



Tokyo Culture Creation Project "Kids/Youth" programs -offering outstanding cultural experiences to children

Tokyo Culture Creation Project, organized by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government and the Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture in cooperation with arts organizations and NPOs, aims to establish Tokyo as a city of global cultural creativity. From December through next spring, Tokyo Culture Creation Project will hold a wide range of programs focusing on "Kids/Youth"--one of the project's four pillars. Grownups can take part as well!

Performance Kids Tokyo - enhancing children's physical awareness

Performance Kids Tokyo is a program in which artists in the fields of dance and theater will be sent to schools and cultural facilities to conduct workshops and create original theatrical works, with children taking the leading roles. This year the program will be held in a number of locations, including 12 schools and 5 performing arts halls.

February 2014 will see the start of the final workshop of 2013-14 to be conducted in a performing arts hall, entitled "GEBA GEBA Kids Tokyo Nogata - Formation of the 21st-Century Kids' Dance Troupe Spring 2014!" The youthful dance group "21st Century GEBA GEBA," which is currently the focus of much attention, will join with elementary schoolchildren in creating a dance. The completed dance will be performed in front of an audience on March 30 (Sun.), 2014, at Nogata WIZ (Nogata Kumin Hall) in Nakano-ku.

Prior to that, "Performance Kids Tokyo Forum" will be held on Saturday, December 21. In the workshop, children will spend time with other kids and artists over a period of about 10 days. Through this experience, we will discuss from various angles how best to nurture and shape children's social natures and communication skills, based on the artists' actual experience.



"12" Nov.10(Sun) at Move Machiya
Photo: Mihoko Sendo



"The Nutcracker (or something like it) and the Mice
(or the like) at the Field Day Festival - Yikes!!"
Sep.1 (Sun) Hikarigaoka IMA Hall Photo: Mihoko Sendo

["GEBA GEBA Kids Tokyo Nogata - Formation of the 21st-Century Kids' Dance Troupe Spring 2014!"]

Dates: February-March (10 days during this period)

Intended participants: Third graders to sixth graders (Limited to 20 persons)

Venue: Nogata Kumin Hall

Artist: "21st Century GEBA GEBA"

About the group: This eight-member dance company was formed in 2011. Each of their works is created through workshops in which all of the members collaborate on choreography, production and performance. In 2012 they gave their first independent performance as a dance troupe, called "On the Brink of Collapse."

Application: By website or fax. [<http://www.children-art.net/>]

Application deadline: January 8 (Wed.), 2014

Public performance: March 30(Sun.) 2014, 14:00-



"21st Century GEBA GEBA"
Photo: Ribun Fukui

["Performance Kids Tokyo Forum"]

Theme: What is the social nature? Communication and embodiment
-Through the artists' actual experience of workshops for children-

Date: December 21 (Sat.) 13:15~17:00

Venue: Arts Chiyoda 3331 Tokyo Culture Creation Project ROOM302

Fee: Free (Advance reservation required / Limited to 50 persons)

*See the detailed information on the NPO Children Meet Artists Website [<http://www.children-art.net/>]

Speakers: Kozo Watanabe (Cultural anthropologist, Professor of Ritsumeikan University Graduate School of Core Ethics and Frontier Sciences, Vice president of Ritsumeikan University)

Yuuitsu Koike (School teacher of 'tsukyuu' support class for children with mild developmental disorders, Meguro-ku Gohongi elementary school)

Oohiro Minato (Composer/Musician)

Sohei Wakisaka (Researcher at Laboratory for Adaptive Intelligence, Riken Brain Science Institute)

Hideo Arai (Dance Artist)

Coordinator: Yasuhiko Tsutsumi (President of NPO Children Meet Artists)

"Music Education Program" international project in cooperation with a Portuguese theater

With the aim of stimulating musical culture and promoting creativity, Tokyo--one of the world's major music cities--is holding "Music Weeks in TOKYO 2013," a music festival featuring a variety of events based on the concepts "participation" and "creativity." As part of this festival, the international project "Music Education Program" will begin in December in cooperation with an overseas institution for educational advancement. Through workshops, this program aims to foster self-expression and communication skills and enrich the human spirit, while raising awareness of music and the arts. This year, it will be held in cooperation with Portugal's Casa da Música, which has been gaining attention in Europe as a theater with many high-quality education programs.

From December through February, we will hold a "Workshop Leader Training Program" for artists, teachers and students, inviting Casa da Música's education program coordinator and workshop leader. Participants will create workshops in groups. On February 8 (Sat.) and 9 (Sun.), we will hold the "Casa da Música Workshop" and the "Tokyo Bunka Kaikan Original Workshop," produced by participants in the "Workshop Leader Training Program."

["Music Education Program" International project]

●Workshop 1 Body Percussion

Date: February 8 (Sat.), 2014 10:30-

Venue: Tokyo Bunka Kaikan Recital Hall

Intended participants: 6-year-old children to grownups

●Workshop 2 Rhythmical Kitchen

Date: February 8 (Sat.), 2014 15:30-

Venue: Bunkyo Civic Center Recreation Hall

Intended participants: First to third graders

●Workshop 3 Baby Cricket

Date: February 9 (Sun.), 2014 11:00-

Venue: Tokyo Bunka Kaikan Recital Hall

Intended participants: 6- to 18-month-old babies

*Workshop 1-3 are the original workshops by "Casa da Música".

●Workshop 4 Tokyo Bunka Kaikan Original Workshop

a) Date: February 8 (Sat.), 2014 13:00-

Venue: Bunkyo Civic Center Tamokuteki Room

Intended participants: 19-month-old babies to 3-year-old children

b) Date: February 9 (Sun.), 2014 14:00-

Venue: Tokyo Bunka Kaikan Rehearsal Room

Intended participants: 4 to 6-year-old children (pre-school children)

c) Date: February 9 (Sun.), 2014 15:30-

Venue: Tokyo Bunka Kaikan Recital Hall

Intended participants: 3-year-old children to grownups

*Detailed information will be posted on the Tokyo Bunka Kaikan website in January.

[<http://www.t-bunka.jp/mwit2013/>]

*Each workshop session will be about one hour in length.

*The participation fee is 500 yen per session.



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"A Thrilling World of Traditional Performing Arts" - enjoying traditional performing arts in a familiar and authentic way

On January 12 (Sun.), 2014, we will present "Tokyo Traditional Arts Program - A Thrilling World of Traditional Performing Arts" at Hachioji City Art and Cultural Hall. Audiences will learn about musical instruments in a variety of enjoyable ways. In one segment, Takafumi Tanaka, editor of the traditional Japanese music magazine *Hogaku Journal* and an expert on traditional performing arts, will transform everyday household items into traditional instruments. Other guest performers include Curt & Bruce, an American duo who play traditional Japanese instruments; and Sakura Project, an all-female ensemble playing Japanese and western instruments. The "fun experience zone" offers a variety of fascinating activities, including a chance to see the famous "Cosmo-Koto*" played by astronaut Naoko Yamazaki in the international space station; make a "cappachi-kun" *shakuhachi* from plastic bottle caps; and try traditional puppetry called *Hachioji Kuruma Ningyo*.

*The *koto* that will be displayed at the event is the sister *koto* of the one played by Naoko Yamazaki. The two *kotos* were made at the same time.

["A Thrilling World of Traditional Performing Arts"]

Date: January 12 (Sun.), 2014 13:30-

Venue: Hachioji City Art & Cultural Hall

Lecturer and performers:

Takafumi Tanaka (*Hogaku Journal* editor)

Curt & Bruce (Duo players of *Koto* and *Shakuhachi*)

sakura project

Hachioji Kuruma Ningyo

Nishikawa koryu Troup and others

Admission Fee: 2,000yen (adults) 1,000yen (students)



sakura project



Curt & Bruce
(C) Katsumi Saiki / TEDxTokyo

"Traditional Performing Arts for Kids" public performances - presenting the results of a seven-month learning program

In the program "Tokyo Traditional Arts Program - Traditional Performing Arts for Kids," children will receive instruction directly from leading performers in the traditional arts of *Nohgaku* (*uta*/chant, *shimai*/dance, *kyogen*/comic drama, *hayashi*/instrumental accompaniment), *Nagauta* (*shamisen*, *hayashi*), *Sankyoku* (*koto*, *shakuhachi*), and *Nihon buyo* (traditional Japanese dance), over a seven-month period. At the end they will present the results of their training in public performances. The aim of the program is to give children a deeper understanding of Japan's treasured cultural traditions and inherit the spirit of these traditions. This year a total of 315 children are taking part in 17 courses in the four fields. The public performances will be held next March at Hosho Nohgakudo and Asakusa Public Hall.

["Traditional Performing Arts for Kids" public performances]

- *Noh*

Date: March 21 (Fri.), 2014

Venue: Hosho Nohgakudo

- *Nagauta*, *Nihon buyo*, and *Sankyoku*

Date: March 27 (Thu.), 28 (Fri.), 2014

Venue: Asakusa Public Hall



Scenes from this year's program

*Free admission. Advance reservation required.

Please see the official website for information on the performances and registration

[<http://www.geidankyo.or.jp/kids-dento/>]

Museum Start i-Ueno - supporting children's first museum visits

The magic word is "Bibihado-toh-kada-boo." With the "Bibihado-toh-kada-Book," we'll go on an adventure to nine museums scattered around Ueno Park! "Museum Start i-Ueno" is a "learning design project" which offers an environment where children can discover the fun of visiting museums, and kids and grownups can learn from one another in a lighthearted way. The cultural facilities dotting Ueno Park will collaborate in implementing programs that support children's "museum debut." In addition, the "bibihadotokadabook" is included in the "Museum Starter Pack" distributed upon request to elementary, junior high and high school students at Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum.

*Advance registration required. Starter pack distribution will end when the supply runs out.

*Starter pack will be distributed on February 15 (Sat.), 16 (Sun.), March 15 (Sat.), 16 (Sun.), 2014

*Please see the official website for more information on programs and registration. [<http://museum-start.jp/>]



Children who participated in "Children and Family Museum" - Museum Explorers After-School Club"



A child reciting the magic word at "Vivid Point"

[Tokyo Culture Creation Project]

Tokyo Culture Creation Project, organized by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government and the Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture in cooperation with arts organizations and NPOs, aims to establish Tokyo as a city of global cultural creativity. The project facilitates involvement of a larger number of people in creation of new culture, by building regional bases for culture creation across the city and offering opportunities for creative experiences to children and young people. Moreover, it creates and globally disseminates new Tokyo culture through organizing international festivals and other diverse events. www.bh-project.jp/en/

Inquiry from the press should be directed to:
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