

December 7, 2023



Join us this **Saturday, December 9** for a full day of *yokai*! Yokai are ghosts, goblins, and mysterious creatures from Japanese folklore and mythology. Starting off your weekend with our early afternoon screening of the anime film [Summer Days With Coo](#) in our event hall. This heartwarming story follows a boy and his *kappa* companion, Coo, as they journey to find others of his kind.

Following the screening, hop over to our library for our [Kamishibai Storytelling](#) event in where yokai folktales will be presented in the style of traditional Japanese street theatre, also known as "paper dramas." The stories might be a bit spooky, but nothing you can't handle with a friend by your side!

Last but not least, our ongoing exhibition [Contemporary Wood-Carved NETSUKE](#) will officially end on **Saturday, December 16**, which is also the last day our centre will be open to the public this year. Our

centre (gallery and library) will be closed from Sunday, December 17, 2023 to Thursday, January 4, 2024. There's just a few more days to see our Netsuke collection before the holidays!

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

SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

Now	JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLASSES	Registration Now Open for Winter Term
Now - December 16	GALLERY EXHIBITION	Contemporary Wood-Carved NETSUKE
December 9	FILM SCREENING	Summer Days With Coo
December 9	LIBRARY EVENT	Kamishibai Storytelling
December 9	ONLINE TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	Online Network for Heritage Language Education 10
December 13	ONLINE TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	58th 'Sawakai'
December 14	JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLASSES	Online Japanese Grammar Boot Camps

UPCOMING EVENTS



Film Screening
Summer Days with Coo

Saturday, December 9 @ 12:45 PM (ET)

In-Person Screening | Admission Free | Registration Required |
Presented in Japanese with English subtitles

A small, lone Kappa (aka water imp) who miraculously survives over 200 years into modern day Japan, when he is found by young Koichi. Coo, who is secretly adopted by Koichi's family, searches with his new human friend for unpopulated places in hopes of finding any remaining of his kind.

Continue the yokai vibes after the screening in our library for our [Kamishibai Storytelling](#) session of yokai folktales! More details below.

[Register here](#)



Library Event

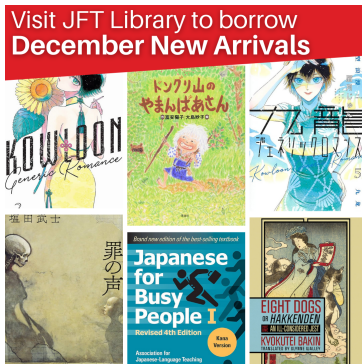
Kamishibai Storytelling — The Goblin, The Water Imp and The Thunder God & The Three Magic Charms —

Saturday, December 9 @ 3:30 PM - 4:00 PM (ET)

In-person Event | Admission Free | Registration Not Required

Join JFT Library as we share the tales of *yokai* — Japanese ghosts, goblins, and mysterious creatures — through the enchanting art of *kamishibai* storytelling! *Kamishibai* (紙芝居, literally meaning “paper drama”) is a traditional Japanese street theatre presented with vibrant illustrations and dynamic narration. Whether you’re a family with little ones or someone eager to discover the rich tradition of Japanese storytelling, don’t miss this rare opportunity to experience the magic of *kamishibai* in Toronto, connecting with the rich tapestry of Japanese folklore!

[Details here](#)



Library News

December New Arrivals

Visit the library to borrow newly arrived titles! Embark on a mesmerizing journey through late medieval Japan with KYOKUTEI Bakin’s *Eight Dogs, or Hakkenden*, a blend of historical romance and fantasy skillfully translated by Glynne Walley (who recently delivered [an insightful lecture on Japanese monsters](#) at JFT); be among the first library patrons to enjoy the newest volume of MAYUZUKI Jun’s unique dystopian romance manga series *Kowloon Generic Romance (3)* (or 『九龍ジェネリックロマンス』(3)) and receive a free poster featuring the beautiful cover image from vol. 3; efficiently accelerate your Japanese proficiency with the revised 4th edition of *Japanese for Busy People I: Romanized version & Kana version*, a dynamic series complemented by *Workbook I & Kana Workbook* designed to fit into busy schedules; 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](#)! Explore the intricate world of Japanese miniature sculpture from the point of view of the amateur collector with Mary L. O’Brien’s *Netsuke*, a new addition to [JFT Library’s netsuke collection](#), complementing the adjacent gallery exhibition [Contemporary Wood-Carved NETSUKE](#); uncover the hidden life of a conflicted assassin torn between family bonds and lethal assignments in ISAKA Kotaro’s thrilling and humorous novel *The Mantis*; Linda Holiday’s *Journey to the Heart of Aikido* takes readers on a transformative exploration of the martial arts established as a way of harmony, love, gratitude, and purification; and more!

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

Browse other ebooks and audiobooks



Online Teachers' Professional Development
Online Network for Heritage Language Education 10

Saturday, December 9 @ 8:00 PM - 9:30 PM (ET)
Theme: Japanese language learning (as a native) you can do at home
Online Event | Admission Free | Registration Required | Conducted in Japanese only

In this 10th session we will welcome Mr. Kawamura, Principal of The Japanese School of Toronto Shokokai Inc., as a lecturer to talk about "Japanese language learning (as a native) you can do at home". Then, we will have a discussion among participants in small groups.

[Register here](#)



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

58th 'Sawakai':
Wednesday, December 13 @ 6:00 PM - 6:40 PM (ET)
Topic: New advisor arrived!
Online Event | Admission Free | Registration Required | Conducted in Japanese only

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?

[Register here](#)



Japanese Language Classes
Online Japanese Grammar Boot Camps

Start Thursday, December 14
Online Course | Admission Free | Registration Required | Some Japanese Study Experience Required

Looking for a free and productive way to spend the winter break? Join our online self-study boot camp where you can learn and practice basic Japanese grammar in your own time! Register to access a variety of free resources, online games, and exercises developed by us. There are two different courses (levels) available, both starting on Thursday December 14. Those who complete one or both by January 4, 2024 will be entered into a draw to win prizes!

[Register here](#)

ONGOING EVENTS



Job Opening - Program Officer, Japanese Studies and International Dialogue

Application Deadline: Wednesday, January 3, 2024

We are seeking a full-time Program Officer responsible for the administration of Japanese Studies & International Dialogue programs including researching, planning, execution and reporting in grants and other activities.

[Details here](#)



Japanese Language Classes

Continue Learning Japanese with us!

Looking for somewhere to continue studying Japanese? Registration for our Winter term is now open! We offer online courses for various levels up to intermediate speakers (Intermediate B1/JLPT N3 level).

[Register here](#)



Gallery Exhibition

Contemporary Wood-Carved NETSUKE

Open now until Saturday, December 16, 2023

Admission Free | Open on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays

Netsuke is a delicate and whimsical art form unique to Japan which fits on your palm intimately. In the 17th and 18th century Netsuke developed rapidly in the kimono fashion culture. For kimonos, which had no pockets, Netsukes acted as toggles providing daily-life convenience for carrying things such as pouches, medicine cases, and smoking pipe cases.

Since Japanese fashion had been westernized in the mid-19th century, Netsuke receded from practical use, but still attracted artistic interest not only within Japan but worldwide. In this exhibition, 65 contemporary pieces which are all wood-carved are on display. SAITŌ Bishū, a master Netsuke carver, describes the charm and attraction of Netsuke as "Freedom amidst constraints." Netsukes are made under certain restrictions, such as needing two holes to run the cord through and requiring it to be round to avoid getting caught. The carvers express themselves as freely as possible under these constraints, which, in the end, magically stimulate the imaginations of both creators and viewers.

[Details here](#)

[Book your visit](#)



Gallery-Goers, Don't Miss JFT's Netsuke Library Collection!

Whether you are a future gallery-goer or have already been captivated by the [Contemporary Wood-Carved NETSUKE](#) exhibition at JFT Gallery, add an extra layer of appreciation by checking out [JFT Library](#)'s items! To enhance your understanding of this unique art form, we have curated a [library item list](#), including select titles on the history, craftsmanship, and cultural significance of netsuke, as well as related art forms such as woodcarving, sculptures and figurines. Those items are currently on display in our library right next to the gallery. So, don't miss this opportunity to delve deeper into the intricate world of netsuke and the artistry that surrounds it!

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

[Check Library item list](#)



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



Universities Canada Tanaka Fund Program - Call for Applications

Application deadline: Friday, January 12, 2024

The 2024 Tanaka Fund Grant is accepting applications from Doctoral and Masters level students in the fields of Japan Studies who are seeking to conduct research in Japan. Please see Program Guidelines for eligibility details.

[Details here](#)



Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre Superlative Artistry of Japan: A traveling exhibition from the Japan Foundation

**Until January 20, 2024
Tuesdays to Saturdays @ 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM (PT)**

In-person Exhibition @ Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre,
Burnaby, BC | Admission Free

The exhibit includes a cohesive collection of work from a variety of art genres that emphasize highly skilled techniques, unique expression, and concepts intended to delight the viewer. Elaborate Meiji era (1868-1912) works are introduced alongside *kogei* (traditional arts & crafts) that influenced the Japonism trend in 19th century Europe. Also included in the display are numerous contemporary works of 'superlative artistry' as well as capsule toy figures and food that represent a strong commitment to artistic craftsmanship.

[Details here](#)



University of Quebec in Montreal
Textile Design Now

Until Sunday, February 11, 2024

Exhibition @ Pavillon de design, UQAM, Montreal | Admission Free

Textile Design Now presents the work of 23 women designers and artists from around the world. This unique gathering will provide an opportunity to discover several previously unseen pieces. Cutting-edge works by the artists on show will reveal a wide range of unexpected practices, from weaving and 3D printing to sound and solar textiles, bacterial dyeing as well as the manufacture of replacement organs woven by silkworms. The exhibition space highlights the interweaving of tradition and innovation, experimental practices as well as the emotional potential of soft materials. A historical section and a selection of publications offer keys to understanding the rich origins of textile practices and the complexity of their cultural and societal roles.

[Details here](#)

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Nagata Shachu

Kiyoshi Nagata 40th Anniversary Concert

Saturday, December 9 @ 8:00 PM (ET)

Taiko Concert | Al Green Theatre | Ticket Prices Vary

Celebrating 40 years as a taiko performer, Kiyoshi Nagata will be joined by special guests at the 40th Anniversary Concert on December 9 including members from Oregano Percussion, the Canadian Chinese Orchestra, the Korean Music and Dance collective Rusterrat; and Kevin He on Japanese flute. The anniversary concert will also feature the debut of taiko duo Korokoro featuring Akemi Akachi and Kiyoshi Nagata, and the next generation of Nagata Shachu members. Use promo code **JFDN40** for discounted tickets!

[Tickets here](#)

ONLINE RESOURCE RECOMMENDATIONS



Visual Arts Recommendation

Netsuke Carving, Making of DRAGON IN CLOUDS

In association with the exhibition [Contemporary Wood Carved Netsuke](#) at JFT

11 min. 33 sec. | With English Subtitles

[Watch here](#)



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Canada