

# Be Strong, Be Gentle, Be Beautiful



The Fukuda Invitational Kata Tournament celebrated its 22<sup>nd</sup> anniversary this year. Fukuda Sensei has been the life force behind the rejuvenation of judo kata both in Japan and the United States.

**She is judo history's highest ranking woman and the last living student of Jigoro Kano, judo's founder.**



97 year-old living legend, Keiko Fukuda (Kodokan 9<sup>th</sup> dan) lives her life by these words, her motto. These words are also the title of the documentary film about her inspirational life. We have finished filming and now the challenge is to raise the finishing funds, as we edit the film. We've reached this point thanks to the US Judo Federation, US-Japan Foundation, the Marra Foundation and generous contributions from many of you!

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**We are looking to raise \$10K by December 31, 2010. Check out our new film trailer and please consider making a tax-deductible contribution.**  
<http://documentaries.org/cid-films/be-strong/>

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Fall of 2010, the film production had a remarkable opportunity to travel to Japan with Fukuda Sensei. We followed and filmed as she was recognized for her role in judo history. We also filmed interviews with several Olympic medalists in judo, Fukuda's visit to her homeland after 20+ years of absence, a family reunion, and a visit to her grandfather's grave to pay homage to her ancestral connection to judo. If you would like to see a sample of the trip via the ten minute sample clip of the film please go to:  
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tfLNCvzFfU>

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Please join us in this film journey. Please leave us your email, follow us on Facebook, check the website, and look for notices in various newsletters, as we ask for your help in our year-end campaign.

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**Please make any checks out to: Center for Independent Documentary - 501(c)3. Please note: Be Strong, Be Gentle**