

Japan Focus



Consulate General of Japan, Los Angeles
Japan Information & Culture Center
January 2023, Vol. 15 Issue 1



Greetings for a Happy New Year in 2023!

The Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles would like to wish all a Happy New Year in 2023, the Year of the Rabbit!

Read Prime Minister Fumio Kishida's [New Year's Reflection](#). Consul General of Japan in Los Angeles Kenko Sone also offers [his New Year's message for 2023](#).



Credit: Cabinet Public Affairs Office

Prime Minister Kishida Attends G7 Leaders' Video Conference

On Dec. 13, Prime Minister Kishida met virtually with his Group of Seven nations' counterparts to discuss global challenges. Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy joined the meeting and the G7 leaders

reaffirmed their "unwavering support for and solidarity with Ukraine...." Read the G7 Leaders' 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](#).



Japanese Government Scholarships for Japan

Studies Now Available!

Japanese studies majors! Have you ever wanted to study in Japan? The [2023 MEXT Japanese Studies Students scholarships applications](#) are now available. This scholarship is for one academic year of study of Japanese language or culture in Japan. Applications are due February 16.



"World Assembly for Women in LA" at JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles

On Dec. 8, the Consulate General of Japan and JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles hosted "World Assembly for Women in LA: Women's Essential Role in an Inclusive Society" in cooperation with the Los Angeles Next Generation Japanese American Leaders Initiative, Women & Diversity Subcommittee, to promote women's empowerment and support the further advancement of diversity, equity and inclusion in LA.



Consul General Sone Visits UCLA

On Dec. 1, Consul General Kenko Sone met with University of California, Los Angeles Chancellor Gene Block and exchanged opinions on several topics, including the realization of a carbon neutral campus through the application of hydrogen energy. Vice Provost of International Studies and Global Engagement C. Cindy Fan and Director of UCLA Paul I. and Hisako Terasaki Center for Japanese Studies Hitoshi Abe also joined the meeting.



JAPAN HOUSE Exhibition: "Designing with Disaster"

JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles' new exhibition "Designing with Disaster - Stories from Seven Regenerative

Cities" will open on Jan. 27. The exhibition introduces the concept of "Regenerative Urbanism" an anticipatory approach to urban design that explores the optimistic possibility of symbioses between humans and the natural and constructed worlds, embracing inevitable disasters and creating disaster-resilient environments.

Working with the Japanese American Community



Oshogatsu in Little Tokyo

On Jan. 1, Consul General Sone helped celebrate the New Year at Oshogatsu festivities in Little Tokyo. He participated in a "Kagami-Biraki" sake barrel breaking as part of the festivities marking the New Year 2023!



L.A. Clippers' Japanese Heritage Night

On Dec. 14, the Los Angeles Clippers held its annual Japanese Heritage Night at Crypto.com Arena. Consul General Sone was introduced during the halftime show, along with the Nisei

Week Court.

Community Outreach



American Jewish Committee Hanukkah Celebration

Consul General Sone and Deputy Consul General Aoshima joined members and guests of the American Jewish Committee-Los Angeles for a special Hanukkah celebration on Dec. 20.

Menorah candles were lit by representatives of AJC Los Angeles and the community as they shared reflections on the importance of continuing to build solidarity and bridges among communities to fight anti-semitism, racism, and all forms of hate.



Consul General Sone Visits Asia Society Southern California

On Dec. 2, Consul General Sone visited with Ms. Katie Soo, Chair of Asia Society Southern California. Among the topics they discussed included how they can promote Asian arts, culture and entertainment in Southern California.

Environment, Economy & Technology



Growing Global Partnerships Roundtable With San Bernardino County, Japanese Firms

On Nov. 28, the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles and JETRO Los Angeles hosted a “Growing Global Partnerships” roundtable with

San Bernardino County and Japanese companies. San Bernardino County plans to send a delegation to Japan in April 2023, so the roundtable provided an opportunity to kickstart a dialogue between the County's officials and Japanese private companies that may be interested in expanding business in the County.

Entertainment, culture & others



City Pop Night Celebrates Japanese Music and Food

On Dec. 21, the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles co-hosted a music event "City Pop Night" at the Fonda Theater in Hollywood with the Japanese City Pop Night Executive Committee. The event was a mashup of

Japanese music from the 70s and 80s, aka "Japanese City Pop," that has been drawing attention worldwide -- mixed in with plenty of Japanese food. Nearly 1,000 people showed up and enjoyed delicious food and drink samples and a great Japanese retro-vibe music ambience.



Celebration of Japanese Tea, Martial Arts in City of Glendale

On Dec. 18, Consul General attended the Holiday Tea and Martial Arts Day at the Shoseian "Whispering Pine" Teahouse located at Brand Park in Glendale. Mayor Ardy Kassakhian of Glendale, Councilmember Paula Devine and

other special guests enjoyed the opportunity to experience Japanese culture, including Japanese tea ceremony and various martial arts performances.

Japanese Gardens



Visit to The Huntington Library, Art Museum and Botanical Gardens

On Dec. 8, Consul General Sone visited The Huntington Library, Art Museum and Botanical Gardens in San Marino. Guided by Cultural Curator & Programs Director, Robert Hori, he

toured The Huntington's long-standing garden complex that includes a traditional Japanese garden original to the property. Consul General Sone also had a chance to see carefully preserved historic Japanese texts and art from within the Library's archives. Consul General Sone also visited the 'Minka' Japanese heritage house, currently under (re)construction after being brought here from Japan. Once finished, the several-hundred year old house will complement the over 100 year old Japanese garden already on the grounds. It is set to be fully complete and open to the public in Fall 2024.



Touring the Earl Burns Miller Japanese Garden

On Dec. 16, Consul General Sone Consul General Sone visited the Earl Burns Miller Japanese Garden at California State University, Long Beach with CSULB Professor of Art History, Dr. Kendall Brown. are a product of

communities coming together to foster their growth. According to Dr. Brown, careful planning and continuous care are required in order maintain the peaceful atmosphere on the grounds.



Photo Credit: Hokubei Karate-do Shinankai

Consul General Meets Karate Masters

On Dec. 3, Consul General Sone attended the Hokubei Karate-do Shihankai's (Japanese Karate Masters Association of North America) 2022 Fall Shihankai Seminar at the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center (ESGVJCC). Many of the Karate masters at the seminar have contributed to the martial art's growth in the U.S., nurturing it into a highly respected and widely-admired sport.



Consul General Sone at Academy Museum of Motion Pictures

On Dec. 1, Consul General Sone toured the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures in Downtown Los Angeles. Guided by Director and President, Jacqueline Stewart, and Margaret Herrick Library Director, Matt Severson, Consul General Sone saw original props from famous movies such as 'Citizen Kane', 'The Godfather' and 'Star Wars.' The museum recently held a largely popular exhibition on acclaimed Japanese animation artist, Hayao Miyazaki of Studio Ghibli.

Check us out online!

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



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