

Japan Focus



Consulate General of Japan, Los Angeles
Japan Information & Culture Center
September 2023, Vol. 15 Issue 9



Credit: Cabinet Public Affairs Office

Japan-U.S.-ROK Summit

On Aug. 18, Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio visited Camp David in the United States to attend a meeting with US President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. and Republic of Korea President Yoon Suk Yeol. The three leaders declared a “new era of trilateral partnership,” building upon

respective strong bilateral relationships. In addition, the three leaders concurred to enhance strategic coordination between the U.S.-Japan Alliance and the U.S.-ROK Alliance, and bring trilateral security cooperation to new heights.



Japan Stands with Ukraine

On Sept. 9, [Minister of Foreign Affairs HAYASHI Yoshimasa](#) visited Ukraine and met with President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

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](#).



Meeting with CA State Senate President pro Tempore Atkins

On Aug. 11, Consul General met with California State Senate President pro Tempore Toni Atkins and exchanged views on California-Japan relations and ways to further deepen the relationship.

JAPAN HOUSE Welcomes Visitors from Japan



House of Councillors Member Sakai & JHLA
President Kaifu



State Minister for Foreign
Affairs Takei & JHLA
President Kaifu

On Aug. 15, Japan's House of Councillors lawmaker SAKAI Yasuyuki of Aichi Prefecture toured JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles as part of his visit to Los Angeles. On Aug. 16, TAKEI Shunsuke, State Minister for Foreign Affairs, visited JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles as well during a stop in Los Angeles. JAPAN HOUSE President KAIFU Yuko gave both visiting officials a tour of the facilities.



POSITION AVAILABLE: Consular Staff (Visa Officer)

The Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles is seeking to fill a position for full-time Consular staff (specified in VISA relating matters). For those who are interested, please send your resume via email by Sep. 22.

Check us out online!

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



Working with the Japanese American Community



Visit with 2023 TOMODACHI Watanabe Leadership Program

On Aug. 10, Consul General and Mrs. Sone met with 14 Japanese high school students participating in the [2023 TOMODACHI Toshizo Watanabe Leadership Program](#).

The

students from various regions of Japan visited Southern California for a 10-day program

which aims to promote greater understanding between the United States and Japan and to foster the next generation of leaders in both countries with an international mindset.



[Nisei Week Japanese Festival Held](#)

The Nisei Week Japanese Festival was held Aug. 12-20, with the annual Grand Parade through Little Tokyo taking place on Aug. 13. The streets of Little Tokyo were filled with floats, dancers, musicians and other performers. Nisei Week events on Aug. 20 such as the Plaza Festival and Closing Ceremony were postponed due to the effects of a tropical storm in the Los Angeles area. Learn more about the festival by clicking the title!



[JASSC Holds 114th Anniversary Dinner & Gala Celebration](#)

On Aug. 23, the Japan America Society of Southern California held its 114th Anniversary Dinner & Gala Celebration at the Aquarium of the Pacific in Long Beach. Consul General Sone congratulated award recipients Bob Graziano, Yuko Kaifu, and MIYAVI for their "Kokusai Shimin Sho (International Citizens Award)", and Jun Endo for her "Next Generation Rising Star Award."

Business, Economy & Tech



5th Japan Contents Pitch Event Held

On Aug. 29, the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles, along with JETRO Los Angeles and the United Talent Agency (UTA), co-hosted the 5th Japan Contents Pitch event. Consul General

Sone participated via video message and gave a welcome speech. Mr. Masi Oka, an adviser to this event, was joined by TBS TV, TV Tokyo, Yomiuri TV, and TV Asahi, to pitch four Japanese TV dramas for adaptation for the U.S. market.



Discussing APEC At California Chamber of Commerce Event

On Sept. 8, Consul General Sone spoke at an international breakfast meeting hosted by the California Chamber of Commerce focusing on the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Leaders' Summit scheduled in San Francisco

during the week of Nov. 12. Pointing to APEC's principles of free trade, digital & innovation, and sustainability, Consul General Sone urged the U.S.' return to the Trans-Pacific Partnership. He also cited the progress made by Japan and U.S. in their cooperation under the U.S.-Japan Digital Trade Agreement, and discussed Japan's hydrogen initiatives aimed at realizing a sustainable society. Consul General of Malaysia Anil Fahriza Adenan and Consul General of Mexico Carlos Gonzalez Gutierrez also spoke at the event.

Sister City Relations



Celebrating Long Beach-Yokkaichi's 60-Year Sister City Relationship

On Aug. 11, Consul General and Mrs. Sone attended the Long Beach-Yokkaichi Sister City Association's (LBYSKA) 60th anniversary event.

Yokkaichi Mayor Tomohiro Mori was in attendance, as well as Long Beach Vice Mayor Cindy Allen. The event highlighted the long-term relationship between both cities, and the extensive range of LBYSKA's sister city activities in both education and economics.



Montebello-Ashiya Student Ambassadors' Farewell Luncheon

On Aug. 12, a farewell luncheon was held for student ambassadors from Ashiya in Hyogo Prefecture, Japan. Montebello Mayor David Torres attended the event, as well as Deputy

Consul General of Japan AOSHIMA Naoshige, who expressed his hope that the student ambassadors of both cities will remain actively engaged in the U.S.-Japan friendship.



Carlsbad-Futtsu Celebrate 35 Years as Sister Cities

The Carlsbad Sister City Ambassadors, the city of Carlsbad and the City of Futtsu in Chiba Prefecture celebrated 35 years as sister cities at an event on Aug. 25. Deputy Consul General

AOSHIMA attended, offering his congratulations to the two cities for reaching the notable milestone.

Entertainment, culture & others



JAPAN HOUSE LA Celebrates 5 Year Anniversary

On Aug. 27, JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles celebrated its 5th anniversary with an event at Ovation Hollywood's courtyard featuring performances from Japan Foundation Los Angeles' Mike Penny, the Asano Taiko

Drumming Group, as well as world-renowned guitarist MIYAVI and drummer YOYOKA. Consul General Sone gave remarks, congratulating JAPAN HOUSE LA on its first five years.



JAPAN HOUSE LA Hosts 'Tokyo Pop' Tribute to Carrie Hamilton

On Aug. 8, JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles and Anaheim University hosted "Tokyo Pop Revisited: Bridging Japanese and American Independent Cinema – A Tribute to Carrie Hamilton & the Carrie Hamilton Entertainment Institute." The event followed a screening of the recently re-released 1988 film

Tokyo Pop, directed by Fran Rubel Kuzui and starring the late Carrie Hamilton and Diamond Yukai.



Asia Society Panel Discussion Explores Japan and U.S. Responses to Intl Economy and Trade

On Sept. 5, Asia Society Southern California hosted an in-depth discussion on how Japan and the U.S. are responding to the shifting dynamics of the international economy and trade. Panel speakers included Consul General Sone, Vice President of Asia Society Policy Institute (ASPI) Wendy Cutler, and former United States Secretary of Commerce and United States Trade Representative Michael "Mickey" Kantor.



Discussion on "How the Quad Affects California"

On Sept. 6, Consul General Jane Duke of Australia, Consul General Sone, Consul General Dr Srikar Reddy of India, and U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State Camille Dawson participated in a discussion about how their countries impact Southern California, the world, and a free and open Indo Pacific.

Coming Up!



Mental Health Conference in Little Tokyo

On Sept. 16, Little Tokyo Service Center's Social Services Department, in partnership with Japanese American National Museum, will host a day-long conference to offer a space for the Asian American

community to address, examine, and understand mental health. The conference will be interspersed with workshops and small group discussions that focus on specific topics related to mental health and wellbeing.



Otsukimi Full Moon Event at Brand Park in Glendale

Enjoy an evening in the Japanese Friendship Garden at Brand Park in Glendale, CA beneath the Full Moon with live music, a classical martial arts demo, and outdoor tea ceremony

demonstration. This fundraiser for the Shoseian Teahouse will feature a Japanese Bento meal along with a bowl of matcha tea and a sweet included with purchase of a ticket, which can be made by clicking [HERE](#).

Irvine Global Village Festival
Saturday, Oct. 14, 2023
from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Events at the Japan Booth:

- Colorful kimono, Carp streamer
- Kites, Toys, etc. (Exhibition)
- Kimono Dressing
- Ikebana
- Shodo
- Origami (Halloween Pumpkin & Popular Animation)
- Introducing Sightseeing and Products in Ehime

Main Organizations:
Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles
The Japan Foundation, Los Angeles
Japan Business Association of Southern California

Sponsors:
Orange County Japanese American Association
TrendyMillennial, Nana's Ehime Kenjutsu, Nani USA
Japanese Prefectural Association of Southern California
Japan America Media Association

Support Groups:
Soginjo Itebaishu-jumiai
Buika Shodo of America
Kibata Taiko
Matsuzono Kai, Nadeshiko-kai

Orange County Great Park
3000 Great Park Blvd., Irvine, CA

Experience Japanese Culture at Irvine Global Village Festival

On Oct. 14, come visit the Irvine Global Village Festival at Great Park in Irvine. The Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles will present information on Japan at the booth, while other Japanese-related cultural offerings will include Ikebana flower arrangement, Shodo Japanese calligraphy, origami, Kimono dressing, and an introduction to products from Ehime Prefecture

in Japan.

<http://www.la.us.emb-japan.go.jp> | info@ls.mofa.go.jp
Consulate General of Japan, Los Angeles

