

February 15, 2024



100 YEN:
THE JAPANESE
ARCADE EXPERIENCE



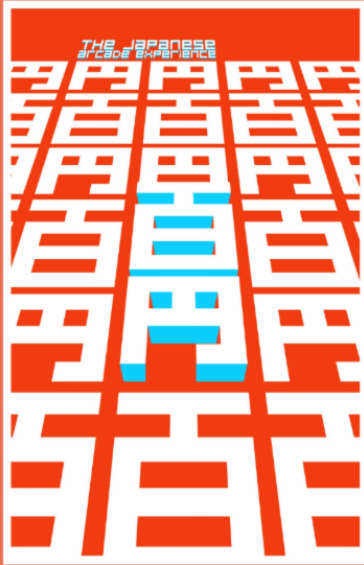
INSERT COIN.
BLOW YOUR MIND.



Thursday,
February 22, 6:30PM

Documentary Film Screening
at The Japan Foundation, Toronto

Free Admission.
Register for tickets.



(RE)MAKING SENSE
OF KANJI
漢字

For Those Who Know Chinese Characters

Online | Sat Feb 24 | 1:30-3:15 pm ET



Press play on **Thursday, February 22**, for our in-person screening of [100-Yen: The Japanese Arcade Experience](#) -- look back on the rich history of arcades and their cultural impact on generations across

Japan and beyond.

Spots still remain for the **February 24** session of [\(Re\)Making Sense of Kanji – For Learners Who Use Chinese Characters in Their Native Language](#). If you already know hanzi, be sure to sign up for strategies to improve your Japanese proficiency!

Our [Book Tree 2024](#) is blossoming nicely! The event is ongoing until **March 31**, so there is still time to borrow 5 or more books and leave a comment on one of the items to be entered into a contest for exciting prizes.

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 - March 31	LIBRARY	Book Tree 2024 - Borrow Library Items & Win a Prize!
Now - June 28	EXHIBITION	From Edo to Meiji: Transformation of Japanese Ceramics
February 22	FILM SCREENING	100-Yen: The Japanese Arcade Experience
February 24	JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLASSES	(Re)Making Sense of Kanji – For Learners Who Use Chinese Characters in Their Native Language
February 28	JAPANESE LANGUAGE CLASSES	JF Toronto x JF Sao Paulo Japanese Chat Event
March 5	FILM SCREENING	The Genealogy of Sake — 献の系譜
March 23	LIBRARY	29th Annual Katari Japanese Storytelling Festival

UPCOMING EVENTS



In-Person Film Screening

100 Yen: The Japanese Arcade Experience

Thursday, February 22 @ 6:30 PM (ET)

In-Person @ JFT Event Hall | Admission Free | Registration Required | Presented in Japanese & English with English subtitles

Insert Coin. Blow Your Mind. Imagine a world where video games reign supreme. Five story buildings filled with arcade cabinets, old and new, inundate the streets. Welcome to downtown Tokyo, Japan. A place where the arcades of the 80s and 90s not only still exist, but thrive and have evolved into an elaborate, unmatched gaming experience. *100 Yen* is a historical documentary about the evolution of arcades and the culture surrounding it - from the birth of arcades to the game centers that still thrive today.

[Register here](#)



Japanese Language Classes

(Re)Making Sense of Kanji – For Learners Who Use Chinese Characters in Their Native Language

Saturday, February 24 @ 1:30 PM – 3:15 PM (ET)

Registration Deadline: Friday, February 23

Online Event | Admission Free | Registration Required | Some Japanese Study Experience Required

When we are already using Chinese characters in our native language, it is easy to fall into the habit of treating Japanese Kanji just like we do in Chinese. This does not always work though, because while there are certainly many things in common, there are also many differences that someone who knows Chinese characters should keep in mind to really master the language. Join us in this thought-provoking and interactive seminar, where we will explore the differences between Kanji in Japanese and Chinese, and learn strategies to improve your Japanese fluency.

[Register here](#)



JFT Virtual Study Space

JF Toronto x JF Sao Paulo Japanese Chat Event

Wednesday, February 28 @ 7:45 PM - 8:30 PM (ET)

Registration Deadline: February 25

Online Event | Admission Free | Registration Required | Beginner to Late-Elementary Levels Only

Are you learning Japanese at the elementary level? Come and practice speaking Japanese in small groups with native speakers (volunteers + staff) and students from Brazil! Maximum 10 students from Canada.

Register in our virtual study space to attend.

[Register here](#)



In-Person Film Screening

***The Genealogy of Sake* — 献の系譜**

Tuesday, March 5 @ 6:00 PM (ET)

In-Person @ JFT Event Hall | Admission Free | Registration Required | Presented in Japanese with English subtitles

A glass of Japanese sake (sah-keh) is filled with the spirit of the Japanese sake brewers, or toji. The history of Japanese sake goes back to 2000 years ago, and its brewing process is extremely detailed and complex. This documentary film follows the lives of artisans who pass on the heritage of brewing the perfect drop of sake.

Shot in the bio-geographically diverse Noto peninsula, Ishikawa prefecture, this beautiful film takes a deeper look into Japanese sake brewing, following an intense six-month period of sake production and focuses on the lives and artistry of Noto *toji*, and the close connection they have with their environment, the past and their future.

[Register here](#)



29th Annual Katari Japanese Storytelling Festival – After Every Storm Comes a Rainbow –

Saturday, March 23 @ 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm EDT

In-Person @ JFT Event Hall | Admission Free | Registration Required | Presented in English

Immerse yourself in the rich tapestry of Japanese heritage at the 29th Annual Katari Japanese Storytelling Festival, back in person after 5 years! Co-presented with Katari Japanese Storytellers, this event brings Japanese folktales, creative stories, and songs to life in English. This year's theme, "After every storm comes a rainbow (待てば海路の日和あり)," promises an uplifting experience, where we embrace the positive energy that comes with Japanese storytelling. Mark your calendars, and bring your family and friends to be part of this unique cultural experience!

[Register here](#)



Japanese Language Education Programs FY2024 Japan Foundation Toronto Local Grant Program for Japanese Language Education – Applications Open!

Application Deadline: April 15, 2024

This program is intended to promote Japanese language education in Canada by providing support to a wide range of activities essential to the dissemination of Japanese language and the development of Japanese language education.

[Details here](#)

ONGOING EVENTS



Book Tree 2024 - Borrow Library Items & Win a Prize!

Now – Sunday, March 31

Online & In-Person @ JFT Library & JF Canada/USA Digital Library
| Registration Required

Our annual Book Tree is back after a 4-year hiatus! Starting from Saturday, January 20, those who borrow 5 or more items from [our physical library in Toronto](#) or [JF Canada/USA Digital Library](#), and contribute to blooming our Book Tree by submitting comments on *tsubaki* flower will have a chance to win an exciting prize! Join us in warming up the season with books & movies, sharing the excitement with the vibrant community of readers and Japan enthusiasts!

[Details here](#)



Dive Deeper into Japanese Fashion, Design, and Aesthetics before/after Film Screening of *Mantles of Transience*

Enrich your understanding of the philosophy and inspirations behind the Fashion brand *matchu's* creations by checking out JFT Library items on Japanese fashion, design, and aesthetics before or after the event! You can borrow our physical items by visiting JFT library in person during [our hours](#) and/or borrow ebooks by accessing [JF Canada Digital Library](#), available 24/7. Join us as we celebrate Japan's rich artistic heritage, and discover how *matchu's* creations embody the essence of Japanese culture and tradition!

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

Check library item list



Library News February New Arrivals

[Visit the library](#) to borrow newly arrived titles! Delve into the gripping world of AYATSUJI Yukito's [The Mill House Murders](#), a classic Japanese locked room mystery with full of twists and turns; discover the skill, tradition, and symbolism encapsulated in Japan's most iconic garment with [Art kimono : aesthetic revelations of Japan 1905-1960](#); get inspired by the captivating fusion of Eastern and Western theatre in Conor Hanratty's [Shakespeare in the Theatre: Yukio Ninagawa](#); and more!

**Borrow 5+ library items and win a prize with [Book Tree](#) program!*

[See full list here](#)

[Place a hold for pickup](#)



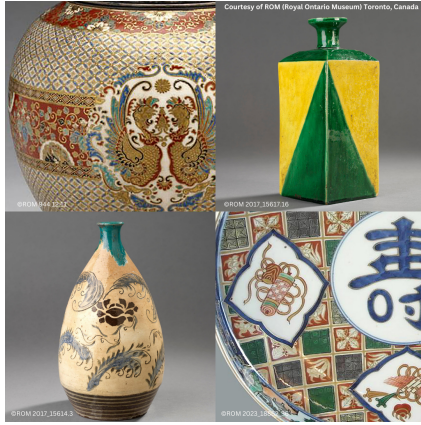
Library News JF Canada Digital Library: Newly Added Ebooks and Audiobooks

Check out new ebooks and audiobooks just added to [JF Canada Digital Library](#)! Get a rare glimpse into the mind of Sir William Van Horne, a nation builder of Canada and Japanese ceramics connoisseur with [Obsession](#) by Ron Graham; explore the complexities of an unconventional marriage in EKUNI Kaori's novel [Twinkle Twinkle](#) as the main characters discover the true meaning of connection amidst societal pressures; dive into the fascinating world of supernatural creatures with MIZUKI Shigeru's manga [The Trial of Kitaro](#) as beloved hero Kitaro stands accused of exposing the secret world (for those unfamiliar with Kitaro, start with [The Birth of Kitaro](#), the perfect introduction to the classic series); and more!

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

**Borrow 5+ library items and win a prize with [Book Tree](#) program!*

[Browse other ebooks and audiobooks](#)



Exhibition
From Edo to Meiji: Transformation of Japanese Ceramics

Now - Friday, June 28, 2024

In-person Exhibition | Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays
 | Admission Free | Registration Required

This special presentation of the collection of the Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, reveals that Western modernization and the demand for exports influenced Japanese ceramics during the transitional period of the late Edo period to the Meiji period.



Now with an additional presentation, ***Kutani-ware Display*** with contributions from Toronto collectors, dedicated to the victims and survivors of the earthquake on January 1st, 2024, in Noto Peninsula, Ishikawa, Japan.

[Details here](#)



@ the Japan Foundation, Toronto

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](#)



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



The Royal Ontario Museum

Of Catfish and Earthquakes: The Contemporary Art of Yuta Niwa

Thursday, February 29 @ 6:30 PM

In-person at ROM, Signy and Cléopée Eaton Theatre | Admission Free | Registration Required

ROM hosts emerging Japanese artist Yuta Niwa in a keynote presentation in support of the online exhibition, [Aftershocks: Japanese Earthquake Prints](#), that focuses on his reinterpretation of these important historical art forms for contemporary audiences.

Hosted by Akiko Takesue, Niwa's keynote presentation, supported by visual illustrations, will showcase his work, which incorporates traditional Japanese painting techniques and materials into artworks dealing with modern disasters such as earthquakes and infectious diseases.

Image courtesy of Yuta Miwa.

[Visit our Website](#)



Japanese Language & Culture
Competition for High School Students

The Japan Bowl Ontario is not an exam, but a game show. It asks students about their knowledge of Japanese culture, society, daily life, history, geography, and current events. Participants compete in teams of 2-3 students. This year, we will meet virtually!

Japan Bowl Ontario Organizing Committee

Japan Bowl Ontario 2024

Saturday, March 16 @ 12:30 PM – 4:00 PM (ET)

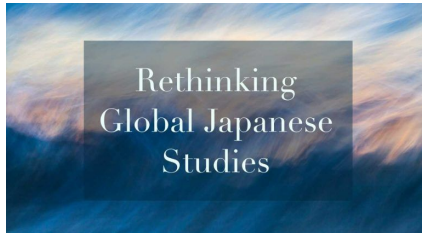
Registration Deadline: March 1

Japan Bowl Ontario is a Japanese language and culture competition focusing on high school students in Ontario. The event is inspired and supported by the Japan Bowl® in the United States, which was created by the Japan-America Society of Washington DC in 1992. Japan Bowl Ontario is not an exam, but a game show. It asks students about their knowledge of Japanese culture, society, daily life, history, geography, and current events. Questions are all in English.

Entry form is open until Friday, March 1, 2024, or until all the available spots are filled.

[Register here](#)

[Email inquiries here](#)



University of British Columbia, Department of Asian Studies

Rethinking Global Japanese Studies Symposium

Sunday, March 10 - Monday, March 11

In-person @ Various Locations on UBC Campus | Admission Free |
Registration Required

This two-day international symposium will bring UBC graduate students in conversation with leading Japanese studies scholars from around the world in order to collectively think together about multiple competing centers and peripheries witnessed in the social imaginaries and global dissemination of Japanese (-language) studies.

The symposium will feature six panel sessions and a keynote speech by the Akutagawa-award-winning author Li Kotomi. Focusing in particular on literature and other forms of cultural production, we seek to take a decolonial and anti-racist approach to Japanese studies and critically consider both its limits and possibilities. Together, we hope to contribute new interdisciplinary methodologies and collaborative possibilities that will be of relevance to a wide range of scholars and students in the global humanities today.

[Details here](#)

COMMUNITY EVENTS



Hot Docs Cinema

Howl's Moving Castle

Monday, February 19 @ 1:00 PM

Hot Docs Cinema (506 Bloor St W) | Ticketed Admission | Ticket
Prices Vary

Experience the sweeping fantastical world that could only come from Studio Ghibli and master filmmaker, MIYAZAKI Hayao. Following the recent release of Miyazaki's stunning final film, *The Boy and the Heron*, experience one of his finest works for the first or hundredth time. With rich animation and HISAISHI Joe's whimsical score, immerse yourself in the enchanting tale of a young hat-maker cursed to look like an old woman. As she seeks to break the spell, she becomes entangled with the wizard Howl and the quirky inhabitants of his mysterious moving castle.

The English dubbed version of the film will be presented for this Family Day screening. Use discount code **JFGHIBLI50** for 50% off tickets.

[Details here](#)



NAJC Japanese New Immigrant Committee
Japanese Canadian History Seminar Part 2

Session 1: 1920s: "Canada and Me"
Wednesday, February 21 @ 8:00 PM (ET)
Online Event | Admission Free | Registration Required | In Japanese Only

The JNIC (Japanese New Immigrants Committee) has decided to launch a new "Japanese Canadian History seminar Part 2" as a continuation of the first series, which will delve more deeply into individual topics and people. In the first session, the guest speaker, Katsukuni Tanaka, the Director of Hiroshima Canadian Association will share about Hiroshima-Montreal Exchange Program and family history of Kenichi Doi, the pitcher of Asahi Baseball Team.

Image: Cumberland Museum and Archives, C140-024

[Details here](#)



TIFF Lightbox
Seagrass

Friday, February 23 – Thursday, February 29
TIFF Lightbox (350 King St W) | Ticketed Admission | Ticket Prices Vary

Set in the mid 1990's, a Japanese Canadian woman grappling with the recent death of her mother brings her family to a self-development retreat. When her distressed relationship with her husband begins to affect the children's emotional security, the family is forever changed. Official Selection at the 2023 Toronto International Film Festival and the 2023 Toronto Reel Asian International Film Festival.

[Details here](#)

KAMISHIBAI IN JAPANESE! (FREE)

Let's learn about dementia: Part 3

Online KAMISHIBAI

Feb 25th(Sun) EST/1pm-1:45pm, CST/12pm-12:45pm, AST/2pm-2:45pm, PST/10am-10:45am, MST(Yukon)/11am-11:45am

Pre-registration is required at this link!

Kamishibai_Author/Performer: Mitsuko Litscher

Ms. Litscher was born in Osaka Prefecture, Japan. Registered Nurse, Chair of JAMSNET-Switzerland. She has worked in a public medical hospice in the eastern part of Isu (Switzerland), a nursing facility for the elderly and people with disabilities with a dementia group home.(Hospiz und Pflege im Werdenberg) as a nursing staff. She has held lectures on dementia support training courses, nursing care insurance systems, and nursing care in Japan and Europe.

Contact: info@jamsnetcanada@gmail.com Presented by: JAMSNET-CANADA Funded with support from: Agence de la santé publique du Canada, Public Health Agency of Canada

*This initiative has been made possible through a financial contribution from the Public Health Agency of Canada. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the Public Health Agency of Canada.

JAMSNET-CANADA
Dementia Online Kamishibai for Parents and Children

Sunday, February 25 @ 13:00 PM - 13:45 PM (ET)
Online | Admission Free | Registration Required | In Japanese Only

On February 25th (Sunday), Ms. Mitsuko Litscher, the representative of Jamesnet Canada Switzerland, will read a handmade kamishibai (paper theatre) about dementia online in Japanese. This event is intended for children aged 6 and above. We encourage all family members to participate.

[Register here](#)

ONLINE RESOURCE RECOMMENDATIONS



Performing Arts Recommendation

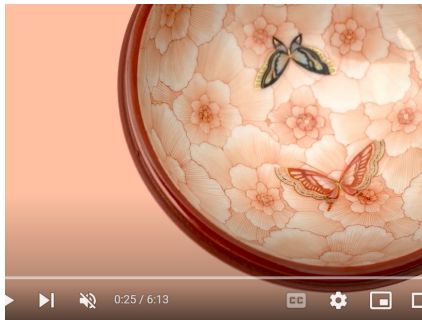
Mendelssohn's "Elijah" with OZAWA Seiji

In memory of OZAWA Seiji

Recorded at Belin Philharmonic, on May 17, 2009 | 131 min.

For many, the oratorio *Elijah* is the pinnacle of Mendelssohn's oeuvre. Not only because of the rousing choruses and stunningly beautiful arias, but above all the dramatic power of the work, which is occasionally referred to as "Mendelssohn's unwritten opera". In this recording, Seiji Ozawa conducts a superb ensemble with Matthias Goerne in the title role, along with Annette Dasch, Anthony Dean and Nathalie Stutzmann.

[Watch here](#)



Visual Arts Recommendation

Contemporary Kutani ware - Mari Yoshimura (1/3) / Japanese ceramic cups

6 min. 13 secs

In association with the exhibition *From Edo to Meiji: Transformation of Japanese Ceramics* at JFT.

An additional presentation, *Kutani-ware Display* with contributions from Toronto collectors, is dedicated to the victims and survivors of the earthquake on January 1st, 2024, in Noto Peninsula, Ishikawa, Japan.

[Watch here](#)



The Japan Foundation, Toronto | 2 Bloor St. East, Suite 300,
Canad