



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Applications Being Accepted for Two Week
Exchange Program to Japan for High School Students**
The 2nd TOMODACHI MUFG International Exchange Program

February 13, 2013, Los Angeles — Japan America Society of Southern California (JASSC) is accepting applications from high school students to participate in the 2nd TOMODACHI MUFG International Exchange Program, a two-week people-to-people exchange and learning program in early summer 2013. Hosted by the U.S.-Japan Council's TOMODACHI ("Friendship") Initiative and sponsored by Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (MUFG), which includes The Bank of Tokyo Mitsubishi UFJ and Union Bank, N.A., the exchange program offers a homestay experience with a Japanese family, visits to cities affected by the 2011 earthquake and tsunami, as well as sightseeing and cultural visits to the cities of Tokyo, Hiroshima, and Kyoto. The purpose of the exchange program is to enhance the students' understanding of Japan, its people, language and culture, and to learn about disaster preparedness strategies. Airfare and program expenses in Japan are provided by the sponsors.

High school students between the ages of 15 to 18 at the time of departure and residing in Los Angeles County, Orange County or San Diego County are encouraged to apply for this program. **The deadline for applications is Sunday, March 31, 2013.** Applications and additional information is available online at the JASSC website, www.jas-socal.org.

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The 2nd TOMODACHI MUFG International Exchange Program is the second of a three year U.S.-Japan exchange program sponsored by MUFG to promote deeper understanding among Japanese and American youth. The first exchange took place in August 2012, when 20 Japanese junior and senior high school students from the earthquake affected areas of Japan visited Southern California for two weeks.

The TOMODACHI MUFG International Exchange Program is part of the TOMODACHI Initiative, a public-private partnership led by the U.S. Government and the U.S.-Japan Council and supported by the Japanese Government. It supports Japan's recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake and invests in the next generation of Japanese and Americans in ways that strengthen cultural and economic ties and deepen the friendship between the United States and Japan over the long-term.

Additional organizations involved with the 2nd TOMODACHI MUFG International Exchange Program are the Japan America Society of Southern California and Experiment in International Living (EIL).

For more information about the 2nd TOMODACHI MUFG International Exchange Program or questions regarding the program's application process, please contact Ms. Makiko Nakasone, program coordinator at Japan American Society of Southern California, by email at tomodachi.MUFG@jas-socal.org or by phone at (818) 523-2866.

About the U.S.-Japan Council

The U.S.-Japan Council (USJC) is an educational 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to promoting people-to-people connections as crucial to a strong U.S.-Japan relationship. The Council brings together diverse leadership, engages stakeholders in the bilateral relationship and explores issues that benefit communities, businesses and government entities on both sides of the Pacific. USJC was founded in 2009 and is headquartered in Washington, DC with a regional office in Los Angeles, CA. In 2012, the U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) was created to support the administration of the TOMODACHI Initiative. The U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) maintains an office in Tokyo, Japan. For more information, please visit www.usjapancouncil.org

About Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc. (MUFG)

MUFG is one of the world's leading financial groups, with total assets of more than JPY 219 trillion (approximately US \$2.7 trillion) as of September 30, 2012. MUFG's services include commercial banking, trust banking, securities, credit cards, consumer finance, asset management and leasing. The Group's operating companies include The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Japan's largest commercial bank, Mitsubishi UFJ Trust and Banking Corporation, Japan's leading trust bank, and Mitsubishi UFJ Securities Holdings, one of Japan's largest securities firms. For more information, please visit <http://www.mufg.jp/english/index.html>.

About UnionBanCal Corporation & Union Bank, N.A.

Headquartered in San Francisco, UnionBanCal Corporation is a financial holding company with assets of \$97 billion at December 31, 2012. Its primary subsidiary, Union Bank, N.A., is a full-service commercial bank providing an array of financial services to individuals, small businesses, middle-market companies, and major corporations. The bank operated 447 branches in California, Washington, Oregon, Texas, Illinois, and New York as well as two international offices, on December 31, 2012. UnionBanCal Corporation is a wholly-owned subsidiary of The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Ltd., which is a subsidiary of Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc. Union Bank is a proud member of the Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group (MUFG, NYSE:MTU), one of the world's largest financial organizations. Visit www.unionbank.com for more information.

About Experiment in International Living

The Experiment in International Living (EIL), founded in 1932, was one of the first programs of its kind to engage individuals in intercultural living and learning. Originating in the United States, EIL introduced the 'homestay' concept to the world by carefully preparing and placing "Experimenters" in the homes of host families abroad for a firsthand exposure to culture and language. EIL Japan was established in 1956 and has provided various programs including high school exchange programs, short homestay programs and other international and intercultural programs. For more information, please visit <http://www.eiljapan.org/index.html>

About Japan America Society of Southern California

The Japan America Society of Southern California (JASSC) was founded in 1909 to build economic, cultural, governmental, and personal relationships between the people of Japan and America. It has grown to become the West Coast's premier educational and public affairs forum dedicated to the United States-Japan relationship by offering unique opportunities to become involved in the business and cultural relationship between the two countries. JASSC is a qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit, charitable and educational organization and it is supported by 125 Japanese and American corporation members and nearly 2,000 individual members. For more information, please visit www.jas-socal.org