

10 YEARS OF SELFLESS SERVICE BY JAPANESE VOLUNTEERS

The Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) and Senior Volunteer (SV) programmes are run by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), whereby volunteers of Japanese nationality are dispatched all over the world to live and work mainly as educators at grassroots level. This year, 2012, JICA celebrates a decade of volunteer activities in South Africa. Since the introduction of this



programme, 64 volunteers have been assigned to mostly education and vocational training facilities such as schools and colleges

throughout rural South Africa. The 15 current volunteers are situated in places such as Acornhoek, Hazyview and Kamluswa in Mpumalanga, and Alice in the Eastern Cape.

teaching a wide variety of skills like electronics, agriculture, science and maths to our country's future leaders.



This programme is also distinct in its view of cultural exchange. Members of local communities are treated to



glimpses of Japanese culture through martial arts demonstrations and introductions to Japanese food, as well as the general attitudes of the volunteers towards their jobs. The Japanese volunteers also experience South African culture, which they share with the Japanese public upon their return home. This process is intended to foster friendship, goodwill and understanding between the two countries, which boast a diplomatic record of over a century.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Robotics Lecture by Prof. Ishiguro and Mr. Yamato

21 Nov (Wed) 15h00: University of Pretoria
22 Nov (Thur) 15h00: WITS University

SCHEDULE

BROOKLYN

PRETORIA

DATE	17:00	20:00
20 Oct	5 Centimeters per Second	One Million Yen
Sat	15:30	Always - Sunset on Third Street
21 Oct	Shodo Girls	Abacus and Sword
Sun	14:30	

VEA

CAPETOWN

DATE	17:00	20:00
27 Oct	5 Centimeters per Second	One Million Yen
Sat	15:30	Always - Sunset on Third Street
28 Oct	Shodo Girls	Abacus and Sword
Sun	14:30	

ROSEBANK

JOHANNESBURG

DATE	17:00	20:00
3 Nov	5 Centimeters per Second	One Million Yen
Sat	15:30	Always - Sunset on Third Street
4 Nov	Shodo Girls	Abacus and Sword
Sun	14:30	

CONTACT INFO
Embassy of Japan
012 452 1500
Cape Town Office
021 425 1695

Embassy of Japan



19TH JAPANESE FILM FESTIVAL



FREE ENTRANCE

Movie tickets will be available at the box office one hour before the start of each show

Co-organised by the Embassy of Japan in South Africa and the Japan Foundation

V E N U E S

20 October - 21 October
BROOKLYN NOUVEAU (PTA)
27 October - 28 October
VEA NOUVEAU (CT)
03 November - 04 November
ROSEBANK NOUVEAU (JHB)

5 CENTIMETERS PER SECOND



Title 5 Centimeters per Second

Cast Haruka Ayase, Seichi Tanabe, Saburo Tokito, Kazue Fukishi

Director Makoto Shinkai

Producer Norita Kawaguchi

Running time 63 min

Release date 2007

Genre Drama / Romance

PG PG-12

Theme song "One more time, One more chance" by Masayoshi Yamazaki

S Y N O P S I S

Takaki and Akari become best friends after transferring into the same elementary school. However, the two are separated following their elementary school graduation. As they place their feelings for each other behind them, time simply passes by. Then one snowy day, Takaki is about to be reunited with Akari. As he sits on the train from Tokyo, memories of the past rush through his head. Join Takaki on a journey into three interconnected tales of love and lost innocence that span the minutes and months of their lives.

ALWAYS - SUNSET ON THIRD STREET



Title Always - Sunset on Third Street

Cast Shinichi Tsutsumi, Hiroko Yakushimura and Maki Horikita

Director Yamazaki Takashi

Running time 133 min

Release date 2005

Genre Animation

PG PG-10

S Y N O P S I S

Leaving her provincial home, teenage Mutsuko arrives in Tokyo by train to take a job in a major automotive company but finds that she is employed by a small auto repair shop owned by Norifumi Suzuki. Suzuki's temper is held somewhat in check by his wife, Tomoe, and his young son Ipppei immediately bonds with Mutsuko as if she were his older sister. The Suzuki shop lies almost in the shadow of Tokyo Tower as it rises steadily above the skyline during construction in 1958. Others in the neighbourhood also are striving to better themselves as Japan continues to emerge from the shadow of war...

ONE MILLION YEN GIRL



Title One Million Yen Girl

Cast Yu Aoi, Mirai Moriyama and Ryusei Sato

Director Yuki Tanada

Running time 121 min

Release date 2008

Genre Drama

Awards The Directors Guild of Japan's New Directors Award-2008

PG PG-10

S Y N O P S I S

A 21-year-old girl gets into trouble and ends up in jail. After her release, she has to deal with the neighbourhood gossip about her and family conflicts. She decides to save one million yen, move to where no one knows her and then to keep repeating the process. On her journey she discovers many things about herself, as she corresponds with her younger brother back home...

SHODO GIRLS



Title Shodo Girls

Cast Riko Narumi, Rio Yamashita, Namami Sakuraba, Nobuaki Kaneo

Director Ryuichi Inomata

Running time 120 min

Release date 2010

Genre Drama

PG PG-10

S Y N O P S I S

Seeing their beloved hometown once famous for its calligraphy paper gradually decline, Satoko and the members of the school Calligraphy Club decide to host a calligraphy performance competition to create publicity for their dwindling town. Based on a true story, Shodo Girls tells a tale of hope and community spirit where youth and vigour meet age and wisdom to overcome the towns struggle to remain on the map.

ABACUS AND SWORD (BUSHI NO KAKEBO)



Title Abacus and Sword (Bushi no Kakebo)

Cast Masato Sakai and Yuki Nakama

Director Keiko Matsuzaka

Running time Yoshimitsu Morita 129 min

Release date 2010

Genre Drama

PG PG-10

Awards Best Supporting Actress and Best Art Direction at the 20th Japan Film Critic Awards

S Y N O P S I S

An accounting genius but with little sword fighting talent, Naoyuki is hardly your average samurai. Nonetheless, he defends his lord and family not by using a sword, but an unlikely weapon - the abacus. He was known as the "Abacus Maniac" among his colleagues. With a nudge to Japan's romantic view of the office worker as modern-day samurai, Abacus and Sword re-creates the classic samurai drama as it follows Naoyuki and his family through the final years of the ancient shogun regime.



JET Programme

A program for graduates to teach English in Japan

Application forms available in October: http://www.zaemb-japan.go.jp/en/culture/programme_jet.html



MEXT Scholarship

A scholarship program to study in Japan

Application forms available in April 2013: <http://www.studyjapan.go.jp/en/toj/0307e.html#1>