

JULY, 2016: BREEZE ISSUE #105

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A Free E-Newsletter for Friends of Japan & Teachers of Japanese

GREETING FROM THE DIRECTOR



In the midst of the summer heat, it is now a good time to visit JFLA for cool events in our air-conditioned theater space and library. To start off, 'Neko Samurai (cat-loving swordsman)' is back by popular demand for Japanema. This time, the setting for the movie is a tropical island! Please do not miss this sequel of a 'furry tale' this summer.

If you are planning a trip to Japan this summer, you should definitely come to our 'Japanese for Travel' workshop, a two-hour crash course on how to get the most out of your next trip by familiarizing yourself with the language and customs of the country. The workshop is filling up fast, so don't wait too long to register.

For those who cannot make it to our location, we still have a long list of opportunities we think you should check out. Our grants, both in the areas of Arts & Culture and Japanese Language Education are still accepting applications. We are also preparing to launch new Japanese

language courses this fall based on the feedback we received, and looking for part-time teachers for our students. As far as we are concerned, there will be no such thing as having too many friends and partners!

Sincerely,

Hideki Hara, Director



NO CAT, NO LIFE: THE CAT-LOVING SAMURAI IS BACK!
"NEKO SAMURAI – A TROPICAL ADVENTURE" (85MINS, 2015)
DIRECTED BY TAKESHI WATANABE
WEDNESDAY, JULY 13 @ 7PM (JFLA AUDITORIUM)
IN JAPANESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Kyutaro Madarame (Kazuki Kitamura) was once a formidable swordsman who earned the nickname "*Madara the Devil*." Now he is masterless, and lives in his hometown with his wife Shizu, daughter Haru, and nagging mother-in-law, Tae.

One day, Kyutaro reluctantly decides to take an opportunity to work as a sword instructor in the Tosa domain on the island outpost of Shikoku. However, just before he and his beloved cat Tamanojo reach the port for their voyage to Shikoku, a mysterious ninja steals their belongings, and their ship leaves without them. Nevertheless, he manages to rent a small boat, and sets sail for Tosa.

However, stormy seas eventually leave the duo shipwrecked on an unfamiliar shore, and Tamanojo is abducted by the local people, who speak a strange language. Is this really Tosa? What treasure does this place conceal? And can Kyutaro rescue his furry friend?

[Watch Trailer](#)



CINEMA KABUKI COMING TO SAN FRANCISCO!
CINEMA KABUKI "NEZUMI KOZO: NODA VERSION"
@JAPAN FILM FESTIVAL OF SAN FRANCISCO
SUNDAY, JULY 24 @ 4PM (NEW PEOPLE CINEMA)
TICKET: \$15
110MINS, ENGLISH SUBTITLED

Don't miss the rare chance to experience the authentic and unique beauty of this contemporary kabuki performance by Japan's greatest kabuki actors in HD on the big screen!

NEZUMI KOZO is based on the story of a real-life bandit from the Edo period (19th Century). After his execution, the legend left behind states that he had been a kind of Robin Hood, sharing his ill-gotten gains with the poor. Written and directed by Hideki Noda and starring Nakamura Kanzaburō XVIII.

[More Information](#)



©2013 "The Devil's Path"
Film Partners

EVIL LURKS AT EVERY STEP
"THE DEVIL'S PATH" (128MINS, 2013)
DIRECTED BY KAZUYA SHIRAISHI
WEDNESDAY, JULY 27 @ 7PM (JFLA AUDITORIUM)
FREE ADMISSION / NO RSVP REQUIRED
IN JAPANESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Journalist Shuichi Fujii (Takayuki Yamada) receives a letter from convicted killer Junji Sudo (Pierre Taki). Writing from death row, Sudo wants to confess to further crimes. Visiting S prison, Fujii learns of real estate broker "Doc," (Lily Franky) the mastermind behind a string of murders. Set up by Doc, Sudo seeks revenge and implores Fujii to find the evidence ne

to bring in his former boss. Delving into the case, Fujii discovers a string of vicious crimes – extortion, torture, rape, and arson – in which the weak are preyed upon and the cruel rewarded.

*Contains graphic violence and harsh languages. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

[Watch Trailer](#)



**GIVE US YOUR OPINION AND
GET 50% OFF TUITION!
DEADLINE: JULY 20**

This fall 2016 term, JF Nihongo will offer a new course. This course will be offered to students who would like to develop their intermediate level skills. Before offering it, we are conducting preliminary research for the possible new course, and looking for students who will give us their opinion.



**CALL FOR GRANT APPLICATION
U.S. AND EUROPEAN MUSEUM
INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT PROGRAM
DEADLINE: JULY 25, 2016**

This program aims to provide the Japanese art divisions of major museums in the field of Japanese art with various support to develop human resources and art collections, which are important components of an infrastructure for museum activities, and to further promote the exhibition of Japanese art to local people. Since support will be provided to the selected institutions for more than one year, we do not necessarily solicit applications every year.

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Japanese for Travel



WORKSHOP: JAPANESE FOR TRAVEL **THURSDAY JULY 28 @ 7PM (JFLA AUDITORIUM)** **REGISTER NOW!**

Do you have plans to go to Japan in the near future? If so, prepare for your trip with us! You will learn helpful travel tips from a tourism specialist from [JNTO \(Japan National Tourism Organization\)](#), and essential Japanese phrases from our JF Nihongo instructor. You won't be just a "stranger" in Japan!



JFLA INVITES APPLICATIONS FOR AN OPEN POOL OF PT JAPANESE LANGUAGE LECTURERS **CLOSING DATE: JULY 31**

With our many years of experience and achievements in Japanese Language Education, JFLA has been offering Japanese language courses in Los Angeles since 2012. The courses will be based on our "JF Standards," which were developed by our headquarters in Japan. We are seeking applicants who are passionate about Japanese-language education as well as those who will be proactively involved in JFLA activities.

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INTERNATIONAL JAPANESE ESSAY CONTEST ON SOSEKI FOR JAPANESE LANGUAGE LEARNERS DEADLINE: AUGUST 10

On the 100th anniversary of the death of Natsume Soseki, The Asahi Shimbun and three other organizations will jointly hold an international Japanese essay contest on the influential Japanese author. First and second prize winners will be invited to a symposium in Tokyo!

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2016-17 JAPANESE LANGUAGE GRANTS ARE STILL AVAILABLE!

We are accepting applications for the following grants:

1. Japanese Language Learners Event Grant previously known as "Speech Contest Grant" (Deadline: 9/1/2016)
2. Japanese Teaching Material Purchase Grant (Deadline: 9/15/2016)
3. Japanese-Language Education Project Grant (Deadline: 2 months prior to project start date)

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JAPANESE LANGUAGE EDUCATION UPDATE 32: JF INVITATIONAL GROUP TOUR TO JAPAN FOR US EDUCATORS 2016

Last week, 14 American education administrators from across the country embarked on a ten-day trip to Japan. This group of superintendents, principals, community leaders and world language coordinators were invited by the Japan Foundation to visit Tokyo, Kanazawa, and Kyoto in order to deepen their understanding of Japanese culture and education.

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Annual Report

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