Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] Event

YCAM Bio Research Open Day —Bio in the kitchen

13:00-17:00 on Saturday, June 25, July 9, October 8, November 12 and December 10, 2016, as well as on February 11, 2017

Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] Community space

2016: Year one of YCAM's bio-activity / Biotechnology made easily accessible.

The Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM] launches the new "YCAM Bio Research" project to research and developing application possibilities for biotechnology, a field where dramatic developments have been achieved in recent years, from viewpoints as varied as art, education and community. In the form of fermentation, for example, biotechnology has been part of our daily lives for a long time, and the recent progress of technology has accelerated the expansion of its application to fields such as agriculture, medicine and power generation. At the same time, costs involved in the application of gene analysis and other forms of advanced biotechnology have drastically decreased. As a result, institutions that offer individual users to work with specialized bio facilities begin to emerge in all parts of the world.

Against the backdrop of such developments, YCAM launched this project and set up a dedicated space for work in the realm of biotechnology in 2015.

In 2016, YCAM continues to explore application possibilities in cooperation with FabLab and other research organizations in Japan and abroad. In addition to publishing results via the Internet, the process of these activities will also be showcased in six "Open Day" events, to which anyone is cordially invited.





Illustration by Rie Mochizul

Above : "Agri Bio Kitchen" Workshop (2015 / YCAM) Below : Illustration of YCAM Bio Research Open Day

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Event Outline

YCAM Bio Research Open Day —Bio in the kitchen

13:00-17:00 on Saturday, June 25, July 9, October 8, November 12 and December 10, 2016, as well as on February 11, 2017 Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM], Community Space Target group: general (elementary school age and above) Admission: free (no reservation required)

Open Day Outline

Offered throughout the year are "Open Day" events at which the YCAM Bio Research activities will be introduced. Beside exhibiting the research process inside the YCAM building, the events also include guided tours explaining the bio lab and its basic equipment, as well as mini workshops where participants – from children to grownups – can get hands on experience with biotechnology openly.

Schedule

Vol. 1, June 25: "Bread and Yeast"
Vol. 2, July 9: "Fermentation and DIY"

Vol. 3, October 8: "DNA of the Forest"

Vol. 4, November 12: "Man and Symbionts"

Vol. 5, December 10: "Organisms and Programming"

Vol. 6, February 11: "Cells and Genes"

[Contents of Vol. 4-6 are subject to change. Details will be frequently updated on the YCAM website.]

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Produced by: Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM]

■ YCAM Bio Research



Program started in 2015. A bio laboratory space equipped with a clean bench, autoclave, incubator, PCR device, centrifugal separator, refrigerator, freezer, pipettes, microscopes and other basic apparatus is operated on the ground floor inside YCAM. Beside holding workshops with BCL, a group of artists that create works incorporating biotechnology, the program introduce part of the FabLab online course "How To Grow Almost Anything (Bio Academy)" on synthetic biology under the direction of Harvard University professor George Church in 2015, and in March 2016, YCAM Bio Research involved in the creation and display of works using yeast in the Sakate district on Shodoshima as part of the Setouchi Triennale 2016. YCAM Bio Research also took in another workshop which was held in May 2016 at the Cultural Station Seoul 284 in Korea.

Related Event

YAMA KITCHEN workshop series

Vol. 1, June 24: "Yeast" Vol. 2, July 22: "Rice Malt"

Vol. 3, December 23: "Fermentation" [Dates and contents are subject to change] Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media [YCAM], Restaurant Space

Held in conjunction with YCAM Bio Research, these hands-on workshops focus on the process of fermentation, as well as on yeast and rice malt as root materials thereof, representing a deeply rooted aspect of Japanese food culture.