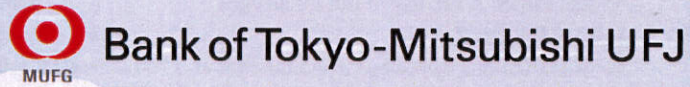


## What is the Grassroots Summit?

The Japan America Grassroots Summit is an annual gathering of Japanese and American citizens - held alternately in Japan and the U.S. - which aims to strengthen the peaceful relationship between two countries by fostering friendship at the grassroots level.

## Historical Background

The Summit honors the unique friendship between John Manjiro Nakahama and Captain William H. Whitefield, a relationship begun in 1841 and carried on by their families for 170 years. Young Manjiro, a fisherman shipwrecked at age 14, was rescued and befriended by Captain Whitfield, a whaler from Massachusetts. Educated in America, Manjiro eventually returned to Japan and became a key figure in early U.S.-Japan relations. To this day, both the Nakahama and Whitfield families participate in every Grassroots Summit!



**JAPAN  
SOCIETY**

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2014  
Japan - America  
**GRASSROOTS  
SUMMIT**  
in the San Diego Region

A stylized illustration of a person in a white shirt and dark pants walking on a sandy beach, looking out at the ocean. The background features a blue sky with a yellow sun, blue mountains, and palm trees on the right side.

**JSSDT / Dave Tuites**



For global economics, security, and peace, no nation is more important to the dynamic San Diego region than Japan. Founded in 1996, the Japan Society of San Diego and Tijuana (JSSDT) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit membership organization of individuals and corporations with a focus on tri-national relations between Japan, San Diego, and Tijuana. These important tri-national relationships must be nurtured and strengthened to build bridges of understanding between people from all three great nations and create a safer and more peaceful world. The JSSDT accomplishes this by offering unique opportunities for people to become involved in business, educational, and cultural programs and events. The JSSDT is one of approximately 40 independent, regional members of the National Association of Japan America Societies headquartered in Washington D.C. On behalf of the JSSDT, it is my pleasure and privilege to welcome you to the region.

**Be a Host**

- Open your heart and home to a Japanese visitor-enjoy a rewarding experience and make a new friend
- Provide 3 nights' lodging and some meals ( guests are prepared to pay for any meals eaten outside of the home)
- Provide local transportation
- Attend planned Summit activities in your community
- Share your normal everyday life- grocery shopping, a walk in the park, Friday night football
- Attend the Closing Ceremony on Sunday Afternoon
- Share/exchange information about one another's culture
- Take photographs to share

**Be a Volunteer**

- Share your language skills – on-site or on-call
- Accompany group tours
- Staff the Summit desk
- Help with local transportation
- Provide administrative and logistical support
- And more!

**Local Tour Choices 9/24**

**1) Sea World**

One of San Diego's premier tourist attractions, Sea World features marine life exhibits including polar bears, penhuins, and sharks, a variety of thrill and scenic rides and exciting killer whale, dolphin, and seal shows. A full day of fun for all ages. **\$100**

**2) San Diego Zoo**

The world-famous San Diego Zoo houses over 3,700 animals of more than 650 species and is one of the few zoos in the world that houses the giant panda. Enjoy a guided bus tour and an overhead gondola ride. A full day of fun for all ages. **\$69**

**3) USS Midway Museum & Harbor Cruise**

Take a self-guided tour on an actual US Navy aircraft carrier that was decommissioned in 1992 and turned into a museum on beautiful San Diego Bay. Participants in the "Military" theme session will tour the museum as part of that session.

Enjoy a two hour cruise on the San Diego Harbor Full Bay Tour. This deluxe bay tour covers all there is to see from the Harbor and Shelter Islands, Point Loma, and Cabrillo National Monument to North Island Naval Air Station, the Submarine Base, the Coronado Bridge, and much more. **\$92**

**Local Sessions / Coordinators**

**Local City Sessions**

- Coronado

**Local Theme Sessions**

**1) Balboa Park**

Balboa Park is the nation's largest urban cultural park and home to 15 major museums, renowned performing arts venues, beautiful gardens, and the world-famous San Diego zoo. Balboa Park is consistently ranked as one of the top 10 city parks in America. Spend the day visiting the Natural History, Air&Space, and art museums in the beautiful and timeless setting of this must-see San Diego attraction.

**2) Business**

San Diego's thriving economy is fueled by its defense & military, tourism, international trade, and research & manufacturing sectors. It has the second largest biotechnology cluster in the U.S. and hosts several wireless cellular technology companies, including the North American headquarters of Kyocera International and the world headquarters of Qualcomm

Incorporated. Visit and tour these two cutting-edge companies and a biotech company, then enjoy an exclusive behind-the-scenes tour of one of the primary drivers of San Diego's economy, the San Diego International Airport.

**3) Foods & Beverages**

With its rich ethnic and cultural diversity, San Diego boasts all varieties and styles of cuisine. With its proximity to Mexico, that country's influence has been especially prominent in the region. San Diego has been called "America's Craft Beer Capital" and the region is home numerous wineries just north of the city. Savor the delicious flavors of San Diego by touring a winery and a brewery, and by learning to make your own Mexican dishes. Must be 21 or older.

**4) History**

In 1542, Juan Rodriguez sailed into what is now San Diego Bay and claimed it for Spain. In 1769, a military fort and California's first Franciscan mission, Mission San Diego de Alcala, were established in what is now Presidio Park. In 1773, the mission was moved a few miles up the San Diego River. Visit each of these historic and beautiful local and national landmarks and enjoy a Mexican lunch in Old Town, the site of the first European settlement in present-day California.

**5) Military**

San Diego hosts the largest naval fleet in the world, home to over 50 ships and more than 35,000 sailors, soldiers, Department of Defense civilian employees, and contractors. About 5 percent of all civilian jobs in the county are military-related, and 15,000 businesses in San Diego County rely on Department of Defense contracts. Military bases in San Diego include US Navy facilities, Marine Corps bases, and Coast Guard stations. Visit and tour museums at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar (set of the Tom Cruise movie "Top Gun"), and the USS Midway Museum, an actual US Navy aircraft carrier decommissioned in 1992.

**6) Nature**

Spend a day outdoors enjoying San Diego's beautiful climate, gorgeous Pacific Ocean coastline, and incredible scenery. This session includes a hike in Torrey Pines State Reserve, bicycling along the beach boardwalk, sea kayaking, and a picnic box lunch. Although not overly strenuous, participants should be reasonably fit and not have any major medical concerns.