

NEWS RELEASE: Consulate General of Japan in collaboration with Marx Layne & Company

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**CONSUL-GENERAL OF JAPAN'S RESIDENCE HOSTS 50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL DETROIT
CHAPTER EVENT**

DETROIT, Mich. – July 1, 2015 – Ikebana International, a cultural organization dedicated to the jubilee of Japanese flower arrangements, celebrates their 50th year of the Detroit chapter in 2015. The goals of the Detroit organization are to “stimulate, cultivate and perpetuate the study of Ikebana, related arts and Japanese culture (as well as) strengthen relationships among masters, teachers and students of Ikebana through cooperation with other Ikebana International Chapters.”

Yukari Katayama, wife of the Consul General, volunteered to host a 50th anniversary event at the official residence and nearly 50 people attended. The performance consisted of six flower arrangements, focusing on the summer season, created by three different members, as well as songs played on two kotos (traditional Japanese string instruments) and a flute. The event had three speakers including president of Ikebana International Detroit Lauren Paul.

“The relaxing and beautiful tones of the koto, played by the group Miyabi, and flute added majesty to the serene ambiance of the flower arrangements,” said Mizuki Eguchi, public relations officer for the Consul General of Japan in Detroit. “The Ikebana designs draw forth dozens of positive emotions with their tranquil yet wild representation of nature. Attending a class on Ikebana or viewing a flower arrangement will open your eyes to different views of the environment and it is something everyone should have the opportunity to experience.”

For more information about Detroit’s Chapter, visit <http://www.ikebanadetroit.org/home>.

More information about the national organization is at www.ikebanahq.org/index.php.

About the Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit

The Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit was established in 1993 by the Government of Japan to serve in the states of Michigan and Ohio. The Detroit office is one of 14 Japanese Consulates General in the United States. The Consulate strives to promote

better understanding of Japan and Japanese culture through educational and cultural programs. The office protects the interests of Japanese citizens and strengthens the Japan-U.S. alliance through furthering relations with local governments, companies, educational institutions, cultural organizations and the general public. For more information, visit www.detroit.us.emb-japan.go.jp/index.htm or call (313) 567-0120.

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