

November 5, 2020



Dear Friends of The Japan Foundation, Toronto,

We're celebrating our 30th birthday this month! On November 8, 1990, The Japan Foundation arrived in Canada and set up a small office in Toronto. Over the years, we have grown in numerous capacities, moved offices, and expanded operations to engage our patrons and community through our many programs and activities.

The Japan Foundation, Toronto believes that culture can lend power to people and strengthen community ties, especially during challenging times. We are proud to say, with the support of our cultural partners, institutions, and organizations, we have been successful in our endeavours for over three decades.

To commemorate this milestone year, we have been celebrating virtually in a number of ways, including a [Fellow Gallery](#) that sheds light on past years of valuable intellectual exchange between Canada and Japan, as well as our [Digital Exhibit: 30th Anniversary Logo Contest](#) featuring winning entries of the JFT Logo contest. We also have a few surprises in store, including a virtual Japanese film festival and a lineup of fascinating talks, lectures, and workshops – the details for which will all be revealed in due time.

Thank you for all your support over the years. We look forward to celebrating 30 more years of cultural exchange between Japan and Canada with you.

Yuko Shimizu

Executive Director,
The Japan Foundation, Toronto

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

November 18	TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	22nd 'Sawakai': "How did you decide to evaluate student progress?"
November 10, 17, 24 & December 1	TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Trying Out Free Online Resources: "Irodori!"
December 8	TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	3rd Online Nihongo Salon: "Discuss in Japanese! Japanese 'common sense' that you found surprising."

JFT NEWS



The Japan Foundation Program Guidelines and Applications Are Now Available

Please note that applications for the **Support Program for Translation and Publication on Japan** are due on **Friday, November 20**.

Each year, the Japan Foundation conducts grants and programs that provide project support to individuals and organizations in the three major areas of Arts and Cultural Exchange, Japanese-Language Education Overseas, Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange. The guidelines for fiscal year 2021's programs are now available, and applications are officially open.

[Click here to view the program guidelines and details >](#)

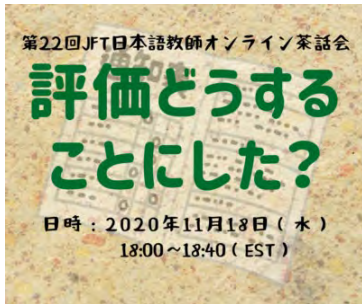


Online Teachers' Professional Development Online Nihongo Salon for Japanese-Language Teachers

3rd Online Nihongo Salon:
Tuesday, December 8, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (EST)
@ONLINE, admission free, registration required

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
JFT Online 'Sawakai' for Japanese Teachers

22nd 'Sawakai': Wednesday, November 18, 6:00 PM - 6:40 PM (EST)

Topic: "How did you decide to evaluate student progress?"

@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 Teachers' Professional Development
Trying Out Free Online Resources: "Irodori"!

November 10, 17, 24, and December 1, 7:00 PM - 8:00 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 "Irodori: Japanese for Life in Japan." Through analyzing Irodori's educational materials, teachers will have the opportunity to think about how to use it in their own lessons, how the materials can be arranged, how it can fit the goals of their class, etc.

[Details >](#)



Library News Manga List 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 Manga, 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 The Many Lives of a Japanese Classic

Link expires Monday, November 23

The recording of our September 17 lecture is available to watch for only 2 more weeks! Tune in at your convenience for Dr. Gergana Ivanova's presentation on how perceptions of *The Pillow Book* and its author Sei Shōnagon have changed and evolved over the centuries.

[Click here to watch >](#)



Film Screenings Asian Three-Fold Mirror 2018: JOURNEY

The three films in this series are co-directed by three Asian filmmakers under the theme of "travel beyond time and space" and depict the lives of characters who travel through China, Myanmar and Japan.

The Sea

Director: Degen Yun / Cast: Jin Chen, Zhe Gong

Hekishu

Director: MATSUNAGA Daishi / Cast: HASEGAWA Hiroki, Nandar Myat Aung

Variable Number Three

Director: Edwin / Cast: Agni Pratistha, Oka Antara

PG / Japan / 2018 / Color / 83 min. / With English and Japanese subtitles
Co-Production by The Japan Foundation Asia Center and Tokyo International Film Festival

[Trailer and more details >](#)

[Watch here >](#)



Survey Report on Japanese-Language Education Abroad 2018

The report on "Survey on Japanese-Language Education Abroad 2018" conducted by the Japan Foundation in fiscal 2018 has been released as follows: [Click here to view](#).

The information about each institution answering this survey is available on the database, "Search engine for institutions offering Japanese-language education External" [here](#).



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 \(Langara College\)](#)

JAPAN FOUNDATION SUPPORTED EVENTS



The Japan Foundation Asia Center & Tokyo International Film Festival Co-present

Asia Lounge Conversation Series

Free admission, registration required

This program, initiated by KORE-EDA Hirokazu, will host daily online conversations between leading film directors from various Asian countries and regions and their Japanese peers. A variety of high-profile guest speakers will discuss a myriad of topics. (Interpretation will be provided). [Details on Asia Lounge >](#)

Friday, November 6, 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM (JST)

TSAI Ming-Liang and KATAGIRI Hairi

Moderator: ICHIYAMA Shozo

[Registration >](#)

Saturday, November 7, 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM (JST)

JIA Zhang-Ke and KUROSAWA Kiyoshi

Moderator: ICHIYAMA Shozo
[Registration >](#)

Sunday, November 8, 6:30 PM –8:00 PM (JST)

Rithy PANH and YOSHIDA Yoshishige (Kijū)
Moderator: TSUCHIDA Tamaki
[Registration >](#)



Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival presents
The Horse of Thieves. Roads of Time オルジャ
スの白い馬

**Thursday, November 12, 10:00 AM - Friday, November
13, 7:00 PM**

Directed by TAKEBA Lisa & Yerlan Nurmukhambetov
2019, 84 min., Kazakh with English Subtitles

Inspired by true events, co-directors Nurmukhambetov and TAKEBA join forces for a landmark Kazakhstan/Japan co-production, starring decorated actors Samal Yeslyamova and MORIYAMA Mirai: A cowardly horse robbery ends in murder, leaving a boy fatherless and his family in disarray. When the boy's mother is forced to move the family out of their village, a mysterious man arrives who might be able to help restore order.

FREE ticket giveaway! We're excited to partner with @reelasian for the presentation of *The Horse Thieves. Roads of Time*. To enter, send an email to nnakamura@jftor.org with HORSE24 in the subject with your full name by 12:00 PM (EST), Monday, November 9. Giveaway winners will be notified by Wednesday, November 11.

[Details and Tickets >](#) [Get 15% discount with our promo code "FourEggNest."]



The Japan Foundation, New York presents
The Power of Music in Anime

Thursday, November 19, 8:00 PM (EST)
@ONLINE, registration required

The Japan Foundation, New York presents a monthly online series that delves into Japanese pop culture from academic and professional perspectives. For the third session, three musicologists in U.S. academia will unravel the power of music in anime. There will be a panel discussion with Stacey Jocoy, Kunio Hara, and Rose Bridges, as they discuss how directors and composers collaborate to create the music, examining the role of music in storytelling and the uses of music in anime.

[Details >](#)



The Japan Foundation, Budapest presents
Rōkyoku Cinderella

JF Budapest has uploaded a performance of "Rōkyoku Cinderella" on YouTube with English subtitles! This rōkyoku adaptation of Cinderella, based on the story by Charles Perrault, is written by TAMAGAWA Nanafuku accompanied on shamisen by SAWAMURA Toyoko.

Rōkyoku is genre of Japanese narrative singing (katarimono). Its roots are said to go back to elements of ancient Japanese religious music; as a form of performing arts it was established in the Meiji-period. A piece is presented by two people: the musician (kyokushi) accompanies the performer (rōkyokushi) on shamisen, whose performance alternates between singing and prose parts.

[Details >](#)

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



Shodo Canada Presents
**Calligraphy Competition 2020 - Opening
Ceremony and Virtual Exhibit**

Sunday, November 8, 2:00 PM (EST)
@ONLINE, registration required

You are invited to the opening ceremony of 13th edition of Shodo Canada's Annual Japanese Calligraphy Competition, hosted by Sensei Noriko Maeda, with speeches by

honoured guests from the Consulate General of Japan, Japan Foundation, Toronto, and the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre.

Shodo Canada is proud to host its first ever virtual exhibition. Each entry has been judged by a jury of five distinguished Master Calligraphers in Japan. The exhibition of this collection of artifacts comprises some of the year's highest achievements in Canadian scribed Japanese Calligraphy.

[Register for opening ceremony here >](#)

[View virtual exhibit here >](#)



The Embassy of Canada to Japan Presents
Virtual Lecture: "Early Video Art and Environmental Activism" - A Talk by Jesse Cumming

Wednesday, November 18 at 6:00 AM - 7:00 AM (EST)
@ONLINE, registration not required

The Embassy of Canada to Japan will present a real-time virtual lecture by Jesse Cumming, a Toronto-based curator and researcher focused predominantly on moving image artwork. Mr. Cumming will make use of images and video clips as he speaks about early video art and early environmental activism in Canada. The main focus of his talk will be Vancouver, where Greenpeace was founded, and the work by community video advocates. He will also draw comparisons with Japan, noting environmental themes in early 1970s media art, and important events like the "Rolling Coconut Review" concert. The presentation will include clips and images of work by artists like Michael Goldberg, Paul Spong, Kyoko Michishita, and Gann Matsushita.

[More details >](#)



Prince Takamado Japan Centre Presents
"The Ageing Society in the Era of Pandemics: Approaches in Japan and Canada" Series 2: Seniors' Life and Care during COVID-19
Sponsored by the Consulate General of Japan in Calgary

Monday, November 23, 6:30 PM (MST) / 8:30 PM (EST)
@ONLINE, registration required

The Prince Takamado Centre of Japan is pleased to present a dialogue between Dr. HAYASHI Reiko, Deputy Director-General of Japan's National Institute of Population and Social Security Research (IPSS) and Dr. Jasneet Parmar MBBS, M.Sc., MCFP (COE), Specialized Geriatrics Program Associate Professor, Dept. of Family Medicine, U

of Alberta Medical Lead, Alberta Health Services, Edmonton Zone Home Living and Transitions.

[Register here by Monday, November 16 >](#)

[More details >](#)

ONLINE RESOURCE RECOMMENDATIONS



Performing Arts Recommendation

A Streaming of a Kabuki Dance - Mt. Yoshino from *Yoshitsune and the Thousand Cherry Trees* (Yoshitsune Senbon Zakura YOSHINOYAMA)

Highlights (6 min. 47 sec.) on YouTube
Recorded in August 2020 at Kabuki-za Theatre, Tokyo
Subtitled in English

A magic fox, disguised as Tadanobu (Ennosuke), accompanies Lady Shizuka (Shichinosuke) while escaping through blossom-covered Mt. Yoshino. Lord Yoshitsune, Lady Shuzuka's lover and Tadanobu's master, is missed by both of them. Triumphant victories of Yoshitsune are described with the tragic death of Tadanobu's brother in a battle.

[Click here to watch >](#)



Gallery Recommendation

Masterpiece of the Week

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

Important Cultural Property

Imari porcelain in Kakiemon style

Bowl with Picture of Birds and Flowers in Over-glaze Enamels

色絵花鳥文大深鉢 いろえかちょうもんおおふかばち

Edo Era, 17th c., from a collection of Tokyo National Museum

[Click here](#) to view close up shots of the effect of bleeding glaze in the images from 2 different sides.



VR Experience Recommendation

The Book of Distance - Written and Directed by Randall Okita

Produced by the National Film Board of Canada 2020
VR headset and app required for the full experience

An award winning interactive pilgrimage through an emotional geography of immigration and family to recover what was lost. The Book of Distance is a room-scale interactive virtual reality experience that imagines new possibilities for personal storytelling.

[Trailer >](#)

[Details >](#)

