

沖縄エイサー祭り

「第30回フェスタまちだ2016」

Okinawan Eisa Festival

Place: Haramachida Odori (Street adjacent to the 109 bidg.)



9. 10. 2016 (Sat)

9. 11. 2016 (Sun)



*There may be a change to date and time.

What is "eisa"?

Eisa is a style of dance in Okinawa that is performed in the season of bon.

Bon is the season in which we pray to our ancestors. During this period, the souls of our ancestors are believed to have their earthly homecoming.

Therefore, the energetic Eisa dance is a method to pray and welcome the souls that have returned home.

Eisa dancers wear colorful uniforms that show strong characteristics of traditional Okinawan style. The instruments and dance style they use are distinct from one island to the next, just like their dialect. Their dance is heightened by the sound of powerful *taiko*, or Japanese drums.

Eisa dance has been spread to the whole nation of Japan, and when there is an eisa festival, dancers from the entire country gather to perform.



(Photo) "Flourish" by Akio Konishi from Machida Tourism Photo Contest 2012.

