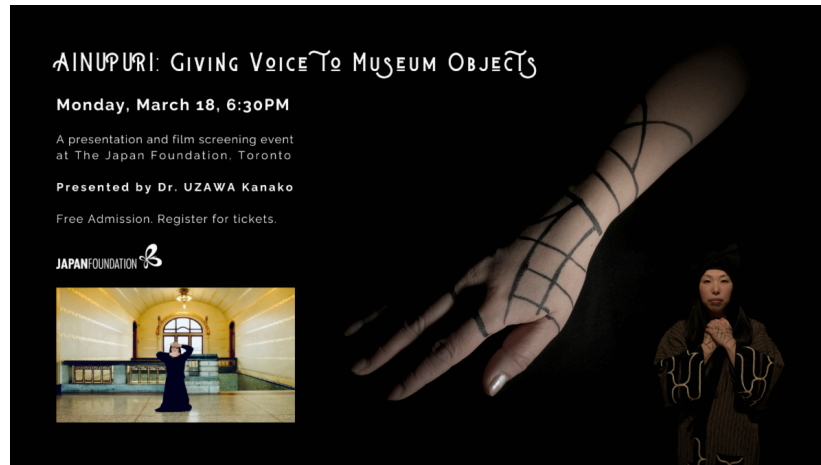


March 7, 2024




AINUPURI: GIVING VOICE TO MUSEUM OBJECTS


Monday, March 18, 6:30PM

A presentation and film screening event at The Japan Foundation, Toronto

Presented by Dr. UZAWA Kanako

Free Admission. Register for tickets.

JAPAN FOUNDATION 




Borrow Japan-related books & films, make comments, and win a prize!

Watch our video to see how Book Tree is blooming & participants' comments on library items!

Book 図書の木 Tree

Eligible Period: Saturday, January 20 – Sunday, March 31 ET

JAPAN FOUNDATION 

This weekend from **March 8 to 10**, audiences across Canada can tune in for a free virtual screening of [Living the Game](#), a documentary about the massive world of competitive gaming. Register anytime between now and the end of the viewing period to watch.

On **March 18**, Norwegian-based Ainu scholar Dr. Kanako Uzawa will visit Toronto to shine a light on the hidden stories and narratives of Ainu museum collections. Please note the event, entitled [Ainupuri: Giving Voice to Museum Objects](#), is in-person only.

Space is rapidly running out for the popular [Katari Japanese Storytelling Festival](#) happening on **March 23**! Reserve your spot now and visit us for a family-friendly afternoon of Japanese folklore, stories, and songs.

Check out new [March arrivals in the JF Digital Library](#). Borrow 5 or more library items and contribute to blooming our [Book Tree](#) by **March 31** to be entered into a draw and win an exciting prize!

This March Break, make time to visit the Japan Foundation, Toronto gallery for the ongoing [From Edo to Meiji: Transformation of Japanese Ceramics](#) exhibition, now with an additional presentation of [Kutani-ware Display](#) dedicated to the victims and survivors of the earthquake on January 1, 2024.

Last but definitely not least, JFT is heading to the West Coast! We look forward to seeing friends in Seattle (**March 16**) and Vancouver (**March 18**) for the [North American Japanese Literary Forum](#) with special guest speaker HIRANO Keiichiro.

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 Spring 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 |

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|---|
| March 8-10 | VIRTUAL FILM SCREENING | <u>Living the Game</u> |
| March 16 & 18 | AUTHOR EVENTS | <u>North American Japanese Literary Forum with HIRANO Keiichiro</u> |
| March 18 | IN-PERSON TALK | <u>Ainupuri: Giving Voice to Museum Objects</u> |
| March 23 | LIBRARY | <u>29th Annual Katari Japanese Storytelling Festival</u> |

UPCOMING EVENTS



Virtual Film Screening **Living the Game**

Friday, March 8, 6:00 PM – Sunday, March 10, 11:59 PM (ET)
Streaming Canada-wide | Admission Free | Registration Required | Presented in Japanese, English, French, Mandarin with English subtitles

The world of professional video-gaming is a high stakes arena where cash prizes are worth millions, and international fame and glory await the best. But who are these pro gamers, and what does it take to become a true legend? In the gaming world they are heroes, but in society pro gamers are still seen as social outcasts or even addicts. *Living The Game* profiles five pro gamers from Japan, France, USA, and Taiwan through their highs and lows as they land huge sponsorship deals, attract devoted fan bases and above all, live the game.

[Register here](#)



JF Canada Digital Library is Open 24/7

Library News

JF Canada Digital Library: Newly Added Ebooks and Audiobooks

Check out new ebooks and audiobooks just added to [JF Canada Digital Library!](#) Unveil the enigmatic complexities of the "Walt Disney of Japan," TEZUKA Osamu, in [Mechademia 8: Tezuka's Manga Life](#) edited by Frenchy Lunning; immerse yourself in the surreal and thought-provoking world of Natsume Soseki's dreams in [Ten Nights Dreaming and The Cat's Grave](#); start your Japanese language journey from scratch with [Japanese from the ground up](#) [ゼロからスタート 日本語](#), your guide to mastering the basics; 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](#)



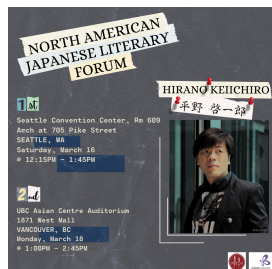
@ the Japan Foundation, Toronto

Japanese Language Classes

Early-Bird Pricing in Effect!

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

[Register here](#)



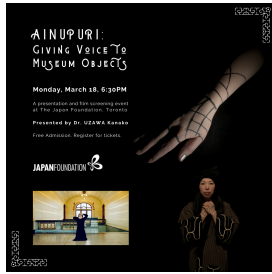
North American Japanese Literary Forum with HIRANO Keiichiro

Saturday, March 16 @ Seattle, Washington
Monday, March 18 @ Vancouver, British Columbia
In-person | Admission Free | Registration required only for Vancouver event

HIRANO Keiichiro is an award-winning author of novels such as *A Man* and *At the End of the Matinee*. In March 2024, he will visit Seattle and Vancouver to share his personal experiences as a writer of Japan's "Lost Generation," defined as a generation whose socio-economic stability declined dramatically following the collapse of the country's asset price bubble. Mr. HIRANO will also discuss the characteristics of writers of the generation before and after him, delve into the question of identity, and as a current member of the

Details of Seattle Stop

Details of Vancouver Stop



In-person Talk
Ainupuri: Giving Voice to Museum Objects

Monday, March 18 @ 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM (ET)
In-person @ JFT Event Hall | Admission Free | Registration Required

This presentation will focus on hidden stories and narratives of Ainu museum collections from the eye of Dr. Kanako Uzawa, an Ainu scholar and artist. She will discuss the process and challenges she faces through ongoing Ainu art exhibition curation in collaboration with the University of Michigan Museum of Art. Lastly, she will introduce her most recent art video production, Ainupuri, in which she reconstructs the counter-narratives of Ainu objects stored in the Historical Museum of Oslo University in Norway. This tells her own story in the form of narration, poetry, song, dance, and performance; these personal and collective histories are mediated by Laura Liverani's visual storytelling in a constant dialogue between the two artists.

[Register here](#)



Enrich Your Understanding of Ainu with JFT Library before/after the event: Ainupuri: Giving Voice to Museum Objects

Discover the rich cultural tapestry of the Ainu people through our curated collection of JFT Library items, selected in conjunction with the presentation & film screening event [Ainupuri: Giving Voice to Museum Objects](#) on Monday, March 18. Our event guest presenter Dr. UZAWA Kanako's insights are informed by her pivotal role as a contributor to the groundbreaking book **Beyond Ainu Studies [Ebook]**, which seeks to reinvigorate the landscape of Ainu research; **Ainu Spirits Singing [Physical book & Ebook]** offers a nuanced study and English translation of Ainu's rich oral performance traditions; see Ainu culture through the eyes of the characters in the historical fiction manga/anime **Golden Kamuy [ebook (EN) & Blu-ray (EN/JP) & physical book (JP)]** by NODA Satoru; and more! 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.

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

[Check library item list](#)



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

Saturday, March 23 @ 2:00 PM - 3:30 PM (ET)
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

Visit JFT Library to borrow March New Arrivals



Library News

March New Arrivals

[Visit the library](#) to borrow newly arrived titles! Delve into the poignant journey of a Zainichi (ethnic Korean in Japan) teen navigating the complexities of identity, prejudice and diaspora in Chesil's [The Color of the Sky is the Shape of the Heart](#); if you are an intermediate learner looking to enhance Japanese conversational skills beyond the basics and sound more natural, [200 quick and easy phrases for Japanese conversation \(すぐに使える日本語会話超ミニフレーズ200\)](#) is a perfect addition; unravel mysteries of the post-apocalyptic world in [Attack on Titan Season 3, Part 1 \[DVD & Blu-ray\]](#) (for newcomers of this critically acclaimed anime series, begin your journey with [Season 1 \[DVD & Blu-ray\]](#)); and more!

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

[See full list here](#)

[Place a hold for pickup](#)



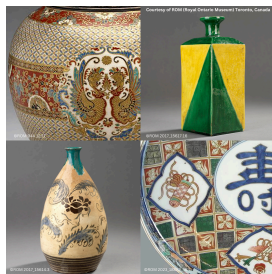
Book Tree 2024 - Borrow Library Items & Win a Prize!

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](#)



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](#)



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



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



Nagata Shachu From Japan to Madagascar

Friday, March 22, 8:00PM & Saturday, March 23, 8:00PM (ET)
Al Green Theatre (750 Spadina Ave) | Ticketed Admission | Ticket Prices Vary

Nagata Shachu Japanese Taiko & Music Group presents a double-bill concert "From Japan to Madagascar". The first half of the concert features **ten ten** – an eclectic seven person music ensemble that performs Japanese folk songs with a modern twist using both western and Japanese instruments. The collective is directed by shamisen player and vocalist Aki Takahashi who is also the associate director of Nagata Shachu. The second half of the concert features a mashup of Nagata Shachu's thrilling Japanese taiko rhythms with the African infused melodies of Madagascar-born, Toronto-based guitarist and singer Donné Roberts (a two time Juno award winner) with his band.

[Details here](#)

ONLINE RESOURCE RECOMMENDATIONS



Performing Arts Recommendation Stage Beyond Borders, Contemporary Theatre: Knit Cap Theatre, "Curry and the Villagers"

Recorded in 2021 at Theater E9 Kyoto | 1 hr. 45 min. | Subtitled in English and French

Written and Directed by GOMA NO HAE

[Watch here](#)



Visual Arts Recommendation Rumiko Yoshita - Kinzangama Kutani ware, the artist who sublimes gold

6 min. | Subtitled in English

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, P.O. Box 130, Toronto, M4W 1A8
Canada