

# Japan Film Festival Los Angeles 2021

**Annual [Japan Film Festival Los Angeles](#) to be held online from Oct. 4-10, and in a Hollywood theater from Oct. 9-10**

Monday, October 4 to Sunday, October 10, 2021: [Online Screening](#)

Saturday, October 9 to Sunday, October 10, 2021: [Real Venue Screening LA Venue](#): Marilyn Monroe Theater 7936 Santa Monica Blvd, West Hollywood, CA 90046

The Japan Film Festival Los Angeles was started to introduce Japanese culture and young talents through Japanese films, and also to deepen international cultural exchange.

Last year, the festival went online only, and this year will be the 16th year, and with the help of many in the Japanese American community, the festival will have a hybrid of theatrical and online screenings.

The films to be screened are all interesting,



Film: Nankurunaisa

reflecting contemporary Japanese culture and the traditional Japanese spirit.

In addition to films from Japan and the U.S., there are also films from Canada and Germany in the open call, allowing viewers to experience Japan from a variety of perspectives.

Films dealing with Japanese history and high-quality documentaries will also be screened.

About 30 feature-length and short films will be shown online and at the LA venue, including the latest releases, environmental films, and heartwarming invited films.

All film are English or

English subtitles.

For the safety of our volunteers and guests, JFFLA will require all volunteers, visitors, guests, and media to show proof of Covid-19 vaccination or negative test results within 72 hours.

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**Weekly Cultural News is an alternative publication for Monthly Cultural News which we had to stop publishing in April 2020 due to COVID-19 pandemic.**

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The venue will be disinfected during changeover and masks will be distributed to those who need them.

It is also mandatory to wear masks in the LA venue.

- Tickets are \$12
- The red carpet and award ceremony will be held at the LA venue from 6:00 pm on the Oct.10th.
- Ticket and Schedule More info [www.jffla.org](http://www.jffla.org)

**NANKURUNAISA - everything will be all right-**  
108 min. 2021

Sachiko Nakata, the queen of Okinawan comedy, has passed away! This shocking story turned into a film called "Sachiko's Love Story".

The newspaper distributed an extra issue. Leading Okinawan stars such as Yoko Gushiken, Gori of Garage Sale, and Namie Amuro made memorial comments.

At Sachiko Nakata's live house, many fans flocked to offer flowers. On the other hand, the relatives at the funeral home were shaking with fear.

Sachiko's body had gone missing. The ghost of



Film: Love and the Grand Tug-of-War

Sachiko, who had appeared because "I can't see the person I want to see, so I can't become a Buddha," runs around Okinawa, disregarding the concerns of her relatives.

In the real world, Sachiko has announced her retirement from the stage in 2020, but she is still in good health. She was very happy that her funeral was going to be held in the film and readily agreed to appear in it.

As if she was enjoying her own funeral before her death, she is very active in the film. In addition to popular Okinawan talents such as Ai Moko and Ruka Matsuda, Sachiko and other talented performers of Okinawan

theatrical performances give a splendid performance. This is a rare opportunity to see a hilarious theatrical battle that will make viewers want to bow down to the fundamental power of Okinawan theatrical performance.

\* Main cast Masae NaKada will coming screening on Oct 9th.

**Love and the Grand Tug-of-war**  
108 min. 2021

A love story from the master filmmaker Kiyoshi Sasabe.

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This is a story of love to make up your mind.

Takeshi Arima (Takahiro Miura) is 35 years old, single, and unmarried. His father Hiroshi (Seishiro Nishida), a steeplejack master and master of the "Great Tug-of-War," has been nagging him to "get a wife soon and become a strong heir."

One day, he meets Ji-hyun (Jiyoung), a Korean resident doctor, and they gradually come to know each other.

At the same time, Fumiko (Mako Ishino), the mother of the Arima family, announces her retirement and abandons her duties as proprietress and housekeeper, leaving Atsuko (Manami Higa), the younger sister, and the rest of the family struggling to cope.

Meanwhile, as the big annual event, the "Great Tug-of-War," approaches, Takeshi is told by Ji-hyun that she will be returning home in two weeks. "What is dating?" "What is marriage?" "What is family?" and "What is determination?"

This is a story of love depicted through two people's love.



Film: Peaceful Death

**Peaceful Death**  
112min. 2021

Kawada, who is engaged in home medical care, is striving to do his best in the field of medicine every day, despite having some contradictions and conflicts in his mind.

Then, he meets Onuki, a patient with terminal lung cancer. Onuki's daughter, Tomomi, chose to be a "painless home doctor" instead of being hospitalized. In the end, however, Toshio continues to suffer and dies.

He chose the "painless home doctor," but he ended up with the "painful home doctor." Tomomi blames herself, wondering if it would have been better to let him stay in the hospital, or if she killed him by

bringing him home from the hospital. Tomomi blamed herself. These words stung Kawada.

In the meantime, Kawada consulted with Nagano, a senior home doctor. In Nagano's opinion, he should have suspected emphysema rather than lung cancer and treated the patient.

In the end, due to his final diagnostic error, Toshio had no choice but to reluctantly continue suffering and die out. Kawada was tormented with regret, thinking that there were many other things he should have done.