



CALENDAR

Exhibits & Events

Through December 2021:

[Green Japan Ukiyo-e Exhibit](#) @ Ripin Gallery, Oberlin, OH

Wed., September 1

[Novi \(MI\) Library Japanese Conversation Group](#) @ online platform

Sat., September 4

[Columbus Koto Ensemble](#) @ Hilltop Art Hop, Columbus, OH

Sun., September 5

[Ann Arbor \(MI\) Japanese Language Meetup](#) @ online platform

[Raion Taiko Performance](#)

@ Arts, Beats, & Eats Festival, Royal Oak, MI

Thurs., September 9

[Hofu-Monroe Book Club](#) @ online platform

[UM-CJS Webinar on Marriage & Fertility in Japan](#) @ online platform

Fri., September 10

[JASGC Origami Workshop](#) @Hyde Park Branch Library, Cincinnati, OH

Sat., September 11

[Ann Arbor \(MI\) Japanese Language Meetup](#) @ online platform

[FC Cincinnati Japan-America Community Night](#) @ Cincinnati, OH

Sun., September 12

[Saginaw Japan Festival](#) @ Saginaw, MI

Tues., September 14

[Anime Club](#) @ Jackson Community Branch Library, Massillon, OH

Wed., September 15

[JASGC Bridging Cultural Differences at Work](#) @ online platform

Sat.-Sun., Sept. 18-19

[Fall Bonsai Show](#) @ Krohn Conservatory, Cincinnati, OH

Sat., September 25

[Anime Afternoon](#) @ Ellet Branch Library, Akron, OH

Sat.-Sun., Sept. 25-26

[Cleveland Bonsai Club Fall Show](#) @ Rockefeller Park Greenhouse, Cleveland, OH

Tue., September 28

[Teen Anime Club](#) @ Mogadore Branch Library, Mogadore, OH

Thurs., September 30

[OSU-IJS Webinar on Debate in Japanese Society](#) @ online platform



The official magazine of the

Government of Japan:

Kizuna

KIZUNA

Linking Japan and the World Summer 2021



Kizuna is a digital publication of the Government of Japan.

It features reports on a wide variety of Japan-related topics, to provide opportunities to strengthen links between Japan and the world.

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Consul General Shindo "Meets" Miss Akita



On August 12, Consul General Shindo made a visit to the Detroit Children's Museum, the home of "Miss Akita," a special doll sent to the U.S. from Japan almost a century ago as a gesture of goodwill and friendship. In 1927, highly-skilled artists in Japan created 58 "Friendship Dolls" to serve as goodwill ambassadors between the two nations. The dolls, representing Japan's 47 prefectures, 10 major cities, and the whole nation of Japan, were shipped to various locations throughout the U.S.

Miss Fukiko Akita, the Friendship Doll designed to represent Akita Prefecture in northern Honshū, was sent to Michigan. She has a hand-painted, embroidered kimono, and accessories that represent her native region and the lifestyle of a Japanese child at that time. Miss Akita even has as a miniature passport and ticket from the ship that transported her to the U.S.

Dolls have special significance in Japan, where people are often reluctant to dispose of them, and may hold special ceremonies at the local shrine when it is time to say goodbye to these "members" of the household. There appear to be three other Friendship Dolls at different locations in Ohio -- so please stay tuned for developments, as our Consulate learns more about these century-old ambassadors from Japan!

Consulate Social Media Highlights

Japanese History and Culture



Recent visitors to the Consulate's [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube channel](#) may have noticed our new video series, featuring some of the 25 places in Japan that have been designated as "World Heritage Sites" by UNESCO, due to their historical and cultural significance.

In addition to a video series spotlighting dioramas of selected sites, our Facebook page has become more interactive, inviting Consulate friends and followers to test their knowledge about these special sites in Japan (example pictured above). Two videos in the series have been posted so far, and we plan to continue posting a new one every few weeks. Please watch our FB page for updates, and chances to test your knowledge about Japan and its World Heritage Sites!

Saginaw Japan Festival Resumes

Outdoors on September 12



This year, the Saginaw Japan Festival is scheduled to take place in Saginaw, MI, from 1:00-4:00pm on Sunday, September 12, at the Japanese Cultural Center, Tea House, and Gardens, with full public health protocols in place. Taking place almost exclusively outdoors, the festival activities include *taiko* and *koto* performances, and demonstrations of *bonsai*, *ikebana*, *origami*, calligraphy, and tea ceremony, along with traditional Japanese children's games and more.

Admission to the festival is free and open to the public. For details/updates, please visit the Japanese Cultural Center's homepage [here](#) or Facebook page [here](#).



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

400 Renaissance Center, Suite 1600 | Detroit, MI 48243 US

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