

## The 8<sup>th</sup> International Manga Award

Hoping to develop the popularity of manga culture, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Japan has created the International Manga Award (\*), awarding authors and artists for excellence in the writing and illustrating of manga. For this 8<sup>th</sup> International Manga award, 317 works were applied from 46 different countries and regions. After careful consideration, the Executive Committee chose 1 gold prize, 3 silver prizes and 11 bronze prizes including to the work “Pretty Deadly”, which was written by Oregon based resident Kelly Sue DeConnick. For more information about the International Manga award, please visit;

[http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press4\\_001754.html](http://www.mofa.go.jp/mofaj/press/release/press4_001754.html)

On April 3, Consul General Mr. Furusawa presented the award to Kelly Sue DeConnick at the Consular Office of Japan in Portland, on behalf of Foreign Minister Kishida.

Ms. DeConnick said that “I have always liked Japanese manga and I have been lucky enough to translate such works as “SLAM DUNK” into English, so I was inspired to write my own original stories. I collaborated with Emma Rios, who lives in Spain, and is an extremely talented illustrator. I had the chance to live in Japan when I was little, and I hope to visit again soon.”

The Consular office of Japan in Portland wishes Kelly Sue DeConnick great success in the future.



(\*) The International Manga Award was founded in 2007 by then Foreign Minister Aso. The purpose of this award is to recognize artists who contribute to the distribution of manga culture around the world and who advance international cultural exchange through manga.