

Japan Focus

Consulate General of
Japan In Los Angeles
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Courtesy Call on Prime Minister ISHIBA by U.S. Secretary of Defense

On March 30, Prime Minister ISHIBA Shigeru received a courtesy call from U.S. Secretary of Defense Pete Hegseth. The prime minister stated that Japan would like to work together with the U.S. to realize a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" amid an increasingly severe security environment. They also exchanged views on Japan-U.S. security and defense cooperation for strengthening the deterrence and response capabilities of the Japan-U.S. Alliance.

(Photo - Cabinet Public Affairs Office)



Foreign Minister IWAYA Meets with G7 Counterparts

Foreign Minister IWAYA Takeshi attended the Group of Seven Foreign Ministers' Meeting on March 12-14 in Charlevoix, Canada. The [G-7 Foreign Ministers' Statement](#) included such topics as Ukraine's long-term prosperity and security, regional peace and stability in the Middle East, and cooperation to increase security and resilience across the Indo-Pacific.



Japan Stands with Ukraine

Japan has shown its support for Ukraine through financial support and other assistance. Read about Japan's response to the situation in Ukraine [HERE](#).



His Majesty the Emperor's Birthday Celebration Reception

The Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles held His Majesty the Emperor's Birthday Celebration Reception on Feb. 27 at the Official Residence of the Consul General of Japan in Los Angeles. Representatives of local governments including elected officials from within the Consulate's service area such as Los Angeles County and beyond, and guests with ties to Japan attended the reception.

Japanese American Community



Japanese American Leadership Delegation in Japan

The [2025 Japanese American Leadership Delegation](#), sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and organized by the U.S.-Japan Council, visited Tokyo and Hiroshima in early March and met with high level leaders including Foreign Minister Takeshi Iwaya. In Hiroshima, the delegation participated in a public symposium titled "[From Hiroshima to Hope: Japanese American Perspectives on Global Peace and Security.](#)" sponsored by the U.S.-Japan Council with support from the Japan Foundation.



L.A. Next Generation Japanese American Leaders – KAKEHASHI Japan Visit Presentation

On March 6, Consul General Sone hosted an event featuring latest updates from the LA Next Generation Japanese American Leaders Initiative's subcommittees and a presentation by Initiative members who had visited Japan in Fall 2024 on the KAKEHASHI Project.

Technology, Environment, Economy, and Business



International Association of Ports (IAPH) 70th Anniversary Reception with Port of Los Angeles

On March 3, IAPH and Port of L.A. held a reception celebrating IAPH's 70th anniversary. Consul General Sone gave congratulatory remarks highlighting the historic connection between L.A. and IAPH, which is based in Tokyo. The 2025 IAPH World Ports Conference will be held in Kobe, Japan from Oct 7-9 .



Japan Business Association of Southern California (JBA) Annual Meeting

On March 14, Deputy Consul General AOSHIMA delivered remarks at the annual meeting of JBA, which is celebrating 65 years of strengthening ties with the local community. JBA bridges Japanese companies and the local community, including supporting resilience and recovery efforts.



Visit to Arizona and 20th Annual Arizona International State of the State

On March 26, Consul General Sone visited Arizona to meet with the Arizona House Committee on International Trade and further strengthen Japan-Arizona economic ties. Following the meeting, he joined the diplomatic reception that kicked off the 20th Annual Arizona International State of the State.

Entertainment, Culture, Education



JHLA Exhibit: NEO-JAPANISM - SAMURAI AND BEYOND

From Feb. 14-Sept. 1, 2025, JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles is presenting *NEO-JAPONISM | SAMURAI AND BEYOND: Exploring Tradition Through Technology*, an exhibition that introduces visitors to the innovative technologies Japan Broadcasting Corp., or NHK, utilizes in its most popular "Taiga" historical dramas to present historical settings.

The exhibition is also a showcase for NHK's recent interactive technological collaborations with Japan's important museums that allow greater access to Japanese cultural treasures.



Appointment Ceremony of "Goodwill Ambassador to Spread Japanese Cuisine" for Mr. Yoshihiro Momose

On March 10, the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles held an appointment ceremony of a "Goodwill Ambassador to Spread Japanese Cuisine" for Mr. Yoshihiro Momose, CEO of Uogashi Global Innovation, LLC, and Fisheries Industry Coordinator at Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Los Angeles.



JX'25 Celebrates the U.S.-Japan Music Industry

JX'25 was held on March 14 at Soho Warehouse, featuring a panel discussion on the "2025 Japanese Music Industry - JX NEXT X-OVER," hosted by the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles and the LA Next Generation Japanese American Leaders Initiative.



Shoseian Teahouse's Cherry Blossom Festival

On March 16, Consul General Sone delivered remarks at the Shoseian Teahouse's Cherry Blossom Festival in Glendale and expressed his hope that such events bring deeper understanding about Japan and Japanese culture. The Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles also ran a booth and distributed cultural and travel information about Japan.



"Entertainment Without Borders" Event at JAPAN HOUSE LA

On March 18, the JAPAN HOUSE LA Foundation hosted a panel discussion sponsored by MUFG, supported by JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles and the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles, titled "Entertainment Without Borders | An Industry Perspective". The panel featured entertainment industry veterans who shared their insights into the democratization of the industry and the growing reach of international production.



"L.A. Area Wildfires Recovery – Women Respond" Event Held

On March 19, the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles, in collaboration with the Japanese American National Museum, hosted "LA Area Wildfires Recovery – Women Respond," exploring the unique role of women in disaster preparedness and response and reflections on the recent wildfires which have affected a large cross-section of society in the Los Angeles region.



LA-Nagoya Cherry Blossom Festival

On March 29th, the LA-Nagoya Cherry Blossom Festival was held at Grand Park in Los Angeles, highlighting the 66-year-old sister city relationship between LA and Nagoya. Consul General Sone gave the opening remarks, and officials from Los Angeles County, the City of Los Angeles, and LANSICA also gave greetings. The event featured performances by LA Taiko Ichiza and Hidesomi Bando, the introduction of the Nisei Week Queen, and a networking event for those involved in the LA-Nagoya sister city relationship.

Coming Up!



VerdeXchange VX2025 Marketmakers Conference (April 6-9)

From April 6-9, VerdeXchange Conference 2025 will be held in Los Angeles for clean and green tech marketmakers to meet and

accelerate implementation of the new green energy economy. At the conference, Japanese companies will showcase their latest hydrogen and clean technology.