

APRIL 2023
KAMOME
FESTIVAL
CRESCENT CITY, CA

First Kamome Festival Commemorates the 10 Year Anniversary of When the Tiny Barnacled Covered Boat Washed Ashore in Crescent City

The inaugural festival celebrates 10 years from when the boat, Kamome, was discovered on the shores of Crescent City with Japanese cultural activities for kids, tsunami education, a Taiko drum performance, an art mural unveiling, and more.



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 23, 2023

PRESS CONTACTS

Ashley Taylor, City of Crescent City, 707-464-7483 x238 mobile
707-458-4131 ataylor@crescentcity.org

Lynnette Braillard 541-350-0594, Lynnette@LuLish.com

(Crescent City, California) Both Crescent City, California and Rikuzentakata, Japan have something in common: Devastating tsunamis. A tsunami leveled Rikuzentakata and hurled a boat from Takata High School across the ocean in 2011. *Kamome* floated for years before finding its way to Crescent City. But a somber story sparked a lasting bond between two high schools, two cities and two countries giving good reason to celebrate.

The public is invited to attend the first Kamome Festival, a one day event beginning with tsunami and earthquake preparedness education and Japanese cultural activities for kids and their families at Crescent City's Cultural Center. Activities range from origami and card making for students in Rikuzentakata to an interactive tsunami trail walk where children can make emergency "go bags".

An evening ceremony will follow that will include officials and residents from Rikuzentakata along with local leaders from Crescent City, Del Norte County and students from Del Norte High School. A highlight of the evening will be a live performance from a Taiko drum group from Eureka, California. The evening culminates with a virtual unveiling of the Kamome art mural by local artist Harley Munger and a screening of the Kamome documentary.

"The relationship between Crescent City and Rikuzentakata was born out of tragedy but has resulted in building a spirit of hope. The 10th anniversary of Kamome's arrival is a reminder of the undeniable reality that our communities were destined to be forever friends." says **Blake Inscore, the former mayor of Crescent City.**

The festival was made possible by the Del Norte County Office of Education, the City of Crescent City, the Crescent City-Del Norte County Chamber of Commerce, along with Del Norte County, local first responders, and the newly formed Kamome Foundation. The Kamome Festival will be an annual event every April in Crescent City.

WHEN & WHAT:

Family Activities for school aged children: April 14, 2023 - 9 am to 12:00 pm

- Interactive tsunami education and emergency preparedness
- Sister city kiosk and art mural viewing
- Emergency “go bag” making from pillow cases
- Origami, Kyoto fan folding, Kanji writing and card making

Commemorative Kamome art mural unveiling by artist Harley Munger: April 14, 2023 5:00 pm in Beachfront Park across from Fred Endert Pool, 1000 Play St, Crescent City, CA 95531

Evening Program, Ceremony and Entertainment: April 14, 2023 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm.

- Learn the story from local City and County officials, community members and our friends from Rikuzentakata, Japan
- Traditional Japanese Taiko drum performance
- *Kamome* documentary screening (now streaming on Peacock)

WHERE:

Kids Activities: Cultural Center at the Crescent City - Del Norte County Visitor Center, 1001 Front Street, Crescent City, CA 95531

Mural Unveiling: Beachfront Park across from Fred Endert Pool, 1000 Play St, Crescent City, CA 95531

Evening Program: Crescent Elk Auditorium at Crescent Elk Middle School, 994 G St, Crescent City, CA 95531

COST: Free to the public. Tickets are limited to 280 people for Friday evening’s program. You must reserve a free ticket in advance at www.KamomeFestival.com

More information and a schedule of events: www.KamomeFestival.com

About Crescent City, California

As the largest city on the Redwoods Coast of California, Crescent City sits between the mighty Pacific Ocean, ancient redwood forests, tribal lands, and two wild rivers. Crescent City gets its name from the famous crescent-shaped strand of sandy beach that punctuates the city of approximately 6,000 people. Discover our gateway to the Redwood National and State Parks, sprawling beaches, stunning trails, local art, rich history, casino gaming, welcoming events and delicious dining all packed into one

spirited place. To learn more, view the Crescent City Travel Guide and to plan your visit, go to www.ExploreCrescentCity.com

About Visit Del Norte County

Visit Del Norte County is the official brand of the Crescent City-Del Norte County Visitor Bureau which serves as the Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) dedicated to promoting tourism within Del Norte County, California — including the communities, events, lodging and attractions within Crescent City, Smith River, Klamath, Hiouchi and Gasquet. To learn more, request a visitor guide, or to plan your vacation, go to www.VisitDelNorteCounty.com.

###