

Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo Press Release

Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo Hosts Hinamatsuri Girls' Dolls Festival Exhibition Displaying 6,500 Hanging Decorations and Japanese Bonsai

TOKYO - [Keio Plaza Hotel](#) (KPH), one of Japan's most prestigious international hotels located in Shinjuku, Tokyo, will host a special exhibition of traditional Japanese arts entitled "[Enjoying Japan's Traditional Hinamatsuri Girls' Doll Festival at Keio Plaza Hotel](#)" displaying various traditional art ornaments in the third floor lobby of our hotel from February 1 to March 27, 2017. This annually held exhibition has been extremely well received by guests, and this year features some 6,500 finely hand woven silk doll decorations, Japanese art items depicting scenes of "Japanese female culture" from the Meiji Period (1868 to 1912), and "Bonsai" miniature decorative sculptured plants to give visitors a taste of Japan's traditional arts representative of the "Hinamatsuri Doll Festival". In addition, ten of our restaurants will serve specially prepared menu items and will be specially decorated to commemorate this celebratory event.

The hanging decorative art ornaments are specially hand stitched by the quilt artist Mitsuyo Matsuo and the some 90 members of her art group expressly for the Keio Plaza Hotel exhibition using finely woven silk cloth from old kimonos. Each of the handiworks has been carefully created for this exhibition and symbolically reflect the hopes for the health and happiness of children. For example, the decorations created for this exhibition have various symbolic meaning such as monkeys with the capability to ward off calamities, mandarin ducks reflecting love between spouses, and pillows representing children who sleep well and grow healthily. Also, traditional wooden Mataro dolls from Kamikamo Shrine in Kyoto will also be displayed along with the 3.3 meter high hanging decorative art ornaments in the third floor main lobby area to welcome guests to our hotel. Our guests from around the world are awestruck by the grandeur of this central exhibit, which offers the perfect opportunity for guests to take pictures as memories of this exhibition.



The tradition of "bonsai" miniature decorative sculptured plants, which has been a traditional part of Japanese culture dating back to the Heian Period (794 to 1185), will be highlighted in this year's exhibition.



*Ukiyoe Art: "Scenes of Japanese Female Culture"
by the artist Nobukazu Yousai*

The art of "bonsai" is said to have started during the Heian Period and became a popular traditional part of "Japanese female culture" from the Meiji Period. Through to the Meiji era, Japanese women were introduced to bonsai as part of their learning on refinement and etiquette, which was said to help instill a sense of beauty in their souls. Items will be on display, such as a selection of traditional pots, and paintings depicting bonsai from the Meiji period, that show how bonsai played a role in the lives of Japanese women in the past. There will also be a variety of eye-catching bonsai for our guests to see. In recent years, the term "bonsai" has become recognized throughout the world in reflection of the growing global appreciation for this traditional Japanese art. Through this exhibition, we seek to offer our guests unique opportunities to discover new and deep aspects of Japanese traditional culture.

In addition, during the exhibition, ten of the restaurants and lounges of the Keio Plaza Hotel including the traditional Japanese kaiseki, Japanese cuisine, tempura, French and Italian, Chinese, and Korean

restaurants will provide guests with menu items which have been specially prepared in the image of this Hinamatsuri event. Also, a wide variety of meal and beverage options including special lunches created in the image of spring emperor and empress dolls, afternoon tea with sweets served in jewelry box-like servers, Kaiseki traditional Japanese meals served in private dining rooms, special dinnertime dining plans for female guests and cocktail dinners served in the “Aurora” Sky Lounge, newly reopened on December 7, 2016 on the 160 meter high top floor of our hotel, will be offered to guests.

“Enjoying Japan’s Traditional Hinamatsuri Girls’ Doll Festival at Keio Plaza Hotel”

From February 1 to March 27, 2017

■ Hanging Art Items Using Finely Hand Woven Silk Cloth from Old Kimonos

*In cooperation with Mitsuyo Matsuo and the Himawari Group

Hanging decorative art ornaments specially hand stitched from cloth of old silk kimonos. This year about 6,500 colorful ornaments will be on display.

■ Mataro Doll Display

■ Bonsai Exhibition

*In cooperation with [The Omiya Bonsai Art Museum, Saitama](#) & [The Omiya Bonsai Cooperative Association](#)

○ Bonsai as a Part of “Japanese Female Culture”

Artwork depicting scenes of study groups and other parts of “Japanese female culture” from the Meiji Period will also be displayed.

○ Bonsai Plant Decorations

“Bonsai” miniature decorative sculptured plants carefully and painstakingly cultivated by the Omiya Bonsai Village will be displayed to give visitors a taste of the beauty of comprehensive Japanese art traditions. Also, other various aspects of “bonsai” including various potteries used for the plants as parlor ornaments will be displayed to give visitors a feel for the beauty of this traditional art.

*Bonsai plants will be replaced every eight days.

■ Special Hinamatsuri Lunch

February 1 to March 31, 2017

To be served at ten restaurants, including our traditional Japanese kaiseki, Japanese cuisine, tempura, French and Italian, Chinese, Korean and other dining and lounge facilities. Chefs at each of these facilities will prepare special menu items for this exhibition in the image of Hinamatsuri.

About the Keio Plaza Hotel

[Keio Plaza Hotel Tokyo \(KPH\)](#), located in Shinjuku at the very heart of the nation’s capital Tokyo, is one of Japan’s leading international hotels. Our hotel boasts of over 20 restaurants and bars, and we host a wide range of local and international guests who visit us for our welcoming facilities, warm hospitality and unique services that allow them to experience Japanese culture, including our [Hello Kitty themed rooms](#), [wedding kimono fitting experience](#), [tea ceremony](#) and [many others](#). For more information about our facilities and services, please visit our [website](#), [YouTube](#), [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).

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