WE - What's on at the Embassy

Issue 21 - March 2013

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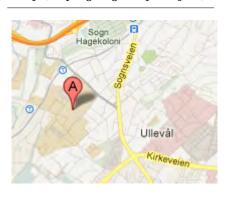
Japanese Film Series 19 - 23 March

## 第7回 日本語 弁論大会

Sophus Bugges Hus University of Oslo (Blindern Campus) Problemveien 7 0313 Oslo

Saturday 16 March 12:30-15:00

Map (http://goo.gl/maps/0TJXE)





Participants and judges, Speech Contest 2012

### Japanese Speech Contest 2013

The 7th annual Japanese
Language Speech Contest will
be held 16 March at Sophus
Bugges Hus, University of Oslo
(Blindern Campus). 23
contestants have been divided
in two groups (Beginners &
Intermediate/Advanced) and
will compete for travel funds of
NOK 10.000 to Japan,
generously provided by
Scandinavia-Japan Sasakawa
Foundation. Other prizes are
provided by Pax Forlag and
Star Media Entertainment.

This year the speeches will be given in front of an audience numbering 100, and we have

participants travelling from all over Norway to compete in the contest.

The speech contest is an enjoyable tradition, and we at the Embassy of Japan in Norway are delighted to see how popular the event has become with the Japanese language students.

Everyone is welcome to attend as audience, but the number of seats are limited (<100), so please come early if you want to secure a seat. The auditorium opens 12:15.







# Japanese Films @ Cinemateket: "Gutter+Jenter" (Boys+Girls)

In this short series, presented by the Embassy of Japan in Norway in cooperation with the Japan Foundation and NFI Cinemateket, we will screen films that explore growing up in Japan from the perspective of the boys and girls themselves as they move from childhood to adolesence. In a modern technologically and economically advanced society where old traditions are very much alive, are the pressures youth are facing different in Japan than in other countries?

#### Introductory lecture

Tue 19 March 19:00

The series will open with a lecture by Ms. Øyvor Nyborg, Japanologist from the University of Oslo, on Japanese youth culture, based on her research in gender studies and her own experiences from living in Japan.

The lecture will be held in Norwegian

"5 CENTIMETERS PER SECOND" (Shinkai Makoto, 2007)
Tue 19 March 19:40 (after lecture), Sat 23 March 17:00
In a story divided into three short episodes, we follow the boy Takaki and his friend Akari from elementary school, through high school into young adulthood. The title of the film refers to the speed of the cherry blossom petals as they fall to the ground. The cherry blossom is a metaphor for the human being, and an image of the beauty and pain in people you are attached to drifting out of your life.

#### "SWING GIRLS" (Yaguchi Shinobu, 2004) Wed 20 March 18:30, Fri 22 March 18:00

By accident, Tomoko and her friend poisons the school brass band, and are forced to step up and take the illness-struck musicians' places. Since they are too few to make a complete band, their director decides to convert them to a jazz big band. However, when the regular band members recovers, Tomoko and the other replacements are kicked out. Even though they from the outset were involuntary jazzists, they decide they will not take it and sign up for the Winter Festival Music Competition.

#### "WATERBOYS" (Yaguchi Shinobu, 2001) Thur 21 March 18:30, Sat 23 March 15:00

The young and beautiful Ms. Sakuma inspires five boys, who are more or less hopeless swimmers, to take up synchronized swimming. The new team faces a crisis when Sakuma takes maternal leave, but hires the dodgy dolphin trainer Isomura who continues to train them with highly untraditional methods.

"Waterboys" was a huge hit when released in Japan, and made male "synchro" highly popular.

All films have Japanese speech and English subtitles.

#### Free Admisson!

Please pick up your free tickets at Cinemateket's reception from Friday 15 March 15:30

NFI Cinemateket
Filmens Hus
Dronningens gate 16
0152 Oslo

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