

Museum Collection Exhibitions in  
**The Collection Galleries**

**1F-1 Sculpture**

**Early Japanese Buddhist Sculptures**

**Fudō Myōō, the Immovable Wisdom King**

July 8–August 24, 2025

**1F-2–6 Feature Exhibition**

**New Acquisitions**

July 8–August 24, 2025

## Exhibition Schedule

**New Year's Feature Exhibition**

**Pony Tales:  
Celebrating the Year of the Horse**

December 16, 2025–January 25, 2026

Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Galleries 2F-1–3

**Feature Exhibition**

**Ogata Kōrin's *Karuta* Playing Cards and the  
Konishi Family Archives**

December 16, 2025–February 1, 2026

Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Galleries 2F-4, 5

**Feature Exhibition**

**Celebrating the Japanese Doll Festival**

February 7–March 15, 2026

Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Gallery 1F-2

**Special Exhibition**

**Kitano Tenjin: Shinto God of Scholarship**

April 18–June 14, 2026

Heisei Chishinkan Wing

Cover: *Peacock Wisdom Queen (Mahāmāyūrī)*, detail. Ninnaji Temple, Kyoto. National Treasure. On view September 20–October 19, 2025. *Autumn and Winter Landscapes*, detail. Attributed to Emperor Huizong. Konchi-in Temple, Kyoto. National Treasure. On view September 20–October 19, 2025. *Legends of the Shakyamuni Hall*, Vol. 3, detail. Attributed to Kano Motonobu. Seiryō-ji Temple, Kyoto. Important Cultural Property. This scene on view July 8–August 3, 2025.

English translations by Melissa M. Rinne, Senior Specialist, and Chloe Pearce, Research Fellow.

## ADMISSION

**July 8–August 24, 2025:**

Admission to the Museum Collection Galleries

**Adult ¥700 Univ. Student ¥350**

Admission is free for visitors under age 17, high school students, seniors over 70, visitors with disabilities and one caregiver, and Campus Members (including faculty). Please show ID.

**September 20–November 16, 2025:**

Special Exhibition Admission

**Adult ¥2000 (¥1800)**

**Univ. Student ¥1200 (¥1000)**

**High School Student ¥700 (¥500)**

Fees in parentheses are for advance tickets (on sale until September 19, 2025) and for groups of 20+.

Admission is free for visitors under age 15, junior high school students, and for visitors with disabilities and one caregiver. Please show ID.

Admission is reduced by 500 yen for Campus Members (including faculty) able to produce ID.

\*During special exhibition periods, all visitors must pay special exhibition admission.

**June 17–July 6, 2025, and**

**August 26–September 18, 2025:**

Admission to the Museum Gardens and Outdoor Exhibits

**Adult ¥300 Univ. Student ¥150**

Admission is free for visitors under age 17, high school students, seniors over 70, visitors with disabilities and one caregiver, and Campus Members (including faculty). Please show ID. Guide booklet is provided with adult admission only.

## HOURS

**June 17–September 18, 2025:**

Tuesdays–Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays  
9:30 am–5:00 pm (Entrance until 4:30 pm)

Fridays

9:30 am–8:00 pm (Entrance until 7:30 pm)

**September 20–November 16, 2025:**

Tuesdays–Thursdays, Saturdays, Sundays  
9:00 am–5:30 pm (Entrance until 5:00 pm)

Fridays

9:00 am–8:00 pm (Entrance until 7:30 pm)

**CLOSED ON MONDAYS**

\*When Monday is a national holiday, the museum remains open on Monday and closes the following day (Tuesday).

\*The museum will also be closed on September 19, 2025.

## ACCESS

**VIA JR OR SUBWAY**

Get off at Kyoto Station. From bus platform D2 in front of the station, take City Bus #206 or #208 to the "Hakubutsukan Sanjusangendo-mae" bus stop. Walk about one minute to the museum.

**VIA KEIHAN RAILWAY**

Get off at Shichijo Station. Walk east along Shichijo/Nanajo Street (about seven minutes) to the museum.

**VIA HANKYU RAILWAY**

Get off at Kyoto-Kawaramachi Station. Walk east over the bridge to the Keihan Railway Gion-Shijo Station. Take an Osaka-bound Keihan train to Shichijo Station. Walk east along Shichijo/Nanajo Street (about seven minutes) to the museum.

**KYOTO NATIONAL MUSEUM**

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Kyoto, Japan 605-0931

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NEWSLETTER  
JULY TO SEPTEMBER 2025

# KYOTO NATIONAL MUSEUM Vol. 166

Feature Exhibition Commemorating the Completion of Conservation  
*Legends of the Shakyamuni Hall (Shakadō Engi)*

Feature Exhibition  
**New Acquisitions**

Special Exhibition  
**Song and Yuan Buddhist Painting: Early Chinese Masterpieces in Japan**





## Feature Exhibition Commemorating the Completion of Conservation *Legends of the Shakyamuni Hall* (*Shakadō Engi*)

July 8–August 24, 2025, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Galleries 2F-2, 3

The temple of Seiryō-ji in the Saga area of western Kyoto owns a set of six illustrated handscrolls that describe its legendary origins. *Legends of the Shakyamuni Hall* (*Shakadō engi*), designated an Important Cultural Property, vividly depicts stories related to Seiryō-ji's principal object of worship—a standing sculpture of Shakyamuni Buddha believed to have been brought from China. The scrolls' richly detailed illustrations showcase ink painting techniques developed by Kano Motonobu (1477–1559), the second-generation leader of the renowned Kano school. Among the many origin story scrolls (*engi-e*) produced by temples and shrines from the late 1400s onwards, *Legends of the Shakyamuni Hall* is regarded as a particularly masterful example. In celebration of their recent conservation, completed with support from the Asahi Shimbun Foundation, all six handscrolls are being displayed together in this feature exhibition.

(By Inami Rintarō, Curator of Japanese Illustrated Handscrolls)



Important Cultural Property. *Legends of the Shakyamuni Hall*, Vol. 3, detail. Attributed to Kano Motonobu (1477–1559). Japan, Muromachi period, ca. 1515. From a set of six handscrolls; ink and colors on paper. Seiryō-ji Temple, Kyoto (this scene on view August 5–24, 2025)



Important Cultural Property. *Legends of the Shakyamuni Hall*, Vol. 3, detail. Attributed to Kano Motonobu (1477–1559). Japan, Muromachi period, ca. 1515. From a set of six handscrolls; ink and colors on paper. Seiryō-ji Temple, Kyoto (this scene on view July 8–August 3, 2025)

## Special Exhibition Song and Yuan Buddhist Painting Early Chinese Masterpieces in Japan

September 20–November 16, 2025, Heisei Chishinkan Wing

Japan is home to some of the most significant early Chinese Buddhist paintings in the world. Japanese monks and envoys who traveled to Song (960–1279) and Yuan (1271–1368) dynasty China—renowned for its sophisticated Buddhist artistic tradition—brought numerous works back across the sea. These masterpieces were typically enshrined in temples, where they were preserved for hundreds of years. Chinese Buddhist paintings served not only as devotional objects but also as important models for Japanese artists, becoming deeply integrated into Japanese culture. The paintings imported between the eleventh and fourteenth centuries are of particularly high artistic quality. This exhibition explores the distinctive characteristics and rich diversity of Song and Yuan Buddhist paintings, delving into the enduring allure of these rare treasures that have been cherished in Japan for centuries.

(By Morihashi Natsumi, Associate Curator of Chinese Painting)



National Treasure  
**Guanyin (Avalokiteśvara)** by Muqi (dates unknown)  
China, Southern Song dynasty, 13th century  
From a set of three hanging scrolls; ink and light colors on silk  
Daitoku-ji Temple, Kyoto (on view October 21–November 16, 2025)

## Feature Exhibition New Acquisitions

July 8–August 24, 2025, Heisei Chishinkan Wing, Galleries 1F-2–6

Every year, the Kyoto National Museum purchases artworks and cultural properties as part of its ongoing efforts to enhance its exhibitions and research capabilities. The museum also receives generous donations of artworks from individuals.

This feature exhibition highlights approximately 60 significant objects, spanning various genres, acquired by the museum prior to March 2025. One noteworthy example is the hanging scroll *Landscape*, attributed to the fifteenth-century Zen monk-painter Shūbun (dates unknown), featuring inscriptions by the eminent Zen priests Kōsei Ryūha (1375?–1446) and Shinden Seiha (1375–1447). This exhibition offers visitors a special opportunity to discover this and other masterworks that have recently become part of the Kyoto National Museum's collection.

(By Yamauchi Maiko, Chair of the Department of Research and International Collaboration)



Horse  
Earthenware  
Excavated in Nara  
Japan, Nara period, 8th century  
Kyoto National Museum



Important Art Object  
**Landscape**, detail  
Attributed to Shūbun (dates unknown)  
Inscriptions by Kōsei Ryūha (1375?–1446) and Shinden Seiha (1375–1447)  
Japan, Muromachi period, 15th century  
Kyoto National Museum

## Museum Collection Exhibitions in The Collection Galleries

**3F-1 Ceramics**  
Ceramics of Japan and East Asia  
July 15–August 24, 2025  
(Closed July 8–13, 2025)

**3F-2 Archaeological Relics**  
Prayers of the Asuka and Nara Periods  
Archaeological Artifacts of Japan  
July 15–August 24, 2025  
(Closed July 8–13, 2025)

**2F-1 Illustrated Handscrolls**  
Illustrated Handscrolls of the Muromachi Period: Works Related to *Legends of the Shakyamuni Hall* (*Shakadō Engi*), Part I  
July 8–August 3, 2025

Illustrated Handscrolls of the Muromachi Period: Works Related to *Legends of the Shakyamuni Hall* (*Shakadō Engi*), Part II  
August 5–24, 2025

**2F-2, 3 Feature Exhibition**  
Commemorating the Completion of Conservation  
*Legends of the Shakyamuni Hall* (*Shakadō Engi*)  
July 8–August 24, 2025

**2F-4 Momoyama–Edo Paintings**  
The Lavish Folding Screens of Myōshin-ji Temple  
July 8–August 24, 2025

**2F-5 Chinese Paintings**  
Daoist and Buddhist Figure Paintings from the Ming and Qing Dynasties  
July 8–August 24, 2025