

Japanese Night @NALIS - Friday 19 April 2024

The National Library and Information System Authority (NALIS) hosted Asian Nights - a celebration of Asian arts, culture and cuisine, from April 17 - 19, 2024 at the National Library of Trinidad and Tobago, Abercromby Street, Port of Spain, with Japanese Night on Friday 19 April.

The Japanese Night attracted several hundreds to the National Library in Port of Spain, with patrons being able to participate in numerous Japanese Cultural activities throughout the night.

Animation Screening

Those interested watched a movie the Japanese animation “5 Centimeters Per Second”, which depicts the story of two elementary classmates whose friendship was tested by distance. The animation was screened three (3) times during the night.



(c) Makoto Shinkai/CoMix Wave Films

Japanese Tea Ceremony Workshops

Three (3) Japanese Tea Ceremony Workshops was conducted by Mrs. Masako Matsubara, Spouse of the Ambassador of Japan, Mr. Takahiro Hara, First Secretary and Mrs. Shiho Arakawa in the rotunda of the Library. The Japanese tea ceremony (sadō or "the way of tea") is a Japanese tradition steeped in history. It is a ceremonial way of preparing and drinking matcha tea typically in a traditional tearoom with tatami floor. The audience was able to see, learn the process while some persons were able to participate in the workshop to prepare and drink the tea in the traditional way.



Origami Booth

Origami is the Japanese art of paper folding. Guests was able to learn the process of making simple origami art to take home from the origami experts, Ms. Sonia Siewarran, Ms. Marie Wyatt and Ms. Manami Kato.



Manga Drawing Booth

Manga are comics or graphic novels originating from Japan. Guests was able to learn the basics of drawing manga facial epressions and taught techniques by the Manga artist, Mr. Sean Siewarran and supported by Ms. Imojin Mayers.



Calligraphy Booth

Japanese calligraphy (書道, shodō), is a form of calligraphy, or artistic writing, of the Japanese language. Guests was able to write words or their names using traditional writing instruments such as brush and ink. The sessions was conducted by Ms. Misato Noto and Mr. Atsushi Saga.



Yukata Wearing Booth

A yukata is an unlined cotton summer kimono, worn in casual settings such as summer festivals and to nearby bathhouses. Guests was given the opportunity to try on the yukata and take photos, with the help of the Hachidorikai (Japanese Women Association) members Ms. Yumiko Yamazaki, Ms. Tamika Mason, Ms. Shabana Mayers along with Ms. Suzu Kitayama and Akari Saegusa.

