



## Accepting Noto Earthquake Relief Donations

能登半島地震義援金募集開始のお知らせ

## Information About Noto Peninsula Earthquake Relief Donations

The Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles is accepting donations in response to the Noto Peninsula earthquake on Jan. 1. Please click the headline to learn more.



## 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](#).

On Jan. 7, [Foreign Minister KAMIKAWA Yoko visited Ukraine](#), where she met with [President Zelenskyy](#) and Prime Minister Shmyhal. [At a news conference](#), Foreign Minister Kamikawa noted that private sector involvement is essential for the reconstruction of Ukraine, and that Japan is committed to providing further support for Ukraine in the area of reconstruction assistance through close public-private partnership.



## Dr. Ronald M. Evans of Salk Institute for Biological Studies Named 2024 Japan Prize Laureate

On Jan. 23, The Japan Prize Foundation announced its 2024 Japan Prize Laureates, including Dr. Ronald M. Evans, Salk Institute for Biological Studies, in the field of Medical Science and Pharmaceutical Science.

## Check us out online!

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



## 2024 Cultural Events Calendar

This events calendar is compiled and updated on a monthly basis by the staff of the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles for Southern California and Arizona. Generally, information about events hosted or sponsored by the Consulate's partner organizations is listed as it becomes available. To add your Japan-related event to this calendar, please learn more by clicking the title above. We are not able to support 'for-profit' events at this time.

## Scholarship

For undergraduates: We are now accepting applications for the one-year, Japanese Studies Students MEXT scholarship. Deadline: Tuesday, Feb. 20, 2024, at 3:30 p.m. Pacific Standard Time.



## POSITION AVAILABLE: Consular Staff

The Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles is seeking a full-time Consular Staff. Duties will consist of general consular matters including security issues (mainly VISA related matters). For those who are interested, please apply via email by Feb. 23. Click the title to learn more.



## Conferment Ceremony of Foreign Minister's Commendation for Mr. Toshizo Watanabe

On Aug. 16, 2023 (Japan Standard Time), the Government of Japan announced the recipients of its 2023 Foreign Minister's Commendation. From the jurisdiction of the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles, Mr. Toshizo Watanabe was awarded the Foreign Minister's Commendation in recognition of his contribution to mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S. On Jan. 19, 2024, Mr. Watanabe was presented the Foreign Minister's Commendation.

## Celebrating the New Year with Local Organizations



Ikebana International Los Angeles Chapter #4  
New Year's Luncheon (Jan 7)



Urasenke Tankokai Los Angeles Association  
Hatsudate Shiki (Jan. 14)



Japan Business Association of  
Southern CA New Year's  
Celebration (Jan. 19)



Japan Business Association  
of Arizona New Year's  
Celebration (Jan. 20)



Venice Japanese  
Community Center Shinnen  
Kai and Keiro Kai (Jan. 21)

The Consulate General of Japan is celebrating the New Year by joining celebrations held by local organizations. Consul General Sone and Mrs. Sone attended the 2024 New Year's Luncheon organized by the San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center on Jan. 6 as well as the Ikebana International Los Angeles Chapter #4's New Year Luncheon on Jan. 7. Meanwhile, Consul General and Mrs. Sone also attended the Urasenke Tankokai Los Angeles Association's 2024 Hatsudate Shiki on Jan. 14 and the Venice Japanese Community Center Shinnenkai & Keirokai Celebration on Jan. 21. Turning to business associations, Consul General Sone attended the Japan Business Association of Southern California's New Year's Celebration on Jan. 19, and Deputy Consul General AOSHIMA Naoshige attended the Japan Business Association of Arizona's celebration on Jan. 20.



## Community Relations



### 5th Annual Service in Japan Alumni Reception Held

On Jan. 26, the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles welcomed U.S. military officers, service members, reservists, and veterans previously stationed in Japan to a reception at the Official

Residence. A total 197 guests, including families, enjoyed Japanese food as well as a performance by the Okinawa Association of America. The reception sought to encourage service members and their families to continue their friendship with Japan

## Entertainment, culture & others



### Consul General At "UNLOCK CINEMA | SHORT FILMS, INFINITE POSSIBILITIES"

On Jan. 11, JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles and Short Shorts Film Festival & Asia (SSFF & ASIA) teamed up to host "UNLOCK CINEMA | SHORT FILMS, INFINITE POSSIBILITIES". The celebration marked JAPAN HOUSE's 5th anniversary in Los Angeles. It

also marked the 25th Anniversary of the SSFF & Asia, a qualifying festival for the Academy Awards, and one of Asia's largest short film festivals. During his toast, Consul General Sone remarked on the power of compelling storytelling in short films, and how it impacts the imagination and inspiration of the viewers around the world.



## 'Perfect Days' Among Academy Awards Nominees

Nominations for the 96th Academy Awards announced on Jan. 23 include [Japan's 'Perfect Days.'](#) a co-production between Japan and

Germany directed by Wim Wenders and starring

Koji Yakusho in the International Feature Film Category. Other nominations affiliated with Japan or Japanese talent include 'The Boy and the Huron' in the Animated Feature Film category, 'Godzilla Minus One' in the Visual Effects category, and 'Maestro' in the Makeup and Hairstyling category (Mr. Kazuhiro Tsuji). Winners will be announced on March 10.



## JAPAN HOUSE Presents DESIGN MUSEUM JAPAN

“DESIGN MUSEUM JAPAN | Bridging Design and Life,” is on view at JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles from

Jan. 26 to April 14, 2024. The exhibit showcases six of Japan's top creators selected to research uniquely Japanese “design treasures,” which exemplify the design culture of a specific area of Japan. The exhibition presents these designs, often a result of community-based design, their background stories and their connection to the region, along with perspectives from the creators who compiled the research.

## Coming Up!



## Let's Go to Arizona Matsuri (Feb. 24-25)!

The Arizona Matsuri, a two-day festival that celebrates all things Japan, will be held on Feb. 24-25 at Steele Indian School Park in Phoenix, AZ. The Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles will have an on-site booth, so please stop by!! Don't miss cultural presentations, performances, demonstrations and of course FOOD!!!.

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