

May - June 202

Upcoming Events

JFKL Small Grant Guidelines (FY 2021) JFKL Japanese General Course 2021/2022 Saturday Half-day Workshop JFKL Mini-series on YouTube













JFKL SMALL GRANT PROGRAMME

The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur (JFKL) offers grants to support activities which promote, introduce, and deepen understanding of Japan, its language and culture, as well as projects that encourage, in principle, bilateral cultural exchange between Japan and the countries of Malaysia, Singapore, and Brunei.

Category A - Projects concerning Japan in the field of Japanese Arts and Culture / Japanese Studies and Intellectual Exchange

- (a) Projects which introduce, promote, deepen and enhance understanding of Japan and Japanese culture through international cultural events such as art performance, art exhibition and film screening.
- (b) Projects to enhance Japanese Studies in the fields of Social Science and Humanities, or to promote international intellectual collaborative dialogues.

The amount of the grant is up to RM14,000.00 (fourteen thousand ringgit) to cover specified items.

Category B - <u>Projects concerning</u> <u>Cultural Collaboration</u>

Collaborative projects in Malaysia, Singapore and Brunei to expand the base of exchange, to promote mutual understanding and friendship among people in this region and Japan.

Possible project example are collaborative art performance, art exhibition, film screening with workshop or sharing session.

The amount of the grant is up to RM30,000.00 (thirty thousand ringgit) to cover specified items.

Category C - <u>Projects concerning to</u> <u>Japanese Language Education</u>

The grant aims to support projects which are considered beneficial to the development of Japanese-language education in Malaysia through networking and co-operation among institutions and/or groups.

The amount of the grant is up to RM8,000.00 (eight thousand ringgit) to cover specified items. For SAKURA network members, a different amount will apply. Please consult with JFKL for more details.

Eligibility and Duties of the Applicant

- 1) Applicants must be based in Malaysia, Singapore or Brunei.
- 2) For Category C, only institutions providing Japanese-language education in Malaysia are eligible.
- 3) The applicant must be an organisation that has registered status in the eligible countries. Grants will NOT be given to individuals.
- 4) The project proposed for the grant must NOT:-
 - (a) Be profit-oriented;
 - (b) Benefit only the applicant or certain people;
 - (c) Be used for personal research expenses purposes
 - (e) Be used to spread certain policies or opinions and/or project with political or religious purposes.
 - (f) Be used for personal research expenses purposes.

Deadline

i) For Category A and B:

(a) Physical event / Hybrid event (Physical & Online)

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and must be received by JFKL at least 3 months prior to the project start date.

(b) Online event

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and must be received by JFKL at least 1 month prior to the project start date.

ii) For Category C:

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and must be received by JFKL at least 1 month prior to the project start date.

Scan this QR Code for more info or visit us at https://www.jfkl.org.my/support/financial/



Eligibility Check Sheet Fill in Application Form

Submit to JFKL



JFKL JAPANESE GENERAL COURSE 2021/2022

- We will only be holding classes online this year, anyone from any part of the country can participate!
- Our next intake would be the Starter Part 2 in June*

http://bit.ly/3r4eqQe

*Depending on available slots

• For more info please check out our General Course webpage:

MAIN TEXTBOOK



"MARUGOTO: Japanese Language and Culture"

It has the following features:

- A lot of illustrations and photographs are used to make it colorful and fun to study.
- A lot of listening material based on real-life situations.
- Not only the language, about Japanese life and culture also included.

COURSE SCHEDULE AND FEES

Class	Level	Part	Course Duration	Number of Lessons	Day	Time	Fee (RM)
Starter	A1	1	April 2021 - June 2021	9	Tuesday/ Wednesday	19:00 - 20:50	270
		2	June 2021 - October 2021	13			390
		3	November 2021 - December 2021	9			270
		4	January 2022 - March 2022	9			270
Elementary 1	A2	1	April 2021 - October 2021	22	Wednesday	19:00 - 20:50	660
		2	November 2021 - March 2022	18			540
Elementary 2	A2	1	April 2021 - October 2021	22	Tuesday	19:00 - 20:50	660
		2	November 2021 - March 2022	18			540
Pre-intermediate	A2/B1	1	June 2021 - October 2021	20	- Thursday	19:00 - 20:50	600
		2	November 2021 - March 2022	16			480
		3	These parts are not available for 2021/2022				
		4					
Intermediate 1	B1 -	1	June 2021 - September 2021	15	Wednesday	19:00 - 20:50	450
		2	November 2021 - March 2022	15			450
		3	These parts are not available for 2021/2022				
		4	These parts are not dvallable for abay abay				
Intermediate 2	B1	1	June 2021 - September 2021	15	Saturday	10:00 - 11:50	450
		2	November 2021 - March 2022	15	Juturuuy		450
		3	These parts are not available for 2021/2022				
		4					

Should you have any inquiries, please call us at 03-2284 7228 or email us at japanese_course@jfkl.org.my.

Saturday Half-day Workshop for Japanese Language Teacher

The major objectives of the Japanese Language Department of JFKL is to help develop Japanese education in Malaysia, Brunei and Singapore. To achieve this goal, we have organised various programs to support Japanese language teachers, learners, as well as help them develop teaching/learning materials. Today, we would like to introduce to you one of our programs, the "Saturday Half-day Workshop" for Japanese language teachers.

About the "Saturday Half-day Workshop"

The Saturday Half-day Workshop is a seminar for Japanese language teachers, which is usually held in on a Saturday morning. When it is held online, the targeted participants are not only Japanese language teachers in Malaysia but also those in Brunei and Singapore.

The themes selected are based on actual needs, and past themes are listed below. After the Movement Control Order which started in March 2020, we have conducted workshops related to online teaching like "How to make your Online Lesson more active", in order to help teachers solve their problems.

Here are some of the workshops we have held in the past:





Flyers of the past "Saturday Half-day Workshop"

The Recent Themes of the "Saturday Half-day Workshop"

May 2020 「オンライン授業を活発にするには」

June 2020 「オンライン授業についてさらに考える」(4回シリーズの特別企画)

第一回「学習者のセルフ・スタディをどうサポートしてる?」

第二回「作文の添削って、どうしてる?」 第三回「ライブレッスン、どうしてる?」 第四回「評価(テスト・試験)って、どうしてる?」

September 2020 「話す力、どう評価する?—パフォーマンス評価の観点—」

November 2020 「『まるごと+』を使ってみませんか?―オンライン・コンテンツの活用―」

What's Coming Up Next?

This year, we plan to organise the "Saturday Half-day Workshop" once every two months and our next one will be on 29 May 2021. This time, the theme will be a continuation of the topic discussed at the Malaysia Japanese Language Education Seminar held on 13 March 2021, which was "Towards Japanese Language Education Beyond Language Learning: The Significance of Incorporating "Culture" into the Field Of Language Education Outside Japan". Let's discuss more about our teaching practices and exchange opinions about how to incorporate "Culture" into our own lessons.

Date & Time : 29 May 2021 (Saturday) 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Theme : How to Incorporate "Culture" into Our Own Lessons

"私"の授業に「文化」をどう取り入れる?

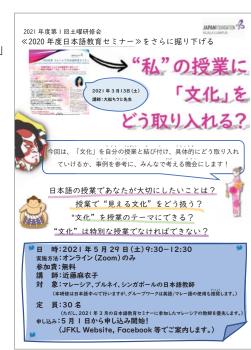
Participation Method : Zoom

Lecturer : KONDO Maiko Fee : Free of charge

We look forward to your participation. Stay tuned for our further notice.

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/theJapanFoundationKL

Website: https://www.jfkl.org.my/language/teachers/course-for-teachers/



TADOKU -New Reading Material and Audio

Newly Added Reading Materials and Audio are Now Available on JFKL Website!

Website: https://www.jfkl.org.my/language/tadoku/malaysiabooks



Have you tried reading stories in Japanese? Come and take a look at our website! We offer you many FREE graded reading materials.



Check out our original stories which are in the lower 3 levels (out of 6 levels) targeting beginner learners. Let's try to read some stories in Japanese while you "stay at home".

JFKL Mini-series – Introducing Japanese Arts & Culture in Malaysia Enicode 2: My Kondomo Journey

Episode 2: My Kendama Journey





"JFKL Mini-series – Introducing Japanese Arts & Culture in Malaysia" is a series of videos on JFKL YouTube channel regarding the story of Malaysian who enthusiast in Japanese culture.

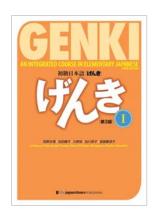
We are proud to broadcast the second episode of this video series, which is regarding Kendama in Malaysia presented by Mr. Mohamed Azrin Shazzani, a kendama enthusiast who has been very passionately playing kendama in Malaysia and Japan.

Kendama is traditional Japanese toy consists of a handle, a pair of cups, and a ball that are all connected together by a string. The game is played by tossing the ball and attempting to catch it in one of the cups or to spear it with the point of the stick. There are various tricks to play kendama raging from beginner to master which will be demonstrates by Mr. Azrin at the end of the video.

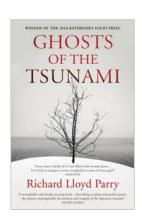
Scan the QR Code to watch this episode! Moreover, don't forget to subscribe to our YouTube channel as we will be sharing more contents for you to enjoy!













初級日本語 げんき 1,11(第3版)

By BANNO Eri, IKEDA Yoko and others / Publisher: The Japan Times 2020 / Library Call No.810.783

This is the newest revised edition of GENKI: An Integrated Course in Elementary Japanese, which marks its 20th anniversary as one of the popular educational Japanese language textbooks for elementary-level study since its first release in 1999.

It is a revised summary of each lesson's learning goals and the clear objectives help to motivate learners and provide a sense of achievement to complete 23 lessons. Dialogues and reading materials have been partially revised to remove outdated situations and content to reflect our lifestyle.

The explanations of grammar points have been improved making it simpler and easier for learners.

The audio material is downloadable online through apps instead of CD-ROMs. GENKI Workbook I, II (3rd edition) are also available in the library.

日本語教師のためのシャドーイング指導

By SAKODA Kumiko, Yumi FURUMOTO and others / Publisher: Kuroshio shuppan 2019 / Library Call No.811.1E

This book is a perfect reference for teachers who are seeking for a better approach and methods of shadowing practice in class.

It starts with a theory of shadowing and introduces effective methods and useful tips for shadowing practice with the latest practical examples from Japan and overseas. In addition, it shares some very helpful ideas on how to evaluate shadowing, including using feedback to support learners.

Ghosts of The Tsunami: Death and life in Japan's disaster zone By Richard Lloyd Parry/ Publisher: Vintage 2018 / Library Call No.369.31RIC

Richard Lloyd Parry is a journalist who has lived in Tokyo for over 20 years as the Tokyo Bureau chief and Asia Editor of The Times of London. This remarkable and breathtaking non-fiction work is about the Great East Japan Earthquake, which happened 10 years ago in 2011 and won The Rathbones Folio Prize in 2018. The reportage from the disaster zone is like watching a documentary film and moves readers deeply.

The author spent six years reporting from the epicenter, focusing on the tragedy of Okawa elementary school where 74 pupils out of 108 died or went missing because of the massive tsunami on that day, and also on the stories of psychic phenomena which occurred among those who lost their family and friends. His keen perspective eye on the conflicting themes of life and death, unveils the unique nuances of Japanese culture, the tsunami's impact on Japan's stunning and majestic landscape and the psychology of its people.

Harumi's Japanese Kitchen

By KURIHARA Harumi / Publisher: Conran Octopus 2020/ Library Call No.641.5952KUR

Harumi KURIHARA is one of the most popular food writers and TV chefs of Japanese home cooking. All of the 53 recipes are stylish, simple and easy in her approachable style, suited for to all generations who love home-style cooking.

It is organized into chapters of Meat & Fish; Vegetables; Rice, Noodles & More; and Desserts with foolproof step-by-step photography. There is also information on ingredients and utensils, tips for making dashi soup stock and cooking delicious rice in a saucepan.

Lots more new arrivals are available in the library!

Get a JFKL Membership!

You can enjoy:

- borrowing library materials (up to 5 items for 2 weeks)
- watching DVDs & listening to CDs at the AV corner
- having discount tickets for selected JFKL events
- * For the latest information, please visit our website, Facebook and Instagram page.



2020年度マレーシア日本語教育セミナー 2020/2021 Malaysia Japanese Language Education Seminar (MJLES)

Reported by Chan Yee Han (JFKL)



The speaker, Ms OFUNE Chisato

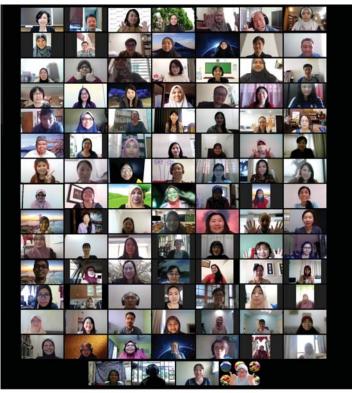
Under the new-norm due to the Covid-19 pandemic where we face difficulties carrying out events physically, we decided to bring the JFKL annual "Malaysia Japanese Language Education Seminar (MJLES)" online. With our hearts racing excitement, our first-ever virtual MJLES took place via ZOOM on 13 March (Sat) from 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM (Malaysia Time).

First and foremost, we would like to thank our invited speaker, Ms. OFUNE Chisato (Ofune-sensei) for presenting her lecture via ZOOM entitled, "Towards Japanese Language Education Beyond Language Learning: The Significance of Incorporating "Culture" into the Field of Language Education Outside Japan (言語学習をこえた日本語教育に向かって一海外の現場で「文化」を取り入れる意味一)".

Ofune-sensei is an experienced lecturer at the Japan Foundation Japanese-Language Institute, Urawa, Japan, and specialises in Japanese language education at the secondary education level and intercultural education. She has been engaged in the development of teaching materials and teacher training programmess, especially for secondary school Japanese language education in China, Vietnam, and the Philippines. She has held her current position since 2014. She is currently engaging in the research and practice to create a learning environment that aims to foster the learners' holistic development and stimulate the intellectual curiosity of both children and adults.

More often than not, we hear the following voices from Japanese teachers outside of Japan: "I'm not a Japanese, so I can't teach culture", or "I don't have time, so I can't incorporate culture into my classes". Therefore, we noticed the need to give some focus in discussing Japanese language education practices suitable for teachers who are teaching Japanese outside Japan, especially in the context of teaching "culture". Thanks to the years of experience in conducting teacher training programmes, Ofune-sensei has a rich experience to provide practical advice to the seminar participants regarding "What exactly is 'culture'?", "What does it mean to teach 'culture'?" and most importantly, "What benefits or positive impacts can teachers provide to learners by incorporating 'culture' into a language classroom?".

By using simple but interesting examples such as popular Japanese names, Japanese song lyrics, etc., Ofune-sensei guided the participants to rethink about the "characteristics of culture" and the advancement of "culture which can be seen" and "culture which cannot be seen" (the "Big C" culture and the "small c" culture). To further explain the key concept, Ofune-sensei also showed the participants some practical examples of teaching "culture" by using the case study method. Moreover, discussion in groups were carried out to deepen the participants' understanding. As a result, we received a lot of positive feedback from the participants stating that this seminar has helped them to notice the different "characteristics of culture" and the importance of teaching "culture" to their students.



The participants

We are glad to know that the participants have gained richer insights about teaching "culture", especially in the field of Japanese language education.

As MJLES went online this year, we received great support from not only the participants in Malaysia but also from other South-East Asia Countries (Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Singapore, Cambodia) and Japan. Last but not least, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all 135 participants who took part of the seminar. Thank you very much for your continuous support and we hope to see you again at MJLES next year!

For more information about JFKL events, please remember to like and follow our Facebook and Instagram.

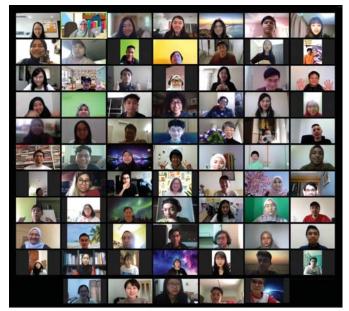


Online Japanese Salon (OJS) Monthly Report

Reported by Sakinah Noor Badaruddin (JFKL

The fifth OJS was held on 30 January 2021, just as the new year was beginning, so we chose "新年の抱負 -今年頑張りたいこと/挑戦したいこと-New Year Resolution -What I plan to do / to challenge-" as the theme. The participants shared about what they wanted to achieve this year in language studies, lifestyle, etc. We hope all the participants will be able to accomplish all of their targets this year.

The sixth OJS with the theme 「Stay at Home" 始めたこと Things I started to do while "Stay at home"」 was held on 27 February 2021. We were glad to hear that all the participants were adapting to the new-norm very well by making full use of their free-time while "staying at home" with activities such as learning a new language, harbouring new hobbies, cooking for the family, doing exercises, etc.









The seventh OJS with the theme "マレーシア/日本あるある-自分の国の不思議な文化- Malaysia/Japan: Surprising or Strange culture in my country" was held on 27 March 2021. As the theme was quite broad, there were some difficulties in sharing during the session. However, all the participants tried their best and a lot of points of view of one's culture was shared. We hope through this sharing, the participants got to know each other's "strange" culture and could understand a little bit about it.

What is "Online Japanese Salon"?

Online Japanese Salon (OJS) is a monthly event for Japanese language learners/speakers in Malaysia to gather and talk freely via an online platform. Moreover, you will have a chance to talk with native Japanese who we invite as volunteers to join the event. The key idea is to "Have Fun Talking in Japanese"! At this event, you will talk to other Japanese language learners and native speakers in small groups based on a selected theme. You can show related photos, pictures or objects to support your talk. This event is open to all Japanese language learners/speakers in Malaysia from beginner to advanced levels. This will be a great chance for you to casually practice (or show off) your Japanese and eventually become friends with other Japanese learners in Malaysia.

For more information, please follow our Facebook and Instagram page, or visit our website.

PARTICIPANTS VOICE

I was one of the "6th Japanese Partners". I was supporting Japanese at SMAP Kajang until March 2020.

At the "Online Japanese Salon", I was able to learn about delicious foods from various states in Malaysia and what they like. And I was happy to hear that everyone liked Japan.

I want to know more about Malaysia. Let's talk in Japanese together.

(Yagiura Tadashi, Japanese Volunteer)





Hi There! My name is Ammar and I'm from Sekolah Sultan Alam Shah. In my opinion this Online Japanese Salon is really good and very helpful for Japanese language learners, like me. It is because I get to use all the things that I've learnt before and try to talk it out in this Online Japanese Salon. Aside from that, I also get the chance to speak with native Japanese speakers. This allows me to learn how to speak Japanese properly and fluently. I hope that I can join more Online Japanese Salons in the future.

(Ammar, Malaysian Participant)

MAJAS Member Lecture Series

Title: Japanese Work Culture: A look into the implementation of the 5S principles in the Malaysian public sector through the Public Sector Conducive Ecosystem Guidelines

Presented by Dr. Ang Li Ling, MAJAS Member, and Senior Principal Assistant Secretary, International Relations Division, Ministry of Higher Education

Reported by Sulatan Ibrahim (JFKL)

The MAJAS Member Lecture Series was held online on the 22 March 2021. The presenter focused on the Look East Policy introduced by the Malaysian government in 1981 whose aim amongst other things was for Malaysians to learn from Japan's experiences in nation building and to emulate the Japanese work principles and culture. In line with the aspirations of reforming the Malaysian public sector towards a more efficient and effective delivery system, 5S, a Japanese methodology developed by Hiroyuki Hirano to create and sustain a quality working environment, was introduced to the public sector by the Malaysian Administrative Modernisation and Management Planning (MAMPU) in 2010.

The Public Sector 5S Guidelines was issued by MAMPU as a reference for the public sector to systematically implement the 5S principles to help organisations create and sustain a quality working environment. The 5S's principles are Seiri, Seiton, Seisou, Seiketsu and Shitsuke. The English translation is Sort, Set in Order, Shine, Standardise and Sustain. Adopting the structure introduced by Hiroyuki Hirano, the guidelines developed by MAMPU provided systematic steps on implementing 5S. This includes the setting up of a structure to oversee the overall implementation, training and establishing 5S zones. Among the working committees to be set up are the Audit Committee, Promotion Committee and Training Committee.

After implementing the 5S practice for a few years, a review was done and MAMPU enhanced and rebranded the 5S Practice by introducing the Public Sector Conducive Ecosystem (EKSA) on January 2014. EKSA's introduction was not to replace the concepts of 5S and practices, it was an improved version focusing on creating a conducive work environment which incorporated new elements. The principles of 5S's remained fundamental to the implementation of EKSA. The improvement was done as part of the efforts to strengthen the organisational culture of high performance and innovation among public sector agencies through a conducive environment, work culture and inculcating positive values among public servants. The outcomes expected from the enhancement were more public sector agencies practicing EKSA, enhanced corporate image of public sector agencies, inculcation of creativity and innovation among public sector agencies, support of Go Green campaign and ensuring that the audit elements suited the needs of the multitude of services provided by the public sector. New auditing model and standards were introduced to accommodate the diverse public sector agencies. MAMPU has done an excellent job in incorporation the original concept of 5S which was meant for production setting and manufacturing office through the implementation of EKSA.

In line with the aim of getting more agencies to implement EKSA, MAMPU has also introduced EKSA Do-it Yourself (DIY). EKSA DIY is an effort to empower agencies to conduct EKSA evaluation and certification by the Headquarters, namely the Ministry level or the State Secretariat Level. MAMPU will be in charge of evaluating all the agencies on the first tier level. Ministry or state secretariat are to conduct the evaluation at the 2nd tier. EKSA certificates will be issued by MAMPU based on the report by 1st tier agencies. The latest data on EKSA certification as of February 2020 showed only a total of 105 agencies have EKSA certificates. The low figure is due to the two-year validity of the certificate. The COVID 19 pandemic which started in late 2019 and also the lock-down in Malaysian since March

2020 has affected the process of renewing the certifications. Out of the 105 agencies, 52 are new certifications and 53 are renewals either for the 2nd or 3rd round of certification. A total of 921 agencies have expired certificates and are expected to renew once the movement control order is lifted.

The 5S principles are embedded in and serves as the foundation of EKSA. It continues to serve as an important mechanism to create a conducive work place environment in public sector organisations. It has contributed to the optimum use of resources, encouraged team work and discipline, increased the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery by the public sector. Various stakeholders such as the public as a whole, public service, government agencies, different divisions and units within the government agencies and individuals have benefitted from the 5S principles.



Universiti Malaya offers Japan Studies that was inaugurated in 1993, under the Department of East Asian Studies, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. This department offers programmes leading to the Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in East Asian Studies, Master of Arts (MA), and Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) degrees.

Nagoya Culture Promotion Unit Bilateral Visual Arts Exhibition: Nagoya x Penang

Reported by Hoo Fan Chon (Curator, NCPU Penang exhibition



The Nagoya Culture Promotion Unit (NCPU) is a bilateral visual art exhibition with Nagoya as the headquarters and Penang as a branch that drew inspiration from the states' branding exercise in shaping its city's identity while promoting its uniqueness. The exhibition was held concurrently in Nagoya and Penang with the Nagoya headquarters exhibition at Minatomachi POTLUCK BUILDING 3F: Exhibition Space, Nagoya, Japan from 16 February to 13 March 2021, and Penang branch exhibition at 29, Lebuh Melayu, Georgetown, Penang from 20 February to 7 March 2021. Premised on this curatorial framework, a group of six sets of artists from Penang and Nagoya was invited to re-imagine their relationships with Nagoya either as a cultural hub, city of residence, its art ecosystem, or a constructed commercial brand; to subvert the popular stereotypical image of the city or to form a personal connection with the city.

Forrest Wong collaborated with Yuji Kinoshita by putting together a pamphlet with a map based on Wong's memories of Nagoya during his brief visit in 2020 and Kinoshita's introduction to the lesser-explored parts of the city. This map will eventually be activated







View of NCPU Nagoya headquarters exhibition

through their performative actions. Tetriana Ahmed Fauzi who had never been to Nagoya focused on her personal retail experience at the Malaysian textile company called 'Nagoya Textiles'. Hoo Fan Chon responded to the generic tourist image of the famous Nagoya castle's Shachihoko. Asuka Miyata together with her senior knitting club members re-envisioned a set of souvenirs that are relevant to the city's socio-cultural past. Takuya Yamashita chose to celebrate Nagoya hip-hop culture and the eccentric character of the Nagoya art scene. Last but not least, D. D. (Arika Someya and Tetsu Imamura) studied the aesthetic and rationale behind the hostile architecture within the city.

A series of events was held via Facebook Live during the exhibition period including a performance by Forrest Wong and Yuji Kinoshita on 27 February 2021, and virtual exhibition tours were organised to introduce the show in Nagoya port city and George Town, Penang on 6 March 2021.

This project took the form of a pseudo-governmental agency to speculate and observe the mechanics of the culture promotion process through the lens of the artists. Collectively, they provide us with an array of self-critical and introspective views of the city by the local artists and the further-romanticised image of Nagoya by the foreign artists.



Fan Chon's artwork in Nagoya Title: Mud-chihoko on Komtar, A Proposal for Nagoya Municipal Diplomatic Gift to George Town, Penang



Yamashita's artwork in Nagoya Title: TOKONA-X and Hamonoya-san



D.D.'s artwork in Penang Title: Life is a Carnival



Tetriana's artwork in Penang Title: Nagoya Textile Sarong Set



Asuka's artwork in Penang Title: Souvenir from Minato



Forrest & Kinoshita's artwork in Penang Title: 4uto-c0rrec4

Furoshiki Design Contest

Reported by Nurul Amira Sabri (JFKL)

Furoshiki is a square piece of fabric traditionally used in Japan to carry, store, or wrap objects. It is used to wrap items of various shapes and sizes ranging from boxes, bottles, music instruments, baskets to many others. It can also be used as a bag to transport items. Furoshiki can be made from a variety of fabrics including silk, chirimen, cotton, rayon, and nylon.

The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur successfully organized our inaugural Arts and Culture contest, a Furoshiki Design Contest. The contest was held for one month from 1 to 28 February 2021 with the theme of "Malaysia + Japan" with the aim of unearthing and showcasing the talent and creativity of art and design students in Malaysia in textile design which incorporates diverse cultural elements of Malaysia and Japan. This contest was open to arts and design students aged 18 years and above as of 1 January 2021 who are currently studying in public or private universities, colleges, vocational or any educational institutions in Malaysia. Only one entry was allowed per individual. This contest received more than 150 applications from art and design students from various educational institutions all around Malaysia.

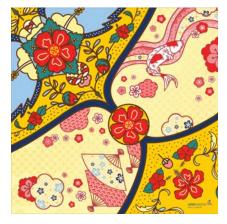


The judges for this contest are Assistant Professor Dr. Debbie Gan Siew Siew, Deputy Dean, First City University College; Nik Faiz Nik Amin, Founder and Creative Director of Gahara; and Nini Marini Artist & Creative Entrepreneur.



The first place winner is Ms. Chow Mun Ee from Sunway University. Her design's title is The Wave Tarik. This idea is derived from the process of making 'Teh tarik' ('pulled tea'), which is a popular drink widely sold at 'Mamak' restaurants in Malaysia. To incorporate the diverse cultural elements of Malaysia and Japan, the Japanese wave inspired by 'The Great Wave' is cleverly incorporated by replacing the Teh Tarik. The judges agreed this design represents less is more, simple yet impactful and meaningful. Also this is a clever piece of artwork that 'fuses' the Wave pattern into the process of making "Teh Tarik". The image is positioned in the center of the fabric as a focal point as if making a "toast"; a celebration of the two countries and the respect each has for each other.

"Parade of A New Beginning" is the design title for the second winner, Ms. Khoo Yoon Yin from Saito University College. The concept is to celebrate the new relationship that has emerged as a result of the cultural exchange. From Malaysia's Wau Bulan (moon kite) to the elements from Japan's kimono to the colours usage, it was designed with the intention to represent a harmony and continuity of a good relationship. The judges thinks that her design is a delightful design where the design speaks harmoniously with a good colour composition, and the asymmetrical composition of the wau bulan expresses the furoshiki's versatility. They believe that people can imagine that this furoshiki when wrapped, would look vibrant in any which way it is used further punctuating this story of harmony.





Mr. Muhammad Izzat Amir Bin Che Khalin from International Islamic University Malaysia win the third prize for this contest with design title "Batik of the Heavenly Seasons". This design shows how batik style is incorporated together with the Kigo storyline. The Furoshiki design starts from two datums that represent the rising sun opposite to each other. The design is divided into four parts: North, East, South and West, each with seasonal elements to show how it rotates around the Sun. The designer showed respect for the Japanese culture by acknowledging the changing of seasons. It is something that is not usual in tropical Malaysia and the designer merges Malaysia by using batik elements to tell his story. There is deep reflection and philosophy in his design that is expressed in the symbols used. It is all about the details which is also a nice way of showing respect to the nature of the Japanese as a whole.

Outcome

The winning designs will be used by JFKL to produce furoshikis which later will be used for cultural exchange programs organized by JFKL.

Scan this QR Code to read the judges comments or visit us at https://www.jfkl.org.my/furoshiki-design-contest/





Selamat berkenalan, nama saya TENGAN Celica. I'm from Okinawa, Japan.

This is my first visit to Malaysia, so, of course, it's the first time I will be working in Malaysia. I am grateful to all of you for this opportunity. There are three things I want to do in

Malaysia. First of all, I want to interact a lot with the local people. I would like to learn more about Malaysian culture and customs. I would like to know about the people of Malaysia and would like everybody to know me as well. Secondly, I would like to visit various places. Even in Japan, cultures and values vary from region to region. I am sure that each region in Malaysia has its own culture too. Thirdly, I would like to be able to communicate in simple Malay. I think that studying Malay will be useful for me to learn more about Malaysia and make people know more about Japan.

I still need to figure out how I'll be able to get involved with you all but, I'd like to meet you and talk about a lot of things. I look forward to meeting you.

TENGAN Celica Lecturer, Japan Language Department



First, I would like to express my gratitude to all the teachers and students I've met over the past two years. Over the past one year, COVID-19 has changed the field of education, as you know well. Many Japanese language

suddenly had to teach online, and have been struggling with the situation. I tried to support those teachers, and facilitated several Online Seminars for them. Those were big challenges of course, but also allowed me to discover many things. I felt that I learnt a lot, worrying about how to make the lessons more active or how to evaluate the students' performance together with other teachers in those seminars. I'm glad if those seminars had a similar effect on the participants too.

Thank you very much and see you again sometime.

SATO Osamu

Former Chief Lecturer. Japanese Department



Ana khabar? Selamat berkenalan atau sudah lama tidak berjumpa.

OSADA Nama saya Kanako, lecturer Bahasa Jepun, the successor of Sato sensei. This is the second time for me to work in Malaysia. I'm very

pleased to be back after 21 years and to meet all of you who are interested in Japan, Japanese culture and Japanese language. I'm looking forward to working with the Japanese language teachers in Malaysia and other Southeast Asian countries. I'd like to discuss how to teach Japanese and Japanese culture, how to make the learners enjoy and how to evaluate our teaching etc. with the teachers. I hope that JFKL might be of some assistance in helping teachers develop, select or adapt teaching methods which are most appropriate for their goals. I also want to enjoy life in Malaysia. I like Malaysian batik, Malaysian food, especially nasi lemak. I'm looking forward to traveling to many places again. I want to play gamelan if I have a chance.

Yoroshiku onegaishimasu.

OSADA Kanako New Chief Lecturer, Japanese Language Department



Dear JFKL friends,

would like to take this opportunity to thank you your exceptional support over these past two years at JFKL. It has been my privilege to have been a coordinator for the Nihongo Partners

Program. Through the program and the wonderful teachers and students I have been fortunate to meet, I gained insights about education in Malaysia. I have been pleased especially to see Malaysian students enjoy cultural exchanges with the Nihongo Partners. Since last March our lives have been changed dramatically by the COVID pandemic. Consequently, many cultural exchange programs between our countries have been compelled to cancel. However, from a personal perspective I have witnessed Malaysians' strength of character in confronting the challenge and I have felt their deep compassion. Although pandemic restrictions have limited my opportunity to travel throughout the country this past year, I am excited at the prospect of a return visit to experience the success of a revitalized post-pandemic Malaysia.

Terima Kasih!

TOHO Yasuko Former Coordinator, Nihongo Partners Program



Minasan Hajimemashite.

I am MIYAZAWA Sayaka, new Program the Coordinator **Partners** Nihongo Program. I was born and raised in the great outdoors of Aomori Prefecture in Japan, thus I love activities

such as hiking. Ever since my very first visit to Kuala Lumpur in 2007 on vacation, I have been completely fascinated by its people's smiles, warmth and cultural diversity. I have since returned over half a dozen times to visit many places in this beautiful country, to experience the rich natural environment and, of course, the delicious food! I am most excited to be here again, especially with the opportunity to work in the field of Japanese language education in Malaysia. Having worked on the program at The Japan Foundation, Manila (2016-19), and seeing the many students, teachers and Nihongo Partners truly enjoy their journeys, it inspires me to be here. In hiking, having a 'partner' to walk with makes the journey much more enjoyable... I look forward to working and 'walking' with all of you.

Terima Kasih!

MIYAZAWA Savaka New Coordinator, Nihongo Partners Program



Assalamualaikum and Hi everyone. There is an end for every beginning, and my time with the Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur has come to an end. I joined JFKL in 2014, left in 2018 and rejoined in 2019. Throughout this journey, I have managed to gain a

vast amount of new experiences such as how a foreign government agency operates especially in the field of fine and performing arts. Besides that, I also learned how authorities under the Malaysian government get involved and liaise with events and missions from abroad. I would like to thank JFKL for these experiences. To my colleagues, I also would like to thank all of you.

Sulatan Ibrahim Former Program Officer

JFKL Holiday Notice:

JFKL Office Holiday

13 - 14 May - Hari Raya Aidilfitri 26 May - Wesak Day 7 June - Birthday of Y. P. Agong

JFKL Library Holiday

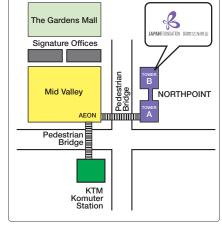
1 May - Labour Day 13 - 15 May - Hari Raya Aidilfitri 26 May - Wesak Day



JAPANFOUNDATION 国際交流基金

JFKL membership is available upon application. Membership fee is RM10 per year. For library operation notices, please refer to our Facebook, Instagram and website for the latest





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