

June 8, 2023



JFF+
INDEPENDENT CINEMA

Discover New Perspective from Japan

Watch a selection of diverse indie films curated by theatre managers from across Japan.
Stream worldwide for free from now until June 15, 2023.




JAPAN

TRAVEL TIPS

EVENT DATE
(ONLINE)

WED JUNE 28,
7:00-8:00 PM ET



Whether you are staying indoors these days to get out of the smoke or planning your summer trips, we have event offerings for you.

[JFF+ Independent Cinema](#) is available for just one more week! Until **June 15**, enjoy a selection of Japanese indie films from the comfort of your home.

In-person spots for the **June 20 hybrid-style JFT Book Club** are all booked, but a few virtual spots still remain. Pick up an LGBTQIA+ book and participate in Silent Reading time and the optional discussion portion at home!

Going on a trip to Japan soon? On **June 28**, we're partnering up with JNTO to offer you a crash course on Japanese language and summer sightseeing spots. Spots will go fast so sign up now for [Japan Travel Tips](#)!

Finally, organizations around Toronto are offering many Japan-related events in June. Make sure you check out the Community Events section to get involved!

For more upcoming JFT events, community news, as well as online resources, **see details below.**

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Now - June 15	ONLINE FILM SCREENINGS	JFF+ Independent Cinema
Now - September 9	GALLERY EXHIBITION	A Sense of Movement: Japanese Sports Posters
June 10	ONLINE TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Online Network for Heritage Language Education 9
June 20	LIBRARY EVENT	JFT Book Club (Hybrid) – With Silent Reading Time – LGBTQIA+ Books
June 24	ONLINE TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	JFT Marugoto Teaching Material Project (4)
June 28	ONLINE TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Information Exchange Meeting for Freelance Japanese Language Teachers 2
June 28	JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLASSES	Japan Travel Tips

UPCOMING EVENTS



Online Teachers' Professional Development Online Network for Heritage Language Education 9

Saturday, June 10, 8:00 PM – 9:30 PM (ET)

Theme: Sharing ideas for Japanese language learning during the summer holiday

Online Event | Admission Free | Registration Required | Conducted in Japanese only

In this 9th session, we will share and exchange ideas, information, and experiences (useful websites, stories about temporary school enrollment in Japan, ways to keep children motivated, etc.) to help children continue their Japanese language study during the summer holiday.

[Register here](#)

Film Screenings JFF+ Independent Cinema

Available until Thursday, June 15, 3:00 AM (ET)

Online Film Screenings | Admission Free | Registration Required



It is the final week of **JFF+ Independent Cinema**! Watch six of the best Japanese indie films, many of which have not been seen outside of Japan. This program features Japanese indie films curated by managers of independent theaters (aka “mini-theaters”) throughout Japan. These mini-theaters have nurtured the diversity of Japanese cinema culture throughout the years. All films are available for free and can be streamed worldwide from now until June 15. Featured films: *A Little Girl’s Dream*, *Drive Into Night*, *In The Distance*, *On the Edge of Their Seats*, *Shiver* and *What Can You Do About It?*

[Details here](#)



Library News

JFT Book Club (Hybrid) – With Silent Reading Time – LGBTQIA+ Books

Tuesday, June 20 @ 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM (ET)

Online & In-Person @ JFT Library | Admission Free | Registration Required

Want more time to read but too many distractions? Now is your chance! JFT Library is starting a new type of hybrid book club meeting where you are invited to read a book in silence in the library (or wherever you want if participating virtually) surrounded by fellow book lovers. Following the silent reading, we provide an optional discussion time for those who wish to connect with other participants, where you could share and learn new perspectives from someone from different backgrounds that you wouldn’t gain from reading alone.

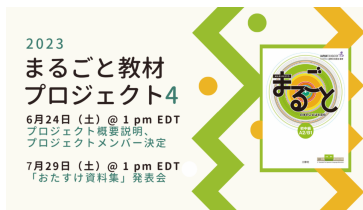
The theme for the upcoming book club is “LGBTQIA+” in honor of Pride Season in June. Whether you identify as LGBTQIA+ or simply wish to support and understand this vibrant community, we encourage you to join us to celebrate the diverse narratives and important themes related to LGBTQIA+ experiences through Japan-related literature!

We welcome both seasoned book club members and first-time participants to indulge in the simple pleasure of reading without the pressures of finishing an assigned book on time and sharing their passion for books and/or the theme!

*Bring your own book or check **JFT Library’s LGBTQIA+ Book List** ([physical books](#) & [ebooks/audiobooks](#)) to get ideas!

[Register here](#)

Online Teachers' Professional Development



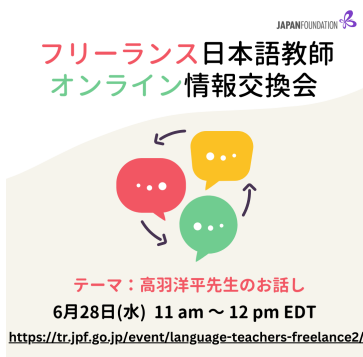
JFT Marugoto Teaching Material Project (4): Creating Support Materials

Saturday, June 24, 1:00 PM – 2:30 PM (ET)

Online Event | Admission Free | Registration Required | Conducted in Japanese only

We are planning a project to create a collection of materials to be used as a reference by teachers. This current project will target materials to use with Marugoto Pre-Intermediate (A2/B1). On June 24 we will have a session to explain the outline of the project before we ask individuals to confirm their participation, so please feel free to join us if you are interested. The document collection presentation will be on Saturday, July 29.

[Register here](#)



Online Teachers' Professional Development Information Exchange Meeting for Freelance Japanese Language Teachers 2

Talk by Yohei Takaba [Instagram & Facebook: @tkb774]

Wednesday, June 28, 11:00 AM – Noon (ET)

Online Event | Admission Free | Registration Required | Conducted in Japanese only

Let's get together with teachers who are teaching Japanese as a freelance in Canada. Mr. Yohei Takaba, who taught Japanese to children in North Vancouver, will introduce how to create digital teaching materials and their contents, along with stories about himself.

No prior freelance experience is required. Whether you are just starting out or have been doing it for a long time, please feel free to join us!

[Register](#)



Japanese Language Classes Japan Travel Tips

Wednesday June 28, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Online Event | Admission Free | Registration Required

The Japan Foundation, Toronto and Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) are thrilled to team up to offer this online seminar, teaching the basics (both linguistic and logistical) of how to make the most out of your next trip to Japan!

This presentation will offer a crash-course in Japanese language, showcase summer sights, and answer the burning questions you'll need to know to have fun in the land of the rising sun. All are welcome regardless of Japan travel experience or Japanese language level.

[Register here](#)



Volunteer Opportunities JFT Gallery Volunteer

We are looking for volunteers to help with the JFT Gallery. Shifts take place on Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays 11:30 - 4:30 PM and are roughly 2.5 hours each. Tasks include greeting visitors, answering basic questions, and monitoring the safety of artwork at the JFT.

[Apply here](#)

ONGOING EVENTS



Library News June New Arrivals

[Visit the library](#) to borrow newly arrived titles! Explore the nature of love, truth, and memory with ONDA Riku's [Fish Swimming in Dappled Sunlight](#), an enigmatic thriller with many twists and turns; if you are looking for quicker yet thought-provoking literary escape, check out OYAMADA Hiroko's [Weasels in the Attic](#), a novella immerses readers in a surreal and mesmerizing world in less than 100 pages; for those interested in complexities inherent in international alliances, SAKAMOTO Kazuya's [The Bonds of the Japan-US Alliance: The Japan-US Security Treaty and the Search for Mutuality](#) serves as a valuable resource in examining the delicate balance of power and mutual interests in the ever-evolving global landscape; and more!

[See full list here](#)

[Place a hold for pickup](#)



Library News JF Canada Digital Library: Newly Added Ebooks and Audiobooks

Check out new ebooks and audiobooks just added to [JF Canada Digital Library](#), which also include titles to learn about indigenous peoples in Japan in honor of National Indigenous History Month. Dive deep into fluctuating political, geographical, ethnic, and sociocultural borders of 'Japan' and 'the Japanese' while exploring the histories and identities of Ryukyuan and Ainu peoples with OGUMA Eiji's [The Boundaries of 'the Japanese': Volume 1: Okinawa 1818-1972 - Inclusion and Exclusion and Volume 2: Korea, Taiwan and the Ainu 1868-1945](#); photographer Aaron Jamieson's [My Hokkaido](#) takes you to a visual journey in the northern island of Japan - home to the native Ainu people; and more!

*More digital titles on indigenous peoples in Japan are available at [JF Canada Digital Library's designated page on Indigenous Peoples in Japan](#).

Apply for a new library card or renew your expired card [here](#).

Browse other ebooks and audiobooks



Music Playlist **JFT Staff Mixtape**

Available now on Spotify and on YouTube

As part of our Doors Open Toronto activities this year, the JFT staff curated an eclectic playlist of their favourite Japanese songs. From J-pop to J-rock to classical music, each JFT staff hand-picked songs that hold special meaning for them and included personal testimonials describing their selections. Read more about the music and listen to the playlist!

[Listen here](#)



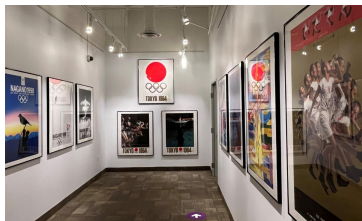
Online Interview **Transcending Borders: Author NISHI Kanako in conversation with Dr. Christina Laffin**

Available now on YouTube

If you missed it during its initial release, you can now watch this JFT-exclusive interview. Dr. Christina Laffin (UBC) sits down with Ms. KANAKO Nishi - author of more than twenty novels, essay and short story collections, and children's books - to chat about the transnational themes behind Ms. Nishi's works, her impressions of Canada after living here the last three years, and her thoughts on female authorship in Japan's literary community.

*Click [here](#) to check author details and where you can find her works at JFT Library and online.

[Watch here](#)



Gallery Exhibition **A Sense of Movement: Japanese Sports Posters**

Dates: Now to September 9, 2023

Admission Free | Pre-registrations now open! | Open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays

A Sense of Movement is an impressive international exhibition that explores the connection between Japanese graphic design and sports. Our collection presents a total of 68 pieces from 24 designers, from young professionals to great graphic design masters, who introduces the means to creatively convey sports and movement through two-dimensional printed media. Starting April



20, join us to experience the fruit of Japan's rich graphic design culture, from the 1964 Tokyo Summer Olympics to present day.

[Details here](#)

[Book your visit](#)



Dive Deeper into the World of Japanese Sports Posters with JFT Library's Book List

Have you already visited JFT gallery exhibition [A Sense of Movement: Japanese Sports Posters](#)? Fully immerse yourself in the world of Japanese sports posters by borrowing materials from the JFT library's curated [book list](#) before or after visiting the gallery! The [book list](#) includes select titles on Japanese sports, graphic design, and the designers behind this dynamic art form. Whether you are a sports fan or graphic designer/art lover, this book list will provide valuable insights and inspiration to deepen your understanding and appreciation of this captivating intersection of art and sport.

Apply for a new library card or renew your expired card [here](#).

[Details here](#)



Japanese Language Classes JFT Japanese Language Classes

Online | Registration Required

Are you looking for somewhere to continue studying Japanese? We offer classes for various levels.

[Register here](#)



Japanese Language Classes JFT Virtual Study Space

Online Space | Admission Free | Registration Required

Looking for a space to practice the Japanese language outside of class? Want to connect with fellow learners from all over Canada (or study alone if you wish)? Our free online 24/7 JFT Virtual Study Space is now open to all learners of Japanese in Canada. Here, learners can practice speaking, complete weekly language challenges, play games, chill, study together or alone, and more.

[Register here](#)

JAPAN FOUNDATION SUPPORTED EVENTS



Toronto Japanese Film Festival

June 8 – June 22

Film Festival | Ticketed Admission: Prices Vary

The Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre's 12th annual film festival will be presented in person from June 8 to 22 at the JCCC's Kobayashi Hall. The festival has now grown into one of the largest film events of its kind in the world and is recognized by the Japanese film industry as a vital conduit for bringing Japanese film to the world. The Japan Foundation, Toronto is proud to be a Sustaining Sponsor of the festival.

[Details here](#)



Toronto Japanese Film Festival

***Small, Slow But Steady* ケイコ 目を澄ませて**

Tuesday, June 13, 7:00 PM (ET)

Film Screening | Ticketed Admission: Prices Vary

A hearing-impaired woman with dreams of becoming a professional boxer due to the pandemic is threatened closure of her boxing club and the illness of its ageing president, who has been her biggest supporter, push her to the limit. Inspired by OGASAWARA Keiko's autobiography and Winner of the Kinema Junpo Awards for Best Film and Best Female Performance.

[Details here](#)



Toronto Japanese Film Festival

***Roleless* 宮松と山下**

Saturday, June 17, 4:00 PM (ET)

Film Screening | Ticketed Admission: Prices Vary

Miyamatsu divides his modest life between jobs as a cable car operator and an extra in Japanese gangster and samurai films. With no family, friends, or memories of the past, he sleepwalks through life. Through a chance meeting, he is confronted with a different life – his own. His true name is Yamashita. He has a sister and a history he decides to investigate. A quiet, consistently surprising and artful film with a superb central performance from KAGAWA Teruyuki.

[Details here](#)

Toronto Japanese Film Festival

***We Make Antiques! Osaka Dreams* 嘘八百 なにわ夢の陣**

Sunday, June 18, 4:00PM (ET)



Film Screening | Ticketed Admission: Prices Vary

Japan's favourite fine-arts conmen - antique dealer Norio and potter Sasuke - are back so get ready to laugh! Legend tells us there is a set of seven lucky charms that encouraged the success of Hideyoshi, the 16th century ruler of Japan in Osaka. Norio is asked to find the last missing charm, the tea bowl named Houou. But it is also being pursued by another dubious art foundation that is making a fortune with an artist TAIKOH and his spiritual arts. Norio, Sasuke and their close-knit team of skilled forgers team up again to bring the dream treasure into reality and outwit the villains.

[Details here](#)

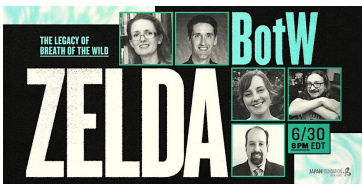


TIFF Cinematheque
POP Japan: World of Anime
POP Japan: Miyazaki Spotlight

June 1 to June 27
Film Screening Series | Ticket Admission: Prices Vary

POP Japan: World of Anime provides a survey of Japan's most influential anime films, co-curated by Yuki Ohsawa, while *POP Japan: Miyazaki Spotlight* is a four-film ode to the "godfather of animation" and co-founder of Studio Ghibli. There are 10 anime screenings to check out from now until June 27. All screenings are rush-eligible! Ticket availability changes everyday so it is good to check back to see if tickets have been returned.

[Details here](#)



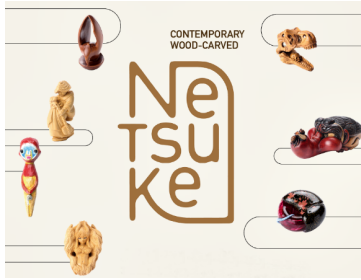
Japan Foundation, New York
The Legend of Zelda: Exploring the Legacy of Breath of the Wild

Friday, June 30, 8:00 PM (ET)
Online talk | Admission free | Registration required

Since its release in 2017, *Breath of the Wild* is the best-selling game in *The Legend of Zelda* series and is considered one of the greatest video games of all time. It has been described as "groundbreaking," changing how many saw open-world experiences in video games and inspiring many following titles. How did *The Legend of Zelda* become one of the most successful and long-lived franchises in video game history? Why do players keep returning to this series? How is the message of the game conveyed in the open world and music design? How has gender been represented?

[Details here](#)

Embassy of Japan in Canada
Contemporary Wood-Carved Netsuke



Thursday, June 15 - Sunday, July 9

In-person exhibition @Information and Culture Centre Lobby,
Embassy of Japan in Canada | Admission free

Contemporary Wood-Carved Netsuke, the Japan Foundation's traveling exhibition, is an innovative contemporary crafts exhibition presenting 65 works by contemporary netsuke carvers and artists. A netsuke is a non-slip toggle that has been used since the Edo period (1603-1868) to secure the small personal items such as money pouches, inrō (medicine container), or tobacco containers worn suspended on cords from the obi (a sash worn with kimono). The netsuke has been called a tactile craft. *Nare* in Japanese, and perhaps “patina” in English, changes that arise over time from actually touching them, is regarded as a distinctive resonance that makes netsuke rich and vital.

[Details here](#)

COMMUNITY EVENTS



**Nagata Shachu
FLOW**

Saturday, June 10, 8:00 PM (ET)

Live Concert | Ticketed Admission: Prices Vary

Nagata Shachu and next-generation Japanese taiko soloist Masayuki Sakamoto will embrace *flow* – the mental state in which a person is fully immersed in a feeling of energized focus, full involvement, and enjoyment in the process. This spellbinding season finale will weave together Nagata Shachu's traditional taiko rhythms with Sakamoto's rebellious rock n roll musical sensibilities, while hypnotically immersed in the flow state.

[Details here](#)



Hot Docs Cinema

Coda Exhibition On Screen: Tokyo Stories

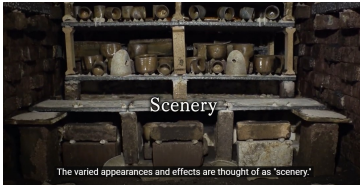
Screenings on June 23, 25, 26, 27

Exhibition Screenings | Ticketed Admission: Prices Vary

Based on a major exhibition at the Ashmolean in Oxford, *Tokyo Stories* spans 400 years of incredibly dynamic art—ranging from the delicate woodblock prints of Hokusai and Hiroshige, to Pop Art posters, contemporary photography, manga, film and brand-new artworks that were created on the streets. The exhibition was a smash-hit five-star success and brought a younger and more diverse audience to the museum. The film uses the exhibition as a launchpad to travel to Tokyo itself, and explore the art and artists of the city more fully.

[Details here](#)

ONLINE RESOURCE RECOMMENDATIONS



Gallery, Visual Arts Recommendation
YAKISHIME - 3. Scenery 【焼締】 3. 景色

7 min. 03 sec. | with English subtitles

[Watch here](#)



Performing Arts Recommendation
**NHK Symphony Orchestra:
Tchaikovsky: *Symphony No. 4***

Conducted by OTAKA Tadaaki | 55 min. 32 sec.

[Watch here](#)



The Japan Foundation, Toronto | 2 Bloor St. East, Suite 300, P.O. Box 130, Toronto, Ontario
M4W 1A8 Canada