



Street-style Kendama Master: **AKIRA TAJIMA** Demonstrations & Clinics

The Japan Foundation, Los Angeles is excited to invite a young Japanese Kendama Master, Akira Tajima, to do performances and workshops in various parts of the US. In San Diego and Los Angeles, he will collaborate with his American colleague Jake Wiens (Kendama USA) from San Francisco.



Incredible Performances

Fun for Everyone

All Events are FREE!!

Kendama Enthusiasts, Bring Your Own Kendama
to Show Off Your Skill & Learn New Tricks!

LOOK at Their Fabulous Performances!!



[AKIRA performed at Kendama World Cup 2014](#)
[AKIRA performed at Toy Show](#)

[Kendama USA Presents - SLIP - Featuring Jake Wiens](#)
[Jake Wiens, KAMEYO, and the Ozora Sakura](#)

SCHEDULE:
THURSDAY, AUGUST 25 @ SAN DIEGO
1 - 4pm

Kite Flite (in Seaport Village)

(849 W. Harbor Dr, San Diego, CA 92101)

Click [Here](#) for Store Information

w/ Special Guest: Daniel Robinson & Jake Wiens

5 - 8pm

GUNNZO San Diego

(2445 Juan St., San Diego, CA 92110)

Click [Here](#) for Store Information

w/ Special Guest: Daniel Robinson & Jake Wiens

All Events are **FREE**

No Reservation Required

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27

11:30am - 4pm

The Venice Beach Boardwalk

w/ Special Guest: Daniel Robinson & Jake Wiens

6 - 8pm

UNIQLO Santa Monica Place

(395 Santa Monica Place, #232 , Santa Monica, CA 90401)

w/ Special Guest: Daniel Robinson & Jake Wiens

All Events are **FREE**

No Reservation Required

SUNDAY, AUGUST 28

11am - 2pm

Japanese Village Plaza, Little Tokyo

(Plaza in front of Nijiya Market)

w/ Special Guest: Daniel Robinson & Jake Wiens

3 - 5:30pm

"Grooves n' Kendama"

iam8bit Gallery

(2147 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026)

An afternoon of Kendama demonstrations (AKIRA & Jake)

& [dublab](#) DJ's (Hashim B & Juke Bounce Werk)

Japanese EDM, Electronica, Pops!!

All Ages Welcome!!

FREE Drinks

FREE Admission

Co-Presented by dublab



Drink Sponsored by Nanbu Bijin - Southern Beauty

All Events are **FREE**

No Reservation Required

Akira Tajima (AKIRA 6th dan)



When he was 9 years old, Akira enrolled in a local kendama class and had his first real taste of competitive kendama. Since then, he has gone on to win at many competitions such as the All Japan Competition. He has also risen to the highest 6th dan ranking of kendama competitors.

Akira is also active in street kendama, which has been gaining popularity recently, and has traveled to the original country of street style, America, as well as Denmark, Poland, Singapore, Vietnam, and other countries. There, using his experience performing at local competitions, he has been the center of attention with his acrobatic shows brimming with originality. Be sure to feast your eyes on a combination of both his delicate control and dynamic technique!

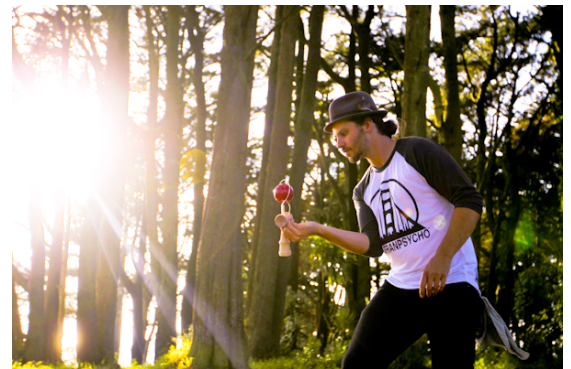
In addition to his performances set to music, he has held over 100 kendama workshops at shopping malls, education facilities (schools, kindergartens, children's houses), nursing homes, and more. He is also famous for his role as supervisor for the "[Kendama Street Style](#)" How to DVD.

Jake Wiens (Kendama USA)

Born in Tennessee on April 13, 1983 and raised, living in San Francisco. Started playing Kendama in 2009. Started [The Kengarden](#) in August 2010. Tribute Kendama Team Member / Manager 2012.

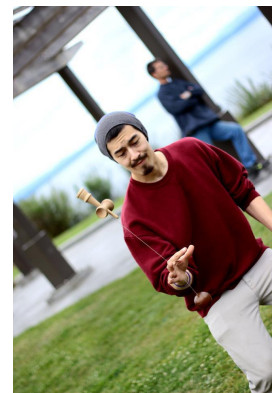
Advanced Champion - Dave Mateo Challenge 2010, 1st Place BKA video Battle

Advanced Champion - AUG 2010, Kengarden Battle BEST OVERALL - Kensession Stand - Sara Grip Battle, 1st Place Best Trick - The Uprising - Sacramento CA, 6th place Gloken Photo Contest



Daniel Robinson

He has been an avid Kendama player since August 2010. Over the past six years, he has participated in numerous competitions and workshops to further progress the game of Kendama world wide. Additionally, Daniel spent nearly three years working behind the scenes as both a professional player and main operator of a Kendama company based out of Denver, CO. Originally from Spokane, WA, Daniel (aka D Rob) has spent countless hours volunteering at after school programs, filming edits and various tricks, performing at schools and other venues, and spreading the game of Kendama in his local area and online. With three years of professional experience and six total years of play, you are sure to learn a new trick or two from Daniel! 1st Place - 7 to Spike - Tacoma Takeover 2, 2nd Place - Sweets Stringless Contest, 11th Place - Kendama World Cup 2014



Upcoming Events

JAPANEMA = Japanese Cinema

Arts & Culture Grants

Rental Exhibitions

Past Events: Lecture Series



Past Events: Exhibitions



Past Events: Others



Lights, Camera, Japanese! Become a Voice Over Star

Japanese Workshop: Samurai Acting

Workshop: Create Your Own Kanji & Calligraphy

Butoh Workshop by Dance Maestro Mushimaru Fujieda

An Evening with Kabuki Actor Kyozo Nakamura

Lecture & Demonstration: Samurai Spirit Alive

Words Can't Go There: John Kaizan Nepture Shakuhachi Live in Los Angeles

Workshop: Action in Japanese

Evening Time Wellness Wednesday (Yoga & Meditation)

Change the World with Onigiri 2018

Lecture & Demonstration: Noh Masks

Ask Marty

TATAKE TAKE: Let's Play Bamboo Beat!

Hands on with Japanese Handmade Paper

Bamboo Music

Japan Korea Miso

Rakugo Sankyo

Takahashi Hiroko

New Year's Cuisine

One Piece Kabuki

Time After Time

Takeo Kawaguchi - SLOW BODY

Street-style Kendama

Perspectives on Risque Cinema

Cinema Kabuki

Cinema Kabuki

R&R Library Lounge

Java and Jazz Library Lounge

Change the World With Onigiri

Japanese Design Today

Kyogen Performance/Workshop

Daidengaku Dance Workshop

Mashi Murakami Meet & Greet

Daughters of the Samurai

One-Man Kabuki Storyteller

Zen Calligraphy Workshop

Rakugo

The Great Passage

Ai Kuwabara Trio Project

Japanese Kites

Hachi - A Dog's Tale

Japan Film Festival

Director's Talk

Nikkatsu at 100

Cast Me If You Can

Abeya Tsugaru-Shamisen

Arigato From Japan

Past Events: Japanema (PDF)



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[Job Openings \(Updated\)](#)

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Annual Report

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Web Design.