



## CEO of the Asia New Zealand Foundation Simon Draper

The Asia New Zealand Foundation is delighted to support the fifth Japan Festival of Wellington. The popularity of this festival is a testament to the warm relationship between New Zealand and Japan.

We're delighted to be hosting ventriloquist, comedian and rakugo storyteller Showko for the 2016 festival.

Wellington enjoys extensive ties to Japan through business links, educational links, rugby and other sporting exchanges, to name but a few. This festival has something for everyone, thanks to the capital's established Japanese community and to passionate New Zealanders who have spent time living and working in Japan.

The Asia New Zealand Foundation supports events like the Japan Festival of Wellington because our research tells us that the more New Zealanders experience Asian cultures, the more confident and positive they feel about interacting with Asia as a whole. We also provide many opportunities for New Zealanders to experience Japan first-hand, including through our arts, business, education and media programmes. [asianz.org.nz](http://asianz.org.nz)



## Message from the Ambassador of Japan H.E. Mr. Toshihisa Takata

It is a great pleasure to me to welcome you all to the Japan Festival of Wellington 2016.

The Festival follows on from those held in 2014 and 2012, which proved to be very popular. I am delighted that this largest Japanese cultural event in the city is being held again this year, and I would like to thank the Wellington City Council for their enormous support in organising this event.

The festival will showcase a variety of modern and traditional Japanese culture that reflects the distinctive identity of Japan and its people, including martial arts, traditional dance and music, Japanese food and beer, an exhibition of eco-friendly Japanese cars, and much more.

It is also notable to mention that the 43rd Joint Meeting of the Japan New Zealand Business Council will take place from 23 to 25 November with prominent business leaders from Japan and New Zealand gathering together at Te Papa. I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all business leaders from both Japan and New Zealand who will attend this joint meeting.

The festival will be a great time to celebrate relations between Japan and New Zealand, and I hope this event will be an important occasion to demonstrate the close and cordial relationship between our two countries.

I would also like to take this opportunity to mention that Japan will proudly host the Rugby World Cup in 2019, and the Olympic and Paralympic Games in 2020. As you may be travelling to Japan during these global sporting events, I wish that your experiences at this festival will inspire you explore our country more and experience the hospitality of our people.



## Message from Wellington Mayor Justin Lester

Hello, こんにちは kon'nichiwa.

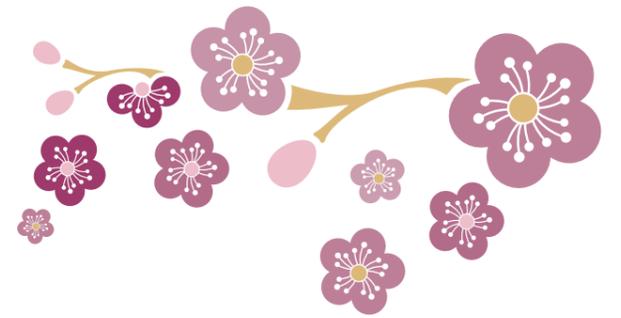
Welcome to the Japan Festival 2016

Japan is a place of great beauty, with wonderful food, fascinating history and meaningful traditions. It's a place where it's possible for every single one of your senses to be engaged at the same time. Wellington's Japan Festival brings a little of Japan here to you.

For some, this festival will be an opportunity to connect with their Japanese heritage, 伝統 dentou. For others, it's a way to get to know the culture, 文化 bunka, better. Either way, you're going to have a wonderful festival experience, 体験 taiken.

Wellington City Council are delighted to support this event. We value our relationship with Japan and look forward to growing and strengthening our ties.

Let's enjoy together, いっしょに楽しみましょう, issho ni tanoshimi mashou!



# JAPAN FESTIVAL WELLINGTON

TSB Bank Arena, Saturday 26 November

### Main Stage

11am	Taikoza (Matsuri Taiko)
11.25am	Yosakoi Dance
11.40am	Official speech
12pm	Wishing Bright Life (Calligraphy performance)
12.25pm	Showko
12.55pm	The Mukume Taiko Drummers
1.20pm	Cosplay Competition
2.35pm	IPU KODAMA Japanese Drum Team
3.15pm	Na-Na-Mi
3.40pm	Budo of the Samurai
4pm	Japanese Kendama duo, Zoomadanke
4.30pm	Koten Dance Group
4.45pm	Wellington Naginata
5.10pm	Kyudo Performance
5.40pm	Iaido – The art of the Japanese Sword
6pm	Aikido
6.15pm	Aki Tsubaki
6.55pm	Narukami Taiko Drumming

### Outside

11am	Narukami Taiko Drumming
12pm	Japanese Kendama duo, Zoomadanke
1pm	IPU KODAMA Japanese Drum Team
2pm	The Mukume Taiko Drummers
3pm	Taikoza (Matsuri Taiko)

\*Programme subject to change

### Organised by:



Embassy of Japan  
In New Zealand



Asia New Zealand  
Foundation

Absolutely Positively  
Wellington City Council  
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

### Sponsored by:



CLAIR  
Japan Local Government Centre  
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JNZBC  
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EXPO'70 FUND  
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Kirin Beer  
Mac's Brewbar  
Akiko Crowther  
Kumiko Matsumoto  
Rieko Woodford-Robinson  
Joyce Wu  
Wellington Japanese Community

[wellington.govt.nz](http://wellington.govt.nz)



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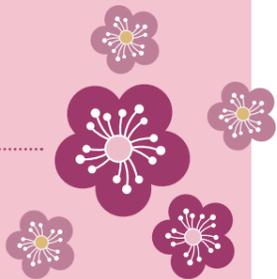
## Wellington-Sakai sister city relationship

In 1994 Sakai Mayor Hideo Hataya and Wellington Mayor Fran Wilde formally signed the sister city agreement in Wellington.

In 1995 the Wellington Sakai Association was established in Wellington along with the Sakai Wellington association in Sakai.

The Sakai Wellington Association donated 46 cherry blossom trees which were planted in Katherine Mansfield Park so that Wellingtonians could also enjoy spring in Japan.

Wellington and Sakai share a variety of exchanges, including educational exchanges, an annual marathon event, and exhibitions of art, pottery and ikebana.



## Festival Day – Free

11am–7pm, 26 November, TSB Bank Arena

More than 30,000 visitors are expected to attend Japan Festival Day, which will feature local and international Japanese performers. Delicious Japanese food stalls add to the taste of the day and visitors can experience the famous traditional tea ceremony.

The programme will include:

- Taiko performance and workshop
- Martial arts displays – Kyudo, Naginata and laido
- Origami workshop
- Tea Ceremony
- Children's Koto dance
- International performers – Showko, Zoomadanke, Aki Tsubaki and Calligraphy master Hokai Shibayama
- Okinawa Potter Tadashi Takaesu
- Food and cultural stalls
- Photo exhibition of Japanese immigrants living in New Zealand
- Overload + Wellington Japan Festival Cosplay Competition
- Stamp rally
- Mochi pounding

# JAPAN FESTIVAL WELLINGTON

18 November–4 December

Japan Festival Wellington celebrates the relationship between New Zealand and Japan by bringing Japanese culture and businesses to the capital for an array of spectacular events.

The fifth Japan Festival is brought to you by Wellington City Council, Asia New Zealand Foundation and the Embassy of Japan, with support from Wellington's Japanese community.

## Wellington and Sakai sister city photo exhibition: *A Day In The Life*

18 November–3 December, Wellington Central Library Mezzanine Bridge

Wellingtonians and Sakai residents share their everyday experiences in *A Day in the Life* photo exhibition.

## Martial Arts Display

12.45–1.30pm, 19 November, Te Papa "VOID", 2nd floor foyer



Enjoy an exciting visual display of some of Japan's most interesting weapon-based martial arts, including the Samurai sword art of Kendo (the way of the sword), laido (quick drawing of the sword), the unique whirl of the Naginata (the Japanese halberd) and the power of the Bo staff.

## Wellington Children's Art Exhibition

21–25 November, Michael Fowler Centre



Wellington City Council and three Wellington artists – Kumiko Matsumoto, Rieko Woodford-Robinson and Joyce Wu – bring the Children's Art Exhibition to Wellington as a part of the Japan Festival. Selected exhibited artwork will be sent to Wellington's Sister City, Sakai for the 15th annual Children's Art Exchange Exhibition in February 2017.

## Kirin Beer Garden

21–27 November\*, 3–8pm, Mac's Brewbar



Relax by the waterfront and enjoy a glass of Japanese beer in Wellington Japan Festival's outdoor Beer Garden, proudly brought to you by Kirin Beer and Mac's Brewbar. Experience the flavour of Japan through premium quality Kirin beers, unique tastings and a special Japanese themed food menu available during the evening.

\*Check out the Festival's Facebook page for updates on open days and times during 21–27 November, [www.facebook.com/The-Japan-Festival-of-Wellington-610223832430677/](http://www.facebook.com/The-Japan-Festival-of-Wellington-610223832430677/)

## Japan Festival Show

6.30pm–8:00pm, 25 November, Te Papa Soundings Theatre



### International performers

#### Showko

Acclaimed ventriloquist and comedian Showko (Australia's Got Talent) is like nothing you've experienced before. Her hilarious ventriloquy and audience participation leaves the crowd screaming for more. Wrapped in a funky kimono and high heels, Showko has entertained audiences of all ages around the world.



#### Zoomadanke

Well-known Kendama duo "Kodaman" and "Easy" have enthralled both television and live audiences from Japan to Hawaii, Brazil, South East Asia and Europe. This year ZOOMADANKE hits the Japan Festival stage in Wellington.



#### Aki Tsubaki

Japanese singer Tsubaki performs a soulful mix of jazz, bossa nova, flamenco and originals.

## Japan New Zealand Business Council Conference

23–25 November, Te Papa

The annual 43rd conference, is held for the first time in Wellington and is expected to attract 180 delegates from Japan and New Zealand.

A conference theme "Partnership and Connectivity" will focus on economic and trade issues confronting both economies including the TPPA, energy and climate change, and opportunities in technology and innovation industries.

## Japanese CARnival

24–25 November, 10am–5pm, Te Papa Museum forecourt

26 November, 11am–5pm, under the sails at Queens Wharf

The Embassy of Japan and the Wellington City Council are pleased to announce Japanese CARnival, exhibiting the newest and most progressive models of Japanese car and demonstrating Japan's spirit of innovation and technology.

## Wishing Bright Life! Hokai Shibayama Calligraphy Exhibition

27 November–4 December, NZ Academy of Fine Arts



This year, the Embassy of Japan is proud to host the celebrated work of Hokai Shibayama, an acclaimed master calligrapher. He has held award-winning solo exhibitions in Japan, China, France, Germany and the USA just to name a few.

His art is the culmination of years of study and practice. You can enjoy it on display at the NZ Academy of Fine Arts in Wellington.

