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## **Crow Collection of Asian Art and Japan-America Society of Dallas/Fort Worth Present the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual “Otsukimi” Moon Viewing Festival Wednesday, October 8, 2014**

*Live Music, Rabbit Petting Zoo, Telescopes, Art-Making Activities and More*

**DALLAS (September 30, 2014)** – The Japan-America Society of Dallas/Fort Worth and the Crow Collection of Asian Art present the 15th Annual Otsukimi (Oat-Sue-Kee-Mee) Moon Viewing Festival on Wednesday, October 8, from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. This free event, presented for the first time at Klyde Warren Park, celebrates the arrival of the autumn or “harvest” moon. The custom is thought to have originated with Japanese aristocrats during the Heian period (794 to 1185 A.D) who would gather to recite poetry when the relative positions of the earth, sun, and moon caused the moon to appear especially bright.

The Crow Collection of Asian Art and Japan-America Society of Dallas/Fort Worth’s 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Otsukimi Festival expands this fall to offer a brilliant array of Japanese cultural art activities and must-see entertainment. On the main stage of Klyde Warren Park, enjoy live musical performances by string duo Kaori Yoshida, violinist with the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, and Naoko Nakamura, principal harpist of the Dallas Wind Symphony, who will perform popular folk melodies for autumn. The program will also feature *shakuhachi* (bamboo flute) master Stan Richardson, the Greater Dallas Asian American Youth Orchestra, the Japanese ladies chorus Cosmos, and more. Additionally, for the first time the Perot Museum of Nature and Science is participating in the annual celebration by providing high-powered telescopes and conducting sky-gazing and moon-viewing activities.

Other highlights include Japanese-inspired art activities such as origami and creating “rabbit on the moon” mobiles; calligraphy and ikebana demonstrations; a rabbit petting zoo with The Bunny Burrow Rabbit Rescue; haiku workshops; and a reading of the *Tale of the Bamboo Princess (Kaguya Hime)*, a 10<sup>th</sup>-century Japanese folktale. Guests are encouraged to bring a picnic supper and lawn chair for a peaceful evening under the full autumn moon in Dallas' downtown oasis. Guests may also pre-order a Japanese fusion Bento Box prepared by Savor Gastropub for \$20. To reserve a Bento Box, please visit [www.crowcollection.org](http://www.crowcollection.org) or [www.jasdfw.org](http://www.jasdfw.org).

This event is free and open to the public. Registration is recommended. To register, please visit [www.crowcollection.org](http://www.crowcollection.org) or [www.jasdfw.org](http://www.jasdfw.org). In the event of inclement weather, some activities may be canceled. Klyde Warren Park is located at 2012 Woodall Rodgers Freeway, Dallas, TX 75201.

For more information, visit [www.jasdfw.org](http://www.jasdfw.org) or contact the Japan-America Society of Dallas/Fort Worth at 214-342-2022. For a full schedule of events, visit [www.crowcollection.org](http://www.crowcollection.org) or call 214-979-6430.

### **About the Japan-America Society Dallas/Fort Worth**

The Japan-America Society of Dallas/Fort Worth furthers mutual understanding and ongoing engagement between Japanese and Americans by providing quality programs in arts and culture, education, business, public policy, and international exchange, and creating opportunities for friendship and meaningful interaction. Founded in 1970, JASDFW is a member of the National Association of Japan-America Societies, headquartered in Washington, D.C., a national non-profit network dedicated to public education about Japan.

### **About the Crow Collection of Asian Art**

The Crow Collection of Asian Art features a variety of spaces and galleries with changing exhibitions of the arts of China, Japan, India, Korea and Southeast Asia drawn from cultures ancient and contemporary. Just 15 years in operation, this lovingly curated free museum offers a serene setting for quiet reflection in the heart of the Dallas Arts District. The Crow Collection continues to grow in art and service to the Dallas-Fort Worth community with an emphasis on shared learning and fun.

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