



Intersecting Peripheries: Open Call at Toyooka Theater Festival 2025

Intersecting Peripheries

The Toyooka Theater Festival began in 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic.

As physical contact and mobility were restricted, and the very nature of how we connect with people and places came into question, we continuously reexamined the role of performing arts.

In particular, we believe that traditional performing arts, which have long played vital roles in communities, may offer important insights into how we might reconsider the function of contemporary performance today.

We are drawn to the sense that cultural practices in places that are neither urban nor central—regions often referred to as rural or peripheral—are deeply intertwined with global change.

Population decline and shifting social structures across East Asia and beyond, the increasing frequency of natural disasters and climate change worldwide, and the search for new ways to connect culture and society in a post-globalization era—these are the complex and rapidly evolving conditions we face.

This program is an attempt to create a space for international dialogue and collaboration that, through the medium of performing arts, reweaves the relationship between local communities and the wider world amid these turbulent transformations.

We are calling on producers, artists, researchers, and others who resonate with this perspective to join us in Toyooka—thinking, engaging, observing, and expressing together in the field.

Through field research, conversations with local residents, performances, presentations, and feedback sessions, we aim to cultivate a space where diverse experiences and perspectives intersect and enrich one another.

Application Guidelines

This program invites participants to stay within the Toyooka Theater Festival area (in accommodations designated by the organizing team) during the festival period, and engage in dialogue on the “Toyooka Theater Festival” as understood through their own specialized fields, based on field research and participation in festival programs.

During the stay, the organizing team will provide guidance for optional participation in field research and program viewing within the Toyooka area. Participants may also request specific research topics in advance, and discuss them with the organizing team through prior meetings.

Selection schedule

June 13 (fri), 2025	Application Open
June 30 (Mon), 2025 10:00 AM JST	Application Deadline
July 1 (Tue) – July 9 (Wed)	Selection Period
July 9 (Wed) – July 14 (Mon)	Confirmation Period

Project Schedule

There will be two groups based on the period of stay:

- **Group A: September 12–16, 2025**
 - **Group B: September 19–23, 2025**
- Please let us know if you would like to join both Group A and Group B.
 - The meeting and end times are scheduled as below. Partial participation is acceptable, so please note any scheduling conflicts in the application form.

Group A

- **Sep. 12 (Fri)**
Meeting Time: 3:30 PM
Meeting Location: Around Kinosaki Station
 <Suggested Route>
 Limited Express "Kounotori"
 Departure 12:11 PM from Osaka Station → Arrival 2:43 PM at Kinosaki Station
End Time: 8:30 PM
- **Sep. 13–15 (Sat–Mon)**
Activities: Attending theater performances, local and community research, talk event featuring participants
- **Sep. 16 (Tue)**
End Time: 10:00 AM at accommodation

For those departing via Kansai International Airport (KIX):

- Train options from Toyooka to Osaka:

- 1:39 PM → 4:23 PM

- 3:41 PM → 6:21 PM

- 7:03 PM → 9:36 PM

Group B

- **Sep. 19 (Fri)**

Meeting Time: 3:30 PM

Meeting Location: Around Kinokuniya Station

<Suggested Route>

Limited Express "Kounotori"

Departure 12:11 PM from Osaka Station → Arrival 2:43 PM at Kinokuniya Station

End Time: 8:30 PM

- **Sep. 20–22 (Sat–Mon)**

Activities: Attending theater performances, local and community research, talk event featuring participants

- **Sep. 23 (Tue)**

End Time: 10:00 AM at accommodation

For those departing via Kansai International Airport (KIX):

- Train options from Toyooka to Osaka:

- 1:39 PM → 4:23 PM

- 3:41 PM → 6:21 PM

- 7:03 PM → 9:36 PM

Eligibility

- Applicants should have an individual interest in, or be facing issues related to, the theme of this application — "Intersecting Peripheries" — particularly in relation to their own place or context.
 - In principle, applicants should have at least approximately three years of experience as a producer, artist, researcher, or in a related field.
 - Should have taken part in shaping or developing performing arts projects from a creative perspective./Should have led or co-led creative initiatives in the field of performing arts.
 - In principle, participants are expected to be available for the full duration of either Program A or Program B.

*If you have prior commitments, please consult with us in advance.
 - Must be willing to share feedback during the Roundtable Dialogue Session, a public event held during the residency.
 - English will be the main language of communication, so participants should be able to use it to some extent.
 - Must be able to arrange their own travel to Japan, including any necessary visas. (An invitation letter will be provided by the festival)
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Number of Participants

- Approx. 4 participants per group
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Support

- Accommodation will be arranged and provided by the festival (Group A: Sep 12–16 / Group B: Sep 19-23). Meal requests at the accommodation will be accepted.
 - Early check-in and late check-out are negotiable (extra cost borne by participant)
- Invitation to attend performances as part of the Toyooka Theater Festival program
 - Please refer to the Toyooka Theater Festival 2025 website for more information:
<https://toyooka-theaterfestival.jp/en/program/>
- Coordination for local research activities (e.g., community visits)
 - Local staff support during local research activities

For participants living outside of Japan, we provide:

- Reimbursement of actual round-trip transportation expenses from your nearest international airport to Toyooka Station, up to a maximum of ¥50,000
- For participants living in ASEAN countries: Reimbursement of actual round-trip transportation expenses from your nearest international airport to Toyooka Station, up to a maximum of ¥100,000

For participants living in Japan, we provide:

- Reimbursement of actual round-trip transportation expenses from your nearest train station to Toyooka Station, up to a maximum of ¥30,000

*The amount will be calculated based on the exchange rate at the time of reimbursement.

Application Form

- Please fill in the Google form and submit by
Monday, June 30th, 2025 10:00 am (JST)
(Responses must be in English.)

Application Form: <https://forms.gle/w1QWqmV2fgzSta2M7>
