

January 29th, 2024

# Announcing the winners of the 8th Japanese Literature Publishing Project (JLPP) International Translation Competition

Contemporary Japanese Literature translated into English  
Record number of applicants

The Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan, is pleased to announce the winners of the 8th Japanese Literature Publishing Project (JLPP) International Translation Competition. This year, an unprecedented 271 applicants submitted translations, surpassing last year's record number, and we selected 1 Grand Prize winner and 2 Second Prize winners. This competition aims not only to foster the emergence of new translators on the global stage but also to promote the translation of rich and diverse Japanese literary works.

In commemoration of the competition, we will host a symposium focusing on literary translation and the global promotion of Japanese literary works on March 10th, together with the award ceremony.

## 1 Outline

### Number of application submissions

**271** Record number of applications\*

\*Past number of applicants: 3rd competition (2017): **34**; 4th (2019): **29**; 5th (2020): **121**; 6th (2021): **204**; 7th (2022): **256**.

### Competition details

Target Language: English

Source Texts: “Watashi wa samishikatta” by Fujino Kaori

Eligibility: There are no nationality or age-related eligibility criteria. However, because the purpose of the competition is to foster emerging translators, those who have had book-length literary translations published are not eligible, although translators who have had translations published in magazines and/or anthologies are eligible.

Judging Committee:

Stephen Snyder (Translator of Japanese Literature, Dean of Language Schools and Vice President for Academic Affairs;  
Professor of Japanese Studies, Middlebury College)

Allison Markin Powell (Translator of Japanese Literature)

Sam Bett (Translator of Japanese Literature)

## 2 Winners (Parentheses indicate the winner's nationality)

### Grand Prize

**Rebecca Ann Gade** (U.S.A.)

### Second Prizes

**Jo Lumley** (U.K.)

**Lisa Wilcut** (U.S.A.)

Visit the JLPP website to access the translations submitted by the winners and comments from the judging committee. [https://www.jlpp.go.jp/competition8/index\\_en.php](https://www.jlpp.go.jp/competition8/index_en.php)

### 3 The 8th JLPP International Translation Competition Award Ceremony and Commemorative Symposium

Date: Sunday, March 10th, 2024

13:00~ (JST)

Venue: KUDAN-KAIKAN TERRACE Conference & Banquet

1-6-5 Kudan-Minami, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

<https://kudan-tokyo.jp/access/>

Program:

13:00~ Commemorative Symposium: "BUNGAKU DAYS 2024 SPRING"

The symposium will feature discussions with translators and editors from international publishing houses to provide insights from various perspectives on the translation and global promotion of Japanese literary works.

14:55~ Award Ceremony

Details for participation registration and symposium specifics will be announced on the JLPP website on February 9th. [https://www.jlpp.go.jp/bungakudays2024\\_s/index\\_en.html](https://www.jlpp.go.jp/bungakudays2024_s/index_en.html)

### 4 Contact

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