



JCD Introduces:

“Paper-Craftsman Resident and Cultural Exchange” Program
with Masters TomomiHisashi Kano of Obara, Toyota City

*They visited us at the celebration of DIA’s Japan Gallery Opening in November, 2017.

Sponsored by University of Michigan’s Art Department (STAMPS) and JBSD

Co-sponsored by UMMA and the Center for Japanese Studies of the University of Michigan

Programs are offered from (Fri) Sep. 20th till (Sat)Nov.2nd, 2019



1. Purpose of the programs

Papercraft Masters' Kano will introduce their culture's traditional art craft to locals in the Detroit area. Implementing an academic approach, the program will help develop a cultural exchange with young artists allowing them to appreciate Japanese culture. In addition, this idea will help promote and globalize their traditional Japanese art and craftsmanship from extinction.

2. Classes at the University of Michigan

Masters Kano will have the class of ARTDES300 which Professor Poskovic created as “Paper making and Water Printing” starting this fall. Masters Kano are sponsored to travel and stay in Michigan as visiting scholars by JBSD to teach students for 2 Hrs and 15 min per session. The sessions are on Monday and Wednesday but are limited to students at the University of Michigan.



3. Individual activities that JCD could conceive with Masters Kano

The Artisans are very concerned about the future of the paper industry along with the conditions of their small village "Obara". The papercraft is deeply rooted within the natures of Obara.

Therefore, the JCD would like to create several opportunities with the craftsmen for the JBSD Corporate members and Japanese community. Our goal is to create a two-way exchange and mutual understanding about the issues occurring in both the communities of the US and Japan.

4. Looking for ideas of cultural exchange

Some examples of ideas so far...

- ① Host paper-making workshops in local JBSD companies and Ringo-kai
- ② JBSD hosts receptions to encourage the cultural exchange between Masters' Kano and local communities.
- ③ JBSD provides exhibitions to display master's and students' artwork at art museums or libraries for the public to see.
- ④ Maximize the marketing efforts using media or social media.
- ⑤ Since Japan is no longer producing paper materials like Kozo or Mitsumata (which were used in bill paper making) due to environmental changes and economical structure, is there any way that those materials could be grown in Michigan?
- ⑥ Provide opportunities to discuss how to use Japanese Washi
- ⑦ Help Masters know the local life in Michigan by showing
 1. Several "MUST Go" places
 2. Company offices and their activities
 3. Favorite local foods and sporting events, etc.





JCD is still looking for more ideas from the public. If you have any, please find the CONTACT in JCD Web site jcd-mi.org and mail us. JCD will decide whether your idea would work, though that is not guaranteed. JCD welcomes that companies or educational organizations would invite Masters' Kano to their site for a workshop, lecture or site tour. If you have any questions and concerns, please let us know.

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