

Actress Atsuko Asano Reads to Local Junior High School Students
Hosting AEON Hometown Discovery
10/4 (Thurs.) Yukura Shrine, Hakodate City, Hokkaido

We would first like to express our sincere wish for the wellbeing of everyone who was affected by the "2018 Hokkaido Eastern Iburi Earthquake."

The AEON 1% Club Foundation will host a reading performance by actress Atsuko Asano at Yukura Shrine in Hakodate City, Hokkaido on October 4 (Thurs.), and has invited 290 local junior high school students to attend.

AEON Hometown Discovery is an AEON 1% Club project that uses time-honored folktales about local areas. The goal is to enable children as cornerstones for our future to reexamine the amazingness of history and culture that has been fundamental to Japan for ages, as well as the spirit that inspires, and for children to rediscover the wonderfulness of their hometowns.

Basing her performance on various local shrines and famous historical spots, taking from the ancient historical records of the *Kojiki* (Records of Ancient Matters) and *Nihon-shoki* (Chronicles of Japan), and blending in the desires of Japan's ancestors toward future generations, Atsuko Asano gives powerful monologue performances in which she plays each of the various characters herself. This upcoming performance will be her first in Hokkaido. The theme is "Good Hakodate Stories," which she dramatized independently based on folktales that have been passed down around the Matsumae Castle Town area.

This set of performances began in 2012 as a Great East Japan Earthquake recovery project. Shows were held in Shiogama City, Ishinomaki City, Sendai City, Kesenuma City, and Iwanuma City in Miyagi Prefecture and Rikuzentakata City and Ofunato City in Iwate Prefecture. Since 2015 onward, we have enlarged the performance zone and are now holding performances in places like Hamamatsu City in Shizuoka Prefecture.

Through disaster recovery assistance and activities to spread the word about the wonderfulness of local hometowns, the AEON 1% Club Foundation will continue contribute to the wholesome upbringing of children.

Event Information

1. Date & time: October 4 (Thurs.), 14:00 – 15:30
2. Place: Yukura Shrine (2-28-1 Yunokawacho, Hakodate City, Hokkaido)
3. Narrator: Atsuko Asano (Actress)
4. Participants: 290 Hakodate City Yunokawa Junior High School students
5. Host: AEON 1% Club Foundation
6. Supporter: Hokkaido Prefectural Government, Hakodate City, and Hakodate City Board of Education
7. Cooperator: Yukura Shrine, AEON Hokkaido Co., Ltd., Maxvalu Hokkaido Co., Ltd.

Scenes from live reading held at Kamo Shrine in Tottori Prefecture and Amaterasumioya Shrine in Iwate Prefecture in 2017



Reference - A list of past shows -

1st Show	Location	Shiogama Shrine Side Building, Shiogama City, Miyagi Prefecture
	Date	October 31, 2012 (Wed.)
	Title	Yamasachihiko, A Journey into the Unknown
	Schools invited	Approx. 600 Shiogama City junior high school students (Shiogama Daiichi Junior High School, Shiogama Daisan Junior High School, and Tamagawa Junior High School)
	Supporter	Shiogama City
2nd Show	Location	Kashimamiko Shrine, Ishinomaki City, Miyagi Prefecture
	Date	October 23, 2013 (Wed.)
	Title	Children of the Heavenly Amatsukami Gods Journeys to the Earth- Words from Those Sent from the High Heavenly Planes -
	Schools invited	Approx. 200 attendees from the local area
	Supporter	Ishinomaki City
3rd Show	Location	School Gym of Sendai City Daiichi Junior High School, Sendai City, Miyagi Prefecture (Due to typhoon impact, the venue has changed from the originally planned Osaki Hachimangu Shrine)
	Date	October 25, 2013 (Fri.)
	Title	Homudawake no Mikoto - Emperor Ojin Fought together in His Mother's Womb -
	Schools invited	Approximately 500 attendees total from Sendai City Daiichi Junior High School, including approx. 480 students, 20 teachers, and others
	Supporter	Sendai City
4th Show	Location	Misaki Shrine, Kesenuma City, Miyagi Prefecture
	Date	September 11, 2014 (Thurs.)
	Title	The Tale of Umisachihiko and Yamasachihiko - A love that binds the earth and the ocean -
	Schools invited	Approx. 350 students total, including 134 students from Kesenuma Municipal Karakuwa Junior High School, 209 students from Koharagi Junior High School, and others
	Supporter	Kesenuma City
5th Show	Location	Gosha Shrine, Hamamatsu City, Shizuoka Prefecture
	Date	September 15, 2015 (Tues.)
	Title	Amaterasu Hid in the Ama-no-Iwato Cave - According to Tsukuyomi no Mikoto -
	Schools invited	Approx. 300 students total, including 112 students from Hamamatsu Municipal Shijimizuka Junior High School, 153 students Hamamatsu Municipal Haruno Junior High School, and others
	Supporter	Hamamatsu City
6th Show	Location	Takekoma Inari Shrine, Iwanuma City, Miyagi Prefecture
	Date	October 29, 2015 (Thurs.)
	Title	Tale of the Construction of Takekoma Inari Shrine - Ono no Takamura Was Protected by a Fox -
	Schools invited	Approx. 300 students total, including 265 students from Iwanuma Municipal Kita Junior High School and others
	Supporter	Iwanuma City
7th Show	Location	Kurosaki Shrine, Rikuzentakata City, Iwate Prefecture
	Date	September 27, 2016 (Tues.)
	Title	Two Lives Helping Each Other - From the Folktale "Ryujin's Kagura Dance" -
	Schools invited	Approx. 350 attendees total, including 186 students from Rikuzentakata Municipal Takata-Higashi Junior High School, 27 6th graders from Rikuzentakata Municipal Hirota Elementary School, and approx. 130 Hirota area residents
	Supporter	Rikuzentakata City
8th Show	Location	Togakushi Shrine, Nagano Prefecture Nagano City
	Date	October 25, 2016 (Tues.)
	Title	The acts of Superhuman Tajikarao - From the Kojiki and Shinshu Folktales -
	Schools invited	Approx. 120 attendees total, including 82 students from Nagano Municipal Togakushi Junior High School, 13 first year students from Nagano Municipal Nakajo Junior High School, and others
	Supporter	Nagano City
9th Show	Location	Kamo Shrine, Kurayoshi City, Tottori Prefecture
	Date	September 13, 2017(Wed.)
	Title	The Tale of the Utsubuki Goddess - The Account of the Kamo Shrine "Bottle Gourd Well" -
	Schools invited	Approx. 400 attendees total, including 255 students from Kurayoshi

		Municipal Higashi Junior High School (entire school), 48 fifth and sixth year students from Seitoku Elementary School, 16 high school students from Tottori Prefectural Tottori Nishi High School, 16 high school students from Bak Touk High School in Cambodia, and others
	Supporter	Kurayoshi City and the Kurayoshi City Board of Education
10th Show	Location	Amaterasumioya Shrine, Ofunato City, Iwate Prefecture
	Date	October 5, 2017 (Thurs.)
	Title	The Sisters Who Became the Moon and Stars - Account of the Ofunato "Sea Cucumber Fishing" Event -
	Schools invited	Approx. 300 attendees total, including, 50 first year students from Ofunato Municipal Ofunato Junior High School, 52 fifth and sixth year students Ofunato Municipal Sakari Elementary School, 42 fifth and sixth year students from Ofunato Municipal Akasaki Elementary School, and approx. 150 shrine parishioners and city residents
	Supporter	Ofunato City and the Ofunato City Board of Education