

San Diego Taiko



Background: San Diego Taiko was founded in 2004 by Kathy Fuller, John Iversen, flutist Akiko and Brian Pound. Taiko, which means drum in Japanese, dates back to prehistory — its thunderous rhythms evolving out of agricultural rites and the ancient music of shrines and temples. The modern style of taiko performed by San Diego Taiko was introduced to North America in 1968. It mixes elements of dance, music and theater into a spectacular, visceral performance inspired by the drumming traditions of Japan.

Currently, San Diego Taiko is comprised of 11 performing members. Members' experience includes playing with taiko groups in Japan, Canada, New York, Boston and San Diego. The group is dedicated to sharing the power and spirit of taiko with the San Diego community through performances and workshops.

Performances: San Diego Taiko performs at community celebrations, cultural festivals, sporting events, corporate functions and private engagements. The group has been invited to play at events sponsored by the California State Games, Harley Davidson, Japan Society of San Diego and Tijuana, San Diego Museum of Art, San Diego Yokohama Sister City Society, Sheraton, Southwestern College and the World Baseball Classic.

In Feb. 2007, San Diego Taiko hosted its first concert, DrumSTRONG. DrumSTRONG was a huge success, gathering a crowd of taiko fans and friends from throughout the community. In 2008, DrumSTRONG II attracted more than 600 people over two performances.

Web Site: For more information, please visit www.sandiegotaiko.org or e-mail info@sandiegotaiko.org.

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