

ごあいさつ

企画展「北斎—永田コレクション名品展」の開催を心よりお慶び申し上げます。2019年3月に東京で開催され大盛況を博した「新・北斎展」を観覧した際の、この素晴らしい永田コレクションを地元の皆様にも見て頂きたいとの念願がこの度叶い、この上ない喜びであります。

なが た せい じ
永田生慈さんは、幼少の頃から北斎に魅せられ、1990年に故郷津和野の生家のあった場所に葛飾北斎美術館を開館されました。以来、2015年の閉館まで長年に渡り情熱を傾けて蒐集された作品を公開され、観光地津和野の振興にも多大なる貢献をされてこられました。

ご自宅から遠い津和野町への往来を長年繰り返される中、体力的な理由により閉館を決定された折には、津和野町に建物と土地の寄贈をお申し出頂きました。当時本町では、日本遺産へ「津和野今昔～百景図を歩く」の申請を控えており、日本遺産センターとして活用するべく計画変更し、そのことが初年度認定の栄誉を受ける大きな要因となりました。永田さんの深い郷土愛に感謝するとともに、そのご遺志を受け継ぎ、歴史文化の町津和野の振興に努めてまいりたいと思います。

葛飾北斎に人生を捧げた偉大な研究者であり、津和野町の誇りでもある永田生慈さんの素晴らしいコレクションを、多くの皆様にご覧頂きたいと願っております。

2020年9月

津和野町長 下森博之

Foreword

On visiting the enormously popular “HOKUSAI UPDATED” exhibition in Tokyo in March 2019, I hoped that those in Nagata Seiji’s birthplace would also have the chance to appreciate the wonders of the Nagata Collection. Now I am delighted to say that wish has come to pass, with the staging of “Hokusai – Treasures from the Nagata Collection.”

Fascinated by Hokusai from an early age, in 1990 Nagata Seiji opened the Tsuwano Katsushika Hokusai Museum of Art on the site of his family home, in his birthplace of Tsuwano. Here, until the museum closed in 2015, he displayed the works he had collected with such unwavering dedication over the decades, in the process also contributing significantly to Tsuwano’s burgeoning profile as a tourist destination.

When, having for many years made the journey tirelessly to and from his own home some distance away, and the museum, he began to find the traveling a strain on his health and decided to close the museum, Mr. Nagata offered to donate the building and land to the town of Tsuwano. At the time, our application to have our story “Tsuwano Then and Now: Exploring the Town of Tsuwano through the One Hundred Landscapes of Tsuwano” recognized by Japan Heritage was pending, so we altered our plans in order to use the former museum building as a Japan Heritage Center, which in turn became a major factor in the town being honored with Japan Heritage accreditation in the first year. As well as being grateful for Mr. Nagata’s deep affection for his hometown, I look forward to actively maintaining his legacy, and continuing to strive for the advancement of Tsuwano as a nexus of Japanese culture and history.

As part of this, I also hope that as many people as possible will take this opportunity to view the outstanding collection of Nagata Seiji, a great scholar who devoted his life to Katsushika Hokusai, and a great citizen of Tsuwano as well.

September 2020

Shitamori Hiroyuki
Mayor of Tsuwano