

NEWS RELEASE



**Consulate-General
of Japan in Chicago**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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General Affairs

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Japanese Decoration Conferred upon Ms. Carol Grant for her Outstanding Contribution to Japan-U.S. Relations

On November 3rd, 2024, the Government of Japan announced 87 foreign recipients of the 2024 Fall Decoration, which is conferred by His Majesty the Emperor of Japan.

Within the Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago's jurisdiction, **Ms. Carol Grant, Former Honorary Consul of Japan in Des Moines, Iowa** has been selected as a recipient of the **Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Rosette** for her contribution in promoting exchanges and friendship between the United States and Japan.

In recognition of Iowa's political and economic importance, and to further develop Japan-Iowa relations, the Japanese government decided to establish the position of Honorary Consul in Iowa's capital of Des Moines in February 2018. Ms. Carol Grant was appointed as the first Honorary Consul in Des Moines, and over a six year period from February 2018 to March 2024, she worked diligently as a representative of the Japanese government and continuously strengthened relations between Japan and Iowa.

As Honorary Consul, Ms. Grant increased Japan's presence in Iowa by participating in various events and receptions hosted by the Iowa State Government, Japan-related organizations, the local community, and Honorary Consuls of other countries within Des Moines. She also provided consular support to Japanese-American business persons and Japanese residents within the state.

Before being appointed as the first Honorary Consul of Des Moines, Ms. Grant made significant contributions to the development of Iowa and Yamanashi Prefecture's Sister State Relationship as the Executive Director of Iowa Sister States. Along with leading successful commemorative events such as the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the relationship in 2010, and the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the Gift of the Japan-U.S. Friendship Cherry Blossoms in 2012, she was also actively involved in youth exchanges between Iowa and Yamanashi and contributed to further deepening friendly relations between the two states.

The Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago is honored to celebrate Ms. Grant's accomplishments, which represent the diversity and depth of the relations between Japan and the United States.

For more information, please contact the Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago at 312-280-0400.

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