



CALENDAR

Exhibits & Events

Wednesday, April 17th
[CJS Icons of Anime Film Series | Ninja Scroll @ Michigan Theater](#)

Thursday, April 18th
[CJS Noon Lecture Series | Radical Adaptation: Japan's Foreign Policy in the Trump Era @ Weiser Hall](#)

Saturday, April 20th
[JASCO Calligraphy Workshop @ DEC Training Center](#)

Saturday, April 20th
[IJS Lecture: Frenchy Lunning, "Seeking the Shōjo Through an Ecology of Desire" @ Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum](#)

Saturday, April 27th
[Red Oak Community School Mini Matsuri @ Red Oak Community School](#)

April 28th-September 29th
[Origami in the Garden @ Dow Gardens](#)

Saturday, May 4th
[Belle Isle Conservancy Koi Festival @ Belle Isle Aquarium](#)

Sunday, May 5th
[Hanami Spring Picnic @ MSU Tollgate Education Conference Center](#)

Sunday, May 5th
[Japanese Children's Day Event @ Dublin Community Recreation Center](#)



The official magazine of the
GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN

We Are Tomodachi

We Are *Tomodachi*
Spring 2019

**Empowering Women.
Enhancing Society**



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Tohoku Update



On Tuesday, March 12th, "TOHOKU UPDATE: First-Hand Insights on the Current Progress" was held at the Cincinnati Art Museum. The event focused on the revitalization efforts in the Tohoku region since the Great East Japan Earthquake. The event also showcased delicious sake.

The audience had the opportunity to listen to four featured speakers. Yoshiyuki Koyano (Director-General for International Affairs, Business and Tourism Commerce, Industry and Tourism Department for the Miyagi Prefecture government) spoke about the status of the recovery in Miyagi and the business opportunities that are available there. Rob LoBreglio (Brewmaster, Co-Founder & Vice-President of Great Dane Pub & Brewing Co. in Madison, Wisconsin) spoke about his reasons for expanding his business to Miyagi.

Akisa Fukuzawa (certified Sake Sommelier) explained what sake is, introduced different kinds of sake, and discussed ways to drink sake. Toko Shiiki (photographer and documentarian) showed a clip from her recent documentary, *Passing the Baton*, about the life story of a sake chief brewer in Fukushima. She also spoke about the perseverance of the Fukushima people. Guests then enjoyed sampling sake.

This event was co-hosted by the Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO), the Japan America Society of Greater Cincinnati (JASGC), and the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit.

Lansing-Otsu 50th Anniversary



In 1969, Lansing, Michigan and Otsu, Shiga entered into a sister city agreement. The two cities celebrate the 50th anniversary of the relationship this year.

Mayor Koshi of Otsu visited Lansing on March 3rd to take part in a luncheon and sign a renewed sister city agreement with Mayor Schor. The festivities will continue on April 26th when a cherry tree will be planted and an engraved "sister city" boulder will be placed in the Louis F. Adado Riverfront Park in Lansing.

Congratulations to Lansing and Otsu. We hope the relationship between the two cities remains fruitful for many years to come.

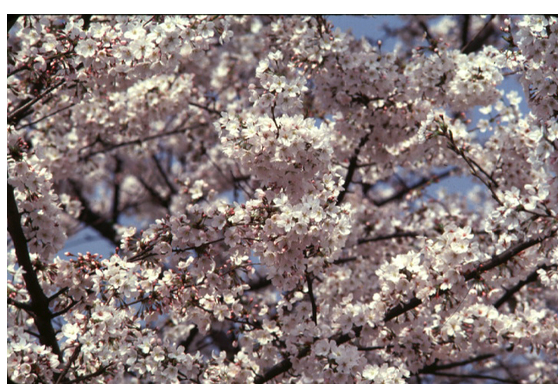
Invitation Program for Japanese American Students

The deadline to submit applications for the Invitation Program for Japanese American Students is fast approaching!

This program promotes mutual understanding and exchange between Japanese people and Japanese American youth. It also gives Japanese American students the chance to learn about various aspects of Japan.

Japanese American high school students (without Japanese nationality and who have not been on the program before) are encouraged to apply. A strong interest in Japan is also a requirement. Applications and further information are available [here](#) and the application deadline is Monday, April 22nd.

Cherry Blossoms in Bloom



In Japan, spring is a time for revitalization with the new fiscal and school years beginning. It is also the season when *sakura*, or cherry blossoms, bloom. Though fleeting and lasting only a few weeks, the blooms are cherished and celebrated across the country. Families and friends gather together for *ohanami* (cherry blossom viewing) to enjoy eating, drinking and admiring the beauty of nature beneath the blossoms.

We have been fortunate to have the opportunity to take part in *ohanami* in a variety of locations in both Michigan and Ohio. There are cherry blossom themed festivals in both states. Please check our calendar [here](#) to learn more about upcoming events.

Welcome Ms. Nakao



The Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit is pleased to welcome Ms. Saya Nakao. Ms. Nakao succeeds Ms. Sakanoue as the Extra Chancellor.

Ms. Nakao traveled here from Japan, where she worked as a sales strategist. She enjoys doing yoga, her favorite food is *gyoza* (a type of Japanese dumpling) and her favorite drink is beer.

Welcome Ms. Nakao and *yoroshiku-onegaishimasu*.

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

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