Submission Guidelines for the
2017-2018 Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission Prize
for the Translation of Japanese Literature

The Donald Keene Center of Japanese Culture at Columbia University annually awards $6000 in Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission Prizes for the Translation of Japanese Literature. A prize is given for the best translation of a modern work or a classical work, or the prize is divided between equally distinguished translations.

Eligibility: Translations must be of book-length Japanese literary works: novels, collections of short stories, manga, literary essays, memoirs, drama, or poetry. Submissions may be unpublished manuscripts, works in press, or books published during the two years prior to the prize year (for the current prize, this means publication dates in 2015 and afterward). Translators must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States. Prior recipients of the award are eligible to submit new translations.

Application process: Published books and works in press should be submitted by publishers; unpublished manuscripts by translators or their agents. For published books, please send to the postal address below:
1) seven copies of the book
2) electronic copies of the translation AND of the Japanese-language original on a CD-ROM or flash drive
3) a brief profile of the publisher
4) a C.V. for the translator

For works in press and unpublished works, a single copy of galleys, proofs, or a clean printout may be submitted in place of (1); unpublished works need not submit (3). If any of these requirements are unduly burdensome, please consult with us via the email address below.

Donald Keene Center
c/o Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures
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All submissions should also be announced via email to:
<donald-keene-center@columbia.edu>.

Deadline: Submissions for the 2017-2018 prize must be received by 1 June 2017.