

2018 U.S. New Year *Karuta* competition

Ogura Hyakunin-isshu karuta is a card game using 100 ancient poems written between the 7th and 13th century in Japan. Because *Tori-fuda* --cards for players-- are written in *Hiragana*, if you can read *Hiragana*, you can participate. We will read *Shimo-no-ku*, or the second half of the poems, so you don't have to have memorized any of the poems. You can just come to see the games or enjoy free-of-charge Pick-up Priest (no *Hiragana* knowledge necessary), or New Year calligraphy, etc. to enjoy Japanese New Year atmosphere.



Hajime Takizawa vs. Mayako Shiba
(Demonstration in 2017)

Date January 14nd (Sunday), 2018

Time 10:00-12:00 **Genpei-sen** --(FREE OF CHARGE) team match for beginners

※All attendees will receive attending gift: Karuta cards from the Meiji period (more than 100 year old); *Hyaku-nin isshu* rice cookies; and Sushi-candy.

12:00-13:30 **Pick Up Priest & Kaki-zome** (New Year Calligraphy)

13:30-17:30 **Kyogi Karuta** (experienced players only)

Venue Bethesda Elementary School Cafeteria

7600 Arlington Rd, Bethesda, MD 20814

Genpei-sen (for beginners): Free of charge. 2 or 3 people in a team compete at a table. You don't have to sit on your knees. Any age groups are welcomed.



- ① Native Japanese speakers' division: Anybody can attend. We separate groups depending on age and skill.
- ② Japanese learners' division : Even if you cannot speak Japanese fluently, you can attend if you can read *Hiragana*.

How to register Genpei-sen division:

Please send the following information to karutastone@gmail.com

- 1) Division (Native Japanese speakers or Japanese learners)
- 2) Team name
- 3) Full name of all team members In Japanese and in English and their age (grade) if they are minors.
- 4) The name and email address of the team leader (parent or guardian for minors).
- 5) Mobile number to be contacted on the competition day.

We will reply in a few days after you send the registration. If you don't receive a reply in a few days, please contact us.

※All teams play 3 games. The rank is decided depending on the 3 games results. If you want to have three people on a team, two take turn to play one game (awards are same for two people team). Because the reciter reads the second half of the poems, you don't have to know any poems of *Hyakunin-isshu*.

※Please trim your nails before the competition. Any injury or accident will be borne by the player's own expense.

※Please accept that winners' names and school may be published in media.

Attendance fee:

Genpei-sen: Free of charge

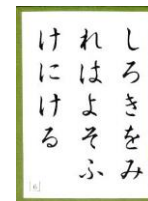
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Kyogi Karuta division: \$20/person

Inquiry : DC Inishie Karuta Club karutastone@gmail.com (Mutsumi Stone)

Karuta information (general) <http://karuta.game.coocan.jp/>

※Kaki-zome, calligraphy (\$25) will be held by Nihon Shuji Washington DC West Division. Inquiry: shuujidc@hotmail.co.jp



You can play Genpei-sen if you can read this.



Winner will get signature of current Queen Ms. Sae Tsuruta or Ms. Saki Kusunoki (Queen title holder for life) !

Organized by GO! Karuta, Inc. and DC Inishie Karuta Club; Supported by All Japan Karuta Association; In corporation with Japan Shuji Washington D.C. West division; Sponsored by Restaurant Satsuma.

GO! Karuta is a non-profit organization to support karuta players around the world. Your donation will be used to help those players. Thank you for your support!