

Japan America Society of Minnesota



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

July 2018 Vol. 27, No. 07

Harukaze 2018 Recap



*Ikebana during
Harukaze Event*

On Sunday, June 10, JASM held the annual Harukaze event at Park Square Theatre in St. Paul. The event was a beautiful collaboration of living art and music. The elaborate displays of Ikebana were presented by the Minneapolis/St. Paul Sogetsu Study Group. Japanese culture lovers filed into the flower-filled lobby, waiting for the theatre doors to open. After the concert hall flooded with excited guests, Nobuyoshi Yasuda, the conductor, and the musicians: Asako Hirabayashi, Margaret Humphrey, Donald Livingston,

Tami Morse, Gail Olszewski, Huldah Niles, Elisabeth York, Coca Bochonko, Tom Rosenberg, and Josh Schwalbach created sounds of music that filled our hearts. Six unique pieces were performed, featuring several string instruments and a harpsichord. For the final piece, three more harpsichords were added and the world premier of Asako Hirabayashi's piece *Concerto for Four Harpsichords and Strings (2018)* was played. In composing such a unique and beautiful piece Asako showed her great talent. A special thanks goes to Asako and her generous gift of music to the community.

Without the help of our volunteers and staff this event would not have been possible. JASM would also like to thank the generous donors who made this event possible: 3M Company, Hubbard Broadcasting, Inc., Noriko and Takuzo Ishida, and the St. Paul Star Grant. The ability to pull together an event like this each year would not be possible without them. A huge thanks to Kim Gordon, who made the beautiful programs and Yoshie Babcock whose years of Ikebana instruction have given Minnesotans a calming new hobby to enjoy.



*The Harukaze musicians stand proudly at the end of
their performance*

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July 11th Corporate Roundtable



Ralph Inforzato

JASM is pleased to announce Ralph Inforzato as the speaker for the Corporate Roundtable meeting to be held on Wed. July 11 on Stinson Leonard Street LLP. Mr. Inforzato is Chief Executive Director of JETRO Chicago, a company working to promote mutual trade between Japan and the rest of the world. At the Corporate Roundtable, Mr. Inforzato will speak on the topic of transformational economic dynamics within the Japanese investment landscape. With his vast knowledge of business relations between Japan and America, Mr. Inforzato's speech will not be one to miss.

In August 2017, Ralph Inforzato was appointed Chief Executive Director of JETRO Chicago. He oversees the activities designed to facilitate trade and investment between Japan and 12 Midwestern states served by JETRO Chicago.

For the last thirty-three years, Mr. Inforzato has been involved in significant business development projects: Japan-US Biotechnology Initiative (2002-2010), which has sent more than 500 representatives from North American life sciences companies, universities, and research institutes to Japan, enabling them to initiate research collaboration and business development in the Japanese biotechnology and pharmaceutical communities.

July's Corporate Roundtable will be on **Wednesday, July 11**, with registration starting at **7:30 a.m.** and the commencement of the program at 8:00 a.m. The event will be held at:

**Stinson Leonard Street LLP
50 South Sixth Street, Suite 2600
Minneapolis, MN 55402**

To purchase tickets, check the JASM website at mn-japan.org or call at **612-627-9357**.

Ticket prices: Non-member \$20
JASM member \$15
Student (with ID) \$7

We are very happy that Mr. Inforzato accepted our invitation to talk about his experience and knowledge of the Japanese market through the JASM Corporate Roundtable event and we at JASM hope to see you all there!

Letter from the JASM President



*Marc Blehert
President of JASM*

Dear JASM Members and Friends, Konichiwa! It was wonderful to greet so many familiar as well as new faces at the June 10 Harukaze concert! The sold-out crowd was captivated by a visual and auditory extravaganza. Patrons were first treated to a breathtaking display of flower arrangements by Yoshie Babcock and the Ikebana Sogetsukai in the foyer of the Park Square Theatre's Andy Boss Stage. After thoroughly enjoying the delicate,

natural beauty of Ikebana while conversing with friends, it was time for the show. Like Ikebana, the concert illustrated the magic that can be created when beautiful material is artfully and skillfully presented. You will be hard pressed to find a more unique and enchanting musical experience than the Harukaze program performed by Asako Hirabayashi and her group of über-talented musicians. The concert culminated with the debut of Asako-san's *Concerto for Four Harpsichords and Strings*. BRAVO!! The prolonged, thunderous standing ovation was a testament to a performance not soon to be forgotten. JASM members, be proud that you support a group filled with such skilled artists, devoted to sharing their gifts with the community.

The 2018 Harukaze Concert was the final 'Major Event' of Executive Director Ben van Lierop's illustrious JASM career. We all owe Ben a debt of gratitude for his tireless dedication and service to JASM over the past 12 years. He has certainly helped lead our organization to new heights! I look forward to seeing Ben at future JASM events as a 'civilian.' Enjoy a long, healthy retirement Ben!

We are extremely excited to welcome back our former Program Manager, Rio Saito, as JASM's new Executive Director. Rio started her career as Executive Director on June 11. Our future is bright!

Of course, JASM's next major event will be the August Como Park Obon Festival. However, August is far too long to wait for an opportunity to network with JASM friends and explore the Minnesota-Japan relationship. Thankfully, JASM's Corporate Roundtable series returns with our July edition, featuring Ralph Inforzato, the Chief Executive Director of the Japanese External Trade Organization (JETRO) in Chicago. This is a must-attend event for anyone interested in learning about the healthy state of Japanese foreign direct investment in the Midwest or any business looking to expand their reach into Japan.

As you can see, JASM's grassroots efforts of building bridges between the peoples of Minnesota and Japan are the foundation of a peaceful and prosperous bilateral relationship – and pretty fun!

See you at an upcoming event!

Marc Blehert

2018 Harukaze Recap Cont.



*Some members of the St. Paul/
Minneapolis Sogetsu Study Group*

It takes a lot of skill and practice to pull together such beautiful floral arrangements. The meticulous detail within each piece was stunning. JASM would like to thank the members of the Minneapolis/St. Paul Sogetsu Study Group:

Thea Adams
Claudia Allison
Maggie Allison
Yoshie Babcock
Joyce Beauchane
Keiko Borer
Shizuka Durgins
Bernie Folz
Kim Gordon
Noriko Ishida
Barbara Kennedy

Youngsun Kim
Yasuko MacNabb
Don Marier
Marge Modell
Keiko Martin
Sachiyo Nishi
Tomoko Silbert
Yoko Toda
Donna Winberg
Anne Lise Whitescarver
Ema Yamamoto

This event was put together through the hard work of the planning committee: Chris Armacost, Takuzo Ishida, Yoshie Babcock, Asako Hirabayashi, Kate Thersleff, Yoko Ueno, and Ben van Lierop.

JASM cannot thank the Harukaze volunteers and attendees enough. Every year, Harukaze grows and provides a new and interesting aspect of Japanese culture for the Minnesota/Japan community to enjoy!

Membership News

Thanks to the following corporate member renewals:

*Anime Twin Cities, Inc.
Mall of America*

Thanks to the following renewing JASM members:

*Kyoko Haines
Kazue Merritt
William & Yuriko Farmer
Linda Singh*

Save the Date: Obon Festival



Attendees at last year's Obon Festival wearing kimono and enjoying the festivities.

We are excited to announce this year's Obon Festival at Como Zoo Park on **August 19, 2018!** The Obon Festival remains the largest Japan-related event in Minnesota; between the food, performances, cultural demonstrations and other activities, this festival is full of family friendly activities! The Obon Festival will conclude, as always, with the lighting of paper lanterns that are believed to guide the souls of ancestors back to their homes on Earth. Obon festival is the perfect way to learn about Japanese culture while eating traditional food and experiencing a beautiful spectacle on a summer evening.

Ticket Prices

Adult (age 13 and older): \$5

Child (age 3 to 12): \$3

Senior (age 65 and older): \$3

Under the age of 3: Free

Please thank our members with your support!

Corporate Benefactor Members

3M Company
Anime Twin Cities, Inc.
Daikin Applied
Delta Air Lines, Inc.
MTS Systems Corporation
Sawai Pharmaceutical, Co. Ltd.
Taiyo International

Patron Members:

Dorsey & Whitney, LLP
St. Jude Medical, Inc.

Corporate Sustaining Members

Deloitte Tax, LLP
Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
Gray Plant Mooty, Mooty & Bennett, PA
Hamre, Schumann, Mueller & Larson, PC
Hubbard Broadcasting, Inc.
Japan Lifeline Co. Ltd.
Mall of America
Medtronic, Inc.
Metropolitan Airport Commission
MGK, Inc.
Naigai Industries U.S.A. Inc.
The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Ltd.
United Noodles

Corporate Contributing Members

Briggs and Morgan, P.A.
Microbiologics, Inc.
Nagomi Ya Senior Living
Sysco Asian Foods
Satellite Industries, Inc.
Wanner Engineering, Inc.

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Kiku Enterprises, Inc.
Minnesota Trade Office
Origami 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
KCC-Japan Education Exchange
Macalester College Asian Language & Culture Department
Minneapolis Japanese School
Minneapolis Institute of Art
Minnesota Orchestra
NDSU-Emily Reynolds Historic Costume Collection
U of MN Dept. of Asian Languages and Literatures, Japanese Language Program
Winona State Univ. Global Studies Dept.

Corporate Membership Spotlight: Anime Twin Cities, Inc.



JASM is proud to announce Anime Twin Cities, Inc. as the Corporate Membership Spotlight of July!

Anime Twin Cities, Inc. is a nonprofit organization based in Minneapolis dedicated to "enriching the lives of their members through the promotion of Japanese animation and culture". Their biggest event is Anime Detour, which occurs annually. Visit <https://www.animetwincities.org> for more details regarding other events they host.

JASM's key contact at Anime Twin Cities, Inc. is Kim Hofer.

Anime Twin Cities, Inc. recently rose to a Corporate Benefactor member. We at JASM appreciate all of their support and financial assistance. Both JASM and Anime Twin Cities, Inc. have the similar goal of spreading awareness about Japan through various events throughout the year and we value the partnership we share with them.

Mondale Award Nomination

Ever since Minnesota's own Walter Mondale served with distinction as the United States Ambassador to Japan in 1993, JASM has sought to honor his legacy by identifying those members of our community who continue to build cultural bridges between Japan and the United States.

When Walter Mondale returned to the United States in 1997, the Japan America Society of Minnesota created the Mondale Award for Japan-Minnesota Partnership. The purpose of this award is to recognize outstanding contributions to the building of understanding, cooperation and respect between the people of Japan and Minnesota. The award was named for—and first presented to—Joan and Walter Mondale to recognize her ongoing efforts to promote the arts in both countries and his service as ambassador.

JASM hopes to continue the distribution of this esteemed award this year. If you know someone who has dedicated their efforts to the continued benefit of the U.S.-Japan relationship, please nominate them!

All applications must be submitted by email to jasm@us-japan.org by Monday, August 13.

JASM Collaborates with Archie Bray Foundation in Arts Tour of Japan

May 18-30, JASM organized a tour to Japan for 21 members and two co-leaders. The tour was organized in collaboration with the Archie Bray Foundation and Ceramic Center of Helena, Montana. The theme of this tour was “ancient traditions and contemporary exhibitions” with the aim to introduce the participants to the arts and crafts of Japan. It began with visits to pottery sites in Karatsu, Arita, and Imari in Kyushu prefecture. Then the group traveled across Kyushu to Beppu for a stay at a famous hot spring resort. The tour continued by ferry to Shikoku to see the works of Isamu Noguchi, the renowned sculptor who had roots in both the U.S. and Japan.

The group then traveled to Kyoto to see Raku pottery and enjoy the sights and sounds of the ancient capital. Ending in Tokyo, the tour visited the National Museum, the Mori Museum as well as the Nezu Museum with its beautiful garden. The tour was co-lead by Emily Galusha, who serves on the Archie Bray Foundation Board, and JASM's Ben van Lierop. It offered opportunities to experience Japan's extensive artistic treasures as well as enjoy some of its rich rural scenery.

Cambridge MN's Sister City in Japan



Cambridge contact visiting Japan

It's a cold, Minnesota winter day as a group of seventeen Japanese High School students arrive in Cambridge, MN. During their time here, they will have the opportunity to stay with a host family, attend a regular American high school, and explore the Twin Cities before traveling through other parts of the US. Although in a small Minnesotan town is far from a New York experience, the Japanese students love the connections they make with their temporary families and students they meet at their American school. A school that is reportedly “nothing like High School Musical”. Next year, a group of students from Cambridge will have the opportunity to visit Yuasa, Japan, giving the Cambridge students a chance to reunite with their Japanese friends. The relationship between Cambridge and Yuasa has been active since March 1986 and alternate student exchanges have been happening since 1994. “I think this program is amazing. I've met many incredible students from Japan and continue to stay in contact with a few of them,” Emily Hitchings, a Cambridge student said. The relations between Yuasa and Cambridge continue to grow stronger every year.



Yume and Nanami, two Japanese students, stand next to their host father.

<http://www.ci.cambridge.mn.us/cambridge/general-information/sister-city-activity/yuasa-japan-sister-city>

New JASM Intern: Marie Bennis

Hi! I'm Marie, a new membership coordinator here at JASM. I have graduated Hennepin Technical College with an Associate of Applied Science degree in administration, and am registered for a Japanese class at Minneapolis Technical and Community College this fall. Japanese pop culture piqued my interest in learning Japanese initially. Now I look forward to expanding my knowledge of both the Japanese language and while working on the JASM team.



Marie Bennis
Membership Coordinator

New JASM Intern: Tatiana Gust

My name is Tatiana, the newest Media Relations Coordinator at JASM. I am a rising junior at Gustavus Adolphus College with a plan to double major in Japanese Studies and History. I have been interested in Japan for quite a long time, so the opportunity to intern at JASM is perfect. Starting in late August, I will spend a year abroad in Japan at Kansai Gaidai. Learning more about Japan through this internship will be a good segue into that next phase. I look forward to getting to know more about the JASM community!



Tatiana Gust
Media Relations Coordinator

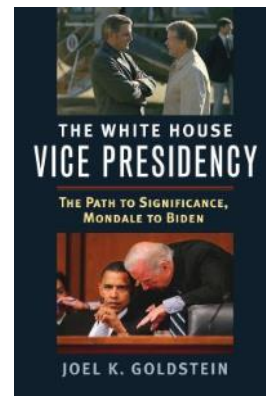
Tom Haeg's Book Review:

The White House Vice President: The Path to Significance, Mondale to Biden; Joel K. Goldstein, University Press of Kansas, 2016; 427 pages.

First In Line: Presidents, Vice Presidents and the Pursuit of Power; Kate Anderson Brower, Harper Press, 2018; 336 pages.

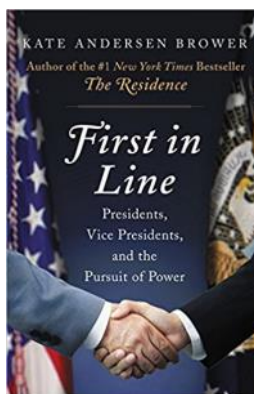
"[The office of vice president] is not worth a bucket of warm spit."
-John Nance Garner, Franklin Roosevelt's first vice president.

John Nance Garner's off-handed, self-deprecating assessment apologizing for his role as vice president was curtly overturned when a young Minnesotan, JASM member Walter Mondale, took the oath of office as vice president in the Jimmy Carter administration. From the beginning, Mondale was active, not passive. He was a partner, not just an observer. He was a doer, not a bystander.



These sentiments aren't only mine. They are reflected in two brilliantly written tomes on the modern vice presidency.

In *The White House*, Joel Goldstein, a law professor at St. Louis University and an expert on the office, discourses that Mondale and his staff parlayed their contributory success in the 1976 presidential campaign into convincing Jimmy Carter to expand the vice president's role, create an office for the vice president in the White House, assign legislative liaison duties, and more. Mondale was keen to this and insisted that as vice president he must have daily access to the president similar to a chief of staff. This enlightened vision was never a given, rather, it was assiduously developed and honed by the principals and their staff, "...a triumph of institutional imagination, engineering and execution."



Ms. Brower is a former White House correspondent and currently a CNN analyst. Although not an academic, she nonetheless knows quite well the White House residents, its neighborhood and its visitors. Her approach in *First in Line* is more anecdotal and intuitive. In large measure, her opinions are based on interviews with all six living former vice presidents. In particular, she recalls Jimmy Carter's infamous Oval Office address in 1979, the so-called "malaise speech", intending to chastise the American public for a "...crisis of confidence." Mr. Mondale courageously

advised against this approach because our problems were not emotional, they were political. Ms. Brower, too, traces the empowerment of the office concluding that the Mondale vice presidency was as a "true partner" due in large measure to his character, work ethic and expertise.

Each year Mr. Mondale generously offers his time, bestows insights and lends his name to benefit JASM's mission and scholarship opportunities. Quite the bucket, Mr. Garner.

-Tom Haeg

Nihonjinkai/Japanese Library Annual Garage Sale 2018

The Annual Japanese Library Garage Sale & Open house has been rescheduled to...

Saturday, July 21, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
at 4231 Bloomington Ave. S., Minneapolis

All proceeds benefit the free Japanese library and MN Nihonjinkai elderly group. This is a great sale that includes all the "usual" garage sale items (knick-knacks, clothes, furniture, sporting goods, electronics, books, toys, stuffed animals, household items) but also beautiful, gently used Japanese gift items, "Shiso" (Beefsteak plants), manga comic books and our handmade greeting cards, which is our primary source of support.

Please join us on Saturday, July 21, in front of the library!

Also, we are still welcoming contributions for garage sale materials as well as volunteers! We need help with set up from 6:30–8:30 a.m., selling items from 9–5 and for cleanup at the end of the sale.

If interested contact Karen Harweth at 612-747-0340 or kharweth@comcast.net.



Yoko Breckenridge
612-839-008
yoko@yoko4home.com



Volunteers Wanted for the Obon Festival!



Children fishing for goldfish at the popular Kingyo Sukui booth

We are looking for volunteers for this year's Obon Festival. This is a great way for people who are interested in Japanese culture and meeting new people. Volunteers are compensated with free admission and an exclusive Obon Festival t-shirt.

The Obon Festival will be on Sunday, August 19, and there will be two shifts available for volunteers, one from 1:30–5:30 pm, and one from 5:00–9:30 pm. If you are interested in working the later shift, please plan to arrive early, as last year many volunteers had difficulty arriving on time. The available booths to work at are the Main JASM Booth, Calligraphy, Kingyo Sukui (goldfish catching), 2 Yo-Yo Tsuru booths, and J-Quiz.

There will be an orientation for volunteers on Saturday, August 18 from 11:00 am–1:00 pm. We will go over specific duties and begin preparations.

If you are interested in volunteering, please visit our website (in the events page and fill out the Volunteer Registration Form), or contact Obon Festival Coordinator Romain Jousot by phone at 612-627-9357 or jasm.interns@gmail.com.

2018 Studio Ghibli Film Fest

Pinterest

Deviant Art



Throughout the year, Fathom Events and GKIDS have been bringing Studio Ghibli films to U.S. audiences. The film fest started in March and will end in November. These films are shown across Minnesota in **select theatres**; below are the upcoming films and their dates. If you're looking for a family night out with some theatre popcorn and a large Icee (JASM intern Tatiana's favorite combo), take this opportunity to watch or rewatch one of Studio Ghibli's animated classics.

- Princess Mononoke (dubbed)**
Sun. 7/22 and Wed. 7/25
- Princess Mononoke (subtitled)**
Mon. 7/23
- My Neighbor Totoro (dubbed)**
Sun. 9/30 and Wed. 10/3
- My Neighbor Totoro (subtitled)**
Mon. 10/1
- Spirited Away (dubbed)**
Mon. 10/28
- Spirited Away (subtitled)**
Mon. 10/29
- Castle in the Sky (dubbed)**
Sun. 11/18
- Castle in the Sky (subtitled)**
Mon. 11/19

<http://www.marcustheatres.com/marcus-specials/marcus-film-series/ghibli-fest-2018>

Advertise in the Tsushin!

Advertisement Rates

Style	Size	Cost/issue
1/4 page	5 x 3.5 in	\$50
1/2 page	5 x 7.5 in	\$90
Full page	10 x 7.5 in	\$150
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.

*Advertisements are 10% off for JASM Members
A one year Ad subscription guarantees one month for free!*

**Questions? Contact
the JASM Office
Tel: 612-627-9357**

Japan America Society Calendar

July

Corporate Roundtable: Wednesday, July 11

*If you would like to let JASM know about an upcoming event, email us at 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 **Corner Coffee** in Uptown Minneapolis.

You will have the opportunity 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. (however, most people do not show up until 3:30)

Place: Corner Coffee

1414 W 28th St, Minneapolis, MN 55408



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

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
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)	

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通信

Tsūshin
June 2018

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)

2018 Harukaze Event

