Performing Arts Japan 2016-2017
List of Awardees

The Japan Foundation is pleased to announce grant awards totaling USD219,000 and CAD11,000 to 11 organizations in the United States and Canada through the PAJ Program for the 2016-2017 fiscal year. The grant recipients are listed below. (Please contact the Japan Foundation, New York and Japan Foundation, Toronto for further information and finalized performance dates).

Touring Grant awards
Total projects: 4
Total funds allocated: USD110,000; CAD11,000
Grant amounts: CAD11,000 – USD45,000

Ashkenaz Foundation (Toronto, ON) for a five-city Canadian premiere tour of the Japanese musical group Jinta-la-Mvta at five well-known Canadian music festivals.
Tour Date: August 20 – September 11, 2016
Tour Locations: Markham Jazz Festival (Markham, ON); KlezKanada Festival (Lantier, QC); Museum of Jewish Heritage (New York, NY); The Burren (Boston, MA); Rose Kennedy Greenway (Boston, MA); Ashkenaz Festival (Toronto, ON)

Inta, Inc. (New York, NY) for a three-city tour of dancer Eiko’s solo project A Body in Places.
Tour Dates: July, 2016 – Spring 2017
Tour Locations: American Dance Festival (Durham, NC); Pennsylvania Academy for the Fine Arts (Philadelphia, PA); Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York, NY); Cathedral of Saint John the Divine (New York, NY)

Tour Dates: September 13 – October 16, 2016
Tour Locations: Japan Society (New York, NY); Hudson Opera House (Hudson, NY); Flynn Center for the Performing Arts (Burlington, VT); REDCAT (Los Angeles, CA); The University of Massachusetts Amherst (Amherst, MA); The University of Iowa (Iowa City, IA); The Andy Warhol Museum (Pittsburgh, PA)
Yara Arts Group (New York, NY) for a three-city North America tour of Shank’s Mare, a puppet theatre collaboration between American puppet artist Tom Lee and Japanese Master Puppeteer Koryu Nishikawa V (Hachioji Kuruma Ningyo).

Tour Dates: November 9 – November 23, 2016
Tour Locations: University of Massachusetts Amherst (Amherst, MA); Detroit Institute of the Arts (Detroit, MI); University of British Columbia (Vancouver, BC)

Collaboration Grant awards
Total projects: 7
Total funds allocated: USD109,000
Grant amounts: USD10,000 – USD24,000

ASU Foundation for a New American University (Tempe, AZ) for En, a collaborative dance performance project between two Japanese (Kei Takei and Masako Kitaura) and two American dance artists (Mary Fitzgerald and Eileen Standley) that will investigate their unique physical histories and explore how the accumulated wisdom of the aging body can promote healing within and between cultures.

Project Period: December, 2016 – June, 2017

Jack Arts, Inc. (New York, NY) for a production of Quiet, Comfort, a commission of playwright Toshiki Okada, to be directed by Alec Duffy and co-produced by Hoi Polloi.

Project Period: July, 2016 – August, 2016

New York Live Arts (New York, NY) for Falling Out, a multi-disciplinary theatrical collaboration with butoh master Dai Matsuoka of Sankai Juku and visual artist/designer Jessica Grindstaff and puppet-maker/composer Erik Norse Sanko.

Project Period: July, 2016 – June, 2017

Portland Institute for Contemporary Art (Portland, OR) for Direct Path to Detour, a collaboration to produce new dance work between Japanese dancer, sculptor, and photographer Takahiro Yamamoto, sound artist Jesse Mejía, and choreographer and dancer Lucy Lee Yim.

Project Period: July, 2016 – April, 2017
Saratoga International Theater Institute, Inc. (New York, NY) for the creation of Hanjo, a new adaptation of Yukio Mishima’s modern Noh play, to be developed as a cross-cultural collaboration by Japanese and American artists of SITI Company, Akiko Aizawa and Leon Ingulsrud.  
**Project Period:** January – June, 2017

Seattle Art Museum (Seattle, WA) for the development and premiere of Concerto for Installation and Improviser, a sound/video installation with interactive live performance by composer Wayne Horvitz, video artist Yohei Saito, and dancer Yukio Suzuki.  
**Project Period:** July, 2016 – June, 2017

The Chocolate Factory Theater (New York, NY) for a world premiere of multi-lateral international collaboration by Japanese composer Kohji Setoh, American choreographer Ursula Eagly, and Mexican artist Martín Lanz Landazu.  
**Project Period:** March – April, 2017

**PAJ Advisory Committee Members** (as of December 2015)

- Mr. Aaron Greenwald (Director, Duke Performances, Duke University)
- Mr. Ben Johnson (Program Manager, Center for the Art of Performance at UCLA)
- Mr. Jordan Peimer (Executive Director, ArtPower! at UC San Diego)
- Ms. Tina Rasmussen (Director, Harborfront Center, Toronto)
- Mr. David Ravel (Director, Alverno Presents)
- Ms. Sabrina Motley (Director, Smithsonian Folklife Festival)