



# JAPAN SOCIETY OF NEW ORLEANS

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24 July 2014

Input for Tomodachi / US-Japan Council Newsletter

The Japan Society of New Orleans (JSNO) was awarded a grant by the Tomodachi Foundation via the National Association of Japan America Societies to sponsor an exchange program in 2014. Our desire for an exchange program was stimulated by the current administration of the City of New Orleans and their outreach to our sister city, Matsue, Shimane. This outreach consisted of a visit by an Official Delegation from the City of New Orleans to Matsue in early October, 2013. 2014 represents the 20<sup>th</sup> year of New Orleans' sister city relationship with Matsue, so what better time to establish better relations with our sister city through an exchange program? The theme of our exchange is the history of New Orleans along with the history of Jazz since New Orleans is the birthplace of Jazz. Lafcadio Hearn is the primary reason New Orleans and Matsue are sister cities, as he is the common bond between our cities, so we will visit his former residence and his archives stored at Tulane University. Lots of sight-seeing, socializing, music and fun are on our schedule of events. Our seven participants range in age from 21 to 35 and will be chaperoned by Yuka Ikejiri, the Executive Director of the Matsue New Orleans Club. The group will arrive in New Orleans on Saturday, 02 August and depart on Monday, 11 August. JSNO is very excited by this opportunity to share our unique city with our counter-parts from our Sister City and we greatly appreciate the support we've received from Tomodachi Foundation and assistance from the National Association of Japan America Societies.

Submitted by:  
Mike Turner  
President