



JICC
EMBASSY OF JAPAN

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Oshōgatsu at the JICC! Special Event

Introducing Japanese New Year

Presented by JICC, Embassy of Japan

JAN 2

SAT

2:00 - 4:00PM

JICC

Happy New Year from the JICC!

明けましておめでとうございます！

To ring in the new year, the JICC will be hosting **special Oshōgatsu event** on **Saturday, January 20th** from **2 PM to 4 PM**. Join us for family-friendly Japanese New Year activities and a special lecture and performance by taiko instructor and performer, **Mark H. Rooney**.

In Japan, *Oshōgatsu* or Japanese New Year, is a special time. One of the most important and most celebrated Japanese holidays, preparations begin long in advance as people clean their homes from top to bottom (*ōsōji*), prepare traditional food to be eaten during the first three days of the new year (*osechi ryōri*), and write New Year's greeting cards, or *nengajo*.

Visit the JICC for this special event to:

- learn more about the traditions of Japanese New Year
- create a Year of the Dragon nengajo, New Year's greeting card
- inscribe your New Year's wish on a paper ema, New Year's wish display card
- savor the chewy goodness of mochi*

The event will conclude with a lecture and live performance of taiko, Japanese drums, by Mark H. Rooney at 3:00 p.m.

We hope to see you there!

***Warning: Mochi, or Japanese rice cakes, is a choking hazard for young children and adults who have difficulty swallowing.**



REGISTER FOR TICKETS

CLICK TO REGISTER

PRESENTED WITH



ABOUT THE PERFORMER



Mark H. Rooney – “the world’s most dangerous half-Japanese/half-Scottish solo improvisational taiko artist” – has been studying, performing, and teaching taiko for the past 25 years in the US, Japan, and Europe. He was the Artistic Director of **Odaiko New England**, the founding instructor for **Wesleyan University's** taiko program, and a touring member of **Taikoza**. Mark has collaborated with a wide variety of artists and groups including **Tiger Okoshi**, **Opera unMet**, **UpRooted Dance**, **Arts on the Horizon**, and **ilyAIMY**. He now lives in the Washington DC area, continuing with his mission: “taiko for all people at all levels.”

This event is free and open to the public, but pre-registration through **Eventbrite** is required. Some walk-ins may be accommodated depending on supplies and capacity. The program begins at 2:00PM and runs to 4:00PM.

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

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