Japan Expo and Matsuri in Sydney 2012

Saturday, 15 December 2012, 10:00AM - 7:00PM
At Tumbalong Park, Darling Harbour

Music, Dance, Karate, Sumo etc...
28 Stage Performances
JAPAN EXPO

The Japan Expo is being held in the lead-up to next year’s ‘Australia-Japan Tourism Exchange Year 2013.’ It aims to promote the many wonders of Japan as part of a coordinated ‘All Japan’ coalition, in order to boost the number of inbound tourists to Japan. The Expo is teaming up with the ever-popular Matsuri in Sydney. The All Japan coalition includes (in Australia): the Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO) Sydney, the Consulate-General of Japan at Sydney, The Japan Foundation, Sydney, the Japan External Trade Organisation (JETRO), Sydney, the Japan Local Government Centre (CLAIR, Sydney) and the Japan Club of Sydney. (from Japan): the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, the Tohoku Tourism Promotion Organisation, the Okinawa Convention & Visitors Bureau and Osaka & Universal Studios Japan® will travel from Japan to promote their unique attractions in Japan. The Expo will also feature interactive spaces where you can experience very different aspects of Japanese culture – ‘Traditional Japan’ and ‘Cool Japan’. At the ‘Traditional Japan’ booth you can enjoy traditional Japanese games, calligraphy and language courses. At the ‘Cool Japan’ booth you will have the chance to take part in a CG animation workshop with one of Japan’s top anime artists, Yutaka Kamada. This workshop will be great fun, even for complete novices or young children. The ‘Cool Japan’ booth will also feature a photo exhibit showcasing images of cosplay by Nobutsugu Sugiyama, whose photo books about cosplay have been widely published and are popular in Australia too.

COOL JAPAN

The Cool Japan booth at Matsuri in Sydney is a must-see for fans of anime, cosplay and pop culture, featuring an exciting combination of CG anime workshops with renowned Japanese animator Yutaka Kamada, and an extensive showcase of cosplay photographs from seasoned photographer Nobutsugu Sugiyama.

Yutaka Kamada will conduct CG anime workshops using software he has specially developed to make animation easy and accessible to even kids starting out for the first time. They are open to all, with the exception of youngsters below 10 or so who are still learning the basics of using a computer.

The photographs of Nobutsugu Sugiyama make full use of advanced technology, which elevates their level of creative expression to an art form. Visitors will enjoy a comprehensive visual feast of the unique cosplay photographs of Sugiyama, who is active in the fields of advertising and fashion, and has previously spent time living in Sydney.

TRADITIONAL JAPAN

The Traditional Japan booth will hold hands-on workshops on the traditional Japanese arts of ayatori and origami – string figure making and paper folding – and a Japanese language class. Visitors can also enjoy taking photos of themselves in yukata, a type of summer kimono, beside a backdrop of Japanese scenery.

YUKATA BEAUTY & HUNKY CONTEST

Yukata are a type of Japanese summer kimono worn at festivals throughout the nation since time immemorial. Matsuri in Sydney’s annual Yukata Contest sees plenty of local Aussies vying for a place on the catwalk, and is proud to welcome applications once again this year in ladies, mens and kids categories. Don’t be shy – team up with your friends and in an application to come and strut your stuff in a yukata! Lucky winners in each category will receive a special prize from the sponsors of Matsuri in Sydney! Best of luck to all contestants, we look forward to seeing you at the festival! Please apply in person on the day at the main booth beside the stage from 1pm. Entries will be limited to the first ten contestants. Children: Applications are limited to students up to Year 6, who are able to walk onto the stage unassisted.
This dance tradition was primarily done to signify a hope for a good harvest and a gratitude for all the ingredients. The chef, Hideo Dekura, meticulously and ceremoniously cuts the meat, which is displayed in the center of the table for all to see. He then places it on the table using only the knife and the chopsticks, as it is forbidden to touch anything by hand.

Hideo Dekura was given lessons by the late Mr. Fumitaka Tohgi, formerly the Director of the Music Department at the Imperial Household Agency. Presently, we have been engaged in various activities such as Gagaku￼ concerts and performances at community events.

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THE MATSURI EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Sydney Inc.

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2012