



# CONSULATE UPDATES

Happy 2024! We have started the year off with a bang with many exciting Japan-related events and activities, including an awards ceremony for the **Iwasaki Sangyo Prize** for year 12 Queensland students. The Consul-General was also honoured to present **commendations** to **Mr Chris Whitecross** and **Mr Danny Maruyama** for their efforts in deepening the mutual understanding and friendship between Japan and Queensland in the areas of business and sports.

This year also marks the 40th anniversary of **Queensland-Saitama** Sister State relations, and is a great opportunity to visit Saitama! We would like to wish our readers all the best for the year ahead, and look forward to bringing you more Japan-related news and events in 2024!



Image: Commendation Ceremony for Mr Danny Maruyama and Mr Chris Whitecross

## Consulate-General of Japan, Brisbane 2024 Reception Hours

Please be advised that our reception hours for 2024 are as follows:

**9:00am - 12:00pm, 1:30pm - 4:00pm**

In addition to Australian public holidays, we will also be closed on the following dates for Japanese holidays:

**23 February** - Emperor's Birthday

**15 July** - Marine Day

**16 September** - Respect for the Aged Day

**4 November** - Culture Day

For a full list of 2024 closure dates, please visit our website at [https://www.brisbane.au.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/about\\_us.html#section4](https://www.brisbane.au.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/about_us.html#section4)

## New Online Reservation System

From February 5, Visitors to the Consulate Services Desk will be required to make an appointment in advance for most consular services.

Reservations can be made online at the following URL:

[https://www.brisbane.au.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/visa.applications.html](https://www.brisbane.au.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/visa.applications.html)

Reservations can only be made online. We no longer accept reservations by phone. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

## Noto Peninsula Earthquake Relief

On January 1, 2024 a magnitude 7.6 earthquake struck the Noto region of Ishikawa Prefecture. Disaster relief donations are now being accepted through the Consulate-General of Japan in Brisbane and Japanese organisations.

For those wishing to support the earthquake relief, please visit our website for details on how to donate.

[https://www.brisbane.au.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr\\_en/earthquake\\_relief.html](https://www.brisbane.au.emb-japan.go.jp/itpr_en/earthquake_relief.html)

## What's on in Queensland



### Chado - The Way of Tea

**Tue 6 Feb | Tea Ceremony**

Delight in the art of Japanese tea ceremony with this free workshop at the Mount Coot-tha Botanic Gardens.

[Book now](#)



### Japanese Films at QA-GOMA

**Fri 16 Feb and Sun 3 Mar | Cinema**

Enjoy Akira Kurosawa's *Dreams* (16 Feb) and Studio Ghibli's *Tale of the Princess Kaguya* (3 Mar) for free in early 2024!

[Learn more](#)



**Australian Institute of International Affairs Queensland**

### AIIA QLD Presentation - Australian and Japanese Foreign Relations

**23 April | Seminar**

Dr. Michael Vaughan will discuss ties between Aus-Japan at a talk through the Australian Institute of International Affairs.

[Find out more](#)



### Paper Crane Folding at ANZAC Square Memorial Galleries

**Now until 13 September | Craft**

Help ANZAC Square fold 1000 cranes to send to the Hiroshima Peace Park.

[Start folding](#)



**文部科学省**

**MEXT Scholarships**

**MEXT Scholarship applications now open**

Applications are now open for MEXT scholarships in the Japanese studies and teacher training categories! These scholarships support undergraduate students and teachers interested in studying in Japan.

Make sure to submit your application to the Embassy of Japan by **February 12, 2023** (Monday). For details [please visit our website](#).