

Japan Focus



*Consulate General of Japan, Los Angeles
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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](#).



Japan-California Green Shipping Corridor Symposium Held

On Oct. 20, the Los Angeles Port Authority and the California Department of Transportation (CALSTA) organized the Japan-California Green

Shipping Corridor Symposium, a conference based on the purposes of a Letter of Intent (LOI) between the Japanese MLIT (Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transportation and Tourism) and CALSTA. Consul General Sone welcomed participants at the symposium, speaking about the growing role of Japanese companies in California, where progressive efforts are being made in the realm of environmental regulations, including those to address climate change.



Reception Marks Arrival of Japanese Maritime Self- Defense Force Training Squadron

Two Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) vessels – JS Kashima and JS

Hatakaze – docked in San Diego from Thursday,

Sept. 21 until Sunday, Sept. 24, led by Training Squadron Commander and Rear Admiral Yasushige Konno. The vessels arrived with some 560 crew members, including about 160 officer trainees who recently graduated from the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force Officer Candidate School. On Sept. 21, Consul General of Japan in Los Angeles Kenko Sone and Commander Konno co-hosted a reception aboard the JS Kashima. Senior naval officers, including commanders from the Naval Surface Forces, Coast Guard Sector San Diego, as well as representatives from local Japanese community attended the reception.



Consul General Sone, Mrs. Sone Meet With LAUSD Superintendent

On Oct. 5, Consul General and Mrs. Sone met with LAUSD Superintendent Alberto Carvalho.

They discussed the challenges and future

prospects for Japanese language education in Los Angeles and expressed their willingness to continue their collaboration.

Check us out online!

The Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles updates its activities on social media daily, so please follow us!



Japanese American Community



Credit: Ms. Nagai of Rafu Shimpo

Nikkei Choral Federation of So Cal's Choral Concert Returns!

On Oct. 21, the Nikkei Choral Federation of Southern California held its 6th Choral Concert at Union Church in Little Tokyo, marking the concert's return for the first time in four years due to the pandemic. In her delivered remarks,

Consul ISHII Aya welcomed the choral concert's

return and said she looked forward to the live singing. Performers consisted of Cosmos, Los Angeles Men's Glee Club, Sakura Chorus, South Bay Harmony, with Guest Performers: El Marino Japanese Chorus, L.A. Daiku, Orange County Friendship Choir, and South Bay Singers.



New 'MISE' shop at JACCC

On Oct. 27, JACCC held a ribbon cutting ceremony for MISE (店: shop in Japanese) – the latest addition to their Culinary Arts program, where Consul General provided remarks and a toast. MISE is a one-stop shop for Japanese cooking and beyond, curated by Japanese

American home chefs and guided by culinary experts. Thirteen artisans from Tsubamesanjo, Niigata Prefecture visited Los Angeles for the opening.

Community Outreach



Showcasing Japan at Irvine Global Village Festival

On Oct. 14, the "All Japan Exhibition" showcased various aspects of Japanese culture from traditional to modern at this year's Irvine Global

Village Festival. More than 20,000 people came to the festival to enjoy culture, music, performances and food from countries all over the world!

Business, Economy & Tech



Next Generation Business Leaders Networking Event Held

On Oct. 4, the LA Next Generation Japanese American Leaders Initiative, JBA Next Generation Forum, Consulate-General of

Japan in Los Angeles, JETRO, and JAPAN HOUSE LA held a networking event featuring Japanese startups currently enrolled in "Beyond Japan," a JETRO global innovator program supporting Japanese start-ups. The event provided a great opportunity for the invited leaders to exchange ideas and discuss potential collaborations to bridge the U.S.-Japan business sectors.



Arizona Economic Seminar Held

On Oct. 6, the Consulate General of Japan and JETRO Los Angeles co-hosted an economic seminar for

Japanese companies in cooperation with

the Phoenix Greater Phoenix Economic Council (GPEC). Approximately 25 companies, including Japanese companies considering expansion or entry into the Arizona market, gathered for the seminar, which included an overview of the surrounding economy presented by the GPEC.

Sister Cities Relations



CA-Japan Sister Cities 2023 Fall Networking Event Held

On Oct. 6, the Consulates General of Japan in Los Angeles and San Francisco and the

California-Japan Sister Cities Network (CJSCN)

co-hosted the 2023 Fall Networking Event at the Official Residence of Consul General of Japan in Los Angeles SONE Kenko. The CJSCN's networking events have been held a few times a year since 2020, with many attendees being members of sister city organizations, city officials, students, and businesses. Consul General Sone, Ms. Meg Mizutani (CJSCN President, visiting from northern California), and Ambassador Nina Hachigian (Special Representative for City and State Diplomacy at the U.S. Department of State) spoke about the great value of sister cities to the approximately 50 participants representing 12 cities in southern California

Entertainment, culture & others



Enjoy POKÉMON X KOGEI at JAPAN HOUSE LA!

The exhibition "POKÉMON X KOGEI | Playful Encounters of Pokémon and Japanese Craft" at JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles has drawn large crowds since its opening on July 25. Supervised

by the National Crafts Museum in Kanazawa, Japan, with special support from The Pokémon Company, the exhibition features over 70 works of varying materials and diverse techniques created by twenty of Japan's most accomplished craft artists. Check out the exhibition through Jan 7, 2024.



2023 Global Stage Hollywood Film Festival

The 2023 Global Stage Hollywood Film Festival had its opening night at JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles on Oct. 6. The 2023 Award of the Japanese Academy Winner, “A Man” was screened at the TCL Chinese Theatre, with lead actor Satoshi Tsumabuki in attendance. Consul General Sone offered sincere congratulations to the organizers for

holding this special event, and encouraged the continuation of growing interest in Japanese film, filmmakers and actors.



A Taste of Japan in Arizona!

On Oct. 7, Deputy Consul General Aoshima attended Arizona’s first Japanese food & pop cultural event, Taste of Japan Arizona, at Heritage Plaza in Downtown Phoenix. In addition to the main theme of Japanese food and drinks, attendees enjoyed Japanese pop culture, anime,

cosplay, entertainment, goods, and other fun activities at the event.



18th Century Japanese Heritage Shoya House Opens At The Huntington

On Oct. 12, Consul General attended a reception to mark the opening of the Japanese Heritage Shoya House, a restored residence from 18th

century rural Japan, at The Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens. Opened on Oct. 21, the historic residence and compound from Marugame, Japan was

moved and reconstructed at The Huntington with the help of artisans from Japan and local architects, engineers and construction workers.



Importance of Life: Lessons from the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami

On Oct. 15, the Consulate co-hosted the “Importance of Life” special talk at JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles. In the program, speaker Seietsu Sato described the harrowing conditions he faced in the aftermath of Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami in March 2011 as a member of the Kesennuma Motoyoshi Integrated Firefighting Administration. Despite the deeply tragic loss of his own wife in the disaster, he was able to push on and save the lives of thousands of people.



Aurora Foundation Celebrates 25th Anniversary

On Oct. 15, The Aurora Foundation, a valued contributor to Japanese language education through scholarships and speech contests, celebrated its 25th anniversary. Founder and President Akiko Agishi took the opportunity to announce that she would be passing the torch to a new president. As a keynote speaker, Consul General Sone celebrated the Foundation and its presidents, wishing them continued success in helping young learners of Japanese achieve their goals.



'Monster' Screened at Newport Beach Film Festival

On Oct. 17, the Newport Beach Film Festival screened "Monster" directed by Hirokazu Koreeda as part of its "Japanese Spotlight." In his greetings, Consul General Sone encouraged the audience to enjoy Japanese films. He also urged people in the film industry to become bridges between the U.S. and Japan.



Film "8:15 Hiroshima - From Father to Daughter" Screened

A screening for the film "8:15 Hiroshima | From Father to Daughter" was held at JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles on Oct. 26. The film is based on a book written by psychologist Dr. Akiko Mikamo, who also worked as an executive producer on the film. After the screening, Dr. Mikamo spoke to the audience, describing her father who was a 'hibakusha', a survivor of the nuclear bomb dropped on Hiroshima.



2023 Japanese Food Expo

On Oct. 28, the Japanese Food Culture Association and JETRO Los Angeles jointly hosted the 2023 Japanese Food Expo, where businesses from Japan showcased their delicious food products. Attendees enjoyed delicious food and beverages. Consul General Sone attended and participated in a celebratory sake-barrel ceremony.



Sushi and Sake Festival

On Oct. 29, the Japanese Restaurant Association of America hosted the Sushi & Sake Festival 2023. In addition to an all-you-can-eat sushi and sake experience, attendees enjoyed a tuna cutting show and traditional Japanese taiko drum performance.

Coming Up!



Anime Expo Chibi 2023

Anime fans won't want to miss an opportunity to celebrate Japanese pop culture at Anime Expo Chibi 2023 in Ontario, CA on Nov. 11-12. There will be a Japanese food area at the venue, so don't

forget to check it out!

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