



Call for **KOBANASHI** performers in **Oxford** or **London**

Do you enjoy learning Nihongo?

If your answer is YES, and if you find new experiences exciting, why not try performing KOBANASHI on the stage in front of the audience?

The performers will have the chance to get feedback from a professional RAKUGO master from Japan before the final performance!

Don't miss this chance! Apply NOW!

KOBANASHI is style of Japanese sitting comedy, performed as a prelude to RAKUGO. KOBANASHI stories are short, and of course fun, so everyone can have a go, even learners at a beginner level!

RAKUGO is the traditional art of one-man sitting story telling in Japan. RAKUGO stories vary from comedic to dramatic, and its length also vary.

1. Date, Time and Venue

This event consists not only of Kobanashi performances, but Rakugo performances, explanations about Rakugo and Kobanashi, and a Q&A with a professional Rakugo master!

	Oxford	London
Date	9 November 2024 (Saturday)	10 November 2024 (Sunday)
Time	13:00 – 16:00 (TBC) *Rehearsal 10:30-11:45 (TBC)	13:00 – 16:00 (TBC) *Rehearsal 10:30-11:45 (TBC)
Venue	Holywell Music Room, Wadham College, University of Oxford	Tuke Hall, Regent's University
Contents	Kobanashi performances by Japanese learners and teachers, Rakugo performances, Explanation and Q&A by Rakugo master *English translation will be provided.	

2. What presenters will need to do

- Perform a KOBANASHI story in Japanese on the stage at the event venue in either Oxford or London
- Attend the rehearsal on the morning of the day of the event
 - * You can choose which venue when applying for the event.
 - * You can find KOBANASHI stories on the website. Please see Section 6.

3. Eligibility

Anyone! Not only Japanese language learners, but teachers are also welcome!
No age limit!

4. Maximum number of performers

Approx. 15 performers per venue

Note:

- More than one application from the same school or family are accepted. However, if the number of applications is over 15, we may ask the following:
 - 1) That those schools / families with more than one application should choose one or a couple of person(s) to perform at the event.
 - 2) For applicants to choose between giving an in-person performance or a video performance

5. Travel expense support for performers

Performers whose travel expenses are over £10 in order to attend the event can reimburse some of or the full amount of the expenses after the event, depending on the costs paid.

- Every performers are asked to pay up to £10 of their travel expenses out of their own pocket (no reimbursement).
- Maximum travel expense support from the event organisers is £70.
- Payment receipts are necessary for the reimbursement.
- Please contact us for the details.

e.g. if the travel expenses total £80, the person will be reimbursed as follows:

Amount to be reimbursed from the event organisers: £70

Amount to be paid by the performer out of their own pocket: £10

6. How to choose the story you perform

You can either:

A) Choose a story you like from the story booklet

Visit the link below to find a story:

- Simple and short stories
[Kantan na Kobanashi \(by Kokusai Kobanashi Godo Happyoukai\)](#)
- More stories with translations in several languages
[Kobanashi stories with translations \(by Kokusai Kobanashi Godo Happyoukai\)](#)

B) You can modify the story as you like to make it more fun!

7. Create an original story

You can create your own original story. Share your funny story with an audience!

Notes:

- Stories over 2 minutes will NOT be accepted due to time constraints. Stories under 1 minute are highly appreciated.

- All applicants must submit the title of the story, as well as an English translation of their story script (for subtitling purposes) before 1 November 2024, Friday, at 3 pm.
- You can find Kobanashi performance videos using the link below. They will help you to practise! (No English pages are available in some pages. Please ask for your teacher's help if you need navigating the website.)
 - [Kokusai Kobanashi Godo Happyoukai](#)
 - [Minna no Kobanashi Project](#)
 - [Kobanashi Happyokai in September 2021\(organised by JF London\)](#)

7. How to apply

Please apply using the online form.

OXFORD: <https://forms.office.com/r/JRnLrB2LYa?origin=lprLink>



LONDON: <https://forms.office.com/r/VausiC686E>



Application deadline: 24 October 2024 at 15:00 (BST/UTC+1)

8. Other information

Photos, recordings and online streaming

- Photographs taken of you during this event will be used by the Japan Foundation and sponsors of this event for publicity and reporting purposes, including making photos available to the public via the internet and social media etc.
- (Oxford event only) This event will be recorded for the sake of documentation. The recording will not be made public.
- (London events only) This event will be held in a hybrid style (a combined live-action, in-person event and an online streaming event), and will be recorded for the sake of documentation.
- If you submit an application form on behalf of performers as a teacher or a guardian etc., you will be asked to submit a consent form later about the policies above, signed by the performers you are applying on behalf of. If the performer/s is/are not adults, the parent or guardian has to sign.

9. Contact

events.japanese@jpf.go.jp (English / Japanese)