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HAVEN'T YOU HEARD? I'M SAKAMOTO MANGA AUTHOR NAMI SANO IS MAKING HER N.AMERICAN CON DEBUT AT ANIME EXPO 2016 Meet the mangaka at her four autograph sessions at AX



JUNE 15, 2016 –BookWalker proudly announces that manga artist Nami Sano, the author of the manga and anime comedy series *Haven't You Heard? I'm Sakamoto (Sakamoto Desu Ga?)* will be their second special guest at Anime Expo 2016 on July 1-4, 2016 at the Los Angeles Convention Center. This will be Nami Sano's first appearance at a North American convention.

Fans will have a chance to meet this up-and-coming manga author and get an autograph at four autograph sessions at Anime Expo just by visiting BookWalker, KADOKAWA's online store for digital manga and light novels at booth #105 in the AX Exhibit Hall.

Nami Sano's autograph sessions will be held in Kentia Hall on these days and times:

Friday, July 1: 4 PM – 5 PM Saturday, July 2: 3 PM – 4 PM Sunday, July 3: 3 PM – 4 PM

Monday, July 4: 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM

To get a ticket for the autograph session, drop by BookWalker booth#105, and show any volume of *Haven't You Heard? I'm Sakamoto* to BookWalker booth staff. Fans will also receive a special *shikishi* signing board to use to get the autograph. Tickets are limited, so come early to make sure you get one while supplies last!

Follow BookWalker on <u>Twitter</u> (<u>@BookWalker GL</u>), on <u>Facebook</u>, or sign up for the BookWalker newsletter for more news about Nami Sano's appearances at Anime Expo. Details can also be found at http://bkwk.jp/ax

Born in April 1987 in Hyogo Prefecture, Nami Sano made her professional debut as a manga author in April 2010 in the pages of *Fellows! Magazine* with her short story, *Non-Sugar Coffee*. After the success of *Haven't You Heard? I'm Sakamoto*, Sano is currently working on concepts for her next series. In the meantime, she's thrilled to take a break from her drawing board to be meet her fans in North America for the first time. In her message to fans, Sano said,

"I am so honored and thankful to be invited to Anime Expo.

In comparison to all the other Japanese manga, anime, and dramas depicting Japanese school life in a fictitious or fancy way, the story of *Haven't You Heard? I'm Sakamoto* is based on plain suburban school life & unique Japanese habits. So, there might be a lot of unfamiliar cultural references and expressions for U.S. readers. I'm really interested in how readers outside of Japan have accepted this piece.

I'll do my best to liven up Anime Expo. Douzo Yoroshiku Onegaishimasu."

COOL, COOLER, COOLEST! SAKAMOTO MAKES HIGH SCHOOL IMPOSSIBLY STYLISH

Haven't You Heard? I'm Sakamoto, also known as Sakamoto Desu Ga? is a 4-volume comedy manga series about a super suave, utterly unflappable high school student. Sakamoto is not only handsome, tall, and smart, he always finds an ultra-stylish way to do even the most mundane tasks. He outwits bullies with ease, and leaves a trail of broken hearts in his wake. Sakamoto is so incredibly cool, he's almost too good to be true! Or is he?

Haven't You Heard? I'm Sakamoto series debuted in Japan in August 2011, in Fellows! Magazine, published by Enterbrain / Kadokawa. It continued publication in Harta Magazine, also from Enterbrain/Kadokawa.

A fan favorite almost from the day it debuted, *Haven't You Heard? I'm Sakamoto* has won several awards in Japan, including the Grand Prize from manga/anime news website Comic Natalie in 2013. *Sakamoto* won place for best manga, beating out *Attack on Titan* by Hajime Isayama, which came in second place, and *Ajin* by Gamon Sakurai, which came in third.

Haven't You Heard? I'm Sakamoto has also been picked as a favorite manga series by manga publishing professionals in the annual Kono Manga Ga Sugoi! (This Manga is Amazing!) ratings, taking 2nd place in 2014 in the shonen category, behind Assassination Classroom by Yusei Matsui, which took first place that year.

Seven Seas Entertainment is currently publishing Nami Sano's debut manga series, *Haven't You Heard? I'm Sakamoto*, in North America, with the fourth and final volume being released this summer. The anime version of *Sakamoto* is currently available via online streaming on Crunchyroll.com, and coming soon on DVD from Sentai Filmworks.

About BOOK☆WALKER

BookWalker is the most popular app in Japan for digital Manga & Light Novels. Users can enjoy over 250,000 titles from over 650 publishers including Kodansha, Shueisha, Square Enix, KADOKAWA and more. In October 2015, BookWalker launched their Global site offering English eBooks worldwide. Unlike any other eBook platform, BookWalker offers users exclusive benefits such as autographed illustrations, bookshelf skins, bonus side stories, and more from the authors of the series.

About ANIME EXPO

Anime Expo, also known as "AX", is the largest Japanese popular culture event in North America, and will be held at the Los Angeles convention center July 1st - July 4th, 2016. The event is organized by the Society for the Promotion of Japanese Animation, a non-profit organization dedicated to popularizing the unique and deep culture of Japanese animation. For more information about Anime Expo, visit: http://www.anime-expo.org/