



## Thank you for the valuable experience

Ibaraki Prefecture  
Kamisu City Municipal Fukashiba Elementary School  
The Headteacher, **Ms. Junko Ikeda**

I thank you for the KIKUNOKAI to hold the public performance at Fukashiba Elementary School as [Comprehensive Fostering Project of Children by Culture and Art Performing Tour] of the Agency for Cultural Affairs. The performance by the KIKUNOKAI was not only looking at traditional art but also soul-moving for children who have rare chances to contact traditional arts. All of the children could enjoy wonderful time by looking at dances leaning forward or swinging their bodies to rhythm. Representatives of higher grade students could dance on [Yagi-bushi] together with people of the KIKUNOKAI which could be the good experience to be remembered. I would like to introduce some of impressions written by children. [People of the KIKUNOKAI were wonderful for dancing with (sense of unity) and (power)]



Opening 「Sanaburi Arauma」

[It was the first time for me to see the traditional dance and was moved by the beauty. I was happy to see dances of various districts.]  
[Although I thought that I could not manage such complicated dances, I could enjoy dancing as they kindly gave us advices many times. Thank you very much.]  
Through the performance of the KIKUNOKAI this time children could enjoy [lots of smiles] and [energy]. They also could learn many things such as ways of thinking or communication ability, etc. I as the headteacher am very happy that I could show children wonderful performance of [the KIKUNOKAI] and give them the chance [to touch the reality].  
I thank you very much. Please give many people deep emotion by creating wonderful dances from now on too. I will support all of you.



「Yagibushi」 by Students



「Oyama Bayashi」

## 2020 KIKUNOKAI performance INFORMATION

- ◆New Spring Performance [Burn! The Japanese Islands]  
Date time: Saturday January 11, 14:00 open  
Venue: STARTS OTAKANOMORI HALL (Nagareyama City, Chiba Prefecture)
- ◆Joint Sponsorship with Chiyoda Town [Japanese Dance]  
Date time: Sunday February 9, 14:30 open  
Venue: KOSUME • NIST Chiyoda Town Plaza  
(Chiyoda Town Ouragun, Gunma Prefecture)
- ◆[Folk Song Naoyuki Harada and Japanese Tradition Art]  
Date time: Saturday February 22 14:00 open  
Venue: SAKURA CITY CONCERT HALL (Sakura City, Chiba Prefecture)
- ◆[Japanese Dance]  
Date & time: Sunday April 12  
Venue: SUN CITY KOSHIGAYA • sub hall (Koshigaya City, Saitama Prefecture)
- ◆[Japanese Dance]  
Date & time: Sunday May 17  
Venue: Kashima Kinrou Bunkakaikan (Kashima City, Ibaraki Prefecture)  
(Please note that all programs are subject to change.  
Please confirm the time & venue before coming.)

Secretariat, The Kikunokai Dance Troupe  
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kikunokai



## Feeling excited

“Dance with Heart”

We are burning with enthusiasm  
in creating national art for the new era.  
The Kikunokai Dance Troupe  
Representative : Satoshi Hata

# 日本のおどり Japanese Dance

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Dancing from the heart

## Greetings

I am glad to hear that welcoming the new year all of you are better and are living a happier life.

All of us, the KIKUNOKAI will do our best with combined efforts to arrange the stage through which all of you can enjoy Japanese Dance as a familiar thing under the theme [tradition and creation] this year too.

We appreciate your continuing the same support as before.

Dance Troupe, The Kikunokai  
The Representative, Satoshi Hata



## The KIKUNOKAI decorated the final curtain of ICOM Kyoto 2019

Kyoto National  
Museum  
Director  
**Johei Sasaki**



The International Council of Museum (ICOM Kyoto 2019) was held in Kyoto from Sept. 1 to 7, 2019 and the closing ceremony was held at Kyoto National Museum on the last day, Sept. 7. Japanese Dance was held by the KIKUNOKAI at the closing ceremony by which the meeting could be closed gorgeously and elegantly. 4,600 people concerned on the culture from 120 countries joined ICOM Kyoto 2019 and made various discussions on the common theme [The Future of Tradition]. Kyoto was the most suitable place to discuss this theme and the dance played by people of the KIKUNOKAI itself was the theme of the meeting. Culture looks dark in the future if we look at the past only, and similarly if we look at the future only and neglect the past tradition. It depends on how we act considering the past and the future whether the culture can be transferred to the future forever and continue to live over the times. I thought that from that point of view what the KIKUNOKAI aims at comes

really to the point. We feel the tradition of Japanese dance from any part of costume, carriage, music and at the same time any part of their action seems to show elements to include freshness.

It might require lots of efforts to maintain the tradition. It might be more difficult to keep always eyes towards the future. However I think that the true tradition can be maintained only after two factors act like two wheels of a cart. From that point of view the activities of the KIKUNOKAI are valuable too.

Museum also is in a big turning point of nowadays. The original role of Museum to keep the old and traditional cultural assets to be opened to the public now has difficulty in contributing itself to quickly changing current days. We would like to continue Museum activities considering the meaning of [taking over] in looking at the future.

## [Profile]

Born in Himeji City, Hyogo Prefecture in 1941. Specialized in Art History at Kyoto University the faculty of letters, graduate school letters study section. Engaged in administration of protection of cultural asset at Kyoto Prefectural Board of Education, The Agency for Cultural Affairs, present the Director of Kyoto National Museum via after Professor of Kyoto University, the Director of the Kyoto University Library, The Director of Independent Administrative Corporation National Institutes for Cultural Heritage. His specialty is Japanese Early Modern Period Picture History. He was awarded with Kokka Prize, Japan Academy Prize by his writing [Maruyama Okyo Study]. Awarded with Humboldt Prize in 2000. Awarded for Kyoto City Person of Cultural Merit in 2013. Awarded for Kyoto Prefecture Person of Special Cultural Merit in 2017. Others [Basic knowledge of appreciation for literati painting] [Buson wandering literary man], etc.



Japan Korea Exchange Festival in Soul 2019 "To New Tomorrow"

## Dancing of the KIKUNOKAI to spin the hearts of Japan Korea



The Secretary-General of Japan  
Japan Korea Exchange Festival in Soul 2019  
**Mr. Kazutaka Hisada**

The KIKUNOKAI performed as representing Japan at [Japan Korea Exchange Festival 2019 in Soul], the biggest culture exchange event of Japan Korea held at COEXD Hall in Soul city on Sept. 1, 2019 after 3 years interval. This festival was held under the severe circumstances that not only interchange of politics and economy but also even culture exchange are interrupted in the worst relationship after the war. Actually some of Japanese groups who were supposed to join stopped visiting and performance, worrying about demonstration against Japan and unsafe security. While the opening of performance itself was endangered, the KIKUNOKAI performed to respond to their mission and expectation without hesitation considering "this is the good chance".

Japanese culture has been open long time and now Japanese various pop culture have been penetrated into people who can enjoy it. But it also is true that they have few chances to contact tradition arts and [beauty] which show the real image of Japan.

The KIKUNOKAI performed in 2011 at Public Information and Cultural Center, Embassy of Japan and also for Japan

week which Japanese government develops in local cities in foreign countries performed at the national university, the municipal university in Cheongju City, Chungcheongbuk-do and after that performed 3 times at which the KIKUNOKAI grasped hearts of many fans and citizens.



Collaboration with Hanurulim  
Artist Group led by Kim Duk-Soo

Especially for this year it was impressive that the KIKUNOKAI appeared on the stage together with [SamulNori] the music group of Mr. Kim Duk -Soo. the KIKUNOKAI dancing and marching on rhythm of the percussion corresponding a battle cry of Mr. Kim [Open the door of culture exchange of Korea Japan] was elegant and brave which satisfied people in the hall and was reported by many media.

People who enjoyed the performance of the KIKUNOKAI in Cheongju City 9 years ago visited the hall which leads to the time when Japanese culture comes into bud now.

It is very meaningful for the KIKUNOKAI to perform at Japan Korea Exchange Festival 2019 in Soul which certified that culture especially [Dancing heart] can spin hearts especially when the friction between two countries is big.

I thank you very much from the bottom of my heart.

Under the Auspices of the Agency for Cultural Affairs  
Collaboration with the stage artists in ASEAN countries

## Appearance on the stage under the theme [Variety, Creativity and Sustainability]

[ "VIVA ASEAN" The Best of ASEAN Performing Arts in Japan] was held at Tokyo Forum on December 14・15, 2019 under the Auspices of the Agency for Cultural Affairs and under the joint sponsorship of the Ministry of Culture of Thailand with the theme, Asian Culture year 2019 [Variety, Creativity and Sustainability]. The Representative, Mr. Satoshi Hata and Ms. Rika Miyazawa of the KIKUNOKAI as

representatives of Japan together with 20 stage artists selected from 10 ASEAN countries (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam).

Mr. Ryohei Miyata, The Director General of the Agency for Cultural Affairs and Vice Minister of the Ministry of Culture of Thailand, etc. attended.



"Kinohana No Mai"

While dresses, music, dancing with originality of each countries were introduced, the KIKUNOKAI introduced [Kinohana No Mai] newly choreographed for purpose of the day and participated in splendid and powerful joint program which added the gaiety to the stage of culture exchange.



commemorative photo with all performers



Public Performance of the KIKUNOKAI,  
Co-sponsored project of Chiyoda Town

## Aiming at making the town with highly fragrant culture

The Mayor of Chiyoda Town, Gunma Prefecture  
**Junichi Takahashi**

I thank you very much for having the good chance to carry the story on [Nihon no odori], the news letter of Dancing Troupe, the KIKUNOKAI.

I remember that I first met people of the KIKUNOKAI when I enjoyed the public performance at Meiwa Town, our neighboring town 3 years ago. I was impressed by the artistic and refined movement of dancers. At the same time I was deeply impressed by activities to take over Japanese traditional arts through program. My experience on the day was very important to recognize the beauty of Japan and the heart of Japan. I am very happy to have a good

chance that the KIKUNOKAI will hold its public performance as a co-sponsored project in our Chiyoda Town at KOSUME・NIST Chiyoda Town Plaza on February 9, 2020. The assembly hall, Chiyoda Town Plaza is the central facility for cultural activities of the town. From now on, I am looking forward to seeing various programs with full of energy.

When it comes to the art culture, there are lots of variety such as tea ceremony, the fine arts, music, movies, etc. in addition to dancing. Those culture activities are bases of character building, long healthy life and at the same time required factors for making rich



Kyogen dance "Hanakaja"

and powerful society with taking over of tradition and revitalization of the area.

Aiming at the town with the high culture where each of us can lead a vivid and fulfilling life, we will take the positive action for promotion of the art culture. We expect that public performance of the joint sponsored project [Nihon no odori] will initiate the history or tradition taken over in the home town to be widen and deepen more and more.

Lastly thanking for meeting Mr. Hata, The Representative and members, I do wish further development and activities of the KIKUNOKAI.



Japanese Ambassador  
extraordinary and plenipotentiary  
to Republic of Peru

**Sadayuki Tsuchiya**



"Akitaobako" by Children of KIKUNOKAI Peru Class



"Honen Koikobushi" by KIKUNOKAI Peru Class

## In commemoration of Japan Peru, Year of Exchange 120th Anniversary of Japanese emigrant to Peru

Activities of the KIKUNOKAI Peru branch

At the beginning of the new year I do appreciate your good health and happiness.

Last year welcoming 120th Anniversary of Japanese emigrant to Peru, Japan and Peru executed many memorial events in the fields of politics, economy, culture etc. and progressed relationship of two countries through celebrating [Japan Peru, Year of Exchange]. Good relationships of two countries and mutual understanding of two nations have deepened through positive culture activities and personal exchanges such as Princess Mako visit to Peru in July, the conclusion of Japan-Peru Tax Treaty in November. People and followers in Peru of the KIKUNOKAI held no.47 Japanese Culture week・odori festival in Lima and various dancing stages in other cities. I appreciate their efforts and enthusiasm for promotion of culture exchange for many years. Peru is the country where Japan has the longest foreign exchange relationship in the middle south American countries and is the first friendly nation which accepted systematic immigration of

Japanese first in Central and South American countries. The main reason why these friendly relations have developed up to now is Japanese society in Peru has devoted itself to development of Peru and could play an important role as the bridge between two countries in all fields. The Embassy has the great thanks from the point of cultural relationship between two countries for Japanese society in Peru to be the strong friend for Japan and the energetic activities through good coordination between Japanese society in Peru and the collaboration with KIKUNOKAI. It is very wonderful for Peruvians who like dancing that they have the chance in their own country to know and learn Japanese traditional dancing.

Lastly hoping that the KIKUNOKAI will develop more and more in the future, I pay respect to the succession and development of Japanese traditional culture and the long contribution to international culture exchange by people of the KIKUNOKAI.



Scene of 47th Japan Culture Week "Odori Festival"