Kyoto City Budo Center is a venue for various martial arts competitions and practices.

A strict glare in the eye of the instructor, fiercely mounting tensions, and sweat spouting onto a polished wooden floor as the shouts of the practitioners resound, "Banzai!"

Kyoto once prospered as the capital of Japan and there are many historical cultural assets that remain in the city today. Among these is Kyu Butokuden, Japan’s oldest martial arts competition hall, which, along with the Heian Shrine, was built in 1609 as part of a project to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the establishment of Heikyo (present-day Kyoto). The hall was designed by MatsuMuro Shigemitsu, who is also responsible for the architecture of the former main building of Kyoto Prefectural Government Office (an Important National Cultural Property). The Martial Arts School was later expanded besides Kyu Butokuden. These facilities became the home of traditional Japanese martial arts, and produced many martial artists and educators. Following World War II, however, U.S. military forces took over the facilities and the Martial Arts School was closed down. Even after American troops pulled out, Butokuden stood unused for an extended period of time.

Kyudo, Kendo, Iaido, Judo, Shorinji Kempo, and Sumo are some of the Japanese martial arts associated with the Martial Arts School.

Kendo (Way of the sword) evolved from Kenjutsu (Techniques of the Sword) and was introduced among samurai communities in medieval times. The purpose of Kendo is to train the mind through the acquisition of physical and mental discipline. At the heart of Kendo is the concept of the "kata" - a pattern of movements used to train, instead of Japanese swords. Each practitioner wears protective armor with features that include a helmet (dō), gloves (kote), breastplate (dō) and flaps (wakizashi).

Kendo is the only Japanese national martial art used to refer to Tai Chi Chuan and other various Chinese martial arts. Aikido, originated in the 1640s, is practiced for both self-defense and spiritual development. Judo developed among samurai communities in medieval times. The purpose of Judo is to train the mind through the acquisition of physical and mental discipline. At the heart of Judo is the concept of the "kata" - a pattern of movements used to train, instead of Japanese swords. Each practitioner wears protective armor with features that include a helmet (dō), gloves (kote), breastplate (dō) and flaps (wakizashi).

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Kendō (Japanese archery) developed in Ryukyu (former Ryukyu Kingdom). Kendō is considered one of the eight major traditional martial arts in Japan. Kendō is a form of Japanese archery that was reintroduced to Japan in the 16th century and is performed through interaction with Arrows and bows. Kendō involves the practice of shooting arrows with precision. The arrows are used to train, instead of Japanese swords. Each practitioner wears protective armor with features that include a helmet (dō), gloves (kote), breastplate (dō) and flaps (wakizashi).

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