



# Les Clefs d'Or Japan Key News



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## Introducing Japan Concierge Association

By OSAMU HAMASAKI

The Japan Concierge Association (JCA) is the domestic network of concierges and associates.

Its current president is Ms. Akiko Okanishi, the Concierge Manager at Sapporo Grand Hotel, who is also the Vice President of Les Clefs d'Or Japan.

As of October 1, the JCA consists of 120 members and 28 companies. All members of Les Clefs d'Or Japan are also members of the JCA.

Currently, the JCA members are working together with Les Clefs d'Or Japan to host the upcoming Asian Congress which will be held in August 2015.

The JCA holds monthly meetings nationwide. In the meetings, the members hold discussions on service, on-site inspections of various tourist spots, listen to lectures by professionals to better serve guests as concierges. Above is the map to indicate the venues for the 2014/2015 season.



There are networking receptions after every meeting to give members chances to communicate among each other. The following are some photos from this year's meetings and networking receptions:



Above Left: The General Assembly held in Tokyo in April.

Above Right: The networking dinner after the general assembly.



Above: The group photo taken at the Amanohashidate, one of Japan's Three Scenic Views, during the educational excursion in May.

Right: The networking dinner in Yokohama Chinatown after the monthly meeting in June.



Right: The lecture by the expert on ukiyo-e paintings at the Happo-En during the monthly meeting in July. It was very interesting and the audiences listened attentively.



Right: The outdoor tea ceremony service in the garden at the Happo-En during the monthly meeting in July. The open-air tea ceremony room is portable and is a unique facility.



## August Meeting

On August 20, Les Clefs d'Or Japan's meeting was held in Osaka. 16 members attended the meeting.

In the meeting, appointments of new zone directors and presidents were reported.

A type of dry Japanese candy was introduced as a new Les Clefs d'Or Japan amenity.

Report was made that some companies have contacted Les Clefs d'Or Japan requesting to create network with us.

Les Clefs d'Or Japan 17th anniversary dinner is going to be held in Sapporo in November.

meeting.

In the meeting, the program was updated and became nearly fixed. Especially, the Japanese cultural experience program was enhanced.



In addition, the new sponsors were reported, outsourced registration system was contracted and updated Asian Congress website was reported during the meeting.

Tokyo, became a new full member and the pinning ceremony by Mr. Mikito Aramaki, the President, was held. As of October 1, 2014, Les Clefs d'Or Japan consists of 2 honorary members, 16 full members, 10 adherent members and 12 associative companies.



## Asian Congress 2015 Meeting

On August 20, the meeting was held in Osaka. 18 members attended the

## New Full Member from Japan!

Mr. Kazushi Kawamura, the Assistant Chief Concierge at the Palace Hotel

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