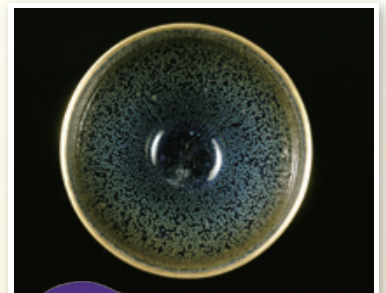
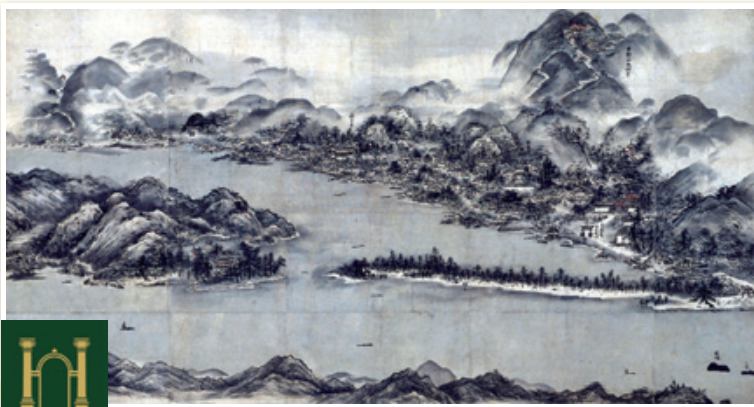


2017

Outline of the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage



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To mark the 10th anniversary of its establishment, the NICH has adopted a new logo.

Logo concept: "Linkage"

The logo design combines knotted cords with a shape resembling the DNA double helix.

The "knotted cords" represent linkage between people and cultures (i.e. cultural heritage), while the "DNA" represents linkage between past, present and future (i.e. cultural transmission).

The logo represents the core mission of the NICH, which is to foster an in-depth understanding of "cultural DNA" and transmit awareness of the importance of cultural heritage to people all over the world.

Cover Photos



Tokyo National Museum:
Caricatures of Animals and Humans,
Scroll A, Segment, Important
Cultural Property, Heian Period, 12th
century



Kyoto National Museum:
View of Amanohashidate, National
Treasure, Muromachi Period, 16th
century



Nara National Museum:
Sutra of Golden Light, 9th fascicle
(Kokubunji-kyo), National Treasure,
Nara period, 8th century



Kyushu National Museum:
Tenmoku Bowl with Oil-spot
Pattern, Important Cultural
Property, Southern Song period
(China), 12th-13th century



Tokyo National Research Institute for
Cultural Properties:
Demonstration of restoring a hand
scroll at the International Course
on Conservation of Japanese Paper



Nara National Research Institute for
Cultural Properties:
Investigation of the northern
Sanctuary, Western Prasat Top,
Cambodia



International Research Centre for
Intangible Cultural Heritage in the
Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI):
Workshop on Study of Legal
Systems Related to Intangible
Cultural Heritage in the Greater
Mekong Region (Hanoi, Viet Nam)

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Message

MATSUMURA Keiji

President

Independent Administrative Institution
National Institutes for Cultural Heritage,
Director General, Nara National Research Institute
for Cultural Properties



The National Institutes for Cultural Heritage (NICH) came into being in 2007 through the integration of four National Museums (Tokyo National Museum, Kyoto National Museum, Nara National Museum, and Kyushu National Museum) and two National Research Institutes for Cultural Properties (Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, and Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties). With the addition of the International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI) in 2011, the NICH now comprises seven institutions. This booklet presents an overview of the activities being undertaken by these seven institutions. This year marks an important milestone: the 10th anniversary of the founding of the NICH. The NICH has succeeded in developing into a group of institutions that lives up to its name by playing a key role in the preservation of Japan's cultural heritage; at the same time, each individual institution within the NICH continues to embody its own unique characteristics in the carrying out of its operations.

Implementation of the NICH's Fourth Medium-term Plan began in 2016. During the implementation period, Japan will be hosting several major events, including ICOM KYOTO 2019 and the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics, which are expected to heighten international interest in Japanese culture. The NICH will be working to ensure that ICOM KYOTO 2019 is a resounding success, while also making full use of this opportunity to actively spread awareness—both within Japan and overseas—of the richness of Japan's history and its multi-faceted traditional culture, as well as to further invigorate museum activities, and foster a more mature understanding of the importance of cultural heritage preservation. To this end, we will be adopting an approach to the management of the NICH museums that makes them fascinating, enjoyable places to visit, for example through the promotion of a multilingual environment, the provision of flexible exhibition-viewing opportunities, etc., as well as redoubling our efforts to provide high-quality services, for example, by ensuring that research outcomes are presented in a way that makes them readily understandable for both Japanese and international visitors.

Based on Japan's experience with the Kumamoto Earthquakes of 2016 and the Great East Japan Earthquake of 2011, it is clear that some of the most urgent tasks for the NICH include the examination of technical issues relating to the prevention or mitigation of damage to cultural heritage in the event of a large-scale natural disaster, the establishment of a nationwide system for rescuing cultural heritage from the impact of natural disasters, and the promotion of surveys and research relating to the long-term handling of rescued cultural heritage and restoration and repair methods. To this end, I believe that it is important for the NICH to make an effort to further strengthen our coordination and collaboration with relevant agencies, including the Agency for Cultural Affairs, and to implement measures aimed at furthering the development of a cultural heritage disaster prevention network.

Cultural properties are historical and cultural heritage that present the foundations of our country. To help ensure that these priceless cultural properties are properly preserved and utilized, so that they can be passed down to future generations, the NICH will continue to strive for further progress in regard to the collection, safeguarding and display of cultural properties, as well as in the undertaking of related surveys and research, and the dissemination of related information. We look forward to receiving your continued support into the future.

Outline of the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage

The Independent Administrative Institution (IAI), National Institutes for Cultural Heritage, was formed in April 2007 through the merging of the IAI National Museums (Tokyo National Museum, Kyoto National Museum, Nara National Museum, and Kyushu National Museum) and the IAI National Research Institutes for Cultural Properties (Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, and Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties), all of which share the same mission: the conservation and utilization of cultural properties. With the addition of the International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region, which was established in October 2011, the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage now comprise a total of seven individual institutions.

Japan's cultural properties are the precious assets of the Japanese people. In order to preserve and utilize these properties more effectively and efficiently under unified management, each of the seven existing institutions plays the following roles:

Tokyo National Museum

As Japan's foremost museum in the humanities field, Tokyo National Museum collects, preserves, manages, and displays cultural properties from across Japan and other Asian regions, while also conducting research and providing educational programs.

Kyoto National Museum

Kyoto National Museum collects, preserves, manages, and displays cultural properties, while also conducting research and providing educational programs. The focus is on works from the Heian period to the Edo period, a time when Kyoto was the capital of Japan.

Nara National Museum

Nara National Museum collects, preserves, manages, and displays cultural properties, while also conducting research and providing education programs. The focus is Buddhist art and the cultural properties of Nara.

Kyushu National Museum

Kyushu National Museum collects, preserves, manages, and displays cultural properties, while also conducting research and providing educational programs. The focus is on cultural assets related to Japan's cultural exchanges with other Asian regions.

Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties

Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties conducts research on Japanese cultural properties, utilizing a variety of methods. In addition to publicizing and utilizing the results of this research, as an International Center for cooperation, the institute also facilitates global research into the protection of cultural properties.

Nara National Institute for Cultural Properties

Located near the Nara Palace site, Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties conducts excavation and research projects related to the conservation and utilization of Cultural heritage such as sites, buildings and gardens, as well as cultural properties, preserved at major temples and shrines in the Nara and Kinki regions. The institute also provides advice and cooperates for research projects conducted across Japan.

International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region

This institution facilitates research for safeguarding endangered intangible cultural heritage (ICH) in the Asia-Pacific region, and collects and disseminates information relating to international trends in the safeguarding of ICH.



Tokyo National Museum



13-9 Ueno Park,
Taito-ku, Tokyo, 110-8712
Phone: +81-3-3822-1111
<http://www.tnm.jp/>

Access



10 min. walk from the Ueno Park Exit of JR Ueno Station or from the South Exit of JR Uguisudani Station
15 min. walk from Ueno Station or Nezu Station (Tokyo Metro), or from Keisei Ueno Station (Keisei Electric Railway Keisei Line)

Visitor Information

Hours: 9:30-17:00 (Last entry 30 min. before closing)
Fridays, Saturdays and November 2 (Thurs.): open until 21:00
Weekends and holidays (Apr.-Sept.): open until 18:00
Open until 22:00 on Sept. 22 (Fri) and 23 (Sat., and also a national holiday)
Closed: Mondays (if Monday is a national holiday, the museum will be open on that Monday and closed on the following Tuesday)
(The Museum will be open on April 3 (Mon.), May 1 (Mon.), Aug. 14 (Mon.), Oct. 10 (Tues.), and Dec. 25 (Mon.), and on March 26 (Mon.), 2018)
December 26-January 1 for year-end holidays
Opening hours and the days on which the Museum is closed are subject to change due to Special Exhibitions and events.

Admission: Adults: 620 (520) yen

University Students: 410 (310) yen

※ () indicate prices for those in groups of 20 or more.

※ Additional charge is required for special exhibitions

※ Persons with disabilities and one accompanying person are admitted free.

※ Persons over 70 and under 18 are admitted free to regular exhibitions.

※ Admission to regular exhibitions is free on International Museum Day (May 18 or the following day if it falls on a Monday) and the Respect for the Aged Day (the third Monday of September).



Kyoto National Museum

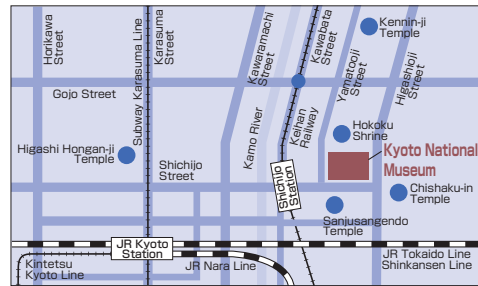


527 Chaya-cho, Higashiyama-ku, Kyoto
605-0931 Japan
Phone: +81-75-541-1151
<http://www.kyohaku.go.jp/>

Visitor Information

Collection Galleries Hours: 9:30-17:00
Special Exhibitions Hours: 9:30-18:00, extended to 20:00 on Fridays and Saturdays
(Open until 21:00 on Fridays and Saturdays in July, August and September)
(Admission ends 30 minutes before closing)
Closed: Mondays (when Monday is a national holiday, the museum remains open on Monday and closes the following Tuesday); During the year-end and New Year holiday period in late December and early January; Please note that the Collection Galleries may be closed while Special Exhibitions are being prepared or dismantled.

Access



Transportation: **By JR or Subway:** Get off at Kyoto Station. From bus platform D1 take City Bus #100 or from bus platform D2, take City Bus #206 or #208. Get off at "Hakubutsukan Sanjusangendo-mae" bus stop, in front of the museum.
By Keihan Railway: Get off at Shichijo Station. Walk east along Shichijo (Nanajo) Street for about seven minutes to the museum.
By Kintetsu Railway: Get off at Tanbashi Station and transfer to Keihan Railway From Keihan Tanbashi Station take a Demachyanagi-bound train to Shichijo Station. Walk east along Shichijo (Nanajo) Street for about seven minutes to the museum.
By Hankyu Railway: Get off at Kawaramachi Station. Walk east over the bridge to the Keihan Railway Gion Shijo Station. Take an Osaka-bound Keihan train to Shichijo Station. Walk east along Shichijo (Nanajo) Street for a about seven minutes to the museum.

Parking: The museum has limited parking at an hourly rate. Please use public transportation whenever possible.
Admission: General: 520 (410) yen. University students: 260 (210) yen
*Prices in parentheses are for groups of 20 or more
*Free admission for seniors (70 and older) and children (under 17 or high school students)
*Free admission (to all exhibitions) for disabled pass holders and one assistant
*An additional charge is required for special exhibitions
*Different admission prices will apply during the periods when the Heisei Chishinkan Wing is closed.



Nara National Museum

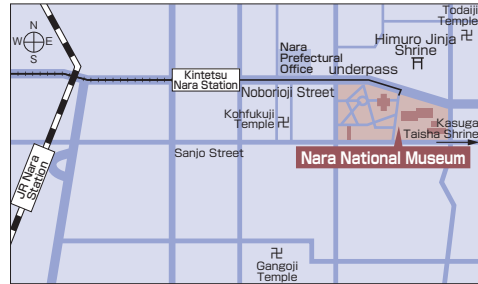


50 Noborioji-cho, Nara City
Nara Prefecture 630-8213
Phone: +81-742-22-7771
<http://www.narahaku.go.jp/>

Visitor Information

Hours: 9:30-17:00 (Last admission is 30 minutes before closing)
Extended opening hours:
*Fridays and Saturdays (excluding Dec. 29 and 30), and Setsubun festival (Feb. 3): open until 20:00
Occasionally during Seasonal events in the Nara area
*Extended opening hours may be arranged for Special Exhibitions (including joint exhibitions); this will vary depending on the exhibition.
Closed: Mondays (except when National Holidays fall on Mondays, in which case the museum is open on the holiday and closed the day after the holidays (excluding Feb. 13), and on New Year's Day (January 1))
Please see the Museum website for up-to-date information.

Access

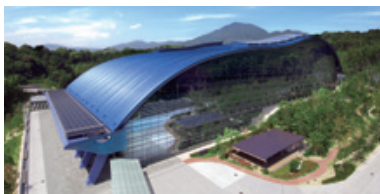


(Kintetsu Line) 15 min. from Kintetsu Nara Station
(City Loop Bus) "Shinai Junkan" from JR or Kintetsu Nara Station to "Himuro Jinja / Kokuritsu Hakubutsukan" bus stop

Admission: Adults: 520 (410) yen
University Students: 260 (210) yen
*() indicates prices for those in groups of 20 or more
*An additional charge is required for special exhibitions
*Free admission (to all exhibitions) for disabled pass holders and one assistant
*Free admission (Exhibition from the Permanent Collection) for seniors (70 and older) and children (under 17 or high school students)
*Free admission to Exhibition from the Permanent Collection on Children's Day (May 5), International Museum Day (May 18 or the following day if it falls on a Monday), Respect for the Aged Day (the third Monday of September), Kansai Culture Day, On-Matsuri Festival Owatari-shiki parade, and Setsubun (February 3)



Kyushu National Museum



4-7-2, Ishizaka, Dazaifu City, Fukuoka
Prefecture, 818-0118
Phone: +81-92-918-2807
<http://www.kyuhaku.com/>

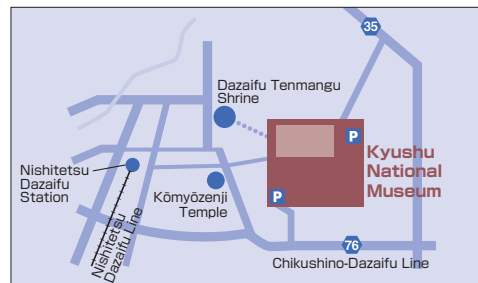
Visitor Information

Hours: Sunday, and Tuesday-Thursday: 9:30-17:00 (Last admission at 16:30)
Friday and Saturday: 9:30-20:00 (Last admission at 19:30)
Closed on Mondays (except for National Holidays that fall on Mondays, in which case the museum is open on the holiday and closed the following Tuesday), and during the Year-end holidays

The Cultural Exchange Exhibition (Permanent Exhibition)

Admission: Adults: 430 (220) yen
University students: 130 (70) yen
*() indicate group prices (for paying visitors in groups of 20 or more)
*An additional charge is required for special exhibitions
*Free admission for individual with disability certificate and one caretaker
*Free admission to the Cultural Exchange Exhibition (permanent exhibition) for individuals 70 years or older, under 18 years old, or who are high school students and below
*Free admission to the Cultural Exchange Exhibition on International Museum Day (May 18 or the following day if it falls on Monday) and Respect for the Aged Day

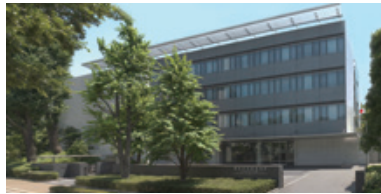
Access



By rail: Nishitetsu rail line: From Nishitetsu Fukuoka (Tenjin) Station, take the Nishitetsu Tenjin Omuta Line to Nishitetsu Futsukaichi Station (approximately 13 minutes on the Limited Express, 17 minutes on an Express train), and transfer to the Nishitetsu Dazaifu Line (approximately 5 minutes) and get off at Nishitetsu Dazaifu Station. Approximately 10 minutes walk from Nishitetsu Dazaifu Station. *No extra charge is required for taking the Limited Express or Express train.
Jr rail line: From JR Hakata Station, take the JR Kagoshima Chuo Line (approximately 15 minutes on the Rapid train) and get off at Jr Futsukaichi Station. Transfer to Nishitetsu Futsukaichi Station by foot (12 min.) or bus (5 min.). Take the Nishitetsu Dazaifu Line and get off at Nishitetsu Dazaifu Station.
By car: By Kyushu Expressway, approximately 20 minutes drive from either Dazaifu I.C. or Chikushino I.C. via Takao Intersection. By Fukuoka Urban Expressway, approximately 20 minutes drive from Mizuki exit via Takao Intersection.
By taxi: Approximately 15 minutes from JR Futsukaichi Station, or 30 minutes from Fukuoka Airport.
By Nishitetsu bus: From Hakata Bus Terminal (Bus Stop No. 11) take the bus to Dazaifu and get off at Nishitetsu Dazaifu Station (journey time is approximately 40 minutes). From the Station, it is approximately 10 minutes walk to the Museum.



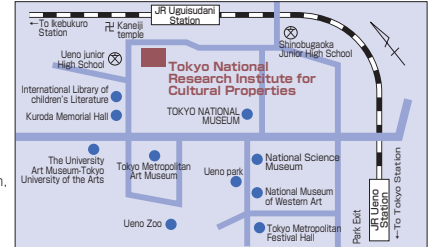
Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties



13-43 Ueno Park, Taito-ku, Tokyo, 110-8713
 Phone: +81-3-3823-2241
<http://www.toubunken.go.jp/>

(JR Line) 10 min. from the South Exit of Uguisudani Station,
 15 min. from the Ueno Park Exit of Ueno Station
 (Ginza or Hibiya Tokyo Metro Line) 20 min. from Ueno Station
 (Chiyoda Tokyo Metro Line) 20 min. from Nezu Station
 (Keisei Line) 20 min. from Keisei Ueno Station

Access



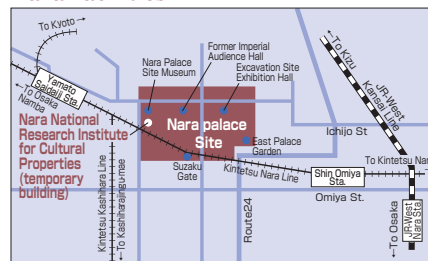
Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties



247-1 Saki-cho, Nara City, Nara
 Prefecture 630-8577
 Phone: +81-742-30-6733
<http://www.nabunken.go.jp/>

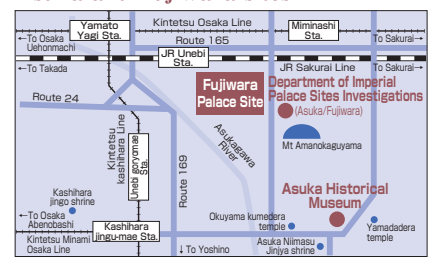
Access

Nara facilities



(Kintetsu Line) 10 min. from Yamato Saidaiji Station to the institute and the Nara Palace Site Museum
 (Nara Kotsu Bus from JR and Kintetsu Nara Stations)
 3 min. from Nijocho stop to the Nara Palace Site Museum

Asuka and Fujiwara sites



(Kintetsu Line) 20 min by taxi from Yamato Yagi Station to the institute 20 min
 by taxi from Kashihara Jingu Mae Station to the Asuka Historical Museum
 From either Kintetsu Kashihara Jingu Mae Station or Kintetsu Asuka Station, take the Kame Bus and get off at the Asuka Historical Museum stop.
 From JR/Kintetsu Sakurai Station, take the Nara Kotsu Bus and get off at the Asuka Historical Museum stop.

Visitor Information

● Nara Palace Site Museum

Hours: 9:00-16:30 (Admission free; last admission at 16:00)
 Closed: Mondays (except when National Holidays fall on Mondays, in which case the museum is open on the holiday and closed the following day instead) and over the New Year period

Note: Free guided tours by volunteers available
 Phone: 0742-30-6753 (Collaboration Promotion Division)

● Exhibition Room of Fujiwara Palace Site

Hours: 9:00-16:30 (Free admission)
 Closed: During the New Year period and exhibition renewal periods
 Phone: 0744-24-1122 Department of Imperial Palace Sites Investigations (Asuka and Fujiwara)

● Asuka Historical Museum

Hours: 9:00-16:30 (Last admission at 16:00)
 Closed: Mondays (except when National Holidays fall on Mondays, in which case the museum is open on the holiday and closed the following day instead) and over the New Year period
 Admissions: Adults: 270 (170) yen
 University Students: 130 (60) yen
 ※ () indicate prices for those in groups of 20 or more
 ※ An additional charge is required for some special exhibitions
 ※ Persons with disabilities and one accompanying person are admitted free
 ※ Persons under 18 years, and school students (up to and including high school) are admitted free to regular exhibitions

Note: Guides available (free of charge, reservations required)
 Phone: 0744-54-3561 Asuka Historical Museum

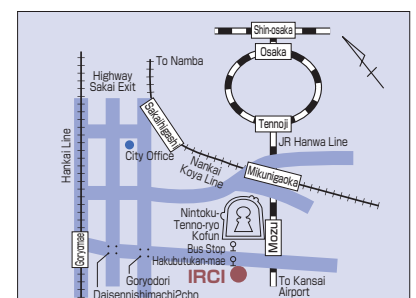


International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI)



Sakai City Museum, 2 cho Mozusekiun-cho, Sakai-ku,
 Sakai City, Osaka 590-0802
 Phone: +81-72-275-8050
<http://www.irci.jp>

Access



● (JR Hanwa Line) 6 min. from Mozu Station
 (Nankai Bus) 4 min. from Sakaishi Hakubutsukanmae

The Undertakings of the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage include:

1 Preservation and Transmission of Tangible Cultural Properties, and Utilization of Cultural Properties to Disseminate Japan's History and Traditional Culture Nationally and Internationally

(1) Collection and Preservation of Tangible Cultural Properties, and Transmission of Tangible Cultural Properties to Future Generations

As core institutions involved in the preservation and transmission of history and traditional culture, each museum collects objects according to its own individual collection policy to ensure that the accumulation of objects is systematically and historically balanced.

We also work closely with the Agency for Cultural Affairs to actively promote donations and long-term loans from private owners, utilizing the System of Enrolled Art Objects, for example, or improving the inheritance tax system to make donation of objects easier.

Japan's cultural properties are the precious assets of the Japanese people. In order to pass on this heritage to future generations, we implement thorough management of items in the collections, and make efforts to improve the environments for these items while working systematically to conserve them, with those requiring urgent treatment given priority. This work is carried out through the coordinated efforts of NICH's conservators and professionals of conservation science as well as specialists (both internal and external) in the fields of conservation science and restoration technology, using both traditional techniques and modern scientific methods. Conservation studios and other facilities also consider the need to protect cultural properties from natural disasters, and are working with the government to make further preparations.

■ Acquisition

We continually strive to collect cultural properties through purchases and donations with the aim of: (1) accumulating collections that are both systematically and historically balanced, and (2) preventing the dispersion of private collections and the export of tangible cultural properties from Japan.

Furthermore, the four museums each accept long-term loans from temples, shrines, and private collectors in order to further enhance their own distinctive regular exhibitions.

Number of Works in the Museum Collections

(Entries)

Total			Tokyo National Museum			Kyoto National Museum			Nara National Museum			Kyushu National Museum		
Total	National Treasures	Important Cultural Properties	Total	National Treasures	Important Cultural Properties	Total	National Treasures	Important Cultural Properties	Total	National Treasures	Important Cultural Properties	Total	National Treasures	Important Cultural Properties
127,453	132	983	117,190	88	636	7,794	28	198	1,886	13	112	583	3	37

Nara National Research Institute holds 8 Important Cultural Properties.

(Figures as of March 31, 2017)

Number of Works on Long-term Loan to the Museums

(Entries)

Total			Tokyo National Museum			Kyoto National Museum			Nara National Museum			Kyushu National Museum		
Total	National Treasures	Important Cultural Properties	Total	National Treasures	Important Cultural Properties	Total	National Treasures	Important Cultural Properties	Total	National Treasures	Important Cultural Properties	Total	National Treasures	Important Cultural Properties
12,127	195	1,189	3,075	55	258	6,189	86	620	1,958	52	299	905	2	12

(Figures as of March 31, 2017)

■ Conservation and Restoration

Tangible cultural properties preserved in museum collections need to be restored approximately once every 100 years. The Institutes carry out two levels of conservation work: minimal treatments for general display and storage when necessary; and full-scale treatments, performed on a schematic basis in response to the condition of the object.

(2) Exhibitions

We disseminate information both nationally and internationally to promote understanding of the history and traditional culture of Japan and other Asian regions. For this purpose, we hold attractive exhibitions and high-quality displays that reflect both visitor needs and the latest academic trends, while also taking into consideration the needs of international cultural exchange.

In addition, we are constantly striving to make our museums more visitor-friendly by extending museum hours and creating multilingual and accessible environments, with extensive information for visitors to enhance the overall museum environment. We are also making improvements to museum management in response to visitor feedback.

■ Exhibitions

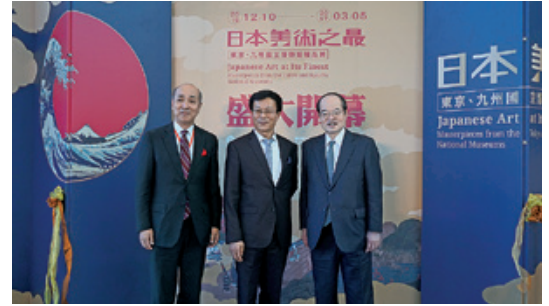
Each museum holds its own distinctive regular and special exhibitions to provide opportunities for visitors to engage with traditional art and archaeological objects, including National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties. We also collaborate with overseas museums to hold exhibitions which introduce our respective cultures.

■ Number of Visitors (FY 2016)

Total	Tokyo National Museum	Kyoto National Museum	Nara National Museum	Kyushu National Museum
3,663,777	1,907,647	384,340	449,322	922,468



Nara Buddhist Sculpture Hall—Exhibition from the Permanent Collection: "Masterpieces of Buddhist Sculpture" (Nara National Museum)



Masterpieces of Japanese Art: Selected Items from the Collections of the Tokyo National Museum and Kyushu National Museum (National Palace Museum, Southern Branch, Taiwan) (December 10, 2016-March 10, 2017)

(3) Education

To promote understanding of the history and traditional culture of Japan and other Asian regions, we provide a variety of educational programs, such as lectures and workshops, in cooperation with schools and other educational institutions.

Furthermore, we work with universities to provide professional training and support volunteer activities with the aim of further improving our educational programs. We also implement training programs for museum professionals, conservators, and others.

In addition, we utilize the internet to disseminate information about cultural properties, and publicize our exhibitions and educational activities through the collection, publication, and display of various types of information.



Visitors to Kyoto National Museum enjoy an educational talk by one of the Museum's "Cultural Property Sommelier" volunteers



Gamelan Workshop at the Kyushu National Museum

(4) Research on the Collection, Preservation, and Exhibition of Tangible Cultural Properties (Namely fine and applied arts), and Educational Activities

We conduct surveys and research relating to the collection, preservation, and exhibition of tangible cultural properties, as well as educational activities, on a systematic basis; organize international symposiums to which leading researchers are invited; arrange for NICH staff to work at overseas research institutes and attend international conferences; and conduct research while accumulating the latest information.

The results obtained in our surveys and research are publicized using a variety of different methods, including publications and the internet, thereby contributing to the transmission of cultural properties to the next generation and to the continued enhancement of Japanese culture.



Research of *Illustrated Biography of Prince Shotoku* funded by Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research

(5) Contribution to Museum-related Activities in Japan and Abroad

We proactively loan items from our collections to museums both in Japan and abroad, while taking due account of the state of preservation of the items in question, so that they may be viewed more widely by both domestic and international audiences. We are also actively engaged in providing guidance and advice to other museums and in the exchange of information, as well as working to build a disaster response network for cultural properties.



International Symposium "Exhibiting Japan: Renewal and Renovation of Japanese Art Galleries" (Jan. 28-29, 2017)

2 Implementing Research and Collaborative Projects for the Protection of Cultural Properties and Overseas Cultural Heritage

We undertake the following types of surveys and research to contribute to the formation of the framework of knowledge and techniques required to facilitate the transmission of priceless cultural properties to future generations.

(1) Research Leading to New Ideas

We are engaged in undertaking fundamental and systematic research relating to cultural properties (including collaborative research and research-related exchange with other organizations, both in Japan and overseas) and also surveys and research

that contribute to the preservation and effective utilization of cultural properties. The results achieved by these surveys and research have led to an increase in the amount of basic data available, facilitated the accumulation of academic knowledge, and provided the basic information needed to support designation as cultural properties, while also contributing, at individual and collective levels, to the planning and establishment of cultural property preservation measures by national and local government bodies, as well as the evaluation of cultural property.



Mr. OKOCHI Masanobu, maker of hand-carved bridges for shamisen



Mortar joint examination in progress at the former Tomioka Silk Mill (a Designated National Treasure)

(2) Basic Research for the Improvement of Research and Development Utilizing Science and Technology

We undertake the following types of research and development to support the development of research on the value and preservation of cultural properties:

- ① We contribute to the enhancement of the accuracy and effectiveness of cultural property survey methods through the promotion of R&D work such as the application of science and technology. We also contribute towards the clarification of the background (cultural, historical, and natural environment) against which cultural properties came into being, and the process of change in this background over time.
- ② As a core research center for research relating to cultural property preservation science and restoration techniques, restoration materials, and production techniques, we work for the development of new techniques for cultural property research, making use of the latest scientific and technological developments, and promote cutting-edge surveys and research with the aim of fostering joint research and research-related exchange with other institutions both in Japan and overseas.



Investigation on brick cultural heritage using portable X-ray diffraction analyzer

(3) International Collaboration Relating to the Preservation of Cultural Heritage

We promote the acquisition and analysis of information from abroad regarding cultural heritage, and also promote cooperative programs for the protection of this heritage. Additionally, we create human resources development and technology transfer programs for the conservation and restoration of cultural properties. These programs involve training and the dispatch of specialists. All of the aforementioned endeavors—which are pursued while utilizing the knowledge, technology, and experience that Japan has for the protection of cultural heritage—are contributions of international importance. Moreover, through cooperation with researchers and other specialists in the Asia-Pacific region, we conduct research for the protection of intangible cultural heritage endangered by natural disasters and other threats, and promote protection of this heritage on an international scale. Through such activities for the protection of humanity's shared assets, we contribute to cultural exchange between countries and to mutual understanding.



International Experts Meeting of Mapping Project

(4) Collecting and Collating Information Relating to Cultural Properties, and Publicizing and Utilizing the Results of Surveys and Research

We are working to promote the digitalization of information relating to cultural properties and expand related specialist archives, as well as organizing public lectures and international symposiums, and expanding the content included on the websites of the individual facilities that make up the NICH, with the aim of furthering the collection, collation and preservation of information relating to cultural properties and of ensuring that such outcomes are widely publicized and disseminated. We are also working to expand the displays of survey and research results held at the Nara Palace Site Museum, Exhibition Room of Fujiwara Imperial Site, and Asuka Historical Museum of the Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, so as to provide the general public with a more in-depth understanding of related areas.



Presentation at the 11th public lecture

(5) Provision of Training for, and Collaboration with, Local Government Authorities in Relation to Cultural Properties

While contributing to the enhancement of knowledge and techniques through the implementation of training tailored to the needs of local government authorities by making effective use of the results obtained in past surveys and research, we also undertake cultivation of core human resources that will play key roles in the preservation of Japan's cultural properties in the future, through collaborative education projects in conjunction with university graduate schools. After the Great East Japan Earthquake of 2011, we played a central role in activities conducted to rescue cultural properties at the request of the Agency for Cultural Affairs. Making effective use of this experience, we are also undertaking research projects and human resources cultivation projects aimed at putting in place a nationwide system for communication and coordination so as to build a network for safeguarding and rescuing cultural properties in the event of future large-scale disasters such as major earthquakes.



"Geo-archeological Surveying Training Course" in progress

TNM Tokyo National Museum

As Japan's foremost museum in the humanities field, Tokyo National Museum collects, preserves, manages, and displays cultural properties from across Japan and other Asian regions, while also conducting research and providing educational programs.



ZENIYA Masami
Executive Director
Tokyo National Museum

The Tokyo National Museum was established in 1872 and has the longest history than any museum in Japan. Its collection comprises more than 117,000 cultural properties, including many National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties. We collect, preserve, restore, and display tangible cultural properties from across Japan and other Asian regions. We also conduct research on these objects and promote understanding of art through educational programs.

The Museum seeks to further enhance its culturally-oriented exhibitions by displaying some of the finest objects and holding events tailored to the seasons. Starting from this year, the Museum's opening hours are being extended until 21:00 on Fridays and Saturdays throughout the year, with the aim of providing both foreign tourists and domestic visitors with more opportunities to view the Museum's exhibits; the Museum will also be holding a variety of special events on Friday and Saturday evenings to further enhance the experience of evening visitors.

In addition to exhibitions, the Museum also offers a wide range of programs, including hands-on activities, guided tours, and workshops. Our hands-on art-making workshops for students help them to deepen their understanding of cultural treasures.

We will continue striving to make the Tokyo National Museum more enjoyable for everyone, including children and adults, as well as visitors from other countries.

Exhibitions

●Regular Exhibitions

The regular exhibitions comprise the core function of the museum's exhibition activities, displaying works from the museum collection as well as objects on loan to the museum. Exhibits are rotated periodically, with an approximate total of 370 rotations annually. In the fiscal year of 2016, 7,200 objects are scheduled for display. The regular exhibition galleries are as follows:

HONKAN (Japanese Gallery): The 2nd floor provides an overview of the evolution of Japanese art in chronological order from the Jomon to the Edo period. The exhibits on the 1st floor are categorized by genre and include sculptures, ceramics, and swords.

TOYOKAN (Asian Gallery): This building is dedicated to artworks and archeological artifacts from China, the Korean Peninsula, Southeast Asia, Central Asia, India, Egypt, and other regions.

HEISEIKAN: The Japanese Archaeology Gallery located on the 1st floor displays objects, such as *dogu* and *haniwa* clay figurines as well as bronze bells, dating from the Paleolithic through to the Edo period; the Thematic Exhibition Room, also on the first floor, is used for thematic and educational displays.

The Gallery of Horyuji Treasures: This building exhibits objects selected from over 300 cultural properties donated to the Imperial family by Horyuji Temple in Nara.

HYOKEIKAN: This building has been used for special exhibitions in recent years.

Kuroda Memorial Hall: This building was built through a bequest from one of the most renowned painters of modern Japan, Kuroda Seiki, and is used to exhibit his works.

●Thematic Exhibitions

Thematic exhibitions focus on specific themes and are held as part of the Museum's regular exhibitions. The following are examples of those scheduled for fiscal year 2017 (the dates given are tentative):

- *Conservation and Restoration of the Tokyo National Museum Collection* (March 22–April 16, 2017)
- *2017 Newly Designated National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties* (June 27–July 17, 2017)
- *Family Gallery: Diving into Folding Screens* (July 4–September 3, 2017)
- *Magical Asia—Journey through Asia at the Tokyo National Museum* (September 5–October 15, 2017)
- *Yamato-e Paintings of the Muromachi Era—Master Painters and their Works* (October 24–December 3, 2017)



Poster in the Ueno District of Tokyo advertising the Tokyo National Museum's new extended evening opening hours



Thematic Exhibition: *Conservation and Restoration of the Tokyo National Museum Collection* (March 22–April 16, 2017) Pamphlet



Special Exhibition: *Chanoyu—The Arts of Tea Ceremony, the Essence of Japan* (April 11–June 4, 2017)

● **Special Exhibitions**

Special exhibitions are held to share the results of our research and to meet visitor demand. The following are examples of special exhibitions scheduled for the fiscal year 2017:

- *Chanoyu—The Arts of Tea Ceremony, the Essence of Japan* (April 11–June 4, 2017)
- Special Exhibition Celebrating 130 Years of Amity between Japan and Thailand—*Thailand: Brilliant Land of the Buddha* (July 4–August 27, 2017)
- *The Living Treasures of France* (September 26–November 26, 2017)
- *Unkei: The Great Master of Buddhist Sculpture* (September 26–November 26, 2017)
- *Ninnaji and the Buddhas of Omuro Temples* (provisional title) (January 16–March 11, 2018)
- *Roads of Arabia: Archaeology and History of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia* (January 23–March 18, 2018)

● **Overseas Exhibitions**

- Special Exhibition Celebrating 130 Years of Amity between Japan and Thailand—*Japanese Art: Belief and Life* (provisional title) scheduled for December 2017–February 2018, Bangkok National Museum, Thailand
- Joint Special Exhibition of National Museums: *Tigers* (provisional title), January 26–March 18, 2018, National Museum of Korea

■ Acquisition, Preservation, and Restoration

The Museum seeks to create a comprehensive display of Asian cultural properties with a focus on Japan through the acquisition of works of art by purchase, gift, and loan. We also carry out a variety of collection management measures to allow deteriorated objects to be safely exhibited in the future. These measures include enhancing gallery and storage environments, improving display and transportation methods, conducting collection assessment, as well as performing about 90 full restorations and 500 emergency treatments of works annually.

■ Education

To provide a better museum experience for visitors, we offer opportunities for as many people as possible to get to know the museum, and help them to develop a deeper understanding of Japanese and Asian culture. Through collaboration with schools and developing volunteer activities, we strive to establish a pioneering model for engaging museum projects and promote effective educational programs that reflect our role as a leading museum in Japan.

- Providing learning opportunities
 - Lectures, gallery talks, workshops, “behind the scenes” tours introducing the museum’s preservation and restoration work, and exhibition-related events
- Educational and thematic exhibits called “Family Galleries”
- Collaboration with schools
 - School programs (art appreciation programs, work experience programs, and programs for visually impaired students)
 - Teacher training (in relation to Special Exhibitions and Regular Exhibitions)
- Partnerships with universities
 - Campus Members System and internship programs for graduate students
- Volunteer activities
 - Assistance for educational activities and conservation projects, visitor information, and guided tours



Kids' Day activity: *Welcome to the Tokyo National Museum Theatre!*



Tactile map in Room 19 of the Japanese Gallery (Honkan)

■ Research

We conduct research on cultural properties originating in Asia, with a focus on Japan. Research outcomes are reflected in the museum’s collection, preservation, and exhibition activities. Research is partially supported by Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research and other grants for cultural activities. Research conducted in fiscal year 2017 includes the following:

- Joint research on the Buddhist art works held in the Museum’s collections, using optical technology
- Research relating to Thematic Exhibitions such as *Tibetan Buddhism and the World of Esoteric Buddhism*
- Research relating to the development of museum field-trip guides that make effective use of information and communications technology (ICT)
- Special Research Projects on the Treasures of the Horyu-ji Temple donated to the Imperial Household in 1878, including Calligraphy, Handicrafts, Sculpture, and Painting



Survey being undertaken using optical technology as part of a joint research project

Brief History

- 1872: Opened as the Museum of the Ministry of Education, on the occasion of Japan’s first public exposition held by the ministry in the Yushima Seido, Tokyo.
- 1875: Transferred to the Ministry of the Interior. The museum had eight exhibition categories at this time: natural products, agriculture& forestation, industrial technology, art, history, education, religion, and army and navy
- 1882: Moved to the present location, a site formerly occupied by the headquarters of Kan’ei-ji temple.
- 1889: Reorganized as the Imperial Museum under the supervision of the Imperial Household Agency.
- 1900: Renamed the Tokyo Imperial Household Museum.
- 1909: Hyokeikan opened.
- 1923: Former Honkan building destroyed in the Great Kanto Earthquake.
- 1925: Natural history collections transferred to the Tokyo Museum of the Ministry of Education (present-day National Science Museum) and other institutions.
- 1938: Present Honkan building opened.
- 1947: Transferred to the Ministry of Education and renamed the National Museum.
- 1952: Renamed the Tokyo National Museum.
- 1964: The Gallery of Horyuji Treasures (inaugural building) opened.
- 1968: Affiliated with the Agency for Cultural Affairs. Toyokan opened.
- 1984: The Shiriyokan (the Research and Information Center) opened.
- 1999: The Gallery of Horyuji Treasures (current building) and Heiseikan opened.
- 2001: Became the Independent Administrative Institution National Museums, Tokyo National Museum.
- 2007: Integrated into the Independent Administrative Institution National Institutes for Cultural Heritage as the Tokyo National Museum.

Facilities

				(m ²)
Land Area	120,270 (including the Kuroda Memorial Hall and the Yanase Villa)			
Buildings	Building Area	22,438	Gross Floor Area	72,222
Exhibition Buildings	Exhibition Area Total		18,199	
	Repository Area Total		7,836	
Honkan	Building Area	6,602	Gross Floor Area	22,416
	Exhibition Area	6,573	Repository Area	4,028
Toyokan	Building Area	2,892	Gross Floor Area	12,531
	Exhibition Area	4,250	Repository Area	1,373
Heiseikan	Building Area	5,542	Gross Floor Area	19,406
	Exhibition Area	4,471	Repository Area	2,119
The Gallery of Horyuji Treasures	Building Area	1,935	Gross Floor Area	4,031
	Exhibition Area	1,462	Repository Area	291
Hyokeikan	Building Area	1,130	Gross Floor Area	2,077
	Exhibition Area	1,179	Repository Area	0
Kuroda Memorial Hall	Building Area	724	Gross Floor Area	1,996
	Exhibition Area	264	Repository Area	25
Others	Building Area	3,613	Gross Floor Area	9,765



Kyoto National Museum

The Kyoto National Museum collects, preserves, manages, and exhibits cultural properties, while also conducting research and educational activities. It focuses on cultural properties from the Heian period to the Edo period, a time when Kyoto was the capital of Japan.



SASAKI Johei

Executive Director
Kyoto National Museum

Kyoto served as Japan's Imperial capital for over 1,000 years, from the relocation of the capital in 794, which marked the beginning of the Heian period, right through to the Meiji Restoration in 1868.

The Kyoto National Museum showcases numerous cultural assets that testify to the glory of the city's cultural heritage and presents Japan's traditional culture to the world through various activities. We will continue to work towards the realization of the museum's great mission of spreading awareness of Japanese traditional culture throughout the globe. To this end, the museum strives to encourage people in all walks of life to take an interest in and visit the museum. Our aim is to create a "people-centric museum" that is also a "museum with deep roots in the local community." We would like our museum to be a place for education, a place where people can relax, a place for lifelong learning, and also a place that will attract both domestic and overseas tourists. The new Heisei Chishinkan Wing opened in September 2014. We anticipate that the new facilities and functions of the Heisei Chishinkan Wing will help to make the Kyoto National Museum even more popular with visitors.

This year (2017) marks the 120th anniversary of the founding of the Kyoto National Museum. In the past, we have played an important role in the preservation and transmission of cultural heritage. Taking this fundamental role of museums as our starting point, we will be implementing a variety of activities, thereby proactively promoting the museum's continued development.

Exhibitions

● Collection Galleries

The Collection Galleries in the Heisei Chishinkan Wing, which opened in September 2014, include thematic galleries for ceramics, archeological relics, paintings, calligraphy, decorative and applied arts, and sculpture. The galleries showcase some of the finest pieces from the museum's 13,000 collection works (including works on long-term loan), and enable visitors to experience some of the most outstanding examples of Kyoto's unique cultural heritage. The works on display are changed periodically, so visitors can expect to see different items on subsequent visits.

● Special Exhibitions

- 120th Anniversary Commemorative Special Exhibition *Kaiho Yusho* (April 11–May 21, 2017)
- 120th Anniversary Commemorative Special Exhibition *National Treasures* (October 3–November 26, 2017)



Heisei Chishinkan



Special Exhibition
The Art of Zen: From Mind to Form
(April 12–May 22, 2016)



Special Exhibition
Sakamoto Ryōma: Japan's Favorite Hero
(October 15–November 27, 2016)



Collection Galleries

Collection, Preservation, and Restoration of Cultural Properties

Since the museum's establishment, numerous treasures from historical temples and shrines have been entrusted to the Kyoto National Museum. Meanwhile, the number of cultural properties in the collection has increased yearly through purchases and donations, with a focus on art or archaeological items related to Kyoto culture. These cultural properties must be restored and preserved appropriately so that they may be enjoyed and appreciated by future generations. The Conservation Center for Cultural Properties, the first comprehensive conservation facility for cultural properties in Japan, was established in 1980 to meet that need.

Educational Activities

We undertake a variety of activities via our exhibitions, our website, and outreach to schools, in order to help people learn more about the museum's exhibitions and collections, and to stimulate interest and concern for cultural properties.



The Conservation Center for Cultural Properties

- Activities held to enhance understanding of exhibition contents and exhibits
 - The museum holds various lectures and seminars including the Saturday Lectures and Commemorative Lectures. It also operates the "Museum Cart" hands-on experience booths (staffed by "Kyo-Haku Navigator" volunteers), and implements various types of workshops, as well as distributing museum guide brochures, explanatory sheets, and the "Museum Dictionary," etc.
- Activities held to stimulate interest in cultural properties
 - The museum organizes summer lectures, symposiums and other lecture events, as well as arranging visits to elementary schools and junior high schools in Kyoto by "Cultural Property Sommeliers" making use of high-resolution digital reproductions of important works of art (Cultural Heritage Familiarization Classes), and organizing workshops in locations outside the museum.
- The museum works closely with educational institutions, organizing collaborative events.
 - The collaboration between the museum and the university sector includes the Campus Members System, the giving of lectures on historical, cultural and sociological topics by our curators at the Graduate School of Human and Environmental Studies, Kyoto University, and the training of "Cultural Property Sommeliers," as well as the holding of training sessions for visit-based learning activities and teacher education.
- Support for volunteer activities
 - Implementation of the "Kyo-Haku Navigator" and "Cultural Property Sommeliers" systems, and training of "Kyo-Haku Navigator" and "Cultural Property Sommelier" volunteers.



Let's Use Stamps to Design Uchiwa (Traditional Paper Fans)! activity at the Museum Kids! National Fair (in Sendai) (June 25-26, 2016)



Kyo-Haku Navigator workshop *Divination-Learning About the Language of Zen Buddhism* (2016)

Research

Since 1979, the museum has been implementing an ongoing, comprehensive survey of cultural assets owned by shrines and temples in the Kinki region of Japan, centered on Kyoto, with the researchers of the museum's Curatorial Board playing a particularly active role. As part of these efforts, over a four-year period starting in 2016, we are implementing a *Comprehensive Research Program on the Buddhist Culture and History of the Kawachi Region*, with KAKENHI (government-funded grants-in-aid for scientific research) funding support. This research program will involve conducting a survey of the cultural heritage of shrines and temples in the Osaka and Kawachi regions. We have also been undertaking an ongoing survey of paintings, calligraphy and decorative art dating from the Early Modern and Modern eras from a collection housed in a private residence in Kaizuka City, Osaka Prefecture. Approximately half of these works have already been donated to the museum, and will be put on public display in a Special Exhibition in the Heisei Chishinkan Wing in 2017. The museum also continues to undertake research on its collections; the research results are reflected in the museum's displays and published in the Kyoto National Museum Bulletin.



Temple research inventory at Kongō-ji Temple



Rakugo performance

Other Activities

○Rakugo at the Museum

As part of the museum's efforts to create a "people-centric museum", Kyoto National Museum has launched the "Rakugo at the Museum" project whereby performances of rakugo (traditional comic storytelling which originated in Kyoto) are held several times a year, highlighting seasonal themes. Other concerts are also being planned.

Brief History

- 1889: Established as the Imperial Museum of Kyoto under the supervision of the Imperial Household Agency Ministry
- 1897: First exhibition held
- 1900: Renamed as the Imperial Household Museum of Kyoto
- 1924: Donated to Kyoto City; renamed as the Imperial Gift Museum of Kyoto
- 1952: Transferred to the national government; renamed as the Kyoto National Museum
- 1966: Establishment of the Collections Hall
- 1968: Affiliated with the Agency for Cultural Affairs
- 1969: The Special Exhibition Hall, Main Gate, ticket booth and fences are designated as an Important Cultural Property under the name of the Former Imperial Museum of Kyoto
- 1973: The Saturday lecture series starts
- 1980: The Conservation Center for Cultural Properties established
- 2001: The South Gate constructed as part of the 100th Year Anniversary Hall construction project (tentative name)
- 2001: Transformed into the Independent Administrative Institution National Museum, Kyoto National Museum
- 2007: Integrated into the Independent Administrative Institution National Institutes for Cultural Heritage, as Kyoto National Museum
- 2009: Reconstruction begins on the former Collection Hall
- 2013: Construction of Heisei Chishinkan Wing (new Collection Hall) is completed in August
- 2014: Heisei Chishinkan Wing is scheduled to open in September

Facilities

				(m ²)
Land Area				53,182
Buildings	Building Area	13,517	Gross Floor Area	31,828
	Exhibition Buildings		Exhibition Area Total	5,657
			Repository Area Total	5,421
Special Exhibition Hall	Building Area	3,015	Gross Floor Area	3,015
	Exhibition Area	2,070	Repository Area	803
Heisei Chishinkan Wing	Building Area	5,568	Gross Floor Area	17,997
	Exhibition Area	3,587	Repository Area	2,710
Former Administration Building	Building Area	590	Gross Floor Area	1,954
Materials Building	Building Area	414	Gross Floor Area	1,125
Conservation Center for Cultural Properties	Building Area	728	Gross Floor Area	2,856
Technical Materials Center	Building Area	101	Gross Floor Area	304
East Repository	Building Area	1,084	Gross Floor Area	1,996
			Repository Area	1,412
North Repository	Building Area	310	Gross Floor Area	682
			Repository Area	496
Others	Building Area	1,707	Gross Floor Area	1,899



Nara National Museum

Nara National Museum collects, preserves, manages and displays cultural properties, while also conducting research and providing educational programs. The focus is on Buddhist art and the cultural properties of Nara.



MATSUMOTO Nobuyuki
Executive Director
Nara National Museum

Since its opening in 1895, with the cooperation of temples and shrines of the Nara region, the Nara National Museum has been engaged in collecting, preserving, and conducting research and educational programs on cultural properties mainly associated with Buddhism. Through these activities, the museum has introduced to the public the high artistic value and historical background of Japanese Buddhist culture, unique in its fusion with indigenous beliefs. Keeping in mind that various cultural properties are tied together in an organic whole with the historical and cultural landscape of Nara, we will continuously strive to promote the museum's international activities and the more effective use of information technology in order to reach a wide range of people as a conveyor of Nara's culture.

Exhibitions

● Buddhist Art Exhibitions

As well as special exhibitions and feature exhibitions, the museum also exhibits distinguished masterworks of Buddhist art including many designated as National Treasures and Important Cultural Properties. The Nara Buddhist Sculpture Hall features "Masterpieces of Buddhist Sculpture", which displays exceptional Buddhist statues representative of the history of Japanese sculpture from the Asuka to the Kamakura period, dating from around the 7th century to the mid-14th century. The Ritual Bronzes Gallery connected by a corridor features fine works of Chinese ancient bronzes. The West Wing houses "Masterpiece of Buddhist Art" which introduces the essence of Japanese Buddhist art through selected items of painting, decorative art, calligraphy and artifacts. In addition, thematic exhibitions from the permanent collection are occasionally held for themes that lie outside a specific genre.

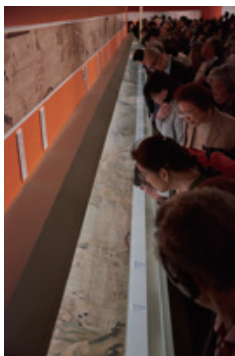
● Feature Exhibitions

Feature exhibitions are medium-scale exhibitions organized to explore a specific theme.

- *On-Matsuri and the Sacred Art of Kasuga* (December 9, 2017–January 14, 2018)
- *Treasures of Todaiji's Omizutori Ritual* (February 6–March 14, 2018)
- Restoration Commemoration Exhibition *Masterpiece Paintings of Yakushiji: Interior Panel Paintings of the Former Fukujuin by Nagasawa Rosetsu and Ita-e Paintings* (February 6–March 14, 2018)

● Special Exhibitions

- *The Buddhist Master Sculptor Kaikei: Timeless Beauty from the Kamakura Period* (April 8–June 4, 2017)
- Millennial Memorial Exhibition: *Imaging the Afterlife—Hells and Paradise Envisioned by the Buddhist Prelate Genshin* (July 15–September 3, 2017)
- The 69th Annual Exhibition of Shōsō-in Treasures (Late October–Early November, 2017) (Tentative)



The National Treasure Illustrated Scrolls of the Legends of Shigisan: Treasures of Chōgosonshiji Temple and Faith in Bishamontennō
(April 9–May 22, 2016)



Special Exhibition Commemorating the 800th Anniversary of the Birth of Ninshō—*The Buddhist Monk Ninshō: A Life Devoted to Salvation*
(July 23–September 19, 2016)



The 68th Annual Exhibition of Shōsō-in Treasures
(October 22–November 7, 2016)

Collection, Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Properties

We strive to collect tangible cultural properties, which are valuable assets for the people of Japan, by purchase, donation and loan.

We work to maintain the environment for our collections with meticulous care, by constantly controlling the temperature and humidity in our exhibition and storage areas.

Most Japanese cultural properties are made of extremely fragile materials such as paper and wood. Therefore, the museum must take proactive steps to preserve these objects for future generations. For this reason, in 2002, we established the Conservation Center for Cultural Properties to handle restoration projects by restorers.

■ Educational Programs

We promote a variety of educational programs to increase the understanding of the importance of cultural properties.

- ① Collection and distribution of information and materials concerning cultural properties
- ② Programs for students
Ex: World heritage classes (mainly for elementary school students) and educational lectures for teachers
- ③ Lectures and seminars
Ex: Public lectures, Sunday museum talks, summer seminar series, the Shōsō-in academic symposium, and international symposia
- ④ Cooperation with universities and colleges
Ex: Campus Members System, internship programs, and joint lectures with Nara Women's University and Kobe University
- ⑤ Promotion of volunteer activities



Volunteer activity



Summer seminar *History and Art of the Rishshu School of Buddhism-From Ganjin to Ninshō* in progress

■ Research and Survey Activities

We consider research into cultural properties to be the most important activity supporting the foundations of the Nara National Museum as a research institution. Reflected in the museum's masterpiece exhibitions and special exhibitions, the results of research are utilized in our exhibition activities. Reference materials collected through research are available to the public at the Buddhist Art Library. In fiscal year 2017 the Nara National Museum will conduct the following thematic research:

- ① Research on collection items, items on loan to the museum, and related items
- ② Research on Buddhist paintings alongside the creation of reproductions
- ③ Fundamental research on ancient Buddhist scriptures and sutra-copying
- ④ Comprehensive survey of Buddhist arts and crafts and ancient arts and crafts
- ⑤ Research on artifacts excavated from ancient tombs
- ⑥ Research on the art of sculpture in ancient and medieval Nara
- ⑦ Research on Buddhist art using optical technologies, conducted in collaboration with the Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties
- ⑧ Research to accompany thematic exhibitions
- ⑨ Research to accompany special exhibitions, etc.
- ⑩ Research to contribute to educational programs in history and traditional culture
- ⑪ Research into the effects on cultural properties of storage area environments, exhibition spaces and display cases
- ⑫ Research on collections and objects loaned to the museum, from the perspective of cultural asset restoration
- ⑬ Research on collections and objects loaned to the museum, from the perspective of conservation science
- ⑭ Theory and practice-based study of establishing cultural property archives



Preparatory research for the special exhibition *Kaikai*



Venue hire: Ferrari Cavalcade International 2016

Brief History

- 1889: Established as the Imperial Museum of Nara under the supervision of the Imperial Household Ministry
- 1895: First exhibition held (April 29)
- 1900: Renamed as the Imperial Household Museum of Nara
- 1914: Establishment of the Shōsō-in Department
- 1947: Supervision transferred to the Ministry of Education
- 1950: Affiliated with the National Commission for the Protection of Cultural Properties
- 1952: Renamed as the Nara National Museum
- 1968: Affiliated with the Agency for Cultural Affairs
- 1973: Opening of the West Wing
- 1980: Establishment of the Buddhist Art Library
- 1995: Celebration of the museum's centennial anniversary
- 1998: Opening of the East Wing
- 2001: Becomes the Independent Administrative Institution National Museum, Nara National Museum
- 2002: Opening of the Conservation Center for Cultural Properties
The main building's repository reopens as the Ritual Bronzes Gallery
- 2007: Integrated into the Independent Administrative Institution National Institutes for Cultural Heritage, as the Nara National Museum
- 2010: The main building renamed as the Nara Buddhist Sculpture Hall
- 2016: Nara Buddhist Sculpture Hall reopening after restoration (April 29)

Facilities

				(m ²)
Land Area				78,760
Buildings	Building Area	6,769	Gross Floor Area	19,116
Exhibition Buildings			Exhibition Area Total	4,079
			Repository Area Total	1,558
Nara Buddhist Sculpture Hall	Building Area	1,512	Gross Floor Area	1,512
	Exhibition Area	1,261		
Ritual Bronzes Gallery	Building Area	341	Gross Floor Area	664
	Exhibition Area	470		
East Wing	Building Area	1,825	Gross Floor Area	6,389
	Exhibition Area	875	Repository Area	1,394
West Wing	Building Area	1,649	Gross Floor Area	5,396
	Exhibition Area	1,473		
Buddhist Art Library	Building Area	718	Gross Floor Area	718
Conservation Center for Cultural Properties	Building Area	319	Gross Floor Area	1,036
Lower Level Passageway	Gross Floor Area	2,152	Repository Area	164
Others	Building Area	405	Gross Floor Area	1,249



Kyushu National Museum

Kyushu National Museum collects, preserves, manages and displays cultural properties, while also conducting research and providing educational programs. The focus is on cultural properties related to Japan's cultural exchanges with other Asian regions.



SHIMATANI Hiroyuki
Executive Director
Kyushu National Museum

Kyushu, the westernmost main island of Japan, which is situated close to continental Asia, has been the stage for vibrant exchanges of people and objects since ancient times. Delegations from overseas were welcomed at the Dazaifu Government Office, which was situated near the museum's current location. This historical background, and the aspirations of the people of Kyushu, led to the establishment, in 2005 in Dazaifu City, Fukuoka, of a national museum that focuses on the development of Japanese culture in relation to the surrounding Asian regions.

The Museum has now received a cumulative total of over 14 million visitors since it first opened. The last few years have seen a pronounced increase in the number of visitors from China, Korea, Vietnam and Thailand.

In the future, the Museum will continue to carry out a wide range of research work and other activities aimed at furthering mutual understanding between Asian cultures, while also striving to be a museum that is relevant to, and of value to, the local community.

Exhibitions

● Cultural Exchange Exhibition (Permanent Exhibition)

In order to provide our visitors with opportunities to experience new works each time they visit, Feature Exhibitions, which change periodically, are held in the Cultural Exchange Exhibition Gallery.

We also strive to create more dynamic and in-depth exhibitions through the usage of videos and hands-on displays.

● Feature Exhibitions (Thematic Exhibitions)

The main Feature Exhibitions scheduled for fiscal year 2017 are as follows:

- *History Revealed from the deep—The Frontier of Underwater Archaeology* (July 15–September 10, 2017)
- *Tsushima—Traces of International Contacts Seen in Historical Treasures* (provisional title) (August 8–September 18, 2017)
- *The Land of Gods, Buddhas and Demons—An Exhibition about the Rokugo Manzan (Esoteric Buddhist Temples) of Usa in Kunisaki* (provisional title) (September 13–November 5, 2017)
- *Prominent Zen priests, Hakuin and Sengai* (January 1–February 12, 2018)
- *Learning from, and Being Prepared for, Natural Disasters—The Kumamoto Earthquakes and Cultural Heritage Rescue Work* (provisional title) (March 13–May 6, 2018)
- *Special New Year Display: National Treasure HATSUNE BRIDAL MAKIE LACQUER FURNISHINGS from the Tokugawa Art Museum* (January 1–28, 2018)

● Special Exhibitions

- *Thailand: Brilliant Land of the Buddha* (April 11–June 4, 2017)
- *Lascaux: The Cave Paintings of the Ice Age* (July 11–September 3, 2017)
- *Japanese Art in the Age of Discoveries* (October 14–November 26, 2017)
- *Wang Xizhi and Japanese Calligraphy* (provisional title) (February 10–April 8, 2018)

Collection, Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Properties

● Collection

The Museum puts an emphasis on collecting cultural heritage such as fine art, decorative art, archeological materials, historical documents and folk materials that help visitors more easily understand the cultural exchanges between Japan and the rest of Asia as well as the origins of Japanese culture. Moreover, in an effort to further improve displays and exhibitions, we proactively invite temples, shrines and private individuals to donate or entrust their cultural properties to us.

● Preservation

The "storage rooms" of the Museum are where important cultural properties are preserved and stored. They feature a double-walled structure, designed to prevent external air from outside the Museum from directly reaching the cultural properties, and are located in the heart of the building to minimize changes in temperature and humidity. The air conditioning facilities also utilize a constant temperature humidistat, which allows the temperature and humidity of the storage area to be constantly maintained at more or less the same level. Additionally, the walls and ceiling of each storage room are made from materials procured from local suppliers in Kyushu, such as cedar, to help ensure an appropriate humidity level without overly depending on air conditioning devices. The Museum was constructed as a seismically isolated structure, to prevent cultural properties from damage caused such as by toppling over during earthquakes. The building does not receive a direct impact in the event of an earthquake, and this helps protect the priceless cultural properties located inside.

● Restoration

The six conservation and restoration facilities at the Museum (respectively specializing in: the production of paper and other materials used for repair; historical materials, calligraphy and documents; paintings; sculptures; archaeological artifacts; and lacquerware) work in collaboration with the Museum's Science Division, combining traditional methods with scientific research technology. The staff, well experienced in the restoration of Japan's designated cultural properties, conduct projects actively through discussions with curators from fields such as history, art, decorative arts, archaeology and other related areas. The latest technological equipment such as fluorescent X-ray analyzing devices and X-ray CT scanners are also utilized in the scientific analysis of cultural properties to be restored.



Cultural Exchange Exhibition
(Permanent Exhibition)



Feature Exhibition *Iwari wares in the life of established families*
(September 14–November 6, 2016)



Special Exhibition *Thailand: Brilliant Land of the Buddha*
(April 14–June 4, 2017)

Educational and Exchange Activities

Educational Activities

- ① Interactive Exhibition Gallery "Ajippa" showcases the various cultures of regions that had historically interacted with Japan. Other efforts include areas such as educational kits development, visitor experience programs, and collaborative programs with other educational institutions.
- ② Educational programs in association with special exhibitions and the Cultural Exchange Exhibition (permanent exhibition)
 - Programs to improve exhibition understanding
 - Conducting of workshops
 - Production of guidebooks
- ③ "Kypack" - educational kits to be used in secondary schools
- ④ Campus Members System to strengthen ties with universities and other higher educational institutions
- ⑤ Educational activities based on "Kyushu National Museum's picture books" for children
- ⑥ Supporting volunteer activities
We encourage various volunteer activities at the museum in areas including exhibition explanations, educational programs, guided tours (including behind the scenes "Backyard Tours"), the environment, events, and Data compilation.



Volunteer Program: Kyushu National Museum Children's Festival

Exchange Activities

- ① Implementing exchange projects in cooperation with local enterprises for more effective utilization of museum facilities.
- ② Promoting exchange among Asian museums
Conclusion of cultural exchange agreements with the Buyeo National Museum (Korea), the Gongju National Museum (Korea), The Korea National University of Cultural Heritage, the Nanjing Museum (China), the Museum of Inner Mongolia (China), Chinese Center for Cultural Exchange, Sichuan Museum (Chengdu, China), Shenyang Imperial Palace Museum (China), the Vietnam National Museum of History, and the Fine Arts Department of the Ministry of Culture (Thailand)
- ③ Hosting international symposia and lecture events
 - Sacred Island of OKINOSHIMA in Munakata Region and the Yamato Imperial Court: *The Island of the Gods and Memories of Worship—The Story of Excavation Surveys of Religious Sites* (January 21, 2017)
 - The US-Japan Conference on Cultural and Educational Interchange (CULCON)—Arts Dialogue Committee Symposium: *Japanese Art and the World—Focusing on Key Trends Since 2000* (December 6, 2016)
 - Japan-China-ROK Trilateral Cultural Heritage Forum—*The Protection and Public Use of Underwater Cultural Heritage* (February 12, 2017)

Research and Survey Activities

The results of research concerning our main theme of "Cultural Exchange between Japan and Asian Countries" and scientific research on conservation and restoration of cultural properties are actively utilized for our collection, preservation and exhibition activities. Part of our research is financially supported by the government-funded Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (KAKENHI) and other private grants for cultural activities.

- Research on using X-ray computed tomography (CT) scanning to analyze the structure of bronze vessels, sculptures, lacquer-ware, and other types of cultural heritage
- Research on the preservation and utilization of underwater archaeological sites
- Research relating to feature exhibitions and special displays, including *"The Land of Gods, Buddhas and Demons—An Exhibition about the Rokugo Manzan (Esoteric Buddhist Temples) of Usa in Kunisaki"* (provisional title) etc.
- Research on educational outreach programs aimed at enhancing museum visitors' understanding through the use of explanatory panels, booklets, workshops etc. tailored to exhibition themes
- Research on the conservation and restoration of cultural heritage in museums
- Basic research on the establishment of an integrated pest management (IPM)
- Empirical research on the rescue etc. of cultural heritage following a natural disaster



Research on the *Namban Ships and Chinese Junk*, using a large, high-definition flatbed scanner

Publications

The museum produces publications to promote a wider understanding of our activities

- i) Tofu-seisei (Research Bulletin): This bulletin summarizes the results of the Museum's investigative research efforts (published annually)
- ii) Asiage (Visual guide): A guide providing information on Cultural Exchange Exhibition (permanent exhibition) in an accessible format
- iii) Asiage (Quarterly magazine): An information magazine focusing on the Cultural Exchange Exhibition and special exhibitions (released quarterly)
- iv) Picture Book Series: The Museum produces original picture books for children about Japanese history format to encourage understanding and familiarity.

Brief History

- 1994: The Agency for Cultural Affairs (ACA) organized the "committee to investigate the establishment of a new concept-based museum (the Committee)".
- 1996: ACA decided the new museum should be established as the Kyushu National Museum (provisional title) in Dazaifu, Fukuoka.
- 1997: The Committee drew up the "basic framework for Kyushu National Museum (provisional title)".
- 1999: The Committee made the "basic plan for Kyushu National Museum (provisional title)".
- 2000: ACA, Fukuoka Prefecture, and the Kyushu National Museum Promotion Foundation (the Foundation) jointly formulated the "basic construction design" for the Museum.
The ACA and Fukuoka Prefecture jointly organized "experts conference for the establishment of Kyushu National Museum (provisional title)" developed the "permanent exhibition plan".
- 2001: ACA, Fukuoka Prefecture and the Foundation jointly completed the "basic exhibition design".
The Independent Administrative Institution National Museum (the National Museum) established the "preparatory office for the establishment of the Kyushu National Museum".
- 2002: ACA, Fukuoka Prefecture and the Foundation jointly launched the "construction works (the first year of a three-year plan)".
- 2003: The National Museum and Fukuoka Prefecture launched the "preparation of the exhibitions (the first year of a two-year plan)".
- 2004: ACA, Fukuoka Prefecture and the Foundation completed the "construction works".

ACA, the National Museum and Fukuoka Prefecture officially named the Museum as "Kyushu National Museum".

- 2005: The National Museum and Fukuoka Prefecture completed the "preparation of the exhibitions".
The National Museum formally established the Kyushu National Museum. Kyushu National Museum opened to the public on 16 October.
- 2007: The Kyushu National Museum was merged into the IAI National Institutes for Cultural Heritage (NICH).
- 2008: Japan-China-ROK Trilateral Summit Meeting was held at the Kyushu National Museum.
- 2012: Kyushu National Museum welcomed its 10 millionth visitor.
- 2015: 10th anniversary

Facilities

		(m ²)	
Land Area	NICH	10,798	Prefecture 166,477
			155,679
Building	Building Area	14,623	Gross Floor Area 30,675
	NICH	9,300	Prefecture 5,780
			Shared Area 15,595
Exhibition and Repository Area	Exhibition Area Total	5,444	NICH 3,844
	Prefecture	1,375	Shared Area 225
	Repository Area Total	4,518	NICH 2,744
	Prefecture	1,335	Shared Area 439

The land and buildings are co-owned by Fukuoka Prefecture and the institution.



Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties



KAMEI Nobuo

Director General
Tokyo National
Research Institute for
Cultural Properties

The Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, in the implementation of its role of supporting the work of the government in the administration of cultural properties, conducts fundamental, systematic, up-to-date and practical research on all types of cultural properties, both tangible and intangible. It actively disseminates the results of such research, provides guidance and advice to local public organizations regarding the preservation of cultural properties, and conducts international cooperation activities, with different countries in Asia and other regions of the world, on the protection of cultural properties through the trainings of personnel and the transferring of conservation and restoration techniques.

The priority areas on which the Institute is focusing in its survey and research work are outlined below: Firstly, the Institute is working to build up comprehensive archives from the various types of research results, basic databases and source materials that the Institute has collected over the years. In addition, in the conservation science field, the Institute promotes coordinated projects with the Independent Administrative Institution National Institutes for Cultural Heritage, of which the Institute forms a part, with respect to surveys and research relating to the preservation, restoration and publication of museum materials. Thirdly, in regard to intangible cultural heritage, the Institute collects basic data and materials nationwide, focusing mainly on performing arts and traditional techniques, and makes them available to the public, etc.

Besides the above activities, the Institute operates the secretariat office of the Japan Consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage, a base organization for promoting the coordination and collaboration of Japan's contribution in this area.

■ Organization

● Department of Art Research, Archives and Information Systems

The Department of Art Research, Archives and Information Systems collects, preserves, collates and publicizes information relating to cultural properties, and also undertakes research on the development of effective methods for the transmission of information, with the aim of expanding the scope of cultural property archives. At the same time, the Department aims to realize a new kind of information science through measures tackling issues of contemporary relevance in the fields of cultural properties studies and art history research, etc. The Department also takes the results obtained in these activities as the basis for managing the information systems and public relations activities of the Institute as a whole.

● Department of Intangible Cultural Heritage

The Department of Intangible Cultural Heritage conducts basic research useful for the conservation and transmission of intangible cultural heritage, focusing in particular on Japan's intangible cultural heritage, which includes intangible cultural properties, intangible folk-cultural properties, and techniques for preserving cultural properties. Audiovisual documentation, a significant Method for the conservation of intangible cultural heritage, is conducted and new methods of documentation are also investigated.

● Center for Conservation Science

The Center for Conservation Science implements surveys of cultural property materials, construction and techniques, and undertakes research on the creation of environments suitable for the conservation and display of cultural properties. The Center also seeks to introduce new research methods. In addition, it conducts research into the improvement of restoration materials and techniques and into maintenance management methods. Moreover, the center works closely with those who are actually engaged in the conservation and restoration of cultural properties and their owners.

● Japan Center for International Cooperation in Conservation

The Japan Center for International Cooperation in Conservation renders assistance to various countries in Asian and other regions of the world through the conservation and restoration projects of cultural heritage including technical transfer and human resource development. It also promotes the cooperative networks with other relevant institutions, domestic and international, by organizing seminars and meetings. Collection and dissemination of information on cultural heritage and its protection systems is another important task of the Center.

The center is commissioned with the management of the secretariat for the Japan Consortium for International Cooperation in Cultural Heritage.



Conference In Search of the Multiple Origins of Namban Lacquer



Kobayashi Lion Dance of Kanpaku School, Nikko City, Tochigi



Restoration work for torii gate of Itsukushima-jinja shrine using with the restoration materials, which have evaluated in this project



A survey of restoration materials for the brick temple (Bagan, Myanmar)

Seminar, Advice and Guidance

The Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties conducts various seminars and provides advice and guidance for the protection and utilization of cultural properties. Seminars and projects include International courses on conservation of Japanese paper, Training for museum curators in charge of conservation, Advice on safeguarding Intangible cultural properties, Inspection assistance and advice on the museum environments, and Investigation and advice concerning conservation of cultural properties.



International Training Program *Conservation and Restoration of Paper in Latin America*



Training for museum curators



The 50th Public Lecture

Graduate School Education and Public Lectures

The Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties provides the results of its research to the public in the hope of nurturing the next generation of experts and raising public interest. The institute has collaborated with the Tokyo University of the Arts since 1995 and is in charge of its Preventive Conservation Course. In the public lectures, the Department of Art Research, Archives and Information Systems, and the Department of Intangible Cultural Heritage present their research achievements every year.

Dissemination of Research Information

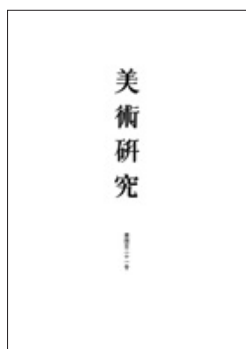
The Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties is engaged in actively communicating with the public and making the results of its diverse activities accessible, including those of research and international cooperation. Publications such as the Annual Report, Leaflet for the 8th Public Profile and TOBUNKENNEWS are published, and the website of the institute is updated constantly



TOBUNKEN Research Collections (<http://www.tobunken.go.jp/archives/>)

Publications

The Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties publishes periodicals such as *The Bijutsu Kenkyu* (The Journal of Art Studies), *Yearbook of Japanese Art, Research and Reports on Intangible Cultural Heritage* and *Science for Conservation*. It also publishes the results of various additional research studies



The Bijutsu Kenkyu
(Journal of Art Studies)



Yearbook of Japanese Art



Research and Reports on Intangible Cultural Heritage



Science for Conservation

Brief History

- 1930: Established as the institute of Art Research, an auxiliary organization of the Imperial Academy of Fine Arts
- 1947: Affiliated with the national Museum
- 1950: Affiliated with the national Commission for Protection of Cultural Properties
- 1952: Reorganized and renamed as Tokyo Research Institute of Cultural Properties
- 1954: Renamed as Tokyo national Institute of Cultural Properties
- 1968: Affiliated with the Agency for Cultural Affairs
- 2000: Construction of new offices
- 2001: Restructured as the Independent Administrative Institution National Research Institute for Cultural Properties Tokyo
- 2007: Integrated into the Independent Administrative Institution National Institutes for Cultural Heritage, as Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties

Facilities

	(m ²)	
Land Area	4,181	
Building	Building Area	2,258
	Gross Floor Area	10,516



Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties



MATSUMURA Keiji
Director General
Nara National Research
Institute for Cultural
Properties

● Department of Planning and Coordination

The work of the Department of Planning and Coordination is assigned to five sections: the Planning and Coordination Section, the Data and Information Section, the International Cooperation Section, the Exhibition Section and the Photography Section. These sections plan and organize professional training programs for cultural heritage workers at local government agencies and other organizations, organize data systems and enhance related databases, arrange international joint research projects and engage in international cooperation on archaeological sites, exhibit research results at the Nara Palace Site Museum, and carry out photography and the development of new technology.

● Department of Cultural Heritage

The Department of Cultural Heritage consists of the Historical Document Section, the Architectural History Section, the Cultural Landscape Section and the Site Stabilization Section. These sections conduct specialist and comprehensive research in the following areas respectively: calligraphy, ancient books and historical documents; historical and traditional architecture; cultural landscapes; and the maintenance of archaeological sites and historical gardens. The research activities conducted by each section contribute, in a practical manner, to governmental activities concerning the protection of cultural properties, such as the designation, selection, registration, conservation and management of properties. The Department also collaborates with, and provides advice for, local public entities in regard to cultural property administration.

● Department of Imperial Palace Sites Investigations

The Department of Imperial Palace Sites Investigations is organized in five sections: the Archaeology Sections 1, 2 and 3, the History Section, and the Architectural Feature Section. These sections undertake interdisciplinary research on the basis of archeological excavations of ancient palaces, temples, tombs located in the Heijo area and in the Asuka and Fujiwara area. The research results are publicized through presentations, reports and exhibitions; this research also contributes to the preservation and effective utilization of these archeological remains.

[Department of Imperial Palace Sites Investigations (Heijo)]

This Department is in charge of excavation research at the Nara Palace Site (Special Historic Site), where the imperial palace and government offices were located in the Nara period (710-784). Systematic research has been in progress since 1959 and over one-third of the 130 hectare site has been excavated and surveyed so far. The finds from excavation at the sites of the palace and ancient temples, such as architectural remains, wooden strips (used for writing messages on), earthenware vessels and ceramic tiles, have been verified with reference to historical records; this empirical research on the Nara period undertaken by the Department has won widespread plaudits. The Department also provides the results of its research on the Nara Palace Site to the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT) as basic data to support the maintenance of the national Nara Palace Site Historical Park.

[Department of Imperial Palace Sites Investigations (Asuka and Fujiwara)]

The Department is in charge of excavation research on the Asuka and Fujiwara area that constituted Japan's political, economic and cultural center during the period between the 7th and early 8th centuries when the Japanese state was coming into being. The sites in the Asuka district include: palaces and the residences of elite clans; the sites of temples such as Asukadera temple (the oldest Buddhist temple in Japan); a workshop that produced ancient coins and glass; a water clock; and various tombs. To the north lies the site of the Fujiwara capital, the first large-scale castle city in Japan, covering a vast area of more than five square kilometers. The interdisciplinary, empirical research being conducted based on the excavations of these sites in the Asuka and Fujiwara areas has made a major contribution towards helping to clarify the historical record of the Asuka period.

Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, an organization that engages in the study of tangible cultural heritage, has conducted excavation research at the Nara and Fujiwara Palace sites, investigated cultural objects (such as historical documents, ancient architecture and gardens) and has also made efforts to preserve the Asuka region through its research and exhibition programs. These activities contribute to academic exchanges, international support and the study of cultural heritage in Japan and abroad. For example, they have resulted in ongoing joint research partnerships with institutes in China and Korea. We also endeavor to develop new excavation technology and research methods as well as to provide technical training for local government specialists.

Our methods of preservation, restoration and maintenance that we developed to protect historical sites are not only appreciated by researchers in Japan, but are also utilized in excavations globally. Our research activities are supported by our own interdisciplinary joint research in different fields. It is our responsibility to maximize the results of our efforts in the research and preservation of cultural properties.



Gallery Talk activity at the Nara Palace Site Museum



Providing guidance during restoration work on an archeological site



Excavation survey of the East Palace Site, forming part of the Heijo Palace (Imperial Palace)



The *dōban* (hanging banner) stand remains excavated at the Fujiwara Palace Site and the reconstructed *dōban*

●Center for Archaeological Operations

The Center for Archaeological Operations consists of four sections, which undertake the research activities noted below. The Conservation Science Section studies and develops analytical methods for investigating the material and structure of archaeological objects in order to conduct appropriate conservation and restoration work. The Environmental Archaeology Section studies the remains of flora and fauna in order to simulate ancient environments and nature. The Dating Section is advancing research in how to apply the methods of dendrochronology to the fields of archaeology, architectural history etc. The Archaeological Research Methodology Section researches technology for studying cultural properties as well as for measuring and surveying archaeological sites, and also undertakes disaster archeology research.



Survey using ground-penetrating radar (GPR) at the Itsukahara Kofun (burial tumulus) site (in Muko City, Kyoto Prefecture)

●Asuka Historical Museum

The Asuka Historical Museum, a facility displaying historical materials from the Asuka area, was established in 1975. The museum's regular exhibitions display items excavated from palaces, stone structures, tombs and temple sites. The reconstructed portion of the eastern cloister of Yamadadera temple and objects excavated around its site are also exhibited. The museum's special exhibitions, held twice a year in spring and autumn, feature the unearthed cultural properties of the Asuka area and explore the history of the Asuka period. Special Feature Exhibitions are held in summer and winter to showcase the multi-faceted research achievements of the Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties.



Asuka Historical Museum

●International Academic Exchange

Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties contributes to international exchange and collaboration through activities such as joint research, exchange of researchers, technical training, and conservation and restoration. It also participates in international cooperation projects conducted by other institutions such as ACCU (Asia-Pacific Cultural Centre for UNESCO).

Ongoing projects are as follows: (1) Joint research with the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences into the Northern Wei Luoyang capital site, an ancient capital of the Northern Wei dynasty; (2) Joint research with the Archaeological Institute of Henan Province, China into the Huangye and Baihe kiln sites located in the city of Gongyi; (3) Joint research with the Archaeological Institute of Liaoning Province, China into excavated artifacts belonging to the San-Yan Culture; (4) A comparative study with the National Research Institute of Cultural Heritage, Korea, of ancient capitals of Japan and Korea, together with human resource exchanges at excavation projects; (5) Research and a conservation project, undertaken with Cambodia's Authority for the Protection and Management of Angkor and the Region of Siem Reap (APSARA), at the Western Prasat Top, one of the historical sites of Angkor, together with human resource development; We have also been commissioned by the Agency for Cultural Affairs to collaborate with the Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library, Ministry of Religious Affairs and Culture, Myanmar on technology transfer and human resources development in the field of archaeology, especially methods of excavating archaeological sites and investigating artifacts from the site.



International project for conservation of Western Prasat Top, Angkor

●Publications

Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties publishes periodicals such as *Overview of Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties*, *BULLETIN Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties*, *NABUNKEN NEWS* and *CAO NEWS Centre for Archaeological Operations*. It also publishes the results of various additional research studies.

Brief History

- 1952: Nara Cultural Properties Research Institute (consisting of the General Affairs Division, the Historical Research Division, the Architecture Research Division, and the Art Research Division) is established at 50 Kasugano-cho, Nara City, as an auxiliary organization of the National Commission for the Properties
- 1954: Renamed as the Nara National Cultural Palace Site in Sakihigashi-machi, Nara City
- 1963: Heijo Palace Site Investigation Division is established
- 1968: Affiliated with the Agency for Cultural Affairs (established 1968)
- 1970: Nara Palace Site Museum opened
- 1973: Finance Section, Asuka/Fujiwara Palace Site Investigation Division, and Asuka Historical Museum established
- 1974: Department of General Affairs and the Center for Archaeological Operations established
- 1975: Asuka Historical Museum opened at Okuyama in Asuka village, Nara
- 1980: Art Research Division transferred to the Research Center for Buddhist Art, Nara National Museum
- 1980: Relocated to Nijo-cho, Nara City. Heijo Palace Site Investigation Division and the Center for Archaeological Operations are transferred together to the new site
- 1988: New headquarters building of Asuka/Fujiwara Palace Site Investigation Division built at 94-1 Kinomoto-cho, Kashihara City
- 2001: Restructured as the Independent Administrative Institution National Research Institute for Cultural Properties, Nara
- 2007: Integrated into the Independent Administrative Institution National Institute for Cultural Heritage. As the Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties.
- 2013: Relocated to temporary Premises located at 247-1 Sakicho, Nara City. While the original head office site is being redeveloped.

Facilities

	Land Area	Building (m ²)	
Area of Headquarters	8,860	Building Area Gross Floor Area Currently under reconstruction	
Area of Nara Palace Site Museum	Located on government-owned land, rent fees waived	Building Area Gross Floor Area	13,328 21,395
Area of Department of Imperial Palace Sites Investigations (Asuka and Fujiwara)	20,515	Building Area Gross Floor Area	6,016 9,477
Area of Asuka Historical Museum	17,093	Building Area Gross Floor Area	2,657 4,404

International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI)



IWAMOTO Wataru
Director-General
International Research
Centre for Intangible
Cultural Heritage in the
Asia-Pacific Region

At the UNESCO General Conference of October 2009, approval was given to Japan to establish an international centre for intangible cultural heritage in the Asia-Pacific region. After the Japanese government concluded an agreement with UNESCO in August 2010, the International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI) was founded in Sakai City, in October 2011, as a Category 2 Centre under the auspices of UNESCO (institutions that serve to contribute to the achievement of UNESCO's strategic objectives).

IRCI's objectives are to promote the UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) and its implementation, and to enhance the safeguarding of ICH through instigating, facilitating, and coordinating research in the Asia-Pacific region. Today, many elements of ICH are endangered throughout the world due to the various factors. IRCI collaborates with universities and research institutions in Japan and the Asia-Pacific region to promote research on the practices and methodologies of ICH safeguarding.

■ Activities in FY 2016

IRCI's activities are in accordance with its medium-term programme endorsed by the IRCI Governing Board, which are also in line with UNESCO's strategic objectives. IRCI aims to promote research for ICH safeguarding through its activities, following the research focuses as listed below, while contributing to the enhancement of ICH safeguarding with Japan's long-term experiences in cultural heritage management.

1. Promoting Research for ICH Safeguarding
2. Research on Endangered ICH and Disaster-Risk Management
3. Cooperation with Sakai City for Promoting ICH

In FY 2016, IRCI conducted the following activities:

● Activity Focus 1: Promoting Research for ICH Safeguarding

1. IRCI Experts Meeting on the Mapping Project for ICH Safeguarding in the Asia-Pacific Region

IRCI held an international meeting with experts from 14 countries in the Asia-Pacific region to discuss current conditions and issues related to ICH safeguarding research (18-19 November 2016, Sun Square Sakai, Sakai City, Osaka, Japan).

2. Literature Surveys

IRCI conducted literature surveys for 11 countries in cooperation with local research institutions. 24 countries have been investigated thus far, together with the surveys conducted the previous year. Cooperation with local institutions has enabled access in gaining information including literature and reports written in the local language.

3. Research Database on ICH Safeguarding in the Asia-Pacific Region

For the purpose of making widely available the research information collected in the past years, IRCI has been managing an online research database since 25 September 2014, which currently consists of over 2,000 entries (<http://www.irci.jp/ichdb/>).

● Activity Focus 2: Research on Endangered ICH and Disaster Risk Management

1. Study of Legal Systems Related to Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Greater Mekong Region

Many countries in the Mekong region have difficulties in developing legal systems related to ICH safeguarding. Therefore, this project aims to meet the demands of such countries and strengthen the legal and policy framework related to ICH safeguarding in the region. IRCI in collaboration with Kyushu University (Graduate School of Law) held a workshop on current legal conditions and related analysis, attended by researchers and



International Experts Meeting of Mapping Project (November 2016, Sakai City, Osaka, Japan)



Workshop on Study of Legal Systems Related to Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Greater Mekong Region (December 2016, Viet Nam)

law related government officials from 5 countries in the region such as Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar. The workshop concluded with an outcome of recommendations with a draft "tool kit for planning legal mechanisms" (17-19 December 2016, Vietnam National Institute of Culture and Arts Studies, Viet Nam). These outcomes will be edited and be published in the near future not only in English but also in 5 other languages such as Vietnamese, Khmer, Myanmar, Thai, and Lao languages.

2. Research on ICH and Disaster-Risk Management

Asia-Pacific countries are frequently exposed to various natural hazards, including earthquakes, tsunamis, cyclones, floods, and volcanic eruptions, all of which have severe impacts. Given such circumstances, there has been a growing international awareness regarding the disaster-risk management of cultural heritage, as the new framework of disaster-risk management "Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030" adopted at the 3rd UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction includes the importance of safeguarding cultural heritage. Nevertheless, practical measures to safeguard ICH in the process of disaster reduction, mitigation, and recovery have yet to be outlined.

IRCI conducted reconnaissance surveys in 6 countries such as Vanuatu, Fiji, Viet Nam, and the Philippines, all of which have been affected by natural disasters in the past 10 years. Furthermore, an international working group session was held with Asia-Pacific researchers regarding impacts of natural disasters, roles ICH could play in the preparedness and recovery, and further project activities (30 January 2017, Tokyo National Museum, Tokyo, Japan).



Discussion at National Commission for Culture and the Arts on natural disasters and ICH (July 2016, Philippines)



Preliminary Research on ICH Safeguarding and Disaster-Risk Management in the Asia-Pacific Region: International Working Group Session (January 2017, Tokyo, Japan)

●Activity Focus 3: Cooperation with Sakai City for Promoting ICH

International Symposium on ICH Safeguarding in the Asia-Pacific Region: Transmitting Art and Spirit of ICH

In celebration of its 5th anniversary, IRCI in cooperation with Sakai City held a public symposium on the importance to safeguard and transmit ICH to the next generation, attracting over 200 attendees. The event included a keynote lecture by Mr Koichiro Matsuura as well as a panel discussion on various case studies on transmitting ICH with researchers from Japan, Malaysia, and Cambodia (19 November 2016, Sun Square Sakai, Sakai City, Osaka, Japan).

●Communications and Publicity

IRCI published the following reports in order to disseminate information about its activities:

1. IRCI Brochure (Japanese and English)
2. Research for Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage on the Verge of Extinction: Vietnamese ICH Element Dong Ho Woodblock Printing (English)
3. Proceedings of 2016 IRCI Experts Meeting on the Mapping Project for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (English)
4. International Symposium on ICH Safeguarding in the Asia-Pacific Region: Transmitting Art and Spirit of ICH (Japanese)
5. Study of Legal Systems Related to Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Greater Mekong Region: Final Report (English)



International Symposium on ICH Safeguarding in the Asia-Pacific Region: Transmitting Art and Spirit of ICH (November 2016, Sakai City, Osaka, Japan)

Brief History

- Oct. 2009: Establishment of IRCI authorized at the UNESCO General Conference
- Aug. 2010: Agreement for the establishment of IRCI concluded between the Japanese government and UNESCO
- Mar. 2011: Agreement for the opening of IRCI concluded between Sakai City and the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage
- Apr. 2011: Establishment of the preparatory office for IRCI
- Oct. 2011: Official opening of IRCI

Facilities

		(m ²)
Buildings	Building Area	244.67
	Gross Floor Area	244.67
Number of Rooms		4

※The building is leased from Sakai City, Osaka Prefecture.

Directors (AS OF APRIL 1, 2017, titles omitted)

MATSUMURA Keiji: President (and Executive Director of the Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties)
 IKEHARA Mitsuhiro: Director

HAYASHIDA Suma: Director (Outside)
 KURUSHIMA Noriko: Auditor (Outside)
 NAKAMOTO Fuminori: Auditor (Outside)

Special Advisory Board (AS OF APRIL 1, 2017, titles omitted)

We have a board of special advisors, consisting of professionals drawn from outside the institutes, to gather various opinions from many fields concerning the management of the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage. The mission of the Board of Special Advisors is to discuss important issues about the management of the Institutes and give advice to the Chairperson of the Board. The number of board members is set at 20, and each member serves renewable 2-year terms.

ANDO Hiroyasu: President, Japan Foundation
 IMAMURA Mineo: Professor Emeritus, National Museum of Japanese History; Emeritus Professor, The Graduate University for Advanced Studies
 UEHARA Mahito: Executive Director, Tatsuuma Archeological Museum
 KAMII Monsho: Head Priest, Byodoin Temple
 KARAIKE Koji: Representative Director and Chairman of the Board, Kyushu Railway Company
 KINOSHITA Naoyuki: Professor, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, University of Tokyo
 SATO Teiichi: Former Permanent Delegate of Japan to UNESCO
 SHIMIZU Mazumi: Executive Director, Mitsui Memorial Museum

TANABE Ikuo: President, Osaka Center for Cultural Heritage
 DAN Fumi: Actress
 NISHITAKATSUJI Nobuyoshi: Head Priest, Dazaifu Tenman-gu Shrine
 FUJII Joji: Professor Emeritus, Kyoto University
 FURUSE Natsuko: Professor, Faculty of Core Research Humanities Division, Ochanomizu University
 YANAGIHARA Masaki: President, Independent Administrative Institution National Museum of Art
 YAMAMOTO Shinichiro: Grand Steward, Imperial Household Agency

External Evaluation Board (AS OF APRIL 1, 2017, titles omitted)

Besides implementing self-evaluation of the Institutes' operational, survey and research performance, the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage have also established an External Evaluation Board of external experts to verify the Institutes' assessment of their own performance. (Renewable 2-year terms)

KOBAYASHI Tadashi: Professor Emeritus, Gakushuin University; (Chairperson) Executive Director, OKADA MUSEUM OF ART
 KAWAI Masatomo: Professor Emeritus, Keio University; Executive (Vice-Chairperson) Director, Chiba City Museum of Art
 AYUKAWA Masaaki: Certified Public Accountant
 ISHIKAWA Hideshi: Professor, School of Arts and Letters, Meiji University
 OKADA Yasuyoshi: Professor, Institute for Cultural Studies of Ancient Iraq, Kokushikan University
 SAITO Tsutomu: Professor, Research Department, National Museum of Japanese History
 SAKAKIBARA Satoru: Director, Okazaki City Museum

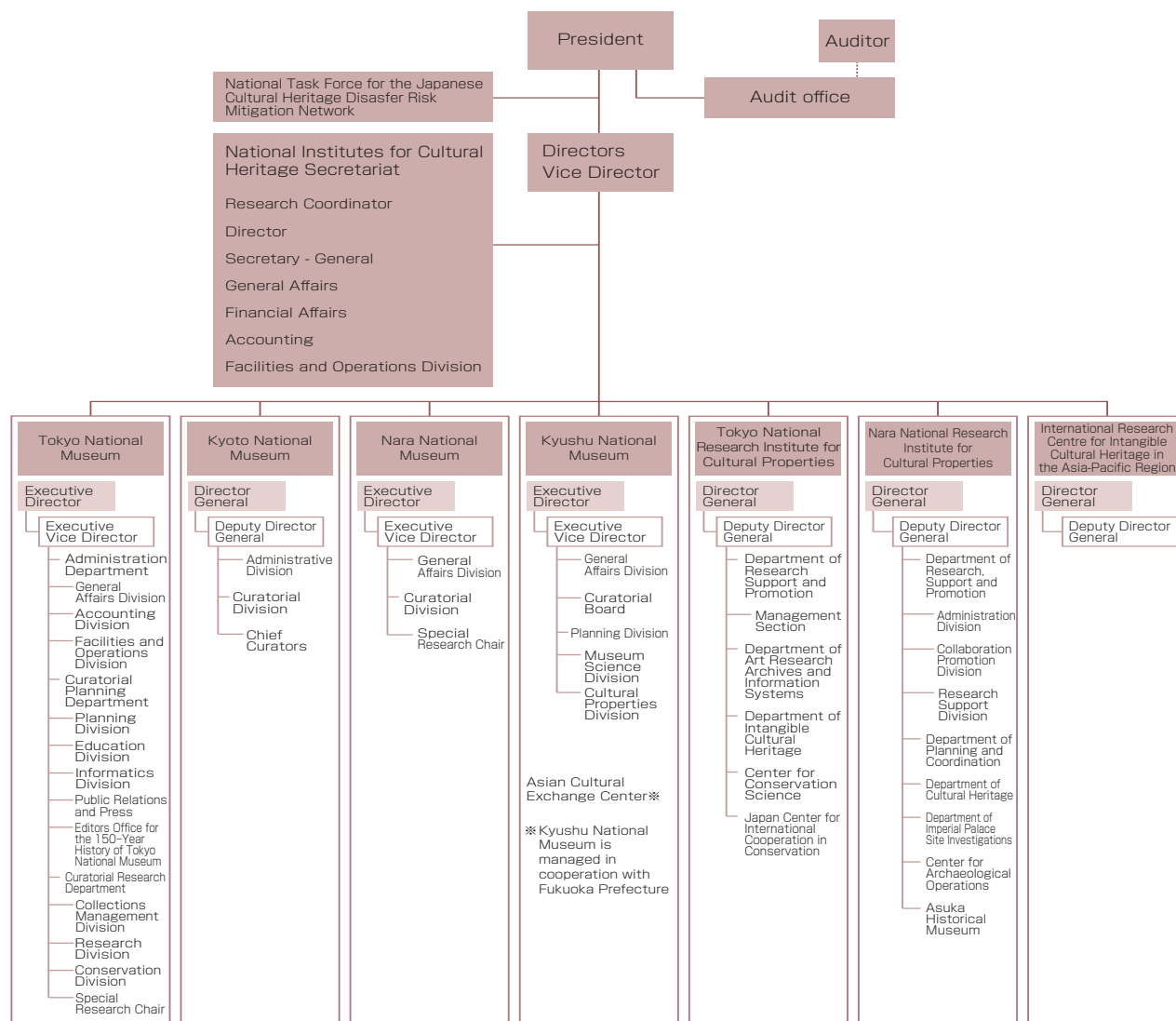
SAKAMOTO Hiroko: Executive Director (Cultural Projects and Business Development) of the Asahi Shimbun Company, Representative of the Nagoya Main Branch
 SATO Makoto: Professor, Graduate School of Humanities and Sociology, University of Tokyo
 TAMAMUSHI Satoko: Professor, College of Art and Design, Musashino Art University
 NAGOYA Akira: Vice Director, The Gotoh Museum
 HAMADA Hiroaki: Professor, J. F. Oberlin University
 FUJITA Haruhiko: Professor Emeritus, Osaka University
 YANAGIBAYASHI Osamu: Former Member of the Editorial Board, The Yomiuri Shimbun

Number of Staff

Division	Number of staff	Administrative staff	Technical and security staff	Specialists	Curators/ Researchers
Total	337	129	20	3	185
National Institutes for Cultural Heritage Secretariat	23	22	0	0	1
Tokyo National Museum	98	34	12	2	50
Kyoto National Museum	37	18	4	0	15
Nara National Museum	33	15	4	0	14
Kyushu National Museum	26	8	0	0	18
Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties	41	7	0	0	34
Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties	76	23	0	1	52
International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region	3	2	0	0	1

(Figures as of April 1, 2017)

Organizational Chart (As of April 1, 2017)



Budget

Fiscal 2017 Budget

Revenue

(Unit: JPY1,000)

Source	Fiscal 2017	Fiscal 2016
Self-generated Income	1,575,706	1,474,731
Government funding for operating expenses	8,325,430	8,387,941
Income from commissioned projects	587,444	576,849
Grant for facilities improvement	1,779,609	1,334,381
Others (Donations, etc.)	439,574	350,531
Total	12,707,763	12,124,433

Expenditure

(Unit: JPY1,000)

Purpose	Fiscal 2017	Fiscal 2016
Operational expenses	9,901,136	9,862,672
Personnel	3,448,128	3,472,102
Supply costs	6,453,008	6,390,570
Expenses for commissioned projects	587,444	576,849
Facility improvement	1,779,609	1,334,381
Others (Donations, etc.)	439,574	350,531
Total	12,707,763	12,124,433

Income from External Sources

	Grants-in-Aid for Scientific Research (2017)				Funding for Commissioned Work (Fiscal 2016)		Research Grants (Fiscal 2016)	
	① Fiscal 2017		② Multi-year Fund Fiscal 2017		Number of projects	Amount (Unit: JPY1,000)	Number of projects	Amount (Unit: JPY1,000)
	Number of projects	Amount (Unit: JPY1,000)	Number of projects	Amount (Unit: JPY1,000)				
National Institutes for Cultural Heritage Secretariat	0	0	0 (0)	0	1	29,227	1	186,000
Tokyo National Museum	12	51,690	8 (1)	11,180	3	47,854	3	28,112
Kyoto National Museum	2	9,230	6 (0)	5,590	0	0	1	3,810
Nara National Museum	1	2,470	4 (1)	6,370	0	0	5	10,100
Kyushu National Museum	4	16,380	4 (0)	4,160	3	26,825	0	0
Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties	10	28,610	14 (2)	17,550	12	158,107	3	5,125
Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties	17	92,010	42 (5)	43,680	41	345,648	10	6,680
International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region	0	0	0 (0)	0	1	51,380	1	5,000
Total	46	200,390	78 (9)	88,530	61	659,041	24	244,827

※The amount of ① is the appropriation amount as of April, 2017.

※In the case of projects that extend over multiple fiscal years, the amount given under ② shows the amount allocated to that year when the decision to provide the grant was first made.

※With regard to research topics for which both ① and ② were awarded (partial funding), the number of projects is included under the respective totals for ① and ②; the figure given in parentheses for ② is the number of projects for which both types of Grants-in-Aid were awarded. Please note that the figures given include indirect expenses.

※Funding for commissioned work excludes commissions from the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage.

Information about Donation and Membership

○Financial Donations and Cultural Property Donations

[Financial Donations]

Independent Administrative Institutions are mainly administered through national grants for operational costs and facilities improvement. However, difficult financial conditions and the streamlining of operations makes it necessary to receive outside funds as well. The National Institutes for Cultural Heritage is no exception and we also need to secure other funding sources besides income from admission fees. For these reasons, we welcome financial support from a wide range of organizations and individuals.

The National Institutes for Cultural Heritage has been designated by the National Tax Agency as a Special Public-Interest Promotion Corporation. This means that donations to our institutions (by organizations or individuals) are eligible for more generous income and corporate tax deductions than donations to regular private entities.

▶Income tax

When donating to a Special Public-Interest Promotion Corporation, individuals can deduct part of this donation from their taxable income, using either the "Donation Deduction" system or the "Tax Credit" system, whichever is more beneficial to that particular individual.

A FY2010 amendment to the tax law reduced the minimum annual tax-deductible donation amount from 5,000 yen to 2,000 yen, so any individual who donates more than 2,000 yen annually to Special Public-Interest Promotion Corporations will be eligible for a tax deduction. As a result, a donor will be able to deduct a donation amount of up to 40% of total income (minus 2,000 yen) when calculating income tax.

*Please note that tax deductions for donations may also be available with respect to individual Resident Tax, depending on the regulations adopted by the local authority for the area where the individual taxpayer is officially resident.

▶Corporate tax

When donating to a Special Public-Interest Promotion Corporation, corporate entities can count the donation amount as a deductible expense separate from other general donations. Furthermore, the reform of the tax system in December 2011 raised the ceiling for the amount of donations that could be included as deductible expenses. As a result, the maximum amount of donations that can be counted as special deductible expenses = (amount of capital × 0.375 (formerly 0.25) + 6.25% of income (formerly 5%)) × 1/2 (Where the business year covers a period of less than one full calendar year, the calculation must be performed on a pro-rata basis according to a specified number of months. Also, please note that the calculation formula is different in the case of corporations that do not have capital stock (such as NPOs, etc.)

[Cultural Property Donations]

The National Institutes for Cultural Heritage is engaged in the preservation, management, research and display of cultural properties. In addition to purchasing these cultural properties systematically, we also accept donations from individuals or organizations.

For further information about donations, please contact the following departments:

Institution	Financial Donations	Cultural Property Donations	Phone Numbers
Tokyo National Museum	Accounting, Administration Department	Collections Management, Curatorial Research Department	03-3822-1111
Kyoto National Museum	Financial Affairs	Department of Registration and Image Archives	075-541-1151
Nara National Museum	Accounts	Department of Exhibition and Education	0742-22-7772 0742-22-7774
Kyushu National Museum	Financial Affairs, General Affairs Division	Collection Registration, Cultural Properties Division	092-918-2807
Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties	Department of Research Support and Promotion, Planning Section		03-3823-2249
Nara National Research Institute for Cultural Properties	Department of Research Support and Promotion, Administration Division		0742-30-3916
International Research Centre for Intangible Cultural Heritage in the Asia-Pacific Region (IRCI)	General Affairs Section		072-275-8050
Inquiries not specifying institutions	National Institutes for Cultural Heritage Secretariat, Financial Affairs		03-3822-2439

○Membership

Tokyo National Museum and Nara National Museum are supported by the Supporting Member system, while Kyoto National Museum is supported by the Seifukai Association.

To encourage people to visit our museums more frequently, Tokyo National Museum, Kyoto National Museum, Nara National Museum and Kyushu National Museum have all established their own membership systems. In addition, to mark the 10th anniversary of the establishment of the National Institutes for Cultural Heritage, a new "National Museums Members Pass" system has been established, which applies to all four National Museums. We welcome new members at any time of the year.

		Tokyo National Museum	Kyoto National Museum	Nara National Museum	Kyushu National Museum
Name		National Museum Members Pass			
Annual Membership Fee	Regular	2,000 Yen (tax included)			
	Student	1,000 Yen (tax included)			
Special Privileges	Permanent Exhibitions	Tokyo National Museum: Regular Exhibitions Kyoto National Museum: Collection Galleries Nara National Museum: Exhibition from the Permanent Collection Kyushu National Museum: Cultural Exchange Exhibition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On showing your Members Pass, you can view any of these permanent exhibitions an unlimited number of times (this applies only to the person in whose name the Members Pass is registered) 			
	Special Exhibitions	Members Pass holders can view special exhibitions held at any of the four National Museums an unlimited number of times at a specially discounted ticket price. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On showing your Members Pass at a National Museum ticket office, you can purchase a special exhibition ticket at the group ticket price (this applies only to the person in whose name the Members Pass is registered) Students can purchase a special exhibition ticket at the student price, which is the same as the group ticket price (this applies only to the person in whose name the Members Pass is registered) 			
How to Apply		You can apply for a Members Pass at one of the National Museum ticket offices, or by post, using postal remittance.			
For More Information		General Affairs Section Membership System Manager 03-3822-1111	General Affairs Section Business Promotion Officer 075-531-7504	General Affairs Section Planning Officer 0742-22-4450	General Affairs Section 092-918-2807

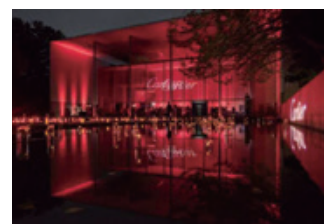


Campus Members System

Each of the four National Museums has its own membership programs for universities and colleges. These programs are aimed at deepening cooperation with institutions of higher education and providing opportunities for their students to become familiar with the National Museums. Members can enjoy various privileges, including free admission to regular exhibitions, for a yearly membership fee corresponding to the number of students.

○Venue Rental

Each of the National Museums makes its facilities available as unique venues for MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Exhibitions) events. From corporate parties to international conventions, the museum facilities can be used for a wide range of activities.



Cartier Magicien event (FY2016)
At Tokyo National Museum

○Diversifying Visitor Experiences

To diversify visitor experiences, opening hours at the national museums are extended on Fridays and Saturdays, and various nighttime events are held. Efforts are being taken to facilitate understanding for foreign tourists, such as adding multilingual information labels and audio guides at exhibition galleries, namely in English, Chinese and Korean.



Flyer to promote extended hours at Kyushu National Museum



Nighttime event at Tokyo National Museum: Open Cinema Viewing (July 16, 2016)



Multilingual information label at Nara National Museum



Access:

(JR Line) 10 min. from Ueno or Uguisudani Station

(Ginza or Hibiya Tokyo Metro Line) 15 min. from Ueno Station

(Chiyoda Tokyo Metro Line) 15 min. from Nezu Station

(Keisei Line) 15 min. from Keisei Ueno Station



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