



Credit: Cabinet Public Affairs Office

Prime Minister Kishida Attends NATO Leaders' Summit

On July 11, Prime Minister KISHIDA Fumio attended the Meeting of the North Atlantic Council at the level of Heads of State and Government, Indo-Pacific Partners and the European Union (the Partners Session) of the NATO Summit in Washington, D.C. He expressed a strong sense of crisis that "Ukraine today may be East Asia tomorrow," and that the security of Euro-Atlantic and Indo-Pacific is inseparable.



Credit: Cabinet Public Affairs Office

Courtesy Call by U.S. Secretary of State, U.S. Secretary of Defense

On July 29, Prime Minister KISHIDA received a courtesy call from the U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken and U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin. Prime Minister Kishida said he would like to further strengthen the deterrence and response capabilities of the U.S.-Japan Alliance through discussions and concrete cooperation at various levels. Minister for Foreign Affairs KAMIKAWA Yoko, Minister of Defense KIHARA Minoru and other government officials also attended.

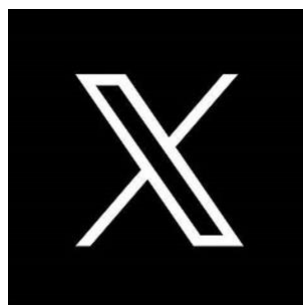


Japan Stands with Ukraine

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](#).

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: RAFU SHIMPO

Japanese Heritage Night at Dodger Stadium

On July 2, baseball fans celebrated Japanese Heritage Night at Dodger Stadium with performances by Koshin Taiko and Japanese guitarist Miyavi. Actor George Takei threw the

ceremonial first pitch, while Consul General Sone, the Nisei Week Foundation president and royal court were recognized during an on-field ceremony.



Nisei Week Opening Ceremony

On July 14, Consul General Sone and Mrs. Sone participated in the 82nd Nisei Week Japanese Festival Opening Ceremony held at the Japanese American National Museum that included a Taiko performance by OCO Kibou Taiko and a cheerful Ondo (dance) by Hanayagi Rokufukumi, and the introduction of 2024 Nisei Week Queen candidates.



Welcoming the 2024 Watanabe Democracy Fellowship Participants

On July 16, Consul General Sone hosted Japanese young leaders participating in the 2024 Watanabe Democracy Fellowship for a dinner at the official residence. The inaugural program promotes global democracy and strengthens the ties between Japan and the U.S. by promoting democratic values, and bilateral cultural understanding and collaboration.



LTSC Sake in the Park

On July 26, Deputy Consul General Aoshima joined the 16th Annual "Sake In the Park" food and sake tasting festival, held by the Little Tokyo Service Center (LTSC). Before delivering his remarks, DCG Aoshima participated in the 'Kagami Biraki' ceremony, where the guests of honor strike the lid of a sake barrel with a wooden mallet in a tradition that brings good fortune.



Japanese American Scholarship Fund Presentation

On July 27, The Japanese American Treaty Centennial Scholarship Fund (JATCF) held an award presentation ceremony, where Deputy Consul General Aosima delivered his congratulatory remarks along with President Kitty Sankey of the JATCF. The fund was established to encourage students of Japanese ancestry and children of expats from Japan to aspire to higher learning institutions

Community Relations



Discussing the Importance of DEI Initiatives in the Business Landscape

On July 30, JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles hosted Former LA County CEO Sachi Hamai; Dept. COO Int'l of MUFG Americas Masa Komoriya; Terry Feit, Managing Partner of Deloitte Los Angeles; and Courtney Moore, Vice President of DEI for Dodgers for an informative panel talk focusing on DEI Strategies. Consul General Sone made remarks at the podium as well, noting the importance of DEI initiatives in the business landscape.

Technology, Business, and Economy



Visit to Space Systems Command

On July 8, Consul General Sone visited the Space Systems Command at Los Angeles Air Force Base in El Segundo, CA to meet with Lieutenant General Philip Garrant, Commander, Space Systems Command. During

the meeting, Lt. Gen. Garrant noted the importance of working with other nations in space operations and cooperation with private-sector companies. Lt. Gen. Garrant and Consul General Sone confirmed that Japan and the U.S. will engage in even closer cooperation going forward.

Entertainment, culture & others



Exploring KAWAII at JAPAN HOUSE LA Exhibit

Check out 'King of Kawaii' artist Sebastian Masuda's "Yes, KAWAII is Art -EXPRESS YOURSELF"

exhibition for an in-depth look at the origins of the colorful kawaii style, its development and its profound cultural significance. The exhibit runs through Nov. 3, 2024 at JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles.

Anime Expo 2024





Consul General SONE joined [Anime Expo®'s ribbon cutting ceremony](#) on July 4, marking the start of a four-day celebration of anime, manga and other genres. The Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles, Japan Foundation and JVTa co-hosted [an Anime Voice Acting Workshop](#) that gave participants an opportunity to learn from professional voice actors about voicing scenes. Consul General Sone also visited [the JETRO "Geek Street" Japan Pavilion](#) that featured booths by 16 Japanese companies, as well as a mini-stage and sticker rally to promote Japanese Pop Culture. In addition, more than 40 Japanese food booths, including ramen, takoyaki, sushi, and shaved ice, exhibited in the outdoor area of Anime Expo. There were also many booths collaborating with anime.



Celebrating Sister-City Ties at the Huntington Beach Fourth of July Parade

On July 4, Deputy Consul General Aoshima participated in Huntington Beach's Fourth of July Parade, one of the largest Independence Day parades in the United States.

For over 40 years, the City of Huntington Beach has provided exchange programs for mainly elementary and high-school students in Japan through their sister city relationship with the City of Anjo, in Aichi Prefecture. On this day, a group of exchange students from Anjo and Huntington Beach walked in the parade together.



Consul General Sone Attends Japan America Society Gala

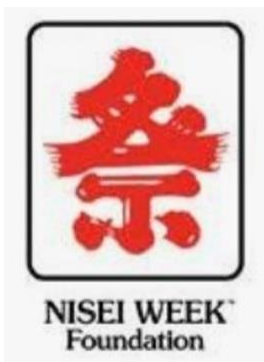
Consul General Sone attended the Japan America Society of Southern California (JASSC) 's 115th Anniversary Dinner & Gala Celebration on July 18. He commended JASSC for strengthening collaboration between both sides of the Pacific, and also acknowledged Yoko Narahashi, David Ono and YOYOKA, who were all honored at the event for their contribution to the Japan-U.S. relationship.



Crete Academy Visits Consulate, Little Tokyo

In a first of its kind, the Consulate General of Japan, the Japanese American National Museum, and the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center partnered to welcome elementary school students on a half day tour of things Japanese in downtown. On July 31, eight students from Crete Academy in South Los Angeles visited each location to build on their knowledge understanding Japan's culture and history and to hear about the Japanese American experience.

Coming Up



82nd Nisei Week Japanese Festival

Don't miss Nisei Week events and activities taking place in Little Tokyo in August, including cultural exhibits at the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center on Aug. 10-11, the Nisei Week Karate Exhibition and Tournament at Terasaki Budokan on Aug. 10, and the Grand Parade on Aug. 11.

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