

Email Newsletter from Mayor of Okayama City (74) October 12th, 2016 Issue

【Exciting World Of Modern Art】

Hello, I'm Mr. Omori, Mayor of Okayama.

OKAYAMA ART SUMMIT 2016 started on 9th October. Artworks by modern artists of 31 groups from 16 countries are getting together to illustrate the city, including the historical /cultural zone where Okayama Castle and museums gather.

This event is making itself special because of many artworks located within walking distance. I walked through too, and found them very exciting and filled with extraordinary atmosphere.

I will introduce a part of the artworks;

- The head of a naked woman capped with a bee nest which looks like a bloating human brain
- The massive stainless steel sculpture as if a meteorite crashes into the ground
- The aligned video works of women's huge portraits
- The white-based miniature golf tool appearing in a valley of buildings

Like above, 51 various artworks are on display inside and outside.

I recon both citizens and tourists will enjoy this event and am so excited to see their reactions to it.

I have just requested the general director, Mr. Taro Nasu, to prepare commentaries so everybody knows artists' intention for each art piece.

Fees are affordable such as 1,800yen for general admission and 1,000yen for

Okayama inhabitants (advance ticket). Local reporters commented “This is a bargain to see many artworks with this price”.

Especially, junior high school students or under are admitted free. I want as many kids as possible to expose themselves to the exciting world of modern art and have a feeling of surprise -“What’s this?”

People start paying attention on what has been seen without any attention when it transforms into an artwork. This is how I felt again towards the modern art world.

I hope everyone fully enjoys this extraordinary world popped up in our daily life.

※Event Period: 9th October – 27th November

※For further details, please visit the website below;

<http://www.okayamaartsummit.jp/>