



Embassy of Japan in Ireland  
Dublin City Council  
Experience Japan Committee  
2 April 2014  
[14-08]

**“Experience Japan”- ‘Hanami’ Day and other Festival Events!**

‘Hanami’, or flower viewing, is the centuries old Japanese custom of families and groups all over Japan coming together to enjoy springtime, especially the beautiful ‘Sakura’, or cherry blossoms. For five years, since 2010, the Japanese community in Ireland and their friends have celebrated their ‘Hanami’ and the ‘Sakura’ in the beautiful gardens of Farmleigh House and Estate in Dublin’s Phoenix Park with the people of Dublin and Ireland.

Ireland’s ‘Hanami’ takes place this year between 12.00 and 16.00 on Sunday, 13 April 2014. All are welcome and all events are free! Come and enjoy Hanami, springtime and a host of activities for all ages, including traditional taiko drumming, music, stage performances, Cosplay displays, Japanese food, kimono dressing, demonstrations, martial arts and many others. The event is organised by volunteers from a cross-section of communities – family groups, universities, schools and colleges, business and others.

The Experience Japan Festival is run with the support of Dublin City Council, the Office of Public Works in Farmleigh, Chester Beatty Library, Dublin City University, University College Dublin, Ireland Japan Association, Japan Business Society in Ireland, and Embassy of Japan in Ireland.

Other EJ events include two seminar series at the Chester Beatty Library in the afternoon on Friday, 25 and Saturday, 26 April.

For more information on these and related events, visit [www.ExperienceJapan.ie](http://www.ExperienceJapan.ie)

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Date	Time	Location	Details
Sun 13 April	12.00 to 16.00	Farmleigh House & Estate, Phoenix Park	<p><b>Experience Japan Hanami Festival Day</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Taiko drum performances</li> <li>* Martial Arts performances</li> <li>* Music performances with a fusion of Japanese and Irish performances</li> <li>* Origami and kite making craft workshops for children</li> <li>* Yo-Yo fishing and other fun activities for children</li> <li>* Cosplay fashions framed with traditional Kimono displays</li> <li>* Japanese art workshop</li> <li>* Soran Bushi dancing</li> <li>* Japanese food stalls</li> <li>* Activities for Children and Toddlers</li> </ul>
Thu 3 - Thu 17 April		Dublin, Cork, Galway, Limerick and Waterford	<p><b>Japan Film Festival 2014</b></p> <p>The Japanese Film Festival 2014, co-organised by the Embassy of Japan and access&gt;CINEMA, brings the best of new Japanese cinema to audiences around Ireland, with such films as Unforgiven, The Wind Rises, and The Woman of the Dunes. See <a href="http://www.jff.ie">www.jff.ie</a>.</p>
Tue 22 - Wed 23 April	13.00 to 15.00	Chester Beatty Library	<p><b>Chester Beatty Japanese Printmaking Demonstration</b></p> <p>With artist Hiroko Imada</p>
Thu 24 April	13.10	Chester Beatty Library	<p><b>In Focus Tour</b></p> <p><i>Highlights of the Japanese Collection, Mary O'Riordan</i></p>
Thu 24 - Fri 25 April	10.00 to 15.00 & 10.00 to 13.00	Chester Beatty Library	<p><b>Chester Beatty's Creative Lab for Teens</b></p> <p><i>Japanese Printmaking Mid-Term Special</i></p> <p>Japanese printmaker Hiroko Imada will introduce you to printmaking. Free, booking required. Suitable for ages 12-17.</p>
Fri 25 April	14.00 to 16.30	Chester Beatty Library	<p><b>Experience Japan Teen Event - Japanese &amp; Irish High School Life</b></p> <p>This event will focus on Japanese pop and traditional culture from a teenager's perspective. It will include presentations and talks by Japanese students who will share their experiences of high school life in Japan. The day will include sessions on anime and a Cosplay fashion demonstration portraying the development of Japanese fashion and costuming from traditional to modern.</p>
Sat 26 April	11.15 to 16.15	Chester Beatty Library	<p><b>Experience Japan at Chester Beatty Library 2014</b></p> <p>Taiko Performance at 11.15 and at 13.30. During the day there will be seminar talks looking at 'Gender and Culture - an introduction', 'History and Policy Change in Supporting 'Science Women' in Japan', 'Girl Power – how heroines are portrayed in Japanese art', and the keynote by Professor Andrew Gerstle (SOAS) on 'Gender representation in Kabuki'. Also starting at 13.45 guided tours of the Chester Beatty Library.</p>