

About Koto

The koto is a relatively rare and venerable traditional Japanese musical instrument. It has a very beautiful yet dynamic sound, and unique methods the player must use to bring forth its lovely voice. Since it has a long history, the music of koto may vary from very old traditional Japanese music to pieces in contemporary styles. In addition, with its adjustable string bridges, it is capable of producing various scales - from typical Japanese pentatonic scales to Western music. In contemporary ensemble music, the 17 string bass koto is often used in addition to the standard 13 string koto.

Our Mission

- * Introduce Japanese koto music to the broader community by creating opportunities for people to enjoy koto music or to learn to play the koto
- * Contribute to the cultural diversity in the Northwest
- * Collaborate with other musicians / composers in our community
- * Improve koto players skills/techniques



Oregon Koto-kai

Japanese Koto Society of Oregon

Website: www.oregonkotokai.org

Email: info@oregonkotokai.org

Address: 2862 SE Ankeny
Portland, OR 97214

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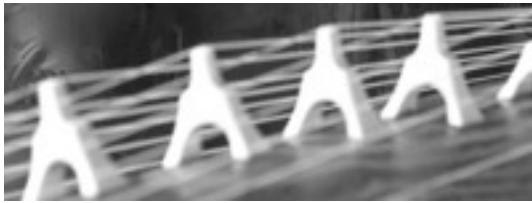


We learn

We play

We strive





About Oregon Koto-kai

Koto produces unique and beautiful sounds. For those who identify with Japan or Japanese music, these sounds may bring back memories of childhood or cultural roots. For those unfamiliar with koto music, we invite you on an exciting musical journey.

Oregon Koto-kai was founded by koto master Mitsuki Dazai, who moved to Oregon in 2002. She immediately began playing her music at coffee shops, bookstores, Japanese restaurants and at local events. At the time, her humble tip box was the only monetary reward...but the real reward was the response of those who heard her music. She was soon busy performing at diverse events and giving lessons both in the Eugene and Portland areas.

In 2007, she performed accompanied by one of her students at the Asian Celebration in Eugene. This experience gave her the idea of forming a Koto ensemble group. Mitsuki began to focus on ensemble lessons and named the group "Oregon Koto-kai". The group enjoyed its first performance with six members in February 2012, In November of 2012, Oregon Koto-kai held its first concert at Epworth United Methodist Church in Portland.

Originally from Tokyo, Mitsuki, has performed with ensembles throughout Japan, Hawaii, Europe, South America and in numerous locations in the US. Her dream is that Oregon Koto-kai will provide the opportunity to introduce the uniquely beautiful music of koto in both traditional/contemporary styles. In doing so, koto can increasingly enrich the cultural diversity of experiences in the Northwest.

Membership

Individual members receive 2 complimentary tickets for the Oregon Koto-kai annual concert. Family and corporate members receive 3 tickets for the concert. All members receive event information and a discount for Oregon Koto-kai workshops and other merchandise. Your support will help make Oregon Koto-kai take a great step forward!

Player members:

For those who wish to learn to play the koto and become player members, taking individual lessons is required. We offer a free trial lesson. For more information, email Mitsuki kotomelodies@gmail.com

Oregon Koto-kai Instructor

Mitsuki Dazai (Certified instructor of Sawai Koto Academy, Tokyo, JAPAN)
Email: kotomelodies@gmail.com
Website: www.kotomelodies.com
Phone: (541) 513-6417



Support Oregon Koto-kai

General membership is open to all who would like to support Japanese culture & koto music. Your membership fee/generous donation will be used for general operating costs, venue rental, equipment, guest artist fees, and travel expenses. Please make checks payable to the "Oregon Koto-kai" and mail to 2862 SE Ankeny St Portland, OR 97214, or visit www.oregonkotokai.org to donate online.

Membership (fee/year)

- Individual \$20
- Family (covers all adults in household) \$35
- Corporate \$100
- Donation

Name(s)

Mailing Address (optional)

City, State, Zip (optional)

Phone

Email

For Official Use Only

- Individual Fee Paid (\$20)
- Family Fee Paid (\$35)
- Corporate Fee Paid (\$100)
- Donation (\$)

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