



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ENJOY FUN COMPETITIONS AT HONOLULU FESTIVAL SISTER EVENTS, MARCH 7 AND 8 Groups invited to participate in Aloha DANCE CONVENTION and Honolulu Rainbow EKIDEN

HONOLULU -- The public is invited to partake in fun and enjoyable competitions for dance groups, running enthusiasts and keiki through Honolulu Festival's sister events that are being held at the Hawai'i Convention Center and Kapiolani Park the weekend of March 7 and 8.

Aloha DANCE CONVENTION (Saturday, March 7 – 5:00 – 9:00 p.m.)

The Aloha DANCE CONVENTION, Hawai'i's biggest dance competition, showcases up to 30 talented teams of all genres from around the world. Teams must consist of at least two members and may register up to 30 members. The entry fee to compete is \$150 per team. Teams receive 2-3 minutes of performance time.

EXILE ÜSA, and EXILE TETSUYA, members of a Japanese famous dance, vocal and MC unit known as "EXILE", will be joining the panel of judges for the competition. The top two winners of the Aloha DANCE CONVENTION will perform in front of thousands at the Honolulu Festival's Grand Parade on Kalākaua Avenue on Sunday, March 8.

In addition to celebrity judges, SUKIMASWITCH, a Japanese rock/jazz fusion duo famous for their anime and video game theme songs will make an appearance and perform a mini-concert at the convention.

Spectators are invited to cheer on contestants during the competition at the Hawai'i Convention Center. Admission to the Aloha DANCE CONVENTION is free.

Honolulu Rainbow EKIDEN (Sunday, March 8 – 8:00 a.m.--1:00 p.m.)

The Honolulu Rainbow EKIDEN welcomes participants to a friendly relay race on Sunday, March 8, at Kapiolani Park.

EKIDEN relay races stem from a long-standing tradition practiced in Japan. Companies or groups run long-distance in a relay race in which teams of runners take turns running by passing a sash to the next runner at the end of each leg.

Relay race participants will be joined by Harumi Sato and Nonoka Yamaguchi, as Official Supporters of the 2020 Honolulu Rainbow EKIDEN. Sato and Yamaguchi are part of the J-pop dynamo E-girls, famous for their Oricon chart topping albums Lesson 1 (2011), Colorful Pop (2014), and E.G. Time (2015).

The 8th annual Honolulu Rainbow EKIDEN encompasses four different race categories. Register now for regular entry pricing through February 29. Late registration follows from March 1 through March 5. For pricing and to register for the Honolulu Rainbow EKIDEN, visit <https://flpreregister.com/451>. Student and military rates are also available.

Events:

- **5-runner 5K EKIDEN and 3-runner 5K EKIDEN (Relay Races)** – Each relay team must have a minimum of three members and a maximum of five members. Participants who enter individually will be grouped into "Friendship Teams" with other individual runners from Hawai'i and other countries.

- **5K Fun Run & Walk** – An event recommended for participants interested in a leisurely stroll or light jog along the five-kilometer course. The Fun Run is an individual and non-competitive event.
- **Kids' Challenge** – open to ages 6-11, this kid-friendly race allows young athletes to join in on the fun! All participants will receive a medal and refreshments at the finish line. Parents or guardians are welcome to accompany participants during the race.

The event culminates with an awards ceremony, honoring the top three teams of the race. Awards will be presented to the most spirited teams, as well as the first-place female, senior, student, and company teams.

ABOUT THE HONOLULU FESTIVAL

Made possible by the Honolulu Festival Foundation, Hawai'i Tourism Authority, and corporate sponsors, the 26th annual Honolulu Festival features a weekend of art, cultural performances, and other entertainment for the community, March 6-8.

The Honolulu Festival Foundation supports educational and cultural programs for the benefit of Hawai'i's local schools, children, and the community-at-large through public outreach and charitable efforts.

For more information about the Honolulu Festivals and its schedule of events, please visit honolulu festival.com/. Follow updates about the Festival on Twitter and Instagram @HonFestival and become a fan of the Honolulu Festival Facebook page (facebook.com/HonoluluFestival/).

Photos



Link: <https://imgur.com/a/ltoBc0l>

Caption: Aloha Dance Convention 2019 dance teams at Hawai'i Convention Center



Link: <https://imgur.com/a/qdPe4NA>

Caption: Runners prepare for the Honolulu Rainbow Ekiden races

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