

Mississauga Friendship Association

Celebrating over 30 years of friendship with Kariya, Japan



Fall 2014 Newsletter

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CHRISTMAS POTLUCK SOCIAL

Mark your calendars for the MFA Christmas Potluck Social on Thursday, November 20th from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. It will be held at the Lorne Park Community Hall located at 1288 Lorne Park Road. Please RSVP to Stephanie or Maria with what dish you plan to bring. This is a fun night and a great way to end off our year!



DOORS OPEN MISSISSAUGA



he MFA will be once again participating in Doors Open Mississauga bringing Kariya Park to life. Please join us Saturday, September 27th between 10am and **4pm** for a celebration of Japanese culture. This year we welcome back the Mississauga Kendo Club who will continue to "wow" us with their graceful sword demonstrations. In addition, the City of Mississauga Shotokan Karate group will demonstrate this demanding martial art. The highlight will be the Kariya Amagoi dancers from our sister city, Kariya, Japan. Amagoi Kasa Odori is a traditional rain dance held in Japan in late August. Paired dancers beat a drum and sing sequential songs with intricate dance steps to encourage rain. The Kariya dance group was formed in the early 1980s during

a time of ancient culture revival in Japan.

Please support us by coming out that day! Performances: **Kendo**-10:30am to 12pm, **Karate-1pm**& 2pm and **Amagoi dancers-3pm**.
Please email **stephanie.kariya@**gmail.com if you would like to volunteer.

In honour of the Amagoi dancers' visit to Mississauga, the MFA has organized a dinner at Boston Pizza (35 Square One Drive, Mississauga) that is open to all members. Participants will order off the menu and are responsible for their own tab. The dinner will be from 6pm to 8pm (Saturday, September 27th). Please RSVP to Stephanie or Maria by September 25th. We hope you will come out and meet the delegates and make their short visit memorable.

FUJII'S VISIT

The MFA Board has been asked to help with the visit of Mr. & Mrs. Fujii who will visit Mississauga in September to attend the Mayor's Retirement Party. Mr. & Mrs. Fujii have been long-time friends of Mayor McCallion and supporters of our sister organization, the Kariya International Friendship Association (KIFA). Ron Starr has graciously agreed to host the Fujiis and a number of board members will help to entertain them over their 3-day visit.

SPRING IN KARIYA

The MFA will send ten members for a homestay visit to Kariya in May. It will be warm and hopefully we can see their famous Rabbit Eared Irises. Our goal is to send six members that have never visited Kariya before and four returning members. We will have an application form out on our website in the next month. If you are interested or know of anyone hoping to visit Japan, please let them know about his great opportunity. More details in our next newsletter.



CITY AFFILIATION FORMALIZED

It's official, the MFA received a letter on August 20th confirming that we have been accepted as an affiliated group of the City of Mississauga. This allows us to have free room rentals for meetings, put up portable signs and get insurance at a discounted price. It also helps to raise our profile in the community.

SPONSORS

A big thank you to our sponsors!











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