

# Japan Brand Program

## Kirigraphy: Lectures, Exhibition and Workshops

Schedule: February 19-March 3, 2018 Site: Colombia, Brazil (Sao Paulo), Ecuador

### ■ Dispatched Expert



### Risa Kojo Graphic Designer

After working as a graphic designer in New York, Ms.Kojo encountered Ise-Katagami, traditional paper stencils to dye kimono, and studied it under Isao Uchida, a licensed master of traditional arts and crafts. Then she became a designer to create patterns for kimono. Ms.Kojo has widened her field of work by applying her design techniques in creating Kirie, papercut arts. Besides, she works on her challenge to propose kimono adapted to modern life, by holding workshops, collaborating with artists abroad, and setting up projects together with artists in the same young generation in order to pass on traditional skills to the next generation.

### ■ Review of Activities

#### ● Colombia



Workshop at vocation school ,  
Santo Domingo



Demonstration  
at Universidad de Los Andes

#### ● Brazil (Sao Paulo)



Interview by TV Bandeirantes  
at Japan House Sao Paulo



Lecture scene  
at Japan House Sao Paulo

#### ● Ecuador



Demonstration at CIDAP  
(Cuenca Inter-American Center of  
Popular Arts)



Workshop  
at Central University, Quito

### ■ Achievements

Ms.Kojo visited Colombia, Brazil and Ecuador to give lectures, display her works and hold workshops at major universities of arts and job-training centers in these countries. In the lectures, she introduced how Ise-Katagami is applied in Kirie arts and kimono dyeing, as well as Japanese traditional design which survived lively today. After Ms.Kojo demonstrated her highly trained skills, participants enjoyed making greeting cards with Kirie and Katazome (pattern dyeing techniques) in workshops. Many people indicated their wish to purchase tools used in the workshops. The institutions where she delivered lectures also decided to organize permanent exhibition of her donated works. Ms. Kojo also exchanged opinions with artists and local authorities. Her workshop was broadcast widely by a TV program in Colombia.