

JAPANFOUNDATION



 $R \bar{o} kyoku$ is a style of traditional Japanese narrative singing accompanied by *Shamisen*, three-stringed Japanese banjo. Rokyoku stories are largely based on historical events and people, and the characters run the gamut of all classes and eras, from aristocratic warlords to fast-talking city conmen and sumo wrestlers.

Keiko Haruno, Award-winning Rokyoku Performer, was a popular TV personality when she discovered Rokyoku and got instantly fascinated. She became an apprentice of master Yuriko Haruno II and moved to Osaka in 2003.

Keiko now performs over 200 stages a year as a professional Rokyoku artist. Keiko is also active in performing abroad using the

subtitles of the local languages. In 2015, she performed in Rome, Sao Paulo, New York and Moscow. This workshop is supported by the Japan Foundation, New York and the City of Osaka.

RŌKYOKU WORKSHOP BY MS. KEIKO HARUNO

DATE: Friday, October 7th, 2016
PLACE: Rm E-242 LaGuardia Community College
TIME: 10:00am - 11:30am
NOTE: Free but RSVP at <u>bit.ly/lagccEventReg</u>

About Keiko Haruno

Keiko was born in Tokyo, but spent two years during her childhood in Dallas, Texas. After she graduated from Tokyo University, she appeared on NTV's variety program as a home tutor to a popular comedian. In 2003, Keiko became an apprentice to the master rokyoku performer Yuriko Haruno II in Osaka. She made her debut as a professional rokyoku performer in 2006. Ever since, she has appeared in numerous rokyoku stages throughout the country.