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For immediate release

Torii Gate Festival Comes to The Domes June 25-26

Milwaukee, WI (June 10, 2016) – Torii Gate Festival will celebrate Japanese culture Saturday and Sunday, June 25 and 26, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at The Mitchell Park Domes, 524 S. Layton Blvd.

Named for the traditional Japanese gate marking the entrance to a shrine, Torii Gate Festival will use a classic red wooden gate as the transition to the display area for ikebana floral arrangements. Traditionally, sacred objects are placed in the innermost chamber of a shrine; at the festival, the gate will lead to ikebana arrangements that are steeped in the philosophy of developing a closeness between nature and humanity.

Milwaukee Chapter 22 of Ikebana International, in partnership with Friends of The Domes and the Milwaukee County Parks, will exhibit 30 floral arrangements with the distinctive asymmetrical form and empty space as key components. Chapter members will also strive to create harmony between materials, the container, and the setting.

Demonstrations of other Japanese arts will also be presented.

Kids of all ages will enjoy origami demonstrations and hands-on folding activities, creating a variety of objects from single sheets of paper. Event goers will also see demonstrations of furoshiki wrapping cloths—the traditional Japanese answer to carrying objects in a sustainable way.

Travel information on Japan will also be available from AAA Milwaukee South.

The Torii Gate Festival is included in admission. Show-Dome-Only Discounted General Admission is \$3 per person. Children age 5 and under, Friends of The Domes members, and members of gardens with reciprocal agreements are admitted free. The Tropical and Desert domes remain closed.

For more information visit countyparks.com or call (414) 257-5600.

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