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Uzume Taiko

Choreographed Taiko Drumming!

Uzume Taiko drummers present an energetic and spirited show of taiko drumming!

The drummers perform choreographed martial arts based taiko drum songs. Their repertoire includes a variety of drum playing styles, exciting rhythms and powerful beats that audiences feel.

The show is appealing to all ages and the group varies its repertoire, adding humour, martial arts and dance movements to suit elementary, middle and senior school audience levels.



"Excellent! Powerful, dynamic, very educational too!"
Chris (Teacher - Keating Elementary School)

"My students loved the performance. The kids all want to drum now!"
Mrs. Sinclair-Wise | Teacher-Saanich School District



"Very lovely performance, on every level. Perfect for the children in content and in artistic presentation."

M. Henry | Teacher - Keating Elementary School



"Entertaining, interesting and energetic performance by Uzume Taiko at Irwin Park School today. WOW!"

Brad Daudlin | Principal - Irwin Park Elementary, West Vancouver

"When you first played the drums I felt the floor vibrating under me."

Sandy | Student - Saanich School District

"My favourite drum was the odaiko because it was deep & loud. I felt energized when you played."

Ben | Student - Canalta School

"Thank you Uzume Taiko for a great display of musical, artistic and physical talent through taiko drumming!"

Jodi Pulvers

Uzume Taiko has developed a reputation as one of Canada's most dynamic performing ensembles. The name Uzume Taiko derives from the Japanese word for "big drum" and from the goddess of laughter, Ame No Uzume No Mikoto - the Heavenly Alarming Female who, according to legend, first began taiko drumming.

Drawing its inspiration from the festival drumming of pre-industrial Japan, Uzume Taiko has developed a unique performing style that combines heart-stopping choreography, thunderous rhythms and effective staging, with a dose of humour thrown in for good measure.

Formed in 1989 as Canada's first professional taiko group, Uzume Taiko has enthralled audiences at festivals, schools, concerts and special events locally, nationally and internationally. Breaking down the boundaries between music and dance, Uzume Taiko celebrates the rhythm of life itself, creating shows that are accessible to everyone.

Through its work in the schools, Uzume has reached thousands of children, acknowledging and celebrating Canada's cultural diversity along the way. By sharing our experiences as Canadians from different backgrounds, we can gain a better understanding of ourselves and of others, creating a better world in the process.



Taiko Drum Workshops and Residencies

Participants engage in physical warm-up exercises, martial arts stance and vocal shouts, basic drum sticking techniques, rhythmic drills, verbal notation, song rudiments and group song playing. Students experience the respect and cooperation of group taiko drumming and develop listening and communication skills through the group process. This indoor activity works best if the workshop is held in a gymnasium or multi-purpose room large enough for the number of participants. Student taiko drum gear is provided.

These workshops have been popular in lower mainland elementary schools and International Baccalaureate middle and secondary school programs from 2001 to present. Week long taiko drum residencies for youth have been successful in lower mainland school districts and community art centers.

For more information, please contact Uzume Taiko at info@uzume.com or by telephone at (604) 254.8801.