

Embassy of Japan

Press Release/Opportunity

19 February



Jewels of Kyoto - Traditional Dance and Talk by Japanese Maiko (Apprentice Geisha)

Memorial Theatre, Victoria University of Wellington
Kelburn campus, Kelburn Parade
Saturday 5 March 2016 14:30 – 16:00



The Embassy of Japan together with the Japan Foundation, the Office of the Deputy-Vice Chancellor (Engagement) and the School of Languages and Culture, Victoria University of Wellington are proud to present an opportunity to see maiko for the first time in New Zealand (Wellington and Auckland). In this demonstration and explanation, the maiko will introduce their culture and lifestyle, as well as perform traditional dances.

This is an exclusive opportunity to experience first-hand the amazing talents of two maiko from Kyoto. Known as the ancient capital of Japan with over a thousand years of history, Kyoto is home to about 180 geisha and 70 maiko.

What is a maiko?

Maiko are apprentice geisha, female artists who spend years mastering traditional Japanese arts such as kyomai dancing, tea ceremony, flower arrangement and playing the koto (traditional string instrument) before becoming fully fledged geisha.

This once in a lifetime event is offered for free (booking essential). Booking details for this event are available on our website: www.nz.emb-japan.go.jp

This event is sure to appeal to lovers of Japanese culture and language, as well as those interested in kimono and textile design, dance and history.

Should you like to cover this event, or organise an interview, please contact the Japan Information and Cultural Centre at the Embassy of Japan.

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