

# Kodo Apprentice Centre



Practicing traditional dance

In a converted schoolhouse in Kakinoura on Sado Island, the young people who will continue and expand on Kodo's traditions are trained, not just in musical technique but also in all matters of body and spirit. Beginning in April, apprentices live communally and train for two years. From this group, probationary members are selected in January of the second year. These chosen few spend one year as junior members, and if they are successful, they then become full Kodo members. Kodo seeks people of all backgrounds who are interested in becoming apprentices, and perhaps the next generation of Kodo players and staff. Apprentices live communally in the Kodo Apprentice Centre as they learn taiko, dance, song, and other traditional arts in the rich natural and cultural surroundings of Sado.

## Apprenticeship Details

As well as learning to live communally, apprentices learn about certain basics of traditional Japanese culture and how to develop the body and mind specifically to play taiko and dance.

Curriculum content includes:

Music lessons (drumming, dancing, singing, playing flute, etc.), lectures on Sado's environment, culture, history and traditions, farming (rice culture and vegetable gardening), cooking, tea ceremony, Noh/Kyogen, film appreciation, experiencing Sado's local festivals, physical training, on-site training through assisting taiko workshops, staffing Earth Celebration and Kodo concerts on Sado... and more. Participants are challenged to develop practical skills by participating in Kodo's everyday activities.

## Apprenticeship Requirements

- \* Any healthy person over 18 years of age may apply.
- \* Advanced Japanese required. (All instruction is given in Japanese.)
- \* Men and women of all backgrounds, experiences and nationalities are welcome.



Rice planting



Daily physical training



Taiko practice