9th Rainbow for Japan Kids

“Hawaii-Tōhoku TOMODACHI Summit”
to be held on Saturday, July 25, 2015

Press Release

The Rainbow for Japan Kids (RFJK) Project will hold the Hawaii-Tōhoku TOMODACHI Summit on July 25, 2015, from 1:00 pm to 3:50 pm. The Summit will host 18 middle school students from Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima Prefectures in the Tohoku region, and about 12 Hawaii students.

Location: University of Hawaii
Department of Learning Design and Technology, Wist Hall

Located on the corner of University Ave. and Metcalf St. 1776 University Ave., Honolulu, HI 96822
Map: http://manoa.hawaii.edu/commuter/maps.html

Access to Wist Hall parking is very limited. Please use available street parking on Metcalf Street, University Ave. and the Dole street. Fees may apply. Or, please use lower campus guest parking. Pay $6 at kiosk on entry.

Program

12:30 pm - Door open
1:00 pm - Opening ceremony
1:30 pm - Summit sessions
3:00 pm - Closing ceremony
3:15 pm - Pupu party with Taiko performance
3:50 pm - End of event

Admission: Free (Walk in welcome)

Presentation theme & team

(4 Hawaii kids groups, 8 Japan kids groups)
- Art, Culture and Connections
  (Taiko Center of the Pacific / Miyako / Oshika)
- Planets and Environment
  (Polynesian Voyaging Society / Minamisanriku / Iwaki)
- Youth Voices
  (Camp Kokua&Hoala School / Sendai / Futaba)
- Service Learning and Community
  (KCC International Cafe / Onagawa / Otsuchi)

Contact:
Ryozo Sakai, President
Hawaii Senior Life Enrichment Association
Hiromi Okada, Chairperson
Nadeshiko Club
Email: info@rainbowforjapankids.com
Phone (808) 227-1321 (Attn: Hiromi Okada)
Website: www.en.rainbowforjapankids.com
P.O. Box 8232, Honolulu, HI 96830

At the Hawaii-Tōhoku TOMODACHI Summit, about 30 young people will share their dreams about how to build sustainable societies and economies, and encourage youth to help rebuild their hometowns. The Summit organizers hope to foster young people’s appreciation of their hometowns’ strengths, develop bold visions for a sustainable future, promote new friendships far beyond their borders, and rebuild shattered communities. In the spirit of kizuna (spirit of bonding), student participants will form life-long bonds that will
help each other face an uncertain future with renewed vision, confidence, and conviction. A key to rebuilding Tohoku is enabling today’s youth to actively contribute to their own future and well-being.

The Summit is part of the “Rainbow for Japan Kids (RFJK) project, a ten-day program from July 19 to July 28, 2015 that includes team building, fun activities, and planning for the future. This will be the 9th program held in Hawaii. Sponsors include Hawaii Senior Life Enrichment Association NPO, Bikki Organization Japan, TOMODACHI Initiative, The Japan Foundation, and other partners. For more information, please see our website www.en.rainbowforjapankids.com.

If you would like to cover this event on Saturday, July 25, please RSVP to Ms. Hiromi Okada (info@rainbowforjapankids.com) before July 20 with your (1) name, (2) affiliation, and (3) contact information (phone number & email address). ALOHA!

Main Sponsors

**TOMODACHI Initiative**

The TOMODACHI Initiative invests in the next generation of Japanese and Americans in ways that strengthen ties and deepen the friendship between the United States and Japan over the long term. We seek to foster a “TOMODACHI Generation” of young American and Japanese leaders who are committed to and engaged in strengthening U.S.-Japan relations, appreciate each other’s countries and cultures, and possess the global skills and mindsets needed to contribute to and thrive in a more cooperative, prosperous, and secure world. TOMODACHI is led by the U.S.-Japan Council and the U.S. Embassy Tokyo, and is supported by the Government of Japan, corporations, organizations and individuals from the United States and Japan. Visit www.tomodachi.org for more information.

**The Japan Foundation**

The Japan Foundation is Japan’s only institution dedicated to carrying out comprehensive international cultural exchange programs throughout the world.

With the objective of deepening mutual understanding between the people of Japan and other countries/regions, our various activities and information services create opportunities for people-to-people interactions.

The Japan Foundation was established in October 1972 as a special legal entity supervised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs with the objective of promoting international cultural exchange through a comprehensive range of programs in all regions of the world. In October 2003, it was reorganized as an independent administrative institution.

Based on a government endowment of 78 billion yen, the activities of the Japan Foundation are financed by annual government subsidies, investment revenue, and donations from the private sector. Visit www.jpf.go.jp/e for more information.

**Hawaii Senior Life Enrichment Association (HISLEA)**

Hawaii Senior Life Enrichment Association (HISLEA) was established on September 26, 2007. The main objective of HISLEA is to spiritually and physically enrich the lives of, and to promote and encourage an active lifestyle for, seniors from Japan who visit and stay in Hawaii in addition to local active seniors residing in Hawaii.

Since established as a non-profit organization under 501 (c) (3), HISLEA has been participating in many charity projects. Website: www.hawaiiseniorlife.org

**Nadeshiko Club**

Nadeshiko Club is a non-profit organization to support the survivors from the Tohoku tsunami/earthquake disaster. The club was established in September 2011 under an affiliation with HISLEA. Since the establishment of the club, they have sent needed relief supplies by collecting donations from the numerous events that we held locally.

Recently, because of the long term recovery that Tohoku is experiencing, Nadeshiko Club has been focusing on support of the mental and financial needs of surviving women and the elderly. They are doing this by expanding retail outlets of “Teshigoto Hin”, which means products hand-crafted by those survivors.

Nadeshiko Club is actively involved in the actual program management in collaboration with Rainbow for Japan Kids Committee.
Website: www.facebook.com/hawaii.nadeshikoclub

Accepting donations for RFJK Online. Please go to www.en.rainbowforjapankids.com and click "Donate."
Donations go to the fund via PayPal to the RFJK account managed by Hawaii Senior Life Enrichment Association established as a tax exempt non-profit organization under 501 (c)(3).