

**SGI President's Essays To Be Aired in Los Angeles**  
**By TED MORINO**  
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Another series of readings in English and Japanese from SGI President Ikeda's book *Values and Visions: Portraits of Global Citizens* began airing on Oct. 4 in the Los Angeles area. The 26-week series on radio station KALI (AM 1430) is broadcast Sundays from 10:00–10:30 a.m.

The first four installments of this new series will be rebroadcasts of earlier broadcasts. The first series aired from April 1997–March 1998 in several Western states both in English and Japanese and in New York and Florida from June–August 1998 in English only.

Among those Mr. Ikeda recalls in this new series are Zhou Enlai, the late prime minister of China; Aleksei Kosygin, the late premier of the Soviet Union; and Rabbi Marvin Hier, dean and founder of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles.

The series is based on the SGI president's essays, which have appeared in both the *World Tribune* and *Living Buddhism*.

Producer Keiko Kimura says her motivation for these series stems from her desire to bring Mr. Ikeda's humanitarian ideals to a wide-ranging audience, many of whom only know of him by name.

"I wanted to introduce Daisaku Ikeda as the great global citizen that he is," she says. "Through this broadcast, many people who had initially misunderstood him and the Soka Gakkai have changed their views 180 degrees. This made me realize the power of his writing and his message. Listeners of this program said that Mr. Ikeda's words had given them hope and courage. I am not an SGI member nor a Buddhist. However, as long as there are people who are struggling in hopeless desperation, I feel it is my duty and responsibility to inspire these people through broadcasting Mr. Ikeda's essays."

Recently, in Los Angeles, a Japanese-language broadcast series of SGI President Ikeda's book *Song for Mothers* was concluded as well.

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