



**Children's Ikebana workshop – 4 May, 11am to 12pm at King Street Halls, Kirkwall  
Inviting primary school children, aged 7 or older**

Deborah Hathorn, a highly accomplished and very experienced teacher of the Sogetsu school of Ikebana, Japanese flower arranging, is making her first visit to Orkney as part of this year's Children's Day celebrations. The programme is co-organised by OJA and Japan Foundation with the generous support of the Consulate General of Japan in Edinburgh, OIC Culture Fund, and Japan Society of Scotland.

This particular school of ikebana has a strong emphasis on working with school children, and Deborah was very open to the idea of workshops with primary school children in Orkney.

We looked at various ways to make this opportunity available to as many children as possible, and we are doing a small pilot project with two schools on the mainland, and also holding a small public workshop for children on Saturday 4 May. If there is sufficient interest, we would look at ways to develop the workshop further, to make it available more easily to primary schools.

The workshop is free and will be limited to 10-12 children, with all materials supplied. Because of the cost of the materials, we are asking anyone who is interested to pre-register, and we would like to give preference to children who can come in from the smaller isles, since we won't on this occasion be able to go to them.

The workshop will be conducted by Deborah Hathorn, assisted by Shoko Koizumi-Hanson and will include:

- Learning about Japanese flower arranging, and why the iris is linked to Boy's Day in Japan
- Making your own flower arrangement (to take home) based on what you have learned
- Learning some Japanese words related to flowers and flower arranging
- Introduction to language and culture unit (web based materials) by Japan Foundation about KADOO 華道 (literally the way of flowers).

You will decorate a container for your flowers, choosing colours that you think will go well with the flowers you are arranging. The main flower will be the iris, and there will be golden rod and grasses that you can use as well.

If you have any children that would be interested, please have them (or their parent or guardian) contact us at [OJAinfo@btinternet.com](mailto:OJAinfo@btinternet.com) by close of day Tuesday 30 April 2019.

