



JAPANESE CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA INC.

SPECIAL FOLKLORAMA EDITION

Volume 65, No. 10

JCAM Board 2016-18

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OUTLOOK

This edition of our OUTLOOK newsletter is dedicated to the Japanese Pavilion held at St. Joseph's Paris Hall August 13 to 19, 2017. Special features (such as our Donations page, will appear in our next regular edition to be issued December 6. The deadline for items appearing in that newsletter is Friday, November 25.

Folklorama 2017

The Japanese Pavilion joined 40 other pavilions for another successful run of Folklorama 2017. Our home once again during the second week was St. Joseph's Hall.

The Japanese Pavilion was admirably represented by adult ambassador, Chase Kavanagh and youth ambassadors, Teo Hoppe and Hideki Dubik. The three ambassadors discovered the joys of being the face of a pavilion that has only missed a few years of the festival's 48 year history and discovered how to work together as a team to look after the many special visitors at the pavilion each night.



The Folklorama Committee, under the leadership of Caroline Yamashita, began meeting in January to plan the pavilion. The theme chosen for this year's pavilion was Japan Then and Now. Traditional culture and heritage had always been highlighted throughout the years and this year, the committee wanted to display some of the Japanese modern lifestyle as well.

Chase created an informative slide presentation on various aspects of life in Japan that ran before the martial arts pre-show and main stage entertainment began. Posters were hung throughout the pavilion that depicted traditional and everyday modern life in Japan. Of course, lanterns were displayed prominently as lanterns have been an important part

of Japan since ancient times.

Dwarf No Cachette Odorite (dancers - right) provided a new look to this year's entertainment line up. Odottemita is a Japanese sub-culture where groups or individuals record themselves dancing to Japanese pop songs and the song Dwarf No Cachette chose to introduce the Folklorama audience to this modern



dance craze was Hello New World. Hinode Taiko, Aurora Dance Group, Kaede Dance Group, Fuurin Koto Ensemble, Yuko Nozoe, Kazuko Magara, Manitoba Judo Club, Manitoba Kendo Club, and Winnipeg Budokai Karate rounded out our nightly entertainment and ensured that we had 3 high quality shows each night. Many compliments about our show were received and we are very lucky to have such talented people in our community.



A special addition to the Saturday shows was a spectacular 5 minute performance by Karakoro Eisa from Osaka, Japan. Karakoro Eisa was in Winnipeg for a performance on August 21 and they graciously offered to perform the one night at our pavilion. They added a colourful international flavour to our otherwise local line up.

A crowd favourite this year was an audience participation number of Tanko Bushi. Once the basic steps of the ondo were learned, the music switched from the “traditional” to a “modern” tune. When the first strains of the easily recognizable *Can’t Stop the Feeling* by Justin Timberlake were heard, everyone gave a big smile and many started dancing while remaining seated in their chairs. Most of the pavilion volunteers danced their way down the aisles and there was truly a festive atmosphere in the building.



This year, the food committee decided to try selling Japan’s very popular bento box. The bento box has been a staple item in Japanese homes, outdoor picnics, and department stores, since early times. With the opening of train stations, the bento has been a number one seller of quick and easy lunches and snacks. Unfortunately, our pavilion visitors did not embrace the bento as wholeheartedly as the Japanese. However, miso soup, beef donburi, matsuri hot dogs, sushi, spam musubi and kakigori proved to be popular and delicious favourites. Mr. Ono’s sushi demonstration at the food line once again was a favourite with the hungry visitors waiting for their turn to be served.

The lower level was an excellent blend of cultural displays that even included a video of Yuhito and Ali’s traditional wedding in Japan. Visitors could get their name written in Japanese calligraphy on fans or headbands, learn about origami and Anime, talk with members of Hinode Taiko and the kendo, karate and judo clubs, purchase Japanese souvenirs and mementos, and books written by Japanese and Japanese Canadian authors. A JCAM information table provided interested visitors with information on the many programs and activities happening at the Centre.





There were also short demonstrations of Ikebana, Chanoyu, and Cold Sencha Green Tea tasting that added a special touch to the Cultural Display area.

Many volunteers were part of the Japanese Pavilion team, however, the organizing committee chairs deserve special recognition for the many hours spent in planning, organizing and “doing”.

A heartfelt thank you to Caroline Yamashita who kept the pavilion running smoothly and ensured that we met all deadlines and passed all inspections.

Thank you to the following chair persons:

Coordinator:	Caroline Yamashita
Admissions:	Lori Shimizu and Sandra Shibata
Finance and Cashiers:	Jaclyn Demianyk
Bar:	Jon Miki & Grant Voakes
Cleanup:	Les Kojima
Food Servers:	Wanda Yamamoto & Karina Uehara
Food:	Sadao Ono and Caroline Yamashita
Entertainment:	Jenn Letkemann & Jody Onagi
Guest Services (Security):	Steve Nekwinda
Group/VIP Tours:	Joy Letkemann
Volunteers:	Sara Ebata and Jiyu Iida
Volunteer Room:	Karynne Nekwinda & Debra Takeuchi
Photo Area	Cassidy Nekwinda
Supplies and Purchasing:	Art Miki and Steve Hanner
Cultural Display:	Sally Ito, Keiko Miki, Cindy Voakes & Yuhito Adachi
Health and Safety:	Mona Hiebert
Kakigori:	Belen Uehara
Souvenirs:	Keiko Burke
Workplace Safety:	Caroline Yamashita
Media and Marketing:	Theresa Oye



Former ambassador of our pavilion, Nina Dubik, was awarded the Mark and Dorothy Danzker Scholarship of Excellence. This scholarship is an annual award of excellence for ethno-cultural heritage preservation presented by Folklorama and the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba. Five post-secondary scholarships of \$1,000. each are awarded each year and this is the second consecutive year that a former Japanese Pavilion ambassador has been a recipient. Hayley Yamamoto received this award in 2016. We are indeed proud of these two outstanding students and volunteers.

Folklorama is a time for our community, family, and friends to come together in one common goal; to make the Japanese Pavilion the best pavilion possible and this year was no exception. The hundreds of volunteers who came to help throughout the week worked hard and yet had time to visit with friends and acquaintances who they may not have seen since last year's Folklorama.

Financial results of the 2017 Japanese Pavilion will not be known for a while, but the JC community scored big in generating goodwill and fellowship among all of this year's participants.





Credits:
 Story: Theresa Oye
 Images: Sandra Shibata

THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THE MAKEUP OF FOLKLORAMA:

ST. JAMES

The 48th annual Folklorama broke the record of attendance in the last five years for the second year in a row. An average of 425,000 people attended the festival and 20,000 volunteers helped out in this successful year. "We are so proud that Folklorama continues to be a popular summer choice for local audiences and are continually amazed that visitors from as far as Australia, Brazil, China, Japan and the United States come to experience our unique Festival. Folklorama is a shared experience that allows others to celebrate and learn about one another's cultures year after year," said Avrom Charach, Folklorama president. Next year's Folklorama Festival will be held August 5 to August 18, 2018.

Photos by Ligia Braidotti



WEDNESDAY | AUGUST 23 | 2017

LOCAL NEWS

HIGH ENERGY FOLKLORAMA CELEBRATIONS:

THE MAPLES

WILLIAM WHYTE

MANDA'S CREEK INDUSTRIAL

Folklorama has ended another season of showcasing the multicultural communities in Winnipeg to local people and tourists from all over North America and other parts of the world who came to celebrate diversity with the festival's 48th year. During week two, the Japanese Pavilion (515 Colborne Ave.) showed its audience the sounds, sights and tastes of Kyoto and Tokyo. People lined up for one hour to watch their enthusiastic drumming performance and taste sushi and the new bento created especially for this year.

At the Punjab Pavilion (1770 King Edward St.) their culture was presented through energetic dancing and singing where kids show their appreciation for their original culture. The Ukrainian-Kyiv Pavilion (1330 Jefferson Ave.) celebrated Canada 150 and the contributions of Ukrainians to the social, cultural and economic aspects of Canadian culture.



Photos by Ligia Braidotti



Folklorama impresses to the end



Photo by Ligia Br

The Japanese Pavilion, located at St. Joseph's Hall (515 College Ave.), celebrated Japan "then and now", showcasing the sights, sounds and tastes of old and modern cities of Kyoto and Tokyo. See more photos on page 3.

2017 Japanese Pavilion Survey: Tell Us What You Think!

Please send an email (as short or long as you like) to m.jccc@shaw.ca:

- In general, what was your impression of the Pavilion?
- What in your mind worked well in the Pavilion?
- What could have been improved in the Pavilion?
- Provide suggestions for a different venue that has Parking, Commercial Kitchen, Stage and Large Seating Area.
- What did you think should be the theme and any other recommendations for next year?
- Should we have a Japanese Pavilion in 2018?

If you don't want to send an email write to us instead at **JCAM, 180 McPhillips Street, Winnipeg MB R3E 2J9**