Performing Arts Japan 2019-2020
List of Awardees

The Japan Foundation is pleased to announce grant awards totaling USD 200,000 to 10 organizations in the United States and Canada through the PAJ Program for the 2019-2020 fiscal year. The grant recipients are listed below. (Please contact the Japan Foundation, New York and the Japan Foundation, Toronto for further information and finalized performance dates).

Touring Grant awards

Total projects: 6
Total funds allocated USD 137,000
Grant amounts: USD 12,000 – USD 33,500

ANIKAYA/Akhra, Inc. (Somerville, MA) for Delicateness in Times of Brutality, a tour of artists Dakei (Japan) and Wendy Jehlen (US), accompanied by three Tokyo-based musicians, will bring the PAJ Collaboration Grant-supported project to three cities in the US.

Tour Dates: September 18, 2019 – May 10, 2020
Tour Locations: Bunnell Street Arts Center (Homer, AK); Gallaudet University (Washington, DC); UC Berkeley (Berkeley, CA)

Arts Midwest (Minneapolis, MN) for Arts Midwest World Fest 2019 – 2020, a tour of Nobuto Yamanaka Ensemble to Midwest states. Nobuto Yamanaka is one of Japan's most celebrated shamisen players. Together with his ensemble, Yamanaka will share the music, history, and culture of the shamisen with audiences across the Midwestern United States.

Tour Dates: September 1 – December 31, 2019
Tour Locations: Holland Theatre (Bellefontaine, OH); Riverside Park (Rushville, IN); Carbondale Community High School Auditorium (Carbondale, IL); Fisher Theater (Ames,
**Blank Forms Inc.** (Brooklyn, NY) for *Sabu Toyozumi: United States Tour*, a tour of this pioneering jazz drummer, his first tour in the country since 1992. *Sabu Toyomizu* will perform solo sets, showcasing some of the work he has been doing recently with both percussion and erhu, yet to be seen by audiences in the western hemisphere.

**Tour Dates:** September 26 – October 5, 2019  
**Tour Locations:** Blank Forms (New York, NY); Ars Nova Workshop (Philadelphia, PA); Nameless Sound (Houston, TX); Zebulon (Los Angeles, CA); The Lab (San Francisco, CA)

**Japan Society, Inc.** (New York, NY) for a four-city North American tour of the multimedia dance piece *Fruits Borne Out of Rust*, conceived and directed by internationally well-known Japanese visual artist *Tabaimo*, in collaboration with award-winning choreographer *Maki Morishita*.

**Tour Dates:** February 17 – March 7, 2020  
**Tour Locations:** REDCAT (Los Angeles, CA); Wesleyan University (Middletown, CT); The Kennedy Center (Washington, DC); Japan Society (New York, NY)


**Tour Dates:** TBD  
**Tour Locations:** TBD

**Ripe Time** (Brooklyn, NY) for *Sleep*, a tour of an immersive physical theater work that traces the distance between what we appear to be and what we are, inspired by Haruki Murakami’s shattering 1994 short story, Japanese *Hannya* myth and horror films.

**Tour Dates:** TBD  
**Tour Locations:** TBD

**Collaboration Grant awards**

Total projects: 4  
Total funds allocated: USD 63,000  
Grant amounts: USD 10,000 – USD 20,000

**PAXy, Inc.** (Coral Gables, FL) for *Cross-pollination* in which Japanese dancer Yukio Suzuki and American composer Juraj Kojs explore sonic and movement using various sensor technologies.

**Project Period:** July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

**TaikoArts Midwest** (Minneapolis, MN) for *HERbeart: Women in Taiko* project which will bring together the best North American & Japanese female *taiko* artists to collaborate and create a dynamic and stunning performance. Artists will gather for a two-week residency

**Project Period:** July 1, 2019 – March 31, 2020

**thingNY** (Astoria, NY) for *shuffle yamamba* which is a dance piece created by Japanese choreographer *Yasuko Yokoshi* and American composer *Gelsey Bell*. The piece takes its inspiration from the classic Noh drama *Yamamba*. It explores female archetypes in Japanese culture.

**Project Period:** July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

**Ukwashin Kabudan** (Mililani, HI) for *Kumi Odori: Building a Hawaii-Okinawa Connection* which is a collaborative effort between performing artists in Okinawa and Hawaii as a means to revitalize this traditional Ryukyuan art form.

**Project Period:** July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020

**PAJ Advisory Committee Members** (as of December 2018)

- Mr. Ron Berry (Executive & Artistic Director, Fusebox)
- Dr. F. John Herbert (Executive Artistic Director, Legion Arts)
- Ms. Sherrie Johnson (Executive Producer, Canadian Stage)
- Mr. Edgar Miramontes (Associate Director, REDCAT)