



Centennial Celebration of the Gift of Trees to Columbus

Cherry Tree Planting Ceremony: April 27, 2012

Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens

In 2012, Columbus, Ohio received 20 cherry trees as part of the Centennial Celebration of the Gift of Trees from the government of Japan. The cherry tree planting ceremony on Friday, April 27, 2012 at the Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens observed Arbor Day in remembrance of the Great Tōhoku Earthquake and Tsunami and in hope for the future of those who are rebuilding in this area and all across Japan. The events were coordinated by the Institute for Japanese Studies at The Ohio State University, Japan-America Society of Central Ohio, and Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens.

Tree Planting Ceremony



Honorary Consul General of Ohio,
Phil Barth
Former Governor Robert A. Taft, II
Consul General Kuninori Matsuda &
his wife
Mark Corna, JASCO President
Mayor Michael B. Coleman

Speeches



Michael B. Coleman,
Mayor, City of Columbus

Performances:



Hiuchi Taiko



Fort Hayes Arts & Academic High School
singing "Sakura"

School Projects:



Kamishibai, Cranes, Ohio Boxes by:

- 5th Avenue International K-8
- Arts Impact Middle School
- Champion Middle School
- Columbus School for Girls
- Fort Hayes Arts & Academic High School



Robert A. Taft II,
Former Governor, State of Ohio



Cake & Ice Cream:

Cake from Mozart's Bakery and Jeni's Splendid Ice Cream flavor White House Cherry, which was created to honor the Columbus bicentennial celebration and the 100th anniversary of Japan's gift of cherry trees.



Kuninori Matsuda
Consul General of Japan in Detroit

Sponsors:

200Columbus The Bicentennial; Central Ohio Japanese Association of Commerce; Columbus 2020; Corna Kokosing Construction Co.; Consulate General of Japan in Detroit; Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens; Greater Columbus Arts Council; Hidaka USA, Inc.; Honda of America Mfg., Inc.; Institute for Japanese Studies (OSU); Japan-America Society of Central Ohio; Japan Foundation; Center for Global Partnership; Japan Commerce Association of Washington DC; Jeni's Splendid Ice Cream; Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of New York; Mercer; Mozart's Bakery & Piano Cafe; Pfizer; U.S. Department of Education Title VI Grant to the East Asian Studies Center at The Ohio State University; and Vorys, Sater, Seymour & Pease LLP.

April 27, 2012 Columbus, Ohio