



Minister for Foreign Affairs to Honor Lori Matsukawa

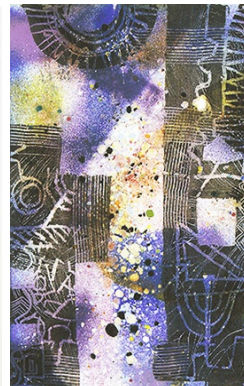
-CGJ, Seattle

On August 18th, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced the recipients of the 2015 Foreign Minister's Commendation, including KING-TV news anchor Lori Matsukawa. Ms. Matsukawa has a long history of active leadership in the Japan-America community and is being recognized for her contributions to deepening relations between the United States and Japan.

[Full Details](#)

Aki Matsuri Returns to Bellevue, September 12-13, 2015

-CGJ, Seattle



Celebrate Fall with the Consulate-General of Japan at the 18th annual Aki Matsuri in Bellevue. This year's festival will feature special guest artists from Japan presenting

beautiful works of folk art incorporating Japanese textiles and *washi* (handmade paper). Please visit our booth to learn more about [interesting places to visit](#) in Japan; study and [Japanese government scholarship](#) information; and working in Japan on the [JET Program](#)! We also invite you to say hello to Paro the therapeutic harp seal robot and to help our haiku tree "grow" by adding your poems to its branches.

[Full Details](#)

Renowned Japanese Dance Troupe: Sankai Juku Perform in Seattle, October 1 - 3, 2015

-CGJ, Seattle



Photo by Laurent Philippe

Renowned Japanese Dance Troupe: Sankai Juku Perform in Seattle, October 1 - 3, 2015

Experience the spellbinding performance of contemporary *butoh* by the world famous Sankai Juku dancers as they present "*Umusuna: Memories Before History*". The North America Premiere will feature three performances at Meany Hall for the Performing Arts, as part of the [University of Washington's World Dance Series](#).

[Supported by the Japan Foundation through the Performing Arts JAPAN program.](#)

[Full Details and Tickets](#)

Sculptural Ikebana - Performance by Master Instructor Tetsunori Kawana, October 3, 2015

-CGJ, Seattle



Master instructor [Tetsunori Kawana](#) of the *Sogetsu* School of *ikebana* literally expands traditional boundaries by switching his work surface from tabletop to stage, as flower arranging transforms into performance art. Catch this first US public performance at the Kirkland Performance Center. Hosted by [Ikebana Power](#) with support from the Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle.

[Full Details and Tickets](#)

Announcement: 2015 Japanese-Language Proficiency Test in the United States will be on December 6.

-CGJ, Seattle

The Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) provides an international standard for evaluating the proficiency levels of non-native learners of Japanese. The JLPT is administered in the United States by the [American Association of Teachers of Japanese](#), with support from the [Japan Foundation](#), and is held on the first Sunday in December at 15 testing sites across the US, including the University of Washington Seattle campus.

[Full Details](#)

The Opening Ceremony of MRJ Seattle Engineering Center

-CGJ, Seattle

On August 3rd, a ceremony was held to mark the official launch of operations of Mitsubishi Aircraft Corporation's new Seattle Engineering Center. At the ceremony, Washington State Governor Jay Inslee joined several prominent politicians and guests to celebrate and offer support for the opening of the facility.

[Full Details](#)

JET Pre-Departure Orientation and Sendoff Reception

-CGJ, Seattle

On July 24th, a Pre-Departure Orientation and Sendoff Reception were held for 64 participants at the Consul General's Official Residence. The Consulate is expecting great success for all those on the program.

[Full Details](#)

The Japanese Agricultural Training Program (JATP) 50th Anniversary Ceremony

-CGJ, Seattle

On July 15th, in Moses Lake, Washington, the Japanese Agricultural Training Program (JATP) 50th anniversary ceremony was held at Big Bend Community College (BBCC). Including alumni from its 50-year history, 150 attendees joined to reflect on past programs and contemplate the next 50 years.

[Full Details](#)

40th Annual Seattle Cherry Blossom & Japanese Cultural Festival

-CGJ, Seattle

The 40th Annual Seattle Cherry Blossom & Japanese Cultural Festival was held from Friday, April 24 to Sunday, April 26 at the Seattle Center. Timed to coincide with the festival, the Japan Foundation's traveling exhibit "Handcrafted Form-Traditions and Techniques" was also shown to the enjoyment of many visitors.

[Full Details](#)

KAKEHASHI Project Participant Welcome Reception

-CGJ, Seattle

On March 20th, a welcome reception was held for the approximately 320 KAKEHASHI Project participants that visited Seattle from Japan. Senator Fraser, who was in attendance, remarked that she anticipated that the participants would act as bridges to improve friendship and peace between the two countries.

[Full Details](#)

G7 Foreign Minister's Meeting

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs



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The G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting was held in Lubeck, Germany on Tuesday, April 14 and Wednesday, April 15. The meeting was attended by the Foreign Ministers of the G7 countries and the High Representative of the EU. Mr. Fumio Kishida, Minister for Foreign Affairs, attended from Japan. After the meeting, the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting Communiqué, the G7 Foreign Ministers' Declaration on Maritime Security, "Beyond Ebola: a G7 agenda to help prevent future crises and enhance security in Africa" and the G7 Statement on Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, respectively, were released.

[Full Details](#)

U.S.-Japan Summit Meeting

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs



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On April 28, commencing at 9:50 a.m. for approximately two hours during his official visit to Washington D.C., Prime Minister Shinzo Abe held a Japan-U.S. Summit Meeting with the Honorable Barack H. Obama, President of the United States of America. Below is the overview. As a result of this meeting, the following documents were issued: (1) The Japan-U.S. Joint Vision Statement, (2) The Japan-U.S. Joint Statement on the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), and (3) FACT SHEET: Japan-U.S. Cooperation for a More Prosperous and Stable World.

[Full Details](#)

G7 Summit 2015 in Schloss Elmau

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs



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On June 7 and 8, the G7 Summit 2015 was held in Schloss Elmau, Germany. The following documents were released: Leaders' Declaration G7 Summit and Annex to the Leaders' Declaration G7 Summit. Chancellor Angela Merkel of the Federal Republic of Germany; Prime Minister Matteo Renzi of the Republic of Italy; Prime Minister Stephen Harper of Canada; President François Hollande of the French Republic; President Barack Obama of the United States of America; Prime Minister David Cameron of the United Kingdom; President Donald Tusk of the European Council; President Jean-Claude Juncker of the European Commission; and Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan participated in the Summit.

[Full Details](#)