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## ***PRESS RELEASE***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

### **2015 J-POP SUMMIT ANNOUNCES DAY 1 PROGRAMMING OFFERING A CAPTIVATING MIX OF LIVE MUSIC AND COMEDY AND OTHER ACTS**

*First Day Of S.F.'s Annual Japanese Pop Culture Fest Presents Live Performances By JAM Project, Eir Aoi, Gacharic Spin, JinnyOops!, Akabane Vulgars on Strong Bypass, Faint Star, FES TIVE, Comedy Duo Jaru Jaru, A Cappella Group Little Glee Monster And More!*

**San Francisco, CA, June 24, 2015** – The **2015 J-POP SUMMIT**, the Japanese pop culture event held annually in San Francisco, has announced **DAY 1 programming**. This year's festival is highlighted by live music from a wide range of pop, ani-pop, electronica, punk/alternative, and a cappella artists, as well as live comedy and other acts to complement an extensive roster of attractions, participants and exhibits, and other live programming.

The 2015 J-POP SUMMIT takes place **Saturday and Sunday August 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>** at the historic **Fort Mason Center in San Francisco's Marina district**. **Tickets and V.I.P Passes are available now at: [www.J-POP.com](http://www.J-POP.com)**. Both types of passes include access to daytime programming as well as the **J-POP LIVE NIGHT** concert. V.I.P Pass holders will have priority access to a premium viewing area and also will be invited to an exclusive Meet & Greet Event with JAM Project on Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup> and Eir Aoi on Sunday, August 9<sup>th</sup> respectively. Details to be announced soon!

This year's live performers reflect the diversity and unique creative expression that is burgeoning in Japan and capturing a global following. The first-ever 2-night event **J-POP LIVE NIGHT** tops off **DAY 1** Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup>, with an evening concert by anime music super-group – **JAM Project** – as well as live sets from pop singer, **Eir Aoi**, frenetic rock band, **Gacharic Spin**, and returning all-girl punk rock acts, **JinnyOops!** and the **Akabane Vulgars on Strong Bypass**.

During the afternoon of Saturday, attendees also will be treated to the U.S. debut of **Little Glee Monster**, an extraordinary 6-member female a cappella group that has received wide acclaim in Japan for their unique vocal treatments to a range of popular Japanese and English songs. Also

making their debut at J-POP SUMMIT will be **FES TIVE**, a unique act built around the concept of Japanese “festivals” that has garnered a global following with their up-tempo, catchy sound. The hilarious antics of the comedy duo, **Jaru Jaru**, also come to U.S. shores for the first time as does the stylish female pop duo, **Faint Star**.

J-POP SUMMIT also introduces attendees to a brand new way to show their love of favorite Japanese idols with the **Cheerz App**, on which users can upload photos to show support for a wide array of top artists, including ones performing at J-POP SUMMIT. Cheerz users also can receive additional opportunities for visibility and promotion based on their photo's popularity among other users of the app. Over 300 top Japanese artists are currently active on Cheerz and since its launch in December 2014, fans have cheered on their favorite idols over 40 million times. More information at: <https://cheerz.cz/>

**Stay tuned for J-POP SUMMIT DAY 2 programming to be announced very soon!**

### **J-POP LIVE NIGHT Artists**

*J-POP LIVE NIGHT on Saturday begins at 4:30pm on the J-POP SUMMIT Main Stage inside the Fort Mason Pavilion. Specific set times will be posted shortly on [www.J-POP.com](http://www.J-POP.com).*

### **JAM Project (Japan Animation-Song Makers Project)**

JAM Project is an anime music super-group founded in 2000. The group is composed of the top vocal artists that are each renowned for their work in the anime industry. The members came together to create and perform powerful theme songs for anime, tokusatsu (SFX movies and TV), and video games. Since their debut, the JAM Project has produced and released hundreds of anime and video game theme songs, including the themes to *Super Robot Wars*, *GARO* and *Tomica Hero*. The group toured internationally in 2008, 2012 and 2015. Current regular members are Hironobu Kageyama (singer of "*Dragon Ball Z*" opening theme), Masaaki Endoh (singer of "*Yu-Gi-Oh! 5D's*" opening theme), Hiroshi Kitadani (singer of "*ONE PIECE*" opening theme), Masami Okui (singer of "*Revolutionary Girl Utena*" opening theme) and Yoshiki Fukuyama (singer of "*Macross 7*" opening theme), who will all perform in San Francisco! Official website: <http://jamjamsite.com/>

### **Eir Aoi**

Eir Aoi is a Japanese singer from Sapporo, Hokkaido that is signed to SEM Records (Sony Music Entertainment). She gained wide popularity after several of her songs were used as the opening and ending themes for many popular anime series including *Kill la Kill*, *Sword Art Online II* and Season 2 of *Aldnoah Zero*. She has built a worldwide fan base and embarks on her first international tour this summer. Official website: [www.aoeir.com](http://www.aoeir.com)

### **Gacharic Spin**

Celebrating their 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year, Gacharic Spin is a true force of musical power from Japan! One of their songs is now used as the ending theme for *Dragon Ball Kai*. Taking their name from the word, “Gacha,” derived from a Japanese word gacha-gacha, meaning clattering, each members’ character and sound clatters and mixes perfectly with singers Hana and Oreoreona’s powerful and melancholic voices, to result in a spectacularly unique sound. The band is signed to the JVCKENWOOD Victor Entertainment Corp. Taking hints from everything from pop to rock and industrial music, their energy-filled live performances and excellent musicianship have made them a very fun band to watch! Official Website: <http://gacharicspin.com/>; Official YouTube Channel: [Gacharic Spin Channel](#)

**JinnyOops!**

Returning to J-POP SUMMIT for their first time since 2010 is JinnyOops!, the 3 -piece indie punk band from Osaka, Japan. The group, which is composed of Mitsuyo Ishibashi (guitar/vocals), Chihiro Ishida (Bass), and Hitomi Futemma (Drums) are known for their wild and explosive punk sound and have made several appearances in the US. Official Website: <http://jinny-oops.com/>

**Akabane Vulgars on Strong Bypass**

The Akabane Vulgars on Strong Bypass are a Japanese female punk rock trio from Tokyo. Formed in 2005, the band has Kei Sofue on drums and sisters Yumi and Miki Uchizono on vocals/guitar and bass, respectively. After playing at SXSW 2012 in Austin, Texas, the band embarked on a US tour and headlined the J-Pop Summit Festival in San Francisco. Known for their energetic live performances, the band has played countless shows internationally and have established a loyal fan base in Japan, as well as overseas. Official Website: <http://akabane-vulgars.jimdo.com/>

**DAY 1 Daytime Live Performances****Little Glee Monster**

This 6-member group composed of teenage girls has gained wide acclaim for their exceptional vocal skills and harmonies. Little Glee Monster was formed in Tokyo in 2013 by winners of a “Best Young Female Singer Audition” contest. The music video for the group’s first single, Houkago High Five, featured on their major label debut for Sony Music has been viewed more than 500 million times! Little Glee Monster’s “Gao Gao All-Star” was selected as the ending theme song for the *Pokemon XY* anime series and their music also will be featured in the upcoming anime feature, *Pokemon XY The Movie: The Archdjinni of Rings*. Official Website: [www.littlegleemonster.com](http://www.littlegleemonster.com); Official YouTube: [www.youtube.com/user/LittleGleeMonsterYT](http://www.youtube.com/user/LittleGleeMonsterYT).

**Faint Star**

Faint Star is a Japanese pop-duo consisting of Hina (formerly of Tomato’n Pine) and Yuria that debuted in 2014. The duo gained international popularity after a Tokyo Girls Update article on their 1<sup>st</sup> music video became the most viewed article on the site. Faint Star is produced by one of the most famous music agencies, “Agehasprings,” and are known for their live performances that integrate advanced visual technology. Official website: [www.faintstar-tokyo.jp/](http://www.faintstar-tokyo.jp/)

**FES TIVE**

The 8-piece Japanese idol group, “FES TIVE, is a unique act that builds on the concept of “festivals” and focuses on performing at Japanese festivals all over the world. FES TIVE made its major label debut on Tokuma Japan in May, and throughout 2015, they will continue to showcase their “FESTIVAL FROM JAPAN” theme to intentional audiences. With their up-tempo and catchy sound, FES TIVE is a rapidly growing force in the international music scene. Official website: <http://festive.rizepro.net/>

**Jaru Jaru**

Jaru Jaru is a Japanese comedy duo made up of Shusuke Fukutoku and Junpei Goto, and managed by the Yoshimoto Creative Agency. The pair is one of the most successful and popular comedy acts in Japan with their brand of *Manzai* – a traditional style of Japanese comedy consisting a fool and a long-suffering companion. In the twelve years that they have been active, the duo has received countless awards, made many TV appearances, and even starred in several movies. Official Web site: <http://jarujaruconte.com/>

**About J-POP SUMMIT**

The J-POP SUMMIT is an annual Japanese Pop Culture celebration held in San Francisco, CA that features live bands and artists from Japan, pop culture panel discussions, film premieres, fashion shows and events, food and spirits, art, and celebrity appearances. In 2014, the two-day event attracted 125,000 attendees. Details on J-POP SUMMIT are available at [www.J-POP.com](http://www.J-POP.com).

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