

# Japan America Society of Minnesota



# 通 信

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

January 2017 VOL. 26, No. 1

## New Years Greetings

謹賀新年



新年おめでとうございます。本年も相変わらず、  
よろしくお願い致します。皆様のご健康とご多幸  
をお祈り申し上げます。

The Japan America Society of Minnesota wishes you  
and your family a joyful, bright, healthy, prosperous  
and happiest new year!!

January 1st, 2017

JASM Team

## JASM Celebrates 2016 at Annual Meeting and Bonenkai



President Marc Blehert giving his final remarks

JASM held its  
2016 Annual  
Meeting and  
Bonenkai at Sakura  
Restaurant on  
December 15<sup>th</sup>.  
Bonenkai is a  
tradition in Japan  
in which  
companies and  
organizations

celebrate the passing of the year with a gathering of co-workers  
and friends. The celebration is to “forget about the past year  
woes” and look forward to upcoming opportunities in the New  
Year. This year was a record for the number of attendees for the  
Annual Meeting and Bonenkai. JASM was also delighted to  
sign up a new family member at the end of the night.

(Continued on page 5)

## Shinnenkai 2017 New Years Celebration



Shinnenkai 2016 mochi (Japanese rice cake) making celebration.

Want to visit Japan?  
Here is your chance  
to do it without  
having to buy a plane  
ticket! The Japan  
America Society of  
Minnesota (JASM) is  
bringing the sights,  
tastes, and sounds of  
a Japanese New Year  
to Minnesota through  
our Shinnenkai

### About Shinnenkai 2017

Shinnenkai is annual New Year Celebration in which we hope  
to bring the traditions of a Japanese New Year celebration to  
Minnesota. We will be promoting cultural exchange and new  
experiences in a fun environment. There will be cultural  
performances, delicious Japanese food, a silent auction, mini-  
workshops, and children's activities. We hope to create a fun  
family atmosphere that allows people of all ages to come  
together and experience a Japanese New Year!

•Sunday, January 15th, 2017

•4:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.

### NEW LOCATION

Washington Technology Magnet School  
1495 Rice Street  
Saint Paul, 55117

Free: Children 5 and under

\$5: 6-18 years

\$10: ASM member

\$13: Non-JASM member

\$8: College Students (with ID)

\$8: Seniors (+65)

Family Package (Up to 2 adults and 2  
children)

\$20: JASM member

\$25: Non-JASM member

**Purchase your  
tickets in advance on  
our website !**

Prices will **increase** by  
2 dollars on the day of  
the event

### Shinnenkai will present:

- Activities & Demonstrations
- Food
- Entertainment and Performances
- Exhibitors
- Silent Auction



## Letter from the President

Dear JASM Members,

HAPPY NEW YEAR! In December, JASM held our Annual Meeting where we closed the books on a very successful 2016. Whether your interests reside in politics, business, music, sports, language or food – JASM had a program for you! I find the networking opportunities at JASM events second to none, always making new, fascinating contacts. In the meantime, JASM's reach is gradually extending beyond just the Twin Cities as we strive to engage the entire region we serve. After all, the 'M' in 'JASM' does not just stand for 'Minneapolis.' As JASM enters our 45<sup>th</sup> year of existence, attendance and interest in events continues to soar.



Marc Blehert  
JASM President

Following the Annual Meeting, per Japanese tradition, we did our best to 'forget 2016' at a spirited Bonenkai held at Sakura in St. Paul - a delectable restaurant and faithful JASM Corporate Member. Bonenkai's provide a wonderful opportunity to gather with friends to say *sayonara* to the trials and tribulations of the past year while preparing for a new beginning. In my opinion, a Bonenkai is a lot more relaxing and therapeutic than trying to commit to a New Year resolution. (I promise I'll make it to the gym tomorrow morning...)

The 2017 JASM calendar will kick-off at 4:00pm on Sunday, January 15 with one of our most popular events – the Shinnenkai! Please note, the Shinnenkai is moving to a new venue - the Great Hall at the Washington Technology Magnet School in St. Paul. Why has the Shinnenkai moved? Because we need more room to accommodate the ever expanding crowd! The Shinnenkai offers Japanese themed entertainment, food and activities for all ages – so bring your family and friends!

I am sad to say it has been four years since my last trip to Japan. I had the pleasure of introducing my wife, Amy, to the wonders of Japan over the course of 10-days, spanning New Year's Day 2013. We explored the wonders of Tokyo and Kamakura then ventured deep into Nagano Ken to enjoy the laid-back *onsen* life in the mountains. We hiked the cities and countryside, toured temples, shrines and castles while leaving piles of clean plates at Izakaya's in our wake. I do not know when we will have our next opportunity to visit Japan, so I am thankful for events like the Shinnenkai that bring the sights, sounds and tastes of Japan to Minnesota.

I wish you all a happy, healthy, prosperous 2017! Make sure to chew your mochi and see you at an upcoming event.

Marc Blehert

## Minneapolis Japanese School

平成29年度ミネアポリス日本語補習授業校 生徒募集

<http://www.minneapolisjapaneseschool.org/>

クラス	対象 年齢*	見学日・試 験 ・面接	募集期間
小学部 1年	満6歳	2月11日	平成28年11月1日～ 平成29年1月31日

対象年齢\*は平成29(2017)年4月1日時点での年齢

詳細は、ミネアポリス日本語補習授業校ホームページをご覧ください。参加をご希望の方は、松本 [seito@minneapolisjapaneseschool.org](mailto:seito@minneapolisjapaneseschool.org) までご連絡ください。

### Open House and Enrollment Interview at Minneapolis Japanese School

Class	Date of Birth	Application Deadline	Trial Class, Inter- view & Examina- tion
1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	4/2/2010 ~ 4/1/2011	1/31/2017	2/11/2017

If you are interested in attending, please contact Mai Matsumoto at [seito@minneapolisjapaneseschool.org](mailto:seito@minneapolisjapaneseschool.org).

## Membership News

### Thanks to the following Renewing JASM Members:

David Fink & Family, Asako Hirabayashi & Family, Nancy Nakaoka & Family, Jose Rivera, and Laura Johnson

### Thanks to the following New JASM Members:

Yoriko Price, Kim White, Sam Burnton, James Masterlark, and Tatsushi Kamano

### Thanks to the following Renewing JASM Corporate Members:

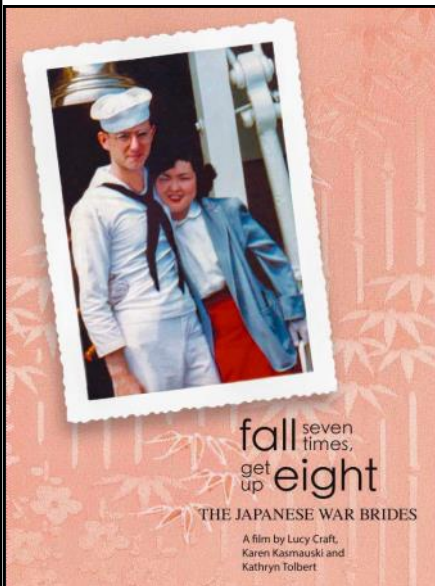
Hamre Schumann Muller & Larson, Microbiologics Inc, and JET Alumni Association of Minnesota

### Thanks to the following Renewing Sakura Circle Members:

Kenneth and Paula Port

## Film Viewing and Panel Discussion: "Fall Seven Times, Get Up Eight: The Japanese War Brides"

On Saturday, January 21st, 2017 Minneapolis Institute of Art will be hosting a film viewing and panel discussion for the film "Fall Seven Times, Get Up Eight: The Japanese War Brides." It is a free and open event to the public!



### Plot Summary:

Three women — all firstborn daughters of Japanese war brides — recall their mothers' lives in 1950s America. These were the brides young GIs brought home from an enemy nation. By at least one estimate, nearly 50,000 Japanese women crossed the Pacific as wives of American men between the end of WWII and the close of the 1950s... an unprecedented, heretofore unthinkable migration of Asian women to US shores and yet an event that has been largely overlooked. Living in mostly isolated communities scattered across the US, the women were left largely to their own devices as they tried to navigate a racially segregated American society. Drawing on personal anecdotes we paint a portrait of their saga that is in equal measure triumph, humor and sadness. We tell their stories both as journalists, and as the mixed-race children who experienced firsthand their dreams, struggles and aspirations.



**Saturday, January 21st, 2017 @ 1:30PM**

Minneapolis Institute of Art  
2400 Third Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404

Although this is free and open to the public, a ticket is required for this event.

**Check out our website for more details!**

## Corporate Membership Spotlight: MTS Systems Corporation



MTS Systems Corporation is a company that works side-by-side with engineers in a wide range of industries to solve complex challenges. MTS high-performance testing and sensing solutions are installed around the world, enabling exact control of forces and motions as well as real-time feedback that improve performance.

MTS celebrates 50 years of serving their customers. Their mission is to be the leader in creating innovative test and measurement solutions to help support customers' success. They also have

a vision of using innovation and customer service to create value to drive growth. MTS test and measurement solutions have brought value to their customers' new products through improved reliability, superior safety, enhanced precision, greater sustainability, and autonomous capability.

JASM is excited to announce that MTS Systems Corporation has become a JASM Corporate Member at the Benefactor Level. Japan has become an important market for MTS products and we are grateful for the financial support of MTS Systems.

(This information was taken from [www.mts.com](http://www.mts.com))

*Please thank our members with your support!*

### Corporate Benefactor Members

Daikin Applied  
Delta Airlines, Inc.  
MTS Systems Corporation  
Taiyo International  
Tennant Company

### Patron Members:

Bowman and Brooke, LLP  
St. Jude Medical, Inc.

### Corporate Sustaining Members

Anime Twin Cities, Inc.  
3M Company  
Dorsey & Whitney, LLP  
Gray Plant Mooty, Mooty & Bennett, PA  
Hamre, Schumann, Mueller & Larson, PC  
Hubbard Broadcasting, Inc.  
Japan Lifeline Co. Ltd.  
Mall of America  
Medtronic, Inc.  
MGK, Inc.  
Mocon, Inc.  
Naigai Industries U.S.A. Inc.  
Proto Labs, Inc.  
The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Ltd.

### Corporate Contributing Members

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Deloitte Tax, LLP  
Microbiologics, Inc.  
Nagomi Ya Senior Living  
Sysco Asian Foods  
Satellite Industries, Inc.  
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### Partners in Service

Bloomington Sister City Organization  
Fitger's Inn  
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JK's Table  
Kiku Enterprises, Inc.  
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Osaka Roseville Restaurant  
Sakura Restaurant  
Saint Paul Saints Baseball Club  
Suishin Restaurant  
Tomodachi  
Zen Healing Center

### Nonprofit Members

Concordia Language Village  
Economic Club of Minnesota  
Global Minnesota  
Greater MSP  
JETAA Minnesota  
JETRO Chicago  
Minnesota Trade Office  
KCC-Japan Education Exchange  
Macalester College Asian Language & Culture Department  
Minneapolis Japanese School  
Minneapolis Institute of Art  
Mu Performing Arts  
NDSU-Emily Reynolds Historic Costume Collection  
U of MN Dept. of Asian Languages and Literatures, Japanese Language Program  
Winona State Univ. Global Studies Dept.

## “Exploring Japan” by 2016 Mondale Scholarship Recipient, Christian Grande



Christian Grande and fellow classmates in Nikko, Japan

After three months of living in Japan, exploring Japan and making friends with the Japanese people have really painted my experience of the Japanese culture. I

appreciated the more traditional aspects of the Japanese culture, and I found myself coming to Asakusa frequently for my study of the shamisen. Through my school and the PEACE Organization, a group providing free tourist services, I was able to meet my current shamisen teacher. The PEACE Organization gave us the experience of wearing a kimono and playing the shamisen, and I knew that I wanted to play the shamisen after hearing my Sensei play. Whenever my schedule had an opening, I would come every Friday to pass the time playing the shamisen with my Sensei. We’d play songs like *Sakura*, *Kagome Kagome*, and *Oedo Nihonbashi*, and even though there was a language barrier, we really enjoyed each other’s company. Playing the shamisen with my Sensei really gave me a different perspective of Japanese culture, and throughout that time, I had the feeling that “this is the Japanese culture for me.”

Following shamisen practice, I would go to Brass Club practice on Tuesdays and Fridays to play the trombone with my fellow bandmates at Bunkyo Gakuin University. For me, it was amazing to play the trombone again after taking a two-year break, and joking with them in Japanese was something that I’ve always looked forward to. Music brought us together, and interacting with them improved my skills in both music and Japanese. These people inspire me with their hard work and skill in music, and both the Brass Club and my homestay family were always kind to me.

My homestay family also brought me to Kawagoe and surprised me with a tea ceremony from one of their friends. We spent our time walking around Kawagoe looking for all seven temples of the gods of fortune. The smell of incense and the beauty of the temples helped me to relax, and I felt happy indulging in Japan’s tradition of Buddhism. I enjoyed my time with my family, and once they learned about my love for tea, they thoughtfully brought me to a family friend who knew about *Sado*, the Japanese tea ceremony. From the mixing of the *matcha* powder in the *chawan* (tea bowl) to the presentation of the *wagashi* (traditional Japanese snacks), everything was carefully considered. My host family really took my interest in shrines, temples, and *matcha* into consideration, and I am deeply grateful for the thoughtfulness that they put into making my experience in Japan memorable.

Using my language abilities in Japanese really helped me to grow a deeper appreciation for traditional Japan and the people I made friends with. Through my interests in music, temples, shrines, and *matcha*, I connected with my Japanese friends, and I found that they also appreciated me for being so interested in their culture. Investing in the Japanese culture over the last three months has been a reward in itself, and my experiences here have made me a lot more globally aware. From my experiences in Japan, I hope that people will see the rewards of investing in another culture, and I hope to show everyone what Japan means to me upon my return home.

## “Joining Clubs in Japan” by 2016 Mondale Scholarship Recipient, Robert Hanson

I arrived in Japan a bit over two months ago, with little idea of what lies ahead. Now, as I settle into a daily routine, I don’t yet know exactly what to expect in the coming months.

Oftentimes, I can’t believe how quickly time is passing for me here in Japan. Plus, I can’t believe how much I’ve learned, experienced, and changed. Every day offers something new, whether it be with the people I meet or the places I go.

I spent the first few weeks of class trying to figure out the expectations and workload. After a while, I came to a conclusion: I don’t need to spend nearly as much time on my school work here as I do at my home institution. Professors simply assign less reading and homework compared to my first two years of college. As my life here rolled into October, I suddenly found myself with much more free time than what I originally expected.

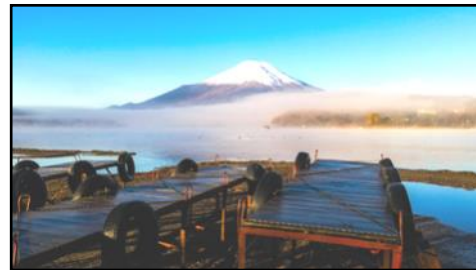
Luckily, I’ve put this time to good use. I followed through with my goal of finding a fun club to join. In fact, I joined three clubs. The first club is an international exchange club called Niji no Kai. The club hosts a number of events intent on bringing Japanese students and exchange students together. As the most well-known and perhaps biggest club at Waseda, I’ve been able to meet a dizzying amount of people here. The club has pushed me to the limits of my skills in remembering other people’s names. I’ve apologized on several occasions when asked, “Do you remember me?” I suppose there are downsides to my easily recognizable two-meter-tall frame.

Perhaps my favorite event with this club came just last weekend when we traveled to Yamanashi-ken for a fall retreat filled with sports, performances, and an amazing view of Mt. Fuji. With over 130 students, 60 of which were exchange students, it was a unique and interesting mix of cultures.

The second club I joined is an English conversation club called Paddy. As a native English speaker, along with a few other exchange students, I provide help with everyday conversation. Paddy’s relatively small membership has allowed me to make some great friends. I’ll be heading on the club’s autumn retreat this weekend to Saitama-ken, so needless to say, I’m excited. The final club I’ve joined is the only club I originally planned to join: badminton. However, as I emailed various Waseda badminton clubs, I was unable to join their clubs for a variety of reasons. A couple practiced too far away, another only accepted new recruits in spring and so on. My solution was to join the badminton club at ICU. They practice a few times a week, the college is on my commute home, and the club members are wonderful people.

In addition to my studies at Waseda, my life thus far in Japan has centered around these clubs. I go out to eat with friends I’ve met through the clubs, plus we go on day trips together. With them, I have found a place of belonging here in Japan. I still don’t know what lies ahead in the next eight months, but I do

know my adventures will be with the students in these clubs, and I’m just as excited to find out as I was when I stepped off the plane in Narita.



A trip Robert Hanson took to Yamanashiken, Japan and viewed Mt. Fuji

## Annual Meeting and Bonenkai Cont.



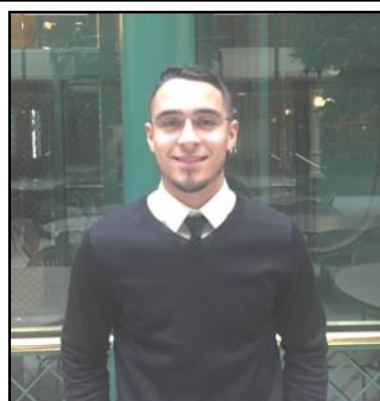
JASM members and friends discussing over drinks

The night started off with the Annual Meeting with the welcome by the new JASM President, Marc Blehert. Ken Port, past president of JASM presented the election of the new JASM Board Officers. The financial report was given by the JASM Treasurer, Shannon Meyer. The 2016 report was presented by JASM Executive Director, Ben van Lierop. JASM had a record breaking year with many events we hosted this year. Some of them included record breaking attendance and donations as with the Mondale Gala, the Lantern Lighting Festival, and the 2016 Shinnenkai. Clint Conner was also nominated and approved as a new JASM board member. The closing remarks were given by Marc Blehert. JASM is very happy and thankful for the successful year we have had!

JASM members and friends enjoyed the opportunity to discuss and share conversation over Japanese cuisine and beverages by Sakura Restaurant. As the Bonenkai drew to an end, everyone looked forward to more opportunities for JASM members and friends to gather and connect at future events. JASM is very thankful for amazing year with many successful events to celebrate the U.S.-Japan relationship. We look forward to the new year of 2017, and thank everyone who was able to make it to the Annual Meeting and Bonenkai. JASM hopes to see you at our upcoming event, 2017 Shinnenkai!

## はじめまして！

## New JASM Intern: Hafid Darbaki



Hello, my name is Hafid Darbaki, and I am the new Events Coordinator at JASM. I was born and raised in the northwest metro area, and I am currently a junior at the University of Minnesota. I am majoring in Business and Marketing. Ever since middle school, I have been a student-athlete. The sport I enjoy most is soccer - I've played my whole life and currently coach a youth team as well. Apart

from soccer, I also enjoy watching mixed martial arts (MMA), particularly from Japan. My other hobbies include playing video games with friends and family, practicing jiu-jitsu, and video editing.

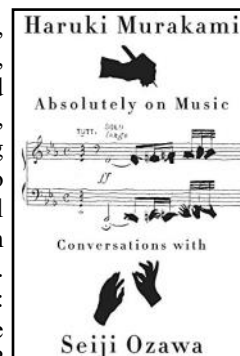
I have found that my various interests and hobbies have strong ties to Japanese culture, and the more I've looked into it, the more interest I developed in the Japanese culture as well as language. My goals with JASM are to develop a stronger understanding about Japan and its people, and to be able to share that understanding with the people of Minnesota. Hopefully I can pick up some Japanese in the meantime as well!

## Tom Haeg's Book Review

*Absolutely on Music: Conversations with Seiji Ozawa; Haruki Murakami; Knopf, 2016 translated into English by Jay Rubin, 325 pages, \$28.*

Over the course of two years, acclaimed Japanese novelist, Haruki Murakami, engaged Japanese symphony conductor, Seiji Ozawa, in a series of riveting conversations while the maestro was recuperating from esophageal cancer. One on one, in a room with only a tape recorder as witness. Their subject was a shared passion: music. What is it? Why do we need it? How do you make it?

Enjoy it? And, oh, by the way, "...why are you so good at it?" The conversations are concluded by Murakami's visit to Lake Geneva in Switzerland to personally observe the maestro's arranged retreat for young and aspiring musicians.



The Introduction reveals the book's tenor where we learn about Murakami's musical frustrations (read: amateur musician). His self-deprecating, melodic limitations seemingly goad him into a personal, heightened appreciation of the musical genius sitting across from him in the room. This deference enables Murakami to unashamedly step aside in the conversations and thereby cede territory for Ozawa to speak freely about the techniques of music. Only after this does Murakami interject his scrivener talent to assign suggestive metaphors and imagery complementing the maestro's dialogue.

There is a seminal theme to the conversations. Ozawa often accredits his success to three principal teachers, -Hideo Saito (the professor), Herbert von Karajan (the maestro) and Leonard Bernstein ("Lenny"). The style and character of each and their peculiar approach to music affected him in a rich and profound way throughout his career. He is not shy to assign gratitude to them when reminded of his awards and accomplishments.

Let there be no mistake. This is not a biography ("...not undertaken to comprise a sharply chiseled portrait of Seiji Ozawa."). It is not reportage. It is not a 'how to' book in the sense of 'let me show you how to conduct a metropolitan symphony orchestra in your garage'. Quite simply, the purpose of the book was for Murakami, a music aficionado, -like all of us, to have a discussion of music with the maestro in an open, honest and casual manner.

Ozawa conducted the NHK Symphony Orchestra, Japan Philharmonic Orchestra, Chicago Symphony, Toronto Symphony, San Francisco Orchestra, Singapore Philharmonic, Vienna Orchestra, and finally his longest tenure, -Boston Symphony Orchestra for 29 years. He has been honored in Japan with the Order of Culture and a Person of Cultural Merit. He is 81 years of age.

-Tom Haeg

## 銀の燭台

新年明けましておめでとう。今年も宜しくお願い致します。皆さんご存知のように洋子ブレッケンリッジは、お陰様で去年は沢山のスポットライトを浴びさせられました。ワシントンポスト紙が終戦70周年記念で「アメリカへ渡った戦争花嫁の秘話」という特集で、全米から集めた中での最終選5人に入り9月22日に発行。「日本語図書館は在米日本人社会に貢献して居る」として、ミネソタ出身の旧アメリカ副大統領、日本へ派遣されたアメリカ大使館ワルターモンデール賞を11月5日に。私の所属する Coldwell Banker Burnet の 2016 総会モールドオブアメリカの JW Marriott では、「全米最大の不動産会社の誉である」と1000人以上の参加者からスタンディングオーベーションの拍手を受け、有り難いけど身の置きどころに当惑し、漸く1700冊の2017年用のカレンダーを皆さんに発送して 解放されたと思った途端、長距離電話「Coldwell Banker Central Regionの広報課です。色々な功績おめでとう、私は貴女の話を書き“HOTWIRE NEWS”に書く役目ですが貴女のニホンジンカイとは何ですか？何の目的であるのですか？何方か返事の出きる方説明してください」もう10年もやっているのです。皆が好きで集まって騒いでは居りますがねえ…あなただったらどう説明しますか？私は考えましたそして思ったのはビクトルユーゴーのレ・ミゼラブルのミリエル司教がジャンバルジャンに言った言葉です「忘れてはいけません貴方は誓ったのですぞ！良い人になるという事を」盗みで憲兵に引き立てられてきた彼に「貴方は忘れて行きなされた」と加えて2本の銀の燭台を渡しながらかついた。誓った覚えのない彼は驚いたけど、司教の言葉は身に染みて19年の解放囚は立派な愛される市長さんになった。理屈ではなく真心は人間の一生を変える力を持っているという事。私には52年前に、万難を廃棄して私のために州理容師免許証試験の通訳を数時間の予告で現れてくれた、大谷牧師がその役をされた。日曜新聞の漫画の一コマ、小ちゃい Denny坊やがお母さんに「お祖母ちゃんがねえ、宗教って教会の入り口を出た時から始まるんですよって」言っている。短い良い言葉は心を打つ。日本人会って何です？何のために？100の言葉でなく…他人への思いやりを実行できる集まりでありたい…



**Yoko Breckenridge**

**612-839-0008**

**yoko@yoko4home.com**



## Excitement builds around J-Quiz



2016 J-Quiz participants

It is that time of year again when J-Quiz- the Upper Midwest Japanese Language and Culture Competition will be held at Normandale Community College on Saturday, February 18th, 2017. This annual

competition is a collaborative event that JASM presents with the Minnesota Council of Teachers of Japan and with the support of the Consulate General of Japan in Chicago.

The competition tests the ability of Japanese language and cultural knowledge at three levels of high school curriculum: Level II, Level III, and Level IV. The competition is intense and the students work very hard to prepare for the contest with their teachers. The first place winners at each level will go on to compete in the National Japan Bowl that will be held in April in Washington D.C., where the students will be able to attend the Sakura Festival at the nation's capital.

In addition to the competition, there will be cultural sessions which is open to the public. These cultural sessions consist of learning about the Japanese culture and artistic traditions.

There will also be a JASM market that will be offering Japanese items to support the winners' trip to Washington D.C. If you wish to donate curios or Japanese crafts, please contact the JASM office at 612-627-9357 or [jasm@us-japan.org](mailto:jasm@us-japan.org) by email.



Shakuhachi Flute Performance by Leo Hansen

We will have special cultural events at 9:40 A.M and 10:40 A.M and final rounds at 12:30 P.M. - all are open to the public.

**Come support and cheer for your family and friends!**

**Saturday, February 18th, 2017**  
**Normandale Community College**  
 9700 France Ave S, Bloomington, MN 55431

# Advertise in the Tsushin!

## Advertisement Rates

Style	Size	Cost/issue
1/4 page	5 x 3.5 in	\$50.00
1/2 page	5 x 7.5 in	\$90.00
Full page	10 x 7.5 in	\$150.00
Classified	80 character line	\$10/ line (min. 2 lines)

Ad production and design available in both Japanese and English for an additional charge. Deadline for completed ads and classifieds is the 20th of every month.

**Questions? Contact  
the JASM Office  
Tel: 612-627-9357  
jasm@us-japan.org**

## Japan America Society Calendar

### January

January 15th: Shinnenkai; New Years Festival

January 21st: "Fall Seven Times, Get Up Eight: The Japanese War Brides"  
- Film Viewing and Panel Discussion at MIA

\*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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Minneapolis, MN 55414-1031

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

## 通信

Tsūshin  
January 2017

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.

## Photos of 2016 Annual Meeting and Bonenkai

