

Japan in Translation Initiative (JTI)

Support and Education to Empower Future Translators of Manga and Literature

[Career Building Course: Pre-Launch Event]

Rules and Guidelines

The Japan Publishing Industry Foundation for Culture's (JPIC) goal is to help spread Japan's rich publishing culture to the world, all while promoting lifelong learning through reading. In order to achieve this goal, JPIC has developed a brand-new project that aims to support and empower translators of Japanese media.

The Japan in Translation Initiative (JTI) is a commissioned project under the Japan Creator Support Fund established by the Japan Arts Council through subsidies provided by the Agency for Cultural Affairs.

The project is divided into two separate programs, the [A. JP-EN Translator Training Course] and [B. Career Building Course]. Through these programs it is our hope that we will be able to find talented and motivated individuals who can help Japan spread its literary wings and show the world the charm and diversity of what Japan has to offer.

In addition to launching an online application for eligible candidates, JPIC has also put together a special kick-off seminar that will be hosted by two veteran translators in the fields of manga and literature. We encourage all interested applicants to attend the seminar. (Participation is open to everyone and there are no special requirements. However, in the event that interest exceeds capacity, JPIC will use a lottery system to determine attendees. Details below.)

The following project overview guidelines are for the [B. Career Building Course: Pre-Launch Event] only.

More information about the [A. JP-EN Translator Training Course] can be found [HERE](#)

Project Overview:

Project Name:

(English) Japan in Translation Initiative: Support and Education to Empower Future Translators of Manga and Literature (JTI)

(Japanese) マンガ分野等における翻訳者育成・確保プロジェクト

Goals:

- To facilitate the creation of translation courses to support and empower talented translators of Japanese manga and literature (A. JP-EN Translator Training Course).
- To facilitate more opportunities for exchange between translators and publishers (B. Career Building Course).
- Both courses aim to expand Japan's literary culture to even broader audiences around the world.

Organizers:

Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan, Japan Arts Council, and Japan Publishing Industry Foundation for Culture (JPIC)

Secretariat:

Japan Publishing Industry Foundation for Culture (JPIC) (Website: <https://www.jp-pic.or.jp/>)

Japan Creator Support Fund:

<https://creator.ntj.jac.go.jp/>

JTI Official Website:

Tentative January 2027

B. Career Building Course (Pre-Launch Event)

Details Regarding This Year's Pre-Launch Event:

In order to provide the best possible content for helping translators of Japanese media advance their careers, JTI will be holding a pre-launch event of the [Career Building Course]. For this event, we are hoping to receive honest feedback and opinions from current professional translators on what they would find most beneficial. Feedback collected from participating translators will then be taken into consideration for future courses and seminars. Veteran translators Jocelyne Allen (manga) and Sam Bett (Literature), as well as several domestic and overseas publishers will be participating in this year's pre-launch event.

Date: Nov.18th 2026 (Wed.) 1:00PM-4:00PM

Location: Tokyo Dome Prism Hall, B side

Admission: Free

Eligible Candidates:

Translators of various languages who already have a significant amount of experience but are looking to broaden the type of translation work they engage in.

Application period:

Oct.14th 2026 (Wed.) to Oct.26th (Mon.) Noon JST

Capacity:

Capacity is limited to 30 people.

(If interest exceeds capacity, an in-house selection or a lottery system will be used). Once we have confirmed your spot, you will receive an email from the JTI secretariat. Please keep in mind that depending on the volume of applicants, we might not be able to contact those who were unsuccessful in reserving a spot.

Application Requirements:

1. Currently working as a professional translator of Japanese media or has experience working in this capacity (any translation field is permissible).
2. Willing to continue working as a translator for manga and Japanese literature and take on new projects.

[B. Career Building Course- Pre-Launch Event] Online Application:

[HERE](#)

About the [Career Building Course]:

The course's objective is to produce seminars and workshops to help translators advance their careers, as well as creating more opportunities for translators to meet and speak directly with publishers at events such as TOKYO INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS MEETING (TIRM)*. (fellowship available)

*TOKYO INTERNATIONAL RIGHTS MEETING (TIRM) is an annual international B2B event specializing in translation and publishing rights.

<https://tokyorightsmeeting.com/>

SEMINAR FOR TRANSLATORS by Japan in Translation Initiative (JTI)

Kick-Off Seminar

Date: November 18th, 2026 (Wed) 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

*Online or Watch-at-a-later-date options are not available for this seminar

Venue: Tokyo Dome, Prism Hall B Side

Guest Speakers:

(1st Speaker): Jocelyne Allen (JP-EN Manga Translator / Canada)

(2nd Speaker): Sam Bett (JP-EN Literary Translator/ USA)

Theme: Learn from active manga and literary translators as they talk about what it's like to work in the industry, how they got there, and the latest trends from overseas publishers.

Participants: Translators and Domestic/Overseas Publishers

Capacity: 100 people (If interest exceeds capacity, a lottery system will be used)

Language: Japanese

Admission Fee: Free

Registration: The option to register for the seminar is included in the application forms for the [B. Career Building Course: Pre-Launch Event].

Flyer: [HERE](#)

Contact

JTI Secretariat

Japan Publishing Industry Foundation for Culture (JPIC)

Kyodo Bldg. Jinbocho 4F

2-2-30 Kanda-Jinbocho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 101-0051, Japan

Email: japan-in-translation@jpica.or.jp Tel: +81 3-5211-7283



Organizers:

Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan

Japan Arts Council

Japan Publishing Industry Foundation for Culture (JPIC)