

Jcd Newsletter

Successful Hinamatsuri 2024 in DIA

One year has passed since last year's Hinamatsuri "Return to the DIA". This year marks exactly 10 years since DIA embarked on the road to revitalization after financial bankruptcy, so we will be introducing artwork created with the motif of "Re-birth" and inviting the audience to participate in the art. We are planning this event in hopes of further recovery of DIA. The event was held on March 3rd, and the weather was good, and many visitors flocked to the event. Families were seen enjoying making things at three popular workshop venues: "Ikebana", "Ichigo Daifuku", and "Paper Making".

The traditional Japanese culture of "Tea ceremony" was held in a calm lecture hall, where the skills of the tea masters were on full display. The seats for the "Origami Workshop" continued to fill up throughout the day, and the "Japanese Folk Tales" event was filled with families enjoying the Kamishibai show. There was a "koto performance" at the venue where the cafe was located, and the visitors seemed to be having a relaxing time.

"Re-Birth" is a new attempt by three artists to express the "rebirth of DIA." The Japanese Gallery was established in 2017 with a donation to DIA from the Japanese community ten years ago. Over the past few years, JBSD has continued to support the expansion of the Hinamatsuri event and attract more people to DIA. "Re-Birth" expresses the support of the Japanese community from bankruptcy to recovery. People write messages about what

they want for the area where they live and for DIA, and have them hang it on "Re-Birth." In addition, the washi art "The Sky of Detroit, Shinning Wind" created by Japanese washi masters uses beautiful blue washi paper to depict the recovery of Detroit. JCD's Hinamatsuri in DIA is planned and implemented

every year with a focus on introducing the works of artists and introducing traditional Japanese culture. JCD would like to continue its efforts so that many local people will participate in JCD's cultural events at DIA and become fans of Japan. Lastly, JCD would like to express a gratitude to the many people who supported this event to the successful completion of Hinamatsuri 2024.



Rakugo by San'yūtei Ponta

JCD welcomes Rakugo storyteller of San'yūtei Ponta from Japan to bring laughter to Michigan. The opening performance of the JCD Performer Series will be the first "Rakugo performance" held at DIA. Performance date at DIA is Sunday, April 14, 2024 at 2:00 pm in the Lecture Hall. This is free event. The rakugo performance on the day is Ponta's narration in Japanese with English subtitles and slides. Other performances are below.

- >April 16th, 6:30pm: Visitor Center at River Raisin Battlefield Park, Monroe.
- >April 18th, 6pm: Lobby Hall, Ann Arbor Public Library
- >April 19th, 1pm: Eastern Michigan University's Alexander Music Building
- >April 19th, 7pm: RCAH Theater, Snyder-Philip Hall, Michigan State University

Stories: Shini Gami (Grim Reaper), Chou-Tan (Long and Short), and Tengu Sabaki(Tengu Judgement), and the story to be told will be different at each venue.

Biography of San'yūtei Ponta:

San'yūtei Ponta was born in Nagoya City in 1985. He graduated from Hosei University in Tokyo. In 2015, Ponta became the seventh disciple of rakugo artist San'yūtei Kōroku and he was promoted to futatsume in 2018.

His stage name, San'yūtei Ponta II, comes from San'yūtei Ponta I [1832-1881], who was a disciple of rakugo master San'yūtei Enchō I [1839-1900], the most famous performer of the late nineteenth century. Ponta revived this stage name for the first time in 100 years.



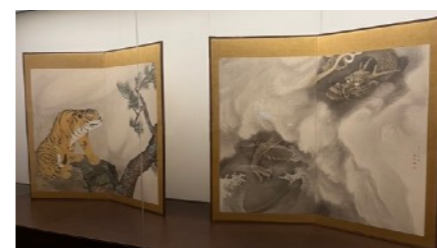
DIA ranked #1 Museum by USA Today, 2nd in a row.



10best.usatoday.com
Best Art Museum (2024) - USA TODAY
10Best Readers' Choice Awards

The newspaper USA Today ranked DIA first in its "Readers' Choice Museum" for the second time last year. It won this award, beating out strong competitors such as the Art Institute of Chicago in 10th place and the Milwaukee Art Museum in 8th place! Article: Please see here <https://www.10best.com/awards/travel/best-art-museum-2024>

New Rotation in Japanese Gallery



It's always a fun to see a new rotation and this time it's Okyo Maruyama's "The Dragon and the Tiger," 1781, a work by Okyo when he was 48 years old. The dragon and the tiger face each other from their own folding screens, and the separation of the screens creates an interesting feeling of separation and another dimension. There are also hanging scrolls by Umeitsu Yamamoto (1783-1856, born in Nagoya).



Friendship Dolls Exhibition



The exhibition of Friendship Dolls will be on display until June 5th. Please take a look at the history of friendship between Japan and the United States with these beautiful dolls. JCD is currently working on the YouTube version of "Friendship Dolls Story" with DIA and cooperation from Hiroshi Yamazaki and Mino Watanabe in the production. Hopefully it completes in early May.

I N F O R M A T I O N

Event List

Friendship Dolls Exhibition
2023/12~2024/6/5 Dolls Showcaes

Rakugo by San'yūtei Ponta
2024/4/14(Sun)2pm, Lecture Hall

APAHM event
2024/5 Multiple venues

Check event information ↓
DIA.org JCD-MI.org and
JBSD.org

Jcd Newsletter will be published with DIA events information for 2~3 times per year.

Japan Cultural Development (JCD) was organized under JBSD to promote a friendship between U.S. and Japan through culture, art and education.

Our Cultural Partners:
JBSD, DIA, JAS and
JSD Women's Club

