

# **Japanese American Cultural & Community Center**

Where Arts, Culture & Community Come Alive!

#### PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT

For immediate release

Contact: JACCC at info@jaccc.org or

(213) 628-2725



## JACCC WELCOMES YEAR OF THE BOAR WITH KOTOHAJIME

LOS ANGELES—To celebrate the new year, Japanese American Cultural & Community Center presents its annual *Oshogatsu* festivities with its signature New Years program **Kotohajime** on Sunday, January 6, 2019 at the Aratani Theatre, and the **First Annual Cultural Exhibition** from January 6<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> in the George J. Doizaki Gallery.

Every January, Little Tokyo becomes the center for celebrating the Japanese New Year in Southern California, with JACCC heading up the festivities with programs that invigorate the spirit and imagination. Literally meaning "the beginning of things," **Kotohajime** will celebrate the Year of the Boar with the themed title, *Hatsu Gasumi*, or "First Haze."

Curated by JACCC Master Artist in Residence, Hirokazu Kosaka, the **Kotohajime** performance is a visual delight and artistic achievement, with dazzling performances and live music accompanied by an award-winning set design.



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Join JACCC for this New Year celebration featuring performances by the Asano Daiko, Tetsuya Nakamura (Harmonica player), Ken Aiso (Violinist), and Matsumae Kai (Traditional folk musicians).

The ritual shooting of the arrow, a purification ceremony, will be performed by IKKYU of the Los Angeles Kyudo-Kai (Archery Group).

For more information, please call (213) 628-2725 or visit JACCC.org.

### JACCC New Year Celebration – Kotohajime

WHERE: The Aratani Theatre

Japanese American Cultural and Community Center (JACCC)

244 S. San Pedro Street, in the historic Little Tokyo area of downtown Los Angeles.

WHEN: Sunday, January 6, 2019 at 1:00 PM

TICKETS: \$20 General Admission / \$18 JACCC Member

For more information call (213) 628-2725 or visit JACCC.org.

Kotohajime is supported in part by The Henri and Tomoye Takahashi Charitable Foundation. In-kind support provided by Mutual Trading Co., Yamajirushi, Ikebana Teachers Association of Southern California.



#### Japanese American Cultural & Community Center (JACCC)

Founded in 1980, the JACCC is the largest Asian American cultural center of its kind in the U.S. and is the preeminent presenter of Japanese, Japanese American and Asian American arts. JACCC is home to a number of civic and arts organizations and serves as the cultural and community focal point of Japanese Americans throughout Southern California.