

September 14, 2026

Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo Japanese Cultural Experience Workshops: Flower Arranging Inspired by Mid-autumn Full Moon and Tsumami-zaiku Ornamental Hairpins

- Highly Popular Original Creations as Perfect Souvenirs -



https://www.keioplaza.co.jp/en/event/journey_into_japan/

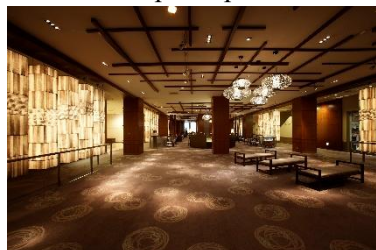
Keio Plaza Hotel Co., Ltd. finalized the schedule for its cultural experience workshop program, titled "Journey into Japan: A Workshop of Cultural Discovery," taught by Japanese artists and held regularly in the Lobby on the Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo Main Tower's 3rd floor from September to December 2026. It includes flower arranging inspired by the mid-autumn full moon and tsumami-zaiku hairpins. Located in Tokyo's new central business district, the hotel offers exceptional convenience as a hub for tourism and business, and implements the program to enrich the guests' experiences, including some 80-90% who are inbound travelers. The program offers a diverse range of cultural experiences through monthly workshops where participants create their own artworks inspired by Japanese culture and seasonal traditions.

At past events, many international guests have taken advantage of their free time to participate in cultural experiences thanks to the programs' casual "drop-in-anytime" nature that allows for same-day participation. Furthermore, the hotel has received positive feedback from participants, including comments like "it was fun to have this experience right inside the hotel," "I made handcrafted items as souvenirs for not only myself but also for my friends," and "I am happy to have learned how to write my name in Japanese 'kanji' on my artwork." Keio Plaza Hotel will continue to deliver memorable experiences to all guests by allowing them to experience the depth of Japanese arts and crafts representing Japan's unique culture, thereby enabling guests to view the crafts they created and reminisce about their journey after they return home.

■ "Journey into Japan: A Workshop of Cultural Discovery" Overview

- Dates: Starting in July 2025 (1-2 sessions per month)
- Venue: Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo (Lobby on the Main Tower's 3rd floor)

- Description: Visitors can learn about the Japanese seasonal motifs through a variety of cultural artworks.
- Lecturers: Experts and artists from various fields
- Hours: 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. *Guests may participate at any time during the workshop hours
- Fee: Varies per experience. Hotel guests enjoy 50% off of the price.



- *Reservations are not required, but the event has limited seats.
- *Participants must be elementary school age and over.
- *Payment will be accepted at the Lobby Gallery on the day of the event.
- *There is no need to bring specific materials to the event.

Special website: https://www.keioplaza.co.jp/en/event/journey_into_japan/

Event Schedule

- September

“Jugoya” - Creating Arrangements Using Autumn Flowers and Plants

*Jugoya: “The Fifteenth Night,” a traditional Japanese festival to celebrate the bright autumn full moon and give thanks for the autumn harvest.



Date and Time: Thursday, September 24 and Friday, September 25, 2026, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Lecturer: Harumi Murayama

Fee: 2,000 JPY (tax included)

Duration: 30 minutes to 1 hour

Capacity: 10 participants per day

Description: In this workshop, participants will create floral arrangements using artificial autumn flowers such as pampas grass and dianthus. Participants will also make ornamental moon-viewing dumplings out of paper clay and arrange them in a small basket to recreate the scene of an autumn moon-viewing celebration.

Concept: Japan has a long-standing tradition of admiring the moon. In particular, the Mid-autumn Full Moon Viewing Festival, introduced from China during the Heian period (794-1185), has evolved into a tradition where people offer symbolic tokens of that year’s harvest and Moon Viewing Dumplings (tsukimi dango) to express gratitude for a bountiful harvest and as prayers for future prosperity. In this workshop, participants will have the opportunity to reflect on this culture by recreating typical scenes of Japan’s moon-viewing tradition. Since the arrangements are made with artificial rather than real flowers, participants can enjoy their finished pieces long after they have been created, allowing international guests to take their creations home with them.

- October

“Autumn Sky” - Recreating Japanese Colors



Date and Time: Friday, October 23 and Saturday, October 24, 2026, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Lecturer: Ruriko Makino

Fee: 2,000 JPY (tax included)

Duration: 30 minutes to 1 hour

Capacity: 10 participants per day

Description: Using fingers to blend powdered pastels directly onto paper, participants will create a color gradient that reflects the transition from a Japanese autumn evening sky to a night sky. In this

workshop, participants will layer and blend colors while referring to sample pictures depicting scenes of a Japanese autumn skyline at dusk.

Concept: This “Autumn Sky” pastel painting workshop focuses on the delicate sense of color and atmosphere nurtured by Japan’s climate, with its four distinct seasons. Pastel painting originated with the use of three-color chalks during the European Renaissance and further developed in France during the 18th-century. Subsequently, unique research and artistic expression spread throughout Japan, fostering a unique expression of colors that reflects the country’s cultural aesthetics and lighting. In the humid climate of Japan, light is softly scattered by fog and moisture-laden air, which can make colors appear subdued and muted. In this workshop, using the sky transitioning from dusk to night and the beautiful silhouette of Mount Fuji as subjects, participants will sense the changing light, the signs of autumn, and the unique climate and atmosphere of Japan to express all of these aspects by softly layering pastel colors. The finished artwork will be framed so participants can display them in their homes as mementos of their trips.

- November

"Shichi-go-san" (七五三) - Making “Tsumami-zaiku Kanzashi” Ornamental Hairpins



Date and Time: Sunday, November 22 and Monday, November 23, 2026, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Lecturer: Noriko Yamamura

Fee: 2,000 JPY (tax included)

Duration: 1 hour

Capacity: 12 participants per day (*Max. 4 participants per session)

Description: Experience the “Tsumami-zaiku” technique, which involves folding small pieces of cloth to recreate flowers. Participants can choose their favorite cloth and floral centerpiece to create a one-of-a-kind “Kanzashi” ornamental hairpin to celebrate the “Shichi-go-san” celebration (Literally 7-5-3: Japanese rite of passage celebrating the growth and health of children as they reach the ages of 3, 5, and 7).

Concept: “Shichi-go-san” is a traditional Japanese celebration held in November to offer prayers for a child’s growth at the milestone ages of 3, 5, and 7 years old, with its origins dating back to the Heian period. It is said to have originated when Shogun Tsunayoshi Tokugawa visited a shrine to pray for his son’s health and safe growth during an era when children often passed away from illness at a young age. In this workshop, participants will create Tsumami-zaiku Kanzashi ornamental hairpins traditionally worn as part of the Shichi-go-san formal attire. By folding small pieces of fabric and shaping them into flowers, participants will experience the tradition symbolizing the prayers of Japanese for the healthy nurturing of their children, as well as the beauty of this traditional Japanese craft.

- December

“Winter Solstice”: Preparing for Winter with Finger-knitting



Date and Time: Monday, December 14 and Tuesday, December 15, 2026, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Lecturer: Sachiko Inoue

Fee: 2,000 JPY (tax included)

Duration: 30 minutes to 1 hour

Capacity: 10 participants per day

Description: Participants will create finger knitted bracelets and necklaces that you can wrap around your wrist or neck to keep warm.

Concept: The winter solstice is the day with the shortest daylight and the longest night of the year. At this time of year when the cold deepens, a tradition has been passed down in Japan of eating pumpkin and taking yuzu scented baths to warm the body and get through the colder winter months. In this workshop, centered on the theme of “warming” and wisdoms deeply rooted in winter life, participants will experience “finger knitting,” a technique where you use only your fingertips without using any knitting instruments. As you knit the yarn stitch by stitch to create cloth bracelets and necklaces that gently wrap around your wrist or neck to help keep warm, participants can savor the atmosphere of a Japanese culture of the winter season.

■ Concept of Cultural Discovery

Japan boasts a wide variety of cultures and arts born in harmony with nature. Inspired by the ever-changing seasons, prayers and gratitude, together with influences from cultures worldwide, have long been woven into Japanese culture. This program offers a space to encounter "Japanese culture in the present age" through artists' works, while enjoying Japan's rich seasons and its connection to the world year-round.

■ About Keio Plaza Hotel

Opened in June 1971 as Japan's first skyscraper hotel at the very heart of the nation's capital Tokyo, Keio Plaza Hotel has been one of Japan's leading international hotels. The hotel has been a pioneer in innovating hospitality by introducing barrier-free access, nursing rooms and childcare facilities, the first ladies' plan in a Tokyo hotel, a sake bar and non-alcoholic cocktails. The hotel boasts various restaurants and bars, and hosts a wide range of local and international guests who visit for its open and welcoming facilities, top-notch services, and warm hospitality. It strives to be a plaza with the energy to create new and fascinating events for every guest. For more information about its facilities and services, please visit <https://www.keioplaza.co.jp/>.

Hotel information

Company name: Keio Plaza Hotel Co., Ltd.

Address: 2-2-1 Nishi-Shinjuku, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo, Japan

President: Katsuyoshi Wakabayashi

Keio Plaza Hotel opened: June 5, 1971

Business overview: International hotel and tourism, and related businesses based on the Act on Development of Hotels for Inbound Tourists

Company website: <https://www.keioplaza.co.jp/>

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