

WHAT: "Love to Nippon 2014" ("Love to Japan 2014") Memorial Event to

Commemorate Third Anniversary of Japan's Worst Natural Disaster -

the "3.11" Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami.

**WHERE:** Ronald F. Deaton Civic Auditorium

Los Angeles Police Department Headquarters 100 W. First Street, Los Angeles, California

WHEN: 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM, Saturday, MARCH 8, 2014

1:00 pm Outdoor booths and Preparedness Demonstrations

1:30 pm Prayers including flower and incense offerings

2:00 pm Special service prayer by local dignitary

3:00 pm Memorial program

**WHY:** To pay tribute via prayer to loved ones lost and those still suffering

from the **March 11, 2011** Earthquake and Tsunami in Japan and raise awareness of disaster preparedness via a panel discussion. **Love to Nippon Project** aims to establish "**3.11**" (**March 11**<sup>th</sup>) as an **official** 

disaster preparedness day for all of Southern California.

**WHO:** Participants include: Nikkei Interfaith Fellowship Group of Little Tokyo;

Los Angeles Buddhist Temple Federation; L.A. Daiku; Grateful Crane Ensemble; Holiness Youth Choir; special delegation from Fukushima Prefecture of Japan; LA County Fire Department's Battalion Chief and first responder in Japan; Larry Collins, LA County Fire Department

Assistant BC David Stone and Red Cross.

Presented by Japan America Society of Southern California (JASSC), Nanka Fukushima Kenjinkai, Japan and America Women Club; Nichi

Bei Fujin Kai (NBFK) and Love to Nippon Project

**Admission:** FREE

**REGISTRATION:** Seating is limited. Recommended RSVP at <a href="https://www.jas-socal.org">www.jas-socal.org</a>.

**WEBSITE:** www.lovetonippon.com

www.facebook.com/LoveToNippon

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## "LOVE TO NIPPON 2014" 3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Memorial Event to commemorate Japan's Worst Natural Disaster-the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami

Event Takes Place on Saturday March 8th 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM at LAPD Headquarters

Los Angeles – Following the tremendous success of the previous year's memorial event, *Love to Nippon 2014* announces that the 3<sup>rd</sup> anniversary memorial event to remember the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami will take place on **Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>** at **1:00 pm** at the Los Angeles Police Department Headquarters' Ronald F. Deaton Civic Auditorium, located at 100 W. First Street, Los Angeles, California.

Building on the overwhelming response to last year's *Love to Nippon 2013* event, this year's event is again community-wide tribute to loved ones lost and those still suffering from the March 11, 2011 catastrophe. Copresented by Japan America Society of Southern California (JASSC), Japan America Women Club; Nichi Bei Fujin Kai (NBFK), Nanka Fukushima Kenjinkai and *Love to Nippon Project* (Love to "Japan" Project), this year's commemorative program includes: interfaith service prayers, musical tributes by **Grateful Crane Ensemble, LA Daiku, the Holiness Youth Choir from local community**, Video Music Presentation by Kitakami Elementary School, Miyagi, Japan.

Love to Nippon 2014 guest presenters include: a delegation from Fukushima Prefecture, Japan, Los Angeles County Fire Department Battalion Chief and first responder in Japan; Larry Collins and Assistant BC David Stone will lead a panel discussion with the Fukushima delegation. There will be a special presentation from Professor Yasuo Goto of Fukushima University, Fukushima community leaders, a journalist, and a reading a letter from Governor of Fukushima Prefecture, Yuhei Sato. Guest speakers will share how people can continue to help victims rebuild their lives and what Los Angeles is doing to prepare for its own potential earthquake and tsunami. Outdoor booths and displays will raise awareness of disaster preparedness, offering brochures and other materials. This is part of the Love to Nippon Project's efforts to prepare the Southern Californian community for future natural disasters through sharing information and education.

## Program

Outdoor booths will open at 1:00 pm, while General Service prayers including flower and incense offerings will begin at 1:30 p.m., and a Special Service prayer by a local dignitary will start at 2:00 p.m. The *Love to Nippon 2014* Memorial Program will begin at 3:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. **Admission is free**, but seating is limited and registrations are recommended. *Love to Nippon 2014* attendees are encouraged to bring flowers in loving remembrance of family and friends lost, and in support of those still affected by Japan's worst natural disaster.

## About Love to Nippon Project

Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami survivor, Masako Unoura, founded the **Love to Nippon Project** in 2011. Unoura resides in Los Angeles and she frequently visits her hometown of Ofunato, Iwate Prefecture. Unoura was in Kesennuma, Miyagi Prefecture when the earthquake and tsunami struck. Together with the full support of Doug Erber, president of JASSC, Unoura created the Love to Nippon Project with the heartfelt goal of commemorating the disaster each year for ten years. Love to Nippon Project aims to have "*3.11*" (March 11<sup>th</sup>) designated as an official disaster preparedness day in Los Angeles.

For more information, please contact Masako Unoura, Founder of *Love to Nippon Project* by email at unoura@ttta.com or call (310)-484-1800.