

■ A Message from the Artistic Director

Kinosaki International Arts Center (KIAC) is entering its 4th year since inauguration. During the past three years, KIAC's popularity has quickly increased both within and outside Japan. The local community's appreciation of the facility has also kept on growing. Many people come to enjoy the open studio or workshop events held here. Although KIAC is a facility mainly focused on theater and dance, it is used by people from a large range of disciplines with some doing artistic installations, and others conducting educational programs based on artistic techniques for example.

We hope for many artists to come visit Kinosaki during the 2018-2019 season. We look forward to see how each of you will bring their own touch to the Local Community Exchange Program events. Our priority at KIAC is the artistic quality. We do not request to present a finished work in a short period of time. It is possible to use the facility to work on a project that is still at its first steps. In the years to come, we believe the biggest mission of not only KIAC, but also of Kinosaki and the city of Toyooka where it is located, is to give birth to at least one creation that will later be considered as major.

While trying to fulfill this mission, we are grateful if this whole process can have even the smallest positive effect on the local community. There isn't only one way to create a piece of work, and there isn't only one way to interact with the locals. We hope you can help us discover a new aspect of Kinosaki International Arts Center by actively sharing your unique ideas with us.

Oriza Hirata (Artistic Director, Kinosaki International Arts Center)