

January 27, 2021

National Council of YMCAs of Japan  
National President Ryushi Kawamoto  
General Secretary Tsutomu Taguchi

## **The 21st Japan YMCA Assembly-Information-**

We are glad to inform you about the 21st Japan YMCA Assembly which is to be held online this year. This is the information about the program and registration. Please refer to the information below. We are looking forward to welcoming a lot of registrations from your YMCAs.

### **The 21st Japan YMCA Assembly**

**"Now is the time for a positive net! Encounter, connect, and let's transform!"**

We are in a rapidly changing society now under the influence of coronavirus. The 21st Japan YMCA Assembly is the opportunity for us to encounter the issues around us, connect each other even though we keep the "social distance", and share the hope to be the starting point to transform. We learn from the variety of the programs and activities of the YMCAs all over Japan.

Date: February 23, 2021 (Tuesday / holiday)

Part 1 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm (90 minutes) Live streaming on YouTube

Part 2 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm (90 minutes) Zoom Meeting

Official website: <https://www.ymcajapan.org/assembly21/>

Official Twitter: [@ymcahanatsuna](https://twitter.com/ymcahanatsuna) / Official Instagram: [ymca\\_japan](https://www.instagram.com/ymca_japan)

Registration: <https://forms.gle/HDcxNhyJ4ZJazHxr8>

- Deadline: February 17, 2021(Wednesday)
- We will email you the YouTube live streaming URL of Part 1 and the Zoom link of Part 2.

### **【Pre-Event】 "YMCA Youth Channel" Opened!**

**Release date: February 5, 2021 (Friday) 19:00**

You will watch the videos produced by YMCA youth groups, introducing their activities in the YMCAs. We are working on it to connect these videos to the Assembly held on Feb. 23 and trying to set up something unexpected in the Assembly. So please watch the videos prior to the event. • Viewing period: February 5, Friday, 19:00 to 21, Sunday, 24:00

Contact to: National Council of YMCAs of Japan, the 21st YMCA Assembly Team

Utako Sugino, Hideki Ishibashi, Harumi Ishikawa (E-mail: [info@japanymca.org](mailto:info@japanymca.org))

**"Now is the time for a positive net! Encounter, connect, and let's transform!"**

# The 21<sup>st</sup> Japan YMCA Assembly

**【Part 1】 2:00pm-3:30pm(90 minutes) YouTube Live streaming**

◆**Keynote speech:** Pastor Hiroo SEKITA (Pastor of the Kanagawa Parish of the United Church of Christ in Japan).

He will give us suggestions for the YMCA in what direction we should proceed in the time of COVID-19, what we are and what we challenge.

◆**Introducing the activities of YMCA, which is currently attracting attention**

**[Eastern Japan area] Yokohama YMCA Pink Shirt Day**

Pink Shirt Day as a national campaign. This year is February 24th (Wednesday), the day after the tournament. Introducing the activities of Yokohama YMCA, which started in July in 2020, aiming for longer-term efforts.

**[Central Japan area] Nara YMCA soccer club**

We convey the enjoyment of sports to children and introduce activities such as the road to producing J Leaguers from the Nara YMCA soccer club and women's soccer. You can also watch J Leaguers interviews and fine play videos.

**[West Japan area] Kagoshima YMCA cheer dance class ★Live broadcast**

Kagoshima YMCA's cheer dance class is the pioneer among the YMCA nationwide. We will broadcast the cheer dance from Kagoshima, introducing their efforts on holistic education and the report of participation in the US tournament.

**[Nationwide] Amazon Future Engineer**

A programming class called "Amazon Future Engineer" is spreading more and more to YMCA nationwide. We will introduce you to the case study, the voices of the staff and participants and their products. Then you can know the purpose of this program and the power of technology which can change the world.

**Youth Never Stop**

Youth look back on the year of the Covid-19 crisis, and reconsider what they could and could not do. We will deliver the real voices of youth leaders, student YMCA members, exchange students, and youth staff about changes in feelings and new challenges in this time and age.

**Remembering the 10 years since the Great East Japan Earthquake**

10 years have passed since the Great East Japan Earthquake happened on March 11, 2011. What are the lessons we should learn from this experience? How is it connected to

“now”? We will listen to the stories of YMCA who developed support activities while suffering from disaster at the same time and the voices of youth who were dispatched as volunteers and the long-term dispatch staff.

### **Closing worship**

"Light shines in the darkness"

Ceremony: Motoo Nakamichi (Board member, National Council of YMCAs of Japan)

We will deliver it live.

## **【Part 2】 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm (90 minutes) Zoom Meeting (interactive)**

We explore and share our ideas of “transforming” through the contents of Part 1 and online discussion and exchange.

First session: Divided into the groups you applied.

Second session: Divided into groups at random

※English speaking group is prepared.

[Assembly pre-event]

# "YMCA Youth Channel" opened!

**Release date: February 5, 2021 (Friday) 7:00 pm**

You can watch the activity introduction videos by YMCA youth. Details will be announced on the official website and official SNS of the YMCA Assembly.



## Content (planned)

### YMCA and Camp Songs

We look back on the camp song video that gave us the courage and sense of unity among all the Japan YMCAs during the period of stay home by COVID-19. What are the messages and thoughts that youth volunteers put into the video?

### YMCA and High School

Osaka City Suito Kokusai Junior and Senior High School (operation by Osaka YMCA) is the first public-build and private operating system school. Introducing the school life and activities of the students studying at IB(international Baccalaureate).

### Youth-Led Solutions Summit (YLSS)

Climate change is a global issue. Connected with YMCA youths around the world, Japanese youths who participated in the YLSS have a sense of crisis in the environmental issues, learning together with the youth around the world. It is youth who protect the future earth.

### Say good-bye to "somehow"

Career development for high school students by high school students. We will introduce 'Unpacked', a high school entrepreneur group who has led the U18 Career Summit which is the largest career event in Japan to success.

### Revival of the "Kaitakusha(Pioneer)"

We reproduce and release the microfilm of "Kaitakusha(Pioneer)" magazines consisting of 54 volumes in total. How did youth of old days survive the crisis? We are in the midst of a crisis of COVID-19. We try to learn from history and get the lessons that we need in order to survive now.

### Virtual YMCA opened!

The world's first virtual YMCA!? "Atsumori\* YMCA" in virtual space is opened. Let's design a new YMCA Island together! \* Atsumori : Animal Crossing Horizons