

Craftmanship From 47 Prefectures of Japan at J-COLLABO

J-COLLABO, an NPO approved in the State of New York that has hosted Japanese cultural events and educational programs since its establishment in 2008, launched a new program that supports Japanese local municipalities.

The program is part of "the 47 J+B" plan J-COLLABO started in June last year which exhibits and sells local products and traditional craftsmanship of all 47 Japanese prefectures on their website (https://www.j-collabo.org/47-j-b) and at their New York showrooms. Currently, about 200 local products are on display.

While inbound tourism is booming, it is financially difficult to maintain a permanent brick and mortar store to introduce local tourist attractions and traditional crafts abroad.

The program was developed to break with the status quo and offer local municipalities the opportunity to rent ongoing booths at \$1,000 a year in the 47 J+B special showrooms of J-COLLABO based in Brooklyn. The municipalities can use the space at will.

It also offers local governments the perk of using a larger space designated for special exhibitions for three weeks a year, all while introducing well-connected New Yorkers to the areas of interest.

This program is an opportunity to break through the current inbound tourism trend that focuses only on a few particular cities and revitalize the unknown yet attractive regions by introducing them from New York. Please send an email to:

47jplusbarchive@gmail.com for further information.

(Rena Suno/Translated by Hiroko Makabe)

Bridge Over Harlem and Japan; **Tommy Tomita Dies at 80**



Tommy Tomita, a longtime mediator between Harlem and Japanese culture, passed away in a New York hospital on January 11. He was 80 years old. Tommy participated in the 1972 Sapporo Olympics luge competition. Later, he became the owner of the jazz club "Valentine" in the Roppongi district of Tokyo, Japan.

He came to New York in 1985, and he started the first ever "Harlem Tour" for Japanese visitors. As a board member of the Apollo Theater, the palace of African-American music, he introduced many Japanese musicians to Amateur Night at the theater. He passed down all his work to his partner Kimiko Matsuo five years

(Rvoichi Miura/Translated by Kanta Hakamata)

JAPAN VOICE

COOL JAPAN from New Yorkers' Viewpoints

"Nourishing Japan"

Movie Premiere Covers Japanese School Lunch Kyushoku February 20 at Museum of Food and Drink



Embark on a delicious journey from farmer's field to school classroom that celebrates how one country has re-imagined school lunch and food education. At the heart of Japan's 2005 Food Education Law are the incredible people whose daily work nourishes the next generation's relationship to food, the earth and one another. Join documentary filmmaker Alexis Agliano Sanborn for the public premiere of this film, in conversation with Yoriko Okamoto and Susan Miyagi McCormac of JapanCulture NYC. Opening remarks will be given by Jennifer L. Pomeranz, Assistant Professor of Public Health Policy and Management at NYU.

Reception with light food and beverages to follow.

Alexis Agliano Sanborn is an independent researcher, food advocate, nature enthusiast and an award-

Anything



winning artist. With over twenty years experience studying Japanese culture, she directed/produced Nourishing Japan, a documentary short which explores food education and the Japanese school lunch system. Alexis



Alexis Agliano Sanborn

also maintains the website Food Education International which monitors developments of food education from around the world.

Alexis previously served as NYC Program Coordinator of the Wa-Shokuiku Project, an after-school culinary exchange program inspired and informed by the educational philosophy, flavors and foods of Japan. She received her Bachelor's degree in East Asian Studies and Japanese from UC Santa Barbara (2008), a Master's in Regional Studies of East Asia from Harvard University (2013) and a Masters of Public Administration from New York University Wagner Graduate School of Public Service (2020). She lives in Washington Heights, New York City.

> Museum of Food & Drink: NYC Public Premiere Thursday, February 20, 2020 7:00 PM- 9:00 PM PURCHASE TICKETS HERE: General Admission \$25 https://www.mofad.org/ events/2020/0220/nourishingjapan

Article courtesy of website https://nourishingjapan.com/



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Charity for East Japan Earthquake Disaster



Across the still lake through upcurls of morning mist The cry of a loon

- O. Mabson Southard

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