This program is designed to provide financial support for artists and Japanese cultural specialists who participate in cultural events (e.g., performances, demonstrations, lectures and workshops) overseas with the aim of introducing Japanese arts and culture or of contributing to international society through arts and cultural projects.

Eligibility
Applicants must be either:

1. Groups or individuals in the arts and cultural fields who are based in Japan and have received invitations to participate in cultural events overseas;
2. Organizations and agencies that arrange and produce the projects described above.

Eligible Projects
Projects must be either:

1. Performing arts (e.g., theatre, music, dance, folk arts, etc.);
2. Lectures, workshops, and demonstrations related to Japanese culture, including sports.

*Projects that are supported by grants from Japanese governmental organizations, government-affiliated agencies, independent administrative institutions of Japan or The Japan-Korea Cultural Foundation cannot receive grants under this program.

*Please refer to p. 11~12 "Exhibitions Abroad Support Program" for information on support for exhibitions on Japanese art and culture.

Project period
1st Round: for projects which take place between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022
Project participants must depart Japan on or after April 1, 2021 and must be back in Japan by March 31, 2022.
2nd Round: for projects which take place between October 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022.
Project participants must depart Japan on or after October 1, 2021 and must be back in Japan by March 31, 2022.

Grant Coverage
Partial support of the following expenditures:
1. International travel expense
2. Carriage (baggage/freight)
Please note that the airfare for flights to and from Japan is not covered.

Number of Grants (Reference)
53 out of 147 applications (for 1st Round of FY 2020)
Maximum grant amount awarded in FY 2020 (1st Round): JPY 4,000,000.

Selection Policy
(1) See p. 3 for the selection policy common to all programs.
(2) Screening will be conducted after consulting with experts in the field.
(3) The following projects will be given a relatively higher evaluation:
   a. Projects touring more than one country and city efficiently;
   b. Projects including a number of cultural events such as performing arts, demonstrations, lectures, and workshops;
   c. Projects participating in major international festivals or major diplomatic anniversary events (see p. 3);
   d. Projects taking place in countries and regions with few opportunities for cultural exchanges with Japan; and,
   e. Projects which will be actively publicized to the public.
(4) The following projects will be given a relatively lower evaluation:
   a. Projects of applicants who have received grants from the Japan Foundation in the same fiscal year;
   b. Projects whose effect is restricted to exchanges among specific groups/individuals;
   c. Projects focused on activities other than arts and cultural projects such as sightseeing or research activities;
   d. Projects that will be implemented as exhibition related events such as lectures and workshops;
   e. Projects that are primarily part of friendship and goodwill activities among sister cities, schools or institutions;
   f. Projects organized by hobby groups or similar membership associations; and
   g. Projects with poorly-balanced budget estimates, such as plans in which the local organizer is responsible for very little of the project costs and the applicant bears an extremely high proportion of the overall costs.
(5) Projects that will be organized in the region where Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan issues "Overseas Travel Safety Information", may be selected with a condition related to the safety situation in the region of the project.
Application Deadlines

1st Round: December 1, 2020 (for projects which take place between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022)
2nd Round: June 1, 2021 (for projects which take place between October 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022)

* Applicants cannot reapply for funding at the Second Round of screening for a project that was rejected during the First Round.
* The 2nd round may be suspended due to spread of Covid-19. Please check the Japan Foundation’s website frequently for up-to-date information about the 2nd round.

Notification of Results

1st Round: April 2021
2nd Round: September 2021

Notice

From FY 2021, the applicants must make their applications only online. Please refer to the Japan Foundation’s website or the program guidelines to find the URL of the application form.

2 Performing Arts Japan ("PAJ") for North America

This program is designed to provide financial support for performances or co-productions in North America that aim to introduce Japanese performing arts to local audiences.

The primary objectives of PAJ for North America are:
(1) To promote opportunities for North American non-profit arts presenters to introduce Japanese performing arts to a broad audience while utilizing local networks;
(2) To increase access to Japanese performing arts in the U.S. and Canada, especially outside major metropolitan areas;
(3) To promote understanding of Japanese performing arts by providing educational programs for artists and audiences in each touring location; and
(4) To support collaborative projects between American/Canadian and Japanese performing artists.

Eligible Countries

U.S.A. and Canada

Grant Coverage

Partial support of the following expenditures:
(1) Travel costs: International economy-class, discount air fare; travel expenses within North America; accommodation costs and per diems
(2) Performance fee for performers
(3) Other costs: Rehearsal, carriage, insurance premiums, venue rental, translation, educational material preparation, etc.

Number of Grants (Reference)

5 projects out of 6 applications (Touring)/3 projects out of 5 applications (Collaboration) for FY 2020

Selection Policy

(1) See p. 3 for the selection policy common to all programs.
(2) Screening will be conducted after consulting with experts in the field.
(3) The following projects will be given a relatively higher evaluation:
   a. For both Touring and Collaboration categories
      * Projects involving artists based in Japan
      * Projects related to major international festivals
      * Projects proposed by applicants who have not received PAJ grants in the past (on the basis of the applying organization, not of artists)
   b. For Touring category only
      * Projects to present productions created through past PAJ collaboration grants
      * Projects that will tour to such locations as the South, Midwest, Mountain States, Alaska, and Canada, where there is little exposure to the Japanese performing arts
(4) In light of the current global situation, as a result of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), the grant may be revoked or changed after the selection of awardees in consideration of the "Travel Advice and Warning" level and "Travel Advice and Warning on Infectious Diseases" level issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.

Application Deadline

November 2, 2020

* For detailed information, please contact the Japan Foundation, New York, or the Japan Foundation, Toronto.