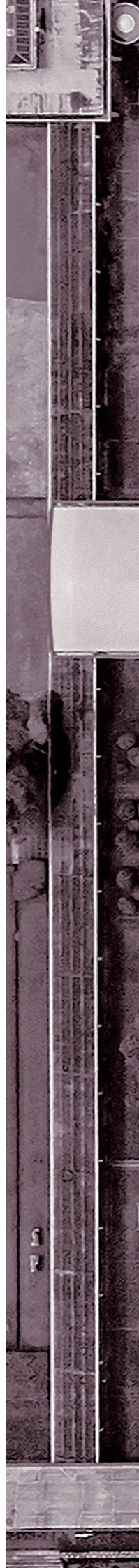


Guidebook

Aichi University of the Arts





About the University

Our university was founded on April 1, 1966, as an industrial and economic boom swept Aichi and all of central Japan. Our purpose was to create a unique cultural area located between Japan's eastern and western regions in order to develop the local culture. Masters' programs were added on April 1, 1970 to further drive education and research in the arts while supporting the true cultural advancement that lies at heart. Doctoral programs were first offered on April 1, 2009.

Our Principles

We strive to be an artistic and cultural hub open to the international community—a unique and attractive university that also serves as a center for Aichi arts and culture. To support these aims, Aichi University of the Arts operates under three core principles:

- Provide rich educational and research experiences with consistent focus across all of our undergraduate and graduate programs; with the intent to produce artists, researchers, educators, and other drivers of arts and culture
- Serve as a center for the creation and dissemination of international arts and culture, providing a sophisticated, globally-minded arts education that develops exceptional talent ready to shine on the world stage
- Effectively utilize the university's artistic resources in a variety of spaces (including education, industry, and everyday living) as we work alongside the local community to support the development of arts and culture in Aichi Prefecture

We are looking for students who share these principles and aims, and welcome those with the necessary qualifications who...

- Have basic artistic skills along with a passion for artistic creation or research
- Are driven to make their mark in the world of fine arts, music, or arts education
- Are self-motivated learners with an open mind and diverse points of view



University Art Museum

The University Art Museum collects, preserves, and exhibits artistic materials for educational purposes. Its diverse fine arts collection includes Japanese-style paintings, oil paintings, and prints as well as sculpture, design, and ceramics. There are also musical instruments and music-related pieces. In addition to a permanent collection, the museum also displays student research presentations and various other exhibits.

In recent years, the museum hosts presentation of works by artists via the Aichi University of the Arts artist-in-residence program.

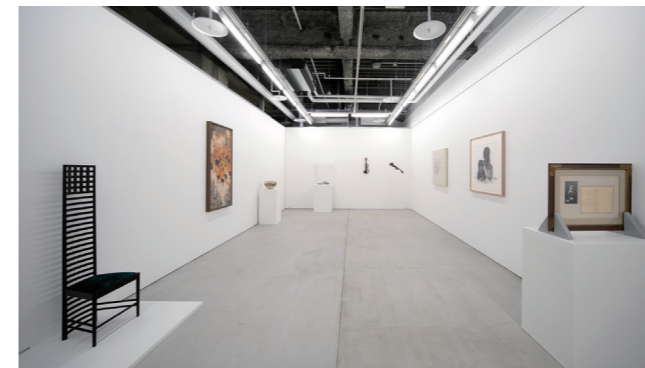
In February 2007, the University Art Museum was designated as a museum facility under the Museum Act.



Museum of Horyuji Mural Reproductions

The Museum of Horyuji Mural Reproductions houses replicas of the twelve murals of the main hall Kondo of Horyuji Temple along with twenty smaller murals depicting of Apsaras in flight (Hiten). The works were originally produced between the late seventh and early eighth centuries, and the replicas are faithful reproductions of the murals before they were damaged by fire. Aichi University of the Arts faculty and students were involved in the reproduction project, which took a total of sixteen years to complete. The museum is open to the public in the spring and fall for students and researchers as well as general audience. Additional replicas of the finest murals of the era are steadily being added to the collection, including those of the ancient Takamatsuzuka murals, the "Shaka rising from the Gold Coffin" scroll, and the Portraits of Jingo-ji (Minamoto no Yoritomo, Taira no Shigemori, Fujiwara no Mitsuyoshi, and Mongaku Shonin).

The Museum of Horyuji Mural Reproductions was designated as a museum facility in February 2007.



Satellite Gallery SA-KURA

Getting the word out about our university is vital to our future, and we are generating ripple effects by creating a new space that showcases our achievements in research and education. We chose the name Aichi University of the Arts Satellite Gallery SA-KURA as something both memorable and approachable for members of the community.

"Sakura" is part of the name of the area in which the gallery is located (Higashisakura, Nagoya City), reflecting our commitment to working closely with the region and the local community.



Faculty of Music Building and Performance Building

The Faculty of Music Building contains lesson rooms and practice rooms, while the performance building is made up of operatic chorus rooms and a large performance hall. There is also a third building, Chamber Music Hall.

Lesson rooms are fully equipped with the soundproofing, spaciousness, acoustics, and climate control features needed for musical education. There are plenty of practice rooms along with recording studios featuring the latest sound equipment. Students are treated to this well-appointed educational environment in buildings designed to match existing campus architecture.

There is also a bridge that provides easy access to the Sogakudo Concert Hall, where orchestral and other performances are held.



Sogakudo Concert Hall

The Concert Hall was built for musical education, matriculation ceremony, commencement ceremony, and other important university events. It has seating for 782 guests as well as recording studios, theater rooms, and more—including a Klais pipe organ and Steinway concert grand piano.



Faculty of Art

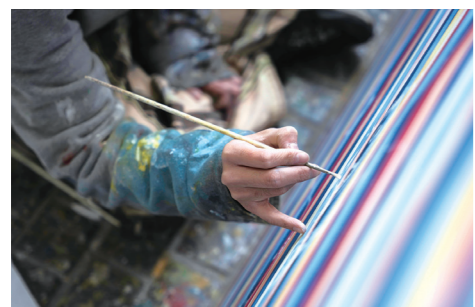
The Faculty of Art is made up of two departments offering a total of seven majors. The Department of Fine Arts offers Japanese-style Painting 'Nihonga', Oil Painting, Sculpture, and Art History and Theory, while the Department of Design and Craft offers majors in Design, Ceramics and New Media & Image. All but the Art History and Theory major are practical arts programs with a focus on the creation of artistic works. As such, hands-on practice and training is central to the education students receive. Students are pushed to develop their creativity in a way that respects their personal educational goals and acquire technical skills they need to fully express those aims.

Each student is different, and meaningful interactions with multiple faculty members is critical to supporting their individuality. We offer small-group learning experiences to help bring out the uniqueness in each student, letting for them to become artists and designers capable making a lasting impact on our world. Even the one theoretical major offered in the Faculty of Art--Art History and Theory--requires students to experience the process of artistic basic creation. The program is designed to develop art researchers who are firmly rooted in the realities of our modern world.



Japanese-style Painting 'Nihonga' Capturing the magic of natural mineral pigments

Japanese-style painting is a traditional form of expression that has steadily evolved for hundreds of years. It is characterized by the use of natural pigments made from crushed minerals mixed with an adhesive called nikawa. Students who are enchanted by these vibrant pigments dedicate themselves to mastering them day after day. The Japanese-style painting 'Nihonga' major has ten students each year for instruction by six full-time faculty and more than thirty part-time instructors for personal, one-on-one instruction. Students achieve their unique vision through a broad and deep understanding of expression through the medium of traditional painting.



Oil Painting Seeking out new ways of individual expression

Art has diversified and become relentlessly experimental, making it challenging for creators to find unique ways of expression. Artists must dig deeply inside themselves to find a source for new creation, both conceptual and practical. The oil painting major uses painting as the starting point for expressive pursuits as students seek out their own unique talents. They are encouraged to select classes that interests them from a broad curriculum, working alongside faculty members in pursuit of individual expression. The program aims to develop artists who make their mark on the world by respecting the individual and cultivating a spirit of independence and inquiry.



Sculpture Cultivating creativity rooted in the origin of humanity

Sculpture is a form of tactile expression that uses the basic materials that make up our planet--stone, wood, earth, metal--or uses other material humans can create. It has been an integral part of human history since paleolithic times, yet our relentless pursuit of efficiencies, which has only accelerated during the 21st century with the birth of AI and other technologies, has called those very condition of humanity into question. Still, no matter how times change, human beings will never lose the understanding of tactile form that we have cultivated throughout our history. Students who major in sculpture learn the characteristics of various materials along with techniques for handling them as they develop their imagination and creativity as well as their skills of modeling and forming space. They strive to cultivate one of the oldest forms of human expression while cultivating a profound freedom and individuality that is unbound by predetermined styles.



Art History and Theory Where the practice and theory of art meet through creative research

We create an environment that supports creative research linked to the actual artwork, respecting the individual and educating a select few in both the theory and history of art. The art history and theory major is designed to turn out sophisticated experts with a profound understanding of the arts through hands-on experiences, ready to make their mark as researchers in art history or art theory, curators, art critics and other advanced professionals.



Design Designers in pursuit of design excellence

The greatest advantage for design students at Aichi University of the Arts is that design is treated as an integral part of an art education. First and foremost, art demands that students tap into their own excellence. They must identify the powerful motivations and passions within themselves that support their expression. It is no different than the top priority for cutting-edge entrepreneurs. Our new curriculum is unique in that it therefore includes the cultivation of an entrepreneurial mindset to develop outstanding designers. Students seek out the driving force behind their creations and study the designs that create synergies with our world in more direct and well-timed ways. These are the designers in pursuit of design excellence.



Ceramics Tapping into potential on the cutting edge

Ceramics are a design-based craft that people interact with every day of their lives. The major in ceramics at Aichi University of the Arts provides the perfect environment for creation, situated in a region that boasts some of the richest and most diverse ceramics traditions in Japan--Seto, Tokoname, Mino, and more. Our program takes advantage of this ideal location and well-appointed educational facilities to unlock the full potential of ceramics intended to be part of people's lives. We develop creators who look to tradition while pursuing innovative creations for the new age.



New Media & Image Presenting new images to the world

New Media & Image include drawn, stop-motion, and other forms of animation; VFX/XR content that uses digital image creation technologies and images that utilize post-broadcast perspectives; digital art and entertainment as well as commercial images like advertisements for variety of media channels; interactive image installations and other forms of media art; digital archives; media image cultural research, and much more. The new media and image major challenges students to tap into new forms of expression that break through conventions in a media and image field that will only continue to diversify.

Graduate School of Fine Arts

Master's Course in Fine Arts

The Master of Fine Arts program (Japanese-style Painting 'Nihonga', Oil Painting / Printmaking, Sculpture, Art History and Theory, Design, Ceramics, New Media and Image) is set up to foster interactive research across seven disciplines under one major. Students learn to conduct interdisciplinary research in fine art even as they dig deeper into traditional fields of study. They are also able to take courses in other disciplines. Finally, the program seeks to integrate academic research and practical experience by having students put together projects that deliver the community and social contribution expected of universities.

Doctoral Course in Fine Arts

Our doctoral program is set up as one major allowing interdisciplinary research across six research fields. Research programs are focused on obtaining of a doctoral degree to production of artworks and doctoral thesis via three years of research instruction under a qualified faculty team. In addition to academic research in the fine arts, students actively work to contribute to communities and society by further advancing the fields of fine arts and design.



Faculty of Music

The Faculty of Music consists of six departments: Composition, Musicology, Voice, Piano, Strings, and Winds and Percussion. Students of the voice, piano, strings, and winds and percussion departments are expected to acquire sufficient artistry and musicianship for both solo and collaborative performance

including orchestra, various types of ensembles, and opera. The composition students learn the styles of classical Western music, along with the avant-garde music and world music in order to relate their studies with contemporary social communities, while musicology students are able to explore possibility of researches into music in today's world.



Composition

Creators in the Faculty of Music

Composers are creators that use sound to manipulate time and space. Music, referred to as such, encompasses everything from instrumental, vocal, orchestral, and electronic music--and its purview only continues to expand as society and times change. In the composition course, where the top creators in the Faculty of Music come together, students can receive individual guidance from instructors active in their respective areas of specialization. Students start with group learning on theoretical topics, covering everything from the fundamentals of composition to application. The curriculum incorporates practical elements as well, with a variety of opportunities for students to perform their works on and off campus, collaborate with the musicians performing their pieces, and more.



Musicology

Research that piques students' curiosity to its limits

Musicology is an academic discipline that approaches music from a broad perspective; conducting research from a variety of methodologies. Students in this course have an opportunity to proceed through undergraduate, master's, and doctoral studies, working in small, elite groups under the careful instruction of the faculty team to ensure that each student is able to pursue his/her field of interest to its limits--whether in the field of classical music research or popular music management. Students study a broad range of musical topics, from theory to practical skills to foreign languages. They develop fundamental capabilities in musicology while advancing research that is closely tied to musical practice. Students have opportunities to write program notes for school concerts, allowing them to gain valuable experience in the practical side of their discipline.



Voice

Stirring the heart through voice

Using our voice by vibrating our vocal cords is how humans communicate with one another--but we can go even further, filling an entire theater or hall with sound to stir the human heart. Vocal music is used in every corner of life, from popular songs to religious music and opera. The voice major at Aichi University of the Arts is taught by faculty members with rich practical experience in virtually every genre of voice music--from voice composers working in the baroque era to modern popular music, to those active in religious music, classical music, and dramatic performance music. Students work one-on-one with these accomplished instructors to learn the fundamentals of voice (breathwork and vocalization) as well as to develop a rich musicality and refined technique that can be applied to a broad repertoire. Practice in operatic, choral, and other ensemble music also develops students as vocalists.



Piano

Pianists with broad performance repertoires

Ever since the first modern pianos were developed in the mid-18th century, they have been a centerpiece of the development and expansion of Western music history. Countless piano compositions have been written in every possible style, and pianists are asked to play a variety of roles--from solo performers to members of various chamber or vocal music ensembles, orchestras, concertos, or operatic accompaniments. The piano course is built around detailed instruction through private lessons. Students develop the skills they need to become able performers across a broad range of activities.



Strings

Music that stirs the heart

Music will always move people and play an essential role in enriching our humanity--no matter how times change. The strings course requires music students to devote themselves to their craft with a profound understanding of this fact, developing them into seasoned performers and educators. To support them, classes are taught by internationally-renowned visiting professors along with an instructor team experienced as both performers and educators. Students also develop the ability to perform in a wide range of musical settings, whether solo or part of an ensemble or orchestra. They acquire the sophisticated technical expertise, knowledge, and rich expressiveness to become true experts in their field.



Winds and Percussion

Course Description

The undergraduate program offers 12 specific instrumental majors within the wind and percussion department, fostering a high degree of collaboration among all students. This collaborative environment helps students develop essential skills, enrich their musical experience, and prepare for diverse professional careers in music.

Graduate School of Music

Master's Course in Music

One of the outstanding features of the master's program is the inclusion of six different areas of research (Composition, Musicology, Voice, Keyboard, Strings, and Winds and Percussion) under a single major. Students receive individual lessons and attend seminars in order to develop expertise in their specific areas of research. Because all master's students belong to the single discipline of "music", the curriculum allows them to transcend traditional boundaries and take classes across a variety of disciplines. A student may choose, for example, to specialize in Baroque or modern music in addition to getting their practical education in chamber, orchestral, or opera music. Master's students also study the basics of art management to equip them with practical career-building skills.

Doctoral Course in Music

The Graduate School of Music is fully equipped with spaces for doctoral-level training in both performance and academic writing, creating the perfect environment for students to further their studies and research. Doctoral students develop their expertise in a program designed to turn out talented professionals capable of serving as instructors or researchers in universities or other higher education settings, as leaders at cultural institutions, as professional performers, or in other modern art or music careers involving a wide variety of activities.

Most doctoral students spend their first and second years conducting doctoral recitals (or doctoral lectures), culminating in a graduation recital or publication of a doctoral thesis to complete their degree.



Art Festival

Every year, in early November, an art festival entirely organized by students is held. The event features a range of unique attractions, including exhibitions of student artwork, concerts, opera performances, lectures, outdoor stage performances by club members and volunteers, and stalls run by various departments, each showcasing its own traditions.



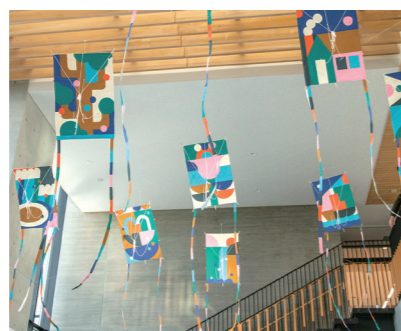
Opera Performance

The opera performance is not just one of the recitals by students from the Faculty of Music and the Graduate School of Music. It is a major event for the entire campus, where the university brings together its expertise and efforts as an art-specialist institution. The stages are designed and produced by students from the Faculty of Art and the Graduate School of Fine Arts on a rotating basis. These performances also represent the culmination of the university's educational and research activities for the academic year. Taking place in our hometown of Nagakute, they have become incredibly popular within the local community.



Graduation Works Exhibition

The Graduation Works Exhibition marks the culmination of the research, contemplation, and creative endeavors of students specializing in Japanese-style Painting 'Nihonga', Oil Painting, Sculpture, and Art History and Theory, Design, Ceramics and New Media & Image. This exhibition is not only a showcase of student work but also serves as a demonstration of the university's philosophy of "cooperating with communities and contributing to the development of artistic culture." In addition, the Graduation Works Exhibition is one of the university's two major events, alongside its opera performances. The exhibition is well-known and enjoyed by many people from outside the campus. Catalogs of the exhibits are also produced, serving as commemorative keepsakes for students at the beginning of their professional careers.



Faculty of Music Annual Concerts

As part of its comprehensive efforts, Aichi University of the Arts holds Annual Concerts that showcase the high quality of its education. During these concerts, outstanding students from all majors and courses in the Faculty of Music perform solo pieces or present their own compositions with great enthusiasm. The opportunity to share the stage with prominent artists provides students with invaluable experience as performers.





International

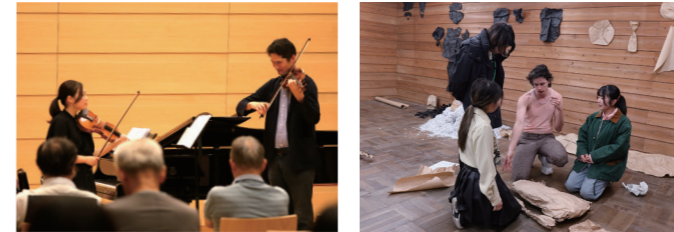
We aspire to be a hub for spreading art and culture across borders. To achieve this, we not only welcome international students but also run student and research exchange programs with universities and institutions around the world. By engaging with diverse people and cultures, we aim to open up new possibilities for creativity.

Partner Institutions (March 2026)

Nanjing University of the Arts	Nanjing, China
Hochschule für Musik und Tanz Köln	Koeln, Germany
Silpakorn University	Bangkok, Thailand
Manhattan School of Music	New York, USA
Hamburg University of Music and Drama	Hamburg, Germany
Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music	Budapest, Hungary
Chiang Mai University	Chiang Mai, Thailand
Tainan National University of the Arts	Tainan, Taiwan
University of Music FRANZ LISZT Weimar	Weimar, Germany
Central Saint Martins, University of the Arts London	London, UK
National Institute of Painting and Design named after Kamoliddin Behzod	Tashkent, Uzbekistan
University of California, San Diego	San Diego, USA
Mongolian State University of Arts and Culture	Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia
University of Milan	Milan, Italy
The National Autonomous University of Mexico	Mexico City, Mexico
Samarkand State University	Samarkand, Uzbekistan
Tampere University of Applied Sciences	Tampere, Finland
St. Petersburg Conservatory named after N. Rimsky-Korsakov	Saint Petersburg, Russia
Seoul National University of Science and Technology	Seoul, Republic of Korea
University of Gothenburg	Gothenburg, Sweden,
University of Seoul	Seoul, Republic of Korea
Conservatoire royal de Bruxelles	Brusseles, Belgium
Korea National University of Arts	Seoul, Republic of Korea
Conservatorio della Svizzera italiana	Lugano, Switzerland

Artist-in-Residence (AIR) Program

Aichi University of the Arts invites artists from around the world to the university through an artist-in-residence (AIR) program with the goal of promoting collaboration in education and artistic activities. By inviting artists, (including artist groups) who are actively engaged in artistic endeavors, the university aims to enhance exchanges among artists, faculty members and students, and thereby adds some fresh air to the university as an education and research hub with an active atmosphere.



Aichi University of the Arts Lecture Series

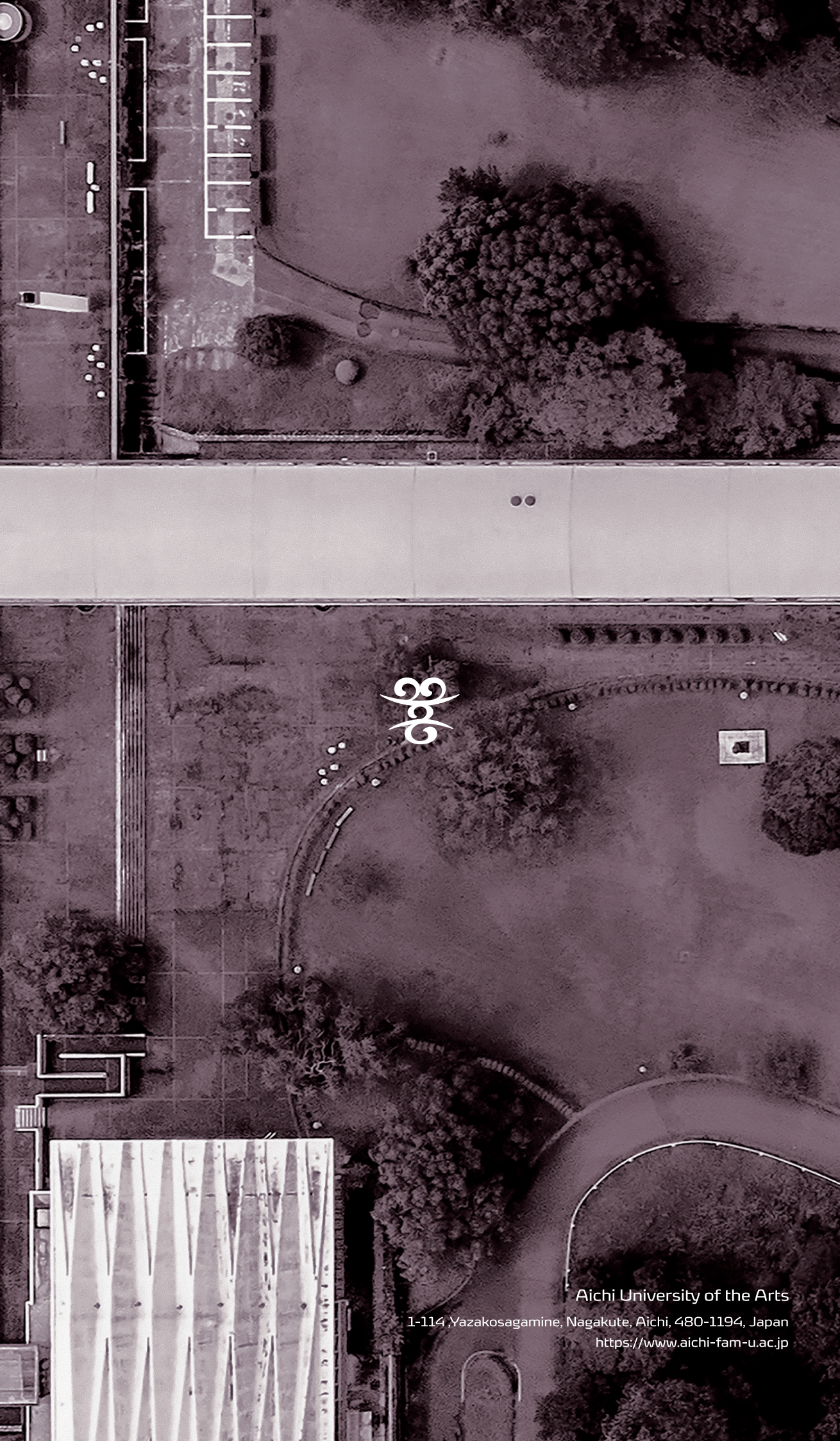
Aichi University of the Arts Lecture Series has been held on campus, at Satellite Gallery SA-KURA, and at cultural centers in Aichi Prefecture since 2012. Some lectures create a participatory framework where community members can join activities.



Artistic Outreach in Hospitals Project

Although various artistic outreach activities exist in which musicians / artists take their music / artworks to show to the people who have difficulty visiting music halls and museums, the Artistic Outreach in Hospitals Project delivers music / art exclusively to hospitals and welfare facilities. Under this project, we foster the involvement of artists in high-quality artistic activities in these sites, specifically master class students majoring in fine arts and music in the graduate schools of Aichi University of the Arts.





Aichi University of the Arts

1-114, Yazakosagamine, Nagakute, Aichi, 480-1194, Japan

<https://www.aichi-fam-u.ac.jp>

