

MEDIA RELEASE

4th September 2015

JAPANESE FOOD AND FILM FESTIVAL

Japanese food is widely well received all over the world including in Brunei Darussalam. “Washoku”, Japanese Food is known to be inscribed on the Representative List of UNESCO’s Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity since December 2013. This dietary culture is associated with a social practice embodying the spirit of the Japanese people and their “respect for nature.”

The Times Square Shopping Centre will organise the event supported by the Embassy of Japan in Brunei, the Japan Foundation and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan, at its Atrium from Friday the 18th to Sunday the 20th of September 2015. At this festival, visitors will be able to experience Japanese food through firstly a selection of Japanese films related to Japanese food, secondly cooking demonstrations by the Japanese Ambassador’s chef and others and finally there will be a Japanese food exhibition booth, where you can find out more.

The film is open to the public, free of charge and aims to promote cultural awareness between Japan and Brunei Darussalam. As the number of seats are limited, seats are available on a first come first served basis. Please accept our apologies for any inconvenience this might cause.

The following four Japanese films are to be shown over this festival weekend:

Mourning Recipe

18th September at 6:30pm and 20th September at 2:00pm

A mother leaves behind a “recipe for life” which revitalizes a family dealing with emotional wounds. Otomi, the mother of the Atsuta family dies and the film shows how the father Ryohei and his daughter Yuriko struggle to fulfil Otomi’s recipe that she left behind for them. This film was officially selected for the 37th Montreal World Film Festival.

The Kami of Ramen

19th September at 2:00pm and 20th September at 4:30pm

A ramen shop named “Taishoken” with 50 years of history is known for its endless lines. This modest shop in the back of an alley is always buzzing with activity -- with customers waiting in line, regulars who come to eat and help out on a daily basis and apprentices crammed into the tiny kitchen. The apprentices aren’t there just to learn the secret of the boss’ ramen. Without exception, they agree the main reason people flock to Taishoken is “the boss.”

Ramen Samurai

19th September at 4:00pm and 20th September at 6:30pm

A family drama based on a column by the owner of a popular ramen restaurant. Hikaru works for a design company in Tokyo, but when his father suddenly dies, he returns to his hometown to take over the family ramen business. However, he lacks confidence in his work, and ends up clashing with the staff. Then one day when Hikaru and his mother Yoshiko visit a street of food stalls, he is told of his father’s youthful devotion to the flavour of his ramen and everything changes.

A Tale of Samurai Cooking

19th September at 6:30pm

Funaki Dennai laid the foundations for the “Kaga clan cuisine” in the Edo period as a ‘Kitchen Samurai’ who prepared food for the nobility. This heart-warming drama depicts the internal affairs of the Kaga clan from the perspective of a woman who married Funaki’s son. It features meals made according to the Funaki’s family recipe collection ‘Ryori Mugonsho’ and recreates the workings of Samurai family kitchens at the time.

For more information, please contact the Times Square Shopping Centre (Tel: 2338208) or the Embassy of Japan (Tel: 2229265).

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