

## News Release

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## A Sip & Taste for Japan: Charity Fund Drive

**Tampa, FL. March 29, 2011** – Local leaders are hosting a Red Cross fund drive for the victims of Japan at Tampa's Garage Bar & Grill on Friday, April 8th from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Drink and sushi specials will be provided while all contributions and a portion of the restaurant sales will be donated to the Red Cross.

After immediate numbers of financial contributions were released comparing Japan's dismal totals to the natural disasters of Hurricane Katrina and Haiti, event organizer and Japanese native, Masumi Ishimine, stated, "Regardless of a country's economic status there is still an urgent need for daily necessities especially since the hardest hit areas were in rural farming and fishing areas where thousands of people remain homeless." Ishimine, a business professional and USF alumni, is honored to have received the Red Cross' approval to orchestrate this fundraiser on their behalf.

**What:** Red Cross Fund Drive for Victims of Japan

**Where:** Garage Bar & Grill

1120 E. Kennedy Blvd. Tampa, FL 33602

**When:** Friday, April 8th from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

**Specials:** Bud Light Draft - \$2, Martinis - \$5, All Sushi - 25% off

**Facebook Page:** <http://www.facebook.com/HelpJapanTampaBay>

**Sponsors:** Bright House Networks, Sanchez Law Offices, Prospect Glamour, and Garage Bar & Grill.

Washington Post article:

***U.S. donations to Japan lag behind those after Katrina, Haiti***

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/donations-to-japan-lag-behind-those-for-katrina-haiti-/2011/03/17/ABWzt2n\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/donations-to-japan-lag-behind-those-for-katrina-haiti-/2011/03/17/ABWzt2n_story.html)

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