

Japan Focus



*Consulate General of Japan, Los Angeles
Japan Information & Culture Center
November 2022, Vol. 14 Issue 11*



Credit: Cabinet Public Affairs Office

Prime Minister Kishida Joins G7 Leaders to Express Support for Ukraine

On Oct. 11, Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio attended the Group of Seven leaders' video conference. The G7 leaders convened with Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, and affirmed their full support to Ukraine. Reach the G7 Statement [HERE](#).



Japan Stands with Ukraine

Japan has shown its support for Ukraine through financial support and other assistance to the country. Read about Japan's response to the situation in Ukraine [HERE](#).



Recipients of Fall 2022 Decoration

On Nov. 3, 2022 (Japan Standard Time), the Government of Japan announced the recipients of its Fall 2022 Decorations. From the jurisdiction of the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles, Ms. Kate Leonard, Honorary Consul of Japan in San Diego, will be awarded.



Consul General Sone Visits Arizona

On Oct. 17th and 18th, the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles joined the Japanese semiconductor delegation in Arizona, coordinated by JETRO Los Angeles. As Arizona has been a major home ground to a well-established semiconductor ecosystem, JETRO Los Angeles invited Japanese companies that are keen to study possibilities of business expansion or investment in Arizona to participate in this event. Twenty-seven Japanese companies (Thirty-seven delegates total) joined the mission to better understand the investment, business and living environment in the Greater Phoenix area. Consul General Sone, visiting Arizona for the first time since his assignment to Los Angeles, also joined the mission and highlighted in his remarks that this delegation is expected to be one of the pivotal events of future Japanese investment and further business partnership in Arizona. In addition to separate meetings with Arizona

government and business representatives, [Consul General Sone visited the Japanese Friendship Garden](#), with plans to return for their upcoming 20th Anniversary celebration.



Consul General Joins Discussion on "The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity"

On Oct. 28, Pacific Council on International Policy held an annual event "Members Weekend Redux," which featured Consul

General Sone in a discussion on "The Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity: New Day in Economic Diplomacy".



2023-2024 Application is Now Open!!

The Japan Exchange and Teaching Program, which enters its 37th year, is currently accepting applications for the 2023-2024 program. Two positions are offered for U.S. citizens: Assistant Language Teachers (ALTs) and Coordinators for International Relations (CIRs). ALTs work as assistants to Japanese teachers of English at elementary, junior high or senior high schools, while CIRs engage in international exchange activities at local government offices. **Apply by Nov. 18, 2022!**

POSITION AVAILABLE: Temporary Assistant to the JET Program Coordinator

The Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles is seeking a talented, hard-working, organized individual to assist the JET Program Coordinator during the JET Program selection period in early 2023. This is a temporary contract position which will most likely

be part-time for the duration of approximately 30 business days, to take place from early January until late February. Work will primarily take place in the office. Click the headline for more details!

Guidance on Japan's Border Control Measures

[Visit Japan Web -- a service for international travelers and Japanese citizens -- can be used for Quarantine, Immigration, and Customs declaration procedures.](#) The "Fast Track" service for quarantine procedures has been available in Visit Japan Web from Nov. 1, 2022.

From midnight Oct. 11, 2022 (Japan Standard Time), all cross-border travelers from the US who fall under [visa exemption measures](#) for short-term stay no longer require visa applications. Please click [HERE](#) to learn more. In addition, travelers from the U.S. with [a valid vaccination certificate of COVID-19](#) are [not required to submit the certificate of negative test result of pre-departure COVID-19 test](#) within 72 hours prior to departure from the original country/region.

Environment, Technology etc.



CG Sone Hosts California Foundation on Environment and the Economy (CFEE) Kick-off Event

Prominent elected leaders, and representatives of the Labor and business communities, joined

Consul General Sone at a kick-off event for the upcoming study mission to Japan organized and supported by CFEE, a prominent non-profit environmental research organization. Their upcoming visit to Japan will focus on issues related to housing, transportation, environmental technology and energy – with a particular focus on Japan's

hydrogen-related activities. Guests were briefed on activities of the Japan Hydrogen Forum, the re-opening tourism sector in Japan, as well as a special briefing on sake and Japanese whiskey, with tasting opportunities, as well.

Working With the Japanese American Community



[LA Next Generation Japanese American Leaders - Year Two Launch Event](#)

On Oct. 11, Consul General Sone hosted a reception at the Toshizo Watanabe Culinary Cultural Center to launch the second year of

the LA Next Generation Japanese American Leaders Initiative. The event included introductions of the members of the recently formed business, entertainment, politics, and women & diversity subcommittees. Community leaders of the Japanese American community as well as guests of the Japan Business Association of Southern California were in attendance

Entertainment, culture & others



[Reception Highlights Karate](#)

On Oct. 7, the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles, the World Karate Federation (WKF), and Koyamada International Foundation (KIF) co-hosted a reception at the Official Residence of the Consul General to celebrate Karate's remarkable presence in the

United States. The reception also showcased a new initiative called Guardian Girls Global Karate Project that aims to empower women and girls by providing them with Karate instruction and techniques. On Oct. 8, Guardian Girls Karate held a women's Self-Defense Seminar and Women's Mental Resilience panel discussion at Terasaki Budokan in Little Tokyo from 4pm-8:30pm.



Consulate General of Japan at the Irvine Global Village Festival!

On Oct. 8, the Consulate-General of Japan in Los Angeles participated in the 21st Annual Irvine Global Village Festival, organized and sponsored by the City of Irvine, and held in Orange County's Great Park. The Consulate set up a booth to introduce Japanese culture and its partner organizations. In addition to providing free information on affiliate programs such as JET and MEXT, we also distributed the Japanese culture magazine, "Niponica", along with free information on travel in Japan, courtesy of Japan National Tourism Organization (JNTO). Among these resources, there were also pamphlets provided by Tsukuba City, which has a sister city relationship with Irvine..

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Consul General Attends Japanese Spotlight at Newport Beach Film Festival

On Oct. 19, Consul General Kenko Sone attended the Newport Beach Film Festival's Japanese Spotlight. In his speech, he expressed his joy with the popularity of

Japanese culture in Southern California and encouraged the audience to keep watching Japanese films.



Spotlight on Japanese Cinema - Global Stage Hollywood

Complete with Gala Red Carpet experience and VIP reception, Consul General Sone joined the dozens of celebrities and hundreds of guests, to kick-off the foremost Japanese film festival in the movie capitol of the world, Global Stage Hollywood. Taking place October 28 – 30, the festival featured films of all genres, from live action to anime, with a US showing of the recent anime feature, “Poupelle of Chimney Town” on opening night with discussion by the creator of this beloved tale, Akihiro Nishino.

Coming Up!



Sushi & Sake Festival 2022

On Nov. 6, the Japanese Restaurant Association will present the Sushi & Sake Festival 2022 at Double Tree by Hilton Los Angeles Downtown. Tickets must be purchased in advance for admission.



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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