

January 24, 2025

Announcing the 10th Japanese Literature Publishing Project (JLPP) International Translation Competition

Classical Literature translated into English
Contemporary Literature translated into English and Spanish

The Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan is pleased to announce the 10th Japanese Literature Publishing Project (JLPP) International Translation Competition will be held as follows. This competition aims to discover and foster emerging translators of Japanese literature.

1 Schedule

- (1) **Submission period** Sunday, June 1st – Monday, June 30th, 2025 (JST)
(2) **Winners Announced** January 2026

2 Target Languages and Source Texts

Contemporary Literature Category (English, Spanish)

[Fiction] “Nijūninme Rūru” by Inoue Areno

Classical Literature Category (English)

“Iseki Takako Nikki” by Iseki Takako (Annotated by Fukasawa Akio)
(The assigned source texts are the excerpts from the diary.)

3 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 published book-length literary translations are not eligible, although translations published in magazines and/or anthologies are permissible.

4 Application Procedure

Applications are to be submitted via the JLPP website. For details on the application procedure, please visit <https://www.jlpp.go.jp/competition10/>

*Application page will be launched on June 1st, 2025.

5 Prizes

The winners of the Contemporary Literature category (English and Spanish) and the Classical Literature category (English) will each receive a certificate, a trophy and a cash prize (grand prize of 1,000,000 yen and second prize of 250,000 yen). Winners will be invited to translator-development events hosted by the JLPP, such as a translation workshop.

6 Judging Committee

Contemporary Literature category (English)

- Kendall Heitzman (Translator of Japanese literature, Associate Professor of Japanese Literature and Culture, Chair of Asian and Slavic Languages and Literatures, University of Iowa)
- Konosu Yukiko (Translator of English-language literature, Literary Critic)
- Stephen Snyder (Translator of Japanese Literature, Dean of Language Schools and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Professor of Japanese Studies, Middlebury College)

Contemporary Literature category (Spanish)

- Marina Bornas (Translator of Japanese, German and English Literature, Audiovisual translator)
- Noya Fumiaki (Translator of Spanish and Latin American Literature, Professor Emeritus at the University of Tokyo, Rikkyo University and Nagoya University of Foreign Studies)
- Alfredo López-Pasarín Basabe (Translator of Japanese Literature, Professor of Faculty of Political Science and Economics, Waseda University)

Classical Literature category (English)

- Janine Beichman (Scholar and translator of Japanese Literature, Professor Emeritus at Daito Bunka University)
- Peter MacMillan (Translator of Japanese literature, poet)
- Meredith McKinney (Translator of classical, early modern, and contemporary Japanese Literature, Honorary Associate Professor at the Australian National University)
- Moriyama Megumi (Poet, translator and critic)

7 Contact

Japanese Literature Publishing Project (JLPP) Office

Mail: jlpp_office@jlpp.go.jp

Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan
Cultural Economy and International Affairs Division
Director TERAMOTO Tsunemasa
Deputy Director OGIWARA Tomonari
Tel: 03-6734-2872
Mail: bunka-global@mext.go.jp