

Japan-Netherlands Symposium

# International Training Program in Museums:

Exploring Inclusive and Collaborative Engagement

## Free Registration

Hybrid online and in-person event format  
(with simultaneous interpretation)



**Saturday, October 4, 2025** Doors open at 9:30  
Minpaku Auditorium, National Museum of Ethnology

- **Format** Free Registration, hybrid online and in-person event format with simultaneous interpretation
- **Capacity** 350 people at venue, 500 people online

Organized by



国立民族学博物館  
National Museum of Ethnology, Japan



Cultural Heritage Agency  
Ministry of Education, Culture and Science



Co-organized by



National Museum of Nature and Science



Reinwardt Academy  
Amsterdam University of the Arts



Supported by



Museums serve a vital role in preserving culture—humanity's shared treasure—while creating spaces for equitable dialogue among individuals from diverse backgrounds. These cultural conversations can serve as models for building a more equal and sustainable international society.

In an era marked by increasing natural disasters and conflicts, there is growing recognition across all sectors of the need to establish new frameworks for nations and global communities. Museums are particularly positioned to strengthen their role as catalysts for cross-cultural understanding and the cultivation of mutual respect. However, to ensure that individuals from all backgrounds can participate in meaningful dialogue within museums, it is essential to move beyond traditional one-way relationships toward inclusive and collaborative international partnerships.

This symposium focuses on international museum training programs conducted by the Netherlands and Japan, exploring new approaches to international museum collaboration that transcend the traditional hierarchy between "trainers" and "trainees." Through this gathering, the symposium aims to foster deeper discussions on creating more reciprocal and equitable partnerships in our cultural heritage work.

Program

All times are in Japan Standard Time (JST)

MC: Maki Takashina, Assistant Professor, National Museum of Ethnology

●10:00-10:10

**Opening remarks** Yuji Seki (Director-General, National Museum of Ethnology)

●10:10-10:20

**Opening remarks** Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

●10:20-10:30

**Introduction** Shingo Hidaka (Professor, National Museum of Ethnology)

Part 1: Keynotes

●10:30-11:15

**Keynote Speech I** Yuji Seki

●11:15-12:00

**Keynote Speech II** Wayne Modest and Marieke van Bommel (Content Director / General Director, The National Museum of World Cultures)

●12:00-13:00

**Lunch Break**

Part 2: Rethinking Museum Training Programs

●13:00-13:25

**Presentation I** Chunni Jenny Chiu (Research Fellow, National Museum of Ethnology)

●13:25-13:50

**Presentation II** Remco Vermeulen (Coordinator of international cooperation collection management Cultural Heritage Agency of the Netherlands)

●13:50-14:15

**Presentation III** Kaoru Suemori (Associate Professor, National Museum of Ethnology)

●14:15 -14:40

**Presentation IV** Masashi Abe (Head of Conservation Design Section, Tokyo National Research Institute for Cultural Properties)

●14:40-15:05

**Presentation V** Ruben Smit (Senior Lecturer, Global Knowledge-Sharing Programmes Manager, Reinwardt Academy, Amsterdam University of the Arts)

●15:05-15:20

**Break**

●15:20-15:40

**Comments** Yuji Kurihara (Vice Director, National Museum of Nature and Science)

Part 3: The Potential of Museum Training

●15:40-16:30

**Panel Discussion** Moderator: Shingo Hidaka  
With all speakers listed above.

●16:30-16:40

**Closing remarks** Yuji Kurihara

Registration

Tuesday, August 12 – Friday, September 26, 2025

How to Register

Please send an email to [bunkazai@minpaku.ac.jp](mailto:bunkazai@minpaku.ac.jp) with the following information:

1) Subject line: "Japan-Netherlands Symposium Registration"

2) Participation format: Please specify "In-person" or "Online"

3) Personal information: Full name and contact email address, your institutional affiliation


Email Reception Settings

We will send reply emails from "[bunkazai@minpaku.ac.jp](mailto:bunkazai@minpaku.ac.jp)," but due to security settings or spam filters, emails may not be delivered correctly. Since delivery failures are not notified to the sender, we cannot know if emails were not delivered unless participants contact us directly. Please ensure that emails from the following domain can be received by adjusting your spam filter or reception settings:

@minpaku.ac.jp

Contact

Japan-Netherlands Symposium International Training  
Program in Museums: Exploring Inclusive and Collaborative Secretariat  
Email: [bunkazai@minpaku.ac.jp](mailto:bunkazai@minpaku.ac.jp)



国立民族学博物館

National Museum of Ethnology

●Opening Hours: 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.(Entry permitted until 4:30 p.m.)

●Closing Days: The Museum is closed on Wednesdays. When a national holiday falls on a Wednesday, the Museum is closed instead on the following day. The Museum is closed from December 28 until January 4 for the year-end and New Year period.

Access

●Osaka Monorail: Get off at "Bampaku-kinen-koen Station" or "Koen-higashi-guchi Station," then walk approximately 15 minutes

●Bus: From Hankyu Ibaraki-shi Station or JR Ibaraki Station, take the bus to "Nihon-teien-mae" bus stop, then walk approximately 13 minutes

●By Car: From Hankyu Ibaraki-shi Station or JR Ibaraki Station, take the bus to "Nihon-teien-mae" bus stop, then walk approximately 13 minutes

●Admission Charges for the Permanent Exhibitions:

・Adults/¥780

・College and University Students/¥340

・High School Students and Younger/Free

※Please check our website for information about admission fee discounts.

National Museum of Ethnology

10-1 Senri Expo Park, Suita, Osaka 565-8511, Japan

<https://www.minpaku.ac.jp/>

