

110709-N-TO330-097 HIRATSUKA, Japan (July 9, 2011) – Crowds move through the streets of Hiratsuka as colorful displays hang over head in celebration of the Hiratsuka-Tanabata Star Festival. The festival held in Hiratsuka is the biggest Tanabata festival held in the Kanto plains area and is usually held the weekend after July 7th to accommodate more attendants. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Apprentice Vivian Blakely/Released)



110709-N-TO330-141 HIRATSUKA, Japan (July 9, 2011) – An attendee at the Hiratsuka-Tanabata

Star Festival held in Hiratsuka places a wish on a bamboo line as part of a tradition based on an old legend of two star crossed lovers. The festival held in Hiratsuka is the biggest Tanabata festival held in the Kanto plains area and is usually held the weekend after July 7th to accommodate more attendants. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Apprentice Vivian Blakely/Released)

110709-N-VE260-222 HIRATSUKA, Japan (July 9, 2011) – A little girl reaches up from her father's shoulders to touch the streamers that run along the streets during the Hiratsuka-Tanabata Star Festival held in Hiratsuka. Hiratsuka-Tanabata festival is based on an old Japanese legend of two star crossed lovers separated by the Milky Way. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist Seaman Apprentice Vivian Blakely/Released)

