



Dear Friends,

As the art of taiko drumming continues to gain popularity throughout the world, the art of *eisa*, or Okinawan festival drumming, has also gained popularity. Though there are many *eisa* groups in existence, Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko is perhaps one of the most internationally recognized for its fusion of *odori* (traditional dance) and karate movements. Performers dance and drum simultaneously to an exciting blend of traditional and contemporary Okinawan and Japanese music.

Founded in 1982, Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko has branches across Japan, North America, and South America. Since its formation in 1995, the Los Angeles branch has continued to perform for various occasions around the community. Some of our recent events include performances at the Dodgers and Clippers games. We have also continued to actively perform in local events such as the Monterey Park Cherry Blossom Festival and the Torrance Sister City Bunka-Sai.

Next year, Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko – Los Angeles Branch is proud to celebrate 25 years of spreading the Okinawan spirit across Southern California. To celebrate this momentous occasion, we will be holding an anniversary concert entitled *Gajumaru -Shihanseiki no Sasae-* on Saturday, February 15th, 2020 at the James R. Armstrong Theatre in Torrance, CA.

Our show title *Gajumaru* stems from the *gajumaru* tree, also known as the banyan tree, a tree in Okinawa that is known for its strong support given from its several branches. The tree is also known for its long lifespan. We decided on this title to express appreciation for all the support our group has received in the past 25 years, as well as to illustrate our hope that the group lasts for many more years, like the strong *gajumaru* tree. The subtitle *Shihanseiki no Sasae* is a Japanese phrase that translates to “quarter-century of support” as another way to showcase our gratitude to everyone who has supported our group throughout this journey.

Our 20th anniversary concert *Uchinaa Chimu Don-Don: Heartbeat of Okinawa* held in October 2015 was a great success thanks to your generous donations. Our upcoming show will be another large undertaking and in order for it to be a success, we would like to once again kindly request your generous support. Donations will go toward the venue rental, costumes, and equipment to accommodate the overseas performers that will be joining us. In addition, any donations will also help to provide new drums and uniforms for our growing membership so that we can continue to spread the Okinawan culture and spirit across Southern California through our annual performances.

Enclosed is additional information about how you can support Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko – Los Angeles. But most importantly, we hope to see you on Saturday, February 15th, 2020 for our 25th Anniversary Concert *Gajumaru -Shihanseiki no Sasae-*.

Thank you for your consideration!

Sincerely,

Kohki Nishioka
Branch Leader

Kyosuke Kataoka
Assistant Branch Leader



Donation Form

Thank you for choosing to support Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko Los Angeles' 25th Anniversary Concert,
"Gajumaru -Shihanseiki no Sasae-".

If you are interested in making a donation, please make your checks payable to "Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko," and return it with this form to the following address:

Ryukyukoku Matsuri Daiko Los Angeles Branch
16500 South Western Ave, Suite #203
Gardena, CA 90247



@rmdla



gofundme.com/f/rmdla-25th

Prefix: Mr. Ms. Mrs. Dr.

Name: _____
Last First MI

Address: _____
Street Address

City State Zip Code

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Levels and Benefits (Please note that all donors will be acknowledged in the program booklet.)

- \$100 (Bronze Level)
Includes: Business card size color ad -or- t-shirt
- \$250 (Silver Level)
Includes: Quarter-page color ad -or- 2 priority-seating tickets and t-shirt
- \$500 (Gold Level)
Includes: Half-page color ad, 2 priority-seating tickets, t-shirt, and DVD
- \$1000+ (Platinum Level)
Includes: Full-page color ad, 6 priority-seating tickets, 2 t-shirts, and DVD
- Other (Please specify amount: _____)

Deadline: Wednesday, January 15, 2020

Donations received after this deadline will be acknowledged in an insert to the program booklet.

If you would like to make a non-monetary donation of products, goods, services, etc., or have any questions or concerns, please contact us at rmd.losangeles@gmail.com.

Thank you again for your support! We hope you will join us for our 25th Anniversary Concert
"Gajumaru -Shihanseiki no Sasae-" on Saturday, February 15, 2020.
For more details, please visit us at www.rmdlosangeles.org/25th