

## Japan Calendar Festival 2017

On Saturday, February 18, 2017, the Embassy of Japan hosted “The Japan Calendar Festival 2017” at Knutsford Court Hotel in Kingston. The Exhibition was well attended by approximately 600 persons.

The Japanese calendars, donated by the Japanese Calendar Association, were exhibited and given away to the visitors. Many people enjoyed various Japanese cultural and festival activities such as Japanese calligraphy, *Origami* (Senba-zuru/1,000 paper cranes), *Ikebana*/Japanese flower arrangement, *Yukata*/Japanese traditional summer clothing modelling, *Bon-odori* dance, etc.

We also had a presentation on Japanese martial arts, demonstrations of Aikido, Naginata, Karate, gymnastics, music and dance performances. Additionally, this year, environmental groups joined us and showed their cleanup and recycle activities, which increased eco-awareness among the visitors to the event.



(left) Opening remarks by Mr. Yamanaka, Chargés d 'Affaires a.i.



(right) Calendar display



(left) Visitors keenly listening to the presentation



(right) *Origami* (Senba-zuru/1,000 paper cranes)



Presentation on Japanese martial arts



*Naginata* demonstration



(left) Recycled artworks done by high school students



(right) *Bon-odori* dancing