

Embassy of Japan Participates in the Centre for Language Learning's (CLL) Open House 2026

The Embassy of Japan was pleased to participate in the Centre for Language Learning's (CLL) Open House 2026, held on March 13-14. The event showcased a wide range of languages and cultures offered through CLL's programs. During the two-day event, the Embassy supported activities focused on Japanese language and culture. Visitors were invited to explore traditional displays and learn more about Japan through interactive cultural experiences.

The Embassy also hosted Japanese cooking demonstrations featuring onigiri (rice balls) and Japanese curry, providing attendees the opportunity to observe how these popular dishes are prepared while gaining insight into everyday Japanese cuisine. In addition, the Embassy's information booth served as an educational hub, providing information on MEXT Scholarship Program and the JET Programme, with assistance from the JET Alumni Association of Trinidad and Tobago (JETAATT).

In collaboration with members of Hachidori Kai, the Japanese Ladies Association of Trinidad and Tobago, as well as volunteers and students from the Japanese Language Program at the CLL, hands-on workshops in origami, Japanese calligraphy and Yukata-wearing were conducted, allowing participants to experience traditional Japanese arts and attire firsthand.

Attendees also enjoyed a variety of cultural demonstrations throughout the event, including a live performance of the Koto (Japanese Harp). Demonstrations of Kendo and Judo were also presented, showcasing elements of Japan's traditional martial arts. A traditional Japanese Tea Ceremony was also presented, offering further insight into Japan's refined cultural traditions and artistic heritage.

The Embassy of Japan extends its sincere appreciation to the Centre for Language Learning, members of Hachidori Kai, volunteers, and students of the Japanese Language Program at the CLL for their collaboration and enthusiasm in sharing Japanese culture with the wider community during Open House 2026.

The Embassy of Japan remains committed to promoting cultural exchange and fostering mutual understanding between Japan and Trinidad and Tobago.

Japanese Cultural Exhibition

The Embassy of Japan proudly displayed an array of cultural artifacts, including a traditional Hina Doll set, Tea Ceremony set, traditional Japanese toys and architectural models of temples and castles. Hachidori Kai also displayed a beautiful Ikebana floral arrangement, highlighting the elegance and artistry of Japanese flower arranging.



Japanese Cooking Demonstrations

Attendees were able to learn about the ingredients and preparation methods onigiri (おにぎり, rice balls) and Japanese curry (カレー) and have a taste of these popular dishes.



Tea Ceremony Demonstration

Japanese Tea Ceremony (茶道, sadō) is a ceremonial way of preparing and drinking tea. This demonstration introduced attendees to the graceful movements, etiquette, and cultural significance behind the preparation and serving of Japanese matcha.



Origami Workshop

Origami (折り紙), the traditional Japanese art of paper folding, was one of the workshops offered at the event. Attendees had the opportunity to learn how to create simple origami designs and proudly took home their handmade creations.



Calligraphy Workshop

Japanese calligraphy (書道, shodō), is an artistic form of writing of the Japanese language. Attendees enjoyed being able to write words or their names using the traditional writing instruments of brush and ink.



Yukata-Wearing Workshop

A yukata (浴衣) is an unlined cotton summer kimono, worn in casual settings such as summer festivals and to nearby bathhouses. Attendees enjoyed the opportunity to try on the yukata and posing at the event's photobooth.



Kendo and Judo Demonstrations

Attendees were captivated by a dynamic Kendo (剣道) performance by members of the Trinidad and Tobago Kendo Federation. This was then followed by an exciting Judo (柔道) demonstration presented by the Queen's Park Judo Club.



Koto (Japanese Harp) Live Musical Performance

The koto (箏) or Japanese harp, is a traditional Japanese stringed instrument played by plucking the strings with finger picks to produce delicate sounds. Attendees enjoyed a live performance of the Koto, offering a captivating introduction to one of Japan's iconic musical traditions.

