

JASV

Chiisai Shimbun Spring 2013

A quarterly newsletter of the Japan America Society of Vermont
Japan-America Society of Vermont,
123 Ethan Allen Avenue, Suite 306, Colchester, VT. 05446.

Matsuri 2013. Sunday, April 7 2013, 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

The Japan-America Society of Vermont (JASV) and Saint Michael's College are presenting Matsuri '13, a Japanese Cultural Festival on Sunday, April 7 from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. at the Ross Sports Center, Saint Michael's College, Colchester, Vermont.

"Matsuri is the Japanese word for festival. I grew up in Japan with Matsuri three times a year, spring, summer and fall," said Toshi Saitoh, the vice president of JASV, who moved to the United States 17 years ago. "Japan was a rice country. In the spring, we all prayed for a good rice harvest. We danced together at our local shrines to the sound of drums and enjoyed several cultural entertainments. In the fall, we gathered at the shrines again and thanked the gods for giving us a good harvest and we again enjoyed ourselves." Toshi added, "Matsuri in Vermont is more than that. The JASV developed the concept further and added many events, creating and bringing a Japanese cultural festival right to your door with its sights, sounds, smells and tastes. Local artisans in Vermont help to make this all possible by volunteering their time and skills. There are so many amazing people participating!"

Over a dozen stage performances, two dozen booths and 50 eight-foot tables will provide opportunities for the festival attendees to get hands on experience with Japanese arts and crafts.

For more details about Matsuri '13 including the stage schedule and full color posters, please visit the JASV website, <http://jasv.org/matsuri/>

One Day Consulate Office at Matsuri

The Japanese Consulate General in Boston will be offering a "One day Consulate Office" at the Matsuri from 11 AM until 3 PM. This visit provides a very helpful and convenient way for Japanese citizens to conduct official business such as passport renewal, resident evidence, etc, as well as chat with the Consule General. The necessary forms are available from the JCGB's website at <http://www.boston.us.emb-japan.go.jp/>