



SBGS 2010

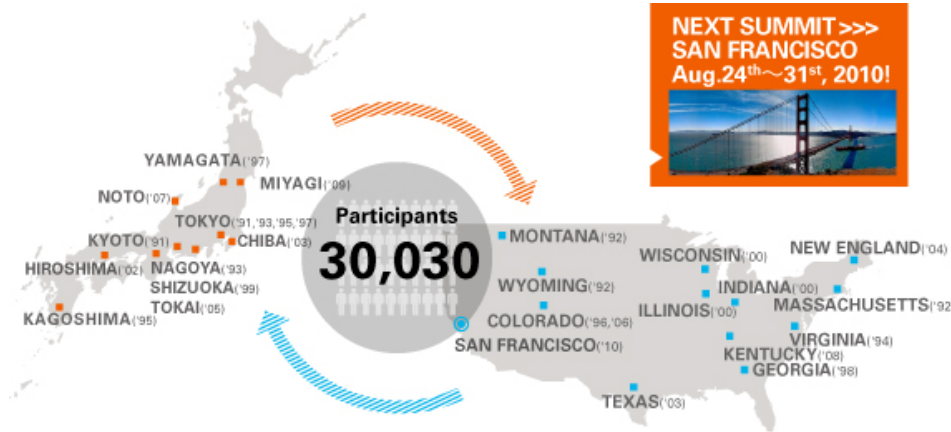
San Francisco Bay Area Grassroots Summit



The 20th America-Japan Grassroots Summit 2010 In San Francisco Bay Area

● What is Japan-America Grassroots Summit?

The Japan-America Grassroots Summit is an annual large-scale meeting of Japanese and American citizens, held alternately in Japan and America. The summit aims to strengthen the peaceful relationship between Japan and America by fostering grassroots friendships.



Grassroots Summits have been held in America and Japan for the past 19 years. Each year an average of 200 people travel across the Pacific to take part in this exchange. Including host participants, more than 30,000 people have experienced this grassroots exchange.

● Next Summit will be held in the San Francisco Bay Area in August 2010

The San Francisco Bay Area was chosen as a host region of the next Summit in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the first Japanese naval ship's arrival, the Kanrinmaru, in the San Francisco Bay. 200 citizens of Japan are planned to participate in this large scale summit next year.

< Schedule >

	DATE	PLAN	
1	Aug.24 (Tue)	Depart Japan. Arrive in San Francisco in the morning.	<HTL Stay>
2	Aug.25 (Wed)	Optional Local Tour. Opening Event and Welcome Reception	<HTL Stay>
3	Aug.26 (Thu)	Depart SF for Local Session Areas	<Home-stay>
4	Aug.27 (Fri)	Local Session	<Home-stay>
5	Aug.28 (Sat)	Local Session	<Home-stay>
6	Aug.29 (Sun)	Depart Local Session Areas for SF Closing Event	<HTL Stay>
7	Aug.30 (Mon)	Depart SF for Japan or for Post Summit Optional Program	

● Who Organizes the Summit?

The local Summit Executive Committee runs the Summit jointly with CIE and is in charge of the recruitment and management of volunteers who play a crucial role in organizing and running the summit.

The **San Francisco Bay Area America-Japan Grassroots Summit Executive Committee (SFBEX)** is currently being formed. Chair of the SFBEX is former Ambassador to Japan, Michael Armacost, and Executive Director is Megumi Lorna Inouye.



Michael Armacost, Chair
Former Ambassador to Japan



Megumi Lorna Inouye,
Executive Director

The Grassroots Summit is supported by The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Japan and Consul General of Japan in San Francisco

● Key Persons Play Crucial Role

Volunteer “**Key Persons**” are appointed to manage “local sessions” in various locations within the summit region (about 10 cities or towns). The local session includes a program of locally organized activities as well home stays. Key Persons represent their region during the Summit, recruit and coordinate host families and plan and carry out local activities.



Key Persons in the Miyagi Summit 2009

● What is CIE

John Manjiro Whitfield Commemorative Center for International Exchange (CIE) is a Japanese Foundation established in 1990 and incorporated in 1993. Through America-Japan Grassroots Summits, CIE provides the citizens of both countries with an opportunity to meet and exchange cultures, ideas and opinions and further mutual understanding between Japan and America.

● John Manjiro and Captain Whitfield

In 1841 an American whaling boat rescued five shipwrecked Japanese fishermen who were marooned on a remote Pacific island. Among the five was a fourteen year old boy called Manjiro whose intelligent and good nature soon earned him great respect among the American crew. Given the name John, he was taken back to Fairhaven Massachusetts to receive an American education under the care of the ship's captain William H. Whitfield. Japan's isolationist policy meant that leaving the country was an offence punishable by death, yet after 10 years, Manjiro was determined to return home to pass on the knowledge and goodwill he had received in America. Soon after his return, Commodore Perry arrived, calling for an end to isolationism. John Manjiro played a crucial role in negotiating for the Shogunate, and introducing and explaining American culture and technology to the Japanese. The friendship between John Manjiro and Captain Whitfield has resulted in nearly 170 years of friendship between their descendents.



John Manjiro
Nakahama



W.H. Whitfield

[Contact]

The 20th America-Japan Grassroots Summit 2010
San Francisco Bay Area Summit Executive Committee (SFBEX)

Phone: 415 859 5113 e-mail sfjapan.summit@yahoo.com

URL: <http://www.manjiro.or.jp>

THE HEARTS OF THE WORLD

The Executive Committee of the American-Japan Grassroots Summit San Francisco Bay Area 2010 extends a special thank you to renowned artist POTENZA for allowing us usage of "This American Heart" and "This Heart of Japan" paintings for our summit logo. These images are part of "THE HEARTS OF THE WORLD" series which recognizes the Heart of each nation and its people, bringing all of our hearts together in the name of global peace, friendship and understanding.