

# Japan America Society of Minnesota



## 通 信

*The Tsūshin is a membership publication of the Japan America Society of Minnesota*

February 2016 VOL. 25, No. 2

### 2016 Shinnenkai Kicks Off the New Year (Continued on Page 4)



Flamenco group  
Sachiko Nishiuchi "La Chayi" & Friends

On Sunday, January 17th, JASM members, friends, and community leaders braved the subzero temperatures of Minnesota winter in order to ring in the new year at JASM's 2016 Shinnenkai (New Year's Party) at the Eisenhower Community Center in Hopkins, MN. For Minnesotans who were unable to celebrate the

new year in Japan, JASM brought the culture of Japan to Minnesota! From the art of rice-cake pounding (*motchitsuki*) with the Minneapolis Japanese School to enjoying Japanese art and performances, citizens from around Minnesota were able to experience authentic Japanese traditions. Fitting for a Japanese New Year, the event was filled with delicious Japanese cuisine thanks to the efforts of Tomoko Drake, the Minnesota Oyaji Club, Tomodachi, JK's Table and Suishin Japanese Cuisine Restaurant.

Each attendee was offered a free *ozouni* soup: a traditional Japanese New Year dish eaten to celebrate hope for the year ahead. Sushi, dango, mochi, curry, gyoza, and many other delectable Japanese foods were also available to enjoy. While patrons filled up on Japanese cuisine, there was no lack of lively entertainment. Musical artists filled the venue with the sounds of koto music by Sakura Kai and taiko drumming by Mu Daiko. The traditional Japanese dances performed by Mikaharukai reminded guests of an ancient Japanese era. Throughout the evening, guests were also able to witness and participate in several exhibitions, including learning how to play the koto, tying on obi, and dressing up as traditional samurai.

For those redecorating for the New Year, many Japanese items were also available to purchase at the JASM International Market and Silent Auction. Generously donated items such as Japanese lanterns, chinaware, lacquerware, certificates, and even concert tickets were in high demand at the silent auction, while fine items such as an elegant Geisha doll, traditional art, obi and Japanese trinkets were sold at the JASM market! (Continued on Page 4)



Junko Fillmer of  
Mikaharu-Kai

### J-Quiz: The Clock is Ticking!

February is around the corner, and the clock winds down as the Minnesota community senses that it's almost time for J-Quiz! J-Quiz, the Upper Midwest Japanese Language and Culture Competition, will be held at Normandale Community College on Saturday, February 13th. The annual contest is the culmination of many hours of preparation by volunteers and is a collaborative event that JASM presents in cooperation with the Minnesota Council of Teachers of Japanese and with the support of the Consulate General of Japan in Chicago. This year over 80 students from 10 high schools—including two high schools from Eau Claire, Wisconsin—will be competing in this intense competition. The contest tests the ability of Japanese language and cultural knowledge at three levels of high school curriculum: Level II, Level III and Level IV. JASM will send the first place winners at each level to the National Japan Bowl in April in Washington D.C. to compete for the national championship. The winners will also be able to attend the annual Sakura Festival—a festival celebrating the enduring friendship between the United States and Japan. JASM's annual J-Quiz will begin on Saturday morning, with registration of student teams at 7:30 a.m. followed by the writing of essays (*sakubun*) and the Preliminary Round that begins at 8:30 a.m. Following a Bento Box lunch for students, the fierce competition can be seen at the Final Rounds of competition that begin in the Lorenz Auditorium at 12:20 p.m. The Final Rounds are open to the public—everyone is welcome to cheer on their team!

The fun of J-Quiz is not only for registered competitors! In addition to the competitive sessions, there will also be free cultural presentations in the morning by experts in Japanese culture, which are open to the public. Presenters include a scholar of Japanese manga history, and a Shakuhachi player. All exhibitions will be held in the college auditorium of the Fine Arts Building from 9:40 a.m. We invite everyone, including the friends and families of the participants, to show support for these young scholars during the Final Rounds, which start at 12:30 p.m. We also invite everyone to come see these amazing exhibitions by the authorities in Japanese culture.



2015 J-Quiz Winners in Washington D.C.

#### Date:

Saturday, February  
13th, 2016

#### Location:

Normandale  
Community College,  
France Avenue South  
and 98th Street,  
Bloomington, MN

**FULL J-QUIZ SCHEDULE ON PAGE 2**

## The Passing of Charlie Boone

By Dean Potter



Charlie Boone, former WCCO radio announcer, believer in good causes and all around good guy passed away last November 22<sup>nd</sup>. It was my privilege to have known Charlie shortly after he came to WCCO.

Charlie was a strong and positive person who championed many causes and who had at that time corrected a

health problem of his own – he quit smoking and was proud of doing so. As a volunteer for the American Cancer Society (ACS) this worked well for me as I was writing anti-smoking PSA broadcasting spots for the ACS. WCCO preferred my spots to the taped ones supplied by the ACS as it gave the station a chance to display their own talent, including that of Charlie Boone's.

In the mid-sixties Charlie hosted a WCCO Asian Good Neighbor tour with the first and last five days spent in Japan. Charlie found that Japan seemed familiar, as if he had been there before. "The art, the architecture, the civility, even the language became easy for me" everything about it, I was fascinated with it, I just grew to love Japan," he said.

His listeners enjoying his description of Japan, its culture and people, soon learned to love Japan too. This worked well for my wife Masako and me too. I was volunteering for Japanese culture organizations and Masako was showing Japanese culture through dance.

Charlie and his twin sister Charlotte were born August 21, 1927 to the Rev. Francis and Lillian Boone in Rutland, Vermont. The family later moved to New London, Connecticut where Charlie attended the Bulkeley School for boys before enlisting in the US Air Corps in 1945. Upon his discharge in 1948, Charlie moved to California and furthered his education studying drama and art at San Francisco State University and Chouinard Art Institute. He had put his drama education to good use by becoming a member of the San Francisco Repertory Theatre.

In the 1950s Charlie's father got a new church in Minnesota and Charlie rejoined his family. He also found himself in a new career – a broadcasting career starting at a small Minnesota radio station. He soon moved to larger station in Colorado Springs and then to Fargo/Morehead's KFGO where he became known as the deejay host of rock concerts by visiting musicians – in fact he was to host his biggest event in 1959: the Buddy Holly-Ritchie Valens-Big Bopper concert in Fargo. The concert never happened as the plane carrying the musicians to Fargo had crashed with all lives lost. It was a sad moment for Charlie and the musicians' fans. The reputation he built at KFGO, though, served him well and brought him to the Twin Cities and WCCO in July of 1959.

Charlie was given his own program, *Boone in the Afternoon*, following another brand new announcer, Roger Erickson. In his pause between the two shows, Charlie and Roger traded chatter – good chatter – (Continued on Page 5)

## J-Quiz Itinerary

### J-Quiz Schedule:

\*\*\*This schedule is subject to change.

- 8:00 a.m. – Opening Ceremony
- 9:40 a.m. – Shakuhachi Flute Performance by Leo Hanson
- 10:05 a.m. – Lecture by Frenchy Lunning, History of Manga
- 10:40 a.m. – Shakuhachi Flute Performance by Leo Hanson
- 11:05 a.m. – Lecture by Frenchy Lunning, History of Manga
- 12:30 pm – Final Round, Closing Ceremony, & Award Presentation

**Leo Hanson** discovered the Shakuhachi while traveling in Japan in 1992. He now teaches and performs the traditional Japanese instrument in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

**Frenchy Lunning** is the director of Schoolgirls and Mobilesuits: Culture and Creation in Manga and Anime and the Mechademia Conference, the only academic conference in the United States focusing on Asian popular culture. She is also a professor at the Minneapolis College of Art & Design.

**The Final Rounds and Cultural programs are open for the public to enjoy! Cultural Programs and the Final Rounds will be held in the Lorenz Auditorium in the Fine Arts Building.**

**Note: Location of these events can be found on the first page.**

(If you are a parent, please ask your student which level they are in, and at what time their final round is!)



Japan Bowl Trip to Washington D.C. Illustration by Kyla Wiley, one of the 2015 J-Quiz winners

### Membership News

Thanks to the following  
Renewing JASM Members:

Atsuko Arimura, Suzuko M Erickson, William & Yuriko Farmer, Phaeton Holland, Yumi Iwasaki, Marnie Jorenby, Yasushi & Naoko Nakagawa, Jutta Thompson

Thanks to the following  
New JASM Members:

Clinton & Christine Conner, Kinue Hook, Kazue Kay Merritt, Hannah Thompson

Thanks to the following  
Renewing Corporate Members:

Hubbard Broadcasting, Inc., Kiku Enterprises, Inc., Microbiologics, Inc.



## Taste of Japan Returns

It's been a while, but Bloomington-Izumi Sister City Organization's Taste of Japan is back on this year!

Join us on Saturday, March 12th, 2016 at the Hilton Minneapolis/Bloomington for an evening of entertainment provided by Harisen Daiko, Sansei Yonsei Kai, and Seiryuukan Dojo, along with a brand new menu of Japanese cuisine, a silent auction, interactive activities, and door prizes for attendees. We're welcoming Japan-centric groups from around the Twin Cities area to participate as well. Come learn about local organizations focused on Japanese language and culture!

Ticket prices for non-members are \$55 for adults and \$25 for students (under age 22 years, with ID). BSCO member ticket prices are \$50 and \$20, respectively. Vegetarian options and kids' meals are also available. As a fundraiser for a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, a portion of the price of your ticket reservation for Taste of Japan is tax deductible. Please contact us for details.

Visit <http://www.bloomington-izumi.org> to register, or e-mail us at [bloomingtonsistercity@gmail.com](mailto:bloomingtonsistercity@gmail.com) for more information!

YOU ARE INVITED!  
BLOOMINGTON SISTER CITY ORGANIZATION

## TASTE OF JAPAN

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER DINNER

Saturday, March 12, 2016  
6:00 to 10:00pm

Hilton Minneapolis/Bloomington  
3900 American Boulevard West  
Please Register Online at:  
[www.bloomington-izumi.org](http://www.bloomington-izumi.org)

### ENJOY AN EVENING WITH:

Harisen Daiko • Sansei Yonsei Kai Dance Group • Seiryuukan Dojo

Japanese Cuisine

Silent Auction and Door Prizes

Star Supporter and Spirit Awards

BSCO Members: \$50/adult; \$20/student (22 yrs & under)

Non-Members: \$55/adult; \$25/student (22 yrs & under)

Reservations deadline: March 1, 2016

Questions? Call: 651-243-2726 or [bloomingtonsistercity@gmail.com](mailto:bloomingtonsistercity@gmail.com)

\$30 of the registration is tax-deductible. BSCO is a 501c3 non-profit organization.

**Please thank our members  
with your support!**

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Minnesota Trade Office  
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NDSU-Emily Reynolds Historic Costume Collection  
U of MN Dept. of Asian Languages and Literatures, Japanese Language Program  
US-China Business Connections  
Winona State Univ. Global Studies Dept.

## Corporate Membership Spotlight: Emily Reynolds Historic Costume Collection

**NDSU** NORTH DAKOTA  
STATE UNIVERSITY

The Emily Reynolds Historic Costume Collection (ERHCC) was founded out of the efforts of Emily P. Reynolds, a faculty member from 1948 to 1981 at North Dakota State University. The first items of ERHCC were donated by long-time Fargo residents, as well as from Reynolds' students and their families. ERHCC grew substantially in the 1970s, and in 1984, the collection received its name in honor of its founder who passed in late 1981. Today, the collection contains over 5000 objects.

A major component of the Japanese collection in the Historic Costume Collection is "Miss Okayama". In 1927, a doll exchange took place between Japanese and American children to develop a better understanding of diversity and culture. Almost 13,000 American-made dolls were sent to Japan. In return, over two million Japanese children raised money to have Japan's finest doll makers create a total of 58 dolls—more than one for each state. Each Friendship Doll is 33 inches tall, and draped in silk kimono. Additionally, each doll was given a passport, steamship ticket and play accessories such as parasols and tea sets. North Dakota received Miss Okayama, the doll from Okayama Prefecture, Japan, in 1928. The crest of the Sasaki family from the city of Okayama marks her kimono. In 1973, the Red Cross—caretakers for the doll at the time—asked North Dakota State University to take her under their wing. She became a highlight of the NDSU's *Around the World Doll Collection*, a selection of 400 dolls.

In 2001, the Okayama Chapter of the Japan-America Cultural Exchange Society sponsored the restoration of Miss Okayama. She returned to Japan to be restored by the son of the doll's artist. Returning to NDSU in 2002, she remains a keystone in the *Around the World Doll Collection*, greeting patrons on their way to learn about cultures from around the world.

JASM welcomes the Emily Reynolds Historic Costume Collection as a non-profit member into the JASM community, and looks forward to expanding the cultural awareness of Japan hand-in-hand, in both Minnesota, North Dakota, and beyond. For more information about the Emily Reynolds Historic Costume Collection's history, collections, or services, please visit <https://www.ndsu.edu/erhcc>.



"Miss Okayama",  
Japanese Friendship  
Doll

## 2016 Shinnenkai Kicks Off the New Year (Continued from Page 1)

Those interested in more traditional Japanese art experienced the beautiful ikebana creations of the Ikebana Sogetsu Group, the demonstrations of Seiryuukan Dojo of Seizankai Toyama Ryu Batto Jutsu, calligraphy, and mastering the kendama. Community building between the cultures of Minnesota and Japan were also promoted by the Bloomington Sister City Organization, Concordia Language Villages, Nihonjin Kai, and the St. Paul-Nagasaki Sister City Committee. For those who were too exhausted from the exciting festivities, Zen Healing Center offered free massages.

In order to help teach others about the culture of Japan, Shinnenkai also brought many Japanese exhibitors, performers, and demonstrators together under one roof. Once again, this year's Shinnenkai has been a record-breaking year in terms of attendance, with 400 people, including volunteers and performers. The great success of this event is thanks to the support of our sponsor, donors, performers, exhibitors, and volunteers. The generosity and support that was received is truly appreciated. JASM looks forward to making the next Shinnenkai just as exciting, and hopes to see you there in 2017.

### JASM would like to give heartfelt thanks to the following groups and individuals that made this event possible:

DESIGN  
READY  
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**ASIAN  
FOODS**

**Sponsor:** Design Ready Controls, Inc.

**Donors:** Breadsmith, Dale Studios, Great Harvest Bread Company, Ron Leonhardt, Susan Doffing, Sweets Kendamas, Takehito & Richiko Kamata

**Food Donors:** Asian Foods, Tomoko Drake & Friends, Tomodachi

**Emcee:** Betsy Linehan-Skillings

**Entertainment:** Asako Hirabayashi, Mikaharukai, Mu Performing Arts, JKPM, Sachiko Nishiuchi "La Chayi" & Friends, Sakura Kai, Sweets Kendamas, Shohei, Yuki, Momoko, Miyuki & Asako

**Exhibitors:** Bloomington Sister City Organization, Concordia Language Villages, Japanese Speaking Club, Kimono Studio by Rin, Nagomi Ya, Nihonjin Kai, Samantha Rei, Seiryuukan Dojo of Seizankai Toyama Ryu Batto Jutsu, Sogetsu Ikebana, Saint Paul - Nagasaki Sister City Committee, Sweets Kendamas, WakuWaku, Zen Healing Center

**Food:** JK's Table, Minnesota Oyaji Club (MOC), Moko Cakes, Suishin Restaurant

**Kitchen:** Mizuho Castle, Tomoko Drake, Asuka Ichikawa, Masaaki Kawase, Yukiko Kawase, Kazunori Kuroki, Ruth Kuroki, Miyuki Nicols, Ayumi Malin, Madeleine Malin, Jacob Malin, John Martin, Kayoko Mitsuishi, Yuko Moon, Mami Russel, Yoshio Sato, Eri Sato, Naomi Satoh, Tomoko Silbert, Shoji Suzuki, Tatsuhiko Tanaka, Yoko Toda

**Volunteers:** Mario Acito, Mimi Bekele, Jessica Bemlott, Ben Burhe, Padra Chang, Grisell Cruz-Garcia, Skylar Fegel, Nikolai Golben, Alasyn Hauge, Heejin Hong, Bora Leng, Tomoko Matsui, Heidi McCalla, Daniel McLean, Mae Singer, Midori S, Lenneth Kari Strikefield, Kasumi Tago, Hannah Thompson, Jonathan Wang, Tou Yang, Samantha Yang, Masako Yoshida

**JASM Office Team:** Ben van Lierop, Rio Saito, Yeeun Kim, Zach Luther, Lindsey Sederstrom

**JASM Shinnenkai Committee Co-Leaders:** Chris Armacost, Richiko Kamata

**Also Thanks To:**

Michael Nilan for support of the Emcee, and Japanese Minneapolis School for Usu & Kine.



Thanks to Tomoko Drake & Kitchen Crew for preparing delicious Japanese meals!



## The Passing of Charlie Boone (Continued from Page 2)

...and in 1961 they came together as *Boone and Erickson*, a winning partnership that lasted 37 years. Rodger retired in 1998 but Charlie stayed, moving to Saturday mornings from 6 to 9 AM until he reached his 51<sup>st</sup> year at WCCO in 2010 and he retired too.

Charlie, a believer and participant in causes, will be remembered by people whose causes he aided through his on-the-air guests and endorsements of the causes he described. One of the causes that we in JASM are grateful for is his love of Japanese and the Japanese guests he had on the air. Charlie spoke well of Japan and the Japanese when a few others still continued to use the negative three-letter “J” word.

In 1997, Charlie emceed the first JASM Mondale Awards dinner when the Mondale Award was presented to its namesakes Walter and Joan Mondale. In 2009, one of Charlie’s last on-the-air interviews was that of Walter Mondale about to receive the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Paulownia Flowers, the highest Japanese award a foreigner could receive.

In his final years, Charlie remained active volunteering his time to his causes, one of which was recording books for the blind. He also enjoyed visiting old friends like John and former Saint Paul-Nagasaki Sister City Committee board member Midori Flomer, owners of Midori’s Floating World Café, 2629 East Lake Street, Minneapolis.

Charlie is survived by his loving wife Dr. Carol Heen, his daughter Jaimie (Eric) Lavenger, son Christopher (Shelly) Boone, twin sister Charlotte, four grandchildren, one great grandson and thousands of listeners who were with him and his causes.

*Written by Dean S. Potter*

*Former JASM Board Member*

## Look for Full Report on Renowned Printmaker Ayomi Yoshida’s Visit to Minneapolis in Next Tsushin

On Thursday, January 28th, the JASM Nichibei Lecture Series presented a lecture from Ayomi Yoshida, celebrated printmaker and installation artist, at the Minneapolis Institute of Art (Mia). Ms. Yoshida spoke of the history of her artwork, and the story behind her esteemed family’s legacy. She is currently holding an exhibition of her work, entitled “As Cherry Blossoms Fall” at the Perlman Teaching Museum’s Braucher Gallery at Carleton

College from January 22nd to March 9th, to highlight the devastating impacts of climate change on the blooming patterns of cherry blossoms, as well as people’s daily lives. For the full story on the lecture and her family’s histories, stay tuned for the next issue of the Tsushin!



## Demons Out, Luck In!

Celebrated annually on February 3<sup>rd</sup> as part of the Spring Festival, *setsubun* marks the day before the beginning of spring in Japan, and literally translates as “seasonal division”. Previously thought of a version of New Year’s Eve, *setsubun* has existed since the Muromouchi Period (from the 14th to 16th centuries), and was accompanied by a special ritual in order to cleanse away the evil of the former year, as well as drive away evil spirits for the year to come. This special ritual is called *mamemaki*, or “bean scattering”. Roasted soybeans, called “fortune beans”, are thrown at either the male head of the household, or the male who was born on the corresponding Zodiac year. The male wears a demon (*oni*) mask, and through the beans the *oni*’s bad energy is driven out of the household. While throwing the beans, the family members yell, “Demons out, luck in!” in order to ring in a year filled with good fortune.

After the throwing of the beans, it is customary to eat a roasted bean for each year of one’s life, and an additional one to symbolize bringing good luck for the coming year. Although commonly done in the household, many families often go view this spectacle at their local shrine or temple’s Spring Festival. A long-standing tradition of Japan, *setsubun* is a fun, yet historical practice of bringing in a fortunate year with cheer. Perhaps if throw beans at your very own *oni*, you will also have a lucky year!



## Delta’s Direct Flight to Tokyo from Minnesota in Question?

In 2007 Northwest Airlines celebrated 60 years of flying from Minnesota to Japan. Now that daily flight service from Minneapolis/St. Paul to Tokyo may be in question. The issue is the increase in use of Tokyo’s Haneda Airport for international flights between the U.S. and Japan for U.S. air carriers. Presently Delta has a major hub for Asia at Narita Airport that serves the direct flight from Minneapolis/St. Paul to Tokyo.

The Japanese government and the U.S. Department of Transportation will be making an agreement in early February concerning limited increase in flights into Haneda Airport for U.S. and Japanese air carriers. Delta Air Lines believes that further increase in the opening of landing rights will put Delta at a disadvantage with their U.S. competitors, United Airlines and America Airlines, due to their partnerships with Japanese air carriers. The fear is that Haneda will become more popular for travelers going to Tokyo, and other Asian cities, and that Narita will no longer be profitable as a hub for Delta, and the flight from Minneapolis/St. Paul to Narita may be discontinued. (Continued on Page 7)



## 何故本を読むか？

世界のジョークという本「5人寄れば」英国人は議論を、アメリカ人は成功への話題、或南東アジア人は一缶のコカコーラの飲みまわしを。日本人は？漫画本の読み回しをするが正解。各々社会状況を語っていて面白い。或る日本の大学長が此の図書館を訪れた本棚に目寄せて回られ「娯楽の本が殆どですね」国会図書館級を期待して居られたか？老若男女貧富社会的位置を問わず此处で一番喜ばれるのは確かに漫画棚「嬉しい！素敵！」が聞こえる寝転んで人の気配に気付かない程読耽って居れた博士様。「本の読み方」は三つに区別されるとか？



面白い娯乐的、必読は教科書や職業関係、心の糧になる本がトップ。物心付いた三、四歳から家庭不和に生き、小学校五年生の夏、終戦で学校無し。街角でソ連兵を追っ駆け煙草売り露店貸本屋で吉川英二の宮本武蔵、三国志、水滸伝を読んだ12歳。引揚船上で拾った掌大の新聞切れを隠し読んだ。六・三・三が義務教育になると帰宅拒否の私は図書館で戦争と平和、罪と罰等に追い出されるまで粘った。写真は孔子から初刊100年前の聖書、親鸞、ガンジー、トランプ自伝等。宝石の代わりに鏡の前に並べられた私の宝物。

**Yoko Breckenridge**

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## Tom Haeg's Book Review: *Beauty Given by Grace*

*Beauty Given by Grace: The Biblical Prints of Sadao Watanabe*; Square Halo Books, 2012, 111 pages; \$20.56, Barnes and Noble.



Sadao Watanabe (1913-1996) is the preeminent 20<sup>th</sup> century Japanese printmaker in the *mingei* (folk art) tradition in Japan. From an early age, he apprenticed for years in dyers' shops, learning the craft by sweeping floors, sketching patterns, sweeping floors, dyeing clothes, sweeping floors.... His artistic brow eventually came to pass when in his late-20s he just happened to attend an exhibition of Serizawa Keisuke (1895-1984) at the Tokyo Folk Art Museum. And away we go. They met and immediately developed a *sensei* -student relationship, elevating

Watanabe's stencil and dyeing craft to a distinctive art form.

The Watanabe subject matter is exclusively biblical prints framed in a Japanese context. For example, in his Last Supper (1981) scene, the apostles are outfitted with kimonos and sushi and sake are substituted for bread and wine. It is a curious, intuitive and ecumenical fusion of Buddhism and Christianity. And it works.

While his biblical prints are the surface attraction, his craft with paper is equally amazing. From the very beginning he learned to us *kozo* paper from the mulberry tree and *momigami*, then kneaded his paper to display his art. He hand-crumpled, squeezed, and wrinkled the paper to create a special texture. He embraced the *katazome* technique, a combination of organic and mineral pigments in a soybean milk base, for his colors. He discovered that the milk's protein enhanced bonding of the color to paper. A similar technique is shared by Japanese master potters in Japan for over 13 generations who rely on natural and indigenous materials.

Notwithstanding his fame, Watanabe remained true to the *mingei* approach, -simplicity. "I don't want my works simply decorating churches. I would most like to see [my prints] hanging where people ordinarily gather, because Jesus brought the gospel for the people." Yet his extant fame has received international recognition well beyond Japanese shores. His prints have been exhibited in the Vatican Museum, the British Museum, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the National Museum of Modern Art in Tokyo and the White House during the Johnson Presidential Administration.

*Beauty Given by Grace* has excellent narrations by four Watanabe experts, -Sandra Bowden, I. John Hesselink, Makoto Fujimura and John A. Kohan, to explain the art work. It contains over 70 prints displayed in high-quality, gloss paper.

-Tom Haeg

JASM members are welcome to attend a reception, hosted by Tom Haeg and Sue Hanson, for the traveling exhibition *Beauty Given by Grace*, graphic art composed by Sadao Watanabe, which is being exhibited from January 22nd - March 11, 2016 at the Alice R. Rogers and Target Galleries at St. John's University, endowed by Tom Haeg and Sue Hanson.

**Date (of reception):** Friday, February 26th

**Time:** 5:00-7:00pm

**Location:** Alice R. Rogers and Target Galleries at St. John's University

2836 St Thomas Dr, Collegeville, MN 56321

**Guest Speaker at 6:00pm:** Alan Reed, OSB, Curator of Art, HMML

Please RSVP for this event at [tomhaeg@msn.com](mailto:tomhaeg@msn.com) no later than Friday, February 12, 2016.



## Delta's Direct Flight to Tokyo from Minnesota in Question? (Continued from Page 5)

This may seem like a fight only for Delta to engage in, but a closer look shows that there is more to this. An official of Delta said earlier last week that the discontinuation of the direct flight would hurt the international business activities of the state of Minnesota. Jeff Hamiel, the Minneapolis/St. Paul airport commission's chief executive said, "Minnesota businesses need access to Asia [and] one of the reasons Minneapolis-St. Paul enjoys a concentration of Fortune 500 companies ... is because of connectivity to global markets, easy access to Europe and Asia". (Star Tribune, Jan. 20, 2016, p. A7)

Your help is needed. Please consider calling or sending an email to the Department of Transportation to request that Tokyo Haneda Airport be fully open to international competition and allow all air carriers to compete on an equal basis. Thank you for your support of this petition. The contact information is written below:

Ben van Lierop, JASM Executive Director

### Contact information

Department of Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx

Phone: (202) 366-1111

Email: [anthony.foxx@dot.gov](mailto:anthony.foxx@dot.gov)

Chief of Staff: Dan Katz

Phone: (202) 366-9201



## Japan America Society Calendar

### February

### J-Quiz - February 13th

\*If you would like to let JASM know about an upcoming event, e-mail us at [jasm.interns@gmail.com](mailto:jasm.interns@gmail.com)\*

## Japanese Speaking Club

The Japanese Speaking Club is an informal meeting place for those wishing to practice Japanese. We encourage those just beginning the language as well as native speakers to gather at the **Espresso Royale Café** in Downtown Minneapolis to meet new people, discuss experiences in Japan, or simply to speak Japanese. Come when you can, leave when you must.



**Date/Time:** Every Saturday at 3:00 p.m.

**Place:** Espresso Royale Café

1229 Hennepin Ave., Minneapolis, MN 55403

**For more information, visit [www.meetup.com](http://www.meetup.com) and search for the key words "Japanese speaking club"**

## 月例日本人会のお知らせ

毎月日本語図書館で日本人会の昼食会 (Monthly Nihonjin-kai) を行っています。電話などでお誘い合わせの上、お友達やお知り合いと一緒においで下さい。可能の方はどうぞ料理を1品ご持参願います。ミネソタ州在住の日本人達で良い事を考え、ご馳走と日本語で楽しい時間を持ちましょう。

日程：毎月第2月曜日正午より

場所：日本語図書館

(4231 Bloomington Ave S., Minneapolis, MN 55407)

また、毎週土曜日午後2時から、日本語図書館のお手伝いしてくださる方の集まりがあります。是非ご参加ください。この図書館には、漫画や宗教誌約25000冊や約2500本のビデオDVDがあり、希望者にはセルフサービスで日本人会と同じく無料で貸出しています。お問い合わせは下記までどうぞ。

Yoko Breckenridge

Cell phone: (612) 839-0008 E-mail: [Yoko@yoko4home.com](mailto:Yoko@yoko4home.com)

Nihonjin-kai monthly meeting on 2nd Monday, at noon, at 4231 Bloomington Ave S Minneapolis, MN 55407

## Become a JASM Member online!

*Support our mission and become a member!*

1. Go to [mn-japan.org](http://mn-japan.org)
2. Click on 'Membership' at the top
3. Select your membership type and read the benefits and instructions.

You can also become a member using your smart phone!

## Japan America Society of Minnesota

- ☐ Membership Application   ☐ Change of Address  
☐ Tax-deductible Donation

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name (2nd adult of a household membership) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make an additional tax-deductible donation of \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please make checks payable to JASM)

### Individual Membership

Patron.....	\$1,000+
Sustaining.....	\$500+
Contributing.....	\$100+
Individual .....	\$30
Student/Senior .....	\$20
Household .....	\$50
(2 adults plus children under 18)	

Japan America Society of Minnesota  
43 Main Street SE Suite EH—131  
Minneapolis, MN 55414

# Japan America Society of Minnesota



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43 Main Street SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55414-1031

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jasm@us-japan.org  
www.mn-japan.org

## 通信

Tsūshin  
February 2016

The Japan America Society of Minnesota is a non-profit, non-political association engaged in bringing the peoples of Japan and the United States closer together in mutual understanding, respect, and cooperation. Through programs and interchange, it endeavors to promote an appreciation of cultural, educational, economic, public, and other affairs of interest to both peoples. Membership in the society is open to individuals, corporations, and other organizations interested in furthering its programs.

The Japan America Society of Minnesota is a member of the National Association of Japan-America Societies.

*(Please report any inaccuracies you find in this publication to [jasm.interns@gmail.com](mailto:jasm.interns@gmail.com))*

## A New Year in Celebration

