

Family and Friends,

On behalf of Tomo No Kai at UCI, I would like to warmly welcome you all to our 33rd Annual Cultural Night, Miegakure (見え隠 れ). My name is Alex Chu and I am the President of Tomo No Kai for the 2021-2022 year. To provide a little background for those of you who are unfamiliar with Tomo, Tomo No Kai roughly translating to "Circle of Friends" - was established in 1977, and what started as a small Japanese-American cultural club has evolved to become the warm, all-inclusive family that it is today, sharing and celebrating Japanese and Japanese-American culture with all who are interested. Each vear, our Cultural Night production is the accumulation of that unique blend of Japanese/Japanese-American culture, as well as the dedication and passion of our hard working members.

To me, what makes Cultural Night special is not the scale or glamor of the production, but the interweaving of those from different backgrounds and the united effort necessary to create this spectacle. I



have been fortunate enough to work alongside each one of the performers and I have seen firsthand how everyone has enjoyed participating amongst good company and a warm atmosphere. I am incredibly proud of this Cultural Night that we have prepared, but am equally as appreciative and treasure the sense of community that was created alongside this production.

This year, we have had the pleasure of having this year's Cultural Night being directed by our Directors of Cultural Affairs, Minami Homma and Minami Suda, who are fondly referred to as Minami². These two have been working tremendously hard since last June to put together this production comprised of numerous acts and involving nearly a hundred performers. Over the course of this past year, I have had the privilege to see these two grow into even greater leaders and individuals and am beyond excited to be part of the product of their hard work. Their dedication and commitment to this show has constantly impressed us, and we appreciate all of the passion, effort, and time you two have put into making this year's Cultural Night a reality.

I would like to extend a special thanks to our sponsors for all of their support, as well as a special thanks to you, our audience, for coming to support Tomo No Kai. Now, please sit back, relax, and don't laugh at me too much! Enjoy the show!

Sincerely,

Alex Chu Tomo No Kai, President University of California, Irvine



Good evening everyone and thank you for being here with us tonight as we present to you, Miegakure (見え隠れ). We are extremely excited to welcome you all to our annual Cultural Night after two years. I would like to take this moment to also recognize the amazing cast of the 2020 Cultural Night who never got to perform on stage due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To honor the hard work they have put into their production, we are featuring their skit in our show. Tomo No Kai members have worked very hard throughout the year to put this show together and I cannot wait to showcase the production to you all. The weekly practices were not only a learning experience for them, but also an opportunity to create stronger friendships. I am honored to have been one of the Cultural Directors this year and watch my fellow Tomo members grow together through the practices. I would also like to extend our appreciation to our family, friends, and sponsors for supporting our production! This production would not have been possible without your support. Now, without further ado, please enjoy our show, Miegakure!

-Minami Homma (Co-Director of Cultural Affairs)

Good evening and welcome to Tomo No Kai's Annual Cultural Night, Miegakure (見之 隠れ). We are extremely excited to showcase our annual Cultural Night after 2 years. Our performance tonight incorporates different Japanese and aspects Japanese-American cultures through various acts such as Japanese traditional dance, Odori, and Japanese drumming, Taiko. Our performers have worked tirelessly for the past year to put this show together. It has been an honor and pleasure to work closely with such dedicated members and to see them grow through our weekly practices. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you in the audience tonight for your love and support. This show would not have been possible without you! And a very special thank you goes out to our friends, families, and sponsors for supporting our first show back after 2 years. So please sit back, relax and enjoy our show!

-Minami Suda (Co-Director of Cultural Affairs)



TOMO NO KAI

Tomo no Kai, meaning "Circle of Friends," was first founded in 1977 as a Japanese/Japanese-American social club for the students and staff of UC Irvine. Expanding from its humble beginnings as a social club, Tomo no Kai now raises awareness of the Japanese culture among the UCI student body as well as in the surrounding communities.

Tomo no Kai members are encouraged to meet others from various backgrounds to develop friendships and a better understanding of each other's cultures. These bonds are strengthened through different social activities offered by the club such as after events, Cultural Night practices, and intramural sports. Tomo no Kai also participates in events sponsored by various Nikkei clubs from other schools (through the Intercollegiate Nikkei Council), as well as on-campus programs, such as Cross Cultural Center Festival and Wayzgoose/Celebrate UCI.

In addition, Tomo no Kai continues to promote cultural awareness through events such as an annual visit to Manzanar and Cultural Night. Tomo also hosts an annual "Day of Remembrance" program, which commemorates and educates future generations about the incarceration of Japanese-Americans during World War II.

Furthermore, it maintains strong relations with the Japanese-American Citizen's League, the nation's largest Asian-American organization, which serves as the link to the Japanese-American community and upholds the legacy of the Japanese-Americans.

Tomo's dedication to promoting cultural awareness is emphasized by working closely with its sister organization, Jodaiko, which performs Taiko (Japanese style of drumming) and helps to share Japanese culture with the UCI campus and surrounding communities.



Tonight's Program

JODAIKO SCENE 1 - The Audition SCENE 2 - The One with the Iwasakis MODERN I SCENE 3 - The Pitch SCENE 4 - The Gang's All Here SCENE 5 - A Rough Start TONES SCENE 6 - Get Back on the Horse SCENE 7 - Troubled Shoot

INTERMISSION (15 min)

ACT 2

ODORI

SCENE 1 - Picking Up The Pieces

SCENE 2 - There are Never Small Roles

TONES

SCENE 3 - Fundraiser to End All Fundraisers

JODAIKO

SCENE 4 - It's a Leap of Faith

SCENE 5 - Nothing Better Than Chicken Wings With Good

Company

MODERN II

SCENE 6 - Don't Lose Hope

SCENE 7 - And We're Rolling...

STTOMPS

SKIT

PLOT SYNOPSIS

Welcome and thank you all for joining us tonight as we present to you, Miegakure. Set in the present day, our story follows two Asian American characters, Brett Shimizu and Kaitlin Iwasaki, both talented young individuals trying to break into the Hollywood film industry. Both face their own challenges, however the crux of the issue remains the same, systemic racism in the film industry. Brett strives to direct a project that represents Asian Americans in media while Kaitlin wants to be that representation. It is through our story that we aim to give a sense of hope and acknowledgment to the advances that Asian Americans have made not only in the film industry, but the world at large. Miegakure in Japanese means "appearing and disappearing" and that concept has been employed in traditional Japanese gardens. This design concept deliberately obscures portions of the garden's compositions so that it cannot be viewed in its entirety from one viewpoint. These constant curves represent a constant state of venturing the unknown and its that constant curiosity that makes the visitor want to explore more and create their own paths. In the sense of our skit, our characters face an uphill battle in which they face the unknown and use their creativity to drive forward their goals. We hope our story is one that intrigues you and keeps you as curious as the traditional Japanese gardens that we have named our skit after.

SKIT DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE: ACKNOWLEDGMENT FOR PAST CAST

Thank you all for coming to see our Skit! This is actually our second time directing skit with this story. Both times we have been fortunate to have incredible casts that really made their characters what they were. Unfortunately, because of the COVID pandemic we were unable to show the hard work our original cast put into our production. We would like to thank them for everything they did for us, and we would like to dedicate this to them and the past Cultural Directors, Hime Chadwick and Marin Ihara. We all hope you enjoy our production as much as we had putting it together, twice!

- Lanea, Matt, Robbie, Brandon, and Joey



2019-2020 Skit Cast

Alex Chu Kasey Chuang

Cameron Wang Keefer Hurly

Chris Loudermill Kinson Kwong

Christian Aceves Michael Nash Wijangco

Christian Patrick Castillo

Umemura Stacy Hu

Eileen Choi Tyler Onishi

Grant Yamamoto Tyris Le

Julie Nguyen William Shay

Justine Benavides

Kali Kishi



Sandy Matsuda as Kaitlin Iwasaki

Sandy Matsuda is a 3rd year Cognitive Sciences major and Tomo No Kai's 2021-2022 Publicity Coordinator. This is her first year as a skit actor. Sandy loves cats and baby yoda. Sandy really likes skit because she finds acting fun and enjoys entertaining people. Sandy is grateful for all of the support Tomo has given her and hopes that the skit keeps everyone in the audience awake!



Kasey Chuang as Emily Takei

Kasey Chuang is a 4th year Computer Science major and this is her first time as a skit actor. She has been in Tomo since her freshman year, and was the 2019-2020 Sports Coordinator. In her free time, she enjoys playing basketball and other sports with her friends (surprise surprise).



Alex Chu as Danny Dere

Alex Chu is a 4th year Chemical Engineering major and this is his first time as a skit actor. This is Alex's fourth year in Tomo No Kai and he is Tomo No Kai's 2021-2022 President, as well as the 2019-2020 Director of Social Affairs. Alex enjoys Raising Canes and boba, and is constantly looking for friends to accompany him. Alex thanks everyone for attending Cultural Night and hopes everyone enjoys the production!



Joseph Gu as Arnold Iwasaki

Joseph Gu is a 4th year Computer Science major and he is one of Tomo No Kai's unkies. This is his first year as a skit actor. His favorite boba place is Orobae and he loves karaage. He likes watching anime and playing video games in his free time. Ask him about his favorite Taco Bell item! Joseph thanks everyone for coming out to see Cultural Night!



Angela Qiao as Lauren Iwasaki

Angela Qiao is a second year Computer Science major. She joined skit because she's never acted before and thought it would be fun to try it out. In tomo, she is also a secretary intern and outside of tomo she is involved in CAUCI, Hack at UCI, and ICSSC. She enjoys getting food and boba, watching YouTube, and attending tomo events.



Sihan Ruan as Mo Parker

Sihan likes music and sports. Sihan is a second year physics major. In his second year, he started to realize that physics is really hard. He isn't a big fan of chick-fill-a, but he always bring a bag of chick-fill-a to eat during the skit practices.



Joshua Louie as Austin Wang

Josh Louie is a 3rd year Aerospace Engineer. It's his first year in Tomo No Kai and first time as a skit actor. Josh is also interning under the historian position, but when he's not taking photos, he's probably on the basketball court or playing other sports with multiple Intramural teams. Josh thanks everyone for attending Cultural Night and hopes everyone had a good time!



Sebastian Carbajal as Gregory Gregg

Sebastian Carbajal is a 3rd year Game Design & Interactive Medias major and also a Tomo No Kai Public Relations intern. He detests wearing suits around campus out of fear that people might perceive him as a pledge. He enjoys spending his free time swimming, cooking, or inting League of Legend matches.



Kevin Wong as Brenner Lieberman

Kevin Wong is a 1st year, studying Aerospace Engineering. He's very excited to be involved with Tomo no Kai this year. He's a member of Jodaiko, practicing taiko every week. During his free time, Kevin enjoys biking for DoorDash and delivering food.



Jonah Gonzales as Brett Shimizu

Jonah is a 4th year Computer Engineer. He served as one of last year's Publicity Coordinators, and is the Director of Social Affairs this year. This is his first time participating in skit and he hopes you all enjoy the show!



Max Einstein as Justin Paragas

2nd year applied physics major. This is my first year in skit. I always get my pre skit chipotle!!! Chipotle is busting on god :) In my free time I like to play video games and go to the gym (sometimes).



Grant Yamamoto as Felix Nakaue

Grant Yamamoto is a 4th year, Urban Studies student at UCI. Grant has always been very involved in Tomo from his first year being an intern, to becoming Historian in his second year, to becoming Vice President this year. While he was in the skit 2 years ago, he was first cast as another character, Austin. However this year, he is playing Felix! Hope you enjoy the show!



Alycia Akabori as Kylie Chung

Alycia Akabori, also goes by Aly, plays the sparkly diva, Kylie Chung. Aly is a third year transfer student majoring in Education Sciences. This is her first year acting in skit. She loves being as extra as her character's outfits. Her hair color changes every year to add some extra color into her life. Aly hopes her character brought a smile to your face!



Kento Matsumoto as Brian Song

Kento Matsumoto is a 2nd year nursing major. This is his first year as a skit actor. During his free time Kento enjoys playing basketball and eating.



Alexander Ng as Gufo Monchezzi

Alex Ng is a 4th year Anthropology/Management major and Tomo No Kai's Historian 2021-22. This is his first year as a skit actor with this CN being his breakout performance! He enjoys photography, volleyball, and making a fool of himself on the internet. In his time in Tomo, he has successfully left behind five personal belongings at events (these items have not been recovered). He has steadily added two new colorful articles of clothing to his mostly dark wardrobe! He hopes to go into Cultural Resource Management upon graduation.



Arry Wang as Marc Mark

Arry Wang is a 1st year Pharmaceutical Science major and a cultural intern. This is his first year as a skit actor. He gets Chipotle every week before skit practice because UTC doesn't really have good takeout food options. During his free time, Arry enjoys being addicted to games by Riot and attempting to learn miscellaneous useless instruments. He thanks everyone for coming out tonight, and promises to make it worth your while <3

Christian Umemura as Richard Small

Christian Umemura is a 3rd year Biochem major and it is his second time in skit. He loves playing video games with friends, but hates League of Legends with a passion. When Christian grabs a drink, his go to pick is anything matcha or green tea.

"Hey guys! Enjoy the skit and hope everyone has a good laugh."

JODAIKO

Now in its 30th year since its inception, Jodaiko is a collegiate Taiko group that brings the Japanese art of Taiko to UCI and Southern California. The word "Jodaiko" means "passionate drumming" in Japanese, the perfect description of this energetic and passionate group.



CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Jacob Chang

SONGS

New Nesshin by Dave Shiwota and Peggy Kamon Rhythm and movement fundamentals meet energetic playing in this festive piece. New Nesshin is a unique song in Jodaiko in that it features the fue in the latter portion of the song.

Renshuu Matsuri (2022) by Jacob Chang

A rearrangement of the song used to teach taiko fundamentals so it would be fitting for Tomo no Kai members and Jodaiko members in a collaborative piece.

Nekkyo by Keiji Uesugi

A quick-paced and adrenaline-filled song that constantly raises the bar as the energy of the song increases.

Jomatsuri by Kelvin Lee, Tomomi Hongo

Jodaiko's signature matsuri-style piece, featuring complex movements and rhythms. This piece allows players to explore their relationship to taiko by giving them freedom on the drum.

Omiyage by Shoji Kameda

A well-known song in the taiko community, where energy slowly builds up from a chant that is transferred to the drums. This song was created as a gift to the entire taiko community, hence the name "Omiyage".

Tanoshii (2022) by Jacob Chang

A twist on Tanoshii, making the piece more "fun" and allowing for members to be expressive.

JODAIKO PERFORMING MEMBERS

JODAIKO MEMBERS

Aviv Benchorin Kevin Wong Nic Wang

Cheng-En Yew Kristin Goodell Nicole Kouwabunpat

Elyson Kyoko Watari Pearson Yee

Evangelista Kyra Trinh Sergio Minero George Liam Shay Stacy Hu

Yamashita Manny Flores Tree Hoang

Jacob Chang Maya Jimbo Xian Thao

Jacob Davalos

TOMO × JODAIKO COLLAB

Katelyn Tseng

Grant Yamamoto Joseph Gu Christian Ryan Takeshi

Umemura Gasha



MODERN

Tomo Modern is a non-competitive dance group that welcomes all levels of dancers to come out and try something new, get some exercise, or simply have fun. Modern I consists of beginner to intermediate level dancers, whereas Modern II features more advanced choreography.

COORDINATORS

Modern I: Jason Lee

Modern II: Annette Kim, Dorothy Dong, Jason Carino,

Matthew Lin, Serena Nuber





MODERN I SONGS

Haru wo Tsugeru by yama Summer Time by cinammons x evening cinema Mou Sukoshidake by YOASOBI Kokoro Yohou by Eve

MODERN II SONGS

Napori by Vaundy Rendezvous by KAHOH & Yo-Sea Enjoy It by KADOKAWA DREAMS Summer Time by KAHOH & Kenya Fujita

MODERN I

Alex Chu Ashley Yabumoto

Eadan Dury Emi

Yamasaki Emily Fukuda

Grace Xu

Hanna Zhang
Jacob Chang
Jonah Gonzales

Maximillian Einstein

Stanley Chen



MODERN II

Alex Chu
An Maeyama
Arry Wang
Ashley Yabumoto
Austin Chen
Charlotte Tu
Eadan Dury
Emi Yamasaki

Hanna Zhang Haruya Tatsumi Jacob Chang Jonah Gonzales Joseph Gu Joyce Chan Malina Miura Marissa
Fukunaga
Max Einstein
Michael
Wijangco
Stacy Hu
Stanley Chen
Sydney Jona
Taylor Togami



TONES

Tomo Tones is our very own choir which draws out the vocal talent of Tomo's members and adds another musical element to Cultural Night.

SONGS

"Perfect" by p!nk

"Walking The Wire" by Imagine Dragons

COORDINATORS

Grant Yamamoto & Lauren Tsuji

PERFORMERS

Eadan Dury Alex Wang Alyssa Ikuma Grace Xu Hanna Zhang Arry Wang **Jonah Gonzales** Blake Madison Charlotte Tu Joseph Gu Kai Campbell Chase Hashimoto Kristin Goodell Christian Lauren Umemura Kawashima Daniel Wang

Letitia Chen
Manny Flores
Maximillian
Einstein
Mikey Wijangco
Miyo Sun
Natalie Yung
Sandy Matsuda



ODORI

Nihon Buyo is a form of Japanese classical dance that draws its roots from the Noh and Kabuki theaters and has been passed on, refined, and cherished for generations. Odori features the repeating dance patterns of Nihon Buyo in a lively yet elegant manner.

INSTRUCTOR

Hanayagi Wakaseira

PIECES

"Seiza" (Constellations) - 星座 - by TAIKOPROJECT Composed by Masato Baba & Emily Yoshihara Weary travelers rest after a long day's journey, in awe of the beauty that surrounds them as the world comes alive under the stars.

"Tsuki E" (To the Moon) - 月 ~ - by TAIKOPROJECT Composed by Masato Baba

An obon-style dance that brings together the community in celebration of the moon as they dance the night away under the night sky.

DANCERS

An Maeyama Joseph Gu Poinci Zhang Emi Yamasaki Marissa Fukunaga Tawni Sugita Emily Fukuda Max Mayeda Zoe Yamamoto Jennifer Phoea Momo Nakanishi



STTOMPS (Organized by the Tomo Cultural Interns)

STTOMPS, which stands for Skit, Taiko, Tones, Odori, Modern, Performance, and Seniors, is organized by Tomo No Kai's Cultural Interns. These various acts come together one last time for an amazing finale piece.

COORDINATORS

Skit - Alycia Akabori, Arry Wang

Taiko - Jacob Chang

Tones - Grant Yamamoto

Odori - Joseph Gu

Modern - An Maeyama, Jason Tam

Seniors - Jonah Gonzales

SONG

"Dynamite" by Taio Cruz

PERFORMERS

Alex Chu
Alexander Ng
Angela Qiao
Anthony Truong
Anthony Tsuyama
Arry Wang
Austin Chen
Ashley Yabumoto
Bret Sugita
Cher Choi
Charlotte Tu
Christian
Umemura

Daniel Rossmeisl
Eric Shebert
Grant Yamamoto
Haruya Tatsumi
Jason Zhu
Jennifer Phoea
Jonah Gonzales
Joseph Gu
Kasey Chuang
Kevin Wong
Kristin Goodell
Max Einstein

Mikey Wijangco Momo Nakanishi Reese Sunada Ryan Gasha Sandy Matsuda Sebastian Carbajal Shreyas Hukkeri Sydney Santo Tawni Sugita Taylor Togami Thar Zaw

BACKSTAGE CREW

Our backstage crew consists of Tomo No Kai members who volunteered to help out with moving props or acting as extras for skit, as well as organizing mics.

NINJA MASTER

Grant Yamamoto



NINJAS

Anthony Truong Anthony Tsuyama Bret Sugita Eric Shebert Grace Xu Haruya Tatsumi Jake Martin Letitia Chen Reese Sunada Ryan Gasha Shreyas Hukkeri Thar Zaw

MIC PEOPLE

Kaitlyn Kodama Blake Madison





THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS!

Special thanks to:

SELANOCO JACL **ASUCI** Dean of Students Multicultural Programs Committee Cross Cultural Center **UCI Campus Organizations** Kizuna Orange County Friendship Choir Rising Japan Musicfest Keiro Irvine Barclay Theatre Jodaiko CN Coordinators Yumi Saito Gear Designers Cover Designers Intercollegiate Nikkei Council Tomo No Kai Interns Tomo No Kai Cabinet

Families and Friends
And of course all the performers!

Thank you for making our vision come to life! We are so proud of the wonderful show you put on <3 And thank you to our friends and family that made this show possible!

-Minami Homma; co-director of cultural affairs

Thank you to the performers for working so hard throughout the year! And thank you to our friends and family who came out to support us, we love you al!!!

- Minami Suda; co-director of cultural affairs





NEED A PERFORMANCE? JODAIKO'S GOT CHUU!

Contact us: external.jodaiko@gmail.com









CONGRATULATES



ON THEIR 33RD ANNUAL

"MIEGAKURA"

BEST OF LUCK TONIGHT!









EDUCATE, EMPOWER, AND ENGAGE THE NEXT GENERATION

LEARN MORE AT GOKIZUNA.ORG

Orange County Friendship Choir



OCFC is Orange County's only Japanese mixed choir. We practice at Yamaha Music Center in parallel with Zoom practice to enjoy singing.

Practice: 7:45pm~9:30pm every Thurs. At : Irvine Yamaha Music Center 4620 Barranca Pkwy, Irvine CA 92604

Full time students may join at one half the regular membership fee!!!

> For more information contact OCFC at: E-Mail: ocfchoir@gmail.com WWW.ocfc-choir.com

NUSICFEST





RISING JAPAN MUSICEEST IN LA

June 11 (SAT) AND 12 (SUN)

Silverlakes Sports Complex 5555 Hamner Avenue Norco CA 92860



Congratulations to UC Irvine Tomo No Kai on their 2022 Cultural Night!

SPEAKER SERIES: A MENTAL HEALTH CONVERSATION

In recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, Keiro invites you to this virtual two-part presentation which will present how and why mental health can benefit one's aging experience on a physical, mental, and emotional level.

- Part 1 Starting with You: Mental Health and Self-Care Thursday, May 5, 2022 | 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. PDT
- Part 2 Family Approaches to Positive Mental Health Tuesday, May 17, 2022 | 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. PDT

Visit keiro.org/speaker-series to register for FREE today!

A SI

Founded in 1961, Keiro improves the quality of life for older adults and their caregivers in the Japanese American community of Los Angeles, Orange, and Ventura counties. For more information, visit keiro.org. Scan Here to Learn More and Register!







GOOD JOB CULTURAL
PIRECTORS ON A
WONDERFUL CULTURE
NIGHT!





I was just thinking about it...







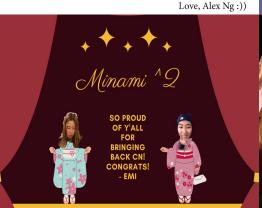






Now that you can't unsee it!

Congratulations on a wonderful CN! We're very proud and appreciative of all your hard work!





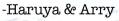


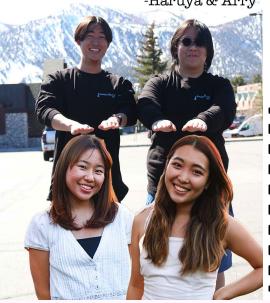






All of Our Love to Our Little Minami^2









Congratulations to all of our performers and a huge thank you to everyone who came out to support us! We hope you enjoyed the night!

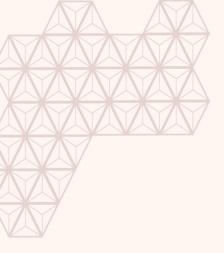
♥, minami^2 & cultural interns



PLEASE HELP US IMPROVE OUR SHOW!

We would love to hear your feedback on tonight's show. Please scan the code and fill out a 2-minute survey. Thank you:))

SCAN ME!



Thank you for coming to our 33rd Annual Cultural Night!



