

Japan Focus



*Consulate General of Japan, Los Angeles
Japan Information & Culture Center
April 2024 Vol. 16 Issue 4*



Foreign Minister Kamikawa Chairs UN Security Council Ministerial Meeting

On March 18, Japanese Foreign Minister KAMIKAWA Yoko chaired the Ministerial Meeting of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) on “Nuclear Disarmament and Non-Proliferation.” This meeting originated from the Prime Minister Kishida’s speech at the General Debate of the 78th Sessions of the United Nations General Assembly in which he stated that it is key to have nuclear-weapon States engage in concrete nuclear disarmament measures. He also noted that Japan, as a non-permanent member of the Security Council, would work to promote dialogue between nuclear-weapon States and non-nuclear-weapon States. Japan held the UN Security Council Presidency in March.

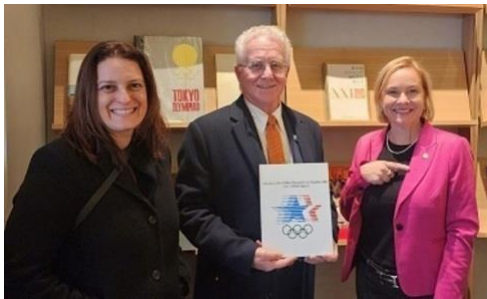


Japan Stands with Ukraine

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!



Los Angeles City Councilmembers Visit Japan

From March 10-14, Los Angeles City Council President Paul Krekorian and Councilmembers Traci Park and Katy Yaroslavsky visited Japan

on a special invitation from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. They visited Tokyo and Los Angeles's sister city Nagoya to meet with government officials including from the Tokyo Metropolitan Government Assembly, Nagoya City Assembly, City of Nagoya, and Port of Nagoya. In anticipation of the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic and Paralympic Games, they also learned about the Tokyo Games and toured relevant facilities.

Japanese American Community



Credit: U.S.-Japan Council

Japanese American Leadership Delegation in Japan

The 2024 Japanese American Leadership Delegation sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs visited Tokyo and Osaka in early March and met with high level leaders including Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and Foreign Minister Yoko

Kamikawa. In Osaka, the delegation participated in a public symposium titled “Culture, Sports, and Community: Harnessing Global Experiences for Local Economic Revitalization,” co-sponsored by the Japan Foundation and the U.S.-Japan Council.

Community Relations



Meeting with Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Hosaka

KAKEHASHI - LA African American Young Business Leaders Delegation

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan sponsored five young business leaders nominated by Los Angeles Mayor’s Office of International Affairs to visit Japan on the KAKEHASHI Project from

February 5-13. The delegation visited Tokyo and Nagoya and learned about Japan’s prominent business sectors and social enterprises. They also met with government officials including Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs Yasushi Hosaka and Nagoya Mayor Takashi Kawamura.



Celebrating Wedding Traditions Across Cultures

The JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles Foundation on March 4 held “Tying the Knot: Celebrating Diverse Wedding Traditions”, as part of the Diversity,

Equity, and Inclusion program series. The program comprised presentations highlighting wedding and celebratory practices of Japan, Mexico, and India, followed by a culinary experience featuring food and beverages reflecting the diverse flavors of their culturally rich wedding traditions.



Japan & African American Community Business Networking Event

On March 14, the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles and Los Angeles Mayor's Office of International Affairs co-hosted a business networking event at the Japanese American National Museum involving the Japanese and African American communities, as part of the Japan and Black LA Initiative.

Business, Economics and Technology



Japan-Focused Career Event

On March 2, at California State University, Dominguez Hills (CSUDH), Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles hosted a career event for JET Program alumni and Japanese language learners, focusing on Japanese companies in Southern California. The purpose of this event was to provide a career path that utilizes the Japanese language and passion for Japanese culture.



Consul General Attends Japanese Business Association Reception

On March 15, Consul General Sone gave remarks at a Japanese Business Association of Southern California (JBA) reception held at Miyako Hybrid Hotel Torrance. He welcomed the new JBA President, Akira Minamiura, who is the President of

Kintetsu Enterprises Company of America, and new board members and officers. For over 63 years, JBA has been a keystone for fostering cooperation between the U.S. and Japanese companies and has a long standing commitment to strengthening community ties.



Roundtable with San Bernardino County and Japanese Companies

On March 21, the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles and JETRO participated in a roundtable discussion on “Growing Global Partnerships:

Hydrogen Initiatives” with San Bernardino County officials and Japanese businesses. They discussed the increasing importance of the local hydrogen industry and the increasing opportunities it offers to Japan, to the State of California, and to San Bernardino County.



19th Annual International State of the State Keynote in Arizona

On Mar. 28, Consul General Sone attended the 19th Annual International State of the State Keynote delivered by Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs and joined the stage as a panel speaker along with

Governor Hobbs, Zaib Shaikh, Consul General of Canada in Los Angeles, Sophie Hottat, Consul General of Belgium in Los Angeles. The event gathered together representatives from over 20 countries, state and local officials, and other industry leaders.



Award Ceremony for New Gindaco Store at Dodger Stadium

On Mar. 28, the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles, together with the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Los Angeles office, held a ceremony to award a certificate of Japanese Food Supporter Store to Gindaco USA Inc., which opened a new store at Dodger Stadium on the third base side concourse. Consul General Sone expressed his congratulations and cut the ribbon for the store opening with Mr. Morio Sase, President of Hotland Co., Ltd., and Dodgers officials.

Entertainment, culture & others



JX'24 Held at JAPAN HOUSE LA

In collaboration with the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles, JX (Japan Crossover), the community hub for Japanese diaspora talent and industry leaders within entertainment, lifestyle, and culture, held JX'24 on March 5th at JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles. The event featured a panel conversation on “Japanese Entertainment in Hollywood” moderated by journalist Jen Yamato that covered such topics as the rising popularity of Japanese entertainment in the U.S and keys to building groundbreaking creative and technological bridges to connect content, artists, and audiences internationally.



Tokyo Vice Season 2 - An Evening with Executive Producer Alan Poul

On March 6, a conversation with Emmy-winning *Tokyo Vice* Executive Producer and Director Alan Poul was co-presented by JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles and Max. Afterwards a reception was held with Japanese refreshments from @UKA Restaurant



Reception for Academy Award Nominees Held

The Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles, in collaboration with Japan House Los Angeles, hosted a reception on March 9, to celebrate the nominations of "PERFECT DAYS," "Godzilla-1.0," and "The Boy and the Heron" at the 96th Academy Awards. The event aimed to promote the Japanese film industry in Hollywood and foster a community between the Japanese and American film industries. Congratulations to *Godzilla-1.0* for winning the Best Visual Effects category and to *The Boy and the Heron* for winning the Best Animated Feature Film award



Cherry Blossom Event in City of Glendale

On March 17, Consul General Sone attended the Cherry Blossom Festival held at Shoseian Teahouse and Japanese Friendship Garden in the City of Glendale. The event included performances from

Katori Shinto-ryu, sumo wrestling, tea ceremony courtesy of Urasenke, Japanese dance and koto playing. At the festival, Consul General Sone presented the [Commendation of the Consul General to 'Friends of Shoseian'](#) in recognition of their significant contributions to deepening mutual understanding between Japan and the U.S. and promoting the Glendale-Higashi Osaka sister city friendship

Coming Up!



Celebrate Japanese Culture at Cherry Blossom Festivals

Looking to enjoy the arrival of spring while celebrating Japanese culture? Check out some Cherry Blossom Festivals taking place this month!

- [Torrance Cherry Blossom Festival \(April 7\)](#)
- [East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center Cherry Blossom Festival \(April 13\)](#)
- [Monterey Park Cherry Blossom Festival \(April 27, 28\)](#)



San Diego Spring Sake Festival

San Diego Sake Club will host the largest sake tasting event in San Diego on April 21 from 12-4 pm at the Japanese Friendship Garden and Museum. Tickets include 3 “Nama (raw, unpasteurized)” spring sake tasting, unlimited tasting of other sakes and Japanese beers, performances from local artists such as San Diego Taiko, and more. For more information,

please click the headline.



New JAPAN HOUSE Exhibit: "Yes, KAWAII is Art - EXPRESS YOURSELF-"

"Yes, KAWAII is Art -EXPRESS YOURSELF-,"

JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles is excited to partner with artist Sebastian Masuda to share an in-depth look at the origins of the colorful kawaii style, its development and its profound cultural significance, transcending its perception as a fashion look or trend. The exhibit will run from May 2 to Nov. 3, 2024 at JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles.

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