

New projects to build momentum and create a celebratory mood in the metropolis
ahead of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games
Arts Council Tokyo FY2016 Program Line-Up Announced

Arts Council Tokyo is going to enhance its existing projects and roll out a diverse array of programs that will boost Tokyo's appeal and be enjoyed by a multitude of participants ahead of the launch of the Cultural Program for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games, which will take place over four years from this autumn, following the closing ceremony of the Rio de Janeiro 2016 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

■ Expansion of our grant program focused on the roll-out of the Cultural Program

To support creative activities that increase the appeal of Tokyo's art and culture and promote it worldwide, Arts Council Tokyo provides grants for organizations undertaking activities that send out a strong message about art and culture in Tokyo and community-based arts activities and projects that bring a diverse array of people into contact with the arts.

In FY2016, **Arts Council Tokyo will launch a new Cultural Program Grant (provisional title) to support artistic and cultural activities with an impact that will build the mood ahead of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games and lead into the Tokyo Cultural Program.**

■ Cultural projects to be implemented in Rio de Janeiro will be further expanded for Japan with the Tokyo 2020 Games in mind.

Carrying out the cultural projects on the ground, when the eyes of the world are upon the Rio 2016 Olympics and Paralympics, will tie into later development of the domestic Cultural Program.

■ Establishment of a comprehensive, genre-crossing urban arts festival

With a view to developing a comprehensive, genre-crossing urban arts festival that showcases Tokyo's rich and diverse arts scene, including traditional and modern performing arts, as well as music and contemporary art, we will rebuild our performing arts program around the Festival/Tokyo, which has introduced innovative works in the field of performing arts.

■ New festivals to highlight the appeal of traditional culture and performing arts, and make them accessible to a fresh audience

In Nihonbashi, the birthplace of Edo culture, we will hold a festival that will promote the appeal of traditional culture both within Japan and overseas and make it more accessible to a wider audience, while continuing to pursue Tokyo's characteristic uniqueness and diversity. In Hachioji, we will hold a festival that leverages the cultural resources of the Tama region.

■ Tokyo Artpoint Project open call projects get underway, developing local culture creation hubs

The Tokyo Artpoint Project creates numerous "art points (culture creation and promotion hubs)" via art projects undertaken in partnership with NPOs that play a key role in their local communities. In FY2016, we will select new NPOs via an open call to undertake new art projects, in addition to the 11 ongoing projects.

■ Enhancing Education Programs

Arts Council Tokyo is cultivating a diverse array of future leaders of artistic and cultural projects in Tokyo. **Arts Academy**, which cultivates future leaders of artistic and cultural projects in Tokyo, **will offer new courses in traditional performing arts and creative fields**. In addition, at **Tokyo Art Research Lab (TARL)**, following on from the Thought and Skill programs run by the school “Thought, Skill, and Dialogue,” which focuses on cultivating personnel who will set art projects in motion, we will launch **the Dialogue program, which seeks to cultivate participants’ dialogue skills, to enable them to undertake projects as part of a team**.

For further details, please see the attached list of projects.

● Arts Council Tokyo

Arts Council Tokyo develops a variety of programs to encourage the creation and dissemination of arts and culture and to promote Tokyo as an international city of artistic and cultural attractions. In order to improve the infrastructure and environment for new artistic and cultural creation, Arts Council Tokyo plays a key role in Tokyo’s cultural policies by implementing programs that explore Tokyo’s originality and diversity, promoting international cultural exchange, and providing opportunities for promising young people who engage in a variety of artistic and cultural pursuits. Furthermore, Arts Council Tokyo will carry out major cultural projects to prepare for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

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