

# Contents

Biweekly programs of traditional performing arts.  
Amazing experience guaranteed!!

## GEISHA

Geisha are women dressed in kimono who perform various Japanese arts such as dance, shamisen (the Japanese banjo), and traditional songs at traditional Japanese restaurants (ryotei and ryoriya) while entertaining guests with food and sake. Geisha are professional entertainers who are trained to offer OMOTENASHI through performing arts and clever conversation. Normally, they can only be hired by arrangements through restaurants that require referrals to visit.

\* A regular event that will be held every time.



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## Other Contents

### HOUKAN



Professional male entertainers, unique to Japan, who entertain guests by performing dances, acting out skits, and performing tricks using a folding screen to keep banquets lively and fun for guests. Also called otoko geisha (male geisha) or taikomochi (drum bearers), there are only four houkan in Japan, who take on the essential role of supporting the geisha at ozashiki (geisha parties).

### SHINNAI



A style of joruri (narrative singing) created during the Edo Period. Because narrative is a very important element of joruri, it is not merely singing the lyrics along with the tune. That is why joruri is not "sung" but "told". It is vocally "narrated" with shamisen accompaniment. Shinnai is particularly elegant known for its emotional style of "telling" the stories in a lamentable voice with delicate, beautiful music.

### OHAYASHI



Japanese music played to keep measure or enliven the mood at festivals or in performing arts such as No, Kyogen, Kabuki, Nagauta, and skits. Percussion instruments including the taiko (drum), tsutsumi (hand drum), kane (type of gong), and fue (Japanese flute) are used. Ohayashi is sometimes accompanied by lyrics or the shamisen.

### DAIKAGURA



A type of performing art originally performed to pay tribute to the gods. This form of entertainment became popular during the Edo Period because it paid tribute to the gods and exorcised evil spirits on behalf of those who couldn't visit Shinto shrines. Kaguramai (Shinto theatrical dance) and shishimai (lion dances) were performed as rituals of exorcism, and various forms of entertainments that accompanied the dances developed into the acrobatic performances still held today such as koma mawashi (top spinning) and kasa mawashi (umbrella spinning).

\* Either one of the 4 events will be held each time.

## Schedule

April, May — 2nd and 4th Saturdays

June thru September — 1st and 3rd Saturdays

## Time Schedule

17:45 — Registration starts

18:00 — Greetings / Explanation of "OMOTENASHI"

18:15 — OMOTENASHI performing arts  
GEISHA + Houkan / Daikagura / Ohayashi / Shinnai, etc.  
\* Geisha performance will be held every time.  
Other events will alternate biweekly.

18:50 — Experience ozashiki asobi  
(geisha party entertainment), take pictures, etc.

19:30 — End of session

Dress Code: smart casual

Kindly refrain from wearing shorts, ripped jeans, t-shirts, and sandals for men.

Fee: 12,000 yen (includes complimentary hors d'oeuvres and drinks)

## Sake & Tsumami

Discover the perfect match of seasonal specialties and Japanese sake. Enjoy the traditional taste of Japanese cuisine prepared in the same way over many generations.

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