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Tea and Tranquility | Unveiling the Secrets of Chanoyu with Kanako Yamashita

Demonstration

Presented by JICC, Embassy of Japan

27 JUL 2023

THURS, 6:30

PM

JICC

In celebration of our current exhibition (**Chanoyu Culture: Invitation to Tea**), the Japan Information & Culture is proud to welcome Kanako Yamashita of **Omotesenke Domonkai Eastern Region, U.S.A.** for a short talk and demonstration on Japanese tea ceremony.

Although the direct translation of **chanoyu** (茶の湯) is actually "hot water for tea," Omotesenke refers to chanoyu as Japanese tea ceremony. Yet chanoyu is more than movements and manners; it is the communication of mind and spirit between the host and the guests through the enjoyment of tea. This year's summer exhibition invites guests to experience this tradition of harmony through tea.

To provide more context to the exhibition, Yamashita will give a short lecture on the components of chanoyu that were developed over 400 years ago and which form the basis of chanoyu practices today. Her presentation will be followed by a live chanoyu demonstration by representatives of Omotesenke Domonkai.

About the Presenter

Kanako Yamashita is the former Secretary General of **Omotesenke Domonkai Eastern Region, U.S.A.** as well as the former Washington, D.C. Chapter Representative. Yamashita is also a Senior Health Specialist at the World Bank and leads Health, Nutrition and Population projects in South Asia. Originally from Nara, Japan, Yamashita grew up surrounded by chanoyu. Inspired by her mother who was a professor of Omotesenke chanoyu, Yamashita started practicing chanoyu from a young age. In 1986, Yamashita became a certified teacher and later began teaching chanoyu in Potomac, MD. She has also organized chanoyu demonstrations at the Victoria and Albert Museum and Buddhist Society in London as well as the Freer Gallery of Art, National Press Club and University Club in Washington DC.

Omotesenke Domonkai Eastern Region, U.S.A. is a U.S. non-profit organization that is a recognized chapter of the nonprofit outreach organization, Omotesenke Domonkai which is headquartered in Kyoto, Japan. The members of Omotesenke Domonkai are practitioners of the Omotesenke Fushin'an tradition of chanoyu. This organization's goal is to promote cultural exchange by organizing chanoyu demonstrations and experiential events, and providing instructional and material support to chanoyu activities in schools and universities.

This event is free and open to the public, but registration through Eventbrite is required. Doors open at 6:00PM. The program begins at 6:30PM. No admittance after 6:30PM or once seating is full. **Masks are not required but recommended inside of the JICC's auditorium.**

Registered guests will be seated on a first come, first served basis. Registration does not guarantee a seat. Walk-ins will not be accepted.

To modify your registration, please email jicc@ws.mofa.go.jp. Your registration is not transferable.

Demonstration at JICC
| Tea & Tranquility:
Unveiling the Secrets of *Chanoyu*
with Kanako Yamashita



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