



Credit: Cabinet Public Relations Office

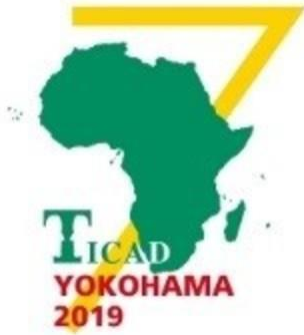
Prime Minister Abe at G7 Summit

On Aug. 24-26, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe met with fellow Group of Seven nations leaders for a summit in Biarritz, France. On the sidelines of these talks, Abe held a summit with U.S. President Donald Trump, and convened bilateral talks with the leaders of the U.K., Chile, Australia, France, Canada and Germany.



Foreign Ministers of Japan, China and South Korea Hold Ninth Meeting

The Ninth Trilateral Foreign Ministers' Meeting between Japan, China and South Korea) was held in Gubei Water Town in China on Aug. 21. The three ministers' discussions included their shared intention to work closely together regarding developments surrounding North Korea.



Spotlight on TICAD (Tokyo International Conference on African Development)

Since 1993, Japan has been hosting the TICAD conferences, also co-hosted by United Nations, United Nations Development Program (UNDP), World Bank and African Union Commission (AUC). TICAD has been a successful forum, leading to projects with a strong track record of improving social and economic conditions in Africa, mainly through grant aid and technical assistance. In projects identified through this dialogue, Japan's government has, for instance, built thousands of schools, built and improved thousands of medical facilities, and provided access to safe drinking water to millions of people. The most recent TICAD was held August 28th - 30th in Yokohama, Japan.

Mounded Tombs of Ancient Japan Added to UNESCO World Heritage List



Credit: City of Sakai Government

Japan's Furuichi-Mozu Kofungun, or mounded tombs of ancient Japan above the Osaka Plain, were officially recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage site. The mounted tombs "are the richest tangible representation of the culture of the Kofun period in Japan from the 3rd to 6th centuries," according to UNESCO. The Mozu kofun (Sakai) are on the coast, while the Furuichi tombs (Habikino and Fujiidera) are about 6.2 miles inland to the east. Both areas are accessible by train, a great addition to any trip to the Osaka area!



Introducing Consul General Akira Muto

Consul General of Japan in Los Angeles Akira Muto, who arrived in August, has been previously posted in such locations as Russia, Washington, D.C. and Boston. Recently he spent time as a visiting scholar at Stanford University. Read more about Consul General Muto's profile at the link.



Consul General Welcomed at Los Angeles City Council Meeting

Consul General Muto addressed the City of Los Angeles City Council at a meeting on Sept. 11, with Los Angeles City Councilmember Joe Buscaino (15th district) presenting him with a certificate of welcome from the City of Los Angeles. Consul General Muto gave remarks, noting that Los Angeles is home to the only JAPAN HOUSE in the U.S., as well as home to Little Tokyo. He also noted the

Nagoya-L.A. sister-city relationship, which marks 60 years this year. Watch video of his speech at the link above (from the 38:10 mark).



Chiune Sugihara Day Declared in Beverly Hills

On August 23, Consul General Muto attended an event produced by the Man/Kind Project and headlined by Mr. George Takei, which explored the legacy of Japanese diplomat Chiune

Sugihara. The event was held at the Saban Theatre where Mayor John Mirisch presented a special declaration naming “Chiune Sugihara Day” in the City of Beverly Hills.



Event Celebrates Friendship Between the Japanese and Armenian Communities

On Sept. 17, the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles and Western Diocese of the Armenian Church held a

special event about the "Legacy of Diana Apcar" who aided Armenian refugees in Japan during the early 20th century. The event featured a presentation by Dr. Meline Mesropyan of Tohoku University, as well as cultural performances and a reception with Japanese and Armenian food.



Celebrating Japan's Friendship with Mexico at the East Los Angeles Mexican Independence Day Parade

On Sunday, Sept. 8, Consul General of Japan Akira Muto participated in the 73rd Annual East Los Angeles Mexican Independence Day Parade & Festival to celebrate the friendship between Japan and Mexico, which have engaged in trade and exchange for over 400 years, and have enjoyed formal diplomatic ties of over 130 years. Consul General Muto was accompanied in the parade by his wife Mrs. Misako Muto and Ms. Palmira Perez-Najarian, who is a steering committee member of the JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles. Also in attendance at the parade were Nisei Week President David Yamahata and Nisei Week 1st Princess Mia Lopez.



JET Program Applications Now Available

The Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program enters its 34th year of promoting grassroots international exchange between Japan and other countries. Learn more about the JET Program by checking out the JET Program booth at a university career or study abroad fair near you, or an information session. Applications are now available, so learn more [HERE](#). The application due date is November 15, 2019.



Pop Up Cafe at Nisei Week

The Consulate General of Japan hosted its first-ever “pop-up” Japan Café during the Nisei Week festivities. It was a chance to share refreshments & snack samples with appreciative attendees; and also to share views and information on the power and importance of the US-Japan relationship right here in southern California, where so many aspects of this important bilateral relationship have some of the deepest roots and beginnings.



Japanese American Student Program Student Reflection: Christopher Ichiho

Christopher Ichiho, a recent graduate of Huntington Beach High School, was selected as one of five participants of the 2019 Japanese American Student Program sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Gear Up for the Rugby World Cup!



Pools are announced and excitement mounts. Japan is hosting the 2019 Rugby World Cup – the first time these championships are to be hosted in Asia. Stadiums from the north in Hokkaido to the south in Kyushu will be the venues for the pools and playoff matches, with

the championship game slated for Yokohama. From opening ceremony on September 20th to championship on November 2nd, the eyes of every rugby fan will be on Japan!

Take a look at this brilliant video of three global rugby luminaries as they “Try” Japan’s various regions and attractions leading up to the games:



Southern California Start-up "Bird" Test Flight in Japan!



Electric micro-mobility solutions are possible keys to alleviating traffic congestion and reducing vehicle emissions, and Santa

Monica based e-scooter start-up “Bird” has been given the green light for its first Japanese trial run in Fukuoka City, Japan. The micro-test period for the micro mobility solution spans August 31st through September 1st, in partnership with the Fukuoka City government.

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