Japan America Society of Southern California’s

103rd Anniversary Dinner & Gala Celebration

Friday, June 15, 2012

Disneyland® Hotel
Anaheim, California

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At Toyota, we are driven by our commitment to make a difference in our community. To arrive at our goal, the directions are clear: Preserve our environment and revitalize our lands; Support our teachers so they can equip tomorrow’s leaders; Ensure the safety of all those around us. And reach out to our neighbors to help them meet their needs.

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Japan America Society of Southern California’s
103rd Anniversary Dinner & Gala Celebration

Evening Program

Los Angeles Police Emerald Society Pipes and Drums

Welcome
Douglas G. Erber, President, Japan America Society of Southern California

Co-Mistress of Ceremonies
Mari Payton

Co-Master of Ceremonies
Adam Yamaguchi

Japan America Society Introduction Video

Opening Remarks
Nancy Woo Hiromoto, Chairman, Japan America Society of Southern California

Greeting
The Honorable Jun Niimi, Consul General of Japan in Los Angeles

Video Greeting
Ambassador John V. Roos, Embassy of the United States of America, Tokyo, Japan
Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki, Embassy of Japan in the United States of America

Dinner Served

Dinner Entertainment
Yuko Maruyama

Special Musical Performance
Daniel Ho

*Kokusai Shimin Sho “International Citizens Award”*
Terry S. Hara, Co-Chair, 103rd Anniversary Dinner
Tammie Kanda, Co-Chair, 103rd Anniversary Dinner

Award Presentation to Operation Tomodachi
General Shigeru Iwasaki, Chief of Staff, Joint Staff, Japan Self-Defense Forces
Admiral Patrick M. Walsh, 59th Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet (Ret.)

Award Presentation to Disneyland® Resort

2012 LEXUS Opportunity Drawing
Tammie Kanda, Corporate Communications, Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.

Closing
103rd Anniversary Dinner & Gala Celebration

Honoring

Disneyland®

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and

Don’t give up!

Don’t give up!
Located on approximately 500 acres in Anaheim, California, the Disneyland Resort features two spectacular theme parks – Disneyland (the original Disney theme park) and Disney California Adventure park – plus the Downtown Disney District composed of unique dining, entertainment and shopping experiences.

The Resort’s three hotels are the 948-room Disney’s Grand Californian Hotel & Spa, the 969-room Disneyland Hotel and the 481-room Disney’s Paradise Pier Hotel.

With 23,000 Cast Members, the Disneyland Resort is Orange County’s largest employer and generates $4.7 billion for the Southern California economy. The Resort has welcomed more than 600 million guests since opening on July 17, 1955.

For detailed information about the Disneyland Resort, please visit www.disneyland.com.
Accepting the award on behalf of U.S. Military Personnel is Admiral Patrick M. Walsh, 59th Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet (Ret.)

Patrick M. Walsh is recently retired as the 59th Commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet. He previously served as the Vice Chief of Naval Operations and as Commander of the U.S. Naval Forces Central Command and Commander, U.S. 5th Fleet, from 2005-2007.

Last year, Walsh served as commander of the Joint Support Force that carried out Operation Tomodachi following the March 11 earthquake and tsunami that devastated the Pacific Coast of Tohoku, Japan. U.S. military forces, with over 20,000 personnel, worked side by side with the Japan Self-Defense Forces and U.S. and Japanese government officials to provide support to the people affected by the disaster.

Raised in Dallas, Walsh graduated from Jesuit Preparatory and received both the Distinguished Graduate and Distinguished Alumnus awards. Following graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1977, Walsh was a carrier-based, naval aviator. He was a pilot with the Navy Flight Demonstration Squadron – the Blue Angels, flew missions in combat as a strike leader in the first Gulf War, and held command at the squadron and air wing level. Walsh was the Chairman, Department of Leadership, Ethics & Law at the U.S. Naval Academy and was a White House Fellow. He earned an M.A. in Law and Diplomacy as well as PhD degrees at Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University. In March 2012, he retired from the Navy and settled in Dallas with his wife Andy, daughter Jennifer, and son Matthew.

Accepting the award on behalf of Japan Self-Defense Forces Personnel is General Shigeru Iwasaki, Chief of Staff, Joint Staff, Japan Self-Defense Forces (invited).

In February 2012, General Shigeru Iwasaki was promoted to Chief of Staff, Japan Self-Defense Forces, where he supervises the operations of the Ground Self-Defense Force, the Maritime Self-Defense Force and the Air Self-Defense Force under the control and supervision of the Minister of Defense. Prior to his promotion, and during Operation Tomodachi, General Iwasaki served as Chief of Staff of the Air Self-Defense Force.

Operation Tomodachi

Operation Tomodachi, named for the Japanese word for “friendship,” was launched after the devastating Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami on March 11, 2011. United States Forces and Japan Self-Defense Forces worked closely together to accomplish one of the world’s most successful bilateral military responses to provide critical humanitarian relief and assistance after a major disaster. The operation, which started March 12, 2011 and lasted until May 4, 2011, involved over 107,000 Japan Self-Defense Forces personnel and over 20,000 U.S. service members, 189 aircraft and 24 naval ships, including the USS Ronald Reagan aircraft carrier.
Kokusai Shimin Sho
“International Citizens Award”

The perpetual Kokusai Shimin Sho “International Citizens Award” is presented each year at the Japan America Society of Southern California’s Anniversary Dinner & Gala Celebrations. The Award honors and recognizes “individuals, businesses or organizations that have substantively and significantly enhanced the Japan - United States relationship and that are committed to the strengthening of bonds between the two nations.” Past honorees include:

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Kitaro, Grammy and Golden Globe Award Winning Composer and Musician
Tommy Lasorda, Advisor to the Chairman, Los Angeles Dodgers
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Welcome

On behalf of the board of directors, board of governors, staff and volunteers of the Japan America Society of Southern California, we warmly welcome you to our 103rd Anniversary Dinner & Gala Celebration. In the Society’s long and rich history, tonight marks the second time we have held our Anniversary Dinner in Orange County. We could not have accomplished this without the generosity of all our sponsors and supporters, especially the Disneyland Resort and our LEXUS Opportunity Drawing Sponsor, Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. Thank you for making this evening possible.

This past year has been one of the Society’s most successful to date, as well as one of the busiest. It was largely dominated by the March 11, 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake. The events on this date and the immediate actions the Society took to serve in a leadership role as a trusted information source, and the creation of our 2011 Japan Relief Fund required the full focus of our board, staff, volunteers, members and donors. Thanks to your unprecedented and heartfelt support, we have surpassed $1.4 million in funds raised, an amount recognized as one of the most successful U.S.-based relief fundraising efforts for Japan. Under the diligent management of our board of directors, the 2011 Japan Relief Fund helped provide immediate humanitarian relief and will continue to assist with long-term recovery in the devastated areas of Tohoku.

The 103rd Anniversary Dinner & Gala’s theme, “Friends Helping Friends,” is personified by tonight’s honorees. We are pleased to honor the Disneyland Resort with the Society’s Kokusai Shimin Sho “International Citizens Award,” which will pay tribute to the Disneyland Resort for its more than 50 years of help in strengthening the relationship between Japan and the United States through the world’s most beloved theme parks. Disneyland Resort also is being recognized for Tokyo Disney Resort’s immediate response after the March 11, 2011 earthquake, which initially stranded 69,000 people at Tokyo Disneyland and Tokyo DisneySea. Disney employees provided humanitarian aid in the form of blankets, food and water, heaters and raincoats for visitors, who were required to remain in the park due to transportation challenges caused by the earthquake.

We will also honor Operation Tomodachi, the joint humanitarian relief effort by U.S. Forces and Japan Self Defense Forces after the March 11, 2011 earthquake and tsunami. We have invited Admiral Patrick M. Walsh, commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet (Ret.), and General Shigeru Iwasaki, chief of staff, Japan Self-Defense Forces, to accept our Kokusai Shimin Sho International Citizens Award on behalf of the 20,000 American service personnel and the 107,000 Japanese service personnel who, working closely together, made Operation Tomodachi a success.

We thank the Anniversary Dinner Committee and the Society’s staff, who began working on this evening’s program over a year ago. We also thank you for your participation tonight, which has allowed us to reach the goals set by the Committee. Your generous contributions and support are imperative for the Society to continue its important work of building relationships between Japanese and Americans.

Please enjoy the evening!
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Tammie Kanda, Corporate Communications, Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc.

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and our special thanks to all the volunteers!
Mari Payton loves everything about San Diego, the people, the weather and its beaches. She feels fortunate to be bringing San Diegans the news every day.

Her coverage of the 2007 Firestorm earned her an Emmy Award. She was also nominated for an Emmy in 2010 for her investigative piece "Prescription For Pot." She has reported breaking news live on the TODAY show, MSNBC, and other NBC stations across the country.

Before returning home to Southern California, she worked at WLBT, the NBC affiliate in Jackson, Mississippi. While at WLBT, she was sent to the Mississippi Gulf Coast, where she rode out the storm and covered the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. She also won an Associated Press award for a piece on the obesity epidemic in the state of Mississippi. Mari graduated magna cum laude from the University of Southern California with a double major in Broadcast Journalism and Political Science.

She was a Renaissance Scholar and graduated from the Annenberg School for Communication. While there, she worked as an anchor/reporter for Annenberg TV News, USC’s live half hour nightly newscast. Mari has studied international media in London, Paris, Prague, and Geneva. She also studied in Washington, D.C. and interned on Capitol Hill for Senator Dianne Feinstein. Mari is a member of the Asian American Journalists Association.

Mari is the anchor of NBC 7 San Diego’s Noon Newscast, weekdays from 12-12:30pm.
Adam Yamaguchi is the executive producer and a correspondent for Current TV’s no-limits documentary series, “Vanguard.”

While with Current TV, Adam has reported on some of the most important issues affecting the world today, with investigations that have taken him around the world. Adam’s reports include the rise of robotics in Japan, the decline of a manufacturing empire in Saipan, the incredible rise of modern China and Pakistan’s ongoing attempts to deal with terrorists in the nation’s lawless border regions. Adam has reported extensively on the environment, from atop Alaska’s glaciers, to Bangladesh, China, Madagascar and in Greenland.

In 2010, he embedded with an elite anti-drug task force in California and tracked the growing business done by Mexican drug trafficking organizations in California and the U.S.

Prior to his work with “Vanguard,” Adam worked at Fox Sports, CNN and TV Asahi Japan, where he covered major national and international news including the 2000 Presidential election, the September 11th attacks and the war in Iraq. Adam began his journalism career at the University of California, Los Angeles, where he served as the editor-in-chief of “The Daily Bruin.”
Pianist-composer-arranger Yuko Maruyama is from Tokyo, Japan. She graduated from the University of Southern California with a master's degree in Jazz Studies. She was named the “Outstanding Graduate” by the department and her original composition “Twilight” was featured in Jazz at USC, the first CD produced by the department. As a classical pianist, she was a first-prize winner in the Piano Teacher’s Association of America's Duo Piano Competition in San Diego. She works professionally as a performing and recording artist in the musical styles of classical, jazz, fusion, salsa, pop, R & B, and Latin jazz.

Yuko Maruyama’s acclaimed CD and audiophile DVD recording, entitled In Tone Nation, was the first recording to feature Kawai Piano’s flagship instrument, the Shigeru Kawai grand piano. Yuko’s “In Tone Nation Tour” headlined at several of the most prestigious jazz clubs of the Pacific Coast including, Yoshi’s in Oakland, Jazz Alley in Seattle, Catalina's in Los Angeles and Dizzy’s in San Diego. She was also the featured artist on the popular “The Lounge” radio program on KPBS.

Yuko has been the featured performer at several prestigious engagements including the California Welcome Receptions for Consul General and Madame Masaharu Kohno; for the former Japanese Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi; for the International Citizens Award Event for Mr. Yoshikazu Hanawa, Chairman and CEO of The Nissan Motor Co., Ltd. and at numerous benefit events. She is also active in scoring original soundtracks for multimedia and television productions.

Yuko is currently at work composing and arranging the music for her new CD and DVD project, Piano Bento, an album exploring both jazz and classical styles with inventive instrumentation and progressive interpretations.

www.yukomaruyama.com
Daniel Ho has a simple philosophy of presenting music with sincerity and artistry. His dedication has culminated in six consecutive GRAMMY Awards, two of which, 'ikenæ and Huana Ke Aloha, were collaborations with his childhood friend, Tia Carrere. In 2010, his solo 'ukulele CD, Polani (Pure), was the first 'ukulele album in music history to receive a GRAMMY nomination. The following year, Daniel's solo piano CD, E Kahe Malie (Flowing Gently), received a GRAMMY nomination for Best Pop Instrumental Album.

A Honolulu native, Daniel started music lessons at an early age and spent his teenage years orchestrating big band arrangements. Under the mentorship of Ray Wessinger, he learned everything he could to secure a viable career built around his passion. He is a prodigy of the Grove School of Music, where he excelled in composition and film scoring. He began his professional career as the leader and keyboardist of the acclaimed '90s contemporary jazz band, Kilauea.

Currently, Daniel performs original songs in English and Hawaiian that feature his versatility on 'ukulele, slack key guitar, piano, and vocals. As an independent record company owner, he specializes in Hawaiian and acoustic-themed music. The label's eighty-plus albums include projects with prominent musicians from Hawai‘i. Ever learning and evolving, Daniel continues to pursue excellence in composition, performance, audio engineering, and production.

Daniel plays YAMAHA guitars and KoAloha ukuleles.

www.danielho.com
The Los Angeles Police Emerald Society Pipes and Drums is an independent Emerald Society chapter and a member of the National Conference of Law Enforcement Emerald Societies.

The Band consists of members who are active, former, or retired law enforcement officers from law enforcement agencies throughout the Southern California area. Individuals with no prior law enforcement background are also a vital part of the Band; the only condition is that they have a sincere desire to support the law enforcement community.

The Band is a non-profit organization and all Band members volunteer their time. They are the only Police Emerald Society Pipe Band on the west coast of the United States.

The Band respectfully plays at services, memorials, and tributes for police officers, firefighters, and military personnel who have made the ultimate sacrifice. They support law enforcement, firefighters, and the military by playing at any event that will serve the respective agency or organization. Prior events at which LAPES have played include dedications to new facilities, retirements, banquets, picnics, graduation ceremonies, valor award ceremonies, welcome home celebrations for military personnel, and funerals for retired or former law enforcement, firefighters, or military. They also support and serve the community by playing at fairs, parades, school events, and Highland Games.
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A majority of the Japan America Society's operating revenue is derived by fundraising events like tonight's 103rd Anniversary Dinner, as well as the generous contributions made by our 2,000 Individual Members and 150 Corporate Members. We are proud to recognize our Corporate Members on this page. Thank you!

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345 South Figueroa Street, Suite M-1
Los Angeles, California 90071

Dear Friends:

It gives me great pleasure to extend my warmest greetings to all who have gathered for the Japan America Society of Southern California’s 103rd Anniversary Dinner and Gala Celebration.

Since its inception, the Japan America Society of Southern California has dedicated itself to building a stronger relationship between the United States and Japan. Through its efforts to increase the understanding of Japanese culture in our Nation, they have positively affected the lives of many individuals. The Japan America Society of Southern California’s commitment to improving the economic, cultural, and governmental ties between the people of two countries is truly admirable.

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize tonight’s distinguished honorees: The Disneyland Resort, recipient of the Kokusai Shimin Sho “International Citizens Award” and the Japan Self-Defense Forces and the U.S. Forces of OPERATION TOMADOCHI, for their efforts to aid the victims of the March 11, 2011 earthquake and tsunami. Each of these honorees’ dedication to the mission of the Japan American Society of Southern California is praiseworthy.

As your United States Senator representing the State of California, I commend the Japan America Society of Southern California tonight’s honorees for their extraordinary contributions. Please accept my best wishes for a most memorable and enjoyable event.

With warmest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator
Consulate General of Japan
350 South Grand Avenue, Suite 1700
Los Angeles, California 90071
Telephone (213) 617-6700

It gives me great pleasure to offer these words of greeting to the Japan America Society of Southern California on the occasion of its 103rd anniversary. Congratulations!

For over a century, the JASSC has been among the premier bridge-building organizations that strengthens the friendship between Japan and the United States through business, culture, education, and community. The Society’s membership testifies to the powerful impact made by personal relationships, which causes individuals to lend their skills and talents to fostering the larger relationship between our two great countries.

We celebrate together in prosperous times and stand united in difficulties. This year’s recognition of the The Disneyland Resort as well as the joint personnel of Operation Tomodachi demonstrates our friendship through thick and thin. Please allow me to congratulate The Disneyland Resort, this year’s Kokusai Shimin Sho “International Citizens Award” recipient, for building the Japan – U.S. relationship through its theme parks. And, on behalf of the people of Japan, let me salute and express my heartfelt gratitude to the men and women of the United States Forces and the Japan Self Defense Forces for their assistance after last year’s devastating earthquake and tsunami.

Governments alone cannot do the work of relationship building. We rely on individual goodwill and grassroots efforts of local organizations, like the Japan America Society of Southern California, to propel us forward. Let us, therefore, continue working together in friendship and mutual respect towards an ever stronger bond between Japan and the United States.

Sincerely,

Jun Niimi
Consul General of Japan
June 15, 2012

Japan America Society of Southern California
345 South Figueroa Street, Suite M-1
Los Angeles, CA 90071-1004

Dear Friends:

Best wishes to you, your colleagues, and honored guests as you celebrate the Japan America Society’s 103rd Anniversary Dinner & Gala highlighting over a century of service in building educational, social, and economic relations between the United States and Japan.

Congratulations also to tonight’s honorees, The Disneyland Resort, recipient of the prestigious Kokusai Shimin Sho “International Citizens Award,” and Admiral Patrick M. Walsh, Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet and General Shigeru Iwasaki, Chief of Staff, J.S.D.F. for their organization of the joint military humanitarian operation which provided relief for victims of the March 11, 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake.

May God Bless you all with many more years of health, happiness and continued success in building relations between our two nations.

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Marsh congratulates the Disneyland Resort, the Japanese Self Defense Forces, and the U.S. Forces of Operation Tomodachi. We salute your performance as leaders in our world.

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Hitachi is a proud supporter of the Japan America Society and its 103rd Anniversary Celebration. We salute JAS, the Disneyland Resort and Operation Tomodachi for helping to make this world a better place through mutual respect and understanding.
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to

Japan America Society of Southern California
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Monday, September 24, 2012

12:00pm Shotgun Start
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Monday, September 24, 2012

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