

**Ambassador's Remarks for Amezaiku Event
February 11, 2021**

Hello everyone,

Thank you for joining us for this workshop on Japanese candy art. First, I would like to thank Japanese candy artist Candy5 for leading the event and bringing the wonderful world of amezaiku from New York in the United States to our screens today.

Japanese candy art, known as amezaiku in Japanese, has a long history. Candy art first appeared as religious offerings hundreds of years ago in Kyoto. Over time, the techniques transformed and amezaiku became popular with children and adults alike because of the beautiful and elaborate creations made by talented candy artists. Nowadays, the tradition is preserved thanks to artists such as Candy5, who keep the art of amezaiku alive and bring it overseas for the enjoyment of people everywhere.

Even if amezaiku has been around for a long time, there are few candy artists, even in Japan. We are lucky to have the chance to learn from one of the few artists in the world. Allowing people to experience candy art firsthand through demonstrations and workshops is important to keep the tradition alive and share Japanese traditional art and craft both in Japan and around the world. For many years, Candy5 has been delighting audiences worldwide, including in Canada, by showcasing her skills. I hope that today's workshop will be fun and bring you a little closer to Japan. If you can, please try amezaiku and enjoy a little piece of Japan at home.

Thank you again for joining us today. I hope that children, parents and everyone watching will have a good time and enjoy the amezaiku workshop. I wish you all a very pleasant evening with Candy5.