

Japantown Craft Fair and Island Jam to feature contemporary Polynesian entertainment

Japanese Community Youth Council (JCYC) to host the 4th annual Japantown Craft Fair, along with the Japantown Island Jam on Saturday June 21, 2008.

For Immediate Release

San Francisco, CA (May 19, 2008) - On Saturday, June 21, 2008, the Japanese Community Youth Council (JCYC), a non-profit organization based in San Francisco's Japantown which provides services for children and youth, will celebrate its 38th year by hosting the 4th annual Japantown Craft Fair event along with the Japantown Island Jam in San Francisco. The Craft Fair will be held at the Japanese Cultural and Community Center (JCCCNC), 1840 Sutter Street, from 10AM-4PM; the Island Jam portion will be taking place simultaneously at Buchanan Mall.

The Island Jam will include contemporary Polynesian entertainment, delicious and unique island foods, and various children activities. The Japantown Island Jam entertainment will feature traditional Polynesian dancing and music including: The **J-Town Hui**, under the direction of Ka'ala Carmack is made up of ukulele students from the JCCCNC. **Na Hula O Maikalani** is the hula group from the JCCCNC. Under the direction of Ron Patrocino, students from the age of 3 to adult learn traditional hula. **Keolaulani Halau O Lapa O' Laka** is a 45 year old halau based in Kaneohe, Hawaii. Led by Kumu Hula Aloha Dalire, the Belmont section of the esteemed hula school will be performing under the direction of alaka'i Nahoa Kiesel. **Kaiulu** is a San Francisco based hula school led by Kumu Michael Yamashita. Kaiulu will be joining forces with **A Touch of Polynesia** under the direction Mili Aranda, to bring you some of the dances of Polynesia; **Ka Ehukai Hawaiian Band** has been a force on the Bay Area Hawaiian music scene for quite some time. Led by Tennyson Lum, Ka Ehukai brings traditional Hawaiian music, contemporary Hawaiian music and Jawaiian music to the table. Director Julie Bugarin brings her performers of **Merahi O Tehani** to entertain you with their style of Tahitian and Hula dance. **Manuia Polynesian Review**, under the direction of Tommy and Camille Tualalalei has been a mainstay in the Bay Area and has reaped many awards at various competitions, as well as entertaining for luaus and special events.

Buchanan Mall merchants will also be joining in the festivities with booths in front of many businesses. For example, Honu's Island Grinds and Bar will be offering Kalua Pig Subs, and Aloha Warehouse will have shave ice.

The Japantown Craft Fair will showcase unique crafts, gift items, and clothing from some of California's finest craft vendors. The turnout for this year's event is forecasted to exceed last year's attendance with the addition of the Japantown Island Jam.

For more information, including a full list of sponsors and craft vendors, please visit www.jcyc.org.

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Japanese Community Youth Council (JCYC)

Japanese Community Youth Council (JCYC) is a San Francisco based children and youth non-profit organization, which provides a broad range of child and youth development services. Since 1970, JCYC has grown to annually serve over 7,000 children and youth from all ethnic backgrounds in the San Francisco Bay Area. For more information, please visit www.jcyc.org.

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