

Japan Focus



Consulate General of Japan, Los Angeles
Japan Information & Culture Center
June 2024 Vol. 16 Issue 6



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!



Photo by Milken Institute

Tokyo Governor Visits Los Angeles

Governor of Tokyo Yuriko Koike spoke at the Milken Institute Global Conference held in Los Angeles. She discussed global issues with influential leaders from various countries and fields and presented Tokyo Metropolitan Government initiatives for a sustainable city. During her stay, she met with political and business leaders including Mayor of Los

Angeles Karen Bass to discuss sustainability and the Olympic/Paralympic Games. Governor Koike also visited the Japanese American National Museum in Little Tokyo.

Japanese American Community



Little Tokyo Sparkle Community Cleanup

On May 18, [Consul General and Mrs. Sone and consulate staff joined the annual Little Tokyo Sparkle,](#)

which began in 2016. Community organizations and leaders participated in trash pick-up, graffiti and sticker removal, sidewalk cleaning, and more in the Little Tokyo neighborhood.

Community Relations



Consul General Sone Meets Irvine Mayor

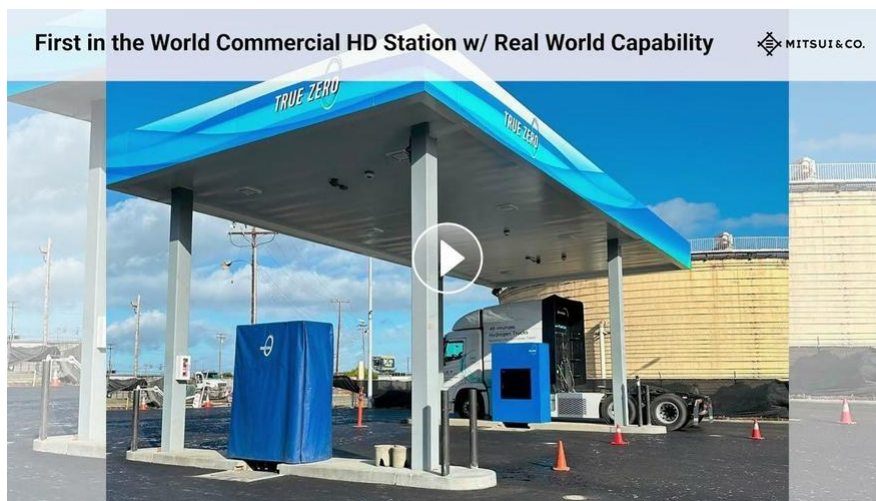
Consul General Sone visited Irvine Mayor Farrah N. Khan in preparation of her visit to Irvine's sister city of Tsukuba, in Ibaraki, Japan. The successful 35-year history behind this partnership will be highlighted at an anniversary event held during her visit. Over the years, this sister-city relationship has been hailed for the achieving of shared goals in areas such as education and sustainability.



Leimert Park Tour with KAKEHASHI Leaders

Roman Combs, entrepreneur and owner of Romans Global Agency and member of the 2024 KAKEHASHI African American Young Business Leaders Delegation, recently led members of the LA Next Generation Japanese American Leaders Initiative on a tour of Leimert Park in South Los Angeles, the historic hub of African American art and culture. The tour included a special performance by a drum circle and briefing on the progress of an open-air museum, as well as visits to local merchants and an art gallery.

Business, Economics and Technology



New Video Release About Japan's Hydrogen Technologies

The Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles and Japan Hydrogen Forum have produced a new video which showcases hydrogen technology of Japanese companies being implemented in the Port of Los Angeles and other areas. The Japan Hydrogen Forum and its 32 members aim to collaborate under the U.S.-Japan Climate Partnership

and Clean Hydrogen Partnership to support the decarbonization goals of US federal, state and local governments. Please see the video above to learn more about Japanese companies' efforts to create a clean energy society with hydrogen.



Promoting Hokuriku Region Tourism

Following the U.S.-Japan Tourism Symposium in Los Angeles on May 5, Consul General Sone gave remarks at Japan House for a reception promoting tourism in the Hokuriku region, which includes the popular cities Niigata, Kanazawa, and Fukui, as well as Noto Peninsula, the area impacted by a major earthquake on January 1. This year 2024 is “U.S.-Japan Tourism Year” to promote greater travel and business in both directions.



17th Annual VerdeXchange VX2024 Green Marketmakers Conference

On May 12, CG Sone collaborated with VerdeXchange (VX) to host the kick-off VIP reception and panel discussion for the 17th VX Green Marketmakers Conference. Japanese companies and the Japan Hydrogen Forum showcased clean tech, and CG Sone was a panelist for the conference.



Japan Hydrogen Forum Annual Meeting 2024 and Reception

On May 14, Consul General Sone attended the Japan Hydrogen Forum (JH2F) Annual Meeting 2024 & Reception. At the reception, Consul General

Sone gave a speech, thanking Mr. Yokoo who has chaired JH2F since its establishment and others, and expressed his expectations for JH2F and its member Japanese companies to further their activities using hydrogen-related technologies.

Entertainment, culture & others



Exploring KAWAII at New JAPAN HOUSE LA Exhibit

“Yes, KAWAII is Art -EXPRESS YOURSELF-“ the debut solo exhibition for ‘King of Kawaii’, Sebastian Masuda had its grand opening at JAPAN HOUSE

Los Angeles on May 1. Following the gallery preview, Consul General Sone was honored to give a toast, inaugurating the 6-month exhibition’s residency in Hollywood.



US Sumo Open 2024

On May 11, Consul General Sone participated in the US Sumo Open 2024 held at California State University Long Beach, and delivered remarks at the opening ceremony. He expressed his happiness that sumo, which has a long history as Japan's national sport, is loved all over the world, and wished all the participating wrestlers good luck.



Sushi and Sake Festival at Pechanga

On May 11, the Sushi and Sake Festival at Pechanga offered tastings for 40+ premium sakes, Japanese beer, and fresh, made-on-site sushi. The festival showcased

many performers, including taiko, a Japanese guitarist, and koto (Japanese harp). Consul Haruhiko Nakamura joined for “kagamiwari” (sake barrel opening ceremony) at the event.



Practicing Soccer Skills With LA Galaxy's Maya Yoshida

Mr. Maya Yoshida from Los Angeles Galaxy, who also served as captain of the Japanese national soccer team, held his first soccer class in the US on May 12 in Los Angeles. It was organized by Shin-Sen-Gumi Restaurant Group and made possible by Mr. Yoshida's passion to contribute to the local and Japanese community in the region. Although it was the day after an MLS league game, Mr. Yoshida showed no sign of fatigue and enjoyed playing soccer with 60 children.



Consul General Sone Attends 'The Pledge to Megumi' Screening

On May 25, Consul General Sone delivered remarks at JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles for the film screening of “The Pledge to Megumi,” organized by the M-Project, about a Japanese teenager who was abducted from Japan by North Korean authorities. The Government of Japan continues to work towards the resolution of the abduction issue, an international human rights issue affecting multiple countries beyond Japan.



LA Galaxy's Inaugural Japanese Heritage Night

On May 25, Consul General Kenko Sone and Mrs. Sone attended Major League Soccer club LA Galaxy’s inaugural Japanese Heritage Night at Dignity Health Sports Park. He greeted soccer fans and enjoyed the game. Maya Yoshida

and Miki Yamane, who both previously played for the Japanese national soccer team, are with LA Galaxy.

Coming Up!



Learn About Voice Acting for Japanese Animation at Anime Expo 2024

Interested in voice acting for Japanese animation? Japan Visualmedia Translation Academy (JVTA), the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles, and Japan Foundation Los Angeles are presenting a workshop at Anime Expo 2024 where you can learn

vocal warmups and tips and tricks from a professional voice actor before tackling the ultimate challenge: voicing short scenes together! Come join us!



Celebrating Sister City Friendship at the Huntington Beach Fourth of July Parade

Deputy Consul General AOSHIMA Naoshige will participate in Huntington Beach's 120th Annual Fourth of July Parade to

celebrate the holiday, but also to commemorate the sister-city relationship initiated between the City of Huntington Beach and Anjo, Japan in 1982.

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