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Greetings from the Consul General of Japan September 2015

Just as the leaves at Bellevue College turn red and gold, so too has the Aki Matsuri become a symbol of the arrival of fall in the Pacific Northwest. Now in its 18th year, this festival has truly established itself as a highly anticipated tradition of promoting and celebrating Japanese culture.

Aki Matsuri welcomes the community to explore the sights, sounds, and flavors of Japan through a vast array of educational and engaging activities. This year special attention is given to folk crafts, which showcase Japanese textiles and handmade paper in order to create works of art that combine beauty and function.

The Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle is honored to be part of the Aki Matsuri. I express my sincere appreciation to the Eastside Nihon Matsuri Association and all those whose dedication and hard work make this event a continued success. I hope that all of this year's attendees enjoy the warm spirit of friendship and community created by the festival.



Masahiro Omura

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Consul General of Japan