

# Tentative 2027 Royal Giants Centennial schedule in Japan

The Centennial can carry a “**Soulful Experience Across the Pacific**” throughout the program: food, music, art, and education created with African Diaspora and Japanese participants. The events below are proposals; dates, venues, performers, and teams remain subject to confirmation.

| Date                  | Event                                                                                   | Suggested venue                                                            | Soulful Experience                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>April 1, Thu</b>   | Centennial opening ceremony and symposium marking the Royal Giants’ first game in Japan | Ceremony at Meiji Jingu Stadium; symposium at Keio University, Mita Campus | Opening music, a small historical art display, and a reception featuring African American and Japanese food                    |
| <b>May 15, Sat</b>    | Fukuoka symposium on the 1926 invitation and the communities that welcomed the team     | Kyushu University, Shiiki Hall                                             | Local food collaborators, music, and student presentations on Fukuoka’s role in the story                                      |
| <b>June 19, Sat</b>   | Tokyo symposium on African American and Japanese baseball connections                   | Keio University, Mita Campus                                               | Historian and family conversations, an archival art display, and a Juneteenth cultural program                                 |
| <b>July 24, Sat</b>   | Kansai history and documentary program                                                  | The University of Osaka Convention Center                                  | Film excerpts, visual art inspired by the tour, and a discussion with local students and artists                               |
| <b>August 21–31</b>   | Bilingual Centennial exhibition                                                         | Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, Tokyo Dome                               | Photographs, family materials, Japanese and African American artistic responses, and educational activities for young visitors |
| <b>August 24, Tue</b> | Delegation welcome and exhibition preview                                               | Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum, Tokyo                                    | A tasting reception and introductions among descendants, artists, musicians, and students                                      |

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|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>August 25, Wed</b> | International opening symposium and welcome celebration                                       | Keio University, Mita Campus                  | Panels on baseball and cultural diplomacy, followed by live music, art, and a shared meal                      |
| <b>August 26, Thu</b> | <b>Exhibition Game 1:</b> U.S. collegiate all-stars vs. Keio University; youth clinic         | Keio Baseball Club's Shimoda Ground, Yokohama | Student band and cheer exchange, local artists, and food vendors where the venue permits                       |
| <b>August 27, Fri</b> | <b>Families Across the Pacific</b> symposium and cultural evening                             | Keio University, Mita or Hiyoshi Campus       | Oral histories, family photographs, student artwork, a collaborative music performance, and a community dinner |
| <b>August 28, Sat</b> | <b>Centennial showcase, Game 2:</b> U.S. collegiate all-stars vs. Tokyo Big Six selected team | Meiji Jingu Stadium, Tokyo                    | Pregame musical procession, joint Japanese and U.S. performances, art displays, and a curated food program     |
| <b>August 29, Sun</b> | Travel to Kansai and community gathering                                                      | Osaka or Kobe                                 | Informal meal and music gathering with local hosts                                                             |
| <b>August 30, Mon</b> | <b>Exhibition Game 3:</b> Kansai goodwill game and youth clinic                               | Kyocera Dome Osaka, subject to booking        | Student performances, art, and food representing the communities brought together by the tour                  |
| <b>August 31, Tue</b> | Closing symposium and celebration                                                             | The University of Osaka Convention Center     | Student reflections, documentary update, artist presentations, music, and a closing meal                       |

For the August week, I suggest making **August 27 the main Soulful Experience evening**. Families could share the history, students and artists could interpret it, and musicians and cooks from both communities could collaborate. The August 28 game would then bring that work to the largest public audience. Specific food and performance plans should be developed with Japanese and African Diaspora partners and adapted to each venue's rules.