

NEWS RELEASE



— 120 years in Chicago —



Consulate-General
of Japan in Chicago

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Order of the Rising Sun Conferred upon Two Individuals in Chicago for Outstanding Contribution to Japan-US Relations

[April 29, 2018] Today, the Government of Japan announced the 140 foreign recipients of the 2018 Spring Decoration, which is conferred by the Emperor of Japan.

From Chicago, two individuals have been recognized for their outstanding contribution to the Japan-US relationship. The recipients include:

- **Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette for Dr. Phyllis Lyons**, Professor Emeritus, Northwestern University; Former Associate Professor, Department of Asian Languages and Cultures, Northwestern University.

Dr. Lyons has played a vital role in establishing and expanding the Japanese Studies program and the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures at Northwestern University. She has furthered understanding of Japan in the U.S. through the advancement of Japanese language education, Japanese studies and cultural exchange between the two countries.

- **Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette for Mr. William Yoshino**, Former Midwest Director, Japanese American Citizens League.

Mr. Yoshino has dedicated himself to protecting and promoting Japanese American and Asian American civil and human rights and has been instrumental in improving the public view of Japanese Americans. He has worked to bring Japanese American history to a wider audience through workshops and educational materials, and he has organized events that foster exchange among Japanese Americans and Japanese expatriates.

The remarkable achievements of each recipient represent the diversity and depth of the relations between Japan and the United States.

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