

### ConsuLink CONSULATE GENERAL OF JAPAN

February 2020

### **CALENDAR Exhibits & Events**

Through Feb. 9: Scholar's Garden Exhibit @ MSU Art Museum, East Lansing, MI

Feb. 1 - April 4 Capturing Mindfulness calligraphy art exhibit @ Kennedy Heights Arts Center, Cincinnati, OH

Sun., February 2 sian Artists Reception @ High Road Gallery, Worthington, OH

Thurs., February 6 Allen After Hours: Ukiyo-e @ Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin, OH

Sun., February 9 Michigan Japanese Language <u>Speech Contest</u> @ Michigan State Univ., East Lansing, MI

Sun., February 16 Detroit Kendo Tournament @ Seaholm High School, Birmingham, MI

Feb. 22 - May 3 Samurai, Ghosts, and Lovers exhibit @ Dayton Art Insitute, Dayton, OH

Fri., February 28 Brad Richardson Memorial Lecture @ The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH

Sun., March 1 Hinamatsuri @ DIA, Detroit, MI



The official magazine of the **GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN:** We Are Tomodachi

We Are *Tomodachi* Winter 2020

Welcome to TOKYO 2020



### **Japanese Language Contests Motivate Students**

Keeping you updated on all the latest news and events

### in Michigan and Ohio

On Sunday, February 9, the 25th annual Michigan Japanese Language Speech Contest will be held at Michigan State University in East Lansing. This event features high school and college students of Japanese language and culture presenting original speeches in Japanese, plus a new poetry recitation division for high schoolers. Members of the public are welcome to attend and cheer on the participants!



On Saturday, March 14, the 2020 Ohio Japanese Speech Contest will be held in Dublin, OH. This contest has high school, college, and advanced divisions. The deadline to enter is Friday, February 7. More information can be found here.

## **THE 2020**

OHIO JAPANESE SPEECH CONTEST

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2020 OHIO UNIVERSITY DUBLIN INTEGRATED EDUCATION CENTER



The Winter 2020 issue of We Are Tomodachi, titled "Welcome to TOKYO 2020," introduces preparations in various parts of Japan for the TOKYO 2020 Olympic/Paralympic Games, including the overcoming the effects of natural disasters. It also describes the initiatives undertaken by Tokyo, in its second tenure as a Host City, to create a legacy of sustainability and the fostering of an inclusive society through sports.

This issue also includes articles about the efforts of local residents to protect Sea of Japan beaches from ocean waste; foreign female staff members promoting Japanesepattern hijabs at a Kyoto kimono shop; and an interview with YOSHINO Akira, winner of the 2019 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for lithiumion battery development.

We Are Tomodachi is a digital publication that highlights Japan's attractions and initiatives by the Japanese Government.

The Winter 2020 edition is available in PDF and E-book formats. You can find them here: Magazine homepage

## Quick Links

Consulate-General of Japan in **Detroit** 

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of <u>Japan</u>

Japan National Tourism Organization



# **MEXT Scholarship Deadline Approaches**



The deadline to submit applications for the MEXT Japanese Studies Scholarship is Wednesday, February 19th. This scholarship offers enrolled undergraduate students majoring in a field related to Japanese language and/or culture the opportunity to study in Japan for a 1-year time period. Application guidelines and materials can be found here.

# Japanese Girls' Day Celebration in Detroit

# **Offers Fun for the Whole Family**



Mark your calendars! On Sunday, March 1, the Hina Matsuri Girls' Day Celebration will take place at the Detroit Institute of Arts (DIA). This annual event is sponsored by the DIA in collaboration with the Japan Business Society of Detroit, Japan Society of Detroit Women's Club, Japan Cultural Development, and the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit.

Hina Matsuri, or Doll Festival, is traditionally celebrated in Japan on the third day of the third month, as a time for families with young daughters to pray for their health and happiness. Families often display in their homes a stylized set of dolls representing the imperial court over 900 years ago.

Such a set of dolls will be on display at the DIA event, along with Japanese musical performances, workshops about wagashi sweets and ikebana flower arranging, and demonstrations of tea ceremony, children's kimono, calligraphy, origami, storytelling, and so on. Animated film The Tale of Princess Kaguya (2013) will be shown in English at 12:00 noon and 2:45pm. All events are free with general museum admission.

## Japan National Security Expert Speaks in Ohio



On January 13, Mr. Yoichi Kato, Senior Researcher at the Asia Pacific Initiative, gave lectures about "The Role of Japan-U.S. Alliance in the Face of U.S.-China Strategic Rivalry" to audiences at the Ohio State University in Columbus, OH.

In his lectures, Mr. Kato examined how Japan's "dual dependence" on China for economic trade and on the U.S. for national security, affects Japan's strategy in the region. He asserted that the traditional U.S.-Japan alliance remains indispensible to Japan's security, and will continue to be the main pillar in Japan's security strategy. .



Michigan Students Create New Year's Cards

In January, the lobby of the Consulate office featured displays of entries in the Nengajō Contest sponsored by Japanese Teachers Association of Michigan (JTAM). In this annual contest, dozens of K-12 students submit nengajō, or New Year's cards, of their own design. This year's winners will receive certificates at the Michigan Japanese Quiz Bowl in Ann Arbor on Sunday, March 8.

> ConsuLink is the official newsletter of the Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit

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