

# Yokoso/Welcome to Bath Japanese Celebration Weekend!

**Please join the fun Thursday, February 28-Sunday, March 3, for a weekend of exciting events for families, children, and adults. From hands-on activities such as an Ikebana class, Japanese Arts family festival, and Japanese dinner, to entertainment with Bowdoin Taiko, a kimono fashion show, a gardening presentation, and a Japanese movie, there is something here for everyone! Check out the calendar inside for details. For latest updates, including weather cancellations, please go to our website, [www.bath-tsugaru.org](http://www.bath-tsugaru.org)**

Organized by the Bath-Tsugaru Sister City Exchange Program, in celebration of our historic relationship, and student cultural exchanges for more than 20 years with Tsugaru (formerly Shariki), Japan. Proceeds will go toward scholarships for Bath area students traveling to Japan, and to help with costs of hosting Japanese students in our community. We would like to thank the following businesses and organizations for their generous support in making this Japanese Celebration Weekend possible:

BATH AREA FAMILY YMCA  
BATH SAVINGS INSTITUTION  
BOWDOIN TAIKO  
CITY OF BATH  
THE HAMPTON INN  
NOW YOU'RE COOKING  
MAIN STREET BATH  
PATTEN FREE LIBRARY  
RSU 1 SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SOLO BISTRO  
FIVE ELEMENTS MOUNTAIN SCHOOL OF  
MARTIAL ARTS  
MEMBERS OF THE JAPAN AMERICA  
SOCIETY OF MAINE

## ABOUT THE BATH-TSUGARU SISTER CITY PROGRAM

### *What is the Sister City Program?*

A student cultural exchange in which Bath area students and chaperones travel to Tsugaru City (a consolidation of Shariki and four other villages), and Japanese students and chaperones visit Bath. Visitors stay in family homes in both countries, and the trips are typically one to two weeks in the summer. Our visit to Japan is a rich home stay that is often life-changing for those who participate, as the hospitality, cultural experience and relationships forged are unparalleled.

### *What is the history of the program?*

The exchange has been going on for more than 20 years. In 1889, the villagers of Shariki heroically rescued survivors of a Bath-built Sewall ship, the Cheseborough, which wrecked in a tsunami off the coast of their village. They nursed the sailors back to health, and memorialized the dead with shrines and yearly services, even during World War II. One hundred years later, in 1989, a delegation from Shariki Village visited Bath to propose the sister city relationship to our city council. Since then, there have been yearly exchanges between Bath and Shariki, now Tsugaru City. The motto of the exchange is "Love and Courage Across the Seas," and we hope to keep that tradition growing.

### **Who is eligible to travel?**

Students from middle to high school age, and adult chaperones. There is an application process, and scholarships are available to help defray travel expenses.

### **How do I find out more about the program?**

If you are interested in hosting Japanese visitors, traveling, or just learning more about this remarkable program, please contact our Program Coordinator, Cindy Matthews at [cmatthews@rsu1.org](mailto:cmatthews@rsu1.org), or visit our website, [www.bath-tsugaru.org](http://www.bath-tsugaru.org)

## SECOND ANNUAL JAPANESE CELEBRATION WEEKEND

February 28 - March 3, 2013  
Bath, Maine



**Four days of exciting cultural events for  
children, adults and families!**



SPONSORED BY THE BATH-TSUGARU  
SISTER CITY EXCHANGE PROGRAM  
[www.bath-tsugaru.org](http://www.bath-tsugaru.org)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28

**Lunch and Dinner: Solo Bistro**

*Solo Bistro, 128 Front St, Bath*

Japanese-inspired menu featured at Bath's award-winning restaurant. FMI: 443-3373

FRIDAY, MARCH 1

**Movie: Jiro Dreams of Sushi 7-9:00 pm**

*Patten Free Library Community Rm 33, Summer St., Bath*

Documentary about 85-year-old Jiro Ono, considered by many to be the world's greatest sushi chef. A thoughtful and visually elegant meditation on work, family, and the art of perfection. Refreshments available. Free admission.

SATURDAY, MARCH 2

**Chesborough Lap Swim 7 am - noon**

*Bath Area YMCA, 303 Centre Street, Bath*

Swim and add your laps to help bridge the distance between Bath and its Japanese sister city! FMI: 443-4112

**Children's Hour**

*Patten Free Library Children's Rm, 33 Summer St, Bath*

**Storytime, ages 4 and up 10:15-10:30 am**

Carol McFadden, Children's Librarian, will read *Wabi Sabi*, the story of a cat who lives in the city of Kyoto, Japan; then...

**Pictorial Haiku, ages 7 and up 10:30-11:15 am**

Children will learn about the Japanese poetry called haiku, through drawing their own pictures and words. Join Carol for the haiku fun!

FMI: 443-5141

**Ikebana Workshop 12:00-1:00 pm**

*Hampton Inn, 140 Commercial St, Bath*

Learn the sculptural Japanese art of flower and plant arranging, and make your own, with instruction from Naomi Ryokufu of Ikebana in Maine. Participants bring their own materials and must pre-register. Limited space available. FMI or to pre-register 844-0510. Donations accepted

**Family Festival**

**1:00-3:00 pm**

*Bath Middle School, 6 Old Brunswick Rd., Bath*

Japanese games, crafts, and activities: See martial arts and the amazing Dragon Parade by Five Elements Mountain School of Martial Arts! Write your name in Japanese characters! Try Sumo wrestling using traditional miniature rice straw figures! See a display of costumed dolls traditional for Girls' Day, March 3 in Japan! Make origami folded paper creations! Between 1 and 2 p.m., dye plain cloth in the traditional art of Shibori, transforming it into rich three-dimensional designs. Pick up your finished fabric piece an hour later at 3 p.m.! Refreshments available. Donations accepted.

**Japanese Dinner**

**5:30 - 7:00 pm**

*Bath Middle School, 6 Old Brunswick Rd., Bath*

Enjoy delicious Japanese food, plus chances to win fabulous gift baskets! Advance Tickets: adults \$10, children \$5, under 5 free. Available at Now You're Cooking. (Limited tickets may be available at the door: \$12 and \$6)

**Bowdoin Taiko Drumming, 7 - 8:30 pm**

**Japanese Archery & Kimono Show**

*Bath Middle School, 6 Old Brunswick Rd., Bath*

Three Japanese traditions come to Bath for a fun family evening of entertainment! Bowdoin Taiko is an ensemble group which uses huge Japanese drums, and combines music, rhythm, and dance into a stunning audio-visual spectacle. They dazzled the audience last year with their performance, so don't miss this rare opportunity! Kyudo, literally "The Way of the Bow", is a martial practice using the unique bamboo Japanese bow. The fashion show features a range of beautiful Japanese kimonos modeled by Morse High School students, with narration by Pat Parker, who lived and taught for many years in Japan. Donations accepted.



CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES AND UPDATES:

[www.bath-tsugaru.org](http://www.bath-tsugaru.org)

SUNDAY, MARCH 3

**Chesborough Lap Swim 9 am - noon**

*Bath Area YMCA, 303 Centre Street, Bath*

Swim and add your laps to help bridge the distance between Bath and its Japanese sister city! FMI: 443-4112

**Sunday Afternoon at the Library**

*All the following activities are at the Patten Free Library, 33 Summer St., Bath, and are free to the public.*

**"The Art, History, & Practice of Raising Bonsai"**

**12 noon**

Demonstration and talk by Arthur Davis, teacher and practitioner with over 30 years' experience. He will bring examples from his own collection of more than 250 bonsai. Bonsai is a Japanese art form of cultivating miniature trees to mimic the shape and style of mature, full size trees.

**"Creating Japanese-Inspired Gardens in Maine"**

**1:00 pm**

Talk and slide presentation by Lee Schneller Sligh, owner of Lee Schneller Fine Gardens, Inc. Lee is a Master Gardener volunteer and has designed and built over 200 gardens in Maine. She has new slides from her recent trip to Japan!

**Green Tea Ceremony**

**Two sessions**

**1:00-1:45, or 2:00-2:45 pm**

The Japanese tea ceremony or "chanoyu" is an aesthetic pastime unique to Japan. The basis of the ceremony still practiced today was established in the 16th century. Practitioner Sachiko Clough will conduct the ceremony, which embodies "the beauty of studied simplicity and harmony with nature." Limited space available. Call Patten Free Library, 443-5141 to reserve a space.

**"Japanese Textile Craft"**

**2:00 pm**

Artist Kathy Goddu will give a brief historical overview of two ancient Japanese textile crafts, traditionally done with indigo: Shibori (dyeing techniques) and Sashiko (quilt stitching), and will talk about her experience with each. Samples of her work will be on display.

**Shamisen Performance**

**3:00 pm**

Musician Hiroko Fogarty will perform on this traditional Japanese three-stringed instrument in the beautiful Patten Free Library reading room. Enjoy this special conclusion to a full weekend of exciting events!