

Featuring

Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko Hawaii & Kunii Takezaki

Okinawa Eisa (Drums) & Calligraphy (Shodo)

Date: Friday August 31, 2012

Time: 5:00 pm - 5:15 pm **Okinawa Eisa Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko of Hawaii**
5:15pm - 5:45pm **Japanese Calligraphy (Shodo) - Kunii Takezaki**

Place: Ala Moana Shopping Center - Center Stage



Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko Hawaii

Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko Hawaii (RMD Hawaii) is the local chapter of an international Okinawan Eisa (taiko) organization and performs Okinawan festival and memorial dance with drums. Their performances combine the thunderous sound of taiko drums with a dynamic blend of traditional Eisa and contemporary Okinawan, Japanese and

Western music, karate form, and dance. It is high-impact performance filled with motion, color, energy, and a cross-cultural appeal.

Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko (translated as, Ryukyu Kingdom Festival Drum) is a worldwide organization, headquartered in Okinawa with chapters in Argentina, Bolivia, Peru, Los Angeles, and Hawaii. In 1996, Akemi Martin-sensei established the first chapter in Honolulu which has now spread to the islands of Kauai, Maui and Big Island.

Kunii Takezaki - 8 Ranked (Hachi Dan) Master Teacher

The word calligraphy literally means "beautiful writing." It is an art form that can be found in most civilizations with a written script. Originally developed to stress the importance of culture, religion and philosophy, over time calligraphy in most languages has developed into a purely artistic expression. In Japan, kanji characters are used in calligraphy.

Kunii Takezaki is a renown Okinawan calligraphy master whose credits include many calligraphy designs for commercial product labels and corporate logo as well as various works produced for the sake of art alone. Kunii Takezaki will also be coming to Hawaii as an East-West Center Visiting Scholar.



Her book "An Introduction to Japanese Kanji Calligraphy" is an exploration of this Asian art form and examines how calligraphic poetry developed in Japan and is a wonderful introduction to this beautiful art.



Born and raised in Okinawa, Japan, she is the owner of Nihon Shuji Ltd., a Japan Penmanship Education Foundation affiliated school located in Ginowan City, Okinawa. Under the pen name "Gyokushu" she has held exhibitions in New York, Colorado, California, and Australia.

As a member of the World Uchinanchu Business Association (WUB), the author hopes to inspire the descendants of Okinawan emigrants around the world.