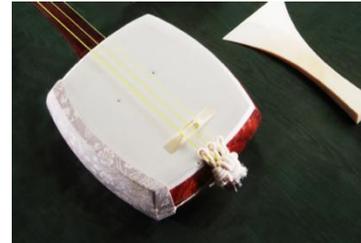




Yamatogaku U.S.A. Marks 25 Years

With Anniversary Concert in Palos Verdes

A rare blend of Japanese tradition and innovation takes the stage, featuring special guest musicians from Japan and the film “Kokuhou (National Treasure).”



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOS ANGELES, CA — October 2025 —

Yamatogaku U.S.A., an organization dedicated to preserving and sharing the refined beauty of Japanese classical music, will celebrate its 25th anniversary with a commemorative concert on Sunday, November 2, at the Norris Theatre in Rolling Hills Estates.

Since its founding in Los Angeles in 2000, Yamatogaku U.S.A. has served as a bridge between Japan and the United States, carrying forward a musical tradition that began in Tokyo in 1933 under the patronage of Baron Kishichiro Okura of the Okura financial group.

Harmony of Tradition and Innovation

The upcoming concert, titled “*Harmony of Tradition and Innovation*,” will bring together leading artists from Japan and the U.S. for a program showcasing the unique beauty of Yamatogaku — a shamisen-centered art form known for blending Edo-period melodies with Western harmonies, rounds, and vocal arrangements.

Heading the delegation from Japan is **Yamato O-sho**, the **third head master of Yamatogaku**, accompanied by celebrated musicians **Yamato Michiju** (voice), **Yamato Hisayoshiko** (shamisen)

and voice), **Katada Kisaku IV** (head of the Katada School, percussion), and **Tosha Suiho** (flute). The concert will be hosted by **Mako Hattori**, well known actress for her elegant stage presence.

Adding a special touch to the celebration, musical **cast members from the acclaimed Japanese film “Kokuhou (National Treasure)”** will appear as guest performers, bringing a cinematic dimension to the stage and highlighting the enduring connection between traditional performing arts and modern storytelling.

A Five-Hour Celebration in Classical Japanese Style

The performance will unfold over the course of approximately five hours, following the traditional Japanese concert format, in which all 23 pieces are presented with formal introductions, ensemble performances, and solo recitals. Audiences will experience an immersive journey through sound, movement, and cultural expression—an approach that reflects the discipline, precision, and spiritual depth of classical Japanese performance.

Local Performers Carry the Legacy Forward

The event will also feature Yamatogaku U.S.A.’s resident artists and instructors, including **Yamato Yasoyo, Yamato Shoho, and Yamato Kyosho**, alongside newly accredited performers **Yamato Josho, Yamato Kyoichiro, Yamato Kyoto, Yamato Risho, Yamato Housho, and Yamato Shoya**.

Members of **Yamatogaku North America, Yamato Shoho’s group, and Fuji Japanese Music** will join the ensemble, symbolizing the intergenerational and cross-cultural collaboration that defines Yamatogaku’s mission.

Preserving and Sharing Cultural Heritage

For 25 years, Yamatogaku U.S.A. has fostered deep cultural exchange through workshops, performances, and community events. The organization’s guiding vision is to preserve the essence of Japanese music while inspiring a new generation of performers to explore its expressive depth.

“Yamatogaku is not just music—it’s a living art that connects emotion, history, and spirit,” says Yamato Kyosho, a longtime member of the Los Angeles group. “This anniversary concert is both a reflection of our journey and an offering of gratitude to the community that has supported us.”

Event Information

Yamatogaku U.S.A. 25th Anniversary Concert

Date: Sunday, November 2, 2025, at 1 p.m. (doors open at 12:30 p.m.)

Venue: Norris Theatre, 27570 Norris Center Dr., Rolling Hills Estates, CA

Tickets: Adult \$40 (general admission including \$10 facility fee), Children 12 years and under \$20 (general admission including \$10 facility fee)

Norris Theater Box Office

<https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?show=300393>

Photo Library: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ehBrL4XYFKOFrWqVcojhAAyr-Twxw-n/view?usp=drive link](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ehBrL4XYFKOFrWqVcojhAAyr-Twxw-n/view?usp=drive_link)

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Media Support and Coverage Invitation

We sincerely welcome your interest and support in sharing this cultural event with your audience. Media representatives are cordially invited to attend, cover, or feature the Yamatogaku U.S.A 25th Anniversary Concert in their publications or programs. For interview opportunities, press access, or further information, please feel free to contact us.