

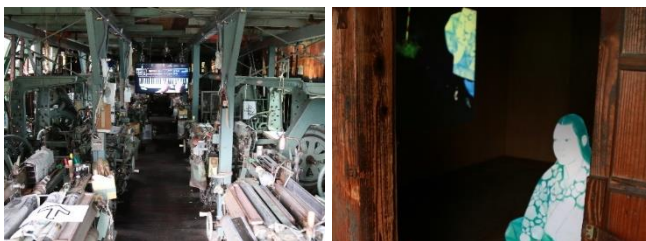
## Expressing Kyotango through Art

### “Dai-Kyoto 2019 in Kyotango”

“Dai-Kyoto 2019 in Kyotango,” an event which broadcasts the charm of Tango through the lens of art, was held from October 11<sup>th</sup> to October 27<sup>th</sup> at the former Yoshimura Kigyo textile factory. This is a Kyoto Prefecture Artist in Residence Program sponsored by “Kyoto:Re-search,” an organization comprised of Kyotango city, Kyoto prefecture, and so on.

An Artist in Residence Program is a program in which a region provides a place where artists can do creative work for a certain period of time. Seven groups of young artists who participated in last year’s two-week “research stay” and this summer’s two-month “creative stay” created displayed pieces inspired by things like sea trash, the Legend of Garasha, looms, the Kyogamisaki Lighthouse, etc.

Tango Regional Art Manager Sayoko Kai plays an active part in the operation of this event. She commented, “I hope that people will feel new regional worth and charm by looking at familiar scenes, but from these artists’ perspectives.”



## Brand New Dress, “Sanbansou Soroibumi”

### Sanbansou Offering at Tochidani-ku Autumn Festival

A Kyoto Prefecture Intangible Folk Cultural Property, the Tochidani Sanbansou was offered on October 13<sup>th</sup> at the Fukatani shrine in Tochidani-ku.

Instruments and dress that have been worn down after many years of use have been slowly replaced over a 3-year period. This year, *Maiko* (dancers) dressed in a full set of three, new costumes and performed in front of ward residents.

Ward Mayor Seiichi Nakashima commented, “I want to continue this tradition with the help of residents’ cooperation, and financial support from Kyotango City, Kyoto Prefecture, and former residents of Kyotango.”



## Take Up a Mikoshi, Tighten Japanese-American Bonds

### Shimazu-ku Autumn Festival

The Shimazu-ku Autumn Festival was held on October 13<sup>th</sup>. This year, 14 American Military members including Commander Bugado came from Shimazu-ku's American Military housing, wore *Happi*, and took up *Mikoshi* together with the region's young.

It took some time for the Americans to get used to lifting the heavy *Mikoshi* over their heads, but with a signaling shout, they gradually started to breath on the same note and lifted the *Mikoshi* with force. Kyotango citizens saw this let out a shout of joy. In the second half of the festival, American Military members ate food together with the local *Mikoshi*-lifters, which strengthened their bonds even further.

United Shimazu-Ku Ward Mayor Kazuhiro Adachi commented, "This was a great opportunity to come together as members of the same community. We would love to have them again next year. If this becomes a yearly sight, it will surely make the region a more energetic place."



## 83 Climb Mt. Ichigao

### “Dream Balloons” Released from Summit

The autumn event “Climbing Mt. Ichigao” was held on October 20<sup>th</sup>. Eighty three climbers gathered from Kyotango city and beyond, and set their sights on the 540-meter-tall peak.

This is the 9<sup>th</sup> iteration of this event, which the Tango-cho Community Center Liaison council conducts to bring the people of Yabata-ku closer together. It is held alongside the ward’s “Ichigao Festival,” and participants are able to climb a symbol of Tango-cho and get used to its nature.

Participants received balloons at the paths trailhead and made their way up the mountain. They fully enjoyed the hour-long climb while breaking a sweat along the way. At the top, everyone looked out over a stunning view and had lunch, and afterwards, released “dream balloons” filled with hopeful messages addressed to the areas affected by Typhoon 19.

Chieko Yoshida from Mineyama commented, “The weather was great so it was super easy climb up the mountain. It was tiring, but I felt rejuvenated after seeing the balloons off. I want to do this again next year.”



## Looking Back at Memories of Kyotango

### Talk Show by Novelist Maiko Seo

A talk show was held at the Agricultural Center of Omiya. It featured Maiko Seo, the author of “Soshiete Baton wa Watasareta,” a book that won the 16<sup>th</sup> Bookseller’s Award for in 2019.

Around 300 people filled the venue hoping to listen in on Ms. Seo’s talk.

Ms. Seo was originally a licensed Japanese teacher at Kumihama Middle School. On this day, she stood at the podium alongside her formal principal, Junichi Odani, and bluntly spoke about her memories of Tango and happenings during her time as a teacher. The audience found these stories very funny.

She told the listeners, “When one reads a book, they are taken to another world that they do not know. I hope you find a book that you can feel relieved or empathetic towards.”





## Sprinting through the Rain, Passing Along Tasuki

### The 28<sup>th</sup> Kyotango Elementary Relay Race Tournament

The Kyotango Elementary Relay Race was held on October 19<sup>th</sup> by the Kyotango Elementary School Physical Education League.

Seventeen Kyotango schools divided into 20 teams for the race. Eight upper-year male and female students separated into two teams of 4, one male team and one female team, and tested each other's speed.

This was the first time that Tango Kingdom "Shoku no Miyako" hosted the event. The race started off in some heavy rains, but runners were encouraged by their classmates and loved ones and were able to bring the *Tasuki* to the finish line.

