

## Louisiana PASS



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### C'Mon, Everybody—Sing!

Japanese ska, salsa, Pacific Rim rock, J-pop, classical (Eastern and Western), jazz, blues—the music choices in Japan are dizzying! If you like to sing along, there's always karaoke.

Invented just twenty years ago, karaoke originated as an evening entertainment for hardworking Japanese business executives. The wild popularity of karaoke swept this form of singing into the mainstream of Japanese culture and throughout the world. (There is karaoke in every corner of the United States, from Tulsa to Tampa!)

Karaoke singing involves singing to recorded accompaniments of popular songs in front of a live audience. After the singer chooses a song from a catalogue, lyrics are usually displayed on a monitor, recorded music plays, and it's showtime for the novice pop star.

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