

Arts and Culture for
Peace Initiative

2023



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Arts and Culture for Peace Initiative

UK ASPnet, supported by Japan's National ASPnet Coordinator, is leading this new Initiative, which is inspired by the UK-Japan Between the Stones project and pilot projects by five Coventry schools.

The Initiative was officially launched at the International Virtual 'Connecting for Peace' UNESCO ASPnet U.K. Conference on 17 June 2022.

The UNESCO ASPnet Arts & Culture for Peace Initiative focuses on three important ASPnet Action Areas related to 'peace', 'sustainability' and 'intercultural learning and heritage'.

The aim is for young people around the world to work on the following 'transformative' arts & culture for peace activities:

- E-forest for Peace – Create artistically dynamic peace trees (real or imagined) with peace poems and images to highlight the importance of living in peace with ourselves, our communities, and our planet.
- Performing Arts for Peace – Develop and perform stories, plays and songs that reflect our global citizenship, cultural diversity and the challenges of ensuring a more peaceful world through the transformative efforts of students.
- Gardens for Peace – Use ideas and designs for peace gardens to support the well-being of others, as well as to convey the critical and urgent importance of living more peacefully and sustainably with nature, ourselves and our planet.

Schools may work on one, two, or all three activities – or any combination of these.

They are also asked to use a 'less is more' minimal creative and

intellectual approach across diverse cultural forms, which will also reflect the spirit of sustainability in completing this activity. Schools may work with artists and other partners.

The results of these activities should aim to benefit both local and global communities in relation to the three ASPnet Action Areas.

Journey to Kyoto, Japan

Following the launch of the Arts and Peace for Culture Initiative the U.K ASPnet coordinator and the ASPnet International Coordinator Paris led on bringing together ASPnet National Coordinators globally to develop a programme in collaboration with Doshisha University in Kyoto, Japan during the 70th anniversary year of ASPnet.

During the many months of planning the programme changed many times and many of our colleagues from the steering committee were not able to commit to join us in Japan, but they will be in our hearts as we share cultural learning together in Kyoto.

The countries participating are Japan, South Korea, The Gambia, Oman, Netherlands, Belgium, Poland, Singapore and the U.K.

About the Program

Doshisha University's Liferisk Research Centre, in liaison with UNESCO Associated Schools Network (ASPnet) UK, the U.K. National Commission for UNESCO will jointly organise a 5-day cultural exchange with learners and educators. In cooperation with Kyoto University of Foreign Studies and supported by Kyoto UNESCO Association, Kobe University's Centre for Computational Social Science, and International Society for Education and Tamagawa University (Teacher Education Institute of ASPnet).

Schools will be working on the Arts and Culture for Peace initiative U.K. in Kyoto, Japan known for traditional Japanese culture and promoting sustainability.

The exchange aims to provide intercultural experiences among the participants to discuss the challenges to achieve a Culture of Peace. This will be enlightened by the global peace-relay, through a hybrid tea ceremony hosted by UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador Dr Genshitsu Sen at the Opening Ceremony, to connect with ASPnet students who share their own tea cultures from all regions.

The 5-day programme is set out within the framework of the key theme of the ASPnet 70th anniversary celebration "Fostering a Culture of Peace and Sustainable Development through Transformative Education."

The programme invites approximately 70 participants, students of age 11 to 16 accompanied by teachers, and National Coordinators, from 9 countries (ensuring gender and regional balance) including students and teachers from Japan.

The outcome of this event will be showcased at the exhibition to celebrate the ASPnet 70th anniversary during the General Conference in November 2023.

Students will:

- Learn about peace initiatives from communities around the world and consider how they can implement what they have learnt in their own communities.
- Learn to work collaboratively and peacefully in an international setting, developing tolerance and understanding.

- Learn about the difference between peacekeeping and peace-making.
- Learn about delivering sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles.
- Learn about cultures and traditions and appreciating cultural diversity and heritage.
- Learn how to use creative arts to tell their story through theatre, art, sound, music, poetry and ceramics; to create impactful displays to be showcased at the UNESCO General Conference and other sites.

Program Timetable

Arrival and departure times can be seen here. On the following pages you will find the weeks timetable of activities.

Saturday 9th and Sunday 10th September 2023

Individual timings to be confirmed

Arrivals:

Students, teachers and NCs arrive in Kyoto and settle into accommodation.

Saturday 16th September 2023

Individual timings to be confirmed

Departures:

Kansai Group Departure from Accommodation to Kansai International Airport (90 minutes by Shuttle Taxi)

Itami Group: Departure from Accommodation to Itami Airport (50 minutes by Shuttle Taxi)

- 07:30** Departure from Accommodation
- 08:55** **Welcome performance of Japanese traditional music "Spring Sea" by Michio Miyagi**
- 09:00** **Opening (at Kanbai-Kan, Doshisha University) (English)**
The ceremony will be live streamed by zoom to other ASPnet students who cannot attend on site based on the pre-registration.
- Welcome remarks:**
Tomoko Ueki, President of Doshisha University
Ann Beatty, UNESCO ASPnet National Coordinator U.K.
- 09:20** **Keynote speech: UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador Dr Genshitsu Sen**
(interpretation JPN/EN)
- 09:50** **Julie Saito, UNESCO ASPnet International Coordinator**
- 10:00** **Speech from Mr. Daijiro Ai, President of Kyoto UNESO Association**
(interpretation JPN/EN) "Kyoto and UNESCO - from an historical perspective"
- 10:25** **Speech from Prof. Michiko Kato, Kyoto University of Foreign Studies (KUFUS), Chair of ASP UnivNet***
"Kyoto, UNESCO, and ASPnet – sharing practices from Kyoto and Japan"
**ASP UnivNet: Interuniversity Network Supporting The UNESCO Associated Schools Network*
- 11:00** **Exchange Overview**
- 11:30** **Gift a Poem (Poland) Arts and Culture for Peace Initiative (UK)**
Ann Beatty and Malgorzata Herbich invite student's to share poems and place onto peace trees
- Performance of Japanese traditional music**
Chidori no Kyoku, Medley of Japanese music (12 minutes)
- 12:00** Lunch at Doshisha University cafeteria
- 13:00** **Art Workshop Presentation**
Art production presentation on the theme of SDGs. Students and teachers from Belgian and Japanese high schools since the foundation of ASPnet. Participants will reflect their cultural experiences and observation in their co-creation.
Facilitator: Japan Art Mile
(15min break during the workshop)
- While students are making art, teachers and the National Coordinators move to another meeting room and participate in cutting-edge discussions on the mechanisms by which physically challenged people's art is connected to their vitality to live with disabilities. Q&A and discussion (about 45 minutes).*
Professor OGAKI Masao, Keio University (open to public with pre-registration)
- 17:00** **Welcome Reception**
Doshisha University, restaurant of Kambaikan building 1st floor
- 18:30** Leave for Accommodation

Tuesday 12th September 2023

- 07:50** Departure from Accommodation
- 09:00** **Cultural Outing at Kawamura Noh Theatre – Arts and Culture for Peace Initiative**
Gathering at the Kawamura Noh Theatre: Exchange views on the previous day's tea culture and garden appreciation. Noh appreciation and experience: consider cultural diversity in terms of emotional expression together.
- Professor Haruhisa Kawamura, Noh Actor, National Living Heritage of Japan**
Short performance of Noh, and lecture on Noh. Visit the Noh Theatre as an entry point to discuss cultural diversity and how cultures create and express emotions.
- 11:05** Departure from Kawamura Noh Theatre
- 11:30** Arrival at Doshisha University
Lunch at Doshisha University cafeteria
- 13:00** Leave Doshisha University to Daitokuji Temple
- 14:00** **Cultural Outings: Visit Daitokuji Temple**
Join the tour of visit a Japanese Zen Garden and experience Zazen, include Japanese tea Matcha. Thorough the tour, participants have chance to think and discuss topics and issues related to individual and collective well-being and the importance of living more sustainably with nature, and our planet. (120 minutes)
- 16:00** **Free time**

Wednesday 13th September 2023

- 08:15** Departure from Accommodation
- 09:00** **Visit Ittoen School (junior and high school) (ASPnet school)**
Ittoen High School students are learning Noh in their curriculum. Participants will visit the school and see the curriculum as well as exchange views.
- Visit Kyoto Municipal Ansyu Elementary School (ASPnet School)**
Participants will be visiting Ansyu Elementary School, an ASPnet School in Kyoto engaged with innovative activities to integrate the SDGs and ESD in teaching and learning. Interactive discussion among the teachers and students will take place, including having lunch together.
- 12:45** Departure from the School to the hotel.
- Free to explore Kyoto**
Places might be of interest to visit: Kinkakuji Temple, Ginkakuji Temple, Nijo Castle. Travel times will be confirmed on the day.
- Departure from Accommodation to Kinkakuji Temple
Arrival at Kinkakuji Temple
- Departure from Kinkakuji Temple to Ginkakuji Temple
Arrival at Ginkakuji Temple
- Departure from Ginkakuji Temple to Nijo Castle
Arrival at Nijo Castle
- Departure from Nijo Castle to Japanese pottery

Thursday 14th September 2023

- 07:50** Departure from Accommodation
- 09:00** **Presentation: Keiko Ogura (Hiroshima Peace Memorial)**
A Survivor Story and reflections on the importance of peace.
- 10:45** **Workshop 1: Role of Young Leaders for ASPnet**
Discussion groups to talk about the role, vision and needs for the young ambassador of ASPnet to promote peace and cultural understanding.
Facilitator: Makoto Kobayashi, Professor of Tamagawa University, ASPnet
- 11:30** **Workshop 2: Professor Kazuo Nishimura (President of International Society for Education, Project Professor of Kobe University) speaks about the moral education.**
- 12:00** Lunch at Doshisha University cafeteria
- 13:00** Leave for Urasenke (15min walk)
- 13:30** **Attend a tea ceremony (90 minutes) hosted by Urasenke Tea School. (TBC)**
Students can experience tea ceremony and feel the spirit of Chado and the message of UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador Dr Genshitsu Sen.
- 16:00** **Wrap up Session**
Participants wrap up the 4-day discussions and exchange ideas to draft the highlights of the trip, the learning and understanding which they wish to share with their ASPnet colleagues and wish to be presented during the General Conference to integrate the visions of ASPnet students on Peace and Cultural Understanding through Arts and Culture discussed during the cultural exchange.
Facilitators: Ann Beatty National Coordinator U.K. and Lamin Jarjou National Coordinator The Gambia
- 17:00** **Farewell Reception at Doshisha University, Ryoshinkan basement restaurant**
Gift a Poem (Poland) Arts and Culture for Peace Initiative (UK)
Student's share poems and remove from peace trees to exchange with each other.
- 18:00** Leave for Accommodation

Friday 15th September 2023

- 08:00** Departure from Accommodation
- Japanese One Cup pottery workshop (Bizen city)**
Participants will reflect their experiences and thoughts on their own tea bowl production and share messages of peace and sustainability.
Facilitator: Bizen Potters, leading The Living National Treasure of Bizen - Ise Zaki Jun Sensai and Miyuki Arimura (Head of Charioyu) Dr. Robin Wilson Oxford University
- Return to accommodation



Venues

Doshisha University Kanbaikan

Karasuma-higashi-iru, Imadegawa-dori, Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto city 602-8580. Doshisha University HP: <https://www.doshisha.ac.jp/en/information/kambai/index.html>

September 11th, 12th and 14th, Lunch (student cafeteria), Welcome and Farewell Receptions.



Kawamura Noh Theater

Yanagino Zushi-cho 320-14, Kamidachiuri Agaru, Karasuma, Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto. You can find more information about Noh and Kawamura Noh Theater with their HP <https://www.noh-plus.com/en/>

September 11th, morning event.

Daitokuji-temple Daisen-in

Daitokuji-cho54-1, Murasakino, Kita-ku, Kyoto city, 603-8231

Daisen-in HP: <https://daisen-in.net/syokai.htm>

Tour of the Japanese Garden, Zazen*, Japanese tea. For Zazen, people are required to sit on a floor, so it is recommend to wear comfortable clothes, and not recommend short/tight skirt/pants.

*Zazen is seated meditation. For more information, you can find from the other temple's HP in English; <https://www.myoshinji.or.jp/english/zen/what.html>

September 11th, afternoon event.

Visit to ASPnet Schools in Kyoto

Ittoen School (Junior & Highschool): Yanagiyama-cho 29, Shinomiya, Yamashina-ku, Kyoto city 607-8025

Ansyu Primary School: Yamakawa-cho 17, Ansyu, Yamashina-ku, Kyoto city, 607-8015

September 13th, morning event.

Urasenke (Experience of Tea Ceremony)

682 Teranouchi Tate-cho, Kamigyo-ku, Kyoto city, 602-0073

About Japanese tea ceremony, Chado, you can find more information from Urasenke HP: <https://www.urasenke.or.jp/texte/about/chado/>
Since we are requested to sit on a floor (Tatami room) during the tea ceremony, it would be better to wear smart casual and comfortable clothes (not recommend short/tight skirt/pants)

September 14th, afternoon event.

Bizen city, Okayama

784, Shizutani, Bizen city, Okayama prefecture, 705-0036

Former Shizutani School an historic site, as well as used for educational training center, including making pottery. For more information: <http://shizutani.jp/english>

September 15th, morning event.

Map of Kyoto at <https://kyoto.travel/en/info/maps-apps/lofe8b0000000z7l-att/a1656566992954.pdf>



Gift a Poem

Arts and Culture for Peace Initiative (U.K.) and Gift a Poem (Poland) invite you to participate in this collaboration in Kyoto to celebrate the 70th Anniversary of UNESCO ASPnet.

The UNESCO ASPnet Arts & Culture for Peace Initiative focuses on three important ASPnet Action Areas related to 'peace', 'sustainability' and 'intercultural learning and heritage'. You can find out more about the Arts & Culture for Peace Initiative here: <https://unesco.org.uk/arts-culture-for-peace-initiative/>

We believe that through the collaboration with the Gift a Poem programme this encapsulates these areas through creating peace trees with peace poems and images to highlight the importance of living in peace with ourselves, our communities, and our planet.

The Zbigniew Herbert Foundations mission is to preserve and disseminate the creative legacy of Zbigniew Herbert, one of the greatest poets of the 20th century as well as to promote reading among a wider audience of people. They do this through an educational and social campaign 'Gift a Poem'.

The 'Gift a Poem' campaign became part of ASPnet's 70th anniversary celebrations and was carried out on World Poetry Day on March 21, 2023 in 14 countries. On the campaign's website (www.giftapoem.pl) you will find detailed information on this initiative.

The Activity:

We invite all participants of the meeting in Kyoto to bring handwritten poems - messages of peace - for their colleagues from other countries taking part in the event.

We invite you and your students to join us in 4 simple steps:

1. Choose a book of poetry at home or at school.
2. Select a poem.
3. Copy the chosen poem by hand onto a stationary card*. If you choose a poem in your mother tongue, please copy a translation of the poem into English on the back.
4. Bring the poem to Kyoto with you to hang on the peace tree at the opening ceremony and share with others at the closing ceremony.

* The stationary card is A4 size, 120 gsm weight. Then cut it, punch a hole at the top and thread it with a ribbon to hang on the peace tree, like traditional Japanese Tanzaku Peace Poems. The poems should be handwritten with the monogram of "Gift a Poem", and please write your name, school address and school email on the back of the card.

Zbigniew Herbert wrote poems and letters to friends and artists who were important to him, to people he valued and some of these letters were later included in the poets' books and are among his most insightful and moving works. This writer's gesture of giving someone a handwritten poem is what inspires this initiative.

We believe that the act of offering someone words of poetry is a thoroughly human one. Potentially a form of friendly presence and spiritual support. A means of sustaining hope. That is why we encourage you to participate in this initiative and join the collaboration with the Arts and Culture for peace Initiative.

The organised 'Gift a Poem' initiative joined with the 'Arts and Culture for Peace Initiative' could become a lesson in compassion as well as an opportunity to build friendships in Kyoto and consider how to ensure

peace and sustainability in our communities for future generations;
through the sharing of our cultural heritage.

This has been organised by Malgorzata Herbich National (Coordinator
Poland) and Ann Beatty (National Coordinator U.K).



Oxford University Kilns

Oxford University Kilns is a Japanese-inspired research project founded in 2014, by Dr Robin Wilson of the Department of Anthropology in Oxford. It is based at the research woodlands of the University of Oxford, known as Wytham Woods. We currently have four wood-fired ceramics kilns, two of which are single-chambered anagama style kilns, one of which was built by the Bizen kiln-builder and ceramic artist Takuma Takikawa.

Taku-san visited the University as Resident Artist on several occasions between 2015 and 2017 with the support of the Daiwa Foundation. Other Japanese potters have always been involved with the project, which counted as its first Patron the Living National Treasure of Bizen, Isezaki Jun, who visited Oxford in 2015 with a delegation from Bizen for the inauguration of our first anagama kiln firing.

The purpose of the project is to introduce and inspire new and established potters in the art and craft of woodfired ceramics. We work with established fine artists and master craftsmen from Britain, Japan and around the world, as well as having a formal outreach programme of teaching and learning in Japanese-inspired woodfiring that draws in a network of art institutions, museums, community potteries and individuals.

As well as taking Oxford's students from archaeology, anthropology, fine art and museum studies, we work with postgraduates from the Royal College of Art, the University of Art, London, Clay College, Goldsmiths University, Falmouth Art School, and many others.

We have outreach programmes, mentoring and work experience with schools of all age groups.

We have exhibitions of work at Oxford's Ashmolean Museum and Pitt Rivers Museum, and pursue a range of academic publications, public lectures, and regular workshops. Potters working at the kilns exhibit and sell their work in galleries and venues globally.

Research is undertaken under the direction of Dr Robin Wilson that includes the technical aspects of kiln-firing as well as the social and cultural dimensions of craft activity in the wider economic community.

The practical aim of the project is to provide a longterm, financially sustainable model for craftspeople using traditional and hybrid technologies in their practice, and to locate this within a framework of university research and a network of support that proactivity enables craft to be pursued in a culturally engaging, socially inclusive and financially viable manner.

One Cup

In learning about the collaboration between Bizen Pottery and Oxford University Anagama kilns and learning from the Grand Tea Master Dr Genshitsu Sen we have developed the concept of 'One Cup'.

Through the sharing of one cup of tea (as is traditional in Japanese tea ceremonies) we will have the opportunity to reflect on the sharing of sustenance and ensuring that all children have equal access to food and resources. This will enable us to gain an understanding of social and environmental responsibility and the part that they play in peace-making both in their own communities and globally.

There will be workshops, discussions and cultural activities over the five days, working on the theme of 'One Cup' will result in an exhibition highlighting young people's call for a more equal and peaceful world where there is cooperation and sharing of resources. We believe working together, young people will develop a better understanding of different cultures which will promote tolerance and unity.

A Thank You to Our Sponsors

Thank you to all our sponsors who without your support this event would not have been possible:

- Between the Stones
- Oxford University
- Warwick University
- Coventry City Council
- The Daiwa Foundation
- The Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation
- Coventry's Lord Mayor's Committee for Peace and Reconciliation
- The Rotary Club of Coventry
- Land Rover
- Sisters of St Joseph of Peace



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Page for notes



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