

## SPECIAL THANKS

The Japan-America Society expresses its appreciation to our great volunteer Chairs and Sub-Chairs, who have worked with us for the past five months to organize this year's Festival:

Nicole Cadiente, Christy Fisher, Jessica Kling, Wen Lu, Rob Okano, Steven Huggs, Derrick Vann, Mark Shrout, Joanna Blatchly, Kat Kovacs, Jeremy Ames, Taka Ariga, Jennifer Hanley, Sarah Tillotson, Jane Chung, KC Kelly, Val McMillan, Yoshio Inazumi, Caroline Holbrook, Andra Dennet, Michael Martin, Akiyoshi Onda, Ken Innes, Isi Oribabor, Lauren Marr, Fumino Tamaki, Mason Donley, Joshua Beatty, Jeff Look, Anna Lowry, P J Santiago, Kent Kibbie, Michael Pond, Satchel Kornfeld, Carmela Laygo, Andy Ames, Trina Bowman, Yoko Kimura, Taurean Barnwell, Kazutomo Terada, Hangyul Chang, Chris Lee, Hirofumi Suto, Keith Hagg, Melissa Famula, Carmel Morgan, Brian Dooley, Catherine Parker, Daria Medved, Lisa Niven, Greg Smith, Ashley Green, Dawn Kawasaki, Jennie Gold, Jenny Oh, Ian Petta, Brian Keefer, Dominic Cerquetti, Chuck Fozard

Thanks also to our 700+ volunteers, who are "on the ground" with us today, and the many officials of the District of Columbia Government who worked with us to permit the 2012 Festival to take place.

Special thanks to Shinichiro and Ikuko Hirai of Kyoto, Japan and to Eunice Choi and Yumiko Nishi

Stay in touch with Japan all year long with  
the Japan-America Society of Washington DC

[www.jaswdc.org](http://www.jaswdc.org)

Design and illustration by Eunice Choi

# Welcome to the 52nd Annual Sakura Matsuri Japanese Street Festival

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF THE GIFT OF TREES

  
washingtonexaminer.com  
Your Information Source for the Sakura Matsuri



Presented by

 The Japan-America Society  
of Washington DC

April 14, 2012

The Japan-America Society of Washington DC  
Presents

## The 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Sakura Matsuri

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Thanks also to **Amway**, **Orkin**, and **Play Safe in the Sun**  
for their support of the 52nd Sakura Matsuri.  
Be sure to visit with our sponsors today!

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## THE 52<sup>nd</sup> ANNUAL SAKURA MATSURI Japanese Street Festival

**Ambassador John R. Malott** *President & CEO*

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**Nobu Iwata Dooley** *Assistant Festival Director*

**Colette H. Fozard** *Operations Manager*

**Sariya Phoungphol** *Volunteer Coordinator*

**Bokyung "Bella" Kim** *Festival Intern*

**Hiroshi Sasakura** *Festival Intern*

**Sachiko Stokes** *Festival Intern*

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The Japan-America Society of Washington DC

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# GINZA MARKETPLACE



**Arise Bazaar**

Three booths of kimono, obi, gifts, ceramics, jewelry, and yukata

**Fired Up Dichroic Designs & Julie B's Jewels**

Handcrafted cherry blossom jewelry in glass, clay and chiyogami paper

**Greentea Design**

Japanese arts & crafts

**J Flair Homestyles**

Bento lunch boxes, decorations, kitchenware, and other Japanese crafts

**J-Wave**

Japanese stationery and costumes

**Japan-Wave**

Kokeshi dolls and Japanese accessories

**Kiteya Soho**

Fashion accessories and kimono direct from Kyoto

**Kyoto Kimono**

Vintage (circa 1950-70) kimono robes, jackets and obi from Kyoto temple markets

**Minamoto Kitchoan**

Sampling and selling Japanese sweets (wagashi)

**NCBF**

Official National Cherry Blossom Festival merchandise

**Nippon Kodo**

Selling and sampling Japanese incense

**Sarah Pei's Paintings & Pearls**

Japanese style paintings and jewelry

**Yoko Dana Kimono**

Vintage kimono, fabrics, accessories, and décor, including many hand-made items



**Love it again  
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## TASTE OF JAPAN

This year the Sakura Matsuri has 25 food vendors in the Taste of Japan area, sponsored by The Coca-Cola Company. Below is a list of restaurants and food type, with their tent numbers.

### *Among the restaurants with us today are:*

- Asia Nine Bar and Lounge (Japanese/Asian) #22
- Asian Grille (Thai) #8
- Cafe Ima (Japanese) #21
- Dolci Gelati (Gelato) #23, #25
- Eastern Star Catering (Mediterranean) #24
- Food Fest (Thai) #13
- Greddie Chicken (Thai) #1
- Hama Sushi (Japanese) #9
- Naders Bistro and Grill (Greek) #4
- National Sushi Society, Inc. (Japanese) #14, #15, #16
- Nut n Better (Nuts) #6
- Sawasdi Grill (Thai) #10
- Sno Dream Snow Ice and Japanese Crepes (Sweets) #17
- So Poong Restaurant (Korean) #11
- Strawberry Street Event Concessions (Seafood) #5
- Sushi Express (Japanese) #7
- T.K. Grill (Thai) #20
- Terrace Thai (Thai) #2
- The Chicken Smells Good (Asian) #3
- Yoshi and Thai Thai (Thai) #12
- Yummy Food Corner & Grill (Asian) #18, #19



MetLife is a proud sponsor of the  
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Enduring friendship is a beautiful thing to celebrate.

MetLife is proud to celebrate this year's centennial anniversary of the gift of tears.

To share our ongoing support of the Japan-US relationship and to commemorate this special occasion, MetLife will plant cherry blossom trees in areas of Japan impacted by recent natural disasters. As a leading life insurer in both the US and Japan, this symbolizes our continued commitment to serve our communities around the world. To learn more visit [metlifecentennial.com/2011](http://metlifecentennial.com/2011)

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COME TO THE  
**SAKE TASTING**

Here's your chance to learn everything about Japan's favorite drink. Come to the Hakutsuru Sake Tasting Pavilion to sample and enjoy six different kinds of quality sake. Plus you will receive a special souvenir sake glass to take home.

**The Sake Tasting Pavilion** is on the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue, mid-way between 11th and 12th Streets.

Hakutsuru means "white crane." Founded in 1743, it is based in the Nada section of Kobe, one of Japan's most famous sake producing areas.



**Sayonara, Gluten.**

Hello, genuine Asian flavors. Let lucky kitty introduce you to San-J Tamari Gluten Free Soy Sauces made with 100% soy, Asian Cooking Sauces, and Salad Dressings all made with no wheat. They may be certified gluten-free, but they are also rich and delicious. It starts with our traditional brewing process, and ends with the most mouthwatering creations imaginable. Bring home San-J today, and make everyone at your dinner table feel lucky.



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Astellas embraces the concepts of holistic wellness and integrative medicine. With the support of the Astellas USA Foundation, Hoichi Kariisu and the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens in Delray Beach, Florida, recently launched the groundbreaking Therapeutic Walking Program. The program provides a reflective atmosphere that helps patients improve their mood and process difficult feelings, making life more positive.

To learn more about the Morikami and the Therapeutic Walking Program, visit the Astellas tent during Sakura Matsuri. Active military personnel who visit the Astellas tent will receive one free admission to the Morikami.

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THERE'S LOT OF FUN AT THE

## CHILDREN'S CORNER



The Children's Corner is one of the busiest and most popular spots at the Sakura Matsuri. Sponsored this year by the Sony Corporation this interactive, "hands on" tent features origami, story telling, calligraphy, the "chopsticks challenge," fish kite painting, and more.

Plus there's over six hours of performances and interviews on the Children's Corner stage, including Japanese astronaut Satoshi Furukawa, NASCAR driver Akinori Ogata, shamisen genius Sho Asano, and real ninja!

Here's the performance schedule  
for the Children's Corner stage:

- 11:15 Kamishibai (Japanese story reading)
- 12:00 Sho Asano, shamisen player
- 12:45 The Balloon Man - Learn animal names in Japanese
- 1:30 Japanese Astronaut Dr. Satoshi Furukawa
- 2:15 Ninja demonstration
- 3:00 Fashion Show
- 3:45 NASCAR Driver Akinori Ogata
- 4:30 Gu Choki Pa - Rock-Paper-Scissors Challenge
- 5:00 Great Falls Elementary School Chorus



# PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

## Pennsylvania Ave Stage at 13th Street

11:00	Opening Introduction	Nen Daiko
11:15	Washington Toho Koto Society	
11:30		
11:45	The Shizumi Kodomo Dance Troupe	Shinto Foundation
12:00		Chin Hamaya Daiko
12:15	The City of Iga Ninja Show	Washington Japanese Heritage Center ('Keisho Center')
12:30		
12:45		
1:00	Astronaut Dr. Furukawa	Taka-Bushi
1:15	Tamagusuku Ryu Keisho Kai & Okinawa Sanshin	Kajimai
1:30		
1:45	Japanese Ambassador Fujisaki	
2:00	Tamagawa University Dance and Taiko Group	Cherry Blossom Princesses
2:15		
2:30		Maki Kaji Godfather of Sudoku
2:45		
3:00	Yokohama Arameya Ondo	Biwanko Childrens Taiko Group
3:15		
3:30	Shamisen Artist: Sho Asano	ORIENTARHYTHM
3:45		
4:00		
4:15	Samurai Sword Soul	Okinawan Taiko Drummers of Wisconsin and Embassy Children
4:30		
4:45		
5:00	Yamakiya Taiko Group	Kizuna Taiko Group
5:15		
5:30		
5:45		

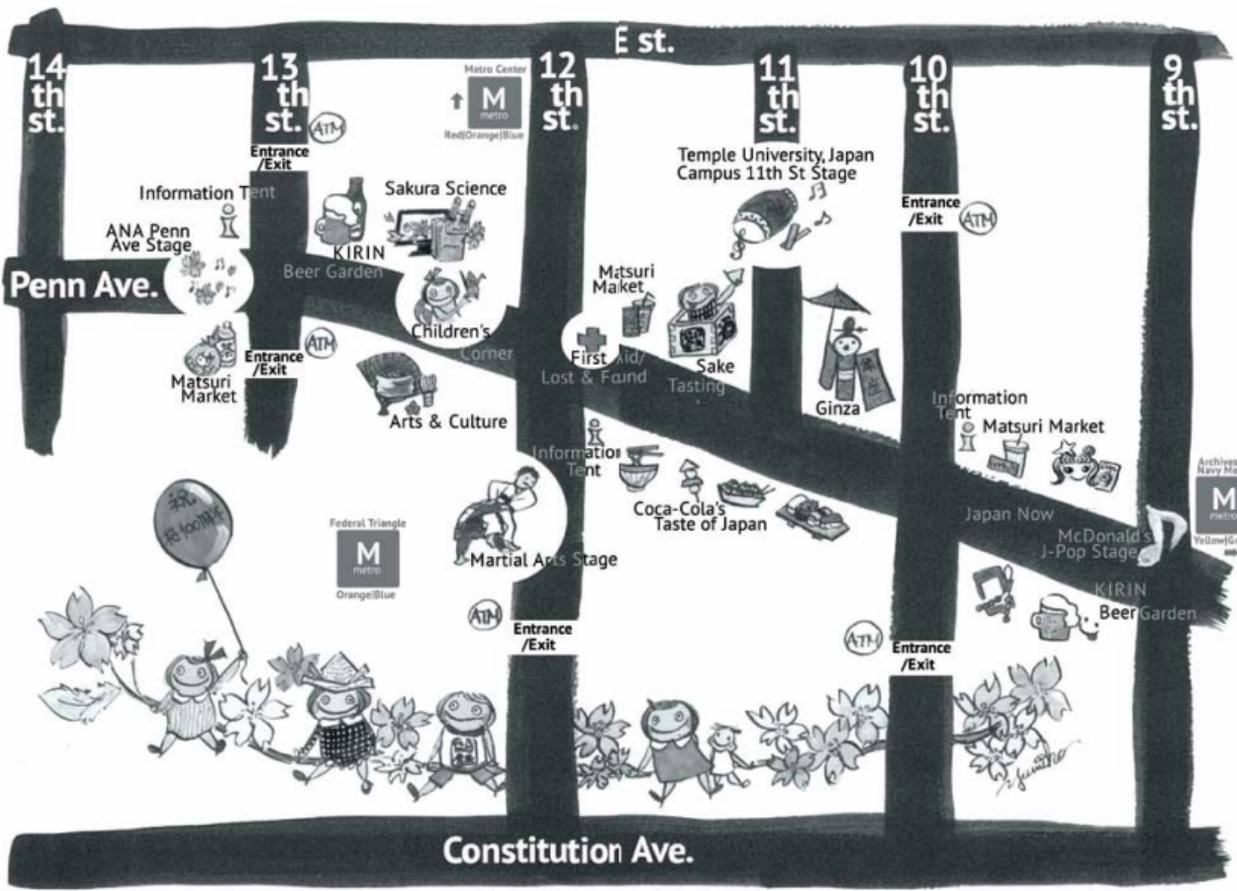
## 11th Street Stage

# PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE

## J-Pop Stage 9th and Pennsylvania

11:00	Opening Introduction	Hoboykan
11:15	Ryukyu Chimdon Orchestra	
11:30		
11:45	JASA Team So-ran	Washington Judo Club
12:00		Seichou Karate Dojo
12:15	HIFANA	Tenshinsho Jigen Ryu Sogobudo Keishokai
12:30		
12:45		
1:00		Capital Area Budokai
1:15	ORIENTARHYTHM	
1:30		
1:45	Reni Mimura Moe Performer	
2:00	The Asterplace	Students of NoVA Traditional Okinawan Isshinryu Karate Club
2:15		
2:30		
2:45		
3:00	SUNY Geneseo's Soran-Bushi Team	Aikido of Arlington
3:15		
3:30	AnimeUSA Cosplay Fashion Show	Tenshinsho Jigen Ryu Sogobudo Keishokai
3:45		
4:00		
4:15	HIFANA	The City of Iga Ninja Show
4:30		
4:45		
5:00	Ryukyu Chimdon Orchestra	Ten Shin Ichi Ryu Japanese Martial Arts
5:15		
5:30		
5:45		

## Martial Arts Stage on 12th Street



Constitution Ave.



## PERFORMING ARTISTS

### AnimeUSA Cosplay Fashion Show

Featuring local cosplayers and costumes from anime, manga and video games

### Biwanko Childrens Taiko Group

Children 6-14 perform Suwa Traditional Taiko Music and Japanese Kabuki Dance Mix

### Chin Hamaya Daiko

Okinawan taiko drumming, plus traditional eisa and shisa

### DJ-Masa

Spins Japanese music all day long from 12th Street

### Hifana

From Okinawa, Hifana performs polyrhythmic tunes on a variety of instruments and electronic devices

### JASA Team So-ran

Two dance crews perform stylish Japanese dances

### Kajimai

From Okinawa, Kajimai shows off the traditional Eisa dance – a rhythmic and dynamic dance in time with beating drums

### KIZUNA

KIZUNA reunites three friends as they share their passion for taiko, paying homage to the traditions of Japanese drumming while seeking to innovate this dynamic art form.

### Maki Kaji

The "godfather of Sudoku" returns to the Festival with a new and exciting challenge!

### Nen Daiko

Washington's own kumi daiko group (ensemble drumming) performs traditional festival songs and contemporary compositions

### Iga City Ninja Show

From the ancient Japanese Province of Iga, ninjas demonstrate exciting Ninja movements on stage.

### Okinawan Taiko Drummers of Wisconsin

This student group performs a variety of traditional Okinawan dances, which include drums, flags, hand (puppet) Shisas, and large Shisa (lion-dog/dragon).

### ORIENTARHYTHM

Back from Japan by popular demand, enjoy these hip-hop martial artists

### Reni Mimura

Adorable, high-energy "Moe" performance by singer-dancer Reni Mimura

### Ryukyu Chimdon Orchestra

From Okinawa, a mixture of Japanese-Asian pop music and traditional Ryukyu songs

## PERFORMING ARTISTS

### Samurai Sword Soul

Beautifully choreographed Japanese sword-fighting set to traditional as well as rock music

### Sho Asano

From Tohoku, a young master of the 3-stringed tsugaru shamisen

### SUNY Geneseo's Soran-Bushi Team

Performs the Soran-Bushi, an energetic, traditional Japanese fishermen's dance

### Taka-Bushi

American University students perform the traditional Soran Bushi dance

### Tamagawa University Dance and Taiko Group

Thundering taiko drumming meets traditional Japanese dance. One of the top-ranked taiko groups in Japan from a great performing arts university.

### Tamagusuku Ryu Keisho Kai & Okinawa Sanshin

From Kin, Okinawa, they perform lively folk dances from the farming and fishing villages of Okinawa. The Okinawa Sanshin of Washington accompanies them on traditional instruments.

### The Asterplace

Enjoy the rocking sounds of this anime rock band based in New York City!

### The Shizumi Kodomo Dance Troupe

A truly multicultural dance company of children 5 to 17 years old performs traditional Japanese dances.

### Washington Japanese Heritage Center (Keisho Center)

This young children's group sings songs from the 8th to 21st centuries to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the gift of trees. Has performed at Sakura Matsuri since 2005.

### Washington Toho Koto Society

Come see the Washington DC masters of the koto, Japan's traditional string instrument.

### Yamakiya Taiko Group

Junior and senior high school students from Fukushima, whose love of taiko drumming has kept them together over the past year

### Yokohama Arameya Ondo

From Yokohama, they perform the Bon Dance (Japanese traditional festival dance) group

### Tokyo City Street Performers

From Tokyo come Edo-daikagura, Shichiku Yoshiyuki, HIBI Chazz-k, and G Choko Marble

# MARTIAL ARTIST

## Aikido of Arlington

Aikido is a traditional non-competitive Japanese martial art, which uses joint locks or throws to counter grabs and strikes.

## Capital Area Budokai

Three different groups of the Capital Area Budokai demonstrate the martial art of the staff, the Japanese polearm, and Japanese sword martial arts.

## Genbukan Kageshin Dojo

This is the source of all Japanese martial arts. The Kageshin Dojo is a licensed Genbukan school with instructors in Delaware, Baltimore, Washington DC and Northern Virginia.

## Hobyokan

Demonstrates three Japanese martial traditions: Shindo Muso Ryu, Jiki Shinkage Ryu, and Yagyū Shinkage Ryu with swords, staff, kusarigamajutsu (a composite sickle & chain weapon), and the classical police truncheon (jutte-jutsu).

## Seichou Karate Dojo

Demonstrates traditional Japanese karate technique, movement patterns, and free-fighting

## Students of NoVA

### Traditional Okinawan Isshinryu Karate Club

Demonstrates Okinawan martial arts, including kihon (basic sets), kata (defensive sets), kobudo (use of traditional Okinawan farm implements for defense), kumite (two person practice) and tameshiwari (breaking)

### Ten Shin Ichi Ryu Japanese Martial Arts

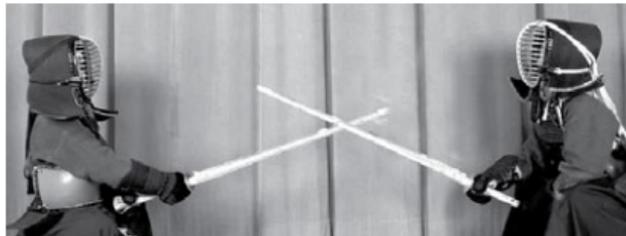
Demonstrates the art of Iaido - Japanese sword - along with other traditional Japanese weapons and open hand defense techniques.

### Tenshinsho Jigen Ryu Sogobudo Keishokai

A classic Japanese martial arts school founded in the early 1500s, its current Headmaster has travelled from Kasukabe, Japan to lead Japanese and American students in a demonstration of the Iai and Kenjutsu forms.

### Virginia Kyudo Renmei

A continuous demonstration of Japanese archery. The group shooting (embu no dose) demonstrates the individual and group dynamics demanded of its practitioners.



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## ARTS AND CULTURE

### American Daiku Association

Based in Silver Spring, Maryland, it brings classic elements of Japanese woodworking and architecture to the Festival.

### Astellas and the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens

Experience the healing power of nature through designer Hoichi Kuriisu's recreation of the therapeutic garden at the Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens in Florida.

### Aurora Bath and Jewels/Capitol Cherry Blossom

Capitol Cherry Blossom soaps, candles, bath products, fizzy Bath Bombs, teas, gift packs and various cherry blossom accessories, handcrafted in Washington, DC

### Central Japan Railway Company/Northeast Maglev

Display and explanation of Japan's latest "bullet train" technology

### Chikako Designs

Chikako Designs offers you a line of unique designs that include handbags, accessories, clothing, men's neckties and infant clothing. All of Chikako's designs are inspired by a combination of her Asian heritage and her Western upbringing.

### City of Yokohama

The port from which the cherry trees left Japan for America, Yokohama has been a gateway to Japan for people and cultures from the world. It stands beautiful and attractive in every season.

### Ekouji Buddhist Temple: The Temple of the Gift of Light

Games and treats for all, as well as information on future seminars, festivals, and classes at their temple. Buddhist chantings at 2:00pm.

### Fukushima Sakura Project

Fukushima Prefecture presents an exhibit of arts and crafts.

### Haiku Society of America

Try your hand at writing haiku or sewing a Japanese booklet. We will have experienced poets and a bookmaker on hand to demonstrate and explain these Japanese art forms.

### Hearts for Japan

Will paint and sell T-shirts with the Ezome technique, as well as greeting cards and calligraphy. Proceeds will be donated to schools in Japan affected by the earthquake and tsunami in 2011.

### Heavenly Cranes Jewelry

Japanese washi paper is used as beads and then combined with sterling silver and gold, glass beads and other elements to create a very elegant assortment of jewelry.

### International Shinto Foundation

Invites visitors to learn the Japanese way of saying prayers and giving thanks, Presents kagura, a Shinto sacred dance and a performance of shou (an ancient reed instrument).

### Ishida Bonsai

Ishida Bonsai from Kensington, MD returns to the Festival to demonstrate proper care techniques for bonsai.

### Japan Railroad Modelers of Washington DC

Scaled reproductions of Japanese trains and railways. Learn more about Japan's railroads, the primary method of travel in the country.

### Japanese Americans' Care Fund

Presents demonstrations of Japanese cooking throughout the day, sponsored by San-J.

### Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA)

Meet with WW II Japanese American Veterans from the famed 100 Battalion and 442 Regimental Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service (MIS), as well as veterans from the Korean, Vietnam, Desert Storm, the Afghanistan, and Iraq Wars.

### Japanese Craft & More

Origami crafts, dish arts, fans, wall scrolls and bamboos etc.

### Japanese Dolls and Crafts School

Beautiful dolls made with carved wood, silk materials, and glue. No sewing required! Skilled students learn to make the head and limbs and paint faces.

### JR East

The Japan National Tourism Organization joins JR East in promoting tourism in Japan, including to the Tohoku region. Also see the latest models and videos of Japan's famous bullet trains!

### Let's Speak Japanese! 日本語できます!

Learn about the Japanese language or practice your Japanese. Calligraphy demonstrations and much more. Presented by the JCAW Foundation.

### Metropolitan Washington Area Go Clubs

Learn GO, the ancient strategy game. Demonstrations and teaching throughout the day.

### Mie Prefectural Government

Ninjas from Iga, the origin of the ninja, will teach you how to throw authentic Japanese throwing stars!

### Miouka

Japanese crafts and hand-made goods

### NASCAR Driver Akinori Ogata

Come visit and take a picture with the only Japanese driver on the NASCAR circuit and his car.

### Sakura Science

Science activities, exploration of the "Micro World," experiments using origami, and videos from the Japanese Science Channel.

### Shabana Origami & Kumihimo Jewelry

Demonstrates how to use Chiyogami Washi paper to create whimsical jewelry, including sakura pins and earrings and 2012 Year of the Dragon jewelry.

### Tohoku - Michinoku Kai

The Michinoku-kai showcase the the Tohoku (Northeast) region of Japan and provides an update on recovery efforts after the earthquake and tsunami.

### Tokyo Mizuhiki Art School

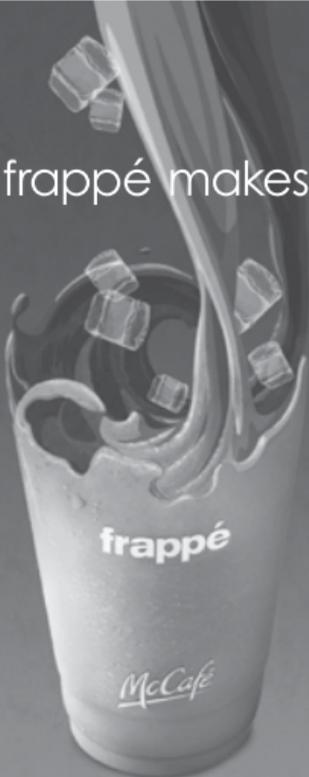
An ancient art form that uses a special cord made from rice paper to create an array of decorative items. The art form originally was used to tie the hair of the samurai.

### U.S. and Japanese Cherry Blossom Queens and Wishing Trees

The Japanese and US Cherry Blossom Queens and 2012 Cherry Blossom Princesses will be at the tent for photo ops with everyone.

### U.S. National Arboretum, National Bonsai & Penjing Museum

The U.S. National Arboretum's extensive gardens and collections include masterpiece bonsai displayed in the National Bonsai and Penjing Museum.



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## JAPAN NOW !!



It's got a new name - Japan Now! - and it showcases modern, youthful Japan. And still at the center is the J-POP Stage, sponsored again this year by McDonald's, and featuring some great Japanese performers. Be sure to visit the **JAPAN WOW !! pavilion**, featuring some of the latest, hottest trends from Japan.

### Alicia's Anime

Anime and video game related t-shirts, bags and kimmi dolls

### Anime Gift

Umbrellas, anime merchandise, traditional arts and crafts

### Cosplay Photo Area

Take your picture with a cosplayer in front of a hip scene of Tokyo! Presented in cooperation with Katsucson.

### HKT inc./mugentoy.com

HKT/mugentoy.com is an importer and wholesaler of Japanese toys and collectibles

### Holy Cow Anime

Rare vintage Japanese anime, such as, Sailor Moon, Tenchi Muyo, Yu Yu Hakusho, Cardcaptors, and Digimon

### I Heart Guts!

Supercute internal organ character T-shirts, plush toys, lapel pins and more

### It Cosplay

Anime costumes, cosplay accessories, necklace, keychains, hats, rings, and wigs

### Japanese American Student Union of DC

An intercollegiate organization of Japanese student groups in DC, MD and VA

### Kat's Anime Hats

Handmade anime and video game-inspired hats, cat ears and tails. Hand-made takos also available for adoption.

### Modondi

Kawaii accessories and apparel that are a fusion of East and West

### NCBF

Official National Cherry Blossom Festival's wide selection of festival-related merchandise and bring home a memory of your visit!

### Sakuragardenshop

Anime and ancient style digital art work, jewelry and pocket watches

### ShopKawaii.com

Cute Japanese fancy goods, like San-X Rilakkuma, and Sentimental Circus. Stationery, plush toys, wallets, and bento boxes with the most 'kawaii' designs!

### Signature Imports

Japanese toys, figures, video game-related merchandise, plush toys and dolls, anime trading figures, and jewelry

### Stuffed Sushi

Homemade sushi roll and riceball plushies in assorted sizes and 'flavors!' Original sushi themed t-shirts, buttons, magnets, and Japanese coin jewelry.

### T-MODE

Come meet the fun folks from T-MODE, a local anime and video game convention, and enjoy their matsuri games!

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