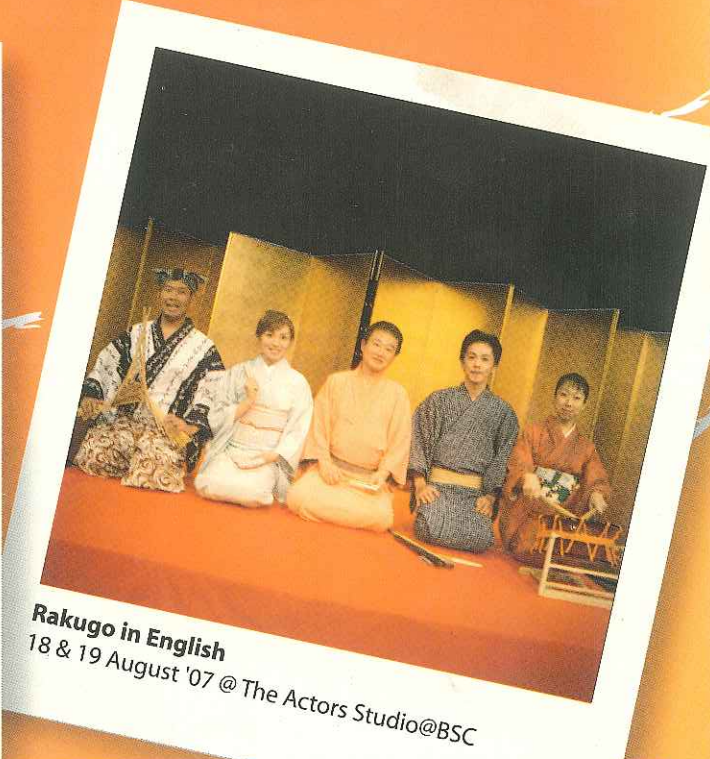


Temaman Baru



Japanese Film Festival 2007
 23 - 27 August '07 @ GSC Mid Valley & GSC 1 Utama
 31 August - 2 September '07 @ GSC Gurney Plaza



Rakugo in English
 18 & 19 August '07 @ The Actors Studio@BSC



The Flute Festival in Malaysia
 8 & 9 September '07 @ Pentas 1, KLPac



We're Gonna Go Dancing!!
 10 & 11 August '07 @ The Actors Studio@BSC



Japanese Film Festival 2007

Our awaited Film Festival is coming back with 8 new titles!

- "Love and Honor" (YAMADA Yoji / 2006 / 121min)
- "Hana" (KORE-EDA Hirokazu / 2006 / 127min)
- "Linda Linda Linda" (YAMASHITA Nobuhiro / 2005 / 114min)
- "We Shall Overcome Someday" [Pacchigi!] (IZUTSU Kazuyuki / 2004 / 119min)
- "Yoshino's Barber Shop" (OGIGAMI Naoko / 2003 / 96min)
- "Kamome Diner" (OGIGAMI Naoko / 2005 / 102min)
- "The Milkwoman" (OGATA Akira / 2005 / 127min)
- "Infection" (OCHIAI Masayuki / 2004 / 98min)

SYNOPSIS

Love and Honor

Mimura Shinnojo is a lower class samurai who is a poison tester for the domain lord. He is poor but happily leading his humble life with his beautiful wife, Kayo. One day, however, Shinnojo is poisoned during the testing and loses his sight. He is made redundant and is reduced to poverty. It is such a time when Shimada, a clerk, offers help to Kayo. He wants her body in return, and Kayo accepts the offer to supplement the family income. When the relationship becomes public, Shinnojo is devastated for being robbed of his beloved wife and for his helplessness.

Hana

Revenge killing was the norm in 1702, when Sozaemon, a country samurai, comes from Matsumoto to Edo to revenge himself on Kanazawa Jubei for killing his father. However it takes longer than expected to find Kanazawa, and Sozaemon decides to take residence at a tenement to take time to search. He meets people with colorful personalities at the tenement, including a beautiful widow Osae. They live happily despite being poor, and Sozaemon realizes the existence of life without revenge.

Linda Linda Linda

Kei, Kyoko and Nozomi form a rock band for their school festival, but three days before the festival, their band splits up when the guitarist breaks her fingers and the vocalist storms out. Then, suddenly they hear "Linda, Linda", the famous song by legendary Japanese band, the Blue Hearts. Cheered by the song, they decide to do the cover version of it. With the new vocalist Son, a Korean student who was just walking by and was persuaded to join, they re-start rehearsing for the festival.

We Shall Overcome Someday (Pacchigi!)

It's 1968. The Higashi High School Karate Club clashes with a gang of delinquents from a high school for resident Koreans, and their leader Ang-son. Kosuke from the Higashi High falls in love with Ang-son's sister Kyong-ja, a talented flautist. Kosuke starts studying Korean and playing the guitar to get close to Kyong-ja and learns the tune she plays called "Imujing River," a song about homesickness for Korea. Kosuke gradually wins her over and becomes friends with her brother and the other resident Koreans. But when one of his new friends dies in an accident Kosuke realizes the real depth of anti-Japanese feeling among Korean Residents in Japan.

KUALA LUMPUR

Duration:

23 (Thu) - 27 (Mon) Aug 2007

Venue:

GSC Mid Valley & GSC 1 Utama (new wing)

Ticket:

RM5 per screening

PENANG

Duration:

31 (Fri) Aug - 2 (Sun) Sept 2007

Venue:

GSC Gurney Plaza

Ticket:

RM5 per screening

Reservation: Call GSC at 03-8312 3456 or log on to www.gsc.com (reservation can be made from 2 days before the screening)

*** Walk-in tickets are also available



>>> from previous page

Yoshino's Barber Shop

In a picturesque rural village, everyone has their haircut at the local barber shop - the only one - by the fearsome Yoshiko. Without exception, all the local boys are required to sport the hairdresser's proprietary bowl-shaped "Yoshino Cut," which is a long-standing town tradition. But when a trendy transfer student Yosuke arrives on the scene, his fashionably dyed and coiffed locks ruffle the community's clean-cut consensus as the local boys start questioning the status quo.

The Milk Woman

In a town of hills, Minako begins her day running up and down its steep slopes delivering milk, after which she works as a supermarket cashier. She is 50, single. In one of the houses to which she delivers milk lives a man with whom she has secretly been in love since high school. That man, Keita lives with his wife Yoko, who is terminally ill. Caring for her at home, he works in the Children's Affairs Section of the local municipal office. Insisting that he wants nothing more than an 'ordinary' existence, his life is one of constant turmoil.

Kamome Diner

Sachie, from Japan, opens the "Kamome Diner" in Helsinki, Finland. The specialty menu is Onigiri rice ball. However, the only customer day after day is a geeky Japan enthusiast, Tommi. One day, two Japanese ladies, each with some personal issues, come to help at Sachie's diner. The number of customers gradually increases, but the diner seems to attract only those with problems. Conversation with Sachie and the tasty food seem to resolve peoples concerns.

Infection

A doctor's negligence causes a patient to die and the panicked hospital staff decides to cover up the fatal mistake, setting off a deadly chain of events. Paramedics bring a new patient into the hospital who has been stricken with a virus so horrible and revolting that his internal organs have mysteriously disintegrated. The doctors attempt to contain the virus, but the ill patient escapes through the ventilation system ensuring that everyone inside the doomed hospital will have to fight for their lives from the horrifying epidemic.



The Weekend Japanese Film Show

1 film will be screened at the Weekend Japanese Film Show in the month of August.

There will be NO screenings in September and October, and the Film Show will be back on 3rd November.

admission is FREE!!!
with English subtitles
at Mini Auditorium,
Malaysia Tourism Centre (MTC)

"Tora-san's Forbidden Love"

Saturday, 4 August starting 4:30pm

Directed by YAMADA Yoji, 1984, 107min, Colour



One autumn day in Shibamata, Tokyo, Tora-san comes back to his home TORAYA, a small shop selling Japanese sweets. When he comes back, there is a big quarrel happening at TORAYA. Tora-san gets involved in the fight, but it only made the situation worse.

Tora-san stomps out of the house and heads for a Yakitori bar where he gets drunk. A stranger pays his bill for him when Tora-san realizes that he doesn't

have any money. Tora-san visits the stranger's office the next day to thank him. The man, TOMINAGA Kenkichi turns out to be a junior executive at a leading security firm. Tora-san invites him to go back to the same bar, and the two of them become friends. Tora-san gets drunk and ends up going home with Kenkichi.

The next day, Tora-san wakes up to find himself alone with Kenkichi's wife Fujiko and his young son. Kenichi had already left for work early in the morning. Tora-san is captivated by Fujiko's beauty.

A few days later, Tora-san returns to Kenkichi's house for a visit, and is surprised to hear from Fujiko that Kenkichi has disappeared.



We're Gonna Go Dancing!! 2007

4 Japanese + 1 Malaysian
leading contemporary dance works!

Japan Contemporary Dance Network Tour Project in Asia

"We're Gonna Go Dancing!!" has been Japan Contemporary Dance Network (JCDN)'s one of the main projects to promote contemporary dance in Japan from the year 2000, which features 4-5 short pieces by various leading choreographers to popularise this art-form in Japan. This year, they extend the boundary to 5 cities in this region starting from Kuala Lumpur to establish network among dance practitioners and relevant organisations.

Japan Contemporary Dance Network (JCDN), a non-profit organization, aiming to act as a bridge between the art of dance and society at large. JCDN organizes various types of programs to encourage the flowering of dance within society, connecting dance artists, dance organizations, art foundations, venues, critics, and so on, each other.

JCDN URL: www.jcdn.org
<http://odoriniasia.jugem.jp/>

Artists:-



photo by Hide

Ko&Edge Co.

Choreographer, Ko Murobushi, is one of the most prominent names of Butoh in Japan, who have started his career as dancer/choreographer from 1970s. Although he has long career as dancer/choreographer, is still aggressive and dangerous on stage. In 2003, Ko Murobushi settled his unit Ko&Edge Co. with 3 young dancers.

Ho Ho-Do

In 2001, 155cm-tall dance duo "Ho Ho-Do" was formed. Their work is created through their delicate sensitivities and impulses, which they feel in everyday life. In 2004, they won an award at the "Tokyo Competition #1", and the Audience Choice Award at "Toyota Choreography Award" in 2005. Currently, they are resident artists of ST Spot Theatre in Yokohama.



photo by Yoichi Tsukada



photo by Toshihiro Shimizu

Shintai Hyogen Circle ("Physical Expression Circle" in Japanese)

Shintai Hyogen Circle was formed in 2002 by the students majoring sculpture at an art college in Hiroshima. At the beginning of their career, they got inspiration from party performance and their interest shifted gradually into physical expression. They participated "Yokohama Toriennale" in 2005 working with more than 20 volunteers in their trademark, Japanese traditional underwear.



photo by Maki Miyashita

Masako YASUMOTO

As a dancer, YASUMOTO has been making the most of any chances to dance, whether on stage, television or runway. She won several major awards like, National Advisory Panel Award at Rencontres Choreographiques Internationales de Seine-Saint-Denis, and the outstanding performance award in the dance section at Tokyo Competition, both in 2004.

The details as below:-

Date & Time : 10 (Fri) August 2007 @ 8:30pm
11 (Sat) August 2007 @ 1pm

Venue : The Actors Studio@BSC Level 3, West Wing, Bangsar Shopping Centre

Ticket : RM30, RM15 (JFKL Members, Students, Disabled & Senior Citizens)
available at **The Actors Studio@BSC box office 03-2094 0400**

- Malaysian piece will be featured on both dates. For further the details, please log onto www.jfkl.org.my
- "Dance workshops" and "Dance meeting" for dance practitioners will be organised. For those who are interested in attending those events, please log onto www.jfkl.org.my



RAKUGO in English 「英語落語」

JAL 40th Anniversary Special

A Japanese Traditional "Sit-down" Comedy

A-must-see RAKUGO in English is back again to amuse Malaysians with their Japanese humor. Are you doubt on Japanese humor? Then you have to come and see them with your own eyes.

RAKUGO or described as *Japanese traditional "sit-down" comedy*, is the monodrama with funny stories. Having its origin in 16th century and established during Edo era (17-18th century), RAKUGO has been verbally passed down through one generation to another.

The performances in Kuala Lumpur in 2002, 2003 and 2005 had brought a lot of laughter to Malaysian audiences. Reflect to the very well response of the previous performances, The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur with the support of Japan Airlines, brings them again to Malaysia to introduce completely brand new funny stories which will be performed in English.



About RAKUGO performers

RAKUGO apprentices or "Deshi" must stay for three or four years with the Master either in Tokyo or Osaka.

When the apprenticeship is completed, the Master gives them their names as a professional RAKUGO performer or "Rakugo-ka" by taking the family name of each "Rakugo-ka" family tree and one syllable from their own first name.

The details as below:-

KUALA LUMPUR

Date & Time:

Performance in Japanese 18 (Sat) August 2007 @ 3pm
Performance in English 18 (Sat) August 2007 @ 8:30pm
19 (Sun) August 2007 @ 3pm

Venue:

The Actors Studio@BSC
Level 3, West Wing, Bangsar Shopping Centre

Ticket:

RM30, RM15 (JMB Members, JFKL Members, Students, Disabled & Senior Citizens)
available at **The Actors Studio@BSC box office 03-2094 0400**

PENANG

Date & Time:

17 (Fri) August 2007 @ 8:45pm

Venue:

For further enquiry, please contact The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur at 03-2161 2104, email to jpec@jfkl.org.my or log onto www.jfkl.org.my

日本語による公演
8月18日(土) 3pm

Supported by



The Flute Festival in Malaysia

"Experience the fantastic world of woodwind music"
With Mi-bemoll Saxophone Ensemble



Mr. Ota Takahisa
Conductor



Ms. NAKAGAWA Keiko
Flutist

The Japan Foundation, Kuala Lumpur, The Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre, Embassy of Japan and Flute Festival Organizing Committee are proud to present a Flute Festival in celebrating the 50th Year of Malaysian Independence and 50th Year of diplomatic relations between Malaysia and Japan.

This Flute Festival will be in a concert styled event to inspire professionals and amateurs flute lovers not only to collaborate but also enjoy flute music. The concert is adored and waited by many music fans especially woodwind fans from all over the world including Japan. Every year various Flute Festivals are organized in many places in Japan, and this is the first time the Flute Festival brought to Malaysia.

In this concert, audiences have chance to listen to the elegant music of the Flute Orchestra that consists of 60 flute players from Malaysia, Japan and other countries. The splendid concert will be more colorful with special guest performer, a well-known saxophone ensemble of Japan "Mi-bemoll Saxophone Ensemble".

Information on the performers:

- Flute Orchestra

This ensemble consists of only congeneric musical instrument such as piccolo, flute, alto flute, bass flute and contra bass flute. It creates totally different sound from conventional orchestra that normally includes stringed instrument.

- Mi-bemoll Saxophone Ensemble

This unique ensemble consists of only 5 kinds of saxophone from soprano to bass works on every types of musical genre and has attracted many fans because of its dynamic and subtle performance. Since their establishment in 1989, the group has played in many countries in Europe, Asia and USA including New York City's Carnegie Hall. So far it has released 10 musical CDs.

Welcome to the concert as below:-

Date & Time : 8 (Sat) September 2007 @ 8:30pm
9 (Sun) September 2007 @ 2pm

Venue : Pentas 1, Kuala Lumpur Performing Arts Centre (KLPac)
Sentul Park, Jalan Strachan, off Jalan Ipoh, KL

Ticket : RM45 / RM30
RM15 (JFKL Members, Students, Disabled & Senior Citizens)
available at **KLPac box office 03-4047 9000**



Mi-bemoll Saxophone Ensemble

In this festival, the Flute Festival Organizing Committee will also hold a master class for flute and saxophone players. To obtain further details, please e-mail to fl.festival.malaysia@hotmail.com

The 23rd Japanese Speech Contest for Open Category

Kuala Lumpur Preliminary
Date : 5 (Sun) August 2007
Time : 1pm

National Open Category
Date : 26 (Sun) August 2007
Time : 1pm

In celebration of Japan - Malaysia Friendship Year 2007, the contest now allows those who have stayed more than 90 days in Japan to partake in the competition. Contestants will compete in 2 classes, namely the "General Class" (for those who have not stayed more than 90 days in Japan) and "2007 Special Class" (no limitation on length of stay in Japan).

What's more is the 'furoshiki' wrapping workshop that will be held at the National Open Category. 'Furoshiki' is an exquisite, traditional Japanese wrapping cloth sometimes used by Japanese to carry things, gift - wrap or for decoration purposes. We invite and look forward to meet you at our above Japanese speech contests and 'furoshiki' wrapping workshop.

This event is organized by The Embassy of Japan in Malaysia, The Japan Foundation Kuala Lumpur, The Japanese Chamber of Trade and Industry Malaysia (JACTIM), The Japan Club of Kuala Lumpur in cooperation with Consulate - General of Japan in Penang, Penang Japanese Language Society, Malaysia Japanese Association, Perak Malaysian - Japanese Friendship Society, Japan Graduates' Association of Malaysia (JAGAM) and; sponsored by Japan Overseas Enterprises Association, Japan Airline International Co. Ltd., Panasonic (M) Sdn Bhd, Kinokuniya Bookstores (M) Sdn Bhd & Kokuyo International (M) Sdn Bhd.

For enquiries on the above events, kindly call the secretariat (Mr. HONJO / Mr. Nobli) at 03-21612304. Venue location map is available at www.jfkl.org.my

The Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT)



日本語能力試験

2 December 2007



Application Period: 27 August - 14 September 2007

Closing Date: **14 September 2007**

For details, please contact your respective test center or log onto <http://momo.jpf.go.jp/jlpt/home.html>

KUALA LUMPUR	PENANG	IPOH	KOTA KINABALU
The Japanese Language Society of Malaysia	Penang Japanese Language Society	Perak Malaysian-Japanese Friendship Society	Pusat Penataran Ilmu dan Bahasa Uni. Malaysia Sabah
Tel: (03) 2144 1180 / 2180 Fax: (03) 2144 7180	Tel/Fax: (04) 226 5908	Tel: (05) 253 7530 Fax: (05) 254 5110	Tel: (088) 320 000 ext. 5294 Fax: (088) 435 708



The 11th Asian Cartoon Exhibition

The Japan Foundation has been organizing the Asian Cartoon exhibition since 1995, and it is going to be the last of the series. Employing a friendly medium for introducing Asian societies, cultures and peoples' ways of life in various perspectives through cartoon works.

The theme for this year is "Asian Youth Cultures", 10 leading cartoonists from 10 Asian nations have produced 75 works depicting the youth culture in the respective nations for our entertainment as well as promoting awareness of our Asian commonalities and diversity. The 10 nations are Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, The Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam. Cartoonist Tazidi Yusof represented Malaysia in this exhibition.

These exhibitions are co-organized with the Perak State Library Corporation, National Art Gallery of Malaysia, Sabah State Library and Japan Graduate Association of Malaysia (JAGAM) Johor Branch.

The exhibitions will be held at the following places:-

ADMISSION FREE

Perak

Duration: 20 September - 20 October 2007

Venue: Perak State Library,
Jalan Raja DiHilir

Time: 10am - 6pm (Closed on Mondays)

Kuala Lumpur

Duration: 30 October - 10 November 2007

Venue: National Art Gallery, (tentative)
Jalan Tun Razak

Time: 10am - 6pm

Sabah

Duration: 15 - 30 November 2007

Venue: Sabah Art Gallery, Kota Kinabalu

Time: 10am - 4pm (Closed on Mondays)

Johor Bahru

Duration: 18 - 23 December 2007

Venue: Jaya Jusco Tebrau Bay

Time: 11am - 9pm



Manga Award

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and The Japan Foundation gave an award to outstanding comic artists from foreign countries. Mr. Benny Wong Thong Hou through his comic "Le Gardenie" published by Gala Unggul Resources Sdn. Bhd was chosen among three other comic artists to receive their awards in Tokyo. Ben was invited to receive his award at the ceremony held from 1 to 10 July 2007. Three other artists are two from Hong Kong and one from Australia.

Two other comic artists from Malaysia, Chong Kah Hwee and Chang Lee Ying was awarded with special certificates for their excellent works, which were selected among other artists short-listed in this award.



The Manga-Asia Educational Material for International Understanding Project

The Japan Foundation is planning to produce and publish *Manga-Asia Educational Material for International Understanding* in January 2008, utilizing photographs taken and have kept of cartoon works participated in the Asian Cartoon Exhibitions that were organized between 1995 and 2007.

The works chosen for this project were by Dato' Mohd Nor Khalid (*Lat*), Hanafiah Ibrahim (*Kerengge*), Sabariah (*Cabai*), Rossem, Genesis and See Yew Lee.



Library News

Japanese Books

Literature



『世界は村上春樹をどう読むか -A wild Haruki chase』

国際交流基金 企画 文藝春秋 2006年

Library call number: 910.268

村上春樹の小説は、約40カ国で翻訳されていて、ファンが世界中にたくさんいます。

「それはなぜだろう？」という素朴な疑問からスタートして、世界中の村上春樹の研究者や本の翻訳者が集まり、村上春樹についての会議を開きました。

この本は、その会議の内容を記録したもので、会議に出席した17カ国23人の翻訳者、出版社、作家が熱く話し合っている様子が伝えられています。

Japanese language



『海外で日本語を教える-ネイティブ日本語教師への期待-』

椎名和男 編 凡人社 2006年

Library call number: 810.7049

この本は、海外での日本語教育経験が豊かな日本語教育の専門家が編集しました。

どうして日本語教師になりたかったのか、日本語教師になるためにどのような勉強や準備をしたのか、海外で働く状況はどうか、海外で日本語教師の仕事をしたい人へのアドバイスや体験記が書かれています。日本語教師だけでなく、学習者や一般の人でも楽しく読むことができます。



Children books



『摇篮のうた 日本童謡集-Cradle song』

松田けんじ 絵・文 アイデア・インスティテュート 2001年

Library call number: 726.6

Language: English-Japanese-Chinese-Spanish

この本は、日本の童謡(=子どもの歌)を日本語、英語、中国語、スペイン語で紹介しています。童謡のうち、戦前の学校の音楽の時間に教えられたものを唱歌といますが、それらのなかには現在も学校で教えられているものも多くあります。唱歌は明治時代(1868~1912)の初めに、ヨーロッパの民謡やキリスト教の賛美歌などをモデルにして、作られました。その後、大正時代(1912~1926)には、政府が作る難しいものではなく、もっと楽しい子どもの歌を作ろうと、有名な詩人たちが多くの唱歌を作り発表しました。

童謡や唱歌は、長い年月が過ぎても多くの人に愛されてきました。そして、これからも愛され、歌われていくのでしょう。



『だるまさんがころんだっ！ 伝承子どもの遊び - Traditional children's play』
 松田けんじ 絵・文 アイデア・インスティテュート 2001年

Library call number: 726.6

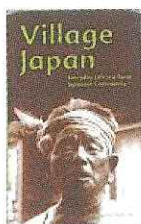
Language: English-Japanese-Chinese-Spanish

最近あまり見ることがない、日本の子どもたちの伝統的な遊びを詩にして紹介しています。子どもたちは自然の中で遊び、その経験によって成長しますが、昔の子どもにくらべて、今の子どもたちには十分な遊び場がありません。

著者は、子どもたちが楽しく遊べる環境が増えて、伝統的な子どもの遊びが伝えられるように、と願ってこの本を書いています。

日本語、英語、中国語、スペイン語で書かれています。

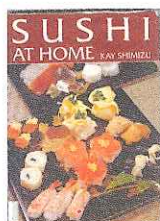
English Books



Village Japan: everyday life in a rural Japanese community
 [Malcolm Ritchie. Rutland: Charles E. Tuttle Company, 1999]

Library call number: 307.72052 RIT

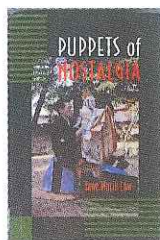
This book is about the writer Malcolm Ritchie and his wife's unforgettable three-year sojourn in Sora, a remote farming and fishing village on the Japan Sea Coast. Underlying this portrait is the author's growing awareness that the aged inhabitants of Sora and the surrounding villages are the custodians of a fragile, barely surviving, way of life, one that is still informed by the cadences of the natural world, under the tutelage of its ancient gods.



Sushi At Home
 [Kay Shimizu (edited by). Tokyo: Japan Publications, 1984]

Library call number: 641.5952 SHI

The lavish superb photograph and detailed illustrations make for very visual understanding of the basic fundamental techniques of this traditional Japanese culinary philosophy with special emphasis on simple practical home-style usage. You will discover sushi is the perfect food for its low calorie, healthy and rich of vitamins/minerals and yet so tantalizing that soon it will become a good addiction.



Puppets of Nostalgia: the life, death and rebirth of Japanese Awaji ningyo tradition
 [Jane Marie Law. New Jersey: Princeton Press, 1997]

Library call number: 791.530952187 LAW

Focusing on the puppetry tradition of Awaji island, Puppets of Nostalgia describes the activities of the island's ritual puppeteers and includes the first English translation of their performance texts and detailed descriptions of their rites. The illustration with rare photograph provides a depth-view of a 400 old tradition never so thoroughly revealed to Western readers.

Theme of the month

In the library, we have a special corner to display books or any other display items according to the theme of the month.

Our theme for the months of August & September is "**Children Books**".

Our library have a variety of children books collection. Those children books can be divided into **fiction**s, **story books** and **encyclopedia** with attractive colors and illustrations suitable for children aged between 3 and 12 years old. Books can encourage them to read and learn in the beginning of growing up process. It is the best campaign in our country to educate our children with the values of tolerance and respect for diverse cultures, languages and ideas.

We also provide one section for childrens to show their talent in coloring picture. Free coloring with fun pictures at the "**Let's Have Fun**" section. At the end, your children can paste their works on the board provided.

Among titles of children books can be found in the library such as: -

- **The Magic Badgerkettle: a spouse for a mouse** by Tekisui Ishii
- **The Moon Princess** by Kancho Oda and Ralph F. McCarthy
- **Kiki's Delivery Service** by Eiko Kadono

JFKL Office & Library Holiday

Please be informed that JFKL office and library will be closed on the following day:-

31 August 2007 (Fri) - Malaysia National Day



Report

Tea Ceremony by Mushakoji Senke School, Kyoto

JFKL organized a special tea ceremony occasion performed by Master Soryuu Kidzu of Mushakoji Senke School, Kyoto on 14 (Thu) and 15 (Fri) June 2007. The tea master, Mr. Soryuu Kidzu has been performing the art of Japanese tea ceremony in many countries around the world and written several books and articles about the ceremony. Mushakoji School itself, based in the heritage city of Kyoto, is one of the major tea schools in Japan.

There was one session held at the residence of Japanese Ambassador and two sessions at the Tatami Room of JFKL office. A total of about 100 participants had the opportunity to experience the authentic ocha or Japanese tea, which was served together with Japanese traditional delicacy or wagashi that was specially brought from Kyoto for the ceremony. Some of the participants were even invited to join the master to experience the elegant manners of Japanese tea ceremony on the tatami mat. The ceremony received well and warm response from the participants with some of them commented the ceremony as "deep and interesting". With their perfect attire in Japanese traditional kimono, the master and his assistants have successfully conducted the meaningful three sessions of tea ceremony and were greatly impressed by the participants.





Karuta Demonstration

Have you ever heard of Karuta or Hyakunin-Isshu?

Karuta, a word originated from Portuguese, refers both the rectangular cards inscribed with pictures or writing and the name of a Japanese 'card-matching' game

Hyakunin-Isshu, literally means an anthology of 100 tanka poems, is also the name of one of the karuta games. It features a 100 pieces of tanka, in most cases, from Ogura Hyakunin-Isshu. Tanka consists of a 5-line poems of 5-7-5-7-7 syllables (31 syllables in total). It comes in two parts, namely Kami-no-ku (first 5-7-5 syllables) and Shimo-no-ku (last 7-7 syllables).

In Hyakunin-Isshu game, two sets of 100 cards are used. The reciter reads out to the players the poems from the set called Yomi-fuda which contains the entire text of a tanka on each card. The second set of card, called the Tori-fuda, contains only the Shimo-no-ku and the cards are laid out on the floors in front of the players. Upon hearing the poem, the players would rush to snap up the card that contains the matching second half of the poem.

On 16 June, we are pleased to report that Ms Mutsumi Yoshida Stone, one of the top ranking Hyakunin-Isshu Karuta player came to our center to give a Hyakunin-Isshu Demonstration. More than 30 students and teachers of matriculation courses were invited. They learned about Karuta and Hyakunin-Isshu through Ms Stone's lecture and enjoyed playing the game.

Mr. Junsei Irimiya, the Hyakunin-Isshu Champion of Japanese School of Kuala Lumpur (JSKL) was a special guest at this event. Everybody was so impressed by the knowledge and skill of this 15-year-old boy.



JFKL Gallery



Hiroshima Atomic Bomb Exhibition
1 (Wed) August - 1 (Sat) September 2007

Opening Hours:-

Mon : 10:30am - 4:30pm

Tue-Fri : 10:30am - 6:30pm

Sat : 10am - 6pm

Closed on Sundays, Public holidays and JFKL holidays

Admission:

FREE



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