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JACCC Oshogatsu Workshops for Children

Annual workshop for youth an opportunity to learn New Year Traditions

LOS ANGELES – In conjunction with its annual New Year Celebration, the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center presents **Oshogatsu Workshops for Children** on December 28 and 29, 2007. This one-day workshop for children ages 7 to 12 will teach the traditions of *Oshogatsu*, the Japanese celebration of the New Year.

Undoubtedly the most anticipated holiday in Japan, *Oshogatsu* begins with preparations in December and is celebrated for weeks through the beginning of January. Special foods, games, decorations and ceremonies welcome the New Year with great excitement, some of which are presented in the Oshogatsu Workshops at the JACCC.

The JACCC's workshop includes a special demonstration by **Kodama Taiko**, best known for their unique performances combining the age-old tradition of *mochitsuki* (rice cake pounding) and *taiko*. Children will also learn about the symbols and cultural traditions related to the New Year Celebration through various crafts and games. Children will make traditional New Year's toys such as *temari*, *daruma*, and *nengajo* (New Year greeting card).

The one-day workshops will be offered on Thursday, December 27 and Friday, December 28, 2007 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the JACCC. Registration fee is \$25 for JACCC Members and \$30 for Non-Members. Workshops are limited to the first 30 participants to register. To register or for more information, contact Jessie Kikuchi at (213) 628-2725, ext. 142 or jkikuchi@jaccc.org. The JACCC is located at 244 S. San Pedro Street in Little Tokyo in Downtown Los Angeles. Parking is located on Second Street between San Pedro Street and Central Avenue. Visit our website at www.jaccc.org.