

Japan Day

On Saturday, October 15 and Sunday, October 16, 2016, the Embassy of Japan with JICA Belize Office, Japanese Association of Belize and Animeniacs co-hosted Japan Day in Ramada Belize City Princess Hotel and Central Park in Orange Walk Town respectively. The festival was well attended by almost 1000 persons, which marked the largest Japan Day since 2009.

Patrons enjoyed Japanese cultural activities including water yo-yo, origami, Japanese calligraphy, exhibition of anime illustration and manga works, etc. The Japan Day offered a music performance and karate demonstration as well as Yosakoi dance (one of the Japanese traditional dance styles) performance and workshop by JAPAN YOSAKOI REN, a Japanese dance group who came to the event from Japan to promote cultural exchanges between Japan and Belize. The dance group arranged the music and dance in the Caribbean style, and the patrons tried the dance with their “Naruko” (essential instrument for Yosakoi) in their hands. Animeniacs hosted a cosplay contest, for which many patrons showed up in unique and creative costumes.



Yukata modelling



Japanese calligraphy



Origami works and hair decorations



Cosplay contest hosted by Animeniacs



(left) Yosakoi Dance Workshop



(right) The Hon. Wilfred Elrington, Minister of Foreign Affairs and JAPAN YOSAKOI REN members



(left) Yosakoi Dance Workshop in Orange Walk Town



(right) Group photo