

The relationship between the citizens of Kyoto and the Children's Museum spans nearly 60 years. In the early 1920's, Kyoto contributed a set of Japanese Festival Dolls used each year for our Children's Day celebrations. Later our staff helped establish a similar museum in Kyoto.

Since that first exchange, many things have brought us closer: Early exhibits using collections from Japan prompted a woman writing 50 years ago to state: "Through the activities of the Children's Museum of Boston boys and girls are better acquainted with the children of other countries. They are learning of national customs, opinions, modes of living [and an] appreciation of the arts . . .". Learning about others remains a major focus for the Museum. The *Kyo-no-machiya* continues this tradition.

Twenty years ago the sister city relationship was established. A subsequent trade fair was the occasion for sending a Urasenke demonstration tea room to Boston. A few years after that, Eli Goldston's energy and enthusiasm revitalized the Sister City Foundation, and, under his chairmanship, the Museum became the repository for the tea room.

Seven years ago Karen Anne Zien, Curator for the *Japanese Home*, went to Kyoto to seek help in modifying the tea room to include aspects of contemporary daily home life. She met Kiyoshi Yasui of Yasuimoku-Komuten, master builders. They shared a dream of having a complete house on exhibit at the Museum.

In 1976 Mayor and Mrs. Motoki Funahashi were honored guests of Mayor and Mrs. Kevin White during our Bicentennial. At a reception at the Museum, Mayor Funahashi and members of his delegation offered to improve the tea room. The delegation then listened to the dream Karen Anne Zien and Kiyoshi Yasui had shared three years earlier.

Two days later, the delegation and the Boston/Kyoto Sister City Foundation pledged to work jointly to provide a complete, functioning Japanese house for the Museum's new home at the Wharf.

Alford P. Rudnick, Chairman of the Boston/Kyoto Sister City Foundation, and Professor Hachiro Yuasa, President of the Kyoto-Boston Sister City Committee, took the reins and provided the leadership necessary to bring us together today.

In Kyoto, the Sumiyama family contributed the *Kyo-no-machiya*, an artisan's shop, home and garden; and the Office of Foreign Affairs, currently directed by Mitsuru Yagi, worked with the citizens of Kyoto to raise funds for half the costs of materials, restoration and shipping. In Boston, Vernon R. Alden and Richard Silverman co-chaired the Museum's Japanese Home Finance Committee to raise the other half of the nearly \$700,000 needed.

In June, 1979, a shipment cleared customs at the Port of Boston bearing the label:

From Mayor Motoki Funahashi of Kyoto
To Mayor Kevin White of Boston
Contents: One Used House, Kyoto-style.

On July 1 the Museum officially opened at the Wharf, and on July 2 five carpenters from Yasuimoku-Komuten began reassembling the house inside the Wharf under the direction of Kiyoshi Yasui and Masaru Kumagai of Yoshimura Architects and Associates.

Working through the summer and into the fall, the craftsmen from Kyoto won the respect and affection of the entire Museum staff. And on October 14 Mr. Yasui presided over the third and final Shinto housebuilding ceremony, *Shunkoshiki*.

Today we dedicate the *Kyo-no-machiya*. As we open this house, we also open the way to new opportunities for the children of Boston, their teachers and parents, members of the Japanese community, travellers, scholars, and students to learn more about contemporary Japanese life, customs, arts and aesthetics.

With thanks to all of those mentioned here, and to the scores of others who played vital roles in this effort, welcome to the *Kyo-no-machiya*.

Michael Spock, Director
The Children's Museum
April 17, 1980

Honorable & Mrs. Kevin H. White
Mayor, City of Boston
Alford P. Rudnick, President
Boston/Kyoto Sister City Foundation
Vernon R. Alden
Richard Silverman
Japanese Home Finance Committee
Michael Spock, Director
Children's Museum
Karen Anne Zien, Curator
Children's Museum
Jo-Del Gaeth
Office of the Mayor

Honorable & Mrs. Motoki Funahashi
Mayor, City of Kyoto
Professor Hachiro Yuasa, President
Kyoto-Boston Sister City Committee
Office of Foreign Affairs
Kyoto City Government
Kiyoshi Yasui, Yasuimoku-Komuten, Ltd.
Master Builder
Eisuke Yoshimura, Architect
Yoshimura Architects Associates
Mitsuru Yagi
Office of the Mayor

Masao Kumagai
Consulting Architect
Edward Howe
Consulting Architect
Masashi Kawabe, Craftsman
Shigeru Katsube, Craftsman
Mitsuyoshi Saito, Craftsman
Kikuhiko Iguchi, Craftsman
Kenetsu Nakagawa, Craftsman

For their assistance in making this exhibit possible we wish to thank

Shinichiro Abe
Linda Abegglen
Charles F. Adams
Vernon R. Alden
Warren S. Berg
Dr. & Mrs. Bernard A. Berman & Family
Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Blakeley
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Mrs. E. G. Weyerhaeuser
William White
Martin J. Wohl
Nancy Wyner
Saichi Yagi
Dr. Lambertus Van Zelst
Jim Zien

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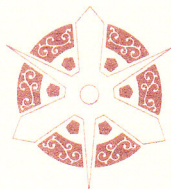
Like the generation that has progressed to adulthood since the inception of our Sister City relationship, our union, so tenderly nurtured, comes to the full flower of expression with the dedication of the *Kyo-no-machiya*.

Imbued within the fabric of both Kyoto and Boston is an abiding respect for and pride in our great histories and traditions. The historical monuments of Boston reflect our identity as a people and embrace many cultures. They are a treasured legacy from the past and document the cultural plurism of our social existence.

As our eyes drink in the *Kyo-no-machiya*'s integrity of design, this triumph of the human spirit in harmony with nature, we see the glory of your ancient culture as well as the endearing personal qualities of the Japanese lifestyle. It is a majestic statement of the quality of life in Japan, and I feel confident that from this intimate knowing and sharing of experience will come an even greater understanding and friendship between us.

To each of you whose personal contribution has made the *Kyo-no-machiya* a reality in Boston, I express profoundest gratitude. Through your generosity you have reached into our lives and touched our hearts. As the *Kyo-no-machiya* itself shall be esteemed so shall your name be revered and celebrated by us and our posterity. Thank you.

Kevin H. White
Mayor



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

KYO-NO-MACHIYA OPENING

April 15-18, 1980
Boston, Massachusetts

Tuesday, April 15

6:30-8:00 p.m. Welcoming Reception for Kyoto Delegation. Colonnade Hotel. Boston/Kyoto Sister City Foundation, Alford P. Rudnick, Chairman. Bertram A. Druker, host.

Wednesday, April 16

Morning Optional Freedom Trail Tour

5:30-7:30 p.m. Reception, opening of *Kyo-no-machiya* Photography Exhibit at State Street Bank and Trust Company. Japan Society, co-host, celebrating 75th anniversary. State Street Bank and Trust Company Concourse Gallery.

7:30 p.m. Dinner, honoring special guests, *Kyo-no-machiya* project. Maison Robert. Dr. and Mrs. James H. Jackson, hosts.

7:30 p.m. Dinner, honoring participating organizations. The *Kyo-no-machiya*, The Children's Museum. Michael Spock, Director, host. Jordan Marsh, sponsor.

Thursday, April 17

9:00 a.m. Breakfast, Parker House Roof, honoring Kyoto delegation. Dr. Jan Fontein and Maestro Seiji Ozawa give greetings to Kyoto delegation. Dunfey family, hosts.

3:30-4:00 p.m. Dedication Ceremony, *Kyo-no-machiya*, Children's Museum.

4:00-6:00 p.m. Open House and Reception, *Kyo-no-machiya* and entire Museum.

6:30-9:30 p.m. Concurrent Dinner parties. Boston area.

Friday, April 18

Morning Delegation tours John F. Kennedy Presidential Library.

2:00 p.m. Boston Symphony Orchestra Concert, Symphony Hall.

4:30 p.m. Urasenke Tea Ceremony inaugurated in *Kyo-no-machiya*.

5:30-7:30 p.m. Champagne Reception and preview showing of film about reconstruction of *Kyo-no-machiya* in Children's Museum. Federal Reserve Building. Mayor and Mrs. Kevin H. White, hosts.

7:30-9:30 p.m. Dinner, Parkman House, honoring Mayor and Mrs. Motoki Funahashi and official delegation. Mayor and Mrs. Kevin H. White, hosts.

Saturday, April 19

Delegation leaves Boston.

10:00-5:00 p.m. Public opening of *Kyo-no-machiya*; special events, The Children's Museum.