



New Orleans Museum of Art

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Japan Fest at NOMA Nov. 8

[Hi-res images available upon request.]

NEW ORLEANS, La. (October 28, 2009)—apan Fest, the largest annual celebration of Japanese culture in the Gulf South, returns to the New Orleans Museum of Art on **Sunday, November 8, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** for a full day of traditional music, dancing and martial arts demonstrations, plus food, games, crafts and more spread throughout the Museum and the adjacent Dreyfous Meadow in City Park.

Like all current exhibitions and public programs, Japan Fest is **free to Louisiana residents** through the generosity of The Helis Foundation. All outdoor Japan Fest activities are free to everyone; Museum admission for out-of-state visitors is \$8 for adults, \$7 for seniors and \$4 for children.

The crowd-pleasing **Kaminari Taiko of Houston** return with their massive drumming demonstration as headliners of this year's Japan Fest.

Other highlights include numerous **demonstrations of traditional Japanese arts**, the Japan Club's annual **tea ceremony demonstrations** and a **raffle with prizes including one roundtrip airline ticket to Japan**, courtesy of **Continental Airlines**.

Patrons will enjoy tours of the Japanese Gallery starting at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. Inside NOMA attendees will find Japanese swords display, calligraphy, craft sales, Anime short films and more.

Full list of participating organizations:
Aikido of New Orleans (martial arts)
Asian Gourmet Market (Japanese market)
City Park Catering (American-style food)
Crane's Nest Go Club ("Go," strategic board game lessons)

Greater New Orleans Bonsai Society (Bonsai demonstration)
Greater New Orleans Suzuki Forum (classical and folk music)
Hokkubei Nikkei News
Ikebana International, New Orleans chapter 97 (floral arrangements)
Japan Club (tea ceremony)
Japanese Garden Study Club
Japanese Weekend School of New Orleans (crafts and origami ornaments)
JET Alumni Association (yukata for children and adults, with photos)
Kaminari Taiko of Houston (drumming performance)
Kozakura Japanese Dance School USA (traditional dance)
Louisiana Karate Association
Louisiana State Museum/Lafcadio Hearn Center (information table)
Maino Kai International (Japanese classical dancing)
Neil Melancon/Gentle Wind Dojo (Iaido sword demonstration)
New Orleans Haiku Society (information table)
New Orleans Kendo Club (martial arts)
New Orleans Zen Temple (Zazen lessons and information)
Ninja Restaurant (Japanese food tent)
Sennin Productions (anime films)
Shara Yume Taiko Drumming
Shindoryu Aikijutsu Association of Southern Louisiana University (martial arts)
Takahama Ryu Mitsujuroku Classical Dance
UNO Study Abroad program

Japan Fest is organized by the **Consulate General of Japan** in Nashville, TN, the **New Orleans Museum of Art** and the **Japan Club of New Orleans**. New Orleans City Park generously donates park space for the outdoor portions of Japan Fest.

About NOMA and the Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden

The New Orleans Museum of Art, founded in 1910 by Isaac Delgado, houses more than 30,000 art objects encompassing 4,000 years of world art. Works from the permanent collection, along with continuously changing temporary exhibitions, are on view in the Museum's 46 galleries Wednesdays from noon to 8 p.m. and Thursdays to Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission to the Museum is free to Louisiana residents through the generosity of The Helis Foundation.

Admission to the adjacent Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden, featuring work by 59 artists, including several of the 20th century's great master sculptors, is always free during regular Museum hours. **Please note the Sculpture Garden is closed for renovation until early 2010. Please call for more information.**

The New Orleans Museum of Art and the Besthoff Sculpture Garden are fully accessible to handicapped visitors and wheelchairs are available from the front desk.

For more information, call (504) 658-4100 or visit www.noma.org.