUZUKI Masaaki

Recorded at Suntory Hall, Tokyo | 5 min.

[Click here to watch >](#)



Performing Arts Recommendation  
**Franz Schubert Piano Recital by UCHIDA Mitsuko**

Originally streamed live without an audience on Wednesday, December 16, 2020, from Wigmore Hall, London, UK. | 1 hr. 27 min.

Piano Sonata in C D840 'Reliquie' at 5 min. 57 sec.  
'Fantasy' Sonata in G D894 at 42 min 08 sec.

[Click here to watch >](#)



Gallery Recommendation  
**Masterpiece of the Week**

**Important Cultural Property**

In celebration of zodiac animal of year 2021, Ox  
駿牛図巻断簡すんぎゅうずかんだんかん  
Hanging scroll, colour on paper  
Kamakura period/13th century  
A collection of the Tokyo National Museum  
Height 27.2cm, Width 32.4cm (total Width 48.6cm)

[Click here](#) to zoom in and see the scroll's details.

