Japanese Karuta Lecture

Friday, October 11, 2013
12:00 – 1:00 P.M.
Free Event

Guest Instructor: Ms. Mutsumi Yoshida Stone
This lecture will be in English.

Japan-American Society of Washington DC
1819 L Street, NW, B2
Washington, DC 20036

Karuta is a traditional card game often played by Japanese children at home and in school as an educational exercise. Any kind of information can be displayed on Karuta cards as a way to learn the Japanese phonetic symbols — hiragana and katakana, Chinese characters - kanji, proverbs, English words, etc.

Kyogi (competitive) Karuta （競技かるた） is a game that uses the poems of Ogura Hyakunin-isshu, a collection of 100 ancient Waka (Tanka) poems composed between the 7th and 13th centuries. There are two types of cards. One kind is yomifuda （読み札） or "reading cards", and another is torifuda （取り札） or "swiping cards." When a reader starts to recite the first half of a poem, players quickly determine which card, out of the cards spread out, is the correct one and then touch or swipe it before it is touched or swiped by an opponent.

Ms. Mutsumi Yoshida Stone holds a 6th degree in Kyogi Karuta and is the International Representative of the All Japan Karuta Association, www.karuta.or.jp - (全日本かるた協会A級登録選手。六段). She has two decades of experience introducing Ogura Hyakunin-isshu Karuta and related cultures to non-Japanese in the United Kingdom, Thailand, China, Mongolia, South Korea, Malaysia, and New Zealand. Ms. Stone has established Karuta clubs and organized Karuta competitions in Bangkok and Beijing. She also lectures frequently on the history of Ogura Hyakunin-isshu, and organizes Karuta demonstrations for beginners.

Attendees will be able to play karuta after the lecture!
(Knowledge of hiragana is required.)

Name: _________________________________ Organization: _______________________________________
Tel: ___________________________ Email: ______________________________________________________
Additional Name(s): __________________________________________________________

Please fax registration to: (202) 833-2456, or register on-line at www.jaswdc.org.
If you have any questions, please call us at (202) 833-2210
Seating is limited.