



## **TOMODACHI MetLife Women's Leadership Program**



### **March 22-30, 2014 – Trip to Washington, DC and New York City**

As the capstone to the 10-month TOMODACHI MetLife Women's Leadership Program, twenty-five female Japanese university students are traveling to the United States for an eight-day visit showcasing examples of how American women achieve success in the modern economy. The program is designed to foster the leadership skills of Japanese women with the ultimate goals of advancing women's economic empowerment and deepening Japan's appreciation for American culture and ideals.

While in the United States, participants meet with various business, education, government and women's leadership groups, including the State Department's Global Entrepreneurship program, Hot Mommas (an award-winning women's leadership research venture housed at the George Washington University School of Business) and the DC Women's Business Center. The students will also meet with Senator Mazie Hirono, experience campus life at universities and participate in a "Womenomics" seminar organized by the U.S.-Japan Council. Through exposure to different American models, participants will further develop their leadership, networking and interpersonal skills. Participants will also work in groups to develop strategies for using micro-grants to enhance opportunities for women in their communities. Students will be eligible for a micro-grant of up to \$1,000 per person to implement their project ideas upon returning to Japan.

### **Program Overview**

U.S. Embassy Tokyo and the TOMODACHI Initiative launched the TOMODACHI MetLife Women's Leadership Program in Tokyo and Kansai in 2013 to strengthen diversity in Japan, promote women in the workforce and develop Japanese leaders with strong ties to the United States.

The mentorship program pairs highly-motivated Japanese female university students with Japanese female mid-career professionals to encourage networking among women who show promise as Japan's next generation of leaders. Participants attend regular group sessions hosted by the U.S. Embassy and consulates that provide training in leadership development and financial empowerment. The mentor/mentee relationship offers professionals an opportunity to strengthen important leadership skills while providing students with guidance and perspective as they cultivate their own leadership goals and styles. Together, they grow as individuals and refine the skills that will help them actively implement positive change for women in the Japanese workforce.

Recruitment is underway for the 2014-2015 TOMODACHI MetLife Women's Leadership Program, which will expand to Fukuoka and Naha. For more information, please see [www.usjapantomodachi.org](http://www.usjapantomodachi.org).

# TOMODACHI MetLife Women's Leadership Program

## Participants

### TOKYO

#### Mentor Chaperone:

**Dr. Haruka Sakamoto**

General Practitioner, St. Luke's International Hospital

#### Mentees:

**Ms. Miyu Ando**

Student, Waseda University

**Ms. Shoko Ishiguro**

Student, Tsuda College

**Ms. Aoi Kambe**

Student, Meiji Gakuin University

**Ms. Tomoko Kawakami**

Student, Ochanomizu University

**Ms. Asuka Kobayashi**

Student, Keio University

**Ms. Rika Matsumoto**

Student, Tokyo University of Foreign Studies

**Ms. Azusa Miyazaki**

Student, Tokyo Woman's Christian University

**Ms. Yuri Nishiyama**

Student, University of the Sacred Heart, Tokyo

**Ms. Yuri Okura**

Student, Rikkyo University

**Ms. Shoko Oniki**

Student, Soka University

**Ms. Rina Shiihara**

Student, Hosei University

**Ms. NaYeong Shin**

Student, Waseda University

**Ms. Yukiko Shinoda**

Student, Saitama University

**Ms. Saki Shiraishi**

Student, Waseda University

**Ms. Kana Takagi**

Student, Keio University

**Ms. Kaori Tamamura**

Student, Waseda University

### OSAKA

#### Mentor Chaperone:

**Prof. Tsuyako Nakamura**

Associate Professor, Faculty of Global Communications, Doshisha University

#### Mentees:

**Ms. Sana Adachi**

Student, Kyoto University of Foreign Studies

**Ms. Azusa Akima**

Student, Kobe College

**Ms. Marika Kuroki**

Student, Kansai University of Foreign Studies

**Ms. Ayaka Mae**

Student, University of Wakayama

**Ms. Chigusa Morioka**

Student, Osaka University

**Ms. Misato Oi**

Student, Kyoto University

**Ms. Haruka Satake**

Student, Ritsumeikan University

**Ms. Yuriko Takemoto**

Student, Kobe College

**Ms. Sachiko Tani**

Student, Kobe City University of Foreign Studies

The visit to Washington, DC and New York is organized by **Cultural Vistas**. The students are accompanied by staff from **MetLife Alico** and the **TOMODACHI Initiative**.