

**10th Anniversary Special Exhibition at the Botswana National Art Gallery
for Tsuzuki-Botswana Exchange of Children's Paintings**

15th November 2023

The Embassy of Japan organized the 10th Anniversary Special Exhibition for the Tsuzuki-Botswana Exchange of Children's Paintings from the 8th to 10th November 2023 at the Botswana National Art Gallery. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the educational exchange through the exhibition of paintings drawn by Grade 3 students from Chigasaki Primary School, Tsuzuki Ward in Yokohama City, Japan, and by Standard 3 students of Ben Thema Primary School in Gaborone.

The opening ceremony on the 7th was held prior to the exhibition opening to the public, and was attended by more than 40 participants. His Excellency Mr. OHMORI Setsuo, Ambassador of Japan to Botswana, His Excellency Mr. Nkoloi Nkoloi, Former Ambassador of Botswana to Japan, representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Education and Skills Development, Gaborone City Council, National Arts Council of Botswana, UNICEF Botswana and teachers from Ben Thema Primary School also attended and celebrated the 10th anniversary of the children's art exchange program. In addition, representatives from the Tsuzuki Multicultural and Youth Exchange Plaza (Tsuzuki MY Plaza) and Tsuzuki Ward also visited Botswana to deepen the exchange with the people concerned.

This special exhibition at the Botswana National Art Gallery was successfully concluded, with the attendance of over 350 people, including Gaborone residents, students and teachers from neighboring primary schools, as well as tourists. Despite the fact that the exhibition was held for only three days, the exhibition was graced by high attendance by a wide-range visitors. In total, 380 pieces of art by children of Japan and Botswana, depicting their respective cultures, were displayed. *Koinobori*, carp streamers and *hina ningyo*, Japanese traditional dolls, which celebrate the healthy growth of children, were also displayed at the venue, providing a great opportunity to experience Japanese culture.

The paintings from both Japanese and Botswana sides will be sent back to Japan to be exhibited at Tsuzuki Ward Hall in December 2023 and Yokohama City Hall in February 2024, respectively, in Japan.

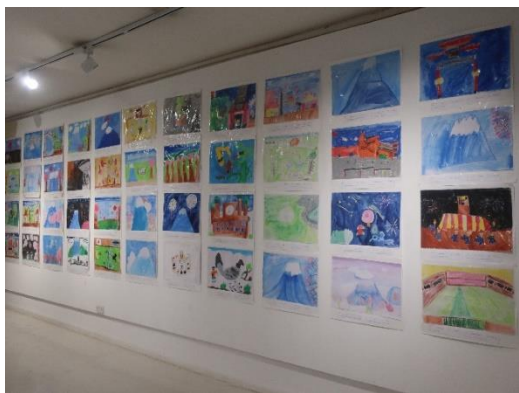
For further enquiries, please contact the Embassy of Japan in Botswana (Tel: 391-4456).



Remarks from Ambassador OHMORI



Participants for the opening Ceremony



Paintings from Japan and Botswana



Hina ningyo, Japanese traditional dolls



Students from neighboring primary school



Students from neighboring primary school