Japanese Film Festival 2023

On March 3, 2023, the Embassy of Japan in collaboration with the Japan Foundation and the Centre for Language Learning (CLL), the University of the West Indies (UWI), St. Augustine, held the 2023 Japanese Film Festival.

The Film Festival was organised as part of the Embassy's celebration leading up to the 60th Anniversary of Diplomatic Relations between Japan and the Trinidad and Tobago in 2024 as well as in celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the Centre for Language Learning.

Three (3) films was screened:

Girls Don't Cry @ 10am

Aoi and Rina are well known in Harajuku street fashion scene by wearing matching outfits all the time. Named themselves "Nunuko," and believing that being together was the way to be strong and famous, two girls feel like they can take the whole world easily, "together." However, the agents and the showbiz people did not see it that way. When Rina gets more shots and is scouted by professional agency, Aoi feels betrayed but strongly struggles to be "somebody." On the other hand, Rina couldn't focus on her chances given because she feels that she is not good enough to be on the spotlight. This is a story of a girl with no chances but struggling, and a girl with chances without the guts. Two girls fight for an answer to their dreams and to their fragile friendship.

## Pop in Q @ 1pm

Young girls stand up to face a global crisis in this fantasy anime commemorating the sixteenth anniversary of Toei Animation. Miyahara Naoki, who has worked on the "Pretty Cure" series among others, directs. Third year middle-schooler, Isumi (voice: Seto Asami) finds a "fragment of time" at the ocean. Upon picking it up, she sees an unknown world stretching out before her and encounters a strange life-form calling itself a Pokon. The Pokon tells her the world's time is in danger of breaking down, and so with four other girls, attempts to circumvent the crisis.

## Every Day A Good Day Q @ 4pm

Depicts the protagonist learning important life lessons through the tea ceremony, based on essayist Morishita Noriko's long-selling book. Directed by Omori Tatsushi of "The Ravine of Goodbye" and starring Kuroki Haru of "The Little House" with co-star Kiki Kilin of "Shoplifters".

At the recommendation of her mother, 20 year old Noriko (Kuroki) and her cousin Michiko (Tabe Mikako) start taking tea ceremony lessons with Takeda, who has a reputation for being an extraordinary teacher. At first, Noriko is confused by the intricate rules, but after many years she comes to realize the profundity of the tea ceremony.

We are pleased to say that the Japanese Film Festival 2023 was a SUCCESS!

The Embassy would like to thank the staff at CLL, and all who attended the event for making the Film Festival successful.



Festival Poster



Ambassador Matsubara gives his remarks



Audience for the Movies



Festival Advertisement



Dr. Diego Mideros, Lecturer in Spanish and Coordinator gives the opening remarks



Entrance to the auditorium



Posters on display



Side Entrance to the auditorium