Brandon Lee

Japanese Koto



Brandon Lee is a Japanese koto (zither) performer and teacher based in Melbourne. He has acquired both classical and contemporary repertoire, and also collaborates with musicians of various musical and cultural background. Apprenticed to the legendary Kazue Sawai in Tokyo, he ranked 2nd in Japan for the Sawai Koto School's instructor's examination. Since returning, he has been actively performing and teaching. He has performed across Australia, Japan, and America.

Find out more at: http://www.brandonleekoto.com.au/

Japanese Koto Workshop

Brandon's school workshops introduce Japan's national instrument, the koto, to students. Starting off with a short performance, students are then involved in an interactive explanation of the instrument.

Students will all have a chance in trying to play this unique instrument.

At the end of the workshop, students will have gained a greater understanding of this instrument, as well as having learnt about Japanese culture and music! Not to mention, they'll all walk away with the satisfaction that they've managed to play a tune on the koto!

Suitability: Prep – Year 12Audience Size: maximum 75 studentsDuration: 45-50 minutesPer Day: maximum 4 sessionsCost: \$6.00 per student +GSTMinimum per visit: \$780.00 +GST (plus travel for regional)Brandon can also do 20-30 minute performances (no workshops). Please enquire regarding cost.



Bookings & Enquiries: Nexus Arts <u>www.nexusarts.com.au</u> (Ph) 03 9528 3416 (Free call) 1800 675 897 Email: <u>nexusarts@netspace.net.au</u>

Brandon Lee - FEEDBACK

The children tuned into Brandon's Koto play after listening to his interesting talk about Koto at our school's Japanese day. The children were fascinated by the beautiful yet original sounds. Actually, not only children but all the staff, too were very impressed.

Hiromi Hagihara Kalinda Primary School

Brandon has starred in our Japanese Cultural Day since 2014. We were surprised to witness that our students were mesmerized by Brandon's koto tunes. He plays koto beautifully and vivid koto sound is extremely precious for students to experience. As there are more strings than guitars and violins, Koto sound provides many layers of sounds with different strength, which attracts students deeply.

Brandon also provides hands on activities in his session. All students were able to try out the Koto. Brandon prepares a simple tune for students to play and he plays with students to create instant koto music.

Brandon is very flexible to accommodate with our school circumstances. 2016 is our third year to invite Brandon to our Japanese Cultural Day. It's always very easy to set up sessions with Brandon.

I highly recommend Brandon's Koto performance for a memorable 'hands on' activity or just simply as a Koto concert at a school setting.

> Toshie Shimazoe-Grizelj Parkdale Secondary College