DO THE DANCE!

AKB48 FANZINE

サマーコンサート

SUMMER CONCERTS '24

THE 48G'S HOTTEST PERFORMANCES

#04
AUTUMN
2024



HKT48'S 7TH GEN FIRST STAGE SHONICHI CONCERT

AKB48 FANMEETINGS

ACG MATSURI 2024

A GOLD MINE OF JOY

+ much more

THIS ISSUE **FOCUSES** ON **CONCERTS** AND **IDOLS**

Welcome back to a new issue of DO THE DANCE! This time you can read about some of the summer concerts from the 48G's. Matto's massive article about NMB48's 4 concerts for instance. AKB has been in Malaysia visiting the animation, comics and gaming convention ACG Matsuri 2024 (I loved how they put the Goku "Kamehameha" in 'KoiSuru' as it is an otaku event) that Yumenotobiira (thanks for the editor help) wrote about. She's also back with Frida's Oshikatsu Corner in this issue, and have also watched and written about Erii's makeup livestream. Our new contributor Danchuu wrote about HKT48's 7ki stage, and my new Austrian friend and contributor Hoellenmeister wrote a retrospective on some of the most memorable and beautiful Graduation concerts.

You can also read articles about interactions with idols, but not the hanashikai as in previous issues. I talk about my interactions on YouTube livestreams, and another new contributor, OCD48! talks about his meeting with Miu last Aug in Fukushima. Far East gives us fun information about NGT48 once again - this time with a heavy focus on the outdoors, in his news headline article, and in A Gold Mine of Joy. Ibaraki-Rose wrote a nice article about Ayane's mountain climbing. He also wrote about the episode where the Hoshikuzu Telepath cast visits Ano-chan's variety show where they had a Kami 7 ranking. And more variety shows content in the fun article Takamina VS. Variety Shows written by TLW-48, who also wrote about the campaign TOKYO ALLY that Takamina is involved with, as well as her collab with former ace Acchan. Takamina was the very last person visiting the AKB48 Theater as a returning member before the renovation. The news came out when I was finishing up the issue, but I had to mention it here of course. Amazing seeing her being hyped up singing 'AKB48'! Komi has also announced that she will graduate from AKB48, sadly, but not really surprisingly I feel.

I hope you will enjoy reading this issue as much as I have putting it together. I feel like this one have a very great variety of different topics, and even our first album reviews by me and Adolfo who wrote about Sayanee's and Naachan's albums. Now I have to take a longer break from doing this though, since I don't want to have a burnout.

theamazingdaveman



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NEW MUSIC VIDEOS















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NEWS

THE LATEST IN THE
48 GROUPS WORLD

NGT48 LIGHTS UP THE NIGHT AT GION KASHIWAZAKI FESTIVAL



NGT48 was announced as a collaborator for the Gion Kashiwazaki Festival's seaside fireworks on July 26th.

With the scenic coastal shore of the Sea of Japan as the backdrop, thousands of dazzling fireworks would soon light up the sky, celebrating summer in Kashiwazaki in a way that only Niigata can. This festival is no ordinary event - it's one of the three crown jewels of the Echigo region, standing proudly alongside the world-renowned Nagaoka and Katakai festivals. Each of these festivals represents a powerful natural element: the sea for Kashiwazaki, the river for Nagaoka, and the mountains for Katakai.

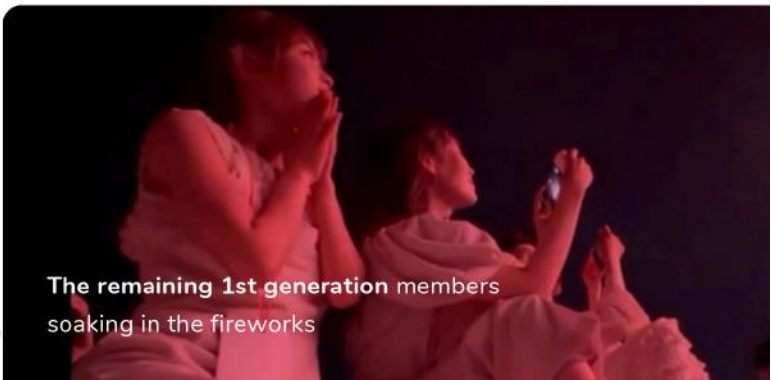
Niigata Prefecture is synonymous with spectacular fireworks displays. In fact, no other region in Japan uses more fireworks than Niigata! So, the collaboration between NGT48 and the Kashiwazaki Festival felt like a match made in heaven.

On June 27th, during NGT48's senbatsu announcement SHOWROOM live, it was announced that the 10th single will be the collaboration of the group together with the festival. Along with the announcement of the senbatsu's formation, the group's **10th single**, '**Isshun no Hanabi**', was revealed! The song is to be used in the fireworks festival, and is rich with imagery of fireworks, metaphorically exploring the fleeting yet breathtaking nature of love - moments that are as captivating as a firework blooming in the night sky, only to fade as quickly as they appeared. What better way to amplify this theme than at a grand fireworks festival on a cool, breezy summer night by the seaside?

As the night of the festival arrived, the anticipation was remarkagble. The coastline of Kashiwazaki was transformed into a luminous wonderland, with food stalls, massive crowds, and glittering lights filling the area. The fireworks spectacle was set to last over two mesmerizing hours - enough time to burn through an unbelievable number of fireworks! NGT48 members were, of course, present, each donning stylish beach-side dresses, positioned to soak in the dazzling display from different vantage points.

The collaboration moment arrived, and it was nothing short of magical. As intricate patterns and starmines lit up the sky, the fireworks began to spell out "NGT48." Then, as if on cue, the melody of 'Isshun no Hanabi' ▶





The remaining 1st generation members soaking in the fireworks



MV for 'Isshun no Hanabi'



Watch the NGT48 portion of the festival here:

filled the air, creating a goosebumps-inducing experience. Imagine standing there, witnessing fireworks choreographed to the rhythm of NGT48's latest hit - a moment that must have felt like a dream. I can only wish to be part of such an event! It must've been fun being there in-person to see all of this happen before your eyes.

The display continued with fireworks that formed the shapes of the Echigon, Kashiwazaki's tourism mascot, and Niigata's iconic Toki bird, a true spectacle that merged art, nature, and music in an unforgettable way. According to one foreign spectator, this was the first time in the festival's history that music had accompanied the fireworks, marking a significant moment for both the festival and the girls of NGT48.

The fireworks festival was more than just a visual treat; it was a brilliant prelude to the release of 'Isshun no Hanabi'. With the single set to drop soon, the festival served as the perfect stage to build anticipation and excitement. By the time this article is published, the single will be out, and it's no surprise that the offline and online talk spots for NGT48's members in August have already started selling out! Fans have until December to grab their chance to meet the members online or in person - so don't miss out on this opportunity! The girls are always eagerly waiting to meet foreign fans!

Far East

NGT48 10th single 'Isshun no Hanabi'
was released on August 28th!
Type A/B, CD Shop, and Digital Edition











LEGENDS RETURN TO THE AKB48 THEATER



The legendary 1st gen member Shinoda Mariko appeared at the AKB48 Theater on Aug 6th where she performed 'Koike'.

Sayaka and Kojiharu

She's the very first 1st generation member to show up at the AKB48 Theater as a returning member, and it's her first time back in 9 years. This is what she stated in her MC part: "It's 20 years since this theater was built. When we didn't have chairs so you had to stand to watch... I even handed out flyers under Donki...". It was awesome to see her dance to 'Koi Tsunjatta' in the clip posted on AKB's Instagram. One other legend that returned on August 14th was the second part of the twin towers (Sae was the first one), Akimoto Sayaka. She showed up full with energy, sporting a fitting tracksuit. That's the only way she wanted it. It was amazing seeing the 2nd gen back on stage as well, where she performed 'Korugaru Ishi ni Nare'. A third legend who returned was another 1st gen member, on August 19th, Kojima Haruna performed 'Senaka Kara Dakishimete'. She also did the awesome 'Koi Tsunjatta' dance on Instagram.

theamazingdaveman

LIA GRADUATION FROM UNIVERSITY



JKT48 Lia completes university.

An energetic and cheerful social butterfly, JKT48 10th Generation member Aurellia has officially graduated from her university on August 14th, 2024. She graduated from Trisakti School of Management, Indonesia's largest private university. Amongst fans, Lia is most known for having the best fan service at JKT48, diligently providing news, greetings and attractive things through JKT48 Private Messages and her social media while continuing her studies in Trisakti. Congrats cici Lia!

ranapxious

DEVI'S KLP48 INTRODUCTION



"Before I introduce myself, I will give a pantun to everyone here!"

Devi's Introduction at the KLP48 Debut stage. KLP48's Debut stage has finally wrapped, and something that came to my attention during it was Devi's introduction. A former 4th gen member of JKT48, it is not really far-fetched to consider her as among the most experienced members among the 13 members that make up KLP48's 1st generation.

Back to the debut stage, Devi opened her introduction with "Before I introduce myself, saya nak bagi pantun untuk korang semua. (Translation: I want to share a poem for you all)". In Malay culture, a Pantun is a form of Malay verse used to express intricate ideas and emotions. It is the most widespread oral form in maritime Southeast Asia and has been used in many parts of the region for at least 500 years. In her Pantun, she says "Makan curry cinta lepak, oh? Boleh saya curihati awa? (Translation: Eating curry, love to hangout, oh? Can I steal your heart?"). After that, she goes on to introduce herself with her Jikoshoukai, which has been modified to fit the Malay dialect compared to her JKT48 one.

Devi graduated JKT on Dec 27th, 2018. Despite this, she has shown to still have exceptional fan service even with the 6 year absence in her 48G career. In a tweet prior to the stage she expressed her want for support, "Let's focus on giving much love and support for me and KLP hour approaching debut!".
Semangat Devi!

ranapxious

JKT48 SOUSENKYO ANNOUNCEMENT

AKB's SSK might've stopped, but JKT has picked it right up!

It has been more than 6 years since AKB48 had last held its Senbatsu Sousenkyo; The largest one to date, with over 494 eligible members from 8 different groups (including overseas groups for the first time). A shame really, however fans still have other overseas SSKs to look forward to upon its discontinuation in Japan. Though it is not an unknown fact JKT48's Sousenkyo has had the longest history out of all the other overseas SSK.

Established in 2011, JKT held their first SSK for their 6th single 'Gingham Check' on April 26th, 2014. With over 14,000 votes, first gen ace Melody Nurramdhani Laksani ranked first among all members, acquiring the center position for the single. Years later, JKT48 would hold their 6th election on November 30th, 2019 for their first ever original single 'Rapsodi', with 3rd generation member Shani Indira Natio ranking first place with over 72,000 votes. Despite the success that the SSK has brought to JKT48, they were forced to stop it due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic spanning from 2020-2022.

After a 5 year absence, JKT48 has announced their next SSK for their 26th Single on July 26th, 2024. Titled "Pemilihan Member Single Ke-26 JKT48", the SSK will be eligible for every JKT member excluding those with pending graduations (Reva Fidelia and Azizi Asadel). To vote in the Sousenkyo, fans could buy votes from JKT48's Personal Meet & Greet Festival "Road to Sousenkyo 2024" occurring on September 28th. Every purchase of the photocard from this event will include a voting code containing 2 votes, while every purchase of a 2-shot ticket will include a voting code containing 4 votes. The event will be attended by every member, excluding Azizi Asadel. This will also be Reva Fidelia's last festival event as a JKT48 member. Wishing the best of luck to every member participating, 頑張ってください!

ranapxious

ZUKKI'S FIRST PHOTO BOOK IS FINALLY GONNA COME OUT!

Kodokawa will release it.



Yamauchi Mizuki wrote a message on X on Aug 22nd which read: "This time, a photo book. We are going to release it! The title is [I have a feeling I'm going to like it]". A photo book from her is something fans have wanted for a long time. The photo books release date is set on October 11th. As Zukki said "I hope you get it!!", I definitely will!

theamazingdaveman

NMB48'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL URANAMBACHAN

URA NAMBA CHANNEL 裏なんばch

Here comes a continuation of the Welcome NAMBA! reports from DO THE DANCE #03.

Episode 5! This is a nice episode! It starts with the girls talking with a man who comes from France, he's an anime fan, and he can speak Japanese a bit so they mostly talk in Japanese, but the girls sometimes speak English a bit. He was going to an anime event and the girls asked if they can walk with him until there and he said ok, so they talked as they walked! After that, the girls joined the group of people from Switzerland from episode 1, they were at the NMB theater!



It was cute how the girls were running. I didn't think those people would actually really come to watch the girls, it's really nice that they did! The girls went with them and they watched the 9th gen KKS performance. After that, they did a short interview backstage and asked them about the performance. They all enjoyed it and had very nice things to say. They were very friendly. The girls gave them their latest CD (it was 'Nagisa Saikou' at the time) and then they said goodbye to them! The members discussed after and they also said that they didn't expect them to really come! This was a nice way to end the first day of this show!



Michapii said that she was happy to have improved, and she thanked Misaki and Wakapon for their help. At some point, one of the men from Switzerland asked Michapii about the photos that are on the wall in the theater and she explained, in English, that it's the members. She pointed at her picture and said "it's me!" again (so cute!). She mentioned this moment after and she was proud that she could have this little discussion without problem. To think that those 5 episodes all happened in one same day, she really improved a lot!

So this is it for the "first season" of this series... However... it's not over yet! The second season just started and Michapii is still part of the cast. Misaki is still there as well (I guess she's permanent since she's fluent in English and she needs to be here to help). Wakapon is not there anymore, maybe because she was doing very good already, or because she's busy (she's also in the golf series on the channel).

Mana





HKT48 ANNOUNCES 18TH SINGLE SENBATSU



The Single, which holds the title 'Boku wa Yatto Kimi wo Shinpai Dekiru' ('I can finally worry about you').



Type A cover

Set to be released on September 11th, now finally had its senbatsu and one set of costumes revealed.

The Single will be centered by Ishibashi Ibuki and Takemoto Kurumi, which is a back-to-back IbuKuru W-center for HKT48. Additional senbatsu members are Matsuoka Hana, with this single marking her last before she graduates from HKT; Kurihara Sae, Imamura Maria, Jitoe Nene, Toyonaga Aki, Ichimura Airi, Izawa Miyu, Eguchi Kokoha, Shibui Mina, Mogami Nanaka, Yanase Reia, and additionally 3 brand new first senbatsu appearances for Kuriyama Rina, who was very emotional during the reveal and two 7ki kenkyuusei: Eura Yuka and Ryuto Ayane.



Emotional **Kuriyama Rina**



Type B cover



Theater ed. cover



Type A comes with team H coupling song 'Lonely Subway' and a documentary about Mikurin's graduation concert, while type B comes with team KIV coupling song 'Saikyou Idol Yoroshiku' and a documentary about HKT's Hop Step Jump concerts. While the last single 'Baketsu wo kabure' showed off fresh and cute outfits with a playful and funny concept, this singles first outfit showcases a more cool and serious vibe. Although, on a more personal note, Yuka and Ayachan make it seem like a cute concept, haha.

Danchuu

MERCHANDISE

FRIDA'S OSHIKATSU CORNER #02

おしかつ NEWS



Welcome back to Frida's Oshikatsu Corner!

There has been talk from Japanese fans on X (formerly Twitter) that there certainly has been new management put in charge of AKB48's merchandise, and I have to agree!

Announced on Friday, August 9th, and available for pre-order from August 10-19, are the new **Koi Tsunjatta acrylic stands** in type A and type B. Type A features the MV outfits, type B features the red check performance ***isho***. Delivery is scheduled for the end of September, and only senbatsu members are featured. I highly recommend fans of Chiba Eri especially to buy both types, as type A has her blonde hair, and type B has her current black hair!

Eagle eyed collectors, such as myself, may also notice that the stands should be able to connect with each other and probably the ***Oshi no Hi akusta*** I spoke about in the last Oshikatsu Corner. I'll update you all on it once both sets have arrived.

One of the order bonuses of Koi Tsunjatta that has the fans talking are the "***sticker trading cards***" from the AKB48 Official shop. It seems like the first layer of the trading card is a removable sticker, and underneath a second version of the card's member is hidden! The concept reminds me of gacha games, where you collect multiple of one character's cards to upgrade it to a second form, but I'm not really sure how I feel about it in real life. Opinions seem to be mixed, so I guess we have to wait and see if this is something that will become the norm for AKB48 releases from now on.

Yumenotobiira















MOECHAN **IS BACK!**

NEW EP OUT SOON!

FROM **IDOL** TO **MUSICIAN**

Yahagi Moeka gets more and more opportunities to play live on TV.

The really popular "fisher" had a really rough end to her time in AKB48. Moeka was really young when she joined AKB as a 3rd Generation Draft Member in 2017. She had to graduate in 2020, after going through a year of success and hardships in 2019 with solo activities, a dating controversy, criticism from some fans, and a center single. Her sister Yukina who joined SKE as a Kenkyuusei in 2016 and graduated not even two years later, became a dentist in February, 2022.

Moeka had other plans though, she wanted people to please "Don't stop the music", that she was going to re-debut with. But first, let's back up the tape a bit - as a really cute and charming "fisher" idol at 17 years old, Moechan had the opportunity to get the fastest solo live concert in AKB48 history, which she, of course, took. Two days before the solo concert, on January 11th, 2019, Moechan came in second place at the AKB48 Group First Singing Contest.

When she was a Kenkyuusei in 2018, Moechan centered the U-16 Senbatsu coupling song 'Saikyou Twintail' from AKB48's 54th single NO WAY MAN. And the year after, on the 55th single Jiwaru DAYS, she centered the coupling song 'Okujo Kara Sakebu'. Half a year later in 2019, after the release of Jiwaru DAYS, it was finally time for Moeka to shine as a center on the A-side, Sustainable, the 56th single.

Only one year after the graduation, Moeka hold a live show on TikTok where she sang four original songs, one of them 'Shake It', that would later appear on her

矢作萌夏



'**Don't stop the music**' played live on TBS on July 31st

first EP as the first song, and also as her second MV (and it's personally one of my favorite songs on the entire wholesome EP). The solo career was promoted through Twitter with the message "I'm ready. Are you ready?". This post was promoting her free live concert she held on her 21st birthday, on July 5th, 2023. The sold out concert "Rebirth" was the rebirth she may have needed. She switched the idol persona to an adorable singer-songwriter with a guitar. Even though the EP, SPILT MILK (that was released Oct 25th, 2023) didn't sell well when it came out, it has been fun to see her fanbase and subscriber count on YouTube grow every day. As well as her opportunities to sing on live television. Moechan released her second single 'I was born to love you' on July 5th, 2024. It will appear on the upcoming CD release of the EP Ai wo Motomete Irunoni, that will be released on Sept 25th. A mini live special event, handshake and autograph session will be held at the Tower Records stores in Ikebukuro and Shibuya, also at the Shibuya store for HMV&BOOKS between Sept 1st-29th.

theamazingdaveman



SAYAKA YAMAMOTO - & (2023)



The beautiful MV for 'Zero Universe'

Former NMB48 ace, Sayaka Yamamoto's latest album & came out last year.

For those who missed it, the anticipated album came out on May 17th, 2023. It's her fourth studio album since her solo debut with **Rainbow** in 2016, when she was still a member in the Namba based group.

Three of the twelve songs were singles I have listened to a lot, and they helped me trough some hardships under the pandemic. One of them is the opening song, '**Dramatic ni Kanpai'**, which is an upbeat song, and at the same time really chill and have a kind of loungey and jazzy feel to it. I really love the arrangement, and Sayanee's voice is so comfy to listen to. The same thing, about Sayaka's voice, can be said about the second track '**against**', which is more of an upbeat rock song where she sings about clouds and stuff. No, but seriously, I really enjoy her lyrics, which more than not, have some depth and meaning to them. One of the absolute best tracks. I owned it on a physical CD single before the album was released (as a coupling song on 'Zero Universe'). Next up is the ballad '**Ainanteiranai'** which also was on the 'Zero Universe' single. The arrangement with the beautiful strings, accompanied by the great drums and guitars, really uplifts Yamamoto's amazing voice. Back to a more speedy and upbeat track with '**Bokuwa Omocha**', followed by '**Zero Universe**'. This fifth song is one of my absolute favorites from Sayaka's whole solo career. The calm and uplifting single, and MV that came out in 2020, is a must watch. It's really beautifully shot and Yamamoto looks stunning in it. The next song '**yonder**' came out as a digital release in 2020, and the electronic sounds and arrangement have grown on me, as I wasn't the biggest fan when I heard it the first time. It reminded me of some of the more boring songs from her third album, 2019's **α**. The wind instrument heavy '**Aimatte**' was cowritten and composed by Yamamoto and "yonkey". This was a digital single release as well, and It's a really relaxing tune, that reminds me of a lullaby song. And back to the faster songs again, with '**Rettoukan**', which comes with some really amazing drums and bass playing. All the instruments sounds fantastic on the entire album, but her band members really gets to shine here. I also really enjoy the refrain that goes really fast. A song that's opposite of fast is the next one. This was the first song Sayaka released after her sad report about her voice not working. So '**Lamento**', which was a song for a JRPG mobile game, is somewhat extra beautiful because of the backstory, and that you now know, that she's alright. It's one of my favorites as well, and I love the dreamy feeling it has. I can really vision an open field or sea, when I hear the song. One of the best collaborations with a video game I have heard (one other I like is '**Still Alive**' for Mirror's Edge by the Swedish artist Lisa Miskowsky). Arranger and composer Koichi Tabo really hit the nail with this one. Next one, '**oasis**', also has this dreamy feel to it. With it's violins, violas, cellos and jazzy drum beats in a beautiful harmony. Next to last, '**Don't hold me back**' brought the cool and rapping Sayaka back in 2021, with it's awesome MV, where we got to see her dance for the first time in a while. On the last track '**Bring it on**', I can see the reminiscence of Yamamoto's first two albums, that have a more definitive J-rock/-pop feeling to them. The tune is both tough and shows some attitude. I think Sayaka has "found her sound" with '**&**'. It's in my honest opinion better than **alpha** (2019), which is the only solo album I haven't really loved. Even though I really like, or even love, some of the tracks on it. Though, I prefer these more singer-songwriter, rock, jazzy and calmer ballads from her. I'm already looking forward to the next one, even though it might take a while. I can only say that, it's a fantastic album you should check out, from one of my favorite singers from the 48G. Or singers, period.

theamazingdaveman



NANA OKADA - ASYMMETRY (2023)



Former AKB48 and STU48 ace Nana Okada announced her second solo album at a fan meeting on August 12th.

It's a good moment to review the first one, Asymmetry, her debut as a solo artist.

Nana Okada is one of the finest talents to come from AKB48 and her sister groups. Proof of that is that she was finalist in all the editions of AKB48 Group No. 1 Singing Competition, winning the fourth event in '22. She also held two solo concerts and a duo concert with Murayama Yuiri, the other half of the duo YuuNaa. I feel like she was at the peak of the game when the controversy that ended up with her graduation happened. Time later, she said that she was already thinking about graduating with or without controversy, as she felt she wanted to star a new chapter, but it's hard not to think what she could be doing in the group right now, alongside her good friends Murayama Yuiri and Mukaichi Mion. As you may or may not know, all came from some pictures leaked in a tabloid where she was spotted with a man indentified as her boyfriend. Though the management denies the "Love ban" rule, in practice it's enforced by a loud group of "fans", who won't let female idols have boyfriends, but have no problem shipping them with her team mates. On the good side, Nana Okada started a solo career and has kept supporting her former team mates, specially her dear friend Murayama Yuiri, whom she visited recently.

Asymmetry is a great debut. She has written the lyrics for all the songs, including one in English, '**Silent Mermaid**', which is presented as an extra in the CD only edition. It's a translation of the fourth song in the disc, '**Koe wo Ushinatta Ningyohime**', with supervision by another ex-AKB48 member, Rena Nozawa. The concept behind Asymmetry is very interesting, to show the two sides of Nana Okada. All the covers show two Nanas side by side, very different from each other. One

The awesome MV for 'Uragiri no Yuutosei'

has short dyed hair and tattoos, while the other has long hair, natural color and no tattoos. The first can be seen as the edgy idol version, while the second is a "regular" girl. However, both are her, just different aspects of her. A funny thing is that dyed hair is associated in Japan with "criminals" or just bad students, and Nana, who usually dyes her hair is the opposite, a very responsible and hard working student and idol. Just as an example, she worked in a musical based on the manga Magi, while being an active member of AKB48. She also was a member of AKB48 and STU at the same time. Asymmetry starts very strong with '**Uragiri no yuutousei**', in English 'Betrayal of an Honor Student'. It's hard not to think of Nana Okada as the Honor Student of the title. It has an amazing MV that I recommend to watch. Nana did a drawing to promote it where she included clues about the song, objects that appear in the videoclip as an umbrella or a hair dryer. This song is very representative of Nana's style, so it's a great first song as it sets the mood for the rest of the album. It's intense in a honest way. She is the kind of artist who gives everything in their art. The rest of the songs follow suit with variations. '**Koe wo Ushinatta Ningyohime**' and '**Silent Mermaid**' sound like a traditional fairy tale, so they sound different from the rest, but not so much to feel like the don't belong there. They fit in the album and help make it a great experience. As I am not a professional music critic and I certainly lack the formation to do a review of every song with technical details, I can only write as a fan, and the best thing I can say of this album is that I have listened to it since its release a lot of times. I think it's intense and emotive in all the right ways. Also, its songs have become part of my playlists, as I find them ideal to make any day nicer. Nana Okada is not just a great artist but someone I root for. That's why I am looking forward to her new solo album.

Adolfo Rodríguez

AKB48@TIF AUGUST 4TH 2024

TIF TOKYO IDOL FESTIVAL 2024

PICS FROM modelpress



AKB48 returned to Tokyo Idol Festival this year too.

They were performing on the main "Hot Stage" with a powerful setlist that left fans and the performing idols alike sweating yet shining on the hot summer day. Members took the stage in the new fan favourite colourful costumes introduced during this year's spring concert, which worked wonderfully well with the rainbow themed stage.

Performing in the hot sun did not seem to be a problem for AKB48, who's performance seems to have gone smoothly even though Murayama Yuiri mentioned some technical difficulties during their ending song 'Colorcon Wink'. Said difficulties seem to not have been noticed neither by the crowd nor by the writers of Modelpress, who covered the event.



Azu managed to charm the Modelpress reporters

Members who appeared:

Akiyama Yuna, 18th gen
Omori Maho, Draft 3rd
Kuranoo Narumi, Team 8
Sato Airi, 17th gen
Shitao Miu, Team 8
Suzuki Kurumi, 16th gen
Taguchi Manaka, 16th gen
Chiba Erii, Draft 2nd
Tokunaga Remi, Team 8
Nagatomo Ayami, 16th gen
Hashimoto Eriko, 17th gen
Masai Mayuu, 17th gen
Mizushima Miyu, 17th gen
Mukaichi Mion, 15th gen
Murayama Yuri, 13th gen
Yagi Azuki, 18th gen
Yamauchi Mizuki, 15th gen
Yamazaki Sora, 17th gen

HOT STAGE

Setlist:

1. **RESET - The AKB48 ver.**
(Naru Miion WCenter)
2. **Koi Tsunjatta**
(Aichan Center)
3. **Nemo Hamo Rumor**
(Yuiri Center)
4. **Koisuru Fortune Cookie**
(Zukki Center)
5. **Iiwake Maybe**
(Azu Center)
6. **Kibouteki Refrain**
(Mahopyon Erii WCenter)
7. **Team Zaka**
(Zukki Ayamin WCenter)
8. **Colorcon Wink**
(Yuiri Center)

Someone who was noticed by Modelpress, was 18th gen kenkyuusei Yagi Azuki, who got named one of the four "Next Beauties" in the industry, after her performance on the day as well as her quick rise in the group, becoming a senbatsu member for 'Colorcon Wink' less then a year after her debut.

TIF is usually live streamed online, however the current contract holder for the stream, NicoNico, went down in early June due to a cyber attack that would leave all of their video galleries and live streaming services down for over a month, leaving the event to be seen by attending guests only.

Yumenotobiira

ACG Matsuri AUGUST 17TH 2024





AKB48 held multiple activities at ACG Matsuri 2024 in Malaysia on Aug 17th.

8 members appeared to represent the group at three different events; a fanmeeting, a free short live performance (ticket to ACG Matsuri needed) and a farewell party!

By purchasing merchandise during the day before, as well as before the activities started, fans could enter a lottery to win one out of 100 fanmeeting with photo session tickets, as well as one out of 500 farewell event tickets.

The free live show included 4 songs, with longer MC parts in between where the members played games with the audience, such as Rock, Paper, Scissors, with the help of a translator. The members also tried their best at English, and it was incredibly cute.

AKB48 Group Concert ~ First Cry ~

The very next day, multiple 48Groups from Japan and overseas came together for AKB48 Group Concert ~ First Cry ~ in Zepp, Kuala Lumpur, where KLP48 also held their debut live. The groups who participated were AKB48, KLP48, STU48, JKT48 and QUADLIPS, the international subunit consisting of 4 members from different 48G.

QUADLIPS opened the show with 4 songs, including a previously unreleased track, 'Lipstick'.

STU48 took over after, performing 5 songs, including my personal favourite, 'Pedal to Sharin to Kita Michi to', which was their B-side on AKB48's single JaBaJa!

JKT48 also performed 5 songs, including their very first original song 'Rapsodi', released in 2020.

AKB48 performed 8 songs, with a mix of older fan favourites as well as their newest single, 'Koi Tsunjatta'. The biggest surprise to me in their setlist was seeing 'Labrador Retriever' be performed again!

After AKB48 it was finally time for KLP48 to take to the stage for the first time! The newest 48-sibling performed 5 songs in Malay, Japanese, Chinese as well as English, showing off their edge as a multilingual group with members from all over Asia. The Malay version of 'Heavy Rotation' would also be their first single, released that same day.

To end the show, all members would take the stage once again to sing 'Aitakatta' together, a fitting ending to this very special show. Even if the 48G in Japan has split up between different management companies, the bonds between international and Japanese groups will never falter. Seeing the members interact on X after the live really showed that rather than being rivals, they are still one big 48G family.

Yumenotobiira

NMB48 HEATS UP AT THEIR SUMMER CONCERTS

NMB Brings Back the Red and White Team Contest!

NMB48 had their summer concerts at Zepp Bayside Osaka on Aug 15, 16, and 17. They had four concerts in three days.

The first concert held on August 15 was the 'Mid-summer Kouhaku Festival 2024.' Fans may know Kouhaku as the Red Team vs. White Team singing contest held at the end of every year in Japan. AKB48 held their own Kouhaku contests for several years and now NMB had their own. Not every member performed at this concert, however. It consisted of only the senbatsu members and everyone from 2nd generation up to 7th generation. Additional members from 8th generation and 9th generation were added later. The team members were split in a blind draft style system on a YouTube livestream back in June.



TETRA performing 'Seishun no Tetrapod'

Misaki Sakata was the red team captain and her team consisted of Zion Kameno, Rei Haga, Ayaka Sakurada, Wakana Sumino, Aika Satsuki, Shiori Mizuta, Yukino Tanaka, and Koyori Itagaki. The idol group **TETRA** (Rei Jonishi, Chihiro Kawakami, Mikana Yamamoto, and Ayano Izumi) from the drama **'Idol Shikakku'** which aired earlier this year also performed with the red team.





WATERA performing 'Ima Sara Dotonbori'

The white team captain was Keito Shiotsuki and her team consisted of Wakana Abe, Nao Shinzawa, Yuina Deguchi, Mako Sakashita, Anju Manabe, Misaki Yoshino, Yuka Aobara, Waka Aobara, and Yayoi Tatsumoto. The unofficial unit but out-of-universe official rival of TETRA, **WATERA** (Karin Kojima, Yuumi Ishida, Miyu Wada, and Mai Hirayama) performed with the white team.







All of the summer concerts had a special pre-show performance by the recently joined 10th gen members. For this concert, they performed 'Yume wa Nigenai'.

After the overture, the red team came out and performed a medley of NMB's **Akagumi** (red team) songs which included 'Boku ga Mou Sukoshi Daitan Nara', 'Renai Higaitodoke', and 'Omowase Kousen'. The white team would then come out and perform a medley of NMB's **Shirogumi** (white team) songs which included 'Saigo no Catharsis', 'Kesshou', and 'Prom no Koibito'. Both teams would then perform a series of classic NMB summer songs together.

After the opening portion of the concert, some 10th generation members would come out and evaluate the crowd's reception to the teams' performances and award points based on the number of penlights and cheers for their respective teams. The point tally at this point was 2-1 with the white team taking the lead.

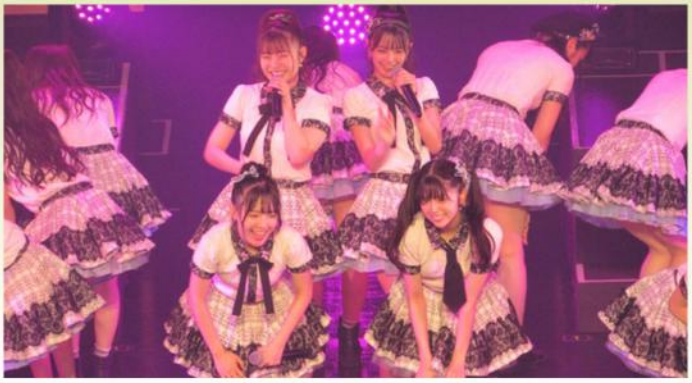
Following this was the unit portion where each team would take turns having their own units do performances. In between the units, a new team consisting of members from red and white teams performed 'Enjoy Bureikko'. This team was dubbed **Pinkgumi** (pink team) and consisted of Makochi, Wakatan, Yukatan, Yayoi, and Koyorin. After the units, another fan participation evaluation was taken with the results being a tie of 6-6.

Up next was a variety game segment where the winning team would earn 3 points. The game was a ball toss event where each team tried to throw as many balls into a very tall basket within a time limit. This is also an event that's held at Japanese schools during their sports festivals. Though, shenangians were afoot, as Mikana stole several balls from the white team and stuffed them down her shirt. The red team ended up winning this game and earned an additional 3 points bringing them to the lead of 6-3.

Finally, there was the online vote portion of the concert. A poll on Twitter was held on the official NMB48 account and was open for about 10-15 minutes where anyone could vote. While the votes and results were being finalized, both teams performed some more summer songs together. The points for the votes split based on the voting result percentage. The red team had 47% of the votes which earned them 4 points while the white team had 52% of the votes which earned them 5 points. The final score was 10-8 with the red team winning the overall contest. The prize for the winning team is they will appear on a special BBQ video on the **Ura Namba Chan** channel on YouTube.

During the encore, NMB's 29th single coupling song 'Now' was performed for the first time, with soon-to-be graduating member Yuumin as the center for this song. This is a very upbeat and energetic song. Lastly, there was an announcement at the end of the concert. Wakana Abe would be publishing her second novel entitled 'Watashi no Ibasho wa koko Janai' (I Don't Belong Here) which will come out on December 6.





Summer is in Full Swing!

The second concert held on August 16 was the 'Summer Party 2024 1st Night'.

This concert featured all of the promoted members, so basically everyone except most of 9th generation and all of 10th generation. Like with the previous concert, a special preshow performance with 10th gen performing 'Zetsumetsu Kurokami Shoujo'.

The concert opens with all of the summer bangers: 'Bokura no Eureka', 'Masaka Singapore', 'Durian Shonen', 'Nagi Ichi', and 'Ibiza Girl'. Following that was a brief talk segment, which then led into the team performances where they performed their new team songs from the latest single for the first time.

Team N's 'Natsu no Destination' is a calm but upbeat ballad in which every member has their own solo lines for each of the verses which is a nice touch. **Team M**'s 'Seishun Jump' is a fun, energetic song with a lot of "HEY!" interjections. **Team BII**'s 'Headbang Time' strangely enough is not a punkrock style. It's more of a sassy gyaru earworm pop song similar to AKB's 'Houtei Sokudo to Yuetsukan'.



Sakatan takes a swing during 'Hatsukoi Yukon to Play Ball'





The unit corner was up next. The members performed several of NMB's summer coupling songs such as 'Natsu no Saiminjutsu' and 'Boku ga Maketa Natsu'.

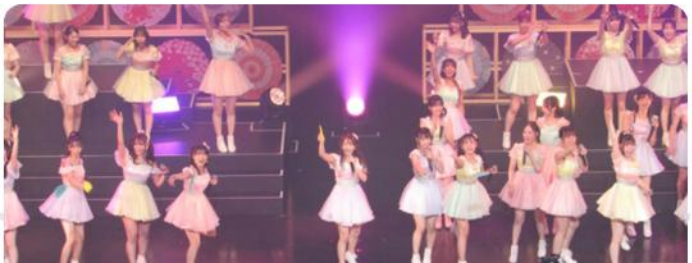
Following that was an entertaining variety segment hosted by Yuina Deguchi who acted as an MC for a summer festival. She invited Wakapon, Mighty, Reipon, and Honoka Ike to the stage and had them compete in a shaved ice eating contest. But the catch was their eating utensils were randomly assigned. Wakapon had to eat with a straw. Mighty had to eat with a pair of chopsticks. Reipon ate with a spatula, and Hono ate with a ladle. Many of the contestants suffered from brain freezes. The member that ate the least had to give a lovey-dovey line as a punishment, which ended up being Reipon. Her line was "This shaved ice is so cold, would you warm me up with a big hug?".



Following that was a series of songs that suited the summer festival theme with amazing costumes and intense performances. The highlight being 'Boku no Uchiage Hanabi', with the members wearing yukatas and firework animations playing in the background. This segment culminated in an ensemble performance with all the members in their different costumes performing 'Saigo no Go Shakutama'.

The next talking segment was raffle giveaway for the fans to win prizes where the members took turns doing a blindfold watermelon hit game with an inflatable watermelon toy in order to pull out the raffle ticket numbers. The junior members bullied the most senior member, Yuumin by trying to guide her off the stage while she was blindfolded but she realized their trick and demanded them to stop.

Following that was another batch of mainline NMB single songs and then the encore. During the encore there was another announcement. This time, they revealed 25 of the 30 members who would perform at the **THIS IS NMB48** concert on September 21 at the Hibiya Open Air Auditorium in Tokyo. The announced members for the most part was expected as it included senbatsu members and several border senbatsu members including: Mako Sakashita, Yukino Tanaka, Yayoi Tatsumoto, Anju Manabe, Yuka Aobara, Waka Aobara, and Koyori Itagaki. The biggest surprise inclusions were Honoka Ike and Shiori Mizuta. The remaining 5 members would be announced at a later date.





NMB's Next Generation Burns Bright!







August 17 would feature two concerts.

The first of these held in the afternoon was the Next Generation Live 2024, which included all members from the 8th, 9th, and 10th generations. This concert was produced by soon to be graduating 2nd generation member Yuumi Ishida as her last parting gift.

The 10th generation once again opened up the concert by performing 'Sa-Sa-Sa-Saiko!'.

With 8th generation being the most senior of the members at this show, they were at the forefront of most of the performance with Misaki Sakata being in the center and leading the charge. They performed a variety of NMB's less popular songs including 'Gatsukki Girls', 'Todokana Soude Todoku Mono', 'Yokubomono', and 'Don't Look Back'.



The units went in a completely different direction from the other concerts, featuring a lot of old **AKB** songs including 'Junnai no Crescendo', 'Kanpeki Gu-no ne', and the highlight being the infamous 'Zipper' unit featuring Koyori Itagaki, Yayoi Tatsumoto, and Mio Matsumoto.

Following that, each generation performed a song. **10th generation** performed 'Update', **9th gen** performed 'Chohatsu no Aozora', and **8th gen** performed 'True Purpose'. All of the members then performed some more songs together including **SKE**'s 'Mirai to wa?', **Team 8**'s 'Shishunki no Adrenaline' which was also part of the 9th generation's theater setlist, and 'Rock da yo, Jinsei wa' which is part of the current Team BII's theater setlist.



Yayoi and **Koyorin** during the climax of 'Zipper'

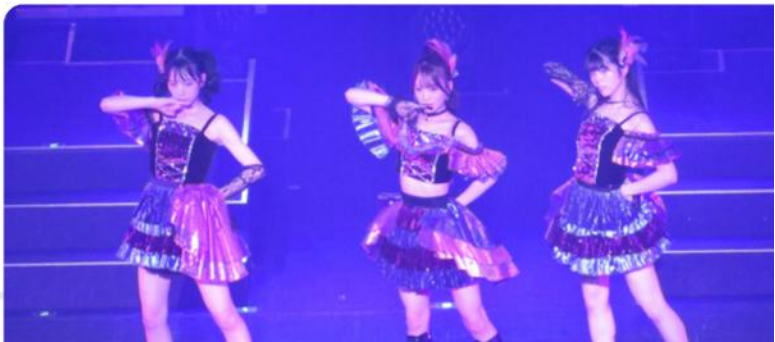




Wakatan, Yoshimin, Ayapyon, Hono and **Sakuchan** performing 'Skirt, Hirari'

During the encore, they performed 'Namba Ai', and 'NMB48'. This was then followed by a series of long speeches from several members talking about their struggles and how hard they worked up to this point. Finally there was an announcement from NMB theater manager Takeshi Kaneko who announced there would be a new theater performance exclusively for 8th generation, 9th generation, and 10th generation members. This new performance would start sometime in the fall. The response to this announcement was mixed. Many people including the members themselves thought the remaining 9th gen trainees would be promoted to full member status at this concert as the timing and circumstances seemed appropriate, so there was definitely visible disappointment from those members, similar to the members who were not selected for the Tokyo concert in September the previous night.

Lastly, Yuumi Ishida came out and shared her thoughts on the concert. She commended everyone for their great performances and how impressed she was. Everyone, including her performed 'Now' together to close out the concert.







Bombastic Announcements at Summer Party 2nd Night!



The final concert 'Summer Party 2024 2nd Night' was held in the evening of August 17.

The 10th generation opened up with a performance of 'Taiyou ga Sakamichi wo Noboru Koro'.

From that point on, nearly everything from the previous night's concert was identical: the setlist, the units, and even the variety gimmick segments were identical.

One nice thing about this day's concerts was both the **Next Generation Concert** and the **2nd Night Concert** were streamed for free on the 17LIVE service. Whereas the previous nights' concerts were paid streams on the FANY service.

The one change in Yuina Deguchi's summer festival variety game was she pretended to be running a banana stand at the festival and offered to sell the bananas to the members at a very high price. Shiori Mizuta with her gorilla impersonation snuck by and stole a bundle of the bananas. Yuina then proceeded to quiz the members on various questions and rewarded them with a banana for each correct answer.

The rest of the concert remained the same as the previous night, which was understandably disappointing for people who attended or watched both nights. The encore, however, did do a couple different songs from the previous night.

As expected, there was another surprise announcement during the encore. Two of them to be exact.

The first announcement was **NMB's 14th anniversary concerts** would be held on October 8 and October 9 at Orix Theater in Osaka. This would be the first time NMB has had their anniversary concerts in October since their 10th anniversary in 2020. October has usually been NMB's anniversary month ever since they were revealed on October 9, 2010, so the concert being exactly on their birthday is a nice bonus as well.

Their anniversary concert won't be the only thing happening on October 9. A second announcement revealed that their 30th single would also come out on that day, which filled the venue with excitement. No further details about the single were revealed.

After the announcements, the members greeted everyone goodbye and went off the stage, but the fans demanded more. The members came out again and gave a double encore in which they performed 'NMB48'.

And with that, NMB's summer concerts had concluded and we at least know their plans for the rest of the year. Their next big event will be the '**THIS IS NMB48 2024**' concert in Tokyo on September 21.
Don't miss it!

Matto

7ki stage SHONICHI

On August 11th, HKT48's newest addition, the 7th gen kenkyuusei had their shonichi of their own KKS stage!

The stage they would perform in particular was being held a secret, right before the start of the performance! It turned out to be a revival of SKE48's '**Ramune no nomikata**'. But first things first: upon entering the HKT48 theater lobby that day, fans were greeted by a huge flower stand with names of all the 7ki members written on it. Additionally, SKE48 sent flowers to congratulate them on their theater debut!





The flower stand prepared for the 7ki, including their names to cheer them on!

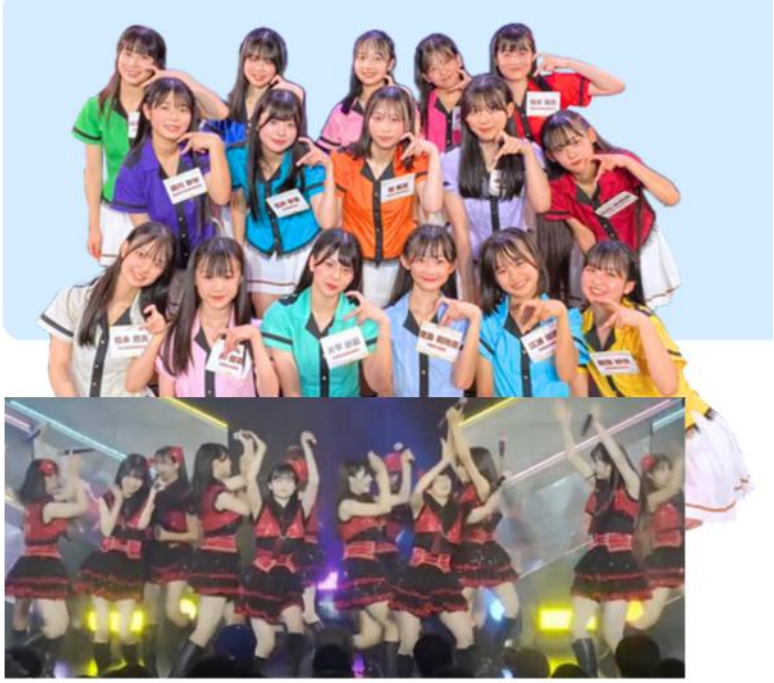


The stage begins! 7ki come out marching in full red

The stage started off with 'Kizashi' with the 7ki members marching out onto the stage, looking visibly excited!



The stage continued with 'Koutei no koinu', with Yuka (Eura Yuka) coming out with cute dog ears. The stage then continued with 'Disco hokenshitsu', for which the members brought out portable platforms, and 'Omatase Set list'.



First costume change for 'Disco hokenshitsu'

The lyrics were changed to fit the performing team '7ki no setlist'. Afterwards Ayachan (Ryuto Ayane) led the 7ki by introducing them to the crowd and starting off the first rounds of MC's and self introductions. The girls were visibly nervous, and some members forgot to say their names after their catchphrase or got confused, however the MC was overall quite entertaining and natural.

The unit songs commenced, starting off with 'Cross', with Ayachan, Rarapa (Nagano Rara), and Mokapi (Matsumoto Moka). Continuing with 'Finland Miracle' with Yuka, Meimei (Yoshida Mei) and Maritan (Yamakawa Maria). The vibe of the 7ki for these songs was very cute and fresh. The vibe was changed up a bit with the following unit for 'Manazashi Sayounara' with Saratan (Katahira Sara) and Miina (Nakano Minami). Fresh and energetic the stage continued with 'Usotsukina Dachou' with Riritan (Ijima Riria), Amiyun (Ishikawa Amiyu), and Nacchi (Tsurukawa Nachi) and finally the last unit for 'Nice to meet you!', with Yuuchan (Kure Yuna), Aatan (Ishii Ayane), Hina (Aoki Hinako), Yuipan (Matsunaga Yui), and Ukachan (Tsutsumi Fuka), leading off into the second round of MC. My personal highlight of the stage was 'Kodokuna B-



Absolutely stunning, Ballerina Meimei surrounded by her genmates

初日





My personal favorites of the 7ki: Yuipan, Aatan and Hina

allerina', which had Meimei performing in the center as the ballerina. The way they performed this song really surprised me and I thought they are really born to stand on the stage! Absolutely a perfect performance!

'Ima kimi to Irareru koto' and 'Winning Ball' followed right before the 3rd round of MC. For 'Winning Ball', Miina hit a plastic ball into the crowd with a foam bat. The members stated that in the future they will be hitting signed balls, however their batting skills so far need some improvement, as the ball immediately went into the very first row. Back to batting practice, Miina!! (lol). Aatan mentioned she would hit the ball all the way to the lobby, however I have my personal doubts about that statement, haha!



Foul ball! Strike one, Miina...

For the last regular song before break and encore, the girls performed 'Akushu no ai'. During the encore chants there were a lot of cute self-made 7ki-uchiwas being shown into the DMM cameras, it seems the 7ki already have a great number of supporters/fans. For the encore the girls came out to the song 'Bowling Ganbou', with each member having a different colored shirt, which is nicely used in the following song '16iro no Yume Crayon'. The lyrics again were adjusted accordingly, so that every 7ki members name is being mentioned in the song. It reminds me of 'Yossha, HKT!' from HKT's Pajama Drive stage.






The stage ended safely, and finally an overflow of emotions from Saratan and Hinako

Afterwards, we heard a few more words to summarize the stage so far. Ririan said that she was happy to be able to perform the stage with all 16 members on the first day, and that the costumes were very cute! There was some funny back-and-forth between Aatan and Yuipan, and some closing statements from Miina before going into the last song of the stage, 'Ramune no nomikata'. It's a rather slow song which really fits as the final closing act of this wonderful first performance of our newest generation kenkyuusei. It was emotional as well, as we see Saratan crying during the song, overwhelmed with emotions that were probably building up the previous weeks. Finally the kenkyuusei are able to bow to the audience, who reply with a loud 'CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR FIRST PERFORMANCE!', moving Saratan and Hina to tears. It was a wonderful stage with all 7ki being able to show their skills and express their emotions by the end. By the time of writing this article, the stage has been performed 4 times already, and the crowd is getting louder and more into it with every performance as well. With how things look right now, the future of HKT is most certainly bright and motivated! Looking forward to many more instructions on "how to drink Ramune"!

Danchuu







Yes, you're allowed to cry

GRADUATION CONSERTS

Let's talk about a tearful and bittersweet event. Graduation concerts: the farewell performances of beloved members.

The graduation system is something very specific to J-pop idol groups that aim for longevity with generations of idols. This also means that newer generations of AKB48 were originally fans of AKB48 during their childhood. It must feel great to step into the footsteps of your true role models, aka idols.

The idea of giving a well-known member a special show at their last concert wasn't something invented by AKB48 or the 48 groups; it started with Morning Musume when Fukuda Asuka graduated during the '99 Memory Seishun no Hikari Tour in 1999. Since then, it has become a meaningful ceremony for groups with that system. But back then, a graduation wasn't the kind of ceremony you might think of today - it was more something that happened during a concert on a tour. For example, Itano Tomomi (you know her, the one who dropped Acchan's birthday cake) graduated at Tokyo Dome during the last day of AKB48's Big Dome Tour. It was, of course, a special event, but the first concert fully dedicated to the graduating member was Oshima Yuko's graduation concert in 2014. She had such a beautiful ceremony where she flew through the stadium in a seat of flowers, wearing a crown and her graduation dress, with 'Heavy Rotation' - not only AKB48's but also Yuko's signature song - sung by the other girls at the very end of the concert. Pure goosebumps.

We can see that graduation concerts have evolved over time. It has also become a tradition for graduated members who were close to the graduating member to return and bid them farewell. This is much more than just a nice gesture to the graduating member; it shows that the girls - even if they are no longer part of the active group - have a strong connection to the group and their fans. But back to the evolution: In 2016, our beloved general manager Takahashi Minami was the first member to perform every song in her graduation concert, starting a trend followed by many other members. In 2017, Kojima Haruna became the first member to have not just one but two graduation concerts. There was also a more festival-like open-air concert at Yamamoto Sayaka's graduation concert in 2018, called SAYAKA SONIC. It felt so different with that atmosphere and Sayanee's "rock show". Even through the pandemic, there were some grad cons, for example, Miyawaki Sakura's concert in 2021, where we could once again see how close she was with Sashihara Rino - resulting in many tears.

There were also a lot of memorable moments. For example, when my kami-oshi Mayu Watanabe graduated in 2017, the members wrote farewell messages on a placard and showed it to her at the end of the song 'Kokoro no Placard' ('Placard of My Heart'). This song means a lot to Mayuyu because it was the song she received after being elected as center in the 2014 general elections. It's still unknown if Mayuyu ever gave Sasshi her Toki-Memo game back... and Sasshi seems to enjoy her message way more than Mayuyu. (Sidenote: Many years ago on AKBingo during shojiki shogi, Sasshi said Mayuyu borrowed it and she wants it back, but Mayuyu said she won't return it).

Another moment was at Kojima Haruna's graduation concert, where she and Mayuyu performed a duet while ignoring the surprised Takamina, who thought she would be part of the song. It was all a trick to get her to spontaneously perform her song 'Oteage Lullaby' right after. I have to say, what I like most about that concert is the end. Usually, the graduating member appears in a beautiful and shiny graduation dress for the last few songs and talks with the other members to say thank you for the years they spent together. This is such an emotional and tearful event where you can see











how close some of the girls are with each other. These moments are so human and personal. This is where you see that it's so much more than just a music group - it's a family.

This article wouldn't be complete without mentioning the recent grad concerts: Honda Hitomi and Kashiwagi Yuki both graduated in 2024. Hiichan did a great job bringing some experience from IZ*One to AKB48, such as more professional choreographies, and Yukirin was just a living legend by the time she graduated. She spent 17 years with AKB48, more than any other member - that's true dedication! In my opinion, she deserved a much bigger venue than the PIA Arena MM, more like a stadium, and I'm also a bit sad that her concert won't be released on physical disc like the others. Maybe it was the influence of the pandemic or the fact that both concerts took place in winter, but they definitely needed a bigger venue fitting for such legendary members. However, the concerts were also sold out very early.

All in all: Sometimes, when I watch those concerts, I feel like I'm witnessing some kind of historical event, something that takes place only once. All the emotions, the special concert setting, the graduation dress - It's all so specific to the graduating member and the fans, especially when it's your oshi. Even I, a grown-ass bearded man, get tears in my eyes when I see the girls crying at the end of the concert, knowing that this is their final farewell as active member in AKB. When my current AKB oshi, Yui Oguri, graduates - hopefully many, many years from now - I would love to fly to Japan and attend the concert. Even though I doubt it's possible, especially because of the restrictions for buying tickets (you need a JP address, credit card, and phone number). But I can dream.

Hoellenmeister

YouTubeでの純良な交流

Wholesome interactions on YouTube



I have never attended an online talk, but at least some YouTube live streams.

I love the fact that you can interact with your favorite idols (and even graduated ones) through their YT channels, either by just writing something or support them with a super chat. That, I have done a couple of times, and I wanted to tell about some of them here. One of the first ones I attended was Haruppi's on her 26th birthday on Sep 18, 2022. As I don't know how to write in Japanese, I wrote my comment in English which she did a "uh!" sound about when she saw the comment. I wrote: "Thank you for all the YouTube videos! I have been here from the beginning and really enjoyed them.". Haruka started to read the comment slowly and with great pronunciation. She was great at English even as a 17 year old in HKT48. The small wave, and "Thank you!", made my day.



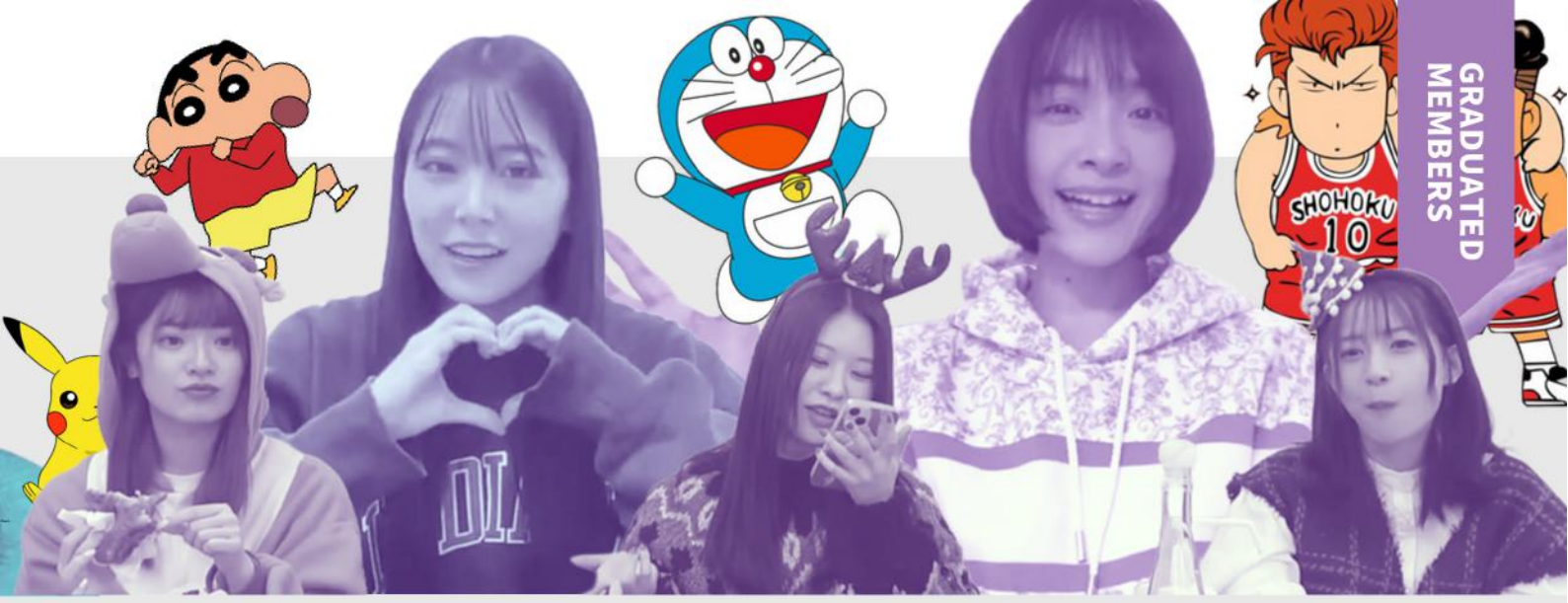
Haruppi reading my comment at 19:38

On the other hand, one that isn't known for her English speaking skills, are NMB48's first generation member, Shiroma Miru, that graduated from the group in 2021. I attended her live stream she had on Nov 17, 2022. In the middle of talking, she saw my comment, and said "Oh sugoi!", before she struggled through reading my



Mirurun reading my comment at 21:12

pretty long comment: "Good evening Mirurun! I imported your single 'Shine Bright' and the photobook Love Rush from Japan which are going to arrive in Sweden today - I'm really looking forward to it". She said she doesn't understand English, but said thank you and did a heart sign gesture with her hands while saying "Love". Followed this, someone offscreen translated my comment into Japanese, as she read it again, and was really happy to hear that, a person from Sweden bought her first solo single, as well as her first PB from her time in NMB48. This was so wholesome to see, as she spent a bit of time with my comment. I really loved how she pronounced my name, and started to giggle about it, and the "im potato", that someone in chat was commenting about. I also loved that, in fact, she understood "Sweden", as she took a small break, and said "Ah, Sweden!" while reading the comment. Well worth spending 100 SEK (around 10 bucks) on. Mirurun wants to learn English, so I hope she will manage to make some time for studying. But at the same time, it's really cute to see her struggle a bit with the reading of the English words, as I feel that she's really trying to understand the words. I think she might have understood more than she was showing.



On Dec 23rd, 2022, some of the AKB members had a live stream, called “Let's gather together for an early Christmas party with your loved ones”. The members that ate the chicken from Kentucky Fried Chicken were Nakanishi Chiyori (who graduated in Aug the following year), the Pokémon crazy Muto Orin and Sasaki Yukari (who graduated this year). I could clearly hear Chori reading my name correctly, but she asked Yukarun, who was shaking her head, and Orin, that said “I would call him David”. Chori started to read my comment that read: “I hope to see more of you girls in Sayonara Mouri-san next year! Chori is the funniest! Merry Christmas!”. Where I mentioned Sayonara Mouri-san, the girls looked at each other, shocked, when Chori read the “SAYONARA” (goodbye) part. But they soon realized I was talking about the variety show. This part was real funny to me! They also got confused, thinking that the variety show was shown in America, as they started to discuss if I was an American, and if Sayonara Mouri-san was airing overseas, which they certainty thought. This was a fun interaction, and well worth the 50 SEK (5 bucks) I super chatted. Chori is definitely better at talking and understanding English than she will admit. Same with Orin... not so much Yukarun.



Chori reading my comment at 32:32



Mihiro reading my comment at 29:04

As a bonus, I will mention the cute interaction I had with the actress, Mihiro, on her YouTube live stream on Nov 14th, 2023. I had recently seen her in the drama ‘3B no Koibito’, from 2021, where she, and AKB’s former member Nagao Mariya, had a small role. So I asked her: “Mihiro, do you like AKB48? If you do, can you sing a bit of a song you like?”, “Yes, I like AKB48”. She had to translate the “a bit” part, but after that, she put down the reading tablet, very fast, and started to sing ‘Aitakatta’. She even did the hand gestures and danced with her arms and hands. As a fan of hers from back in the day, it was so very wholesome to see the much younger looking 40 year old sing AKB’s first major single (I still have to find Mihiro’s CD single, even if it might be hard to do now). After Mihiro was done singing the refrain, she asked her viewers in both Korean (she’s studying Korean and Mandarin right now, and studied English 10 years ago) and Japanese, “I wonder if AKB is famous in Korea too? I don’t know”. She was so happy to see my comment “Loved it! Thank you” as she read the comment out loud, and smiled while doing so. If you are too afraid to interact with the girls in online talks, I really recommend joining their live streams on YouTube.

theamazingdaveman



美的 あつみな
ATSUMINA
1ST JOINT APPEARANCE

They did a joint interview feature in beauty magazine Biteki.



10 Years from now! 20 Years from now! The Surefire way to 'Everlasting Beauty'

Maeda Atsuko (Acchan) was an active member in AKB48, between 2005-2012. Widely considered to be the most popular member and the face/ace of AKB48. She and, at the time, Team A captain Takahashi Minami (Takamina) were at the forefront of the group, often sharing the first two sung lines of an A-side song.

Both former idols share a little about the beauty information they had and the different trends they followed when they were in the group. Acchan said, “There was a time when I was on a juice diet for a week. I regret restricting my diet so much,” and Takamina added “When you graduate from idol life, everyone puts on weight for a little while (laughs).” They also share that although they don’t meet up constantly, they still talk via LINE, and when asked about their feelings about working together for the first time now as graduated members, they said “It doesn’t feel like it’s been a long time at all.”

Now, they agree in that “The key to continuing with beauty, including exercise, is to enjoy it.”

The conversation was posted on Biteki’s YouTube channel, and other cuts of the two that could not be included in the magazine on the website.

TLW-48





A NEW CAMPAIGN IN SUPPORT OF SEXUAL MINORITIES



Former member Takahashi Minami appears in a new public awareness video "My name is Ally! TOKYO ALLY".

The Tokyo Metropolitan Government announced that celebrity Minami Takahashi appeared in a video along with an interview for the official page of this campaign.



Born in Tokyo on April 8th, 1991, Takamina debuted as a member of the 1st generation of AKB48 in 2005. She is considered one of the core members of the group. Appointed general manager in 2012, she graduated in 2016. Since then, she's been active in multiple roles on TV, radio, and in commercials as a TV personality.

On the official site, there is an article that explains the meaning of the word "Ally", in hopes of increasing the number of allies for sexual minorities and creating more secure and comfortable places for them to work in along with a short interview with Takamina.

The campaign also asks for companies and the government to work together to create a society in which everyone can live comfortably - asking colleagues, friends, and families to begin talking about these themes and being more open and treating everyone with compassion, acceptance, and respect for others' differences. Resources such as a book on sexual diversity and even seminars for those living in Tokyo are some of the things the campaign offers.



From the interview, Takamina speaks of her experiences with friends in the community she met through her work and about her understanding of the word "Ally". She expresses that, after being invited to participate in this campaign, she understands more about this subject. "When I look around me, I wish that more people would take them for granted, so I am joyful to have had this opportunity," she says.

She also mentions she would search diligently if she doesn't understand something but whether a sexual minority or a person with a disability it is better to ask the person "What can I help you with?" "Communication is important."

"My greatest wish is that many people will understand and that society will become a place where everyone can live comfortably. We should aim for a society where all people, including sexual minorities and people with disabilities, can live comfortably."

She hopes this campaign makes a change into a more compassionate society. In her official Instagram post, she wrote: "Tokyo Metropolitan Government's educational video "My name is Ally!" TOKYO ALLY are supporters and understanding people who support the activities of sexual minority parties.

The "Ally Mark" was also newly created by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government to express its understanding of and support for sexual minorities!".

TLW-48



TAKAMINA VS. VARIETY SHOWS



In which I try to watch hours of shows to try and find some of the best moments my oshi has! (And failing too!)

After spending the whole week watching AKB48 variety show, shows that I have had with me for a long time and that I have watched multiple times. I think it's no surprise to anyone, when they read these lines, to know that these shows still make me laugh. They make me remember a stage of my life, a very difficult one, in which AKB48 helped me to get ahead.

Many members have debuted and graduated. Some even before AKB48 made its debut in 2005. Others have graduated with concerts in stadiums packed with fans. Among all of them, there is the member who had the most influence on my life.

To be honest, Takahashi Minami was not my favorite member from the beginning. Probably, some fans reading this will recognize my Twitter/X username. And you may be surprised to know that my very first oshi was **Kojima Haruna**. Thanks to her, in a thumbnail of the song 'Seifuku ga Jama wo Suru', back on that rustic YouTube in 2007, I met AKB48.



My first oshi: **Kojiharu**

It was hard for me to keep up with them. For one thing, I didn't speak any language other than Spanish. I already had some knowledge of English, but nothing fluent. And let's not talk about Japanese, which even to this day doesn't even reach a basic level. But that video was the beginning of everything.



Mechaike AKB48 Dissolution Sousenkyo Special (2011)









Announcing Lessons segment in AKBINGO ep. 88 (2010)

Eventually, I realized that I could enjoy the few videos I could get of the group. Then, I found out that there was a forum in which some people were making English subtitles of some shows. That's how AKB48 motivated me to study a second language. I think all international fans, without exception, become bigger fans thanks to some random clip from AKBINGO. I don't think there is a new or an old school fan that hasn't watched even a small clip.

And it is on **AKBINGO** that Takamina finally catches my attention. Seeing Takamina being the target of jokes of all kinds, besides being teased by the others saying that her stories always failed, trying to be funny but not making anyone laugh. That's what made me a fan.

Tough leader, but sensitive and unafraid to express her opinions, the person who was there and still is for the members, and the person who doesn't take herself too seriously and decides to be the butt of all kinds of jokes to lighten the mood. No matter if she cries or gets angry, Takamina will always end up laughing.

That's why I decided to look for some of Takamina's funniest moments for this article! It would be easy, I told myself, but it was more difficult than I thought!

In AKBINGO alone, Takamina has a lot of funny moments. From always being the target of some comment in the Shoujiki Shougi segment or getting some punishment in Muchaburi Dodgeball. Or how can we forget that New Year's special where the MC Bad Boys announced their departure from AKBINGO as part of one of the many New Year's pranks, which left us with some of the best reactions of the show.

With so many moments, and as her fan, I think the funniest of all in AKBINGO, was without a doubt during episode 88, in the Announcing Lessons segment, in which Takamina and Kojiharu had to narrate a weather report while a giant fan blew very strong air at them and the staff threw all kinds of objects (like t-shirts and news-papers). While, Kojiharu's part is also funny, I don't think anyone will let me lie when I say that when it's Takamina's turn, the funny goes to a much higher level and I don't think there was ever anything as funny





Takahashi Minami vs The Chairs (2011)

as that. At least in my humble opinion. But my comment is too biased already. Another prank that was played on Takamina, is the famous clip called 'Takahashi Minami vs The Chairs' that can still be found in Dailymotion. This prank is simple but iconic and happens in the program **Uwa! Damasareta Taishou 2011**. It consists in that, somehow, when Takamina sits on a chair, they will malfunction making Takamina to fall to the floor. Undoubtedly, a video that fans should not miss.

Or how can we forget Mechaike who also gave us so many laughs! With so many moments, I decided to pick the iconic **Mechaike** AKB48 Dissolution Sousenkyo Special, although this time Takamina is the one pranking everyone! The prank consisted of fooling not only the members but also the fans, making everyone believe that Takamina had been photographed with a man on a date. Said man being Okamura. The whole show has so many great quotes said by the members as part of their reaction to a possible scandal of such beloved leader. One example being Paruru (Shimazaki Haruka) saying “Isn’t it fine to just ignore it?”.

I think this prank reveals something we fans always knew, that Takamina was respected and loved by all members and they share what they think would be the best for Takamina, who at that time was the General Manager. I can't decide on a single funny moment, but I heartfully think the show should be watched by everyone. I guess the punch line of the joke is that, days after the show aired, Takamina announced her graduation from the group. For real this time. All the members of Mechaike apologized in laughter and shock, since they didn't know Takamina would make such important announcement.





But without a doubt, one of the funniest moments I can remember happens during a performance at the AKB-48 Theater, a Stage created by Takamina. The so-called **Chaos Stage**. Where she dresses similar to Takanori Nishikawa in order to perform his famous song 'Hot Limit'.



Confusion on the **Chaos Stage** (2016)

The joke, she was not allowed to perform the song and it is until the encore that she can finally perform the song with Nishikawa by her side. All to culminate with a performance of ‘Heavy Rotation’ and a very confused Nishikawa. Which, fun fact, Nishikawa is the only male singer to ever perform a song on the AKB48 theater stage. The whole Stage is hilarious, and I think fans should check it out. Even without subtitles, the selected members wear quite funny costumes, dance very randomly, and interact with each other in a funny way. It is such a unique stage!

I must conclude by saying that I left out many other funny moments. I also want to clarify that the ones I chose for this article are funny to me, and it is a very personal selection. One week is not enough to watch all the shows I have on various hard drives. I always found myself laughing and forgetting the reason I began watching the videos in the first place.

So, I hope this opens a debate and everyone reading this can give their opinion on other funny moments. And not just Takamina's, but your oshis, too! TLW-48

Maa-san's **Food Corner**



Last year at an online hanashikai I asked Maa-san what her favorite food was, with the intention to make it.

And then boast about making her favorite food on X, (lol). I was expecting pretty much anything, but when she said "Sushi!" it kinda caught me off guard. I had never made sushi before and didn't even know which ones to make, as it seems like there are tons of possibilities, so I quickly ditched the idea to make it myself. A few months later when I talked with her again, I mentioned to her that I unfortunately cannot make sushi, and if she instead could tell me her next best 3 foods, so I can make them to post it online! Telling her my plan made her really happy actually, and she thought about it for a second before listing her top 3: "Recently I like gyudon, curry rice... and chocolate!!" I'm planning to make them shortly before next singles first online talks so I can ask her if she saw it under her hashtag. And to be honest... both gyudon and curry sound like foods that match well with a pint of beer, hehe!

Danchuu

Not a Lonely Hearts Club Band



AKB48 & THE BEATLES

110507 Mechaike AKB48

In this hilarious AKB48 Special of Mechaike from 2011 (subbed by cha), the members had to explain the situation in the photo that was showed to them. This time it was a famous photo of Gen **Douglas MacArthur** arriving in Japan for the first time in 1945. Sure, the pic is in b&w... they must have gotten it mixed up with this photo (above) of **The Beatles**, arriving in Japan in 1966. I always think of The Beatles when I see the cover and costumes for Kojiharu's awesome center single '**Heart Ereki**' from 2013.

theamazingdaveman



HOSHIKUZU TELEPATH CAST ON ANO-CHAN NO DEN DEN DENPA

The drama members of Hoshikuzu Telepath appeared on the musical variety show Ano-chan no Den Den Denpa.

The show is hosted by Ano-chan, a former idol with a unique personality, and a cat named Sasaki (voiced by Soshina of Sayonara Mouri-san fame). In this episode, the drama members participated in a special Sousenkyo-style election, where the top "Kami 7" would receive individual camera time during a performance of the drama's opening song, 'Pin to Kita', while the bottom seven would only be featured in group shots. Each member had time to appeal to Ano-chan, who determined the final ranking.



First up was Hirata Yuki, who claimed she could eat a whole lemon. When she noted that lemons are sour, Sasaki pointed out that was obvious. Yukinee then pretended to eat it as if it were delicious. Kudo Kasumi followed with a similar challenge, trying to speedily drink 10 cups of vinegary seaweed.





Sayonara Mouri-san MC

Taguchi Manaka attempted to eat extremely spicy noodles while giving fan service to the camera when ever Ano-chan called her name.



Yamazaki Sora showcased her skill in balancing cocktail sticks on her eyelashes, though her hands became shaky.



Sato Airi and Akiyama Yuna both performed cheering routines, but with different approaches. Aichan once won second place in a national cheer dancing competition so made up a routine. Of a different variety was Yunachan's, who in middle school was the leader of the cheering squad.



Hashimoto Haruna recreated the experience of attending one of her handshake events and how to deal with complex fans like Ano-chan. Mizushima Miyuu, who had been baton twirling since age two, performed a routine before trying to make Ano-chan fall in love with her. When it was Takahashi Ayane's turn, she tried to showcase her ability to turn negatives into positives, like saying that if you're tired, it means you have been working hard. However, she was slightly flummoxed by Ano-chan's comment about being hungover and having vomit on her mask. A funny exchange



with Kasumi in the audience followed when Ayane was asked if she had been on a music program before.



Some members went for impressions during their appeal. Omori Maho showed off her famous finishing move, an impression of Goku from Dragon Ball with a twist. Mahopyon's impression this time would be an Idol Goku. Hashimoto Eriko did an impression of Crayon Shin-chan whilst also pretending to be a bridge. Yagi Azuki, who once worked at an onigiri shop, made a rice ball. Hotei Moka attempted to drink an entire bottle of fizzy drink before singing Ano-chan's popular song 'Chu, Tayosei'.



Ito Momoka, a fan of Rakugo comic theatre, performed a sketch about someone refusing to get up for school. The final performer, Yamauchi Mizuki, known for her love of Disney, gave a solo performance of the Lion King. Zukky jokingly claimed afterward that it was her first time on a music program, which drew some discontent from the audience.





With the final ranking finished, the group performed 'Pin to Kita'. I'd recommend watching the performance after the program. If you watch it first as I did, the camerawork seems very confusing.

IbarakiRose



Fukushima Food & AKB48 Fan Fun!

Last August 2023 in Shinjuku, Tokyo.

The prefecture of Fukushima* promoted the comeback of its delicious food products with a food tasting event, highlighted by an AKB48 mini concert featuring Miu Shitao, Remi Tokunaga, Haruna Hashimoto, Serika Nagano, Erina Oda, Ayane Takahashi, Yurina Gyoten and Kyoka Yamada.

Before the concert, the girls spent more than 30 minutes tasting and commenting on the special Fukushima fruits, snacks, etc. Miu accidentally dropped some of the precious sliced fruits to the ground humoring everyone! After the fun half-hour concert (short, but great because the worst seats were only about 10 rows back), ticket holders (12,600¥, fortunately $1 = 141¥, and ticket included a meal and gift bag) could greet all the girls just a meter away (they all masked up!), with Remi handing me a gift bag of goodies! (No, the goodies were not personal to Remi, they were Fukushima food goodies!).

The highlight for me, however, was getting to chat for about 15 seconds with my favorite member Miu. In Japanese, I told her where I was from, and she kindly responded in Japanese, but I had no clue what she was saying (since a 1-yr old is more fluent than me in Japanese!). So I responded: "Gomenasai, wakarimasen, watashi no nihongo wa hidoi desu!**". It was funny because she seemed confused, as if either 1) she didn't believe my Japanese was so bad that I couldn't understand her (my wishful thinking interpretation!), or 2) my pronunciation was so bad she had no idea what I was saying! But to her credit, and my joy, she continued talking, rather than just ignoring me!



Erina applauding Miu and Serika drinking

So of course, she remains my very favorite given her kindness to my bumbling mumbling! Of course, because I don't have any clue what she was saying, there's always the tiny possibility she was actually ridiculing me! But Miu's too nice for me to believe that!



Remi handed out my gift bag of goodies

The next day eight AKB48 kenkyuusei (including Azuki Yagi, Hinano Kubo, Miyuu Mizushima, and Mayuu Masai) had their turn performing at the event. Even though I had no ticket that day, anyone could watch the concert from a distance for free! But no greetings, goodies, or goofball conversation! All in all, a fun-filled 2 days for an AKB48 fan for $89.

OCD48!

*Devastated by the 2011 nuclear power plant meltdown **Sorry, I don't understand, my Japanese is terrible



START MOUNTAIN GIRLS
YAMA JOSHI HAJIMEMASU

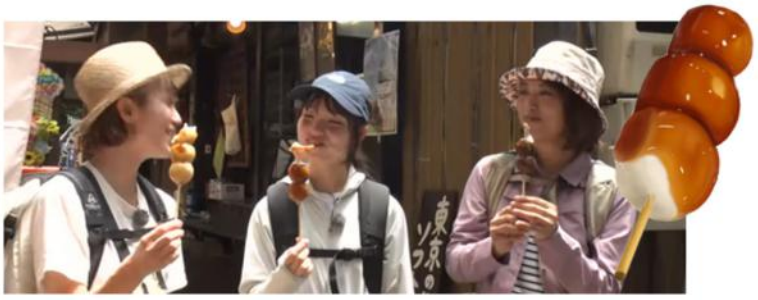
Ayane took on the challenge of climbing Mount Takao and Mount Kumotori in the show Yama Joshi Hajimemasu.

Takahashi Ayane made her way to the base of Mount Takao to meet with her two companions on this trip: singer-song writer and hiker Kagaya Hatsumi, and hiking youtuber Kaho. Both of them are regular hikers, unlike Ayane who said her last time hiking was during elementary school. Mount Takao is to the west of central Tokyo, less than an hour by train from Shinjuku Station. This proximity and its gentler nature make it one of the most popular mountains to climb. Before the hike began, Ayane went to rent some shoes and equipment.



Ayane and her companions on a forest path

They start the journey by travelling via cable tram to a station halfway up the mountain. Ayane was very impressed with the diagonal nature of the tram. Even from halfway up the mountain everyone was very captivated by the views. Ayane said that she can really feel the freshness of the air. After the group come across a statue of an octopus and rub it for good luck, they are faced with a split path, one a gradual approach and the other a high staircase. They decide to take the stairs, which is the first time Ayane seems slightly out of breath. Luckly for them, they come across a stall selling dango sweets. Ayane goes for the



walnut miso flavoured one. After another stop off a temple, the group finally make it to the summit of the mountain. Ayane was happily surprised she was able to see Mount Fuji and said that the scenery was like something out of a painting.

The second mountain to climb was Kumotori, the tallest within Tokyo Prefecture. This is a more difficult climb than the previous mountain. Kaho explains that the trail distance on the mountain is similar to the distance on Mount Fuji from base camp to summit. After around five hours of hiking, the group reach the mountain hut where they'll be spending the night. Ayane used a gas burner with some initial hesitation to make rice cooked in milk and pasta sauce. She told her mum to look at the delicious carbonara risotto she had made. Even though Ayane said she didn't normally cook, she was able to make mountain food. Ayane was told that the path to the summit is constantly up and down, so challenging for beginners.

The second day begins early at 5:00am. The steep path was still dark and fallen branches made it somewhat difficult to traverse. Even though Ayane was tired, she was given praise for her poker face by Kaho. Her spirits were lifted when the final summit came into sight, despite all the trials and tribulations, Ayane said it was a feeling she was experiencing for the first time. Finally, they reached the top. Ayane admitted that despite her calm expression, she was deeply moved and felt a bit teary-eyed. She said that even when she returned to her daily life, she would carry the confidence of having climbed a mountain and be able to brag about it.

IbarakiRose

NGT48





unesco

喜びの金山

A Gold Mine

NGT48 Reaches Long-time Goal!

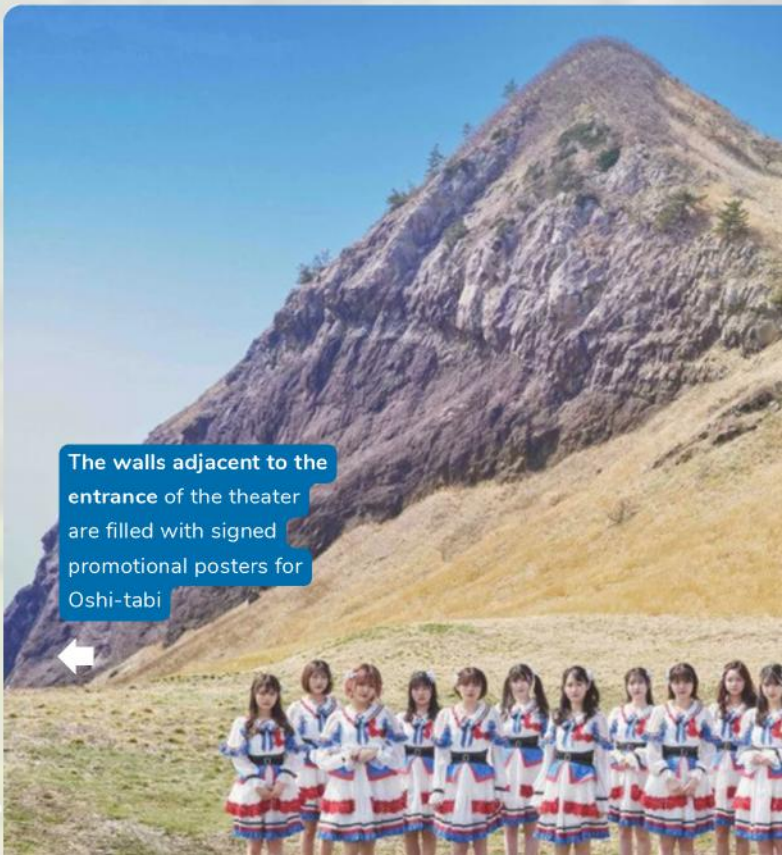
Amidst the aftermath of the AKB48 Group Singing Competition and Gion Kashizawaki Festival, an unexpected and thrilling announcement lit up the scene like fireworks over Sado Island.

On July 27th, **UNESCO** delivered a golden nugget of news: the legendary Sado Island Gold Mines, a glittering jewel of Niigata's past, have officially been crowned a World Heritage site! UNESCO specifically highlighted the **Doyu no Warito**, a V-shaped mountaintop, carved by hand through sheer determination and unmechanized ingenuity, once hid the gold and silver that powered Japan's economy during the Edo period. Picture the Tokugawa Shogunate, masterminding an era of prosperity with Sado's rich veins of precious metals, now preserved as a living museum of Japan's industrious spirit. But the mines are more than just historical landmarks; they're the heartbeat of Sado Island's tourism. Today, these ancient tunnels, steeped in mystery and history, attract travelers from far and wide to explore the island's beauty, offering a journey back in time with every step.



未完成の未来

NGT48 have been the island's official ambassadors of tourism, promoting Sado's charm and heritage. They have been supporting the island's campaign to be registered and recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage site. Long before this World Heritage status became a reality, the girls were hitting the road (or rather, the waves) to Sado from their early days, frequently visiting the island and promoting its hidden gems. Post-COVID, when travel restrictions were lifted, NGT48 truly embraced their role as Sado's ultimate promoters. The girls took us on delicious adventures in their YouTube vlog series, exploring Sado's must-visit restaurants and landmarks. The MV for '**Shisou de Shinai Kiss**' from their first album **Mikansei no Mirai** (2022) was shot against the majestic backdrop of Sado Island, a visual love letter to the island's untamed landsca-





The MV for 'Shisou de Shinai Kiss'













of Joy

TVer

pes. They even featured the island in their variety show Lotti × NGT48: What's an Idol? (2022), airing on Television Niigata TeNY and streaming on TVer, making Sado Island a star in its own right. They also visited local elementary schools and promoted Island Mirrorge, an augmented-reality tour of the goldmines.

The group did additional promotions for the island in 2023. When I visited Niigata for the first time during the summer, they began a travelog series called **NGT Oshi-tabi**. Two members took turns traveling to the island, visiting a specific quadrant area of the island. Harurun and Nanamin ventured into the historic Aikawa area, delving into the rich tales of the gold mines. Miyumiyu and Mocchan found their bliss in Ryotsu, a camper's paradise, while Reinya and Masshi explored Minami-Sado, famous for its ships and charming tub boats. Lastly, Hinatan and Gatanee soaked in the breathtaking views of Kuninaka, home to the graceful Toki bird and timeless temples.



During the MC portions of their **Theater Revival** performances that June, some of the members donned the outfits from their Oshi-tabi adventures, turning the MC segments into mini travelogs. The exterior of the theater was decked out with posters and promotional newspapers from their journeys. And let's be honest - who wouldn't fall for Mocchan after seeing her enthusiasm and charm during those travelog episodes? (I know I did!) Seeing NGT48 gleam with pride on social media, celebrating the achievement of one of their long-term goals, is heartwarming. They've achieved something truly special, and it's a moment to be cherished by every member who has ever been a part of NGT48. Graduated members surely share in this triumph, knowing they helped lay the groundwork for this golden achievement.

Here's to the girls, to Sado Island, and to a future as bright and enduring as the gold that lies within its mountains! Go for Gold, NGT48!

Far East

Erii's makeup LIVESTREAM

Maison KOSÉ JILL STUART



Chiba Erii collabs with Maison KOSÉ Ginza and Jill Stuart Cosmetics!

On Wednesday, August 28th, Erii took part in a YouTube livestream with makeup artist Mutsuki of Maison KOSÉ Ginza, where they talked about and applied different Jill Stuart products, as well as the new lip product Lip Blossom Glow!

From the start of the stream it was a fun and cute energy, as both Mutsuki and Erii seemed to be fangirling over each other, and kept showering each other with praise. From the opening of the first product, the compact eyeshadow palette Bloom Couture Eyes in colour 19 (which Mutsuki recommends for everyone, as it is easy to use) Erii commented that it has a wonderful scent, making both of them fawn over how good Jill Stuart products all smell.

Mutsuki and Erii talked a lot about the application of the eyeshadow, as well as different colours and lengths of eyeliner, and how that can change your face to make you look more awake! I very much recommend watching this live to anyone who enjoys not just idols, but also makeup!

After applying eyeshadow, the next step was Eye Diamond Gleam 01, a glitter liner with a pink base. Erii said she usually doesn't wear glitter on her eyes, even though she is an idol, and at first she was shocked to see all the different colours the gel sparkled in, however after Mutsuki applied it on her eyes, Erii was surprised by the results, and might even add some glitter in to her stage makeup.

The product that had me most interested was the Bloom Mix Brush Compact 03, a blush with different colours you can mix in different ways for a perfectly blended look.



Finally, the last product applied was the newly released Lip Blossom Glow in the colour 13, that Erii got to bring home, with the colour being chosen by Mutsuki, as she thought it would fit Erii's style and colour chart. Erii also got to bring home a second lipstick, in the colour 09, for Mahopyon, on which she had decided to have "Maho" with a heart engraved on to the casing (my MahoEri heart cannot take it!!!).

At the end of the makeover, Erii looked super cute in her pink makeup look! I hope Erii gets more jobs relating to makeup and cosmetics soon, as she really seems to enjoy it.

Yumenotobiira



NEW SHIP

17th, 18th and 19th generation

NMB'S MAKOCHI ♥ AICHAN

Makochi attended the AKB48 17ki + Kenkyuusei concert tour in Osaka yesterday.

She took a picture with the group (reunited with her BFF Aichan). She later went on SHOWROOM later that night to talk about the concert! She starts by gushing on how great the concert was. They just had the kira kira cute idol perfection! Enjoyed the nice perspective to see NMB songs performed by other people. Alot of songs that Makochi herself performed before. Brings up her friendship with Aichan.



When Makochi visited Tokyo last year

About 2 months ago when the concert was decided, they talked about her going. Finally got to meet Aichan after a long time, took 2shot with her. Mako also wants to go AKB theater to watch Sokomirai stage, she watched it on DMM. Happy she got to take a group photo, even though she was nervous and shy. Mako also is mutuals with Mizumin and Yukinee on Instagram. Messaged them too but regrets not taking a picture with them. Staff asked her who she wanted to take pic with, and of course she said Aichan. Mentions Meimei reply on X. Says she is mega cute!! She gets mega shocked when chat says 19ki only joined 3 months ago. Mako chimes she wasn't that refined 3 months in her debut, she was more of a baby. **cont. on pg. 44** ▶



FUNNY COSTUMES



AKB48's 17-18-19ki are currently on tour to commemorate 17ki's promotion.

A fun surprise for the concerts was that each stop features different unit songs. This keeps each concert fresh with unexpected combinations. During the 19ki solo MC section for each stop, a member dressed up for a local specialty. Looking forward to Meimei and Itomomo's costumes for the last two stops!

otabe

NO MORE KOKKO TIME



Kokko announces graduation.

On August 23rd 2024, 17th gen member Kohama Kokone announced her graduation from AKB48 via a long message on X. In the post, Kokko talked about her feelings since joining the group, including wondering if someone so clumsy as herself could really be an idol.

"Since joining AKB48, every day has been exciting, and there have been many fun, happy and difficult times.". She expressed her gratitude to her genmates, seniors and staff, but most of all to her fans, for supporting her just the way she is. She now aims for a different goal, and as such has decided to graduate. All her appearances on the 17th gen tour and AKB48 under construction theater tour have been canceled, however her handshakes will go on as scheduled. No form of graduation performance has been mentioned at this time.

Yumenotobiira



PLAYLIST FROM KAIRI #かいりからプレイリスト

Since early July, Kairi started recommending songs on X with the hashtag: #KairiKaraPlaylist which means "Playlist from Kairi".

Here are the songs so far!

Drowning Pool - Tear Away (2010)
(she listened to it while going to school)
Masego + FKJ - Tadow (2017)
(she mentioned that she tried playing it on the guitar!)
Final Fantasy XIII-2 - Sprint (2012)
Toa - Tsugihagi Staccato (2015)
(this is vocaloid)
AS I LAY DYING - Blinded (2019)
(she's wondering if this is melodic death metal)
TLC - No Scrubs (1999)
Jamiroquai - Virtual Insanity (1996)
Inaba Cumori - Lost Umbrella (2018)
(she loves the unique atmosphere of this)
RADWIMPS - Hyperventilation (2010)
Linkin Park - Numb (2003)
Måneskin - ZITTI E BUONI (2021)
Cö shu Nie – Zettai Zetsumei (2019)
Estelle - Do My Thing (2012)
(she said that this song gives her energy!)
yonige - Avocado (2015)
(she likes the chord progression)
Shimomura Yoko - Dearly Beloved (2002)
(she said she loves Kingdom Hearts)
Polkadot Stingray - Himitsu (2018)
(she loves her voice + likes 'Telecaster Stripe' too)
AS I LAY DYING - My Own Grave (2018)
(she likes the energy and the chorus melody)
Spice Girls - Wannabe (1996)
(this gives her energy!)
Major Lazer & DJ Snake - Lean On (2015)
(she likes the chorus and how it leads to it)



TRIVIA FROM THE EDITOR: The singer Yojiro Noda in **RADWIMPS** acted against **Matsui Rena** in the drama **Million Yen Women** (2017)



AS I LAY DYING is a Christian metalcore band, the singer got out of jail after trying to hire a hitman to kill his then wife back in 2014



Spice Girls

Mana

Okumoto Kairi PROFILE

Nickname
Kairi (カイリ)

Birthday
Jan 27th, 2007

Birthplace
Tokyo, Japan

Years active in AKB48
2024-present

Spotify playlist



MANA COMMENTS

Some interesting choices among what she recommends, some older songs too! I guess she got to know it through her parents maybe? She's born in 2007. But yes, she seems very interested in music and she listens to many things.

Someone on X made a **Spotify playlist** with Kairi's recommendations!

Among the songs, I know TLC's 'No Scrubs', Jamiroquai's 'Virtual Insanity', Linkin Park's 'Numb' and Spice Girls 'Wannabe'.

I'll make time to give a listen to the other songs, now that I made this list.

I hope she continues with the recommendations, I think it's a very nice idea.

Follow her to see all the future ones: **x.com/kairi_okumoto**

Mana

She thinks Azu's so CUTE. mentions how amazing Sae mega smiles were while performing, got a lot energy from it. Chat is giving her all the trivia about Sae. Her smartness, athletic ability, French and English ability... So shocked. Gushes at Aichan's good kansaiben, apparently she always been using it with Mako everytime they meet. Was waving Aichan's color with her penlight. Yoshimin also attended but they did not go together, they asked staff separately. Mentions Yoshimin's oishi is Hinano. gushes at her cute face. Mentions Yayoi and Eriko are close.

otabe



Mizushima Miyuu PROFILE

Nickname
Mizumin (みずみん)

Birthday
Nov 12th, 2003

Birthplace
Hokkaido, Japan

Years active in AKB48
2022-present

17th generation

水島美結のドライブ大作戦



MIZUMIN'S IDOL DRIVE ON YOUTUBE

Watch Mizumin drive in the biggest city in the world, in AKB48 official LIVE channel's new serial.

Mizushima Miyuu joined AKB48 as a Kenkyuusei two years ago as a 17th generation member. The 19 year old got her drivers license as soon as she graduated high shcool, and she have only drove her car 2 times, and that was in her hometown in Hokkaido. So, she have never been driving in Tokyo, the worlds biggest city. "I can't even drive in Hokkaido" she said. As a new project called Idol Drive, we get to see Mizumin drive through Tokyo, and test her driving skills together with the funny driving school teacher that accompanies her in the car. In **episode 2**, the 10 year veteran of AKB48, Hashimoto Haruna joins Mizumin in the passenger seat. Both members are really cute and charming, and I can recommend you to watch the episodes, both educational wise, but also as it's fun to hear them talk about all kinds of stuff, besides how to take a left turn. Mizumin and Haruppyon will probably at least put a big smile on your face, and maybe, even, make you laugh out load.



theamazingdaveman

HOTECHAN FANART

These look incredible!

Our follower @hochito02 on Instagram made these really amazing sketches of Hotechan. I just had to share them here. I have really loved Hotechan's character in Hoshikuzu Telepath lately. It's fun to see more of her.

theamazingdaveman



Mizumin Driving!!



Mizumin Driving part 2!

This time with Harupyon, who she is close with, as guest!
Pyon jokingly says she brought her own driver's license and insurance card just in case.

I was surprised when Pyon pointed out that their difference in career is comparable to Pyon and Yukirin!
For Reference:
Yukirin (2006) - Harupyon (2014) - Mizumin (2022)

Mizumin and Harupyon shared stories of their auditions, Mizumin had just finished school and the audition came up. When she passed it, even though her family had paid for the next school, her mom accepted her wishes and let her join AKB.

Harupyon had liked and wanted to join AKB since she was little, and when Team8 Toyama audition came, her parent let her try, expecting she'd give up when she failed.



They both didn't expect to pass due to many talents and beauties in the final rounds, but here they are now. They want to do 'OshiMeshi' or 'Heart no Dokusenken' for a unit together. Maybe in Dobon 4th anniversary concert, they say? *wink to fans to start playing Dobon to get them in.

donjonnie

So the destination for this drive episode is Fuji Safari Park!
Idols go meet the animals!





Some cute moments!







CHANHINA RADIO

Today is also a good day for Kubo Hinano!

For people that don't know, this is Hina's radio with another SBC announcer. It airs mostly weekly but have breaks every now and then. It's only 10 minutes long so it's short and sweet! It started last December so it's been chugging along for a while now...



This episode is some mail consultation. The mail is asking for some help with summer heat and makeup melting off! Hina says she doesn't really sweat that much. But she uses "keep mist" (I looked it up, seems like some Kose makeup spray). Hina started using it when she first started doing all the idol makeup so she's not sure of the effectiveness, but she's not gonna mess up her routine now. Um, there's some more makeup talk that I don't really understand but... this is for the girl fans!

Regarding sun protection, Hina says as an idol she will wear sunscreen regardless of the season. She will also wear arm covers and an umbrella is a must. Lately she been pretty lazy with putting on sunscreen so she just covers herself completely with a jacket.

otabe



UP-TENSION RADIO SHOW HOSTED BY AZU

Azu's first solo radio (she makes little mistakes here and there but a good first time).

UP-T アップティー

Starts with a little Hoshitele promo. At time of recording there has been about 6 episodes released. She hasn't gotten many lines on tv yet but she said to keep a look out for her, her turn will come soon (yosha).

A recent Azu story; she participated on Ongaku no Hi with Yuichi and Itomomo. Chimes that it was an amazing experience starting with centering Koisuru... She was mega mega mega nervous. More nervous than her solo at budokan! ***Next section is some self introduction***. Besides the basic info, she loves performing, especially in theater! She loves to see everyone's smiles. Answer questions segment! ***Fav food: ice cream*** (she eats it as soon as she wakes up). ***What kind of magic would she want:*** quickly go anywhere (teleport). ***Place she wants to go:*** France, Italy, and other fashionable places (***she wants to visit Europe*** and see beautiful streets, wants to see the Mona Lisa). The Korea AKB fan meeting was her first time traveling abroad and she wants to do it more! ***What she wants the most: everyone's love!*** (even she laughed here). ***Favorite animal: manbou?*** (some kind of fish) also gorillas and monkeys. Azu is a big fan of zoos and aquariums! ***Favorite anime: Chibi Maruko-chan***, loved it since she was born. Azu owns alot of her merch. ***What does she do on her day off: sleep*** and play with her dog (Rocco). ***Her best appeal point: GENKI!*** also she thinks her personality and atmosphere are appealing. And her hair is long and smooth (she quickly apologized for that one). Fun first episode!



Azu's favorite anime

otabe



AZU'S SECOND EPISODE!

Azu noted that the previous host, who was Harupyon, wanted to deepen her relationship with the next host.

She said she wanted to take Azu out for dinner! Azu is happy about this since they get along well! It has to be for yakiniku. She is looking forward to it! So for the next host, Azu has to propose something to do with them... Azu wants to get along with everyone. She is pretty shy when it comes to senpai, even taking pictures make her nervous. She only does peace poses... Azu finally decided on a love love shot! (turns out the next host is Mahopyon so stay tuned). ***First corner is to talk about what gives Azu up-tension!*** First is food. Of course with Azu, it's ice cream (she is famously known to eat ice cream for breakfast, she says it refreshes her brain). For ***Azu's theater tanabata wish***, she wrote ***ice cream*** on it. Gunji santa added an ice cream only fridge to the dressing room! She would eat a little before a theater performance and then some after the perf. It's all gone now though... she ate ***7/11 strawberry milk ice cream today!*** It was so good she is thinking about buying some more on her way home today. ***Next is shopping.*** Azu is a girl so of course it's clothes! Recently she's been wearing ribbons and fluffy clothes that are princess like... so when she sees those kind of clothes in the shop, ***she buys them without looking at the price***. Staff asks her where she shops! Azu goes to the shopping mall or local shops for clothes that catches her eye. She does some online shopping too, but only for clothes that she is sure will fit. Next is a song. ***Azu only listened to AKB songs*** since she joined AKB! Recently she started to diversify! Azu likes Ghibli so she made a ***Ghibli music playlist***. It reminds her of her childhood. Next was a trip she took. ***Azu recently went to Korea for an AKB fan meeting*** with her fellow 18ki Yuna and Kohi. It was her first time traveling abroad. Azu bought so much stuff there that even the senpai were surprised.

otabe

NEW SHIP

GIRLS TALK

This was talked about in episodes from July 20-July 27 in Chanhina's radio show.

Hina revealed what the three of them (Masaru-Hina-Yuichi) were so hyped about in this moment of Ano Natsu no Bouhatei MV:



Guess what idol-ish/girlish thing they were talking about so excitedly? Gossiping? Summer love? Handsome senpai?

NOPE! It was: "Which beef bowl team are you? Team SukiYa, Team YoshinoYa or Team Matsu-Ya??" (all of these are beef bowl /gyudon restaurant names). They were hyped like "Yeah, that place's beef bowl is great!" or "I know, right?!" in that conversation.

ZIPPER

Hina did Zipper as her unit in August 3 Tour in Osaka! Showing off those long legs!

donjonnie



AKB48 KENKYUUSEI NO WOW!!! RECAPS







研究生
Kenkyuusei
19th generation



Here comes a writeup about what happened in episode 4 of the 18th and 19th gens new show.

In episode 3 and 4 we got to meet Yunachan, Kawayui and Kohi who made me cry at the singing contest. Kawayui have been told that she speaks very slow since she came to Tokyo. That wasn't something she felt in her hometown in Hokkaido, where also Kohi is from, but she doesn't have that problem. Anyway, they had to ask for permission from food shops to film, and after that do a food report. Yunachan was the one who took the responsibility to ask first, and she got an OK from the sweets shop MAISON CACAO that have Columbian cacao and chocolates, but also some raw chocolates from Kamakura in the Kanagawa Prefecture, south of Tokyo. "It must be delicious!" the girls said in a choir. The raw chocolate tart was a must have for them! "This may be the most delicious tart I've ever eaten" Yunachan said, with it's crispy outside and inside that melts in your mouth. Her report was a success and the girls got 50,000 yen as a reward. Next up Kohina wanted to do some target shooting at a classic shooting range where you can win prizes. She showed a "triangle mark" with her hands after the negotiation which confused Kawayui and Yunachan. That meant you had to be over 18 years old to do the shooting, so Kohi was allowed to do it since she's 20, and also Yunachan who's 18. Kawayui that hadn't turned 18 yet while shooting the episode, had to watch on from the outside where she was shouting "ganbatte" with her angelic voice (which the girls called it).







Last out, it was time for Kawayui to negotiate about filming at a Taiyaki place. She was extremely nervous and cute before going in, and the other two helped her out with what she should say. Did the quiet and shy girl manage to do it? Yes, of course! Now it was time for her to do the food report about the fish-shaped cake. It was the first time she had ate a fresh-made Taiyaki, and she thought it was so good so she felt moved. As their reward they got to do a photoshoot with some cute chiba dogs at a dog cafe. The worker at the cafe had to choose the cutest picture. I think It's really worth to check out the episode for yourselves as it's hard to sell it by just writing about it. You can now watch the first episode on YouTube for free on the AKB48 official LIVE ch channel!

theamazingdaveman

MEIMEI MIION



I've been keeping an eye on the 19th gens since their introduction and Meimei is one of the first members who got my attention. I found her pretty, and I remember reading one of her mails where she talked about books and I just liked it (yes I love books, lol) and I often see her tweets on my timeline and she posts good content, she sometimes talks about things, like it's not just selfies. She also posts some nice pictures, and I noticed that she often replies to other members tweets and I find this very nice and sweet!

Also, she seems to be the one who's doing the best at talk events for 19th gens, and I'm not surprised at all, when I saw her the first time, I just directly felt like she would do well at talk events. First, she seems to have some experience as streamer! And the other reason is that she directly reminded me of Miion at her debut! And so I expected her to do good like Miion did at debut, and it happened. I'm glad that Meimei is doing well! I hope that she continues doing well and that we'll eventually see her in senbatsu soon!

Mana



ITOMOMO SHOWROOM
20240730





Itomomo streamed the other day.

She starts by describing her day... had a good night sleep, made an acai bowl. More importantly, she had some voice training today. The day before, she woke up at around 4AM so she was pretty sleepy all day. The voice teacher said she has a low voice when singing. Apparently she has a habit of tightening her throat while singing so teacher said to relax a little when singing. She is getting compliments in chat for her zenza singing performance! Some other fans also commenting that they never been to theater before and want to go to see her. Itomomo describes the sign up process for theater (is Itomomo creating new AKB fans). Since Itomomo been filming for hoshitele, she hasn't gotten to perform in theater much with the other 19ki for tadaima renaichu. Now that filming is finish, she can appear more!

Lots of comments that were surprised with her dance ability she shown during Ongaku no Hi. She mentions her past ballet experience... but glad she can show off her dance abilities truly for the first time on the tv (I was also shocked). She claims she is not at good at ball sports. When she used to play basketball or volleyball, everyone always said don't pass it to her. Also bad at table tennis... For the Olympics, she has watched basketball, swimming, gymnastics and skateboard. Talked about the rakugo she did on that one show... with the other hoshitele members. Glad the neko mc laughed a lot. She thinks she didn't do so well so she will practice more. Liked Yukinee's lemon eating ability, she likes lemons too! She mentions the units will change for the upcoming tour stop in Osaka. She is practicing real hard right now for a song she really wanted to do... her tension is so high right now (well as you all know, she participated in 'Zipper').

Her little sister helped with her dango hairstyle today. Plans to do a twintail for upcoming HS event. The Fukouka single release event was her first time going to Fukuoka. Bought some strawberry Pocky as a souvenir. Suddenly she remembers and brings up her upcoming One Piece event talk show thing on Aug 10. Had some model rocket training before the drama started. She learned how to make one from scratch! Someone commented they wanted to do HS event with Itomomo in the full Yu-chan costume. Itomomo wants to do it but the hairstyle is too hard to do by herself. She has a sailor fuku... so she just needs a pink cardigan.

otabe

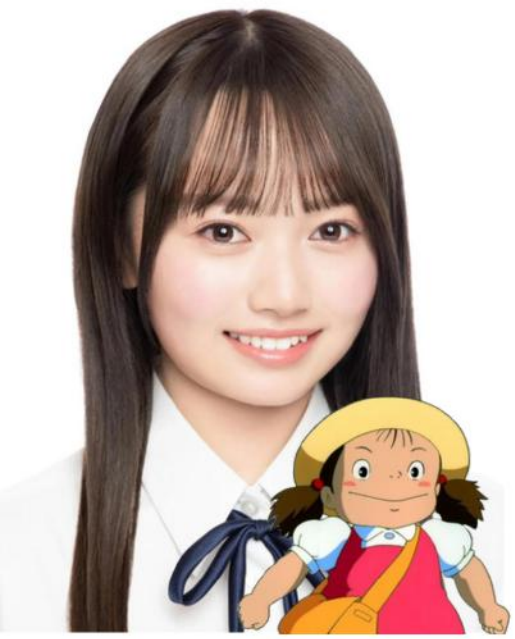
NEW SINGLE
UNLAME

The 5th single released and KIRAKIRA Tune TOUR in Tokyo.



Chanhina's, Saechan's and Yuichi's group that came out from the tv show OUT OF 48 released their new single 'KIRAKIRA Tune' on Sept 2nd. It's a fun rock tune with a cute and colorful MV. The Performance Dancers are some clubs from Setagaya Sogo High School. Something different from their previous releases. They will have 3 concerts promoting the single. The KIRAKIRA Tune TOUR in Tokyo will start on Sept 16th, and take place at SHIBUYA PLEASURE PLEASURE. I'm happy to see UNLAME having more opportunities to promote themselves. Shibuya could not be a better fit for this "lite" Gyaru themed song and MV that have late 90's esthetics!

theamazingdaveman



MEIMEI 100 Q&A



AKB48 100 THINGS - 19TH GENERATION

Hanada Mei, 19th gen KKS of AKB48, answered to 100 questions as a part of a project on Eizo (AKB48's video service). Here are her answers for most of it!

Origin of her name: there is a character called "Mei" in "My Neighbor Totoro"; a bright, happy and cute girl. This is why she's called Mei, and her mom picked the kanji.
She did her catchphrase: "Mentai mentai Meimei", and it was very cute with the hand gestures.
She was born on June 5th 2005 in Kanagawa.
Her blood type is O, her height is 152cm.



Her special skills are handling fishes, and winking.
Her strength is that she gets along with people easily!
Her weakness is that she tends to think negatively...
She is often told that she is a weird girl, because she talks alone to herself (lol)
Her motto is "if you can save one person, you can save the world".
Favorite food is mentaiko!



The food she dislikes is tomato.
Her favorite colors are yellow, pink, light blue and white.
Lately she is addicted to eating acai bowl every morning to cool down because it's been hot.
She relieves her stress by singing.
On a day off, she would go eat lunch with her sister or her mother.
First thing she does when she wakes up is saying "hello" to her pets (she said the "hello" and she sounded so cute!)



Last thing she does before sleeping is skin care.
Something that made her happy recently: she ate fluffly pancakes today and she felt better!
Something that made her sad recently: she struggled with singing and it made her sad.



Something that made her laugh recently: Kairi failing to do the 19th gen pose correctly.
Her earliest memory is being in Nagasaki where her grandpa lives, she was at a sea amusement park, her sister pushed her in the water.
If she was a boy for a day, she would like to try shaving her beard.



Her charm point: everything!
Her favorite part in her body: her hands!
Her complex: her face not being symmetric.
What she wants right now: being in a fluffly bed.
What she washes first during shower: her face.
Her fashion point today: the fluffy white clothes.
If she won in the lottery: she would buy a house and buy things for others!
If she could make 3 wishes: 1) see her favorite artist live, in the first row. 2) go to space. 3) eat mentaiko everyday!

3 things she would bring to a deserted island: phone, her mom, a bed.



Favorite song to sing at karaoke: Koresawa - Koibito Shikkaku.
Her habit: she has many, like moving her hands a lot while talking.
She feels happy when looking at the sky.



Her favorite picture: pictures taken by her seniors the other day!
If she could eat something as her last dinner: miso soup.



Scariest thing: ghosts.
Long-time habit that she has: no matter how busy she is, she will always make time to clean her room.
New word that she learned recently: "Process" (she said it in English, yes!)
Skills she learned so far: hula dance, tahitian dance, tennis, dance.
Is she more positive or negative? Negative.
What changed after becoming an idol? Everything! She gained know-ledge, and became a brighter and better person.
Why did she audition for AKB? She always loved AKB. Last year, she saw Yuiyui's center song 'Idol Nanka Janakattara', everyone was smiling and shining, she was touched by it, she watched their performances and wished to be the same as them.



Who she admires in AKB: Mukaichi Mion, the ex-general manager. It's the type of idol she aims to be.
If she could exchange bodies with someone in AKB for a day: Chiba Erii.
Favorite AKB song: Yume no Kawa.
Favorite AKB dance: Idol Nanka Janakattara.
Who is she closest to from the same gen? Kairi, they spend a lot of time together!
Which member does she want to talk to? Everyone, she wants to talk with all seniors!
Her dream when she was little: she told everyone at school that she wants to help those who are in need.
What is her fetish: fetish of smells.



Her ideal of a woman: someone like Murayama Yuiri.
Favorite gesture from a boy: she watches a lot of romance movies and reads romance mangas, she likes when they stroke the hair!
Something she wants to try learning: the drums!



Where does she want to go now: somewhere where she can look at a beautiful sky.
Who does she want to meet? Oshima Yuko!
What would she do on her last day on earth? Be with her family.
If she had to compare herself to a color: white and yellow. She has a bright image.
Things she does for beauty: take vitamin C, skincare, moisturizing, hair care for 30 minutes everyday.





Something she wants to say sorry for: recently, she was zenza girl at the theater, she had to shout the "Takeuchi-senpai!" but she said "Takeuchi-sensei!", she's sorry about that! (lol)
Describe 19th generation in one word: Interesting!
Something you want to brag about: many seniors call her cute!
Tell a secret: she sings a lot in the bath at night.
Senior she wants to talk to: Mukaichi Mion. The reason is that she's the ex-general manager so she wants to ask her how it felt and how to liven up AKB in the future. She would like to have a serious talk but also have a fun talk and laugh together, she wants to get along with her and become close!
What would she ask to her future self? "Where do you live now?"
She was asked which question she thinks they're at right now, she answered 50, but it was wrong, they were at the 76th one!
If she could get a new ability: to be cool!



How she sees herself in 5 years: shining on stage!
What smell does she like? Refreshing smell.
Is she more an outdoor or indoor person? Outdoor.
She first announced the results of her auditions to: her mom.
She can't live without a phone.
Something she likes being told: that she's cute. She likes to think about all kind of interesting things, and she wants people to laugh and tell her that she's cute!



Favorite onigiri filling: mentaiko.
She is not good at studying.
Favorite dishes: gratin, meat and potatoes, everything with fish.
What emoticon she likes using: the one that has teary eyes!
What is her worry recently? She wants to be less nervous.
When did she try her best in her life? In order to become an idol, she worked hard and thought about her facial expressions, her singing, her dancing etc.
Draw yourself! Her drawing is... XD (see it on page 48)
Show us your confident pose. Mentaiko!
Show us an imitation! Here she did a whole little song and dance that is related to mentaiko. She really loves mentaiko.
Something she is particular about: she plans things a lot for every day.
Something she always tries to do: she thinks it's important to be kind to everyone, she always thinks of herself as lower to others and treat others well.
Something where she can't lose to anyone: she dislikes losing, and she always laughs a lot.
Something she wants to tell to fans: she hopes they can remember her name and nickname!
Future goal: to join AKB's senbatsu, to become a full member of AKB.
A project she would like to do on Eizo (AKB's video service): bungee jumping!
Message to viewers: "I answered to a lot of questions, thanks for watching!"

She said after it ended that she never answered to many questions like this! She thinks this will help people to get to know her better. it makes her happy. I found her answers nice!

Mana



DO THE DANCE!

AKB48 FANZINE

#04

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