



2021 SPRING LEARN TO READ HIRAGANA AND KATAKANA

Please Note: These workshops will be conducted online via Zoom, and are a temporary substitute for our in-person courses due to COVID-19. To participate fully, you will need access to a device with internet, microphone, and camera (such as a laptop, smartphone, or tablet). Please note that all times listed are New York time (ET/UTC-04:00).

Further instructions will be emailed to you the business day before your class begins.

These mini-workshops offer the *beginning student* of Japanese the opportunity to quickly and efficiently master the reading of the two Japanese syllabaries, hiragana and katakana. It is these two writing systems, in combination with the more complex kanji (ideograms which represent meaning), which constitute the written Japanese language.

Hiragana was developed from the cursive style of kanji at the beginning of the Heian era (794 – 1192). Its function is to represent sound rather than meaning, and it is used to write native Japanese words as well as verb inflections, adjectival endings, etc.

Katakana was developed in the Nara period (710 – 794) by either simplifying the kanji imported from China or by squaring off its cursive style. It is used to represent foreign names and words imported into the Japanese language, for onomatopoeic and mimetic words, certain slang expressions, telegrams, technical terms, and so forth.

The workshops are taught by **Ms. Kazue Kurahara**. Ms. Kurahara earned a BA from Hunter College and an MA in Teaching Japanese as a Foreign Language from NYU. She holds teaching certifications in both Japanese and English as a Second Language. She has taught Japanese at various institutions, including New York University, Hunter College, Pace University, and The New School. She is currently hosting Japan Society's YouTube series "Uki Uki NihonGO! + Culture."

Hiragana Workshop: Friday, January 8 6:30-8:30 pm EST

Katakana Workshop: Friday, January 15 6:30-8:30 pm EST

-----TUITION-----

Mini-Workshops (each workshop): \$37 nonmembers

\$30 Japan Society members / Japan Society Corporate Members

-----REGISTRATION INFORMATION-----

Registration may be completed online (recommended) or by phone at (212) 715-1269. At the moment, we are only taking payment in the form of credit or debit cards (no checks or cash).

Class size is limited. Acceptance will be acknowledged by email.

Tuition is non-refundable and non-transferable (including for credit) for any reason after 12 pm noon, the business day before your workshop starts. All refunds are subject to a \$5 service charge, including those requested by the deadline date. No partial registration or auditing is permitted. Please note that cancellations are accepted by phone only. Cancellations via e-mail *are not* accepted. Japan Society reserves the right to cancel any course if sufficient enrollment is not obtained. In such a case, students already enrolled will receive full refunds.

By registering for a course, I accept and agree to the above terms of the cancellation policy. I also verify that the student taking this class is age 16 or older.

Registrants will receive course information by email from language_inquiries@japansociety.org or language@japansociety.org on

the afternoon of **Thursday, Jan. 7, 2021** (for the Hiragana Workshop)

the afternoon of **Thursday, Jan. 14, 2021** (for the Katakana Workshop)

Questions? Please email us at language@japansociety.org, or call at **(212) 715-1269**. Please note that while we are working remotely, we may not always be reachable by phone.