

Nohgaku Performers' Association Special Program for
"the 3rd Symposium - Nohgaku Festival 2017-2020"

Cultural
Olympiad
TOKYO 2020
Support Programme



Nohgaku

English Composition Contest

◆Contest outline◆

Nohgaku is a traditional Japanese performing art with a history that dates back some 650 years. This art form has increasingly received interest overseas as a global brand of performing art, and that interest is only set to skyrocket now in the lead up to the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The Nohgaku Performers' Association is now calling for entries into an English composition contest themed on the "Internationalization of Nohgaku." The Association hopes that this contest can serve as a springboard for spreading interest in Nohgaku and for discovering the captivating world of Nohgaku that awaits.

Please write your entry to encompass various viewpoints on "Nohgaku," the traditional performing art, and the types of "internationalization" sought after in this modern age.

This contest has been implemented based on proposals made by Mr. Seiichi Kondo (former Commissioner for Cultural Affairs) at the 2016 Nohgaku Performers' Association Symposium.

We look forward to receiving your entry soon.

What steps can
be taken to popularize
Nohgaku internationally?

Entry guidelines

Categories

- ①Junior high school/high school students ②General (university students and older)
③English native speakers, or persons with equivalent ability

Composition theme

"Internationalization of Nohgaku" ※Write freely using the following example themes as a reference.

- E.g. •What steps can be taken to popularize Nohgaku internationally?
•How should Nohgaku's unique qualities be conveyed and introduced to visitors from overseas?
•What initiatives should Nohgaku implement as a whole to better communicate the captivating nature of this art form?

Word count

Keep to around 500 to 700 words.

Deadline

Thursday, November 2, 2017

Entry method

Please send entries to the Nohgaku Performers' Association.
E-mail: entry-nohgaku@nohgaku.or.jp *Entries by post also accepted
(Printed entries only, no handwriting)
◆Make sure to fill in all of the following details about yourself.
①Name ②Category ③Age (School name and school year for students)
④Sex ⑤Post code and address ⑥Phone number, FAX, E-mail

Awards

Awards (a certificate and a prize) will be given to the most outstanding entry in each category.
Additionally, one of the award winners will be selected to be awarded at the "Nohgaku Festival 2017-2020" The 3rd Symposium held at the National Noh Theatre (Tokyo) on Friday, January 26, 2018 (starts 6:30 p.m.) where the winner will have the opportunity to read out their composition on Noh stage.

Official announcements, etc.

An official announcement will be made on the names of the award winners (and the school name and year for students), and the award winning entries will be posted on the Nohgaku Performers' Association website and in PR materials for the symposium held on January 26.

*Entrants will be notified of the contest results in the middle of December 2017. *In general, entries will not be returned to the entrants.
*The copyright ownership for submitted entries resides with the contest holder. *Each entrant may only submit one entry.
*Personal information pertaining to contest entrants shall be handled with the strictest of care according to the provisions of the privacy policy of the Nohgaku Performers' Association, and shall not be used for any purpose other than contacting the entrant in relation to this contest, or for other reasons where the consent of the entrant has been obtained (Note that this excludes award winners).
*Persons enrolled in an international school are to submit entries in category ③.

Information on recommended performances

- The "14th UNESCO Anniversary Noh Performance" held on Friday, October 6, 2017 (Starts 6:45 p.m.)
•Check the Nohgaku Performers' Association website for details of upcoming performances.

■What is "Nohgaku"

Nohgaku, consisting of Noh and Kyogen, is a traditional Japanese performing art that has been performed for over 650 years since the Muromachi Period. In 2001, Nohgaku received widespread recognition as valuable cultural property to hand down to posterity after being selected as part of the inaugural list of "Masterpieces of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity" at UNESCO's headquarters in Paris.

Please refer to the "能楽事典 (Nohgaku Dictionary)" page on the Nohgaku Performers' Association website for a more detailed look at the rich history of Nohgaku and Nohgaku performances.
<http://www.nohgaku.or.jp/encyclopedia/index.html>

◆ Judge ◆



Seiichi Kondo
Director, Kondo Institute for Culture & Diplomacy
(former Commissioner for Cultural Affairs)



Robert Campbell
the Director-General
of the National Institute
of Japanese Literature (NIJL)



Reiko Yamanaka
Director, Noh Theatre Research
Institute of Hosei University

Sponsor: The Nohgaku Performers' Association Co-sponsor: Nohgaku Institute of Japan

◆Inquiries: The Nohgaku Performers' Association Tel: 03-5925-3871 (Japanese only) E-mail: entry-nohgaku@nohgaku.or.jp <http://www.nohgaku.or.jp/> (Japanese only)

Noh mask "Hannya" (Collection of National Noh Theatre)