



< Takeyuki Suetsugu >

Country/Region : Seattle/United States of America
Age : 77 years old
Current Position : Chairperson, Seattle's Japanese Restaurant Association
Japanese Cuisine Goodwill Ambassador

○ Contribution to the popularization of Japanese food culture and passing it down to the next generation as an instructor in the U.S.

- Established an outstanding career as a Japanese cuisine chef since moving to the U.S. in 1967 while passing down the techniques and culture of Japanese cuisine as a mentor to students in the U.S.
- Opened a cooking school in 1984
- Organized Seattle's Japanese Restaurant Association in 1995
- Bestowed with the title of Honorary Academy Chef as the first Japanese cuisine chef in 2001

As a veteran chef of authentic Japanese cuisine with more than a half a century of experience, Takeyuki Suetsugu has taken an active role on the front lines in France and the U.S.

In addition, his energetic promotion efforts for Japanese cuisine ranges from opening a cooking school to nurturing the next generation of Japanese cuisine chefs in the U.S. to hosting numerous seminars and participating in events to promote understanding of Japan-made ingredients and food culture. Suetsugu, has been worked tirelessly to raise awareness and known by many as "Chef Tak" who is a highly trusted figure in the local community.

In 2001, he became the sole Japanese-national Japanese cuisine chef bestowed with the title of Honorary Academy Chef, which is given only to chefs in recognition of their many years of experience and outstanding contribution to the culinary world, by the American Academy of Chefs in 2001.

In 2009, Suetsugu received the Consul General's Award from the Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle in recognition of his tremendous contribution to the popularization of Japanese cuisine. In 2016, he was appointed Japanese Cuisine Goodwill Ambassador. In recent years, he has focused on passing culinary techniques, Japanese food culture, and importance of having a dream down to students in the U.S. as an instructor.