

CALIFORNIA CITY HONORS SGI PRESIDENT AND MRS. IKEDA

The City of Hawthorne, Calif., honored SGI President and Mrs. Ikeda for their contributions to peace on Feb. 26. During a session of the Hawthorne City Council, Mayor Larry Guidi presented a Certification of Recognition for President Ikeda and a Certificate of Appreciation for Mrs. Ikeda, along with the Key to the City. SGI-USA General Director Danny Nagashima accepted the honors on the couple's behalf.

In his presentation, Mayor Guidi lauded President Ikeda for showing people the means to bring families and communities closer together. He also praised the activities of local SGI members, saying that their efforts to contribute to the community provide a model for all citizens. The Certificate of Recognition cites President Ikeda's "superior leadership dedicated to promoting world peace and understanding, dignity and respect for all humankind, and seeking the development of spiritual growth and awareness for all humankind."

In presenting the Certificate of Appreciation for the SGI leader's wife, Mayor Guidi noted that, given the time difference, it was already Feb. 27 — Mrs. Ikeda's birthday — in Japan. He said he was delighted to be able to honor her on this special day. The certificate recognizes Mrs. Ikeda's "outstanding contribution, continued support and dedication to the growth of the Soka Gakkai International throughout the world." The mayor, councilors and other city officials then joined SGI-USA representatives in singing "Happy Birthday" in Mrs. Ikeda's honor.