



17th Los Angeles Tanabata Festival

What is the Los Angeles Tanabata Festival (LATF)?

The LATF is a volunteer-run non-profit organization dedicated to bringing the joy and community of the Japanese Summer Star Festival (Tanabata) to Little Tokyo. Every summer in Sendai/Miyagi Prefecture/Japan, the city erupts in color as the people celebrate the Tanabata Festival. The festival is based on the meeting of two lovers: the Weaver Princess (Orihime) and the cowherder (Hikoboshi). They are represented by the stars Vega and Altair in the summer sky. According to the legend, the lovers can only meet once a year and the festival celebrates their meeting in the middle of summer.

How can I be a part of the Festival?

WE INVITE PEOPLE TO MAKE KAZARI AND JOIN OUR CONTEST!

Make a kazari or come learn to make a kazari (email us to arrange a lesson). We will display the kazari August 9-17, 2025, during the Little Tokyo Nisei Week Festival.

WE NEED AND WELCOME VOLUNTEERS!

Throughout the year, we visit various community events and arrange a booth where we teach people how to make the flowers that are used in the kazari. We also ask people to write wishes on colorful paper (tanzaku) to be hung on bamboo.

How do I request a workshop for my organization?

Are you part of a community group that would like to learn how to make a kazari and the symbols associated with the festival? We create flowers from washi paper, cranes and geometric origami, tanzaku, colorful paper chains and other symbols associated with the Summer Star Festival. We'd love to bring our fun to you. Please contact us to find out more!

Where do I find out more?

Los Angeles Tanabata Festival office

244 S. San Pedro Street, Room 405A, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Email us to arrange a workshop or purchase supplies.

- ✦ Please like us on facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/LATANABATA>
- ✦ Follow us on Instagram @latanabatafestival

For information or questions, please send an email to latanabatafestival@gmail.com