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**U.S. NATIONAL DAY: A CELEBRATION FOR CHILDREN
JUNE 20, 2005**

Nagakutecho - June 8, 2005. "Hope, Optimism, Enterprise and Freedom—these are the values we hope to bring to life through the United States National Day on June 20th," said Ambassador Lisa Gable. "It is appropriate to the United States to focus our National Day programs at Expo on communicating these ideas to the children in the audience, who represent our future."

The world-renowned University of Southern California (USC) Trojan Marching Band and cheerleaders will lead an American-style parade including 600 children from U.S. Pavilion Friendship Cities—Anjo City, Toyohashi City, and Toyota City. The children will march from the U.S. Pavilion to the Expo Dome for the start of the United States Official National Day ceremony.

Youth of all ages will be especially thrilled by the magic of Japan's premiere of "Sesame Street Live," as well as performances by the internationally known VOENA Children's Choir from Napa Valley, California, and celebrity American tenor Daniel Rodriguez. Throughout the day at the U.S. Pavilion and at the Expo Dome, families will see and hear the culture and diversity that defines the American spirit.

"We hope that visitors will also come to the United States Pavilion, which features a dynamic theater experience starring our 'virtual' host, Benjamin Franklin," said Doug West, Deputy Commissioner General (Private Sector). "On the eve of his 300th birthday, Benjamin Franklin is the perfect messenger to children because of his youthful enthusiasm and his love for exploring the wonders of the natural world."

In the evening, Ambassador Gable will host a reception for VIPs and their families in honor of a favorite American and Japanese pastime—baseball.

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U.S. National Day 20th June 2005 – Program Overview

In the event of adverse weather (rain, wind, extreme heat), the items marked with an asterisk in the "Time" column may be cancelled.

Time	Details	Venue
*10:00 – 10:30	United States National Day Grand Opening Parade <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Univeristy of Southern California (USC) Trojan Marching Band Representatives from Friendship Cities 	Global Loop
11:00 – 13:00	United States of America National Day Ceremony & Performances <ul style="list-style-type: none"> USC Trojan Marching Band Daniel Rodriguez VOENA Children's Choir "Sesame Street Live" 	Expo DOME
*12:00 – 15:15	Global Common 2 Entertainment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 12:00 Rainbow Dance 12:45 Rainbow Dance 14:00 Ishino Junior High School Choir 14:30 Umetsubodai Junior High School Band 	Global Common 2 Stage
13:00 – 14:30	Expo Association United States National Day Official Luncheon	Guest House
14:30 – 16:00	Expo Association United States National Day Official Tour of Pavilions	U.S. Pavilion Japan Pavilion
15:00 – 16:30	United States National Day Expo Dome Mid-Afternoon Performance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VOENA Children's Choir USC Trojan Marching Band "Sesame Street Live" 	Expo DOME

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