



# Consulate General of Japan in Seattle

在シアトル日本国総領事館

## Greetings from Masahiro Omura

Consul General of Japan

April 24-26, 2015

The 2015 Festival celebrates 40 years of promoting Japan in the Pacific Northwest through an array of intriguing performances, educational programming, and engaging activities. The Consulate General of Japan is pleased to present the Japan Foundation traveling exhibit, “Handcrafted Form – Traditions and Techniques”. Visitors will be able to see handcrafted items that originated in the necessities of daily life in ancient times and live on through techniques handed down for generations. Intricately crafted pieces will showcase items made from a variety of materials including clay, textiles, metal, lacquer, and glass.

The Consulate General of Japan in Seattle is proud to be one of the co-organizers of the Seattle Cherry Blossom & Japanese Cultural Festival. We are also pleased to be one of the co-organizers of the 32<sup>nd</sup> Washington State Japanese Speech and Skit Contest and hope that participants and spectators will be inspired by the presentations to study Japanese with renewed enthusiasm!

Furthermore, I encourage you to visit our Consulate booth, to find out more about significant Japanese destinations and traditions recently designated by UNESCO as World Heritage Sites and Intangible Cultural Heritages. Test your knowledge of Japan with the “Consulate Challenge” quiz and learn about study and work opportunities in Japan, samurai armor, and more!

In closing, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the dedication and hard work of all the organizations and individuals without whom the Seattle Cherry Blossom and Japanese Cultural Festival would not be such a huge success.



Masahiro Omura

Consul General of Japan

Honorary Co-chair of the Seattle Cherry Blossom & Japanese Cultural Festival Committee