

International Art Festival, FAME

The 6th annual International Festival was held this year on March 11 at the Grand Wayne Center. For the first time, it was included in the FAME event. 16 countries participated in music, song and dances.



The countries also had booths to show about their countries. Japan's booth was very popular. Volunteers provided bookmarks with origami decorations and wrote visitor's names in Japanese calligraphy on them.



Mr. Kaneko (92 yrs old) from Chicago and his son provided tops and kites for children to color. After coloring, they finished making them so children could take them home. Thank you, Mr. Kaneko, your son and all the volunteers!



FAME (Foundation for Art and Music in Elementary Education) held an event which is like a Japanese School Cultural Festival, but in Indiana 78 schools joined together under FAME. There were 3 stages on which children sang or played music, and each school displayed art projects. In Japan, teachers encourage conformity to a model, but American children are encouraged to be creative. If you did not see the FAME event this year, please visit it next year.

SUMMER EVENT "NATSUMATURI"

In the previous JAAI newsletter, we said June 4 is the summer party. Originally we said it would be a golf outing and zoo tour. But parents asked for a family event. So we have changed the plans. It will still be June 4 at Foster Park, but it will be a pot luck picnic with family activities with traditional summer celebration things, such as the bamboo

wishing tree, Happi coats, games, and small concession stands (Yatai) with special treats. More details will be in the next newsletter. We need volunteers to help with this party and to manage the Yatai. Please help us create a good summer party and a strong Japanese related community'

