



Cowra Festival

of International Understanding

GUEST NATION – JAPAN
15–17 March 2019

FESTIVAL UPDATE #2

A busy program of activities is planned for Festival weekend and beyond. There are numerous ways you can participate this year, with something for everyone. A variety of competitions are set to open in coming weeks. As well as the traditional window displays and parade floats, we're launching the inaugural Cowra Festival Karaoke Competition, as well as a Haiku Poetry competition with categories for young and old. There's also a Fashion parade, the annual duck race and much more.

Make sure you put these dates in your Calendar now and keep an eye out for regular updates via email, newspaper and social media.

SAVE THE DATES | EVENTS

14 March	ANU Kabuki club present a 30-minute Kabuki Theatre performance at Cowra Civic Centre.
15 March – 4pm	Tree Planting Ceremony in Brougham Park
15 March – 6pm	Festival Dinner at Cowra Services Club hosted by the 2019 Cowra Festival Youth Ambassadors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Traditional Welcome - Performance by Wakiako Rindo Taiko Drum Group - Demonstrations by Kumiai Ryu Martial Arts - Hichiriki Performance by maestro Yukihiro Doi - Performances by Cowra's very own Karaoke Finalists - Fine food, entertainment and dancing.
16 March – 3pm	Festival Parade through Kendall St <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Incorporating the Ringing of the Cowra Peace Bell and floats entered by Cowra businesses, community groups, Japanese groups and service organisations
16 March - 3pm	Carnival Spectacular in Bryant Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Wakaiko Rindo Taiko Drummers - Rotary Annual Duck Race - Sydney Sakura Choir - Origami and Metalsmithing Demonstrations - Calligraphy Demonstration and workshops - Japanese Tea Ceremony - Fashion parade - Karaoke Finals - Kumiai Ryu Martial Arts - Stage performances by including Cowra Ballet, St Joseph's School, Primary Schools, Cowra District Band, Cowra Vocal Ensemble and other local performing groups. - Japanese costume photo booth - Carnival Foods including Japanese, Asian and Australian Food - Lions BBQ - Stalls, displays, demonstrations, workshops. - Carnival rides for Adults, Teenagers and Kids, - Fireworks Display <p>And much more!</p>
17 March	Film Festival (with films for children, teenagers and adults donated by the Japan Society of Australia) Japanese Gardens Sporting Competitions and other Activities TBC.

SAVE THE DATES | WORKSHOPS AND DISPLAYS

Shibori and Indigo dying	4 March Venue TBC	Renowned artist Maureen Locke-McClean presents interactive workshops in this Japanese fabric art form. Sessions for suitable adults and school students.
Cowra's Friendship City on Display	1 – 30 March Cowra Visitor Centre	A display by CLAIR Sydney and JNTO Sydney showing some of Japan's cultural and tourist attractions.
Taiko Drumming workshop	15 March Cowra Civic Centre	Sessions for school students presented by Wakaiko Rindo Drum Group.
Tanka Poetry Display	14 – 17 March	The Canberra Tanka Poetry society present poems written about the History of Cowra
War and Peace in the Pacific	1 – 30 March (Various Locations)	A tour of this educational display from the Australian National Maritime Museum with banners completed by young people from Japan, USA and Cowra (including students from Cowra).
Origami and Metalsmithing	16 March Bryant Park Bryant Park	Interactive workshops and demonstrations by Yoshiko Ito.
Martial Arts Demonstrations	15 March Festival Dinner 16 March Bryant Park	Cowra's own dojo, Kumiai Ryu presents demonstrations and interactive workshops.
Calligraphy	16 March Bryant Park	Premier Japanese artist Ren Yano demonstrates this ancient skill. Attendees will also have the opportunity to try their hand at calligraphy.
Kimono dress up photo booth	16 March Bryant Park	Have your photo taken dressed in traditional Japanese Costume.
Japanese Traditional Folk Dance	15 March Venue TBC	Gentle workshop for seniors presented by Junko Hirabayashi
Japanese Tea Ceremony	16 March Bryant Park	Participate in a Traditional Ceremony conducted by a certified Japanese Tea Instructor

BE A PART OF THE FESTIVAL | COMPETITIONS

Karaoke Competition	Think you can sing? Participate in our very own festival Karaoke Competition with some HUGE prizes being announced soon! Heats (all 3pm – 6pm) 23 February (Australian Hotel) 3 rd March (Cowra Services Club Auditorium) 9 th March (Cowra Services Club Auditorium) Semi Finalists selected to perform at the Festival Dinner (15 March) Final at the Carnival (16 March)
Haiku Competition	Categories for Primary School, High School and Adults. Finalists works will be on display at the Council building and at the Festival Dinner on 15 March.
Window Displays	Schools and community groups are encouraged to create window displays which will be judged on Saturday 16 March with winners announced at the Carnival
Fashion Parade	Traditional and Contemporary Fashion – come dressed up to the Carnival on 16 March and enter to win some great prizes. Categories for children, teens and adults. Entry on the day.
Stalls	Stall applications are available on the council website and Festival Facebook page.
Parade	Float applications are available on the council website and Festival Facebook page.

UPDATES

Keep an eye out on our website

<https://www.cowracouncil.com.au/index.php/2012-11-27-23-28-25/festival-of-international-understanding>

and our Facebook page : <https://www.facebook.com/Cowra-Festival-of-International-Understanding-227501134050871/>

*All activities and dates are current at the time of this newsletter and may be subject to change.

Meredith Burton
Festival Coordinator

E | festival@cowra.nsw.gov.au
P | 02 6340 2060

