

YOUTH FORUM NEWS

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Memorial Forum held for Prof. Donald Keene

By Hikari Tanaka

On Thursday, October 10, there was a memorial forum for Professor Donald Keene at Sapporo University, which was held by both Sapporo University and Hokkaido International School.

Keene was a scholar of Japanese Literature at the University of Columbia and played an important role as a bridge between Japan and the rest of the world.

Moreover, he acquired Japanese citizenship to live the rest of his life as a Japanese, though he was originally from the U.S.

He passed away at the age of 96 on June 18, 2019.

“He was a serious minded, unassuming person when I read through some of his books,” said Barry Ratzliff, Dean of Hokkaido International School.

“While he was modest and hard-working, I found that he was talkative and inquisitive as

well.”

Another speaker, Professor Shoji Mitarai of Sapporo University, talked about Keene’s life while showing pictures and information in a slide presentation.

One thing that Prof. Mitarai said was that Prof. Keene had a wide circle of friends.

For example, he made friends with Kobo Abe, Yasunari Kawabata, Yukio Mishima and other famous Japanese novelists.

Keene first became interested in Japanese culture and literature when he found an ancient Japanese book called *The Story of Genji*, which had already been translated from Japanese into English by Arthur D. Waley.

After reading the book he decided to study Japanese culture and literature.

In 1953, he finally went abroad to Kyoto University, Japan for a year, and after returning to the U.S., he became an assistant professor at the University of Columbia and then later became a professor of the university.

Keene had a humorous personality as well. There is a good example showing his funny side.

When he acquired Japanese citizenship, he needed a Japanese name.

He came up with a unique name to make people laugh, accord-



Students give their thoughts and opinions about the late Donald Keene.

ing to the Sankei News.

The unique name is written by using the Kanji 鬼怒鳴門, which is read as Keene Donald, not Donald Keene, because Japanese names should be read by the order of the last name first.

The Kanji means “demon-angry-sound-gate.” It looks pretty weird but it was his favorite name.

When the forum finished, students who had come from Hokkaido International School had a discussion with Sapporo University students.

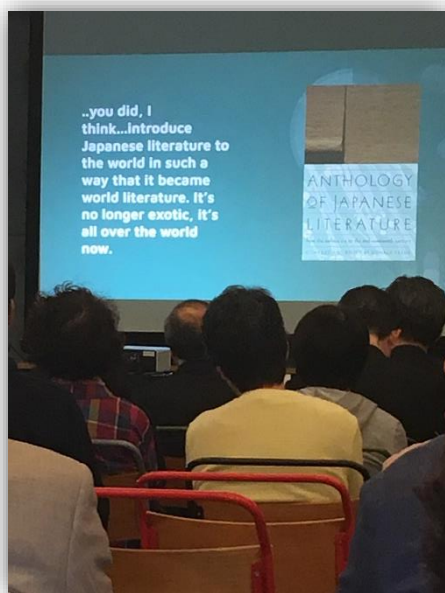
The topic of the discussion was “What would you do to be a bridge to the world like Professor Keene?”

The students split into teams and discussed the topic sharing their thoughts and

opinions.

At the end of the discussion, representatives from each team shared their unique and interesting ideas in front of everyone.

After the discussion, they had a good time enjoying some refreshments like sandwiches and cakes.



King Dance Matsuri 9

By Shogo Tsuchimoto

The ninth annual King Dance Matsuri was held in Zepp Sapporo in Nakajima Park on November 23 and 24, 2019 by KING.PRO.

KING.PRO is a company that plans and manages many dance events.

This event had two dance contests and two dance battles.

The first contest was a team contest and the second contest was a crew contest.

The team contest and the crew contest had a limit for the number of people.

The team contest had up to nine people and the crew contest had a limit of 10 to 30 people.

The first battle was the team battle called 5 Cards and the second battle was the solo battle.

This event venue opened at 2:00 p.m. and the contest



started at 2:30 p.m. on both days.

The standing room only tickets were ¥4,500 for both days and seating tickets were an extra ¥1,500.

The team battle consisted of five people for each team, and the solo battle was performed alone. The entrance fee for both days was ¥6,500 (standing room only).

This event was held over two days and there were various dancers.

Among them world famous Japanese dancers came as judges.

This event is the biggest dance event in Hokkaido and Hokkaido dancers should come to see this event because they can definitely get some benefits about dancing.



SPADE Stage 4 to be held March 1st

By Rei Morita

SPADE Stage 4 is the big street dance event of SPADE, the dance circle of Sapporo University.

However, SPADE is not only a circle activity for university students, but it also provides kids' lessons with professional dancers every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evening for local children.

SPADE is doing this kind of activity because there is full support by a group of professional dancers and video creators called KING.PRO who are working to boost the dance scene in Sapporo.

This event is held every year, but last year it was held on a slightly smaller scale than usual and was called S.S.P. (SPADE Special Party).

This year the event came back as S.S.4.

(SPADE Stage 4).

S.S.4 will be held at Prea Hall on the third floor of Building 2 at Sapporo University on March 1, 2020.

SPADE Stage 4 will start at 2:30 p.m. and will close at 4:30 p.m. Advance tickets are ¥1,000 and day tickets are ¥1,500.

There are several kids' and university student performances for 2 hours from 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

There are many shows where each individual and class colors come alive. It's not just a dance show, but an all-around fun entertainment show.

You will enjoy the music, the people and the many performances.

If you like entertainment, you shouldn't miss it!



Special Event: *Ojamajo Doremi*

By Haruka Murakami

Ojamajo Doremi was broadcast on Asahi TV between February 1999 and January 2003.

It was created by Toei Animation and is an anime aimed at females.

This story is about five elementary school girls who make their dreams come true and are able to confront the difficulties of daily life.

They transform into witches and chant spells. Doremi Harukaze is the one of the girls.

She is a key person of the story. She wanted to be a witch since preschool.

Her dream was to get confidence through magic to tell a boy that she liked him.

She is a cheerful and curious character, so, she takes good care of many troubles for people.

Her many friends and classmates develop through their contact with her.

This animation describes the real world of people, for example, puberty, friendship, love and so on.

Thanks to the scripts, this animation has been a huge hit among young people.

Also, they use witch broom sticks and their clothes became a popular commodity.

In addition, the company produced two films and original video animations.

There were novels released

after the shows' finale. In the novels they become high school students and members of society.

A special animation event was held at Sapporo Cinema Frontier on July 5.

The event was sponsored by *Ojamajo Doremi* to celebrate its 20th anniversary.

The general admission fee was ¥ 3,000. Three hundred and sixty people were invited.

Five voice actors and an animation director took the platform on stage.

They talked about various stories for a long time.

For instance, they showed scenes from the show and gave readings from a book.

Also, animation staff members talked about new movies that will be shown next year.

The new movies should be enjoyable regardless of gender.



Weathering With You

By Takuma Otaka

The movie *Weathering With You* was made by Makoto Shinkai. His representative works are *5 Centimeters Per Second* which was released in 2007 and *Your Name*, which was released in 2016 as well as many others.

Your Name was a big hit and it's still fresh in our memory. His movies gained great popularity with not only Japanese,



but also people from around the world.

Therefore, he won numerous awards. Now, he is a renown animator representing Japan. *Weathering With You* was high anticipated by many people.

There are many outstanding features in his movies.

First, the scenery is very beautiful; for example, street scenes, the sky and even drops of rain. Everything is so realistic.

Second, the story is very fantastic. When you watch his movies you are pulled into his world.

He makes a lot of magnificent and emotional movies.

Third, the songs match well with the scenes. They bring excitement to the movie and make an impression on people.

Weathering With You was released

on July 19, 2019. This story is about a boy who came to Tokyo from a remote island and a girl who has an amazing ability to control the weather.

This is a fantasy and romance movie. There are many thrilling and impressive highlights. The last scene was especially moving. The theme song is by RADWIMPS, a popular band in Japan. This group's songs will make you very excited.

In the first 75 days about 10 million people saw this movie and box-office grosses were 13 billion yen. This is ranked as the fastest, highest grossing animation movie in Japan.

This movie will be released in 140 countries and it was chosen as an academy award candidate. Shinkai's movies are very influential. This movie is impressive and highly recommended.

Getting Around Hong Kong

By Karen Matsuda



Hong Kong is famous and many people visit there. It's about a 5-hour direct flight from Japan.

Hong Kong has a population of about 7.93 million. The Official language is Mandarin Chinese and English but the common spoken language is Cantonese.

Things to do and see in Hong Kong: One recommended sightseeing spot is Victoria Peak. It is well-known for its night view.

The beautiful night view of the high-rise buildings around the bay which Victoria Peak overlooks is said to be a million dollar view, and tourists come from all over the world to see it.

Another famous spot is Hong Kong Disneyland Park. It's near the Hong Kong International Airport. It's the smallest Disneyland in the world.

Disneyland Park has Sleeping Beauty Castle and it's divided into seven theme areas.

The price of a regular one day ticket is H\$639 and a regular 2-day ticket is H\$754.

The Crystal Lotus Restaurant in the Hong Kong Disney Land Hotel is a very famous restaurant.

You can eat dim sum shaped like Disney Characters.

However, if you want to eat there you will need to book in advance.

Another famous spot is Ladies Market. Ladies Market is spread out over a 1 kilometer stretch along Tung Choi Street with over 100 stalls of bargain clothing, acces-

sories and souvenirs.

It gets its name from the clothing and accessories on sale for women of all ages.

However, besides clothing, you can also find watches, cosmetics, bags, home furnishings, CDs and trinkets in its crowded aisles.

Hong Kong is a very nice place to visit, so please try to go there.



Ladies Market along Tung Choi Street

Hoshino Resort Tomamu

By Kana Tarui

Hoshino Resort Tomamu is a mountain resort located in the village of Shimukappu, Yufutsu-Gun, Hokkaido.

The Hokkaido Development Agency proposed the need for the development of Mt. Tomamu in order to stem the depopulation of the Shimukappu-village and surrounding area. There are two parts of the hotels at Tomamu.

The first hotel was built in December, 1987 and was named Tower I and the second was built in December, 1989 and was named Tower II.

The towers were designed to reflect both summer and winter features. There are two other hotels there named Resonare Tomamu.

If you have any plans to stay at these hotels, you need to make a reservation.

Accommodation fees vary. Tower I and Tower II are cheaper than Resonare Tomamu. Various events are held in Tomamu throughout the year, so many



people come from Japan and other countries.

You can see Unkai, which means "Sea of Clouds" in Japanese. It is popular from May to October. But it is very difficult to see because it depends on the atmospheric conditions at the time.

The Ice Village is held from December to March. You can experience Tomamu's Ice Town where the temperature drops to minus 30 degrees, only from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m.

The admission fee is ¥500, but it is free for Tower guests. There are churches, hotels and a café made of ice. You can enjoy eating cheese fondue and drinking hot coffee while you are there.

Hot Springs in Hokkaido

By Saki Ota

Hot springs are one of the symbols of Japanese culture. They have a variety of positive effects, such as warming you to the bone and giving you smooth skin.

It is one of the most common springs in Japan. When you soak in it, you will find your body becomes warm from the inside.

That is because the salt

digestive diseases, chronic constipation, diabetes, gout and liver diseases.

Third, Toya Hot Spring is surrounded by mountains and lakes. You can find Lake Toya Hot Spring in the Shikotsu-Toya National Park.

It has a street lined with Japanese style inns and rows of souvenir shops and is one of Hokkaido's most popular hot spring towns, with crowds of people flocking to the area.

You can see the spectacular lake scenery as you soak in the hot springs, and you'll never tire of the beautiful sight of the lights from the lakeside reflected on the lake at night.

Lake Toya, the largest caldera lake in Japan, spreads out in front of the hotels along the shore.

The mineral-rich water of the area that bubbles up from the ground is renowned for its healing properties

Milky-white sulfur-infused water soften and refresh the skin.

Other salt-rich and metal-rich pools have different health benefits, which are often proudly listed in the bathing area of each hotel.

Spending a day in the bath can be not only relaxing, but also revitalizing.

Finally, the Hakodate City Tropical Botanical Garden, located in the Yunokawa Hot Spring area, is home to some 100 free-range Japanese macaques.

Although the monkeys can be seen enjoying themselves all year round, they are a particular draw for visitors in the colder months, when they can be seen taking a leisurely dip in the hot springs.

The monkeys warm themselves in a pool of steaming mineral water from early December through the beginning of May.

Lake Toya Hot Spring is also famous for its unique lakeshore fireworks displays each evening from spring to fall.

This nightly, 30-minute show of about 450 fireworks creates a fantastic display for all around the area to share.

You can take a night cruise to see the fireworks from the lake, rent yukata and make the most of a delightful Japanese summer evening.

Lake Toya is regarded as one of Hokkaido's three great scenic areas for its beautiful lake views that change from morning to evening.



Noboribetsu Hot Spring in Hokkaido

Also, the types of the water vary among different facilities in different areas. If you take an outdoor hot spring bath, you can enjoy the outside scenery while soaking yourself in the warm water.

Hokkaido is famous for its hot springs and the diversity of the types of hot spring baths that are available, ranging from huge hot spring installations in modern buildings to outdoor hot spring baths in the mountains.

The most famous hot spring areas in Hokkaido are Jozankei, Norboibetsu, Yunokawa, and Lake Toya.

First, Jozankei is located a convenient 40-minute drive from Sapporo. Hot spring waters gushing out in the Jozankei spa resort area contains sodium chloride, which is colorless and transparent, and has a mild amount of salt.

content sticks to your body preventing the sweat from evaporating.

Jozankei Hot Springs is located where three rivers, the Usubetsu, Shiroy and Otarunai Rivers flow into the main stream of the Toyohira River.

Second, Noboribetsu Hot Spring is a famous spa resort area which is located north of Muroran. Noboribetsu Spa is well-known to visitors of Jigokudani (Hell's Valley).

There are around 14 hotels in Noboribetsu. Soak in a bath while listening to the gushing sound of waterfalls.

There is a fragrant Japanese cypress bath and a rock bath with an air of nature. Shampoo and body soap are provided at the bathhouse.

In addition, clean mountain water is provided at the facility, too, and bathers can drink the clean mountain water.

It is effective for chronic



The Short Life of Ryunosuke Akutagawa

By Yoshikuni Sato

About His life

One of the most famous authors during the Meiji Era was Akutagawa Ryunosuke. He was born in 1892 and died in 1927. He was adopted by his uncle because of the death of his mother when he was 11 years old.

He went on to the English Department in what is now Tokyo University in 1913. He wrote his first novel *Ronen* in 1914 and another novel *Rashomon* in 1915 while he was a university student.

In 1916 Akutagawa graduated from the university and after that he taught English in the Naval Academy until 1919, continuing to write at the same time.

He got married in the same year and had three children by 1925. After resigning as a teacher he joined a publishing company.

In 1927, Akutagawa's stepbrother killed himself after being falsely charged with arson and deceiving the insurance company.

Therefore, Akutagawa had to take care of his debt and his family. In the same



Author Ryunosuke Akutagawa

year, he killed himself by drinking a large amount of a sleeping drug after a previous suicide attempt. He was only 35 years old.

About His Portfolio

Most of his works are short stories. For example, *Rashomon* is well known by many people. He also wrote *Hana*, which was written for children, and *Kappa*, which was written to criticize human society in those days.

Although he wrote a lot of short stories, some works are slightly longer. In addition, it is said the focus of his works in later years are different from his early years which mainly dealt with the psychological aspect of humans.

The Other Contemporary Authors

Among the other authors of that time, Natsume Soseki was especially famous.

His real name was Natsume Kinnosuke. He was born in 1867 and died in 1916. His style of writing differed from the naturalistic writers of that time.

Soseki had many apprentices, including Akutagawa. Soseki's high evaluation of his work boosted his confidence because he strongly respected Soseki.

Was there a Human-Chimpanzee Hybrid?

By Shingo Narita

Do you know the Chimpanzee named Oliver who came to Japan on July 15, 1976? He is different from a normal monkey. His face was white, he had little hair on his head, and his ears had a distinctive pointed shape.

Also, he walked on two legs without bending his knees. He also liked beer and coffee and could smoke. These clearly show different characteristics from other monkeys.

However, because of these strange features, Oliver was examined more scientifically in the U.S. The examination looked at his chromosomes.

Humans have 46 chromo-

somes and chimpanzees have 48 chromosomes.

Oliver was confirmed to have 47 chromosomes. In other words, he seemed to be a hybrid of human and monkey, but what exactly is the truth?

After the U.S, Dr. Momoki Hirai at the National Institute of Radiological Sciences conducted a culture test on Oliver's leukocytes, a type of blood cell made in the bone marrow, and found that he had 48 chromosomes, the same as chimpanzees.

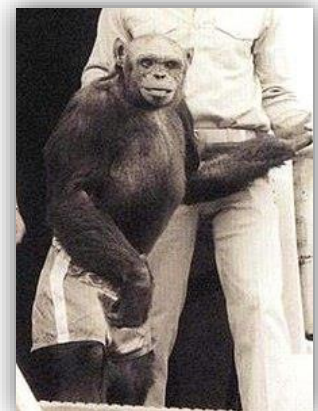
After the examination, Oliver walked on all fours with the back of his hand naturally on the ground.

Apparently, walking on two legs seems to be the result of training.

From 1977 to 1989 Oliver was used as an attraction at different locations. From 1989 to 1998 he was bought by a scientific and cosmetic testing company where he was confined to a small cage.

In 1998 he was transferred to a primate shelter and sanctuary. Oliver spent the rest of his life in this animal shelter. He died at the age of 55 on June 2, 2012.

When he died, his girlfriend named Raisin was next to him. Currently, broadcasting such things on television is



Oliver the Chimpanzee

prohibited, but it was very popular in the past. That is why we should cherish and protect nature, including animals.