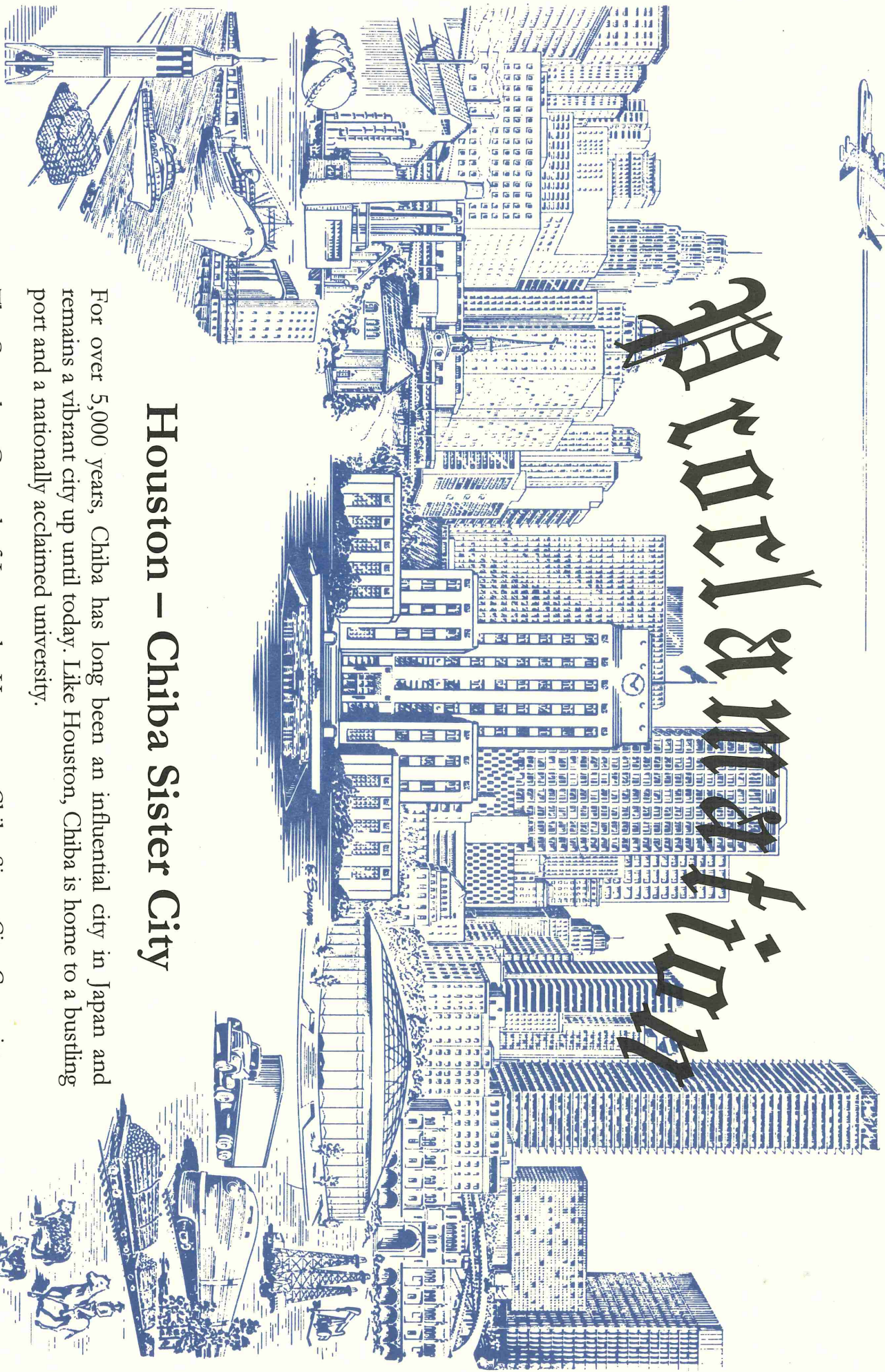




Declaration



Houston – Chiba Sister City

For over 5,000 years, Chiba has long been an influential city in Japan and remains a vibrant city up until today. Like Houston, Chiba is home to a bustling port and a nationally acclaimed university.

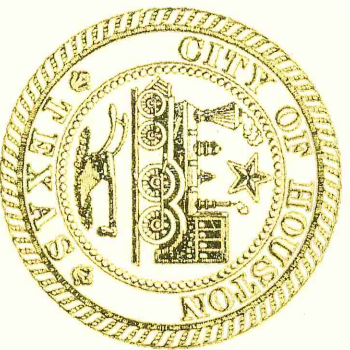
The Consulate General of Japan, the Houston - Chiba Sister City Committee, under the auspices of Japan-America Society of Houston, Inc. (JASH) and other local organizations, have played a vital role in further developing the ties between Houston and Chiba. Houston's relationship with Chiba has led to increased understanding among our respective citizenry and tangible mutual benefits including the Johnston Middle School student exchange program, the Japanese Garden at Herman Park and growing economic opportunities for our respective business communities.

Houston is pleased to enjoy an enduring relationship with the city of Chiba, based on numerous and varied cultural and economic exchanges. And especially appreciates kind hospitality bestowed upon Houston delegations visiting Chiba is sincerely appreciated. Now Houston extends a warm welcome to our friends visiting from Chiba, T.H. Toshiyuki Ogawa, Chiba City Assembly Chairperson and T.H. Hiroaki Kawamura, Chiba City Councilor, and sends Mayor Kumagai our best regards.

THEREFORE, I, Annise D. Parker, Mayor of the City of Houston, hereby proclaim June 4, 2013, as

Houston – Chiba Sister City Day

in Houston, Texas.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and have caused the Official Seal of the City of Houston to be affixed this 23rd day of May, 2013.

Annise D. Parker

Annise D. Parker
Mayor of the City of Houston