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note inc.
October 1, 2025

TALES Launches Novel Submission Contest to Transform Stories into Live Reading Dramas

Judged and Produced by Popular Voice Actor Nobuhiko Okamoto



Story submission platform TALES and voice acting production company Raccoon Dog have jointly announced a contest to adapt submitted novels into live reading dramas. Popular voice actor Nobuhiko Okamoto, known for his role as Katsuki Bakugo in My Hero Academia and who also serves as Raccoon Dog's representative, will fully produce the event, overseeing the judging and direction. Submissions will open on TALES on October 1st. Winning entries will be professionally rewritten by a scriptwriter and then performed in the spring of next year by Mr. Okamoto and other Raccoon Dog voice actors. This initiative aims to discover new talent and expand the possibilities of storytelling. TALES is operated jointly by note Inc. and Tales & Co. Inc.

Purpose and Features of the Project

The entertainment industry is experiencing a shift in how stories are distributed. Works originating from social media and submission sites are increasingly being adapted into various forms, including anime, stage plays, and films.

Since its launch in April 2025, TALES has attracted numerous compelling stories. This project was conceived with the goal of discovering and promoting new talent from this pool. Nobuhiko Okamoto, Representative of Raccoon Dog, is not only an active voice actor but also an

entrepreneur dedicated to developing young talent. He will further expand his scope of activities through this production role.

Every step of this project, from judging to the final performance, will be recorded and shared. The process will showcase how submitted works are reborn by a professional scriptwriter, how the voice actors interpret the roles to bring the characters to life, and the audience's reactions. Depending on the reception, the project may also consider expansion to other media beyond the stage.

TALES x Raccoon Dog Reading Drama Contest Overview

[Theme]
Tears (Episodes related to tears, such as tears of joy or sadness)

[Submission Period]
October 1, 2025 (Wed.) 11:00 AM – November 30, 2025 (Sun.) 11:59 PM JST

[How to Enter]
1. Register (Log in) on the story submission site TALES.
2. Select the "TALES x Raccoon Dog Reading Drama Contest" in the entry section and submit.
Participation is free of charge.

[Work Requirements]
· Original work of approximately 10,000 characters.
· Maximum of four characters.
· Multiple entries are allowed (only one work can win per person).

[Judges]
Takeshi Hagiwara (Editor-in-Chief, TALES)
Nobuhiko Okamoto (Representative & Voice Actor, Raccoon Dog)

[Awards]
· Professional scriptwriter to rewrite the work into a reading drama script.
· Performance of the reading drama by Raccoon Dog voice actors.
· Credit as the original story creator on the reading drama script.
· Autographed script by Nobuhiko Okamoto.
· Tickets to the reading drama performance.

[Future Schedule]
Mid-December 2025: Mid-term judging results (Tentative)
February 2026: Final judging results (Tentative)
Spring 2026: Reading drama performance (Tentative)

Comment from Takeshi Hagiwara, Editor-in-Chief of TALES

I am delighted to host this contest for original stories to be adapted into a reading drama, led by Nobuhiko Okamoto as the producer, on the TALES story submission site.

The appeal of a reading drama lies in the ability to deliver a story experience that is heard and resonates in the heart, as the "words" of your creation are given the wings of a "voice."

We look forward to receiving works where stories only writable in text meet emotions only communicable through voice—stories that will become the star of the reading drama stage.

Comment from Nobuhiko Okamoto, Representative of Raccoon Dog

Today, Japanese manga artists, novelists, and voice actors are recognized by people worldwide, and the development of social media has seemingly increased the pathways to achieve one's dreams.

While this expansion has been positive, I have felt that there are still few venues for professionals to further hone their craft and limited means for them to transmit their work to the world in a minimal, accessible way.

This led to the creation of the "TALES x Raccoon Dog Reading Drama Contest." This project, where professionals who create stories and professionals who convey stories can move forward together like two wheels of a vehicle, will revitalize the entertainment industry and offer positive support for the future of all involved.

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. Let's take that step together and pursue something engaging!

TALES

TALES is a story submission platform dedicated to broadening creators' possibilities and delivering entertainment content that transcends the barriers of media and language. It is jointly operated by note Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Tales & Co. Inc.

●URL：https://tales.note.com/
●Official note account：https://note.com/tales_story_
●Official X account：https://x.com/tales_story_

Raccoon Dog Co., Ltd.TALES

Co-CEOs: Masaru Shibuya and Nobuhiko Okamoto
Business Activities: Management of voice actors and actors, casting, various coordination services, project planning and production, training of voice actors and actors.
https://www.raccoon-dog.co.jp/

note

note is a media platform where creators post text, images, audio, and videos, and users can enjoy and support that content. We value a safe atmosphere and diversity so that everyone can enjoy and continue creating. Individuals and corporations mingle, expanding opportunities to find things they like and meet interesting people. The service launched in April 2014, and approximately 60 million works have been created. The number of members has reached 10 million (as of June 2025).

●URL：https://note.com/
●iOS App：https://itunes.apple.com/jp/app/note-noto/id906581110
●Android App：https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=mu.note

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Our mission is to "Start, and Keep on Creating," and we are building systems for expression and creation. The media platform note supports all kinds of creative activities by creators. Creators can publish their original content, receive support from fans and peers through memberships, shops and brand owners can showcase products in their stores, and corporations and organizations can use note pro to disseminate information.

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