



## Hirosaki Chamber of Commerce and Industry



### Tsugaru-nuri Built Up Over a Period of 300 Years

In 1704, during the early Edo period, Gentaro Ikeda introduced the “Kawari-nuri” method and this developed into the imaginative method unique to Tsugaru which reached its peak during the late Edo period. The Kawari-nuri method is a meticulous method that involves the repetition of “coating, polishing, re-coating, and re-polishing.” The lacquer is not simply re-coated, but rather the heart of the artisan is coated within the Tsugaru-nuri which is extremely durable and possesses stately beauty.



## Commitment to Manufacturing

Various shapes that exist in nature as well as the colors of the four seasons are the themes in our craftwork that combine practicality and beauty, and we focus on creating works that move people.

While harnessing the traditional lacquer of Tsugaru, our images are of water, light, and nature.

The base material is mainly lacquer, but we also use natural materials such as wood, hemp, Japanese paper, etc.



## Teita that is One and Only and Capable of Limitless Number of Expressions



Currently, we have developed over 300 types of new works and will incrementally increase our variation in the future. We will organize by category of lacquer patterns and maintain sample books.

We will also pioneer new products and markets from meeting creators at international exhibitions.

## Artisans' Methods Now Being Rethought

Within the “Tsugaru-nuri” community, artisan groups possessing the same vector as young artists have stood up and have each begun their own activities. Horizontal division of work began to take place within the community, and a culture of mutual acknowledgement, not usually seen in the artisan world is beginning to take form. This is influencing not only the “Tsugaru-nuri” community, but also other handcraft affiliates (blacksmiths, Kogin embroiderers, woodworkers, etc.) who began to possess the conviction that they would be the next ones to rise up on the stage.

## Spreading the Benefits of “Tsugaru-nuri” to the World and Within Japan

We display Teita (lacquer pattern samples) in sample books and form them into shapes with designers from around the world. Through the fashion of the overall value of general living, we embody the ideas of the life cultures unique to Japan and unique to Hirosaki into lacquer, Tsugaru-nuri, and lacquer patterns.

### Contact Information

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