



Celebrating Diversity in Culture

The Japan Cultural Expo, which began earlier this year and runs into 2021, showcases 10,000 years of the arts in Japan through programs focusing on everything from prehistoric Jomon period pottery to manga. Against the backdrop of this rich program of events, which will run through the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, we asked Junko Kawamura, President of the Japan Arts Council and Director of the Japan Cultural Expo Secretariat, about the characteristics of Japanese culture and the role of the arts in Japan today. We also met with artists and creators in a wide range of fields whose work draws on traditional Japanese skills and strengths to create new art forms and cultural experiences. In addition, we visited Roppongi Art Night, teamLab's digital "museum without borders," and the Sumida Hokusai Museum.

Katsushika Hokusai, *Under the Wave off Kanagawa*,
from the series *Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji* (details)
the Sumida Hokusai Museum