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note

note inc.
November 6, 2026

# Creative Award 2026 Winners Announced
# Entries reach a record of about 180,000 works




On Friday, November 6, note and the story-sharing site TALES announced the winners of Creative Award 2026 (Sosaku Taisho). Creative Award is one of Japan's largest creative contests, held together with partner media to discover the star writers of the future. This was the fifth edition, with 34 media partners taking part. Entries were invited across a wide range of genres, including novels, manga, essays, and recipes. During the three months from April 8 to July 8, 2026, the contest received 180,206 entries, about 2.6 times the previous edition.

After review by the judges, 25 works were chosen for the Grand Prize and note Award, 48 works were chosen as Selected Works, and other awards were also given. Winning works receive supplementary prizes based on their award. Each Grand Prize work will be assigned a contact person from the relevant media partner, with the aim of book publication, film or TV adaptation, and similar opportunities.

Results announcement: https://note.com/info/n/naa61dd02e7e3

## Grand Prize and note Award Winners (25 works) Honorifics omitted

**OZbooks Award (#Essay category)**
"I Want to Bury the 'Husband Who Helps Out with Childcare'" (「育児に協力的な旦那さん」を葬りたい) | ジェラシーくるみ
https://note.com/jelousy_krm/n/n644e7ab4a9ad

**Bungeishunju Award (#Essay category)**
“Shun Onitsuka” | Shun Onitsuka
https://note.com/shun_nakanishi/n/n773bc0fdcb7f

**Da Vinci Web Award (#Essay category)**
“The Man Who Told Too Many Lies” (嘘をつきすぎた男) | tkq
https://note.com/tkq/n/n78e296d224ac

**Lettuce Club Award (#Comic Essay category)**
“[Saying Goodbye to My Right Breast] Episode 1: Introduction / The Breast Cancer Screening I Had Every Year” (【右胸とお別れした話】 第1話 ごあいさつ・毎年受けていた乳がん検診) | ちょっ子
https://note.com/chokkosan/n/n304234676833

**Poplar Publishing General Books Editorial Department Award (#Comic Essay category)**
“[A Vegetable Geek’s Garden Ramblings] A History of Crop Plants (1)” (【野菜オタクの菜園徒然話】農植物ヒストリー①) | 日高十三男
https://note.com/hidaka13o/n/n8b59c0144962

**Da Vinci Web Award (#Comic Essay category)**
“Exploring Lesser-Known Foods from Around the World in Kyoto | Lebanon” (京都で巡る、世界のマイナー飯旅｜レバノン) | 広海走
https://note.com/hiromilluatsou/n/n06bb29c46394

**Hachimitsu Comic Essay Award (#Comic Essay category)**
“Oyaoya DIARY (1) (3 Episodes Combined)” (おやおやDIARY①（3本まとめ）) | もろたろう
https://note.com/morotaro/n/ne3491e7c5f06

**Hachimitsu Comic Essay Award (#Comic Essay category)**
“‘Things Cats Do.’” (「猫がすること。」) | よしのくりこ
https://note.com/nekokamosirenai/n/n7bf309b3ec60

**ESSE Award (#Food category)**
“Make My Coffin a Three-Tier Food Box (1: I Only Want to Eat Delicious Things)” (棺桶は三段重にしてね（1-おいしいものだけ食べていきたい）) | 岸田ひろ実
https://note.com/hiromirairo/n/nfb8c0dfbd229

**Isumu Award (#Food category)**
“Dessert Recipes for One (1) | Custard Pudding in a Nitori Heat-Resistant Cup” (おひとり様のスイーツレシピ（1）｜ニトリの耐熱カップでカスタードプリン) | 110号室
https://note.com/110_room/n/ndd78cec88293

**Futabasha Literary Publishing Department Award (#Mystery Novel category)**
“Tanuki Sushi Plays No Tricks: Delicious Case Files with an Undercover Inspector” (たぬき寿司は化かさない ー覆面調査官とのおいしい事件簿ー) | 七生水レモン
https://tales.note.com/lemon_7703/wczyes5zzfy1w

**TV Tokyo Award (#Horror Novel category)**
“The Shoemaker’s Elves Won’t Go Home” (靴屋のこびとは帰らない) | ages an
https://tales.note.com/charm_gecko8316/wx2isvnmsqspk

**HarperCollins Japan Award (#Horror Novel category)**
“The Apartment Building with a Bulletin Board #1” (掲示板のあるマンション #1) | 汐見ウミ
https://note.com/umifx/n/n10149e0de3af

**Futabasha Literary Publishing Department Award (#Romance Novel category)**
“Turning My Back on the Moon” (月に背いて) | 渡邉怜
https://tales.note.com/gentle_lilac59/wq0omluhoaxfh

**Kobunsha Award (#Workplace Novel category)**
“Yamakei: The Mountain Police” (ヤマケイ ー山の警察ー) | 涌井 学
https://tales.note.com/happy_lilac82/w0n8o1a4dps04

**Media Works Bunko Award (#Fantasy Novel category)**
“Kakuriyo Bonds: The Girl Who Sees Shadows and the Guardian of the Dead” (かくりよの縁——影を視る少女と死者の守り人) | 紫月音葉
https://tales.note.com/shizuki82/wy8qrrad4m8k3

**HarperCollins Japan Award (#Fantasy Novel category)**
“I Was Making Sushi in Another World While Looking for a Way Home, and I Think I May Have Found One” (異世界で寿司を握りながら帰還方法を探してたら、なんか見つかったっぽいです) | 砂張 五
https://tales.note.com/sunabari5/wouysm42cvqwp

**HarperCollins Japan Award (#Fantasy Novel category)**
“Age 36, Cloth Clothes, Life Events Not Yet Implemented” (３６歳、布の服、ライフイベント未実装) | nonkuri
https://tales.note.com/nonkuri_yubiri/wyzky4epzibjh

**Weekly Shonen Magazine Editorial Department Award (#Manga category)**
“My Neighbor Might Be an Alien” (お隣さんが宇宙人かもしれない話) | ue_t（うえた）
https://note.com/ue_t/n/n17e8437c517a

**OZcomics Award (#Manga category)**
“The Yeti’s House #1” (イエティのいえ #1) | にしはまかおり
https://note.com/kao_line/n/n4a04070a2ca6

**KADOKAWA Well-being Editorial Department Award (#Business category)**
“How an Editor with No Business Experience Topped 100 Million Yen in Sales Three Years in a Row” (経営のド素人だった編集者が、３年連続で売上１億を超えられた理由) | 竹村俊助
https://note.com/take/n/n5d40e07d5c50

**Film Art Award (#Business category)**
“‘I Wanted to Make a Game Just One More Time’: The Full Story of a Former Dragon Quest Director’s Indie Game Development” (「もう一度だけ、僕はゲームを作りたいと思った」──元ドラクエディレクターが挑んだインディーゲーム開発の一部始終) | 藤澤 仁
https://note.com/jin_fujisawa/n/n6988e7d507f7

**Discover 21 Award (#Business category)**
“The Memo That Made New Graduates 10 Times More Productive When I Told Them ‘Start with This’ (Even Though It’s Over 10,000 Characters)” (新卒の子に「とりあえずこれ」と伝えたら生産性が10倍になったメモ（なのに1万字越え）) | やまだくにあき
https://note.com/kun1aki/n/nf43ace7ef827

**Impress Award (#All Categories category)**
“[Photo Set] Building a Komeda’s Coffee Shop” (【撮影セット】コメダ珈琲店を作る) | KanaFett
https://note.com/kanafett/n/nd238302b7a33

**note Award (#All Categories category)**
“Let’s Make and Play! ‘Spot the Difference Lv. 100’” (つくってあそぼ！「まちがい探しLv.100」) | 水田ことみ(safari)
https://note.com/safa_san/n/nd35baca569ee

The Selected Works, Reader Award, and Reviewer Award winners, along with comments from each media partner, are available in the results announcement.
Results announcement: https://note.com/info/n/naa61dd02e7e3

## Comments from note

This fifth edition was the second year that note and TALES held the contest together. With the support of 34 media partners, we received a record 180,206 entries. It reminded us again how passionate creators are about their work and how much they expect from this contest. We are deeply grateful to everyone who sent us so many wonderful works. Some people published their work on note for the first time because of this contest. Others have been creating on note and TALES for a long time. This year again, a truly diverse range of people took part. Everyone on the organizing team sincerely hopes these awards will help the works reach many more people, and that all creators will keep creating.

## Works That Came from Creative Award

Works that come out of Creative Award cover many genres, from novels to essays and comics. So far, 36 works have led to book publication, film or TV adaptation, or publication and serialization in media. One example is the novel *What Nurse Uzuki Can See* (ナースの卯月に視えるもの) by Rinko Akiya, a former nurse, which won the Bessatsu Bungeishunju Award at Creative Award 2023. It was her debut novel, and the series has now sold more than 170,000 copies in total.




## 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 89.93 million works have been created. The number of members has reached 13.13 million (as of August 2026).

●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

## note inc.

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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