



- Japanese supplementary school in Orlando

■ *By Teri Mitchell*

Orlando Hoshuko, Inc. officially started class November, 1998. Currently, 88 students attend the school. They have 10 classes from kindergarten to the 9th grade. The school is focused on teaching Japanese language for 3 hours every Saturday. The kindergarten prepares the kids for elementary. Though the school was originally founded for Japanese children who temporarily live in this Orlando area, more US permanent-resident children are attending the school these days. In spite of gaps between grades, the students attend the classes and events with a positive attitude. "Additionally, they come to Hoshuko on Saturdays, while attending their local schools from Monday to Friday. It's not just a general effort," says Ms. Akiko Kanaoka, the vice-principal.



◀ In a class



▶ Baseball lesson by a special guest, Mariners' pitcher Masao Kida (Back, 5th from left) (2005)

- Annual Events (2006 - 2007)
- April
 - Entrance Ceremony, The 1st Semester Opening Ceremony, Picnic, Secondhand Book Fair, Bazaar
 - May
 - Parents' Visiting Classes, The 1st Semester Closing Ceremony
 - August
 - The 2nd Semester Opening Ceremony
 - September
 - PTA General Meeting
 - October
 - Sports Meeting
 - November
 - Parents' Visiting Classes
 - December
 - The 2nd Semester Closing Ceremony, Japan Festival
 - February
 - New Students Orientation, Report-reading Class
 - March
 - Graduation Ceremony



◀ Taiko drums



▶ Classical Japanese Dance

Japan Festival is held for the purpose of cultural interchange for the community. The students display the results of their classes, homework and crafts for the local people who are supporting Hoshuko in every possible way to see what the students are studying. As the result, Hoshuko is gaining more understanding and support from the community. This is a great opportunity for Hoshuko to appeal to and draw new students. Some of them perform on stage (classical Japanese dance, Taiko drums, etc.) and practice very hard under their instructors.

Mark your calendar for Japan Festival

Date & Time: 12/17/06(Sun) 1:00pm-4:00pm

Venue: Rangetsu 8400 International Dr, Orlando, FL 32819 407.345.0044

For more information, check Japan Festival web site: <http://ld-e.com/japanfestival>

Admission Free