

Details about “Hinamatsuri Doll Festival Celebration” Exhibition and Programs

1. Hanging ornaments and “Mataro” dolls



The “Tsurushi-kazari” hanging ornaments consist of about 5,000 hand-sewn silk ornaments suspended from a height of approximately 3 meters, within a frame measuring 2.4 meters wide and 6.8 meters deep. These auspicious decorations are symbolic representations of the prayers for the healthy nurturing of children, and are said to have begun in the Edo period (1601-1868). The shapes of the ornaments carry various meanings: the shrimp with its long whiskers and curved back represents “immortality” and symbolizes longevity; the turtle, also a symbol of longevity, reflects the hopes for a “long life,” the crawling baby doll embodies the parental wishes that “if children can crawl they will stand, and if they stand they will walk.” The ball symbolizes the hopes that children will grow up healthy and adorable. The horse, an auspicious symbol for the 2026 zodiac year, represents the wishes that children will grow strong and walk through life with vigor.



Shrimp



Turtle



Crawling baby



Ball (mari)



Horse

The hanging ornaments on display have been meticulously hand-stitched, one stitch at a time, by quilt artist Mitsuyo Matsuo and all 60 members of her Himawari Group. They used precious “genuine antique silk fabrics,” taken from kimonos passed down for generations. A tiered display of traditional hand crafted “Mataro Ningyō” wooden and silk kimono dolls, made by long-established doll makers recognized by Kyoto's Kamigamo Shrine as the sole authentic inheritor of the “Kimekomi Doll” tradition, will be placed at the center of the hanging ornament display. Visitors can admire the traditional technique to make Mataro dolls by carving fine grooves into the wooden doll's body and inserting the edges of fabric into them to dress the dolls. Furthermore, the Main Lobby features an “Ikebana” flower arrangement created by flower artist Tenkei Nomura, adding an extra touch of elegance to the event.



- Venue: Main Lobby on the 3rd floor of the Main Tower, Restaurant Corridors on the 2nd and 7th floors of the Main Tower, and Shopping Lobby on the 3rd floor of the South Tower
- Collaboration with: Mataro Ningyō Artists, Mitsuyo Matsuo and the Himawari Group (60 members total), and Tenkei Nomura

2. Folding screens

Approximately 20 folding screens with paintings from various genres, including landscapes, Japanese paintings, and ink wash paintings, will be displayed. Featured works include artpieces by Japanese painter and Yamato-e artist Masatsugu Ito, photographic artist Yasutaka Tanji, painter Yumi Tanaka, and calligrapher Akio Kobayashi, alongside works from Tokyo's only folding screen specialty shop Kataoka Byobu Store.



Cherry Blossom Painting
(by Kataoka Byobu Store)



Moonlit Cherry Tree
Screen (by Masatsugu Ito)



Extremely Colorful
Black-Lined Gold Screen
(by Kataoka Byobu Store
× Solid Blackline)



Huddling Monkeys (by Kataoka
Byobu Store × Masaru Sato)

- Venue: Art Lobby and Main Lobby on the 3rd floor, and Restaurant Corridor on the 2nd floor of the Main Tower
- Collaboration with: Kataoka Byobu Store, Masatsugu Ito, Yasutaka Tanji, Yumi Tanaka, and Akio Kobayashi

About Kataoka Byobu Store

Kataoka Byobu Store was founded in 1946 in Sumida Ward, Tokyo, and is Tokyo's only shop specializing in the creation and sale of artistic folding screens. It primarily creates and sells artistic folding screens for seasonal festivals to be used by hotels and banquet halls, and for other decorative purposes. Its extensive portfolio of products includes custom made screens created for major corporations celebrating anniversaries, and screens paying homage to screens painted by the renowned Japanese artist Hokusai. In recent years, Kataoka Byobu Store has hosted demonstrations targeting inbound tourists and collaborative events with artists, garnering coverage in numerous media outlets. And in 2026, Kataoka Byobu Store celebrates its 80th anniversary.



Kataoka Byobu Store's Official Instagram Account: https://www.instagram.com/kataoka_byobu/

Profile of Koto Kataoka

Koto Kataoka was born in Tokyo in 1988. After graduating from university, he studied in the United States for one year. Following a stint working at a partner factory in Niigata, he took over the family business. Currently, as the third-generation proprietor of Kataoka Byobu Store, he carries on the tradition of his store while pursuing various initiatives to expand the possibilities of folding screens, including overseas expansion.



Comments by Koto Kataoka

“Since its founding in 1946, Kataoka Byobu Store has produced numerous folding screens for use as seasonal decorations to be used with Hinamatsuri dolls and May dolls. Today, we also explore various possibilities for adapting traditional folding screens to contemporary lifestyles. We hope you enjoy seeing the enduring charm of folding screens, that remains unchanged throughout the ages.”

3. Experience programs

(1) Custom-made, hand-painted folding screen sales event

Kataoka Byobu Store sell custom-made tabletop-sized hand-painted folding screens (approximately 27.5 cm tall by 39 cm wide) created by traditional Byobu craftsmen. At the sales event, customers will be asked about their preferences on the spot, use a simple composition to confirm the customers preferences, and then provide the finished screens within 1-2 days. These screens are easy to display at home and make for perfect souvenirs or keepsakes for travelers visiting from overseas.



- Event schedule: February 3 (Tuesday) and 19 (Thursday), March 3 (Tuesday), 17 (Tuesday), and 31 (Tuesday), 2026
- Time: 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (Short breaks will be taken)
- Venue: Main Lobby on the 3rd floor of the Main Tower
- Fee: Starting from JPY 10,000 (tax included)
- Estimated Pick-up Time: 1 to 2 days
- Capacity: Maximum of 5 orders per day

*No reservations are required. Please come to the venue on the day of the event.

*Please note that time required to create and deliver the final products may vary.

*We also offer a service to deliver finished products to customers by mail.

(2) Workshop to make trick folding screens

A hands-on workshop will be held where participants create their own mysterious trick folding screens (20cm high × 20cm wide) that unfold to reveal four panels, using paper and wood. It's a simple process where participants use rulers to draw lines on paper, then cut and paste the paper using scissors and glue. Please note that this experience focuses on creating artwork for only one of four panels.



- Event schedule: February 12 (Thursday) and March 12 (Thursday), 2026
- Time: Sessions starting at 12:00p.m., 2:00 p.m., and 4:00 p.m. on February 12 (Thursday), 2026, and 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m., and 4:00 p.m. on March 12 (Thursday), 2026
- Venue: Main Lobby on the 3rd floor of the Main Tower
- Fee: JPY 4,400 (tax included)
- Estimated time required: 60–90 minutes
- Capacity: 10 participants per session

* Reservations are not required. Please come to the venue on the day of the event.

(3) Live folding screen-painting performance

Calligraphy artist Airi Hara will conduct a live painting on a folding screen performance. Please make sure to attend this event to experience the breathtaking performance by Airi Hara, highly acclaimed for her unique style of “painting pictures with characters” both within Japan and internationally.

- Date and Time: March 10 (Tuesday), 2026, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Venue: Main Lobby on the 3rd floor of the Main Tower

Profile of Airi Hara

Airi Hara is an artist redefining Japanese calligraphy as a visual art form that transcends genre, language, and cultural boundaries. Airi is currently based in New York, and uses Japanese calligraphy

as a form of Japanese culture that transcends artistic genre and language barriers in the heart of the art world.

She began practicing calligraphy at the age of two and received numerous awards from an early age. Since 2018, Airi has developed a distinctive style described as “painting pictures with written characters.” Her innovative works have been featured in various media, and she has received commissions from prominent individuals, corporations, and sports teams worldwide.

She has also presented exhibitions and live performances in the United States, Europe, and the Middle East, captivating audiences around the world. With more than 300K followers on Instagram, she is recognized as a rising figure in contemporary calligraphy.



Airi Hara's Official Instagram Account: https://www.instagram.com/airi_hara1002/

During this year's “Hinamatsuri Doll Festival Celebration” event at the Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo, works by Airi Hara will be displayed throughout the hotel.

- Exhibition Period: February 1 (Sunday) to March 31 (Tuesday), 2026
- Venue: 2nd floor of the South Tower

(4) Koto performance

Musical pieces representative of such seasonal events such as Hinamatsuri will be performed by a koto player.

- Performance Dates: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays during February and March 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
- Venue: Main Lobby on the 3rd floor of the Main Tower



*Please note that the hotel will be temporarily closed from 2:00 p.m. on February 11 (Wednesday, national holiday), to 12:00 p.m. on February 12 (Thursday), 2026, due to a legally required electrical facilities inspection.