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TAIKO DRUMMING FEATURED AT JANUARY MEETING



DATES AT A GLANCE

Taiko Talk & January Social
January 28th, 7pm- 9pm,
Committee Room A,
Mississauga Civic Centre

Kariya Kita High School Delegation
March 20th to 27th

Presentation by Kariya Kita High School & Meeting
March 25th, 7-9pm,
Committee Room A,
Mississauga Civic Centre

MFA Annual General Meeting
May 6th, 7-9pm,
Committee Room A,
Mississauga Civic Centre

Robin McLeod from Arashido Taiko will present a brief talk about the techniques and history of taiko drumming at our next meeting on January 28th. In the past few years we have featured Arashido Taiko at our Doors Open event in September so the Executive Board thought it might be interesting to find out more about it.

Taiko, outside of Japan, usually refers to various Japanese drums called wadaiko and ensemble drumming specifically referred to as Kumi-daiko.

Taiko is believed to have been introduced to Japan through Chinese and Korean culture as early as 300-900 AD and was used for religious ceremonies, communication, festivals, military action, and theatrical accompaniment.

Robin became a member of Arashido Taiko after taking lessons in 2008. Her strong musical background and love of Japanese culture made this a natural choice for her. She'll be joined by Sunil Pai, a member of Arashido Taiko since 2010 and a new member to the MFA. Sunil first learned taiko in Japan, where he lived for three years. Arashido means "The Way of The Storm" which is an apt name for anyone seeing their lively performances at Doors Open.

Come out for an enjoyable evening on Tuesday, January 28th, 7pm, Committee Room A at Mississauga Civic Centre.

By: Stephanie Meeuwse

KARIYA KITA HIGH SCHOOL VISIT



In March, the MFA will assist with the first exchange of students between Kariya Kita High School and Stephen Lewis Secondary School. Twelve students and three teachers (including Taku Ito who visited during the initial twinning in 2012) will visit from March 20th to March 27th. Their itinerary is not complete yet but they will experience a maple demonstration at Bradley Museum, a trip to Niagara Falls and a day trip to Toronto with local students. The last three days of their stay will be spent at Stephen

Lewis Secondary School shadowing other students and learning about school life in Mississauga. The students will also make a presentation to our membership at our meeting on March 25th. This will include a small tea ceremony. The delegation will not participate in a homestay program but anyone who is able to assist with planning or driving the participants please contact Stephanie at stephanie.kariya@gmail.com

By: [Stephanie Meeuwse](#)

FAREWELL

A sad farewell to long-time MFA member Elaine Starr who passed away peacefully after a long struggle with Alzheimer's on November 21st. Our condolences go out to Ron and their family. Elaine and Ron are shown here with their guest and the delegation head for 2011, Seiji Oshima.



CHAIR'S UPDATE

I hope everyone had a terrific holiday and lots of time to relax and spend time with friends and family. Thanks to everyone who attended and made our Christmas Potluck Social such a success. It was a lot of fun and a great way to kick off the Christmas season.

The MFA Board is working hard to plan lots of great events and interesting talks in 2014 starting with our "Taiko Talk" in January. More details on upcoming events are listed on the previous page.

Although we were hopeful that we might have a delegation to Kariya this year with Mayor McCallion, it seems she will travel to Japan for economic development reasons rather than social. All the details have not become available yet but hopefully she will get a chance to visit her friends in Kariya.

Finally, we will also have a special opportunity to host a dance group from Kariya called Amagoi. I have suggested they come during Doors Open in September so that we can feature them.

The MFA Board and I are looking forward to working with you this year to continue to facilitate the twinning and to share Japanese culture in general.

By: [Stephanie Meeuwse](#)

GOOD NEWS

You can always hear bad news anytime but it is nice to hear good news especially from fellow members and friends. Recently some of our members have experienced some good luck and well deserved recognition that I would like to share: Gord and Marg Hughes were recently recognized for their long years of hard work and dedication at "The Credits" Heritage Mississauga Awards. What is especially nice is that they were given the Members' Choice Award which is presented to those who "made a significant contribution to the celebration and preservation of our heritage". Both Gord and Marg are long-time members of the



Mississauga Friendship Association as well as volunteers of many other worthwhile organizations. Congratulations!

Melissa Wakeling, one of our more recent members, won a KIA! Now we can all say we know someone who won a car. Enjoy your ride Melissa.

By: Stephanie Meeuwse



Photo credit: Mississauga Heritage

MANDATORY TRAINING & PHOTO RELEASE FORMS

Breaking Down Barriers: Understanding the Integrated Accessibility Standards Regulation (IASR) is mandatory training that is required for all City of Mississauga volunteers. An email has been sent with a short six page manual and sign off sheet. Thanks to those that have sent the forms back to me already. Booklets and sign off forms will be available at the January 28th meeting if needed.

Also MFA photo release forms will be available at our January meeting. The MFA enjoys posting images and videos to our Facebook, website and YouTube but we need your assistance to ensure that we respect your privacy. If you have not done so already, please fill out a form at the meeting with your preferences. Your co-operation is appreciated.



**Mississauga
Friendship
Association**

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