

Japan Focus



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Enthronement of His Majesty the Emperor

The Ceremony of the Enthronement of His Majesty the Emperor was held on Oct. 22, followed by a banquet on Oct. 23 hosted by Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and his spouse to thank the foreign heads of State and

other dignitaries for visiting Japan. The parade of Their Majesties and Emperor and Empress will be held on Sunday, November 10.



Prime Minister Abe Visits the U.S., Belgium

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe visited the U.S. and Belgium on Sept. 23-28. The prime minister attended the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York,

also meeting with U.S. President Donald Trump. In Belgium, the prime minister held talks with European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker.



Arabia, Australia and Russia.

Foreign Minister Motegi at U.N. General Assembly

Foreign Minister Toshimitsu Motegi attended the 74th Session of the U.N. General Assembly, and held bilateral talks on the sidelines with counterparts from such countries as the U.S., China, Saudi



Japan-U.S. Trade Pact

On October 7th, 2019, Japan and the United States signed a Trade Agreement on agricultural and industrial goods, as well as on digital trade.

Tariffs on products such as beef, pork, wine and other agricultural goods, exported from

the U.S. to Japan, will be reduced or eliminated. Likewise, tariffs on Japanese agricultural products exported from Japan to the U.S., such as soy sauce and certain fruits and vegetables, will be reduced or eliminated; further, quotas for low-tariff imports of Japanese beef into the U.S. will be expanded.

Tariffs on certain industrial goods from Japan such as machine tools, steam turbines, bicycles and musical instruments will be reduced or eliminated. Substantial elimination of barriers and tariffs on digital products trade, such as videos, music, e-books, software, and games, between Japan and the U.S.



Japan Hosts G-20 Ministerial Meetings

During its presidency of the Group of 20, Japan continues to host ministerial-level meetings across Japan:

- [Health Ministers' Meeting \(Oct 19-20 in Okayama, Okayama Prefecture\)](#)
- [Tourism Ministers' Meeting \(Oct. 25-26 in Kutchan, Hokkaido Prefecture\)](#)
- [Foreign Ministers' Meeting \(Nov. 22-23 in Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture\)](#)



Hydrogen Energy Ministerial Meeting Held in Tokyo

On September 25, 2019, NEDO and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) co-hosted the second Hydrogen

Energy Ministerial Meeting in Tokyo. During the ministerial session, representatives from 35 countries, regions, and organizations with high interest in global hydrogen energy utilization, provided updates regarding their activities related to the Tokyo Statement released at the first Hydrogen Energy Ministerial Meeting.



Want to Learn More About Japan's Foreign Policies?

The annual Diplomatic Bluebook published by the Minister of Foreign Affairs provides information about Japan's Foreign Policies and Activities. Learn more!



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Japanese Researcher Wins Nobel Prize in Chemistry

Japanese researcher Akira Yoshino has been awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2019, along with two U.S. researchers, for his work in lithium-ion batteries. The Nobel award ceremony will be held in Stockholm, Sweden in December.



Rugby World Cup Final On 11/2

The Rugby World Cup, held at venues across Japan, continues to capture the attention of fans worldwide. The highly anticipated final will be held on Saturday, Nov. 2, a much-watch for fans! Which teams will make it? Tune in to find out!

Join Us for a Special Presentation at JAPAN HOUSE

Consul General Akira Muto and Keio University Professor Toshihiro Nakayama will speak on Japan's foreign policy and Japan-U.S. relations at JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles on Nov. 15, 2019. Consul General Muto will speak on "Japan's Foreign Policy with a Focus on Free and Open Indo-Pacific" while Prof. Nakayama will discuss "The New Dynamics: Japan-U.S. Relations from a Japanese Perspective." Click the title for more information.



Consul General Akira
Muto



Dr. Toshihiro
Nakayama



Exhibit: JAPAN 47 Artisans

Opening on Oct. 30

Check out the newest exhibition at JAPAN HOUSE, "JAPAN 47 ARTISANS," which explores the diversity of Japanese craft traditions through the eyes of contemporary designers. Each of Japan's 47 prefectures

has its own history, ecology, and regional flavor. The exhibition will be open to the public from Oct. 30 to Jan. 5.



Movie Fans Unite!! JAPAN

CUTS HOLLYWOOD Film

Festival on Nov. 1-3

Japan America Society of Southern California and JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles are proud to co-present JAPAN CUTS HOLLYWOOD, a three-day film festival

celebrating Japanese cinema! For more information about the movie line-up and tickets, click [HERE](#).



Wine and Dine at the Sake & Sushi Festival

The Japanese Restaurant Association of America's annual Sushi and Sake Festival is coming to Little Tokyo on Sunday, Nov. 3. For information about tickets to attend this all-you-can-eat event, click on the title!



Conferral Ceremony Held for Dr. Henry Takei

A conferral ceremony was held on Oct. 15 for Dr. Henry H. Takei, recipient of Spring 2019 Decorations. Dr. Henry H. Takei received the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon at a ceremony held before family and friends.



'Arigato' Host Towns Event Held at JAPAN HOUSE

On Sept. 25, "ARIGATO" Host Towns in support of Team USA - Toward and Beyond Tokyo 2020- was held at JAPAN HOUSE Los

Angeles. The “ARIGATO” Host Towns initiatives was established in 2017 to promote international exchange and to display recovery and revitalization efforts made in disaster-stricken areas impacted by the Great East Japan Earthquake in 2011.



Reception Welcomes Back JET Program Returnees

On Oct 8th, Consul General Akira Muto hosted a Welcome Back Reception for Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program participants who recently completed their time on the program in Japan. Approximately 70 guests attended the event held at the Official Residence of the Consul General including JET alumni from years past and members of the Japanese / Japanese-American community.



Opening Ceremony Marks Launch of Tokyu Hotels' West Coast Office

In preparation for travel demand to Japan heading into the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and Paralympic games, Japanese hotel operator Tokyu Hotels is opening an office

in Newport Beach, CA, its second sales and marketing base following an office in New York City. Consul General Muto spoke at the opening ceremony held on Oct. 16

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