

ORIGAMI, SENBAZURU AND OTHER FORMS

OVERVIEW OF THE OBJECTS

Repository: Crandall Public Library.
Folklife Center
Glens Falls, NY.

Creator: Kumiko Chiba

Title: Origami, Senbazaru and other forms

Dates: 2004, 2005

Quantity: .5 cf (other forms) and 2 senbazaru

Identification: Folk Art

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Japanese artist, Kumiko Chiba, was visiting Queensbury schools on an exchange October 2003 to October 2004 to gain international experience in the United States. She helped with kids programs to create senbazaru (1000 paper cranes).

HISTORICAL NOTE

One thousand origami cranes (千羽鶴 *senbazuru*; literally "1000 cranes") is a group of one thousand [origami paper cranes](#) (折鶴 *orizuru*) held together by [strings](#). An ancient [Japanese legend](#) promises that anyone who folds a thousand origami cranes will be granted a [wish](#) by the gods. Some stories believe you are granted happiness and eternal [good luck](#), instead of just one wish, such as long life or recovery from illness or injury. This makes them popular gifts for special friends and family. The crane in Japan is one of the mystical or holy creatures (others include the [dragon](#) and the [tortoise](#)) and is said to live for a thousand years: That is why 1000 cranes are made, one for each year. In some stories it is believed that the 1000 cranes must be completed within one year and they must all be made by the person who is to make the wish at the end. (Wikipedia)

INDEX TERMS

Topics: Origami (Japanese paper folding)
Senbazaru (1000 paper cranes)

Places: Queensbury, Warren, New York
Tokyo, Japan

Important People: Chiba, Kumiko

Form/Genre: realia

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation: Origami, Senbazuru and other forms
Folklife Center
Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY.

Accession Information: Created April – June 2005 as part of the Paper Arts exhibit, and donated to the Folklife Center.

Processing Information: Arranged and described by Erica Gonyea, 2019

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE OBJECTS

The Folklife Center has two senbazuru, created by Fourth Grade classes at the Queensbury Intermediate School, under the guidance of Kumiko Chiba. One is on display in the Reading Room (in 2019), and one is stored in a box.

Note: both need some repairs.

Other forms: Created as part of the Paper Arts exhibit April 5 to June 7, 2005. Chiba did a series of workshops with children. She taught a wide variety of forms, including flowers and birds and boxes. Also in this collection are several pairs of tiny origami earrings.