



Press Release

報道資料

For Immediate Release

**ACCJ 2014 Person of the Year Award Presented to
Yokohama Mayor Fumiko Hayashi**

January 30, 2015 – The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) announced today that the 2014 Person of the Year Award recipient is Fumiko Hayashi, Mayor of the City of Yokohama.

The ACCJ 2014 Person of the Year Award is being awarded to Mayor Hayashi in recognition of her continuous commitment and dedication to further advancing the strong commercial ties and collaboration between the U.S. and Japan. Additionally, as mayor of one of the most prominent cities in Japan, she has demonstrated strong leadership on such causes as the advancement of women in the workplace, the establishment of an environment welcoming to foreign direct investment (FDI) and the fostering of innovation as a means to overcoming economic and business challenges.

“I am truly honored to receive this prestigious award. Yokohama is an international port city that has developed and flourished through foreign trade and business, including through particularly strong commercial ties with the United States. I have been and remain committed to working hard to promote the advancement of women in society as well as to enhancing opportunities for foreign direct investment and international collaboration in the hope of establishing a more vibrant local economy. I am truly honored that this award recognizes my involvement in trying to improve conditions for foreign businesses. I will continue working to forge strong bonds of “trust and understanding” with a variety of stakeholders including foremostly the great citizens of Yokohama as we endeavor further growth in our city going forward,” said Hayashi.

ACCJ President Jay Ponazecki followed by saying “Mayor Hayashi is a remarkable and highly accomplished individual. She is a shining example of an astute leader in both the private and public sectors.

Her ongoing work to enhance the business and living environment in Yokohama for foreign companies and individuals has contributed immensely to strengthening the U.S.-Japan commercial relationship. The ACCJ recognizes these invaluable contributions to the business community at large, and we are honored to present the ACCJ 2014 Person of the Year Award to Mayor Hayashi in the hope of encouraging more people to follow in her footsteps to promote and champion the benefits of expanding the economy through open innovation and collaboration. Further, her tireless dedication to improving conditions for families and particularly working women inspires me and so many at the ACCJ and in the broader business community," Ponazecki added.

The ACCJ Journal's February 2015 issue is scheduled to cover the ACCJ 2014 Person of the Year Award and an interview with Mayor Hayashi. An award ceremony is also anticipated to take place later in the year.

About the ACCJ Person of the Year Award

The ACCJ initiated the "Person of the Year" award in 1996 to annually recognize individuals who have made major contributions to enhancing the U.S.-Japan economic relationship.

Past Recipients

18	2013	Mr. Fujio Cho, Honorary Chairman of Toyota Motor Corporation
17	2012	Hon. John V. Roos, 28 th U.S. Ambassador to Japan
17	2012	Ms. Susan H. Roos, Labor Attorney and wife of Ambassador John V. Roos
16	2011	Mr. Hiroshi Mikitani, CEO of Rakuten, Inc.
15	2010	Dr. Kiyoshi Kurokawa, Professor at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies, and Chairman of the Health Policy Institute, Japan
14	2009	Mr. Tadashi Yamamoto, President, Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE)
13	2008	Hon. J. Thomas Schieffer, 27 th U.S. Ambassador to Japan
12	2007	Professor Heizo Takenaka, Director of Keio University's Global Security Research Institute
11	2006	Mr. Hiroshi Okuda, Senior Advisor and Member of the Board, Toyota Motor Corporation
10	2005	Mr. Taizo Nishimuro, Chairman & CEO, Tokyo Stock Exchange; Advisor to the Board, Toshiba Corporation
9	2004	Hon. Howard H. Baker Jr., 26 th U.S. Ambassador to Japan
8	2003	Mr. Yuzaburo Mogi, President & CEO, Kikkoman
7	2002	Mr. Masamoto Yashiro, Chairman & CEO, Shinsei Bank Ltd.
6	2001	Mr. Yoshihiko Miyauchi, Chairman, Orix Corporation; Vice Chairman, Keizai Doyukai; Chair, Council for Regulatory Reform
5	2000	Hon. Thomas S. Foley, 25 th U.S. Ambassador to Japan
4	1999	Dr. Kazuo Inamori, the Founder and Chairman emeritus of DDI Corporation and Kyocera Corporation



3	1998	Mr. Hideo Ishihara, Chairman, Goldman Sachs Japan
2	1997	Mr. Yotaro Kobayashi, Chairman and CEO, Fuji Xerox Company, Ltd.
1	1996	Hon. Walter Mondale, 24 th U.S. Ambassador to Japan

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About ACCJ

The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) was established in 1948 by representatives of 40 American companies and has grown into one of the most influential business organizations in Japan. Consisting mainly of executives from American companies, currently the ACCJ has members representing 1,000 companies with offices in Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka. Working closely with the governments of the United States and Japan, business organizations, and others, the ACCJ promotes activities that help achieve its mission of further developing commerce between the United States and Japan, promoting the interests of U.S. companies and members, and improving the international business environment in Japan. The ACCJ's more than 60 committees represent a variety of industries and make policy recommendations through advocacy tools such as viewpoints, public comments and white papers. The ACCJ holds approximately 500 events and seminars a year, many of which focus on government policy and economic trends. The ACCJ is also committed to promoting charitable events and CSR activities.

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