

THE JAPAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON A BRIDGE BETWEEN CULTURES

Monthly Newsletter











Please View Entire Message in your Email to see all of what we have to offer in our newsletter!



Yoshiharu Mizui, Ph.D.

President

Eisai Innovation, Inc.

How long have you been working in Boston?

I've worked in Boston for approximately 10 years. My first assignment here was assisting in the establishment of H3 Biomedicine, Inc., a company that was dedicated to cancer drug discovery, where I led research as a founding member from 2011 to 2016. In my current assignment, I helped establish Eisai Innovation, Inc., a strategic investment organization aspiring to identify synergies between the scientific community and the Eisai network of companies, which was founded in 2019. I fell in



love with Boston during my first stay, and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to work here again.

What does your company do?

Eisai Co., Ltd. is a global pharmaceutical company founded in Japan in 1941. Eisai researches and develops medicines worldwide, focusing on oncology and neurological disorders. Our regulatory approved therapies include treatments for Alzheimer's disease, epilepsy, cancer, and sleep disorders. The company focuses on treatments for neurodegenerative diseases, primarily Alzheimer's disease, and refractory cancers. Eisai's corporate mission, known as human health care (hhc), is "to give first thought to patients and the people in the daily living domain, and increase the benefits that health care provides to them as well as meet diverse healthcare needs worldwide..."

Click <u>here</u> to read the full interview!

Announcements from JSB



Fundraising Tote Bag

Support JSB by purchasing a Kyoto-Boston <u>sister cities</u>-themed tote bag featuring artist Randall Imai's winning design from our Summer 2024 Tote Bag Design Contest!

Click to learn more and to place your order. All proceeds go towards fundraising for the Japan Society of Boston.

Kokoro Care Limited Edition 2024 Advent Calendar: Journey Through The Tastes Of Japan



Our sponsor, **Kokoro Care**, is delivering the magic of winter in Japan with their first-ever 2024 Advent Calendar. For 24 days, you'll discover a delicious artisanal treat made locally in Japan. Ranging from sweet to savory, they've curated a selection of sweets, snacks, beverages, soups, and seasonings to suit every taste, making their Advent Calendar the perfect gift (or treat for yourself) this holiday season!

Order by November 22nd to receive your advent calendar by December 1st.

JSB members always get 10% off site wide using the code on the <u>member</u> <u>portal</u>.

Shop

Japan - Massachusetts Sister Cities Page

In addition to Boston and Kyoto, did you know the state of Massachusetts has 13 sister city relationships with Japan, as well as one sister state/prefecture relationship with Hokkaido?

Check out our new webpage below to learn more!







The JSB College Hub

The JSB College Hub is our webpage for Japan-related college events, opportunities, and resources for young adults pursuing Japanese studies!

Check out the hub below for more information, to view our current listings, or to submit an event or opportunity!

Website

JSB Programming



Onigiri Bento with Miwa!
Tuesday, November 12th, 2024 - 6:00PM ET
Fort Point Lyric Room (Suite 102)
15 Channel Center St, Boston, MA 02210

\$25 JSB Members / \$30 General Admission

Join us for a hands-on, beginner-friendly onigiri bento class led by Miwako Kishi, of the popular website "Miwa's Japanese Cooking" who will be joining us virtually from her home kitchen in Japan.

In this hour-long class, we will be making two types of onigiri (Yukari and Edamame salted kelp), accompanied by small side dish of carrot salad and edamame. Onigiri is a

rice ball typically filled with protein or vegetables. This beloved dish is made in every Japanese home for snacks, bento, and picnics.

All materials will be included for this vegetarian bento and you will be able to take home your bento box (pictured here, various colors) to reuse and pack future meals! Q&A will follow the class.

Ages 6+ are welcome to sign up. Each minor must be accompanied by an adult. If you are sharing the materials and bento box with a child under the age of 10, your child can join us free of charge. Please email **joanneha@japansocietyboston.org** if you would like to add a child under age ten to your registration.

Register



Tsukurioki: Japanese Meal Prep for Busy Days Sunday, November 17th, 2024 - 5:00PM ET Online

Who doesn't love the idea of reaching into the fridge, freezer, or pantry and putting together a delicious lunch (or dinner) in minutes, creating a meal worthy of an Instagram post? We know just how much planning, provisions, and prep it takes to pull off nutritious meals that come together to feed yourself and your family.

Tsukurioki ($\square\square\square\square$) is the Japanese concept making that dream into reality! Japanese style meal prep is different from typical meal prep: you still prep/cook some components ahead of time, but by keeping each ingredient/dish in separate containers, you can still enjoy freshly made meals during the work week.

Join us for the November edition of the family-friendly online Japanese home cooking class series \(\subseteq \text{output} \subseteq \text{Ouchigohan!} - Japanese Home Cooking, and cook along or just watch from your own kitchen to learn a few tricks and tuck away a work week's worth of simple dishes for you to make.

We will learn how to cook and freeze rice in perfect portions, stretch a pound of ground chicken into tasty meat balls and patties, pickle cauliflower, marinate hard boiled eggs in a sweet soy sauce, crush sesame seeds for a dressing to use over a

variety of veggies, and pull a few staples from the pantry to mix and match for a new dish every day. No fancy containers necessary to master the art of Japanese tsukurioki!

Register



Japanese Gifting Culture Thursday, November 14th, 2024 - 6:00 PM ET Online

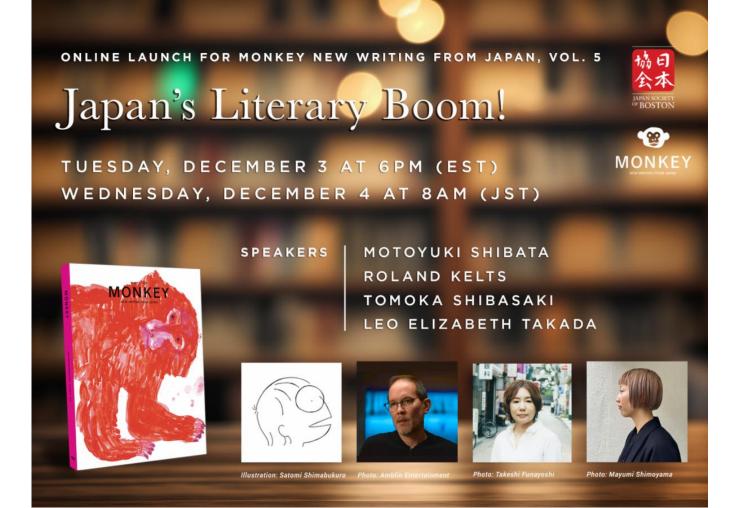
Omiyage, ochugen, oseibo, oh my! Are you interested in learning more about the complex and deeply meaningful world of Japanese gift giving?

Please join us as Professor Mary Eberhardinger will lead a conversation about gifting culture and etiquette in Japan so that you can feel prepared for your next gifting occasion in Japan, and learn some useful tips and tricks to become a great gifter, regardless of the recipient! Our friends at **KO KYOTO** will also provide a demonstration of a popular and traditional way to present wrapped gifts in Japan using furoshiki.

This is a free, hour-long presentation hosted on Zoom. Registration is required.

If you would like to order high-quality authentic furoshiki from Japan, check out the variety offered by **KO KYOTO**, including their super popular zodiac designs. Shop in person at their local shop at 1 Bow Mkt Wy Unit 33, Somerville, MA 02143.

Register



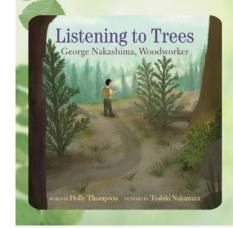
Japan's Literary Boom! Tuesday, December 3rd, 2024 - 6:00 PM EST Wednesday, December 4th, 2024 - 8:00 AM JST Online

Join JSB to celebrate the launch of Volume 5 of MONKEY: New Writing from Japan, the only annual English-language anthology of Japanese contemporary literature.

Our program will be moderated by Roland Kelts, the Tokyo-based Japanese American author, editor, lecturer, and scholar who wrote our "Letters from Tokyo" series. As the contributing editor of MONKEY, Kelts will lead a conversation with Motoyuki Shibata, co-founder and editor of MONKEY, Tomoka Shibasaki, Akutagawa Prize—winning author of the forthcoming "A Hundred Years and a Day: 34 Stories", and poet/translator Leo Elizabeth Takada, whose work appears in MONKEY 5, and who translated the screenplay for the award-winning film *Perfect Days*, directed by Wim Wenders. Join us to discuss the current global boom in Japanese literature and the critical bridge-building mission of the MONKEY team.

This is a free hour-long presentation hosted on Zoom.

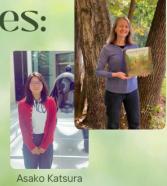




Listening to Trees:

George Nakashima, Woodworker

Free online event
Tuesday, December 10th, 2024 | 6:00 PM ET



Holly Thompson

Listening to Trees: George Nakashima, Woodworker Tuesday, December 10th, 2024 - 6PM ET Online

Please join us as author <u>Holly Thompson</u> talks about her newest picture book "<u>Listening to Trees: George Nakashima, Woodworker</u>" about the life and work of Japanese-American woodworker George Nakashima. She will read excerpts from the book and discuss what inspired her to write about Nakashima, the writing/illustration process, as well as why she chose *haibun*, a combination of haiku (*hai*ku) and prose (*bun*shō), to tell his story.

We will also be joined by Ishibashi Assistant Curator of Japanese Art at the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, Asako Katsura, who will speak on the hybridity of Nakashima's woodworking design by introducing examples of his furniture from the MFA's current collection. Learn how Nakashima reinterpreted modernist design by incorporating elements of both Japanese and American culture, and how his relationships with other artists, such as Antonin Raymond and Junzō Yoshimura, inspired him.

This is a free hour-long presentation with Q&A hosted on Zoom. Registration is required.

Register

Join the JSB Language Room

A Japanese and English Virtual Language Exchange



Sponsored by:



JSB Language Room Friday, November 15th, 2024 - 6:00 PM EST Online

Practice your Japanese (or your English) at our next online Japanese / English language exchange. Our monthly language room is sponsored by Temple University, Japan Campus (TUJ). TUJ is the oldest and largest foreign university in Japan.

Theme: □□□ (School Cultural Festival)

Register

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12 6:00 PM

THE STORY OF INK: **A LECTURE FROM CURATOR & PROFESSOR** AIDA YUEN WONG







The Story of Ink: A Lecture from Curator & Professor Aida Yuen Wong Tuesday, December 12th, 2024 - 6PM ET **Pao Arts Center**

99 Albany Street, Boston, MA 02111

Join us for a lecture from curator and Professor Aida Yuen Wong. Professor Wong curated our current exhibition, The Inventive Brush: Calligraphic Echoes from China, Japan, and Korea, about the rich history of ink throughout the ages.

Register



Calligraphic Echoes from China, Japan, and Korea

On view from July 19 - December 13, 2024

Featuring the work of:











Michiko Imai

The Inventive Brush: Calligraphic Echoes from China, Japan, and Korea July 19 - December 13, 2024

Pao Arts Center

99 Albany St, Boston, MA 02111

Inventive Brush: Calligraphic Echoes from China, Japan, and Korea is curated by Professor Aida Yuen Wong and showcases the diversity of contemporary calligraphy, featuring the works of three Massachusetts-based artists: Mike Yuguo Mei, Michiko Imai, and YoungSun Jang.

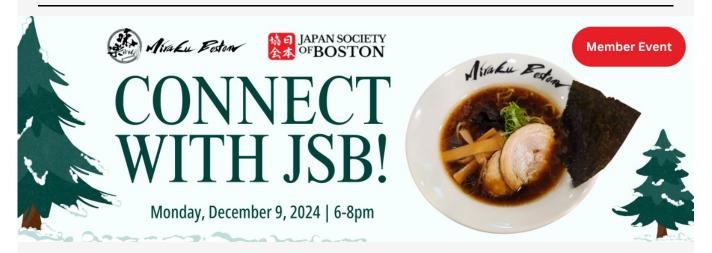
The Inventive Brush: Calligraphic Echoes from China, Japan, and Korea is a collaboration between the <u>Pao Arts Center</u>, the Japan Society of Boston, and the <u>Korean Cultural Society of Boston</u>.

Info

Programs for JSB Members

The following events and clubs are limited to Japan Society of Boston Members. Interested in joining but not yet a member of the Japan Society of Boston? Consider becoming a Member today! *Please note that online only members can attend the online member only events, but not the in-person member events.

Join our community of hundreds of Japan enthusiasts from Boston and beyond and support the Japan Society of Boston's mission to inspire curiosity, connection, and community. We are sustained by your donations.



Connect with JSB!
Monday, December 9th, 2024 - 6:00 to 8:00 PM ET
Miraku Boston

9 Babcock St, Brookline, MA 02446

Join Japan Society of Boston staff and members for dinner at Miraku Boston at Coolidge Corner! Connect with JSB is a great way to get to know us better, meet other society members, practice your Japanese in a casual environment, and enjoy great food at Japanese restaurants in Boston!

Miraku Boston is an authentic Japanese Ramen restaurant from Hokkaido's Rishiri Island. Their signature broth is a harmonious blend of three-year-aged kelp and a simmered chicken, pork, and vegetable broth. The result is the soup unlike any other, a rich and nuanced flavor that is both satisfying and light.

See their <u>website</u> for their full menu. And check out our <u>reel</u> highlighting some of their specialties!

This event is open to JSB members only. Registrants are welcome to bring a plus one, but their guest must be included in the registration. All attendees should be prepared to pay for their own meal/drinks.

Register



Between the Lines Thursday, December 5th, 2024 - 6:00 PM ET Online

Join us to discuss some of the greatest classics of medieval Japanese literature.

At the next meeting we will be reading another Noh play, *Lady Aoi* by Zeami Motokiyo, as translated by Arthur Waley. This is one of the many Noh plays based on sections of the Tale of Genji. Though it is another madwoman piece, it is a very different representation of the genre.

You may find a copy of the book here.

This will be the last Between the Lines meeting of 2024. We will be taking a break in January and resuming in February.

Between the Lines is a monthly discussion on Medieval Japanese Women's Literature for JSB members every first Thursday of the month. This event is hosted by JSB's Special Events Associate Christopher Ellars.



JAPAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON MEMBER

BOOK CLUB

THE TATAMI GALAXY
BY TOMIHIKO MORIMI

JSB Book Club Wednesday, December 4th, 2024 - 6:00 PM ET Online

Do you love Japanese literature? The JSB Book Club will be meeting to discuss *The Tatami Galaxy* by Tomihiko Morimi.

The inspiration behind the much-loved anime series, Tomihiko Morimi's contemporary classic is a fantastic journey through time and space, where a half-eaten castella cake, a photograph from Rome, and a giant cavity in a wisdom tooth hold the keys to self-discovery. A realm of possibility opens up for the protagonist, a Kyoto University student, as time rewinds, and from the four-and-a-half-mat tatami floor of his dorm room, he is plunged into a series of adventures that will take him to four parallel universes.

Find a copy **here**. You are welcome to read any translation.

This meeting has been rescheduled to avoid a conflict on November 27th. It is also the last JSB book club meeting of 2024.

Register

Signature Content from JSB



#MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

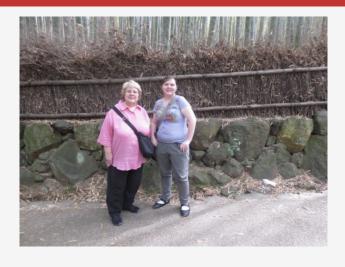
Japan Society of Boston

japansocietyboston.org/

Member Highlight

The Japan Society of Boston is pleased to introduce you to the wonderful members of our community through this blog series. Each month we feature a JSB member and ask them to share with us their Japan Story.

"After Amanda had spent her college year in Japan and graduated from UMass Amherst in 2015, I wanted to find a way for her to keep in touch with Japan-related activities. After an internet search, I found JSB and bought her a membership as a gift. Although we live in northeastern Connecticut, on the Massachusetts border, it seemed that JSB was the nearest Japan-related organization which met our interests..."



This month:

Marsha Lavoie and Amanda Logee

Article

JSB MEETS JET ALUMNI

An interview series on alumni experiences in Japan





JSB Meets JET Alumni

As part of our partnership with the <u>United</u>
<u>States Japan Exchange and Teaching</u>
<u>Alumni Association</u> (USJETAA), the Japan
Society of Boston features a new JET Alumni

in our monthly blog!

This month's JET Alum is **Mac Gill** (Kochi 2021-2023).

"I really love rural life, and I got to participate in a lot of unique events like rice planting and harvesting, a local arts festival, translating and publishing a kamishibai, a tai chi group, and a folk dance group. It was a really lovely community!"



Article





Famous in Japan

Studying individuals from around the world who are famous in Japan, both past and present.

This month we are featuring Imai Yone, a Japanese Christian missionary who transformed kamishibai (storytelling with pictures) into the educational use it has today.

Article



SGSC: Japan Entrepreneurs' Gathering Friday, November 15th, 2024 at 5:00 PM ET Cambridge Innovation Center

1 Broadway, Cambridge, MA 02142

Join for a unique opportunity at this special SGSC event, an innovative initiative led by the Sendai City Government of Japan. This year, they are thrilled to present a program dedicated to nurturing the next generation of entrepreneurs. The mission? To foster a global mindset among these budding visionaries, equipping them with the skills to launch startups that tackle both local and global social challenges in innovative ways.

At this event, ten young entrepreneurs and entrepreneurs-to-be, carefully selected from over 200 highly qualified candidates, will each deliver a five-minute pitch. They'll present the challenges they are addressing, their innovative business models and ideas, and their future plans. Each pitch will be followed by a brief Q&A and feedback session. Afterward, join for a buffet-style dinner reception featuring fresh sushi, pizza, and a selection of refreshments, including premium sake sourced directly from the Tohoku region. This relaxed setting will allow all attendees to connect and interact.

Organizer: Sendai City Government, zero to one, Inc.

Contact: <u>info@zero2one.jp</u>

Info



join leading experts to discuss what new u.s. & japan leadership means for the alliance

> November 21, 2024 @ 7-8pm ET November 22, 2024 @ 9-10am JT



Jim Gannon



Scott Wong ior Congressional Reporter



Jessyca Livingston (Hokkaido, 2003-2006) Executive Director & Discussion Host, USJETAA







Election Promises & Policy Realities: What New U.S. & Japan Leadership Means for the Alliance Thursday, November 21st, 2024 at 7:00 PM ET Online

Join JET alumni and friends of JET, who are national leading experts, as they discuss political shifts, emerging priorities, and explore what this means for US-Japan cooperation. This panel discussion comes on the heels of national elections in both Japan and the US and is sure to inform you of what the current political situation is and shed light on what these leadership changes mean for the US-Japan alliance.

JSB members can select "Friend of JET" ticket option at checkout for \$5 tickets using code on the **member only portal**.



Temple University Japan Campus **High School Summer Program 2025**

TUJ invites high school students to a summer of language and cultural experiences in Tokyo. The 8-night program includes a unique mix of Japanese language and elective classes. With adventures in Tokyo, an overnight excursion to Kyoto and TUJ KYOTO, and a trip to DisneySea, this will be your summer to remember!

Info

High School Summer Program

JULY30 - AUGUST 7, 2025 JAPAN



Temple University Japan Campus Temple University, Japan Campus (TUJ)
Admissions Counseling Office
Email: ac@tuj.temple.edu
www.tuj.ac.jp/hs-summer-program







Mirrors Yuri Shimojo

On view Nov. 16 - Dec. 21, 2024



Mirrors by Yuri Shimoji On view November 9th - December 21, 2024 Praise Shadows Art Gallery

313A Harvard St, Brookline, MA 02446

Artist Talk

Moderated by Gabrielle Niu, Assistant Curator, Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Saturday, November 16, 4-5 pm. Registration required; <u>register here.</u>

Opening Reception

Saturday, November 16, 5-7 pm. Open to the public; registration not required.

Praise Shadows is deeply honored to share the newest body of work by Yuri Shimojo in the upcoming exhibition, <u>Mirrors</u>, her second solo at the gallery. This collection of

ink paintings were made in the aftermath of her cancer treatment and diagnosis, the passing of her beloved dog and companion Rudy, and a long-delayed visit to Japan to parse through the archives of her deceased family and her samurai ancestors. Shimojo's fluid, intuitive painting style is an expression of these recent years of upheaval, loss, and healing. In the simplest sense, Shimojo paints to tell us that she is grateful to be alive.

Info



Black Box Diaries Opens Friday, November 15th, 2024 Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard Street, Brookline, MA

In 2017, Japanese journalist Shiori Itō publicly accused a prominent media executive (and associate of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe) of rape, and published a bestselling memoir detailing her case — *Black Box*, a book credited with sparking the #MeToo movement in Japan.

Black Box Diaries is a survivor's real-time investigation of her own sexual assault — and includes raw video diaries (shot on Itō's iPhone), surreptitious audio recordings of police negligence, and vérité courtroom footage. Itō documents her courageous struggle to navigate Japan's patriarchal judiciary and antiquated sex crimes laws (proven lack of consent was insufficient) and quest for justice.

You can watch the trailer here.

Tickets



Learn about Tea Ceremony Friday, November 15th, 2024 at 4:15 PM ET Consulate-General of Japan

100 High St., 6F, Boston, MA 02110

The Consulate-General of Japan is excited to present Cultural & Innovative Fridays – a new platform celebrating the vibrant presence of Japan-related individuals and organizations across New England.

On November 15th, they are honored to have Glenn Pereira-sensei perform a tea ceremony with Q&A. Guests will also have the opportunity to sample some green tea.

Questions? Please contact Infocul at the Consulate-General of Japan in Boston.

Tel: +1 617-973-9772

Email: infocul@bz.mofa.go.jp

Info



Odaiko New England's 30th Anniversary Concert Sunday, December 1st, 2024 at 7:00 PM ET Regent Theatre

7 Medford St., Arlington, MA 02474

Odaiko New England is proud to be putting on a concert on December 1st, 2024 at their own taiko home at the Regent Theatre in Arlington, MA!

You do not want to miss this concert! This will be the very first showcase of some of the latest works they have been working on. You will also get the opportunity to see both the Odaiko New England performing ensemble and students together on stage.

\$35 Odaiko New England Supporters Premium Seats \$25 General Seating \$18 Student/Senior/Veterans discount (ID Required)

Tickets



Harvard Undergraduate Japan Initiative Japan Day November 16th - November 17th, 2024 Harvard University

See link for all information and registration.

Register



Hiromi's Sonicwonder Saturday, November 9th, 2024 at 8:00 PM ET Berklee Performance Center

136 Massachusetts Ave, Boston, MA 02115

"One of jazz piano's most brazenly virtuosic players" (The New York Times), Grammy Award-winning pianist **Hiromi** returns to Celebrity Series following her explosive solo debut with her latest project, Sonicwonder. Celebrating her 2023 album Sonicwonderland, this tour reunites the powerhouse ensemble of French bassist Hadrien Feraud, drummer Gene Coye, and trumpeter Adam O'Farrill. Together, they create an all-electric wonderland of thrilling improvisation, funky arrangements, and exuberant music-making.

And check out our Famous in Japan article about **Hiromi!**

Tickets



The 9th Japan-US Science Forum in Boston Saturday, November 9th, 2024 at 12:00 PM MIT Department of Brain and Cognitive Sciences 43 Vassar St, Cambridge, MA

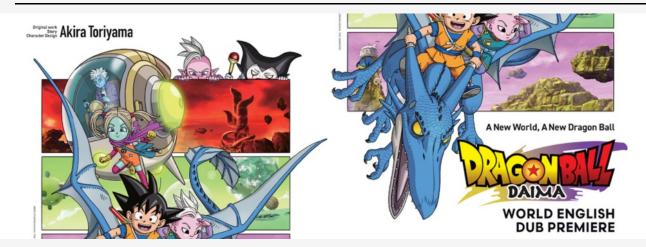
An exciting event where innovative minds from Japan and the US come together to discuss the latest advancements in science. The forum offers a unique opportunity to network with leading scientists, researchers, and industry experts. Welcoming attendees of any nationality and no connection to Japan.

This year's topic is "From Bench to Bedside: Current Advances in Translational Regenerative Medicine."

<u>Yoshiharu Mizui</u>, Ph.D., President of Eisai Innovation, Inc. and featured in this newsletter is one of the speakers!

See website for program and all details. Event is free and open to the public.

Register



Dragon Ball DAIMA Sunday, November 10th, 2024 at 2:00 PM Various theaters

The world English dub premiere of "Dragon Ball DAIMA", the newest series in the *Dragon Ball* universe, will debut in U.S. theaters, featuring the first three episodes of the series.

Before the film, there will be a special introduction from the Japanese voice of Goku, Masako Nozawa.

See link for ticket options at various theaters on November 10, 11, and 12, 2024.

Tickets

MFABoston

Opens May 11

Arts of Japan



Arts of Japan Starting May 11, 2024

Museum of Fine Arts Boston

The MFA has one of the most comprehensive collections of Japanese art anywhere in the world. Reimagined galleries explore Japan's art and visual culture from the 7th century to today, including painting, sculpture, decorative arts, and selections from the Museum's vast collection of ukiyo-e prints. Evocative spaces include the renovated Japanese Buddhist Temple Room, which opened in 1909, and an adaptation of a traditional tea room, with tatami mats and an alcove. Multimedia displays illuminate performative art forms, such as Nō theater, bringing their drama to life.

The new space for the Museum's unparalleled Japanese collection—which was the first of its kind in America when established in 1890, and now holds about 100,000 objects—will change regularly, giving visitors the opportunity to see even more works in a setting that honors and celebrates Japan's rich history and cultural legacy.

Join Anne Morse, William and Helen Pounds Senior Curator of Japanese Art, and Keith Crippen, director, Design, to explore centuries of Japan's art and visual culture and learn about the reimagined galleries at an **online lecture** on Wednesday, November 20th at 6:30pm.

Attendees will receive a Zoom link via e-mail after reserving tickets. Event is \$8 general admission and free only for MFA members.





online webinar

What is Nori? with Yoko Segerstrom

November 12, 2024
7-8pm ET, with extended discussion until 8:30pm



What is Nori? with Yoko Segerstrom Tuesday, November 12th, 2024 at 7:00 PM ET Online

What do you know about seaweed? Join Yoko Segerstrom, who grew up in a family of Japanese nori (seaweed) farmers in Futtsu, Chiba, Japan, for a fascinating look at nori farming, types of nori, nori products, and more. This webinar will be of particular relevance to teachers interested in the environment, food production, and culinary

arts.

Free online presentation by The National Consortium for Teaching about Asia.

Registration required.



Please send information about Japan-related events in Boston to **info@japansocietyboston.org** to help us feature select events.











The Japan Society of Boston, Inc. | [www.japansocietyboston.org]

THE JAPAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON, INC. | 50 Milk Street 16F | Boston, MA 02109 US

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