



ASAHIKAWA DESIGN WEEK 2024

2024.6.15 sat - 23 sun Organized By / Asahikawa Design Week Executive Committee

It has been 5 years since Asahikawa was first recognized as a City of Design under the UNESCO Creative Cities Network. This year, Asahikawa Design Week will once again be held in the invigorating month of June. Local industries – such as furniture, crafts, architecture, machinery, metalwork, food, and tourism — as well as various design-related organizations, neighboring municipalities, and educational and research institutions will take part in this event. By providing participants with opportunities to experience, think about, and enjoy the field of design along with the abundant nature of northern Hokkaido, this event plays an important role in sharing and promoting the spirit of design. Join us in spending 9 days immersed in the world of design!

Asahikawa Design Week Executive Committee
Chairman Naoyuki Watanabe

ADW Keynote Speech

As a UNESCO City of Design, Asahikawa draws on the theme of symbiosis between people and nature with the aim of building a joyful, attractive, and sustainable regional community consistent with our philosophy, 'The Forest of Design'. Biologist and best-selling author Shin-Ichi Fukuoka has been invited to give a speech contemplating the essence of life, in which the wonders of nature form the roots of our creativity.

- Date & Time:** 18 June (Tuesday) 6pm-8pm (Tentative)
- Venue:** Asahikawa City Koukaidou (located in Tokiwa Park)
- Speaker:** Dr. Shin-Ichi Fukuoka (Biologist, Professor at Aoyama Gakuin University, and Visiting Professor at The Rockefeller University in the U.S.A)
- Maximum Attendees:** 700 people (Free Admission)
- Organizer:** Asahikawa Design Week Executive Committee **Co-organizer:** Asahikawa City



Last year's speech

Shin-Ichi Fukuoka

Born in Tokyo in 1959, Shin-Ichi Fukuoka is a biologist who graduated from Kyoto University. Prior to his current appointment as Professor at Aoyama Gakuin University, he served as a postdoctoral research fellow at Harvard Medical School and took on roles such as associate professor at Kyoto University. He is the producer for the thematic project 'Quest of Life' at the World EXPO 2025 to be held in Osaka, Kansai. He has published numerous works revisiting the question, "What is life?" from a dynamic equilibrium perspective. Most notably, his bestselling book *Seibutsu to Museibutsu no Aida* [Between the Animate and Inanimate] (Kodansha Ltd.) sold more than 880,000 copies and was awarded The Suntory Prize for Social Science and Humanities. His other works include *Doutekiheikou* [Dynamic Equilibrium] (Kirakusha, Inc.), *Sekai wa Waketemo Wakaranai* [The World Cannot be Understood even when Divided] (Kodansha Ltd.), and *Dekisokonai no Otokotachi* [Good-for-nothing Men] (Kobunsha Co., Ltd.). He is also known to be a great fan of Vermeer and authored *Ferumēru Hikari no Ōkoku* [Vermeer: Realm of Light] (Kirakusha, Inc.), which documents his journey around the world to see all the painter's works, as well as *Ferumēru Kakusareta Jigen* [Vermeer: The Hidden Dimension] (Kirakusha, Inc.). Additionally, he served as Supervisor and Director of Vermeer Center Ginza, which displays all of the painter's works recreated with state-of-the-art digital printing technology.





Machinaka Campus 2024

Held at Heiwa Dōri Kaimono Kōen (Heiwa Dōri Shopping Street), a 1km stretch lined with shops and cafes, local high schoolers and undergraduates will interact with children to share their ideas on design during this event, titled Machinaka Campus [Downtown Campus]. In line with the themes 'learn', 'play', and 'experience', deepen your understanding of SDGs and design as you stroll around the shopping district.

Event Period: 22 & 23 June (Saturday & Sunday)
Venue: Asahikawa Heiwa Dōri Kaimono Kōen
Organizer: Machinaka Campus Executive Committee



Meet up Furniture Asahikawa 2024

Asahikawa, the heartland of furniture, is one of Japan's five major furniture production regions and is known for its magnificent nature, technical expertise passed down from generation to generation, and internationally acclaimed design. We are proud to host the Asahikawa furniture exhibition again this year, capitalizing on our comprehensive infrastructure as a production center to showcase our craftsmanship.

Event Period: 19 - 23 June (Wednesday - Sunday)
Venue: Asahikawa Design Center and various locations of furniture makers, studios and stores in Asahikawa City, Higashikawa Town, Higashikagura Town, and Tōma Town
Organizer: Asahikawa Furniture Industry Cooperative



IFDA 2024 International Furniture Design Competition Asahikawa 2024

The triennial International Furniture Design Competition Asahikawa [IFDA] has been held every three years since its inauguration in 1990. This year's competition marks its 12th run, with the judging panel being chaired by Architect Sōsuke Fujimoto. Presentations will be made by selected candidates prior to the main judging and the results will be announced at an award ceremony.

Event Period: 19 - 23 June (Wednesday - Sunday)
Venue: Asahikawa Design Center (1-35, Nagayama 2 Jō 10 Chōme, Asahikawa City)
Organizer: IFDA Organizing Committee



Upcoming Design Events in Asahikawa



Design Exhibition



Craftmanship Tour



Factory Open House



Workshops



Activities



Asahikawa Design Meeting

Asahikawa Design Week Executive Committee Office

(in Hokkaido Design Lab | Representative: Saori Eguchi)

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