



## **TOMODACHI ALUMNI LEADERSHIP PROGRAM**

**Highlights: April - December 2014**

TOMODACHI Initiative was able to provide the following high-level engagement and leadership opportunities within the last 9 months to our alumni while providing the space and time to meet each other, strengthen their TOMODACHI identity, and expand their leadership skills. These opportunities were made possible with the generous support of Prudential Financial, Inc.

### **April 20**

#### ***United States President Obama's visit to Japan's National Museum of Emerging Science and Innovation***

6 TOMODACHI alumni and several U.S. Department of State International Exchange Alumni studying in the fields of science spoke with U.S. President Obama, and met with U.S. Department of State delegation, Japan Prize Laureates Dr. Yasuharu Suematsu and Dr. C. David Allis, and JAXA Astronaut Soichi Noguchi. The event was streamed live on national news, and featured in major print and online media.

### **May 28**

#### ***ACCJ/USJC Women in Business Summit***

3 alumnae attended the Summit, received training on networking, entrepreneurship, and heard inspirational stories from across professional fields. Headlined by Prime Minister Abe, U.S. Ambassador Kennedy and USJC President Irene Hirano Inouye, the Summit exposed alumnae to a wide range of sector leaders, including USJC members and TOMODACHI Strategic Partners.

### **June 17**

#### ***U.S. Embassy Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM), Tohoku Tour***

10 high school students - 3 alumni and 2 TOMODACHI summer exchange candidates - spoke with the former DCM and his wife during his Tohoku tour before leaving office. This intimate, round-table discussion allowed students to share their ideas and future aspirations with the DCM and learn more about how Foreign Service officers develop interest and grow in their field. Alumni were interviewed by the local media before and after the event.

### **June 2, 24 // August 5, 6**

#### ***TOMODACHI Inouye Scholar Panelists***

Alumni were invited to share their exchange and leadership experiences along side U.S. Embassy staff and professional experts to teams of TOMODACHI Inouye scholars visiting Japan.

### **September 4-8**

#### ***4th U.S. Embassy-Keio SFC-TOMODACHI Entrepreneurship Seminar***

Alumni from the previous year helped organize the 4th Seminar. Representatives from the U.S. Embassy, entrepreneurs and investors trained, mentored, and judged all the teams.

### **September 11**

#### ***Ambassador-at-Large Catherine Russell's Round-Table***

Ambassador Russell invited 10 alumnae to share their experience and challenges during her brief visit to Japan. This exclusive, private meeting preceded the MetLife Women's Symposium - part of the World Assembly of Women in Tokyo (WAW! Tokyo).

## **September 11**

### **MetLife Symposium, side event of WAW! Tokyo**

Alumnae attended the side event of WAW! Tokyo, where, in addition to Ambassador-at-Large Catherine Russell, dignitaries included: Japan's Ambassador for Women, Human Rights, and Humanitarian Affairs, Kuni Sato; Executive Director of the Board of HSBC Asia-Pacific, Naina Lal Kidwai; Executive VP of Global Employee Benefits at MetLife, Maria Morris; and Managing Director of JP Morgan Securities Japan, Jesper Koll. The Symposium examined challenges and successful examples of female participation in the workforce. TOMODACHI alumnae were one of the few groups representing young people in the audience, and were interviewed by media after the event.

## **September 16**

### **McKinsey & Co., TOMODACHI Impact: Discussion & Reception**

5 alumni from across programs represented the TOMODACHI Generation to the executives of TOMODACHI Strategic Partners. Afterwards, they were interviewed and video recorded by the McKinsey media team.

## **September 19**

### **Global Organization for Leadership and Diversity (GOLD) Annual Conference**

3 alumni were awarded scholarships from GOLD to attend the Annual Conference in Tokyo, where Royanne Doi, USJC Board and Prudential's Corporate Chief Ethics Officer, was among the speakers.

## **September 30**

### **Promoting Women's Leadership and Diversity in Science and Energy Symposium**

10 alumni attended the Symposium organized by the United States Department of Energy Japan Office, in partnership with several other U.S. Embassy Offices, including the Economic Section and Public Affairs. U.S. Ambassador Caroline Kennedy spoke at the opening of the Symposium attended by 230 corporate, government and institutional guests. Prior to the Symposium, alumni were invited to a private round-table with the American delegation, consisting of Lesley A. Field, Deputy Administrator for Federal Procurement Policy, Office of Management and Budget, the White House; Carol Kessler, Chair, Nonproliferation & National Security Department, Brookhaven National Laboratory; Margot Carrington, Minister-Counselor, Public Affairs, U.S. Embassy Japan; Yumiko Jouzuka, Director General of Cabinet Bureau of Personnel Affairs; Naoko Yamazaki, Former JAXA Astronaut; and Akiko Ryu Innes-Taylor, Senior Operating Officer, Otsuka Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd.

## **October 9-11**

### **US-Japan Council Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI**

High-potential alumni attended the entire conference, participating in all the plenary and break-out sessions. Some presented their experiences as speakers in the fully-booked TOMODACHI Panel. For the Japan alumni, the experience deepened their understanding of the Japanese-American experience in the U.S., and enabled them to network and hear from leaders of both Japan and United States. We provided alumni with high-level access to the conference, including admission to the reception hosted at the Japanese Consulate General's residence, meeting keynote guest speakers, and US-Japan Council board members. They also met with U.S.-based alumni in Hawaii, and continue to communicate with them. Prudential Financial, Inc. was acknowledged in the TOMODACHI Panel.

## **November 13**

### ***TOMODACHI Donor & Strategic Partners' Reception at U.S. Ambassador Caroline Kennedy's Residence***

10 alumni across programs were selected, trained, and featured in the presentation of TOMODACHI Generation at the U.S. Ambassador's Residence, where the Ambassador acknowledged our donors and USJC President Irene Hirano Inouye announced new Strategic Partners. Prior to the event, the Ambassador privately welcomed the alumni and invited them to share their experiences and vision for the future with her. At the event, alumni speakers inspired the audience and showcased some of the best example of TOMODACHI alumni working together. USJC President also thanked Prudential Financial, Inc. in her speech for making possible the TOMODACHI Alumni Leadership Program, including the presence of alumni at the event. Alumni stayed an additional day in Tokyo to attend one of the TOMODACHI program's closing reception with the DCM as the Keynote.

### **Other TOMODACHI Networking, Exchange and Skills Building highlights:**

Over the last 9 months, we have been able to reach and offer opportunities to over 1,400 alumni directly, and provide over 400 alumni with skills building, short-term exchange, and networking opportunities.

TOMODACHI was able to organize and meet alumni in their respective regions and provide skills-building training while gaining a better sense of the alumni interests and regional assets. We organized 16 formal and informal TOMODACHI alumni gatherings in Sendai, Ofunato, Morioka, Iwaki, Osaka, Tokyo, and Honolulu, HI in 2014.

We secured (non-Prudential funding) and offered community impact micro-grant awards to two alumni teams - USD 2,000 and USD 3,000 - to carry out their projects through 2015, overseen by the Alumni Manager. One team is raising awareness and support for orphans in Japan through a comparative analysis of child welfare systems in Japan, France and the United Kingdom. Another team is raising awareness of gender equity issues and supporting young Japanese girls' aspirations. Both projects culminate in one or more conferences in the spring and fall of 2015, which the alumni organize and execute.

Our alumni were invited to apply to the U.S. Embassy in Taiwan's 3-day Environmental Leadership Camp for college seniors in at the end of August. One alumna (Junior) was chosen to represent Japan alongside a handful of Japanese seniors from across the country.

We offered the opportunity to all our high school alumni to apply to the TOMODACHI Drucker for Future Japanese Leader program (accepted 10 alumni), the TOMODACHI University Prep program (accepted 5 alumni), and the TOMODACHI English Language Studies program (accepted 5 alumni).