

# Japan Focus



Consulate General of Japan, Los Angeles  
Japan Information & Culture Center  
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## Prime Minister Attends G7 Leaders Meeting Virtually

On Feb. 24, Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio virtually met with leaders of the Group of Seven nations. The leaders condemned the Russian invasion of Ukraine. Read the G7 Leaders' Statement [HERE](#) and their

separate [statement on the invasion of Ukraine](#).



THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN

## Japan Stands with Ukraine

In response to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the government of Japan has announced measures such as the provision of loans to Ukraine. In addition, Japan will offer visa extensions to any Ukrainians in Japan who wish to receive one. Other measures include financial measures, including restrictions on transactions with Russia's central bank, and export control.



## Prime Minister Welcomes Courtesy Visit from US Ambassador Emanuel

On Feb. 2, Prime Minister Kishida received a courtesy call from Rahm Emanuel, Ambassador of the U.S. to Japan.



## Foreign Minister Hayashi Attends G7 Meeting

Foreign Minister HAYASHI Yoshimasa attended the Group of Seven Foreign Ministers' meeting in Germany on Feb. 18-20. Separately, on Feb. 11, [Hayashi held a meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Antony](#)

[Blinken in Australia](#), on the sidelines of the Japan-Australia-India-U.S. Foreign Ministers' meeting. On Feb. 12, the Japanese foreign minister met [with Blinken and Chung Eui-yong, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea for a trilateral meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii.](#)



## Guidance on Japan's Border Control Measures Related to COVID-19 (as of March 1)

On Feb. 24, 2022, new border measures were announced to take effect on March 1, including a change of home quarantine period for cross-border travelers and returnees from the US who obtain vaccination certificates with booster

shots. Also, [Japan updated information about new visa categories](#) to be accepted. Please read about COVID-19 Mitigation Requirements to Enter Japan [HERE](#).

# COVID-19 Situation in Japan

(As of Feb. 28, 2022)

	Total No. of COVID-19 Cases	Total No. of Deaths	% of Population Fully Vaccinated (% of boosted)
<b>Japan</b>	4,954,865 (3,958 per 100,000 people)	23,469	79.38% (19.31%)
<b>U.S.</b>	78,939,203 (23,962 per 100,000 people)	948,397	65.64% (28.40%)

Sources: Coronavirus Resource Center, Johns Hopkins University & Medicine; Nikkei/The Financial Times

## Latest on COVID-19 in Japan: Vaccinations Up

In Japan, over 227 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines have been administered to date to the general public as of Feb. 28, 2022 with 79.38% of the population now fully vaccinated. Japan is currently working to accelerate the administration of booster shots. Currently, only 19.31% of Japan's population has been boosted compared to 28.40% in the US, according to data from Nikkei/The Financial Times. As of Feb. 28, the total number of COVID-19 cases stood at 4,954,865 in Japan, and 78,939,203 in the United States, according to the Coronavirus Resource Center, Johns Hopkins University & Medicine.



## Fall 2021 Decoration Conferred on Mr. David Ono

On Friday, Feb. 18, the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles held a conferment ceremony at the Consul General's Official Residence for Fall 2021 Decoration recipient,

[Mr. David Ono, journalist and evening anchor](#)

[for ABC7 Eyewitness News](#). He received the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette, for his meritorious service toward Japan. Mr. Ono has produced and broadcasted a wide array of programs about Japanese and Japanese American issues. His work is highly acclaimed and has received numerous awards. As a journalist, David has made a significant contribution to promoting the understanding of Japan in the U.S.

## "Peace & Harmony" Rose Hybrid Planted at Official Residence







On Tuesday, Feb 15, 2022, a planting ceremony for a new rose hybrid developed by The Huntington Library, Art Museum and Botanical Gardens was held at the Official Residence of Consul General MUTO Akira. Donated by Nichi Bei Fujin Kai in celebration of their 90th anniversary, the rose was named “Peace and Harmony” by the late Mrs. Toshie Mosher, a member of Nichi Bei Fujin Kai and of the Board of Governors at The Huntington Library, Art Museum and Botanical Gardens. She and her husband, Mr. Frank Mosher, obtained the naming rights to commemorate their 55th wedding anniversary last year. Mrs. Mosher had said she wished to send a message of the importance of peace and harmony during this turbulent time. The new rose will bloom into a beautiful creamy flower with a salmon pink center and around 30 petals. The newly-planted rose will be carefully cultivated at the Official Residence with hopes for peace and harmony throughout the world.



## Consul General Meets Congresswoman Young Kim

Consul General Muto recently met with [Congresswoman Young Kim](#), who represents California District 39 in the U.S. House of Representatives. They discussed strategies

to further strengthen U.S.-Japan relations, U.S.-Japan-South Korea relations, and Japan's hydrogen technologies.



Note: Masks were removed for photo only

## Consul General Muto Attends Iron Fist 2022 Exercise's Distinguished Visitors Day

[The Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force and units from the U.S. 1st Marine Expeditionary Force have been training together at Camp Pendleton since Jan.](#)

[10 in Iron Fist 2022](#). Consul General Muto participated in the Distinguished Visitor Day in "Iron Fist" exercise. The annual exercises will last six weeks, ending in late February. The joint exercise underscored the strength of Japan-U.S. ties, and the importance of the Japan-U.S. alliance. Brigade Commander Major General Nashinoki Shingo of JGSDF and First Marine Expeditionary Force Commanding General George Smith of the U.S. Marine Corps stressed that the Japan-US alliance is as important as ever in light of the challenges they face in the Indo-Pacific region. Read more about [Iron Fist 2022](#).

# Position Available!

Job opportunity at the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles

## Program Coordinator

The Japan Information and Culture Center at the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles seeks to fill a Program Coordinator position to advance

our cultural diplomacy objectives. The deadline to apply is March 9, 2022. Click the headline to learn more!



## EXHIBITION: "The Art of the Ramen Bowl"

JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles presents from March 18 to July 5 its "The Art of the Ramen Bowl" exhibition, which places a spotlight on the bowl in which ramen noodles are typically served, in addition to touching on the history and culture of ramen. The exhibition also introduces the region of Mino, which is Japan's largest producer of porcelain ramen bowls.



## Drive My Car Nominated in Four Oscar Categories

The film *Drive My Car*, directed by Ryusuke Hamaguchi, has been nominated in four Oscar 2022 categories: Best Picture, Directing, International Feature Film, and Writing (Adapted Screenplay). The 94th Oscars will be held on Sunday, March 27 at the Hollywood & Highland Center in Hollywood, and will be televised live.



## Arizona Foreign Direct Investment Event and Meetings

On Feb. 10, the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles, supported by the Global Chamber and the Thunderbird

School of Global Management at Arizona State University, hosted a panel discussion on "Arizona's Growing Role in Semiconductor Security and Supply Chain - Global Investments and the View from Japan". Consul General Muto, Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego, Dean Sanjeev Khagram of Thunderbird School of Global Management, CEO Doug Bruhnke of Global Chamber, Japanese companies, JETRO Los Angeles, and about 40 others participated in-person. The event was held in a hybrid format, and included virtual appearances by U.S. Senator Mark Kelly and Intel Corporation. In this Arizona trip, Consul General Muto also met with Arizona House of Representatives Speaker Russell Bowers, Phoenix Mayor Kate Gallego, and Scottsdale Mayor David Ortega to discuss future cooperation between Japan and Arizona in areas such as semiconductors and the environmental protection.



## Shochu and Awamori Tasting and Education Event!

Although relatively unknown in the US market, Shochu and Awamori are distilled spirits with a long history in Japan, a wide variety of flavors and drinking

characteristics, and are incredibly flexible beverages which can be used as mixers or enjoyed simply on their own. This event will cover the creation of these traditional spirits,



how they are being served to great acclaim in the US market, and how they might be best paired with foods, as well as other fascinating points of information. The event is to be held on March 14th.



Looking for something entertaining or informative about Japan? Look no further, the [Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles' events calendar](#) includes information about virtual events related to Japan, as well as links to virtual museums.

### Check us out online!

Get to know the Consulate General of Japan through our social media accounts:



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