



KANSAI University Japanese Popular Music Archives & Museum Project

Objectives

KANSAI University Japanese Popular Music Archives & Museum Project was launched in April 2014 to systematically organize Japanese popular music as well as to collect, accumulate, and store visual materials, audio sources, and documents, which had previously been scattered. We intend to study how we can best make the established archives, which are precious cultural resources, available to the public, and, in future, we hope to build on these archives to establish a museum and a research institute for Japanese popular music.

Activities

We have been working on the establishment of an oral history consisting of interviews with people from the dawn of popular music, who are now growing older, and the digitalization of music footage such as live videos and promotional videos stored on tape media, which is gradually deteriorating in addition to the aging of reproduction equipment. In terms of music footage, we have completed the digitalization of over 2,000 titles (as of January 2015).

Artist IDs

To establish archives that are highly useful, it is necessary to have artist IDs that are uniquely determined. We therefore seek to develop a system for artist IDs in collaboration with the liaison group for demonstrations and experiments at Artist Commons (ArtistComm), which was established by music-related organizations, Keio University, and Kansai University.

Toward making the archives available to the public and establishing the museum

The archives can be used only for on-campus research and educational purposes. However, we will look into how we can best make use of the archives available to the public and share them, with cooperation from the rights holders, by holding small-scale exhibits. Through these activities, we will explore how we can best establish and run a future museum for Japanese popular music.

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