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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Japan's Foreign Minister Commendation Awarded to JSD Women's Club

On June 29, 2017 it was announced in Tokyo that the Japan Society of Detroit Women's Club is a recipient of the Japan's Foreign Minister Commendation, for more than 25 years of bridging the American and Japanese cultures in southeastern Michigan.

The JSD Women's Club is an all-volunteer organization, formed in 1991. A major purpose of the organization is to deepen understanding of Japan in the local community through various activities introducing aspects of the culture and society. Since that time, the group has been donating their time and talents presenting Japan-themed cultural demonstrations, performances and festivals in schools and community groups. Annual events such as the Japan Festivals in Novi and Saginaw, Girls' Day Festival at the Detroit Institute of Arts and the Bridge to Asia event at the Wayne County Community College are augmented by classroom visits ranging from 2<sup>nd</sup> graders through high school, as well as university, nursing homes, libraries, and other non-profit organizations. These tireless efforts of sharing Japanese culture for 25 years have been admired and greatly appreciated by thousands of local residents.

In recognition of the devotion and significant contributions of the JSD Women's Club to the promotion of friendship between Japan and the United States, Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida conferred his commendation.

The Foreign Minister's Commendation was introduced in 1983 to honor individuals and organizations that have made outstanding efforts and valuable contributions to mutual understanding and friendly relations with Japan.

Mr. Mitsuhiro Wada, Consul General of Japan in Detroit, will present the award on behalf of the Foreign Minister at an upcoming commendation ceremony.