



## CALENDAR

### Exhibits & Events

Sat. & Sun., August 1 & 9  
[Ann Arbor Japanese Language Meetup](#) @ online platform

Mon., August 3 & 17  
[Yuta Sugano piano concerto](#) @ online platform

Tues., August 4  
[J-Chat Japanese Conversation Group](#) @ online platform

Wed., August 5  
[Cleveland Virtual Japanese Language Meetup](#) @ online platform  
[Novi Library Japanese Virtual Conversation Group](#) @ online platform

Sat., August 8  
[Momo's Japanese Stories and Songs](#) @ online platform

Fri., August 14  
[Virtual Radio Exercises](#) @ online platform

Sat.-Sun., August 29-30  
[Ann Arbor Bonsai Society Virtual Show](#) @ online platform



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



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

The Early Summer 2020 edition is available in PDF & E-book formats. You can find them here:  
[Magazine homepage](#)

## Quick Links

[Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit](#)

[Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan](#)



## Sister-State in Japan Sends Masks to Michigan



Toward the end of July, Michigan received a shipment of 10,000 face masks from its sister-state of Shiga in Japan. The masks were made at a Proctor & Gamble facility in the city of Yasu, Clinton Township's sister city in Shiga. There are 14 sister-city relationships between Michigan and Shiga, which have been sister-states since 1968.

The masks received an official sendoff on July 22, in front of the Shiga Prefectural Office in Otsu (pictured above).

## Belle Isle Koi Festival Goes Online



The Belle Isle Conservancy's Koi Festival was held online this year, from July 12-18. During the week-long event, a variety of videos and activities were shared with the public through various Facebook pages and the Consulate's new [YouTube channel](#).

These included demonstrations of how to write the word "koi" (Japanese carp) in calligraphy and how to fold a *koi* out of origami. There were videos of stories and crafts related to Tanabata, the "Star Festival," and of the *koinobori* (carp streamers associated with the spring festival of Children's Day) being flown outside the Consul General's residence to commemorate the festival.

If you missed it, don't worry! Koi Festival information and activities remain available on the Belle Isle Conservancy website [here](#).

## "Radio Exercise" Fans Can Join Via the Web



Starting at 9:00am on Friday, August 14, GEN-J Michigan, Novi Public Library, and Hirotec America will co-host a virtual *rajio taisō* event. *Rajio taisō* or "radio exercises" are a common activity in Japan for people of all ages. Please join in, to learn more about *rajio taisō* and try it out for yourself! Registration is available [here](#) (limited to the first 100 participants). For more information, please visit our YouTube channel [here](#).

## Welcome to the Consulate, Mr. Tani!



The Consulate General of Japan in Detroit is pleased to welcome Mr. Akifumi Tani. Mr. Tani succeeds Mr. Ito as Consul. Prior to his arrival in Detroit, he was posted at the Embassy of Japan in the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

Mr. Tani says he enjoys physical fitness and working out. He has a bit of a sweet tooth, and during his time in the culturally diverse U.S., he looks forward to trying lots of different ethnic cuisines. Welcome to the Detroit Consulate, Mr. Tani!

*ConsuLink is the official newsletter of  
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