



October 1, 2020



Keeping in mind the safety of our patrons and staff, The Japan Foundation, Toronto will close its library and gallery on **Tuesday, October 13** until further notice. Meanwhile, there is still some time left to book a visit to our **library** or check out our new **Japanese Dolls** exhibit. And worry not -- all of our planned **online programming** will continue virtually, and we are excited to seek new ways to bring events and content to you online. For example, on **October 14**, we will be hosting an **Online Nihongo Salon for Japanese-Language Teachers**. **October** also marks the **Toronto Japanese Film Festival 2020** and the **Toronto International Festival of Authors**. **For details, please see below >**

Schedule at a Glance

October 1 - January 12	Gallery	NINGYŌ: Art and Beauty of Japanese Dolls Exhibition
October 3 - October 22	Film Screening	Toronto Japanese Film Festival 2020
October 7	Teachers' Professional Development	Online 'Sawakai' for Japanese Teachers: How is the semester going?
October 9	Library and Gallery	Last day to visit Library and Gallery
October 13	Library and Gallery	Library and Gallery are closed until further notice, Online programs continue uninterrupted
October 14	Teachers' Professional Development	Online Nihongo Salon for Japanese-Language Teachers
October 21	Teachers' Professional Development	Online 'Sawakai' for Japanese Teachers: How is the semester going? (tentative)

October 24 & 29	Library	Toronto International Festival of Authors - Virtual Events with KAWAKAMI Mieko
November 5	Library	JFT Book Club Online - <i>Breasts and Eggs</i> by KAWAKAMI Mieko

JFT NEWS

Important Message From JFT Temporary Closure of Japan Foundation, Toronto Library and Gallery

Starting Tuesday, October 13

As Toronto heads into the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, out of consideration for the health and safe of our community and staff members, we have made the difficult decision to temporarily close our public space starting Tuesday, October 13.

While our in-person programming will be suspended until further notice, rest assured that our online programming will continue uninterrupted.

[More details >](#)

[Read here](#) a message from our Executive Director SHIMIZU Yuko >



Announcement New Japan Foundation President

The Japan Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of UMEMOTO Kazuyoshi as the new President of the Japan Foundation on October 1, 2020, succeeding ANDO Hiroyasu.

President UMEMOTO has a long history as a civil servant of Japan and has served in a variety of government positions both within Japan and internationally.

[Details >](#)

Exhibition NINGYŌ: Art and Beauty of Japanese Dolls Touring exhibition produced by The Japan Foundation, Tokyo

Thursday, October 1, 2020 - Tuesday, January 12, 2021
 [Temporarily closing on Tuesday, October 13, until further notice]
 Visits to the Gallery are by appointment only. Please visit our website for [details](#).



The traveling exhibition "NINGYŌ: Art and Beauty of Japanese Dolls" was produced afresh in 2020 by The Japan Foundation Head Quarters, Tokyo. Under the exhibition title NINGYŌ, which means "human shape" in Japanese, the doll culture that has been

cultivated over the long history of Japan will be introduced through a total of 67 carefully selected dolls, divided into 4 sections: "Ningyō to pray for children's growth," "Ningyō as fine art," "Ningyō as folk art," and "Spread of Ningyō culture."

Click [here](#) for hours and to book your reservation >

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



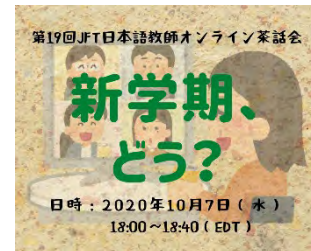
First Online Nihongo Salon: Wednesday, October 14, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (EDT)

@ONLINE, admission free, registration required

The Japan Foundation, Toronto is launching a Nihongo Salon 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



19th 'Sawakai': Wednesday, October 7, 6:00 PM - 6:40 PM (EDT)

Topic: "How is the new semester going?"

20th 'Sawakai': Wednesday, October 21, 6:00 PM - 6:40 PM (EDT)

Topic: "Again, how is the new semester going?" (tentative)

@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 >](#)

Film Screenings Asian Three-Fold Mirror 2018: JOURNEY

Available between Monday, September 14 - Monday, November 30



Co-produced by The Japan Foundation Asia Center and Tokyo International Film Festival, the Asian Three-Fold Mirror project brings together three directors from Asia to co-create omnibus films with a common theme. The second installment of the series, "Asian Three-Fold Mirror 2018: Journey", was directed by three notable Asian filmmakers under the theme of travel beyond time and space. Crew and cast joined forces across national borders to depict the lives of

characters who travel through China, Myanmar and Japan. One of Indonesia's most popular actors, Nicholas Saputra, appears in all three episodes. [More details >](#)

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

[Watch here >](#)

"Marugoto: Japanese Language and Culture" Has Been E-booked!

All books in the Japan Foundation's *Marugoto* textbook series will be E-booked and available to purchase. As a first step, *Starter 1 A1* and *Elementary1 A2* are now available on Amazon Kindle and Google Play Books, with *Elementary 2 A2*, *Pre-Intermediate A2/B1*, *Intermediate 1 B1*, *Intermediate 2 B1* to follow!

[Amazon Kindle >](#)

[Google Play Books >](#)



Site Renewal

Japanese in Anime & Manga

As any fan of anime & manga knows, the language spoken by Monkey D. Luffy or Himura Kenshin doesn't exactly sound like textbook Japanese. With this site, you'll be able to move beyond what's in your textbook by practicing the expressions of eight different "character types" (such as Samurai, Scrapper, and Osakan) using fun quizzes, games, and interactive manga. Get ready to power up your Japanese!



The Japan Foundation's popular language-learning website "Japanese in Anime & Manga" has been completely updated so now you can easily study using your smartphone!

[Details >](#)

Video Recording Now Available!
Eitetsu Hayashi & Eitetsu Fu-un no Kai in collaboration with Nagata Shachu



Performance at Japan Festival Canada 2018 (40 min.)

In the spirit of celebrating the 90th Anniversary of Canada-Japan Diplomatic relations in 2018, the Japan Foundation presented "Eitetsu Hayashi: Japanese TAIKO Drum Concert Tour with Eitetsu FU-UN no KAI." Japan's legendary solo taiko drummer, HAYASHI Eitetsu, toured across Canada together with his ensemble of young drummers, the FU-UN no KAI ensemble. Concerts took place in Calgary, Vancouver, Ottawa, Toronto and Mississauga and gave people in Canada a rare chance to experience the musical creativity of an artist at the forefront of taiko drumming in Japan.

[Click here to watch >](#)

Video Recording Now Available!
The Many Lives of a Japanese Classic



Link expires Monday, November 23

If you missed our online lecture on Thursday, September 17, a live recording is now available to watch on our YouTube channel for 2 months. 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 >](#)

Library News
October New Arrivals

New Arrivals for October! New titles include Cannes-winning film *Shoplifters* by director KOREEDA Hirokazu, books about Japanese dolls and netsuke, 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 >](#)

JFT Book Club Online

Thursday, November 5, 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM (EDT)
@ONLINE, RSVP required

For our next Book Club, we will discuss *Breasts and Eggs* (夏物語) written by KAWAKAMI Mieko, one of the featured guest authors for Toronto International Festival of Authors 2020. *Breasts and Eggs* paints a portrait of contemporary womanhood in Japan and recounts the intimate journeys of three women as they confront oppressive mores and their own uncertainties on the road to finding peace and futures they can truly call their own. Please email library@jftor.org to reserve your spot.



[Details >](#)

Performing Arts Japan

Deadline Monday, November 2

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 >](#)

Calendar

2020-2021 School Calendar: Linguistic Variation in Japan

Each year the Japan Foundation, Toronto creates a school calendar to show our appreciation to the institutions in Canada that teach the Japanese language. We also now have it up on our website if you are interested in downloading our most recent calendar, which showcases the diverse languages and dialects in Japan!



[Details >](#)

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

Toronto International Festival of Authors - Virtual Events with KAWAKAMI Mieko

**Overcoming Expectations: Mieko Kawakami on *Breasts and Eggs*
(Interview)**

@Saturday, October 24 at 7:00 PM (EDT)

**Skin Hunger: Mieko Kawakami (Commissioned piece read by
Jocelyn Allen)**

@Thursday, October 29 at 12:00 PM (EDT)



The Toronto International Festival of Authors (TIFA) is back this year and will be held entirely online. With the support of the Japan Foundation, Toronto, TIFA has scheduled 2 virtual events with novelist KAWAKAMI Mieko, winner of the Akutagawa Prize, Japan's most prestigious literary award. Ms. KAWAKAMI won the prize in 2008 for her novella *Breasts and Eggs*, which has since been expanded and translated into English.

[Details >](#)

Photo credit: YUTO KUDO/ Madame Figaro Japon

The Toronto Japanese Film Festival 2020



OPENING THIS SATURDAY!

Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre's 9th annual Toronto Japanese Film Festival will be held online from **Saturday, October 3 to Thursday, October 22** and features 22 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 get tickets and to find out the full line up of films for TJFF 2020.

Tora-San, Wish You Were Here **男はつらいよ お帰り寅さん**

Director: YAMADA Yoji (2019) 1hr 56 min.
Details and Tickets [here >](#)

Japan Foundation, Toronto is proud to be the Screening Partner for this film that celebrates Japan's most beloved comedy film series that is reaching its 50th anniversary with its 50th film.

At the 7th annual memorial service for his wife, novelist and father Mitsuo struggles with the next steps in his life. Conversation turns to lively reminiscences of the past, especially about their incorrigible uncle, Tora-san and his many unrequited loves (as documented in the first 49 films). Two women enter Mitsuo's life: one a thoughtful coworker, the other his long-lost first love Izumi. Can Tora-san's experiences guide Mitsuo to the right decision?

Lovingly blending nostalgic scenes for the original series with new footage featuring original cast members master director YAMADA creates a moving and wistful tale of family, love and memory. ©2019 Shochiku Co., Ltd.



ONLINE RESOURCE RECOMMENDATIONS

Filmmaker Interview Recommendation

Q+A with NISHIKAWA Miwa and KAWASE Naomi at TIFF 2020

Gain deeper insight into two feature films by Japanese women directors which screened at the 45th Toronto International Film Festival earlier in September 2020.

UNDER THE OPEN SKY Q&A with NISHIKAWA Miwa, YAKUSHO Koji | TIFF 2020 (17 min.)

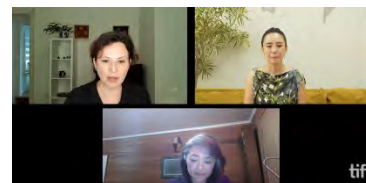
Director NISHIKAWA Miwa and YAKUSHO Koji in conversation with TIFF in advance of UNDER THE OPEN SKY's premiere at the 2020 Toronto International Film Festival. NISHIKAWA's touching, poignant redemption drama follows a middle-aged ex-yakuza (Yakusho) as he adjusts to life outside of prison.

[Watch here >](#)



TRUE MOTHERS Q&A with KAWASE Naomi | TIFF 2020 (29 min.)

Director KAWASE Naomi in conversation with TIFF in advance of TRUE MOTHERS' premiere at the 2020 Toronto International Film Festival. The latest from acclaimed director KAWASE - a candid force in contemporary Japanese cinema - is a touching family story of love and adoption.



[Watch here >](#)

Gallery Recommendations

Masterpiece of the Week

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

National Treasure

Ritual Bell with Crossed Band Design

袈裟禪文銅鐸 けさだすきもんどうたく

Yayoi period/2nd-1st century BCE



Please [click here](#) for a detailed guide and complete images from different angles and close-ups in high resolution. Both sides of the outer surfaces are divided into six sections which are decorated with simple but descriptive reliefs, such as a dragonfly; a water lizard; a man hunting a deer with a bow and arrow; a figure holding an I-shaped instrument (perhaps a man with a spinning tool); a gable-roofed building with a raised floor (possibly a storehouse); two women pounding a mortar; a praying mantis and a spider; a turtle eating a fish; two herons with fish in their beaks; a man with a bow and arrow and dogs, hunting a wild boar; and a turtle and a lizard. The heads of the men are represented by circles, those of the women by triangles.

Exhibition Recommendation

Yokohama Triennale 2020 Virtual Tour

Ends Sunday, October 11

The Yokohama Triennale 2020 Virtual Tour enables viewers to enter, move around inside and explore the many exhibits now on show in the Triennale's three venues. Users can even read wall texts and labels accompanying the exhibits, and the service is available in both English and Japanese. You can also share the experience through Episodo, the online and real-world events that extend the footprint of the Triennale in space and time.



横浜トリエンナーレ
YOKOHAMA TRIENNALE

[Details >](#)

[Episodo >](#)

COMMUNITY NEWS

Victoria Nikkei Cultural Centre Presents

The 21st Annual Japanese Cultural Fair - Virtual Edition

Saturday, October 24, 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM (EDT)

@ONLINE, admission free



The Virtual Edition of the fair is being presented as a three-hour long live online show combining pre-taped vignettes and live performances, all highlighting Victoria's Japanese community.

Viewers can expect performances of Taiko drumming, Koto playing, Ikebana flower arranging, the Japanese tea ceremony, Kyudo Japanese archery, Kimono dressing, and Kamishibai story telling, as well as a look at Japanese vegetables by Umi Nami Farms.

The full schedule of events will be posted at VNCS.ca as soon as it is finalized.

Stay Connected

