

Outline finalized for the traditional culture programs in 2019

Many programs including ones for foreign visitors and town festivals



Based on the theme “Approaching Tokyo Tradition”, Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture) offers diverse projects and programs for people who are not familiar with traditional arts and culture, as well as for foreign visitors and children to enjoy Japan’s authentic traditional arts and culture.

Ahead of Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2020, the Arts Council Tokyo offers [Traditional Culture and Performing Arts Programs for Foreign Visitors]. The Short Term Experience Program is held throughout the year on most weekends at Asakusa Culture Tourist Information Center and the Edo-Tokyo Museum, offering programs to visitors to experience traditional Japanese dance, Shamisen of Nagauta, and a variety of performances including Kyokugei (traditional acrobatics), Kamikiri (paper cutting) and Wazuma (traditional Japanese magic). As of the end of the last fiscal year, the program was held more than 1,200 times (*), offering many people the opportunity to enjoy the allure of Tokyo and the Japanese culture. All of the programs are offered and performed by world-class experts. Kimonos and traditional Japanese kimono socks are available on the spot for rental, allowing tourists to enjoy authentic Japanese arts and culture.

The yearly fall Tokyo event, Kimono dressing and Traditional Japanese craft experience programs will be offered on the same day at Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2019 in Hama-rikyu Gardens and Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum. In October, Noh theater in the garden will be held in the Gardens of Tokyo Metropolitan Teien Art Museum, the Experience and Appreciation Program where visitors can enjoy Noh performances as well as touch the musical instruments.

In May, Kagurazaka Street Stage O-edo Tour 2019 will be held as part of the [Festival] programs with a host of traditional art programs in the town of Kagurazaka, as well as Legendary Tamatebako (Treasure Box)—Tama Traditional Culture Festival 2019 in Hachioji, which showcases the culture of the Tama Region. Meanwhile, the [Traditional Performing Arts Programs] offer authentic traditional performing arts programs in partnership with such as the National Theatre, and the [Experience Programs for Children] will include the vastly popular Traditional Performing Arts for Kids and experience programs at schools.

* Numbers in total during the period from April 2015 to March 2019

The latest information for programs in the future will be updated on the following official website (in Japanese and English).

website www.tokyo-tradition.jp

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Traditional Culture and Performing Arts Experience Programs for Foreign Visitors

Two kinds of programs for foreign visitors etc., one to casually experience Japanese traditional culture and performing arts such as at sightseeing spots in Tokyo, and the other that combines the experiential learning and play appreciation. With programs held over 300 times a year, Arts Council Tokyo has offered opportunities to many foreign visitors to enjoy Japan's traditional culture, which Tokyo is proud of.



Short-term Experience Programs Japanese dance workshop

Festivals

Festivals for numerous people to casually enjoy traditional cultures, transmitting the charm of traditional cultures seeking the uniqueness and variety of Tokyo.



Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony

Traditional Performing Arts Programs

Programs with contents that implement authentic traditional performances in easy to understand formats for youths and foreign visitors who are unfamiliar with Japanese traditional culture and arts.



Oedo Vaudeville Show and Traditional Geisha Dances
Photographed by Yoji Yokoi

Experiential Programs for Children

Traditional Culture and Performing Arts Experience Program for Kids will be held at schools to help children enjoy Japan's traditional arts and culture, while Traditional Performing Arts for Kids will include several months' training at Noh theaters and presentations to help many children experience real traditional arts and culture for themselves.



Traditional Performing Arts for Kids
Photographed by Naomi Muto

■ Traditional Culture and Performing Arts Experience Programs for Foreign Visitors

Two kinds of programs for foreign visitors etc., one to casually experience Japanese traditional culture and performing arts such as at sightseeing spots in Tokyo, and the other that combines the experiential learning and play appreciation.

Program Name	Short-term Experience Programs Japanese dance workshop
Dates	Every Sunday from April 2019 to March 2020 * There are some exceptions
Times	11:00-12:00 / 13:00-14:00 / 15:00-16:00 1 hour each
Venue	Asakusa Culture Tourist Information Center 6F <2-18-9 Kaminarimon, Taito-ku>
Contents	Nihon buyo is a type of traditional Japanese dance that has a history of nearly 400 years. It is characterized by uniquely Japanese qualities of elegance and grace. Why don't you try on a yukata and join our dance workshop? You can wear a yukata, a casual kimono, and learn how to dance in this workshop for free. In addition, we hope you will enjoy watching a professional dancer perform "Fujimusume [Wisteria Maiden]" etc., which is the authentic and well-known Japanese dancing number.
Participation	Please make an online reservation in advance. (If there is a vacancy on the day, we will accept extra participants at the venue.) https://tokyo-tradition.peatix.com
Admission	Free of charge
Organized by	Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)
Co-organized by	Taito city
Supported by and in Cooperation with	Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Program Name	Short-term Experience Programs Engei
Dates	Every Saturday from April 2019 to March 2020 * October 5, December 28, 2019 is excluded. Kyokugei : April 6 and 27, May 4 and 18, June 1 and 22 Kamikiri : April 13, May 25, June 15 Wazuma : April 20, May 11, June 8 and 29 * Other programs planned will be announced on the official website after they are decided.
Times	12:30-13:00 / 14:00-14:30 / 16:00-16:30 30 minutes each
Venue	Edo-Tokyo Museum 5F permanent exhibition area <1-4-1 Yokoami, Sumida-ku>
Contents	Participants can experience techniques used in a variety of performances ("kyokugei" traditional acrobatics, "kamikiri" paper cutting, and "wazuma" traditional Japanese magic) which are still popular at vaudeville shows today, with demonstrations by professional people. It also includes experience of the skillful techniques used in the auspicious art of umbrella rotating, paper craft in which simple shapes are created using only paper and scissors, and magic which has been performed since the Edo period.
Participation	Advance application not required
Admission	Free of charge * Admission fee is charged for the permanent exhibition.
Organized by	Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)
Supported by and in Cooperation with	Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Program Name	Short-term Experience Programs Shamisen of Nagauta workshop
Dates	September 15, October 20, November 17, December 15, 2019 January 19, February 16, 2020
Times	11:30-12:30 / 13:20-14:20 / 15:10-16:10 1 hour each
Venue	Asakusa Culture Tourist Information Center 6F <2-18-9 Kaminarimon, Taito-ku>
Contents	"Nagauta", which originated as Kabuki music and developed as Shamisen (three-string instrument) music, is a type of traditional Japanese music played on Shamisen. You can try Shamisen and professional Nagauta players will give a powerful performance and explain Nagauta in a way that makes it easy even for first-timers to understand.
Participation	Please make an online reservation in advance. (If there is a vacancy on the day, we will accept extra participants at the venue.) https://tokyo-tradition.peatix.com
Admission	Free of charge
Organized by	Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)
Co-organized by	Taito city
Supported by and in Cooperation with	Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Program Name	Short-term Experience Programs (Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2019 Same-day Programs)
Venue/Dates	Kimono dressing and Traditional Japanese Craft: October 5 (Sat) - 6 (Sun), 2019 at Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum Japanese flower arrangement (Ikebana), Kimono dressing and Traditional Japanese Craft: October 19 (Sat) - 20 (Sun), 2019 at Hama-rikyu Gardens
Contents	The experience program such as of Kimono dressing and traditional Japanese craft will be held at the Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum and the Hama-rikyu Gardens for foreign visitors. This is a valuable opportunity to come in contact with traditional culture while being surrounded by historical buildings of great cultural value, or in a Japanese traditional garden well known as a metropolitan oasis. Guidance in English is available and guidebooks in Japanese, English, Chinese, or Korean will be distributed to participants.
Participation	Advance application not required
Admission	Free of charge * Admission required for some events. * Hama-rikyu Gardens admission fee required.
Organized by	Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)
Supported by and in Cooperation with	Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Program Name	Experience and Appreciation Program Noh theater in the garden —Experience Japanese Beauty in an Urban Forest—
Dates	October 11 (Fri), 2019 Starts at 19:00 (Experience corner at 18:00) October 12 (Sat), 2019 Starts at 14:30 (Experience corner at 13:00)
Venue	Gardens of Tokyo Metropolitan Teien Art Museum (outdoors) <5-21-9, Shirokanedai, Minato-ku> * In the event of rain, scheduled to be held at Kita Noh Theatre <4-6-9, Kamiosaki, Shinagawa-ku>
Contents	Experience autumn performances of the traditional art of "Noh" in the Tokyo Metropolitan Teien Art Museum's urban grove. The themes of this open-air event are "the mountains" and "the sea". The first evening features "Kurozuka (The Black Mound)", and the following day presents "Funa-Benkei (Benkei in a Boat)". Both are dynamic pieces and Noh staples, with themes that explore humanity. Enjoy the traditional beauty of these performances in a natural setting, nestled in a quiet corner of the metropolis.
Performers	[October 11 (Fri), 2019] Noh "Kurozuka": Seiji Kagawa, Kinya Hoshō, Mansai Nomura, others [October 12 (Sat), 2019] Noh "Funa-Benkei": Takehito Tomoeda, Kenkichi Tonoda, Yukio Ishida and others
Admission	All seats reserved. Adults: 3,000yen Students: 1,500yen
Organized by	Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)
Co-organized by	Tokyo Metropolitan Teien Art Museum (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)
Supported by and in Cooperation with	Tokyo Metropolitan Government

■ Festivals

Festivals for numerous people to casually enjoy traditional cultures, transmitting the charm of traditional cultures seeking the uniqueness and variety of Tokyo.

Program Name	Kagurazaka Street Stage O-edo Tour 2019 - Japanese Traditional Culture Festival
Dates	May 11 (Sat) - 12 (Sun), 2019
Venue	Kagurazaka area
Contents	We will hold various sophisticated and stylish traditional performing arts events at Bishamonten Zenkoku-ji Temple, Akagi-jinja Shrine, Kagurazaka-dori Street, and the stone-paved alleys of the Kagurazaka area, where the traditional blends with the modern. We also offer the chance to experience Ozashiki Asobi games with Geisha and a stamp rally over two days of events featuring Japanese traditional culture and performing arts and the chance to experience the charm of this area for everyone including foreign visitors and the younger generations.
Participation	Advance application not required
Admission	Free of charge * Admission and application required for some events.
Organized by	Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture), NPO Ikimachi Club
Supported by and in Cooperation with	Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Program Name	Legendary Tamatebako (Treasure Box) - Tama Traditional Culture Festival 2019
Dates	May 25 (Sat) - 26 (Sun), 2019
Venue	Hachioji area (Nishi Hoshasen U-Road and more)
Contents	Festivals exploiting cultural resources in Tama Region such as Hachioji-city, transmitting the charm of traditional culture and performing arts, that those who are not exposed on a daily basis to traditional cultures can enjoy as well. Various programs will be held, such as Japanese music concerts on streets or performances on outdoor stages.
Participation	Advance application not required
Admission	Free of charge * Admission and advance application required for some events
Organized by	Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture), Hachioji City, Hachioji College Community & Culture Fureai Foundation
Supported by and in Cooperation with	Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Program Name	Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2019
Dates/Venue	October 5 (Sat) - 6 (Sun), 2019 Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum <3-7-1 Sakura-cho, Koganei-shi (inside Koganei Park)> October 19 (Sat) - 20 (Sun), 2019 Hama-rikyu Gardens <1-1 Hamarikyuteien, Chuo-ku>
Contents	This large scale tea ceremony event will be held to introduce the Japanese traditional tea culture and the culture of Tokyo both inside and outside Japan. You can enjoy various kinds of tea ceremony programs, such as a conventional indoor tea ceremony, an outdoor tea ceremony in which guests can enjoy a bowl of tea under the autumn sky, and a tea ceremony workshop for beginners in which participants will be able to learn in English how to make and drink a bowl of tea. Foreign visitors and people not familiar with the tea ceremony will be able to enjoy the events.
Participation	Advance application will be required only for "Indoor Tea Ceremony". * See the official website (http://tokyo-grand-tea-ceremony.jp/en/) from the end of July 2019 for details.
Admission	Indoor Tea Ceremony 700 yen, Outdoor Tea Ceremony 300 yen etc. ○Edo-Tokyo Open Air Architectural Museum admission will be free of charge during Tokyo Grand Tea Ceremony 2019 (October 5 and 6, 2019). ○Hama-rikyu Gardens admission fee will be required.
Organized by	Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)

■ Traditional Performing Arts Programs

Programs with contents that implement authentic traditional performances in easy to understand formats for youths and foreign visitors who are unfamiliar with Japanese traditional culture and arts.

Program Name	Echoing ~Words ~Body Part 1 “Afterglow of the divine - Dancing between tradition and creation –”
Venue / Dates	National Theatre Large Theatre <4-1 Hayabusa-cho, Chiyoda-ku> May 25 (Sat), 2019 Starts at 14:30
Contents	With “Words and Body” as its theme, “Echoing~Words~Body” is a performance series that shows the diverse appeal of dance, whether classical dance or modern dance, from Japan or from overseas. “Afterglow of the divine”, with “divinity” as the key word, features traditional Japanese dance, Indian classical dance (Odissi), and Turkish whirling dance, as well as the premiere of a new contemporary dance work.
Performers	[Traditional Japanese Dance] “Okina Senzai Sambaso” (A Dance of Praying for Peace in the World and Rich Harvest) Bokusetsu Onoe, Juraku Hanayagi, Kichizo Wakayagi and others [Indian Classical Dance] “Odissi” Masako Ono and the Troupe [Turkish Dance] “Sema” (Whirling Dance of Mevlana) Konya Mevlana Band [Contemporary Dance] “Hearing the Voice of the Sea of Life” (Premier) Ryohei Kondo, Hana Sakai, Ikuyo Kuroda, Akira Kasai and others
Admission	All seats reserved. 1st grade: Adults 6,000 yen Students 4,200 yen 2nd grade: Adults 4,000 yen Students 2,800 yen
Organized by	Japan Arts Council (National Theatre), Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)
Supported by and in Cooperation with	Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Program Name	Oedo Vaudeville Show and Traditional Geisha Dances IX
Venue / Dates	National Theatre Large Theatre <4-1 Hayabusa-cho, Chiyoda-ku> September 1 (Sun), 2019 Starts at 15:00
Contents	This traditional performing arts show provides “Yose”, a traditional vaudeville show including “Rakugo” (a traditional comical storytelling art) flourished in the townspeople culture of Edo, along with the beautiful traditional geisha dances and music performed by geishas from Tokyo’s six districts namely Shinbashi, Akasaka, Asakusa, Kagurazaka, Yoshicho and Mukojima, and performances by “Hokan”, a male entertainer.
Performers	Oedo Vaudeville Show / YANAGIYA Kyotaro and others. Geisha Dance / Dancers and Musicians from 6 entertainment districts in Tokyo, namely Shinbashi, Akasaka, Asakusa, Kagurazaka, Yoshicho and Mukojima.
Admission	All seats reserved. S: 5,000 yen A: 4,000 yen A(Students): 2,000 yen 3rd floor seats (Same-day tickets) Adults: 1,000 yen Students: 500 yen
Organized by	Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)
Supported by and in Cooperation with	Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Program Name	Enchanting moments of true virtuosity ~ Two Chikamatsu’s pieces by the master Seiji Tsuruzawa
Dates	November 28 (Thu), 2019
Contents	Intoxicated by true virtuosity, you will have moments of bliss when you appreciate the quintessence of classical Japanese performing arts. We will offer you the opportunity to enjoy the artistry of a master at the height of his spirit and technique, playing his favorite repertoire. This time we will feature the Bunraku Shamisen player Seiji Tsuruzawa, Living National Treasure and a member of the Japan Art Academy.
Performers	Seiji Tsuruzawa, and others
Organized by	Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)
Supported by and in Cooperation with	Tokyo Metropolitan Government

Program Name	20th Tama River Basin Folk Performance Festival
Venue/Dates	Komae Ecora Hall <1-2-1 Motoizumi, Komae-city> December 8 (Sun), 2019 Start at 12:30
Contents	To promote the revitalization of folk arts and regional Tama River Basin culture through the interaction of the local culture in the area, nine groups from the Tama River Basin area will give a performance of traditional folk arts rooted in the Tama River Basin area.
Admission	Free of charge
Participation	Advance application not required
Organized by	Tama River Basin Folk Performance Festival Executive Committee, Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)
Supported by and in Cooperation with	Tokyo Metropolitan Government

■ Experiential Programs for Children

Experiential program at schools and program that combines coaching at Noh theaters, etc. for several months and achievement presentations, for children to learn Japanese traditional culture and performing arts.

Program Name	Traditional Performing Arts for Kids
Venue	Geino- Kadensha, Umewaka Noh Theatre, Hosho Noh Theater, National Theatre (Small Theatre) etc.
Dates	July - December, 2019
Contents	This program aims to develop the aesthetic sensibilities and minds of the next generation through the traditional performing arts that Japanese people have cherished over the centuries. Over several months, participating children will receive direct instruction from leading performers in the fields of Noh theatre, Nihon Buyo dance, Sankyoku chamber music and Nagauta music, culminating in a public performance showcasing what they have learned. In addition, there will be a youth program aimed specifically at junior and senior high school students.
Admission	Standard program and Youth program: 15,000 yen each * Textbooks and costumes for rent, etc. will be charged for separately.
Participation	Advance application required. Please apply using the form on the official website (in Japanese). Application deadline: June 9, 2019 * In case of too many applications, a drawing will be held.
Organized by	Tokyo Metropolitan Government, Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture), GEIDANKYO (Japan Council of Performers Rights & Performing Arts Organizations)

Program Name	Traditional Culture and Performing Arts Experience Program for Kids
Venue	Elementary, Junior High, and High Schools, Compulsory Education Schools, Secondary Schools, Special Needs Schools, and International Schools that are accredited as schools, within the metropolis of Tokyo
Dates	June, 2019 - February, 2020
Contents	As part of school education, we will provide hands-on programs taught by young performers and practitioners that bring children into contact with Japanese traditional culture and performing arts, thereby providing them with an accurate understanding of both the value of Japanese culture and a diversity of cultures.
Organized by	Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture)
Supported by and in Cooperation with	Tokyo Metropolitan Government