



# DIY Your Future: Rethinking Architecture & Community



**5/23** (Fri.)  
**17:10pm**  
Eike Top 15F



**Mr. KONO Nao**

Refusing to accept what doesn't make sense to me and creating new options instead—this is the core philosophy that defines my way of life. I took a leave of absence from graduate school to work at an architectural firm in Switzerland.

After graduating, instead of joining a company, I founded my own architectural firm. I pioneered a new service called participatory renovation, and after 15 years of practice, I have gained a deeper understanding of its impact.

Now, we are on a journey to establish an architecture school open to the world on a small island in the Seto Inland Sea. From my university days until now, I would like to share what I have been thinking, what I have aimed to create through entrepreneurship, and how I hope to contribute to society.



Apply from QR ↓

**Application Deadline**  
**5/21 (Wed.) 12:00**

<https://forms.office.com/r/AQn2DQp9m3>



@EVENING\_LOUNGE\_EIKEI



# Mr. KONO Nao



Born in 1984 in Mihara City, Hiroshima Prefecture. During student years, worked on traditional townhouse renovations as a carpenter's assistant. After working at an architectural firm in Switzerland, completed his graduate studies at Kyoto University. At the age of 26, instead of joining an existing company, co-founded **Tsumiki Design&Build** in Ichikawa City, Chiba, together with Momoko Kono.

With the philosophy of "**Making Together**," developed **participatory renovation**, where residents and builders collaborate in the construction process. Centered in Ichikawa City, organized over 500 DIY workshops. The work has since expanded internationally, leading DIY workshops in South Korea, the United States, Norway, and other countries.

Also the author of "**Making Together: DIY Workshops**" and served as the director of the "**Makers on Making**" lecture series on architectural production management at the University of Tokyo in 2021.



## Awards & Recognition:

- Japan Institute of Architects Design Competition, Grand Prize (2009)
- SD Review 2009, Kajima Award (2009)
- Kyoto University President's Award (2009)
- Greenz Best Like Award (2012)
- Forestry Agency Wood Design Award, Social Design Category (2016 & 2017)
- Ichikawa City Landscape Award (2022)
- Future Architect Award (2022)

