

Celebrating the 150th Anniversary of Nagano Prefecture / 5th Anniversary of the Museum's Renewal

Special Exhibition Unraveling the Mysteries of Ancient EGYPT from Brooklyn Museum

27 June (Sat) – 27 September (Sun), 2026
Nagano Prefectural Art Museum, Main Building, Galleries 1, 2 & 3



Ancient Egypt Comes to Nagano

Drawn from the Brooklyn Museum's renowned collection of ancient Egyptian art, an exceptional selection of masterpieces comes to Nagano. Through approximately 150 objects, including sculptures, coffins, jewelry, pottery, papyri, and both human and feline mummies, the exhibition explores the lives of the people who created this highly sophisticated civilization.

Guiding visitors on a journey through three thousand years of mystery is rising Egyptologist Yukinori Kawae.

How did the ancient Egyptians live? What did they eat, and what did they fear? What language did they speak, and what did they write? Why and how were the pyramids built? What messages were entrusted to mummies? And what did people believe awaited them after death?

From overlooked stories and little-known facts hidden behind familiar images of ancient Egypt to the latest findings on the pyramids using cutting-edge technologies, the exhibition presents new perspectives through videos and audio experiences.

Unearthing three thousand years of mystery and inspiring a spirit of inquiry, this exhibition invites visitors into the fascinating world of ancient Egypt, right here in Nagano.



Nagano Exhibition
Official Website

Highlights

1. The Brooklyn Museum's world-class collection—the largest and finest collection of Ancient Egyptian art in the United States—has come to Japan.
2. Two human mummies, as well as animal mummies, are on display.
3. Discover the latest findings from ongoing pyramid investigations and research led by Egyptologist Yukinori Kawae.
4. Experience Ancient Egyptian incantations recreated in audio.

Exhibition Structure



Head of a King, ca. 2650–2600
B.C.E., Brooklyn Museum,
(Photo: Brooklyn Museum)



Cat Coffin with Mummy, 664–332
B.C.E., Brooklyn Museum,
(Photo: Brooklyn Museum)



1st Stage : Delve into the Daily Life of Ancient Egyptians

Discovering Everyday Life in Ancient Egypt

Whilst numerous exhibitions on Ancient Egypt have enjoyed great popularity in Japan, surprisingly little attention has been given about the daily lives of the people who lived there.

This stage showcases a range of artifacts offering a glimpse into the daily lives of the Ancient Egyptians, including materials that testify to the existence of an advanced civilization dating back more than 5,000 years.

2nd Stage : Explore the Power of Pharaohs

Exploring the Power and Reality Behind the Mysterious Pharaohs

The pharaohs (kings) possessed absolute authority in ancient Egypt. Their grandeur and influence can still be glimpsed through the magnificent architecture and ornamentation of pyramids, temples and other structures.

This stage introduces works associated with twelve rulers, from the Predynastic Period to the Ptolemaic Dynasty, including Khufu and Ramesses II, tracing three thousand years of royal history and the changing image of kingship.

Drawing upon the latest research, the exhibition also reveals new insights into how the great pyramids were constructed and what they may have originally looked like.

Final Stage : Knock on the Gates of Afterlife

Exploring Ancient Egyptian Beliefs About Life and Death

Ancient Egyptians believed that after death, the deceased could be reborn and attain eternal life in the next world.

This final stage presents artifacts associated with funeral rituals, including human and animal mummies, beautiful burial objects, ceremonial implements, and reliefs depicting the gods. Through these works, visitors are invited to explore why and how mummies were created, and to gain a deeper understanding of ancient Egyptian views on life and death.

In addition, the sound of the mysterious ancient Egyptian language has been recreated, with readings from the Pyramid Texts, the oldest surviving funerary writings, resonating throughout the galleries, creating an atmosphere of solemnity and wonder.

Exhibition Supervisor

Yukinori Kawae

Egyptologist / Professor, Digital Humanities and Social Sciences Research Promotion Center, Nagoya University

Exhibition Overview

Exhibition Title	Special Exhibition: Unraveling the Mysteries of Ancient EGYPT from Brooklyn Museum
Dates	27 June (Sat) – 27 September (Sun), 2026
Closed	Wednesdays (except Wednesday 23 September, which is a public holiday; the museum will be closed on the following day, Thursday 24 September)
Venue	Nagano Prefectural Art Museum, Galleries 1, 2 and 3
Opening Hours	9:00–17:00 (Last admission to the exhibition rooms is 30 minutes before closing) *Night Museum: Open until 20:00 on Friday 14 August and Saturday 15 August

Admission Fees	【Same-day tickets】 Adults: 1,800 (1,700) yen High school and university students: 1,200 (1,100) yen Primary and junior high school pupils: 600 (500) yen Same-day tickets will be on sale at the following two locations: ● Nagano Prefectural Museum of Art ● Asoview!(No purchase fee / electronic tickets purchased online; no need for ticket collection or exchange) *Free for pre-school children (must be accompanied by a guardian) *Prices in brackets () apply to groups of 20 or more *Discounts cannot be combined *Admission is free for holders of a Physical Disability Certificate, a Developmental Disability Certificate or a Mental Health and Welfare Certificate, and one accompanying person *During busy periods, temporary admission restrictions may be imposed, or you may be asked to wait before entering. *Re-entry to this exhibition (including the special pop-up shop) is not permitted. *If you wish to view the Collection Exhibition (Main Building and Kaii Higashiyama Gallery), please purchase a separate admission ticket at the museum's ticket counter.
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【Advance tickets】 *Advance ticket sales have ended.

General admission: 1,600 yen

High school and university students: 1,000 yen

Primary and junior high school pupils: 500 yen

*Sales period: Friday 3 April 2026 – Friday 26 June 2026

[Advance Ticket Sales Points]

- Nagano Prefectural Museum of Art
- Asoview!
- Lawson Ticket (L-Code: 35420)
- Seven Ticket (Seven Code: 114-105)
- e+
- Co-op shop within the Nagano Prefectural Government Office
- Co-op shops within joint government office buildings in Nagano Prefecture (Nagano, Ueda, Saku, Matsumoto, Suwa, Ina)

Organized by	The Brooklyn Museum, Nagano Prefecture, Nagano Prefectural Art Museum, The Shinano Mainichi Shimbun, TV.Shinshu Broadcasting
Co-organized by	Nagano Prefectural Board of Education
Supported by	Nagano City, Nagano City Board of Education, Nagano Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Zenkoji Temple, Nagano Arts and Culture Promotion Association, The Hachijuni Culture Foundation, Nagano Convention & Visitors Bureau, JR East Nagano regional headquarters
Sponsored by	DNP Dai Nippon Printing
In cooperation with	Nagoya University, Japan Airlines, Platoo (General Incorporated Association), Yamato Transport, World Scan Project
Planning cooperation	The Asahi Shimbun, TOEI, Nippon Television Network Corporation

Official website	https://egypt-brooklyn.exhibit.jp/
Official X	@egypt_brooklyn
Official Instagram	@egypt_ten_brooklyn
Museum website	https://nagano.art.museum/
Nagano Exhibition Official Website (within the museum website)	https://nagano.art.museum/exhibition/exhibit2026_egypt-brooklyn

*There is no dedicated car park for general visitors. Please use public transport or nearby car parks.

*Details of the exhibition, including the works on display, are subject to change depending on future circumstances. Please check the Nagano Exhibition official website for the latest information.

■ Enquiries

① 【General Exhibition Enquiries】

- TV Shinshu Ticket Center Tel: 026-225-0055 (Weekdays 10:00–18:00)
- Shinano Mainichi Shimbun Business Division Tel: 026-236-3399 (Weekdays 10:00–17:00)

② 【Media Enquiries】

- Nagano Prefectural Museum of Art
1-4-4 Hakoshimizu, Nagano City, 380-0801 (next to Zenkoji Temple)
Tel: 026-232-0052 FAX: 026-232-0050 E-mail: nam-pr@naganobunka.or.jp