



## Embassy of Japan Kicks Off World Origami Days with Scientific and Mathematical Origami Exhibition and Lecture

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**WASHINGTON, D.C., (August 23, 2017)** – The [Japan Information & Culture Center \(JICC\), Embassy of Japan, DC](#), in partnership with *The Gabriella & Paul Rosenbaum Foundation* and [OrigamiUSA](#), kicks off **World Origami Days** with an eight-week long exhibition and accompanying lecture exploring the relationship between science, math, and origami.

To celebrate the advancement of folding techniques through the application of mathematical concepts as well as origami's influence on the fields of science, mathematics, and technology, the JICC will host a fascinating exhibition and lecture:

- ***Unfolding the Universe (Exhibition)*** will be open September 5, 2017 through October 27, 2017, Monday through Friday, 9 AM to 5 PM. Featuring works by 21 artists, including:
  - [Erik Demaine](#) & [Martin Demaine](#), the acclaimed father-son math-art team from MIT, who blur the lines between art and mathematics by freely moving from designing sculpture to proving theorems and back again.
  - [Goran Konjevod](#), a mathematician and theoretical computer scientist who uses regular and irregular patterns to create organic shapes by folding and layering paper.
  - [Ben Parker](#), author of *Six Simple Twists: The Pleat Pattern Approach to Origami Tessellation Design*, whose origami starts with a geometric core to produce infinitely repeating patterns.
  - [Faye Goldman](#) (2014 Math/Arts Exhibition Honorable Mention) who uses polyhedrons of colorful ribbon to create origami with the Snapology technique.
  - Works from prominent OrigamiUSA members including modular origami by [Robert Neale](#).
  - This exhibition will also feature the [Foldscope](#), a foldable and affordable microscope created by Professor Manu Prakash and Jim Cybulski of Stanford University using origami techniques.
- ***Folding Paper: Visual Arts Meets Mathematics (Lecture)*** will take place at 6:30PM on **Thursday, October 26, 2017**.
  - Massachusetts Institute of Technology Professor of Computer Science Erik Demaine will discuss how origami affects his work in exploring the mathematics behind curved creases, and the potential applications for origami in the fields of science.

- Professor Demaine created the Origamizer algorithm with Professor Tomohiro Tachi (University of Tokyo). This algorithm generates practical paper-folding patterns for any 3-D structure.

*For media inquiries, please e-mail the JICC Publicity Coordinator, at [jicc-press@ws.mofa.go.jp](mailto:jicc-press@ws.mofa.go.jp). Space is limited.*

**WHY** Advancements in science and math have pushed the limits of traditional origami, and, in turn, the study of origami has solved mathematical equations, helped understand shapes in nature, and advance technology. The JICC, Embassy of Japan is proud to showcase origami masters from around the country and share the achievements of origami with the greater Washington DC community as part of World Origami Days, an international celebration to spread the joy of paper folding.

**WHEN** **Exhibition: *Unfolding the Universe***, September 5, 2017 thru October 27, 2017, Mon – Fri, 9AM – 5PM  
(Closed on Holidays)  
**Lecture: *Folding Paper: Visual Arts Meets Mathematics***, Thursday, October 26, 2017, 6:30PM  
(Registration Required)

**WHERE** Japan Information & Culture Center, Suite 100, 18th St NW, Washington, D.C. 20036

**\*PICTURES**



*Ashley Abridged, © Erik Demaine & Martin Demaine*



*Linnaeus' Microcosmus, © Christine Edison*

**\*Pictures available for download at:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/47gn1e15gz1eluk/AACSl6dB6yWXI5teOxC1yUVPa?dl=0>

**ABOUT THE JICC**

The Japan Information & Culture Center (JICC) is a part of the Public Affairs Section of the Embassy of Japan in Washington D.C. The JICC's goal is to promote better understanding of Japan and Japanese culture by providing a wide range of information and events to the American public. For more information, please visit [our website](#).

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