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やっぱり本を読むのって楽しいな。

## 読書の秋、芸術の秋。



## Your student ID might be a ticket to a new adventure...

Feature: NATIONAL ART MUSEUM OF WESTERN ART

photo: Serena text:Serena, Fu

Good news for those who love art or visiting museums! Now, both teachers and students of Waseda University can use their teacher or student cards to visit six different art museums in Tokyo for free! Besides enjoying the permanent exhibitions of these museums freely, students and teachers will also get a discount if they want to see the special exhibitions as well. Prepare yourself to the banquet of art! The names of the museum listed below. For more information, read on!

Museums where you can get free passes in Tokyo:  
National Museum of Western Art (国立西洋美術館)  
National Museum of Modern Art (東京国立近代美術館)  
National Museum of Modern Art Crafts Gallery (東京国立近代美術館工芸館)  
National Museum of Modern Art National Film Center (東京国立近代美術館フィルムセンター)

Recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2007, The National Museum of Western Art (国立西洋美術館) is located in Ueno, Tokyo. The museum is very accessible; it is only a minute's walk from Ueno station of the JR Yamanote Line. Next to the National Museum of Western art, there are the Ueno Park, National Museum of Nature and Science, and Tokyo Metropolitan Art Museum. Therefore, there is no need to worry of being bored after one museum. There are other museums waiting for you to visit.

The building of the museum was designed by a French architect named Le Corbusier in 1959. On display outside the museum are Auguste Rodin's 3 bronze statues from his 58-piece collection, including the Thinker and the Gates of Hell. The museum's collection is made up of Western paintings, drawings, and sculptures from the 15th century to the 20th century. Most of the artworks are French, with an extensive number coming from Impressionism, a 19th century art movement.

The core of the National Museum of Western Art collection is works from the Matsukata Collection. The founder of the Matsukata Collection, Kojiro Matsukata (松方 幸次郎) devoted his life collecting Western art. Those artworks that he gathered led to the opening of the museum.

The Matsukata Collection features paintings and sculptures from the 14th to the beginning of the 20th century. Once you enter the exhibition, you will be easily overwhelmed by the religious, mostly Christian paintings from the Late Gothic and Renaissance periods (14th-16th century). After numerous artworks on Christianity, the museum will slowly dive into the 17th century, where Baroque style came into place. In Baroque artworks, artists would exaggerate the movements in the painting in order to produce drama and tension for the audience. After that, we have the 18th century, where the artworks were drawn with elaborate details and pastel colors, creating a light and graceful setting. Later on, the artworks will fade into works that have small, thin, visible strokes. Moving on to the 19th and early 20th century, we have the Impressionism, where majority of the artworks are concentrates on landscapes of places such as Italy. Lastly, we have the 20th century artworks, where artists stop drawing models of realistic figures and began to explore spaces in artworks. By doing that, artists showed the world the creation of geometric art, giving multiple perspectives to the audience by distorting reality. Famous artworks by artists such as Rubens, Delacroix, Renoir, Monet, Picasso, Miro, Pollock are displayed in the museum.

A trip to museums may not sound like the most exciting and interesting activity to do. But when you see those artworks in front of you, you might find yourself immersed in, and inspired by, another dimension in the world of art.



### NATIONAL ART MUSEUM OF WESTERN ART

#### Address:

7-7 Ueno-koen, Taito-ku, Tokyo 1100-0007, Japan  
〒110-0007 東京都台東区上野公園7-7

#### Opening hours:

Permanent Exhibition:

9:30am-5:30pm Tuesday-Thursday, Sunday

9:30am-8pm Friday, Saturday

(admission ends 30 minutes before closing time)

### Writer's Reflection

*Sometimes distance creates beauty. I seldom visit art museums, so I mostly saw drawings of Impressionism mainly from websites, my art lessons at high school, and picture books. I had not seen a real one with my bare eyes before, never. The Impressionism, thrived in the 19th century, is characterized by emphasizing accurate depiction of light in its changing qualities. There are some famous masters of Impressionism-- Claude Monet, Édouard Manet and so on. The first time when I saw Impression, Sunrise drawn by Claude Monet, I almost forgot to breathe. The little red sun rising from the horizon in a foggy day, paints the blue sky red and yellow and leaves reflections on the water surface. Near and far away, shadows of ships bring us endless imagination. Bravo!*

*However, during this art-museum trip, I finally got the chance to look at Impressionism works directly. I felt, well, disappointed. Water Lilies, by Claude Monet, is considered as a masterpiece. Personally, I felt uncomfortable. The trace of brush strokes were such apparent in a close view that the whole painting gave me the feeling of disorder.*

*I stood there in silence.*

*After a while, I realized, maybe impression is not the thing itself. Instead, it is more like a scenery, from a distance.*

*P.S This passage is just my personal opinion and there are no intentions to underestimate the status of Impressionism and no offenses to Impressionism lovers.*

FU

## UNIVERSITY TOPICS WASEDA'S LIBRARY

photo: Elaine

text: Luigi, Elaine



As Waseda students, we are extremely fortunate to have access to one of the largest libraries in Japan, comprising over 4.5 million volumes. Besides the vast collection of books – which, to be fair, we are unlikely to fully utilize – the library serves as a great place to study, sleep, and practice the difficult skill of being quiet. To find out more about Waseda's library, we interviewed the Library's very own Suhyun Yang.

**Q: Tell us a bit about yourself. How long have you been at the Library?**

A: I've been at the library since I graduated two years ago. In fact, I lived at WISH until my graduation!

**Q: Is there something special and unknown about the library that you would recommend?**

A: Yes! People often assume that book lending is the primary service the library provides, but in fact, we do a whole lot more! We held a library week during the first week of October, where we hosted an exhibition about the official music circles of Waseda.

We also held an escape game solving session (in Japanese), as well as a variety of workshops including one about the library search system.

**Q: How many books can students check out?**

A: Undergraduate students entitled to check out up to 15 books at the same time.

**Q: What's the oldest book in the library?**

A: Answering that is complicated. The oldest item is from 4,000 BC – a clay board with wedge shaped letters that was written by Sumerians in Mesopotamia. Characters were carved into soft clay with a pointed brush, then dried in sunlight or baked to set.

We also have The Book of the Dead, a Papyrus Document from the early 18th Egyptian Dynasty. It was likely created around 1473–1458 BC. It is made from flattened papyrus plants that grew along the Nile. The book is a detailed guide for the life after death that the Egyptians envisioned.

Then, we have a book entitled “礼記本疏義(らいきしほんそぎ) Raikishihonzoki” or The Rituals in Chinese. It originates from the Chinese Tang Dynasty, between 618 and 907 CE. The book is a handwritten manuscript about Confucianism. It is thought to have been handed down from generation to generation in Japan. Finally, we have another Tang Dynasty document, the Tamaki Volume 9 (玉篇 巻第9), one of the oldest dictionaries in China.

It is impressive that these rare historical artifacts can be found in our very own university library. In fact, both the Chinese manuscripts from the Tang dynasty I mentioned above are considered national treasures by the Japanese government. The manner in which the library received these scripts is also interesting. Koshiya Ichijima, the first director of the library, visited Minister Miya Miyauchi to get reprinted manuscripts of the original work. Later, when they visited to express their gratitude, the Minister donated the original scripts.

**Q: What is your favorite book?**

A: I love Snoopy, so I'm a huge fan of “50 Years of Snoopy, a Comic loved by the world: ‘Peanuts’”, by Charles M. Schultz and translated by Mikawa Kiyoshi. Most people assume that the library only provides academic resources, but there are lots of comic books and novels to be found as well!

**Q: Do you have anything you want to say to WISH residents?**

A: If you have any doubts about the library, please come to the reference counter on the 2nd floor of the Central Library! Librarians will be glad to help you efficiently utilize the library's vast collection.

### A Look at Toyama Library

While students of Waseda University often strive to live their university life to the fullest, often by joining circles and participating in hundreds of activities on campus, some prefer to use their skills and knowledge to achieve academic excellence. It can be quite difficult to find peace in the busy main campus, where cheerleading and almost any sort of events possible take place every other day. However, many students fail to realize that the Central Library is not the only quiet haven in the school. As a student who has almost all of my classes at Toyama Campus, I would like to introduce Toyama Library.

Toyama Library lies in the interior of Toyama Campus, which is about five to ten minutes away from Waseda Campus on foot. It surprises me that very few people know about Toyama Campus, let alone its library resources. Since Toyama Campus hosts the School of Letters, Arts, and Sciences and the School of Culture, Media and Society, its library is filled with books focused on various aspects of Japanese culture.

Mr. Yoshida Katsumi, a professor of the Faculty of Law and a research staff member, says, “Toyama Library is the quietest library, and I believe, the most convenient. Students of Toyama Campus come here often, and they know the library very well. It also helps that Toyama Library can be navigated easily.” When asked how Toyama Library differs from other libraries in Waseda University, Mr. Yoshida answers, “While [we] aren't the biggest, we are actually the busiest library since so many students check out so many books every single day. I just hope we can somehow expand the library space so that we will be able to be of service to more people.” Being a librarian, Mr. Yoshida says that he takes pride in seeing a lot of researchers doing research on a variety of different subjects, and in general just watching students study hard and working towards a better future. “The resources here at Toyama Library support a lot of people who are studying for licenses, and there are other people who read for pleasure. Not only do we have a large database of books, but there are also different kinds of media, such as CDs, DVDs, and a lot more.”

Some overseas students of the new Japanese Culture Program in the School of Culture, Media and Society also share their opinions on Toyama Library. KC says, “I think [it] has plenty of resources, but most of them are in Japanese so I feel that it is slightly disadvantageous for overseas students like us.” Another student, JL, feels the same, adding, “It's great that they have huge study rooms upstairs... And you can charge your devices and also sleep before or after classes.” It seems like while the resources are plentiful, Toyama Campus has just started on implementing English resources and thus current Japanese students should try to use them more frequently. The next time you're in need of a getaway from all the hustle and bustle, why not consider Toyama Library as your escape?



# WISH SI Pickup!!!

12月8日(金)19:00-20:30

福田善弘くん主催 SIプログラム

「女流義太夫の世界」

実際に活躍されている、人間国宝の女流義太夫の方がお越し下さいます！

ぜひお越しください！

December 8th (Fri) 19:00-20:30

"Women's Gidayu"

The women's Gidayu performer who is one of the living national treasures will be joining us in the SI program. Come join us!

政治経済学部2年、5階Jr.RAの 李楽 (ブランドン)と、  
今回のSIを企画してくれている、文学部1年の7階寮生、福田善弘くん

Jr. RA



**李楽(Brandon)**  
2nd year, PSE  
5F Jr. RA

SI Planner



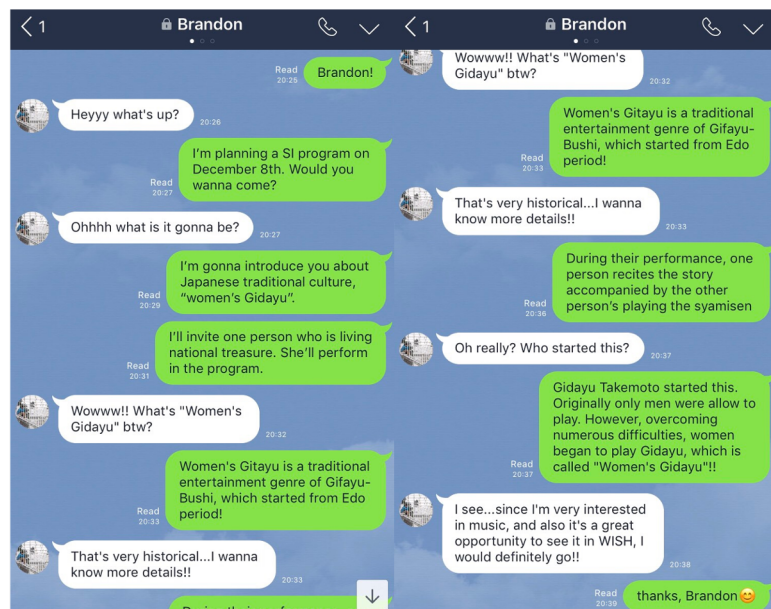
**Yoshihiro Fukuda**  
1st year, HSS  
SI planner 7F

12月8日(金)開催SI『女流義太夫の世界』のPRです！

SI企画者の福田くんが、Jr. RAのブランドンくんをSIに来てくれるように誘っています！  
話している内容を見てみましょう！

We are going to introduce you the SI program held in December 8th, 『The World of Women's Gidayu』.

The SI planner, Yoshihiro is introducing the SI program to Brandon to invite him to come to the SI!  
Let's take a glance at their chat!





## NEW WRITER'S INTRODUCTION

We have 4 new writers which makes us a team of 10

Make sure to stay tuned with WISH times!

For our new writers, we had them to introduce themselves, and recommend a book that they really enjoyed!



I wrote the article featuring the natural museum of western art!

### Fu ZEZHENG (WISH TIMES WRITER)

My name is Fu Zezheng (simply call me Fu (tofu's "fu"). My home town, Nanjing, is a beautiful city in southern part of China, with a history of 2470 years. Now I am studying Economics at Waseda University and living at Room 526 in WISH.

I once dreamed of becoming a writer, but it turned out I was too lazy to pick up the pen. So I decide to take writing as a hobby instead of a career. I, personally, have a writing habit, which is, I would like to finish a passage right before the deadline. I believe only in this way can I fully inspire my imagination and potential (sounds like an excellent excuse for procrastination).

I recommend The Crowd, written by a Frenchman, Gustave LeBon. In this book, the writer demonstrates the specific characteristics that people have only when they are in a crowd. After reading the book, you may look into the world in a complete new way, thus knowing the reasons why some dramatic results occur in diplomatic elections and understanding religions better.

### Yaron Luigi LUDWIG (WISH TIMES WRITER)

Hi everyone, I'm Luigi! I'm 18, on the 6th floor (PHOENIX woop woop represent) and I'm a September-entry PSE major! I'm American, but I never really lived in the US so not sure how American that makes me. I grew up in North India, Tunisia, Israel, Cambodia, South India, and Bulgaria!

I love writing and reading – I highly recommend all of you check out Slaughterhouse Five by Kurt Vonnegut. I also love travelling and learning languages, not to mention everything politics and economics. Let's chat sometime! よろしくね!

I wrote the article featuring the Waseda library and interviewed the Librarian!



I wrote the article featuring the Toyama library in Waseda!

### Elaine CHIU (WISH TIMES WRITER)

My name is Elaine, and I'm 17 years old, almost 18. I'm from Taiwan, but I was born in Los Angeles. I'm in the School of Culture, Media and Society and majoring in the Japanese Culture Program, though it seems like very few people have heard of it. In my free time I like listening to music (especially K-POP and K-Hip-hop), watching the most random Youtube videos, and procrastinating to the point of no return.

My favorite book is Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Alire Saenz, a coming-of-age novel about two boys, Ari and Dante, meeting by accident out of utter boredom. Their friendship is based on intellectual questions about life that they never seem to figure out. Ari and Dante then learn the most important truth about themselves and the kind of people they want to be.

### Serena KUNG (WISH TIMES WRITER)

Hi there! My name is Serena Kung, and I was born in Houston, Texas. However, I spent most of my school life in an American school in Taipei, because my parents are from Taiwan. I am a first-year student in the School of International Liberal Studies. I enjoy playing sports such as table tennis and swimming. I am also interested in interior design and art history, so you might find me writing something related to art.

My favorite book right now is The Night Circus, written by Erin Morgenstern. It is a fantasy novel depicting the story of two young magicians trying to outplay each other. The stage for their battle is set in a mysterious circus that appears with notice and leaves without warning. I find this book intriguing because the author puts an incredible amount of attention on the imagery, leaving the audience with a sense of actually having visited the circus themselves.

I wrote the article featuring the natural museum of western art!

