

Throughout Japanese culture, cranes have been associated with longevity and good luck. The idea is that cranes are a symbol of living a long life, as it is a national treasure and is considered the bird of happiness. It is said that cranes live 1,000 years and it is believed that if you fold 1,000 origami cranes, your wish will come true. Cranes often serve as an inspiration for kimono designs, particularly for formal occasions like weddings, tea ceremonies, and other important events. They usually have the colors of white, black, and red that are associated with the native of East Asia and inspired by Japanese art. The red-crowned cranes carry the colors that strike the symbol of purity, and new beginnings, black represents dignity and strength, and to conclude red signifies celebration and happiness. The colors that I used to design the cranes in my kimono are powder blue, peach, brown, red, and black. The river kawa is also a symbolic design that has brought value to Japanese culture and the inspiration behind its lines. In Japanese, kawa means river, as it is used as a metaphor for a river to represent a person's life flow or occupational journey. The river is a representation of the dynamic between the ever-changing nature of life, while the rocks, debris, and waves of the river symbolize obstacles, challenges, and personal experiences. The colors that I chose for the kawa design in my kimono were sky blue, blue, violet purple, turquoise blue, and car yellow. The Japanese have always admired the moon as a sort of sacred deity, as the full moon is considered more beautiful in mid-autumn when the air is crisp and clear. Below I have provided the two Japanese artworks that inspired my design:

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