

## MEDIA RELEASE

1 May 2019

### **Hundreds to gather to celebrate *Saiki Children's Day***

Bringing together hundreds of primary school children, Gladstone Regional Art Gallery & Museum (GRAGM) is gearing up for this year's *Saiki Children's Day*.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said it was a day to engage with Japanese inspired craft activities.

"This year marks the ninth year of *Saiki Children's Day*, and time and time again the event has proven to be enjoyable for both students and staff," Councillor Burnett said.

"The event is modelled on the centuries old, *Children's Day*, which is a famous annual national holiday on the Japanese calendar to celebrate children.

"The event is one of many annual cultural exchange programs that the region and the Gallery & Museum holds in conjunction with our Sister City throughout the year."

In recognition of this event and providing a glimpse into the lives of their peers in Japan, local children are invited to the Gallery & Museum to take part in a diverse offering of exciting educational activities.

Cr Burnett said the free craft projects included Koinobori (carp) kites, paper plate samurai helmets and fans, as well as Sumo Wrestler and paddle-pop doll making.

"A selection of works on loan from members of the local community, objects from the Gallery & Museum collection and artworks created by local school students will also be on display," he said.

School children will attend *Saiki Children's Day* between 10am and 1pm on Friday, 10 May 2019. Bookings are essential for the school event.

Craft activities for all community members to partake in will be available from 11 - 25 May.

*Saiki Children's Day* is a Gladstone Saiki Sister City Advisory Committee initiative, supported by Gladstone Regional Council.