



May 24, 2022
Keio University

Fukuzawa Yukichi Memorial Keio History Museum 2022 Spring Special Exhibition, “Keio Baseball and Modern Japan”

2022 marks the 150th anniversary of baseball’s introduction to the Japanese public. Keio University has made numerous invaluable marks on the sport of baseball in Japan. Among them is the tradition of the “Keio-Waseda Baseball Games,” a rivalry that ranks in the top three of competitions of its kind in the world. As opposed to Waseda University’s popularized style of play such as “passion with every pitch” and “the way of baseball,” Keio has taken a different perspective by first and foremost aiming to “Enjoy Baseball.” This attitude is rooted in and shaped by history, many parts of which can be traced directly to Yukichi Fukuzawa and the origins of baseball in Japan.

This exhibition is meant to make visitors think on how Keio’s motto, “Enjoy Baseball,” relates to our modern-day context by using invaluable baseball records and ideologies from the past to position Keio’s tradition within the larger story of modern Japan and baseball’s history in Japan.

For those interested in this incredible opportunity to view these rare historical documents and memorabilia, please stop by and visit the exhibition.

1. Basic overview

Dates: Monday, June 6—Saturday, August 13, 2022

Closed Sundays, Holidays, and August 1—7 for Summer Break

Venue: Old University Library 2nd Floor, Temporary Exhibition Room, Keio History Museum

Open: 10:00—18:00

Admission: Open to all (we recommend that you reserve a spot in advance)

Details: <https://history.keio.ac.jp/en/>

*Times may be subject to change according to the situation surrounding COVID-19 cases.

Please check the exhibition’s website for the latest information:

<https://history.keio.ac.jp/en/2022-spring-special-exhibition/> (English)

<https://history.keio.ac.jp> (Japanese)

2. Exhibition structure:

- 1: Baseball’s Arrival and the Beginning of the Keio-Waseda Rivalry
- 2: Expansion of Keio’s Baseball Culture
- 3: World War II and Reconstruction
- 4: “Enjoy Baseball”
- 5: Baseball and Culture

3. Featured items

- 1: Photo of the Mita Baseball Club (1891)
- 2: Passport from the baseball club’s first expedition to Hawaii (1908)
- 3: Trophy awarded during the club’s first visit to the United States (1911)
- 4: American Baseball Trophy presented to the Keio Baseball Club in 1928.
- 5: Baseball signed by major-league player Ty Cobb (1928)
- 6: Japanese dolls inspired by the Keio-Waseda rivalry (c. 1930)
- 7: Notebooks from Yūkichi Maeda, the head coach of the baseball club. (c.1987)

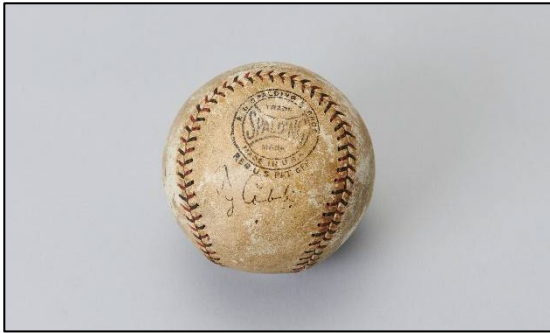
All of the above are from the collection of the Fukuzawa Memorial Center for Modern Japanese Studies



1. Photo of the Mita Baseball Club (1891)



3. Trophy awarded during the club's first visit to the United States (1911)



5. Baseball signed by major-league player Ty Cobb (1928)



6. Japanese dolls modeled after the Keio-Waseda rivalry (c. 1930)

4. Related Events

(1) Exhibition Commemorative Lecture/Symposium (advance reservations required)

Time: 13:00 —16:00, Saturday, June 25

◆ Lecture

“Where Did Baseball Come From, and Why?”

Speaker: Kazuo Sayama (author, inducted to the Baseball Hall of Fame in 2021)

◆ Yūkichi Maeda Baseball Hall of Fame Memorial Symposium

“What ‘*Enjoy Baseball*’ Means Today”

Speakers (provisional):

Tadahiko Kiyosawa (former pitcher, former head coach for the Sumitomo Metals, former high school baseball umpire)

Makoto Ueda (former head coach of the Keio Senior High School Baseball Club) /

Tetsuya Horii (head coach of the Keio University Baseball Club)

Daisuke Maeda (son of former head coach, Yūkichi Maeda)

Marie Ueda (TV announcer)

Venue: 5F South School Building & South School Building Hall, Mita Campus, Keio University

Reservations: Please apply to reserve a spot through the exhibition's homepage.

(2) Exhibition Commemorative Talks / Keio Cheer Group Performance

- ◆ Programming for Saturday, June 11:
 - “The Story of how Keio’s Fight Songs Came to be”
 - “The Keio University Baseball Club’s Legendary Three Consecutive Victories”

- ◆ Programming for Saturday, July 16:
 - “Sending off Student Soldiers: The Final Keio-Waseda Baseball Games”
 - “The Keio University Baseball Club’s Legendary Three Consecutive Victories”

Time: 13:00—14:30 on each day

Speaker: Kakuun Wakabayashi (professional storyteller)

Venue: Keio University Mita Campus Public Speaking Hall (*Mita Enzetsu-kan*)

Admission: those interested should come directly to the venue.

(first come, first served: maximum 100 people)

*There is a possibility of postponements or cancellations due to COVID-19.

5. Access

Venue: Fukuzawa Yukichi Memorial Keio History Museum

(“⑪” on the map provided below on the 2nd floor of the Old University Library)

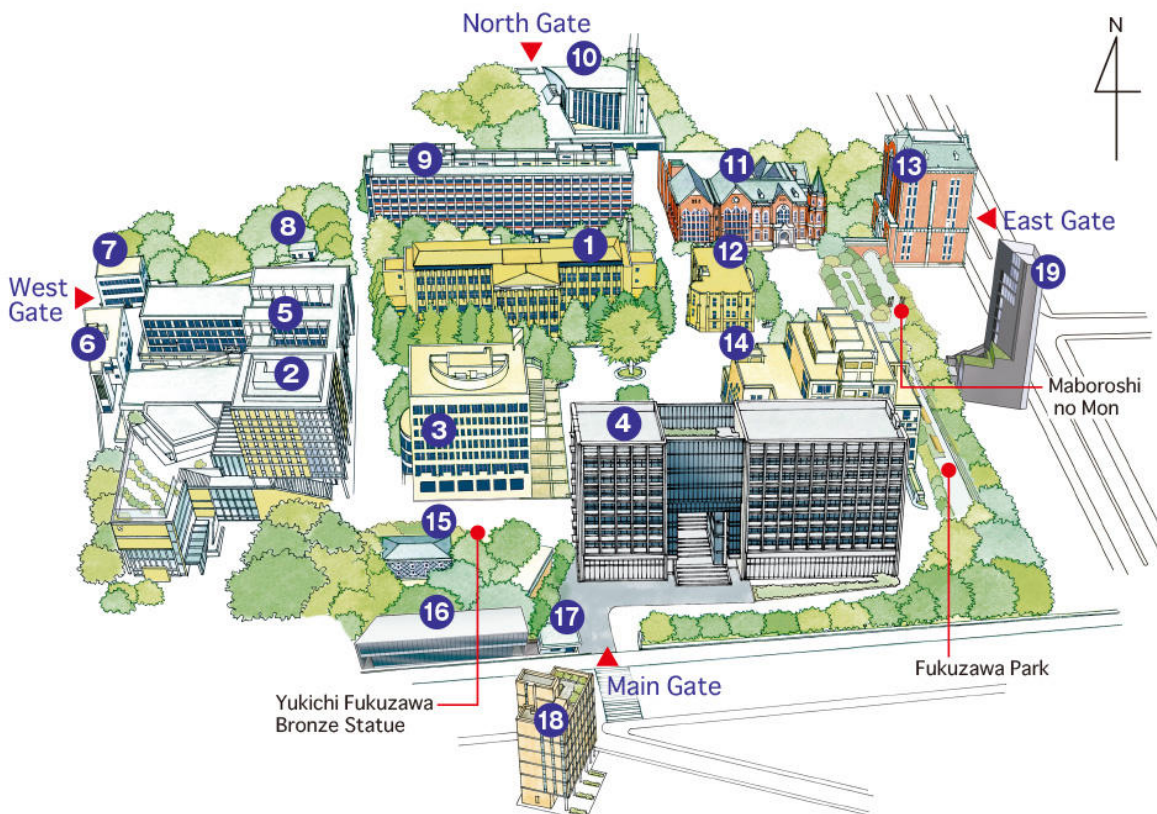
Address: 2-15-45 Mita, Minato-ku, Tokyo, 108-8345

Keio University Old University Library 2F on Keio University Mita Campus

Access: Tamachi Station (JR Yamanote Line/JR Keihin-Tohoku Line) 8-minute walk

Mita Station (Toei Subway Asakusa Line/Mita Line) 7-minute walk

Akabanebashi Station (Toei Subway Oedo Line) 8-minute walk



*Please direct any requests or inquiries on press coverage to the contact information provided below in advance.

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