



THE JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY
OF WASHINGTON DC'S

38th

US-JAPAN
CAPITAL GALA

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2024

PROGRAM

ABOUT JASWDC

From our local schools to our top political leaders, we support the US-Japan relationship through programs and partnerships that unite people around a shared interest in Japan's vibrant culture.



Government Affairs

The Society's Corporate Membership Program and many annual networking events connect our members to senior officials of the US and Japanese Governments and leaders of top American and Japanese businesses.



JASWDC's US-Japan Capital Gala

Our annual Gala serves as the foremost celebration of the US-Japan relationship in the Nation's Capital Region, bringing together over 200 of the region's top political, business, and academic leaders.



Sakura Matsuri

The Society's Sakura Matsuri - Japanese Street Festival is the largest celebration of Japanese culture in the nation. Held each April as a premier event of the National Cherry Blossom Festival, it stretches for six blocks through downtown Washington.



Japan Bowl®

Our National Japan Bowl is America's premier Japanese-language competition, generating excitement for Japanese language study among students and teachers alike. It is a critical piece of America's "pipeline" for future Japan talent.



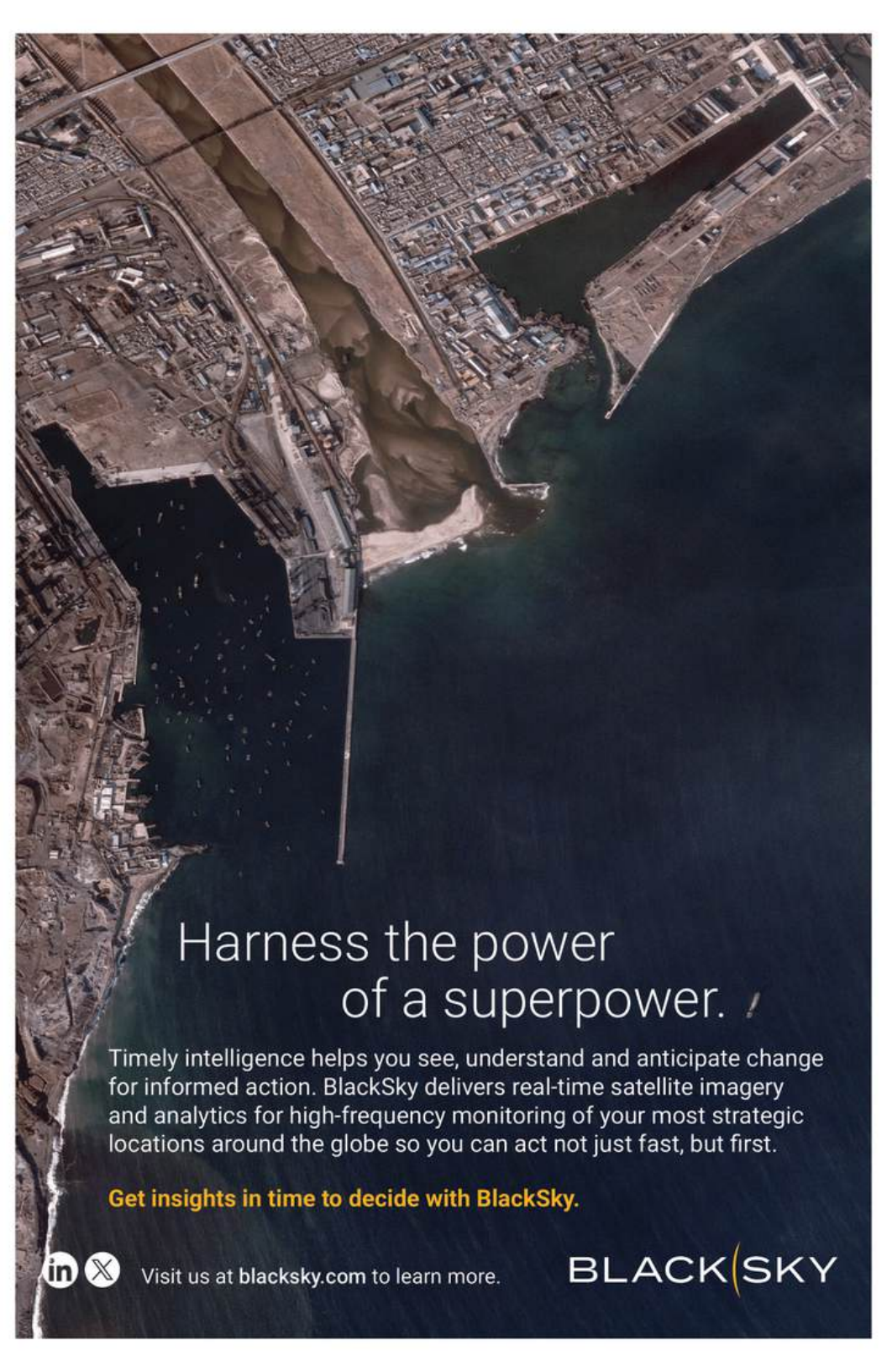
Cultural Affairs

The Society brings all forms of Japanese culture to Washington DC audiences. Our programs bring a range of cultural activities-- from traditions such as haiku, samurai films, sake brewing, and otsukimi (moon viewing), to manga, cosplay, architecture, and contemporary culinary arts.



Educational Outreach

One of the Society's most vital tasks is to engage the next generation of Americans by introducing them to Japanese language & culture. In addition to the Society's academic scholarships and our celebrated Japanese Language School, the Japan-in-a-Suitcase program introduces local students to life in Japan through hands on activities and presentations.



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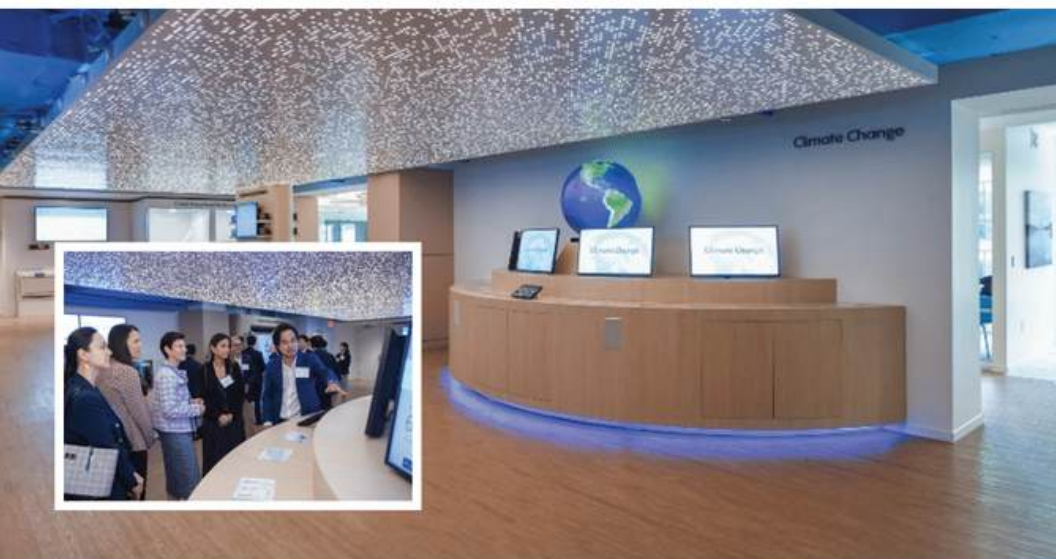
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PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 5:30-9 PM ET

5:30 Silent Auction & Reception Begin

7:00 Guests Seated

7:05 Opening Remarks

Mr. Ryan Shaffer, President, Japan-America Society of Washington DC

7:10 US-Japan Capital Gala Co-Chairs' Greeting

Mr. Baden Firth, SVP and Head of Washington DC

Mitsubishi Corporation (Americas)

Ms. Marie Kissel, Trustee, JASWDC

7:15 JASWDC Lifetime Contribution Award: Peggy Breer

Dr. Yoshiko Mori, American Association of Teachers of Japanese

Ms. Nancy Marsden, Georgetown University

7:20 Ambassador's Remarks

His Excellency Shigeo Yamada, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the United States of America

7:30 Dinner Served

7:55 Toast

Chirag Parikh, Executive Secretary, National Space Council

8:00 JASWDC Chair's Remarks

Ambassador James P. Zumwalt, Chair, Japan-America Society of Washington DC

8:05 Presentation of the John & Hiroko Malott Leadership Award

Randy Yoshimura, Sumitomo Corporation of Americas, Vice-Chair, Japan-America Society of Washington DC

8:20 Presentation of the Marshall Green Award

Daniel J. Kritenbrink, Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs

Keiichi Wada, JAXA

Karen Feldstein, NASA

8:35 Astronaut Discussion

Dr. Kanai Norishige, JAXA

Daniel Tani, NASA

8:55 Closing Toast

Major General Charles F. Bolden Jr., USMC (Ret.), 12th NASA Administrator

Silent Auction Closes

9:00 Gala Concludes

TOYOTA

CELEBRATES
THE JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY
OF WASHINGTON DC'S

38TH US-JAPAN CAPITAL GALA



PARTICIPATING IN THE SILENT AUCTION

Join the Silent Auction tonight for your chance to win some amazing items for your home, fine dining, travel experiences, world-class sake, and more!

The auction will close five minutes after tonight's closing toast. Scan the QR code below to join.



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Hanae Amano: White peony

THE SPIRIT OF JAPAN

Mitsubishi Corporation (Americas) proudly supports
the Japan-America Society of Washington DC's US-Japan Capital Gala.

Thinking of one, of all.  Mitsubishi Corporation (Americas)

Greetings from **THE CAPITAL GALA CO-CHAIRS**

Friends and Colleagues,

Welcome to Japan-America Society of Washington DC's 38th annual US-Japan Capital Gala!

This event serves as an annual tradition in the National Capitol Region, celebrating the remarkable relationship between the United States and Japan. Your presence here tonight, along with other leaders from civil society, government, academia, and the private sector, reminds us that the US-Japan relationship remains, "the most important bilateral relationship in the world, bar none," to borrow a phrase from the late Ambassador Mike Mansfield. It also reminds us of the people-to-people bonds that are the bedrock of the relationship. It was in the service of these ties that Japanese and American diplomats created the Japan-America Society of Washington DC in 1957, and the Society has worked to nurture these ties for the past 67 years.

Your participation in this Gala, your ticket purchases, and your bids in the silent auction all directly support the Society, our National Japan Bowl Japanese language championships for American high school students, our Tanaka and Green Academic Scholarships, and our celebrated Sakura Matsuri-Japanese Street Festival, and the role that programs such as these play in deepening the US-Japan relationship at the grassroots level.

Today is as much about the bedrock of the US-Japan relationship, as it is about one of its rapidly expanding pillars: cooperation on space. We are honored to present the Society's Marshall Green Award this year jointly to JAXA and NASA, two organizations that have been at the center of this partnership. When US-Japan cooperation on space began 55 years ago, Marshall Green was Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs, and Mike Mansfield was Senate Majority Leader. In the intervening years, Japan and the United States have built this relationship through cooperation on the International Space Station, Space Shuttle missions, Earth observations, scientific satellite missions, and national security.

Space has become a pillar of the bilateral relationship that supports US and Japanese interests across the domains of civil society and pop culture, science and academia, security and diplomacy, and private enterprise. Moreover, as we celebrate these ties tonight, it is clear that our space partnership has deepened the respect, trust, and, indeed, friendships between the United States and Japan.

The 38th Gala honors JAXA and NASA while celebrating the US-Japan partnership on space and all that it brings to the US-Japan bilateral relationship. We are thrilled that you have joined us to share in the celebration.

MARIE KISSEL

TRUSTEE, JASWDC

BADEN FIRTH

SVP AND HEAD OF WASHINGTON DC
MITSUBISHI CORPORATION (AMERICAS)



SPEAKER **RYAN SHAFFER**

PRESIDENT

JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON DC

Ryan Shaffer serves as President of the Japan America Society of Washington DC, where he oversees the Society's national and local programs in support of US-Japan civil society ties.

He previously served as Director of Programs and Development at the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation, where he was the founding director of the US-Japan Space Forum and the US-Japan Nuclear Working Group, among other US-Asia policy projects.

Mr. Shaffer has an MSc in Asian politics from the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies and a BS in environmental policy from Bates College. Mr. Shaffer, who splits his time between Portland, Maine and the District of Columbia, serves on the Boards of Directors of the National Cherry Blossom Festival and the Western Pacific Fellowship Project.

Orchestrating a brighter world

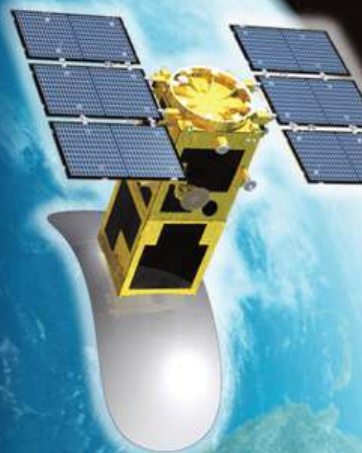
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THE JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON DC PRESENTS



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SAKURAMATSURI
JAPANESE STREET FESTIVAL

APRIL 12-13
2025



SPEAKER
MARIE KISSEL
JASWDC TRUSTEE



Based in Washington, DC, Marie Kissel recently served as Senior Advisor, Government Affairs, at Abbott, a global healthcare leader in diagnostics, medical devices, nutrition and branded generic pharmaceuticals, which helps people live their best life through the power of health. Ms. Kissel was based in Tokyo and led government affairs activities in Asia for Abbott 2013- 2020, as VP, Asia Government Affairs and as Senior Advisor.

Ms. Kissel is a Board Member of the National Center for APEC (NCAPEC) and the Japan-America Society of Washington, DC, and is Chair of AdvaMed's Japan Reimbursement Working Group. In April 2018, she was elected Chairman of the Asia Pacific Council of American Chambers of Commerce (APCAC).

Ms. Kissel attended Sophia University's Year-in-Japan Program as an undergraduate and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Government/International Affairs and Japanese Language from the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, USA, and Master of Business Administration from the Thunderbird School of Global Management, Arizona State University, USA. She is a native of Princeton, Indiana, USA.



SPEAKER
BADEN FIRTH
SVP AND HEAD OF WASHINGTON DC
MITSUBISHI CORPORATION (AMERICAS)

Baden Firth joined Mitsubishi Australia in 2008 where he headed up its low emissions tech and carbon capture & storage (CCS) activities collaborating with Governments, financial institutions and technology suppliers. Prior to that, Mr. Firth lived and worked in Japan for 16 years in the automotive industry.

In 2016, Mr. Firth transferred to Mitsubishi Corporation's Global Strategy & Coordination Department in Tokyo headquarters where he took up responsibility of the company's International Advisory Committee and management of the company's Western Europe and Oceania offices.

Mr. Firth then joined the Corporate Strategy & Planning office where he oversaw global engagement and external affairs strategies. He concurrently worked for the Chairman in a similar capacity while managing the International Advisory Committee. In April 2023, Mr. Firth took up his current role as SVP & Head of MC in Washington DC. Mr Firth attended Monash University in Melbourne, Australia and Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, China. He holds highest accreditation in Japanese language.

PRESENTER

NANCY MARSDEN
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR,
GRADUATE PROGRAMS
GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY
MCDONOUGH SCHOOL OF BUSINESS



Originally from Canada, Nancy began studying Japanese in grade 5. She continued studying Japanese after moving to the United States in high school, where she participated in the National Japan Bowl in levels 2, 3, and 4 as team captain.

She received her B.A. in East Asian Studies and Music from The College of William and Mary and her M.A. in Ethnomusicology from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. She holds N1 certification for the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) and has translated several books for Tuttle Publishing.

Nancy worked in Tochigi, Japan for five and a half years, first teaching English as an Assistant Language Teacher before working for Honda Motors as an in-house Japanese-English translator.

Upon returning to the United States and moving to the Washington DC area, she worked for five years at the Japan-America Society of Washington DC as the Director of Japan Bowl & Scholarships. She organized the National Japan Bowl, coordinated scholarship programs and culture classes, and taught Japanese cooking classes at JASWDC.



PRESENTER
DR. YOSHIKO MORI
PRESIDENT
AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
TEACHERS OF JAPANESE (AATJ)

Dr. Yoshiko Mori is Professor and the Director of the Japanese Language Program in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures at Georgetown University. She specializes in second-language acquisition and instruction from a psycholinguistic perspective. Her research, published in leading journals and books, covers topics such as second-language literacy development, the role of metacognitive awareness in language learning, individual differences in multilingual development, and online instruction.

With over 40 years of experience in language education in both Japan and the United States, she has taught a wide range of college-level Japanese language and linguistics courses and held various language-related positions. She currently serves as the President of the American Association of Teachers of Japanese (AATJ) and as the Chief Reader for the AP Japanese Language and Culture.



THE JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY
OF WASHINGTON DC

*Lifetime
Contribution Award*

THE JASWDC LIFETIME
CONTRIBUTION AWARD IS GIVEN
BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY OF
WASHINGTON DC TO
AN INDIVIDUAL WHOSE
EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTIONS
HAVE ADVANCED THE ABILITY OF
THE SOCIETY TO FULFILL ITS
MISSION OF PROMOTING US-JAPAN
FRIENDSHIP

HONOREE
PEGGY BREER
RECIPIENT OF THE JASWDC
LIFETIME CONTRIBUTION AWARD



Peggy Breer has been a central supporter of the Society, serving to inspire and encourage nearly four decades generations of Society staff and volunteers, and frequently open her home to Society gatherings.

But most of all we want to recognize her contribution to the National Japan Bowl for over three decades. The National Japan Bowl, now in its 33rd year, is widely recognized as the Nation's premier Japanese language and culture competition. The Japan Bowl has advanced Japanese language teaching at American high schools, and now elementary and middle schools, throughout the United States.

Peggy was an architect of the Japan Bowl program from its start, when it was just a small, local competition. To this day she has continuously infused the program with her spirit of delight, service, and passion for educating the next generation of young Americans to learn about Japan, its language, and its people.

Through her generous and dedicated efforts, Mrs. Breer has shared with thousands of American students the same gift that shaped her life: a love of Japanese language and culture. In recognition of these efforts and her enthusiastic support for the Japan-America Society of Washington DC, the Board of Trustees is pleased to present this Lifetime Contribution Award to Margaret "Peggy" Breer.



AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF JAPAN TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Ambassador Shigeo YAMADA assumed his post as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the United States of America in December 2023

SPEAKER

HIS EXCELLENCY SHIGEO YAMADA

Ambassador Yamada is a long-time veteran of the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. His very first posting was as a Second Secretary in Washington D.C. in 1989. In 2012, he returned to Washington as Political Minister.

Prior to assuming his current post, Ambassador Yamada served as Senior Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. In that capacity, he was Political Director for Japan's 2023 G7 Presidency, supporting the G7 Summit in Hiroshima and the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Nagano-Karuizawa.

Ambassador Yamada's previous positions in Tokyo include Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs for Foreign Policy, Deputy Director General for North American Affairs, Director for Northeast Asia, Director for Southeast Asia, and Director for the Status of U.S. Forces Agreement. He also served as a Cabinet Councillor in the National Security Secretariat in the Prime Minister's Office.

In addition to his postings in Washington and Tokyo, over the course of his career he was in charge of the public and culture affairs at the Embassies of Japan in London and Beijing.

The Ambassador's broad diplomatic assignments have led him to the realization, "The Japan-U.S. alliance is no longer just a bilateral relationship, but a global partnership." It is this conviction that informs his perspective as Japan's Ambassador to the United States.

Ambassador Yamada earned a BA in law from Keio University in 1987 and a BA in political science from Carleton College in Minnesota in 1989. He is married to Maki Yamada, who is currently a judge in Japan. Ambassador Yamada enjoys outdoor activities and is an avid runner.



EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, NATIONAL SPACE COUNCIL

Mr. Chirag Parikh was appointed as the Executive Secretary of the National Space Council on August 2, 2021.

SPEAKER CHIRAG PARIKH

As Executive Secretary of the National Space Council, Mr. Parikh is responsible for advising the President on domestic and international policy across the civil, commercial, and national security sectors; as well as monitoring the implementation of the President's space policy. He joined the Biden-Harris Administration from Microsoft Azure, where he led the company-wide initiative to bring together the power of global cloud capabilities with the evolving space industry.

Prior to his work in industry, Mr. Parikh had a U.S. government career that spanned more than two decades. From 2010-2016, Mr. Parikh served as the White House Director of Space Policy on the National Security Council. Prior to the White House, Mr. Parikh led the United States space intelligence community as the Deputy National Intelligence Officer for Science and Technology.

Additionally, Mr. Parikh served as a Senior Executive at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency where he held a variety of roles including leading collection and tasking of geospatial intelligence (GEOINT) sensors and the analysis of GEOINT data. Mr. Parikh began his career as an aerospace engineer at the National Air and Space Intelligence Center. He holds a B.S. in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Cincinnati.



SPEAKER
AMBASSADOR
JAMES P.
ZUMWALT

CHAIR

JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON DC

Ambassador James Zumwalt serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Japan-America Society of Washington DC. Previously, he served as Chief Executive Officer of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA from February 2017 until his retirement from the position in August of 2019. Prior to that role, Ambassador Zumwalt was the United States Ambassador to the Republic of Senegal and the Republic of Guinea Bissau from 2015 to January 2017.

Previously, he was responsible for policy toward Japan and Korea as Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of East Asia Affairs.

When the Great East Japan Earthquake and Tsunami struck Japan in 2011, Ambassador Zumwalt was serving as Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, where he coordinated the United States' support for the Japanese Government's response to that crisis.

During his 36-year Foreign Service career, Ambassador Zumwalt has served in a variety of assignments with a focus on Asia and international economics in Washington, Tokyo, Beijing, Kinshasa, Dakar, and Bissau.

In Washington, D.C., Ambassador Zumwalt worked in the Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs and also at the United States Trade Representative's Office. He also worked in the Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs Japan, Korea, and Philippine desks. Jim speaks Japanese and French and some Chinese.

Ambassador Zumwalt received a master's degree in International Security Studies from the National War College in 1998 and a Bachelor of Arts in American History and also in Japanese Language from the University of California at Berkeley in 1979. He is from El Cajon, California and is married to Ann Kambara, a retired Foreign Service Officer who is now pursuing a second career in Social Work.

SVP & WASHINGTON OFFICE GENERAL MANAGER

SUMITOMO CORPORATION OF AMERICAS
VICE-CHAIRMAN, JASWDC
PRESIDENT, JCAW

Since joining Sumitomo in 1987, Ryota Yoshimura worked in the aerospace & defense business area for the first twenty years of his professional career. During this time, he was responsible for marketing, business development, project management, and contracting with Japan's Ministry of Defense and the defense industry. He was posted at SCOA's New York Office from 1994 to 2000 in this capacity.



SPEAKER
RANDY YOSHIMURA

On April 1, 2020, Mr. Yoshimura was appointed SVP & GM of Sumitomo Corporation of Americas (SCOA) Washington Office for the second time.

Mr. Yoshimura is a graduate of University of Tokyo, with a BA in liberal arts, majoring in human geography and sub-majoring in American studies. During his childhood, he lived in New York (1968-1971) as well as in Washington DC (1974-1977) with his family.



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**The Japan-America Society
of Washington D.C.
at their 38th
U.S.-Japan Capital Gala**

The John & Hiroko Malott

LEADERSHIP AWARD



**Mrs. Hiroko Malott and
Ambassador John Malott**

The John and Hiroko Malott Leadership Award is presented annually by the Japan-America Society of Washington DC to an individual or a group that is making a significant contribution to the future of US-Japan relations by increasing mutual understanding and cooperation between the next generation of Americans and Japanese. The Society is honored to recognize the recipients and is confident that their efforts will continue to enhance our relationship in the years to come.

AMBASSADOR JOHN MALOTT

Ambassador John R. Malott's career in the US Foreign Service focused on Asia. He served as Ambassador to Malaysia; Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia; and Consul General in Osaka, among other positions. He later served for twelve years as President of the Japan-America Society of Washington DC. In 2017 the Emperor of Japan awarded Amb. Malott the Order of the Rising Sun for his many contributions to US-Japan relations for almost five decades. Hiroko Iwami Malott, who passed away in 2012, was passionate about encouraging and supporting younger Japanese women to achieve what her generation could not. Together, John and Hiroko worked to encourage the "next generation" of Americans and Japanese to treasure and advance the relationship between our two great countries, just as they had.

THE WASHINGTON JAPANESE HERITAGE CENTER

2024 GROUP RECIPIENT OF THE JOHN & HIROKO MALOTT LEADERSHIP AWARD, REPRESENTED BY ITS PRESIDENT, DR. TOMOMI MIYAJIMA



ワシントン日本語継承センター

Washington Japanese Heritage Center



この地に住む子供たちに日本語と日本文化を継承する学び舎

This year's group award is presented to the Washington Japanese Heritage Center, popularly known as the "Keisho Center."

The Keisho Center was created twenty years ago by a group of parents who saw an unmet need in our community. There were children in Washington who had a connection to Japan but probably would not return to live and study there. Perhaps one or both of their parents was Japanese or had lived in Japan. What these young people had in common was their parents' and their hope that they would continue their personal "Japan connection" into the future. And perhaps someday they could be a bridge between the people of our two countries.

There was a so-called "Saturday school" in Washington accredited by the Japanese Ministry of Education, but it focused on teaching academic subjects to students who would be returning to Japan. The needs of the young people who became Keisho's student body were different, as they likely would remain in America. So Keisho's founding mothers and fathers decided that the school should emphasize Japanese language and culture. It should offer an opportunity for its students to join in traditional Japanese activities like Children's Day and Sports Day and engage in hands-on Japanese crafts.

In its first year, the Keisho Center had 35 students in three classes. Today it has four times as many students in nine classes, teaching at all levels from pre-K through 12th grade.

In 2020 the Keisho Center's great work was recognized by a Commendation from the Foreign Minister of Japan.

Keisho Center is noted for the warm family feeling that encircles the school, and it has become a success because of the dedication of its teachers and teaching assistants and the high degree of volunteer involvement by the parents.



DANIELLE REED

2024 INDIVIDUAL RECIPIENT OF THE
JOHN & HIROKO MALOTT LEADERSHIP
AWARD

Danielle Reed first became interested in Japan at the early age of 12, but not because of manga or anime. It was kendo! Her interest in kendo and Japan led her to Gettysburg College in Pennsylvania, where she double-majored in Japanese studies and international relations.

Danielle planned to pursue a career in government and international affairs. After working at the Embassy of Japan, she applied for the JET program to teach English. Just after her successful JET interview, the great tragedy of March 11, 2011 hit.

Danielle was given the option to decline to go. Many of her family members were hesitant. But she said, "No, I am going," as did so many of her JET colleagues.

Her three years in Sendai changed her life's trajectory. She saw the devastation. She felt the after-shocks. She saw the physical and psychological impact that 3/11 had brought to the lives of her students and their families, as well as to the community where she now lived.

Because of her experience in Sendai, Danielle changed her dream from government to working with non-profit organizations, specifically to create and implement programs that could directly impact young people in our two countries. To achieve that dream, she founded her own consultancy, PinPath, LLC so she could work directly with US-Japan organizations that shared her vision. Since then, there is hardly any organization involved in student and young entrepreneur exchanges between the US and Japan that Danielle has not been involved with, from S&R Evermay Foundation and the US-Japan Friendship Commission, to CULCON and the US JET Alumni Association, from Kizuna Across Cultures to the US-Japan Bridging Foundation.

PRESENTER

DANIEL J. KRITENBRINK
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS



Daniel J. Kritenbrink became Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs on September 24, 2021. A career member of the Senior Foreign Service, Class of Career Minister, Kritenbrink has been an American diplomat since 1994.

Assistant Secretary Kritenbrink previously served as U.S. Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (2017–2021), Senior Director for Asian Affairs at the National Security Council (2015–2017), and Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing (2013–2015). He also completed multiple other overseas tours in Beijing, Tokyo, Sapporo, and Kuwait City.

His other Washington assignments have included Director of the Office of Chinese and Mongolian Affairs at the Department of State and Staff Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs.

A Nebraska native, Assistant Secretary Kritenbrink earned a master's degree at the University of Virginia, and a bachelor's degree at the University of Nebraska-Kearney. He speaks Chinese and Japanese.

The Marshall Green

AWARD



The Board of Trustees of the Japan-America Society of Washington DC established the Marshall Green Award in 2011 to recognize “an individual or group that has made a sustained and significant contribution to strengthening relations between the United States and Japan, and/or to increasing understanding between the American and Japanese people.”

Marshall Green was one of America’s most distinguished diplomats. His adventurous diplomatic career began as private secretary to Ambassador Joseph Grew in Tokyo 1939–41. During World War II he trained as a US Navy Japanese language officer. His career included service as Special Assistant to Secretary of State John Foster Dulles; Charge d’Affaires in Seoul during the 1960 uprising against President Sygman Rhee; and Ambassador in Indonesia during the 1965 overthrow of Sukarno. He was Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian Affairs during the Nixon Administration, a historic and tumultuous time that included the Vietnam War, the opening to China, and the reversion of Okinawa to Japan.

Marshall Green was one of the founders of JASWDC in 1957; in fact, it is his signature on the Articles of Incorporation. In 1983, he became the Society’s President and later its Chairman, leading its transformation from an all-volunteer to a professional organization. He was a passionate believer in educational outreach to local schools. He and his wife Lisenard endowed the Society’s educational fund, which over the past three decades has introduced new generations of Americans to Japan and the world.



ACCEPTING ON BEHALF OF JAXA:

KEIICHI WADA

Director – Washington DC office, JAXA

Keiichi Wada is the Director of the Washington, D.C., Office of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA). He is responsible for providing key support for international space efforts for North and South America, working in tandem with various space agencies, including NASA and NOAA.

After joining JAXA in 2002 as an engineer, Wada spent many years supporting the development of Japan's space cargo transportation capabilities, namely HTV, the H-II transfer vehicle. He was involved in HTV's rendezvous trajectory design and orbit control planning and operation, ensuring its safe approach to and departure from the ISS. His position required him to work closely with NASA's ISS mission control team to streamline technologies and to carry out international cooperative projects.

Wada holds a bachelor's degree in science and a master's in astrophysics, both from Nagoya University in Japan.

NASA & JAXA

2024 JOINT RECIPIENTS OF THE MARSHALL GREEN AWARD

ACCEPTING ON BEHALF OF NASA:

KAREN FELDSTEIN

Associate Administrator for International
and Interagency Relations, NASA



As the associate administrator for International and Interagency Relations, Karen Feldstein is responsible for executive leadership and direction of NASA's international and interagency activities and partnerships for NASA's mission areas; policy interactions between NASA and other executive branch offices, departments, and agencies, including the National Security Council, the Department of State, National Space Council, and the Office of Science and Technology Policy; administration of export control and international technology transfer programs; and support for NASA advisory councils and committees.

Feldstein earned her master's in international relations from the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, in Washington. She completed her undergraduate studies at Tufts University in Medford, Massachusetts. She has received numerous NASA awards, including the 2019 Presidential Rank of Meritorious Senior Executive and her greatly prized Silver Snoopy.



SPECIAL GUEST

KURT CAMPBELL
DEPUTY SECRETARY OF
STATE

Kurt M. Campbell was confirmed by the Senate on February 6, 2024, and sworn in as the 22nd Deputy Secretary of State on February 12, 2024. Prior to assuming this position, Deputy Secretary Campbell served as Deputy Assistant to the President and Coordinator for Indo-Pacific Affairs on the National Security Council. He was previously founding Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of The Asia Group, LLC, a strategic advisory and capital management group.

From 2009 to 2013, Campbell served as the Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs. Earlier, he was the CEO and Co-Founder of the Center for a New American Security and concurrently served as the Director of the Aspen Strategy Group and Chairman of the Editorial Board of the Washington Quarterly.

Among the other positions he has held during his distinguished career, Campbell served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Asian and Pacific Affairs, White House Fellow at the Treasury Department, and as Director of the Democracy Office at the National Security Council during the Clinton Administration. Campbell was an Associate Professor of Public Policy at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government and served in the U.S. Navy Reserves. He is the author or editor of ten books including *The Pivot: The Future of American Statecraft in Asia*, *Difficult Transitions: Why Presidents Fail in Foreign Policy at the Outset of Power*, and *Hard Power: The New Politics of National Security*.

He received his B.A. from the University of California, San Diego and his Doctorate in international relations from Brasenose College at Oxford University where he was a Distinguished Marshall Scholar. Campbell is the recipient of numerous awards, including the Secretary of State's Distinguished Service Award.

ASTRONAUT DISCUSSION

FEATURING

DR. NORISHIGE KANAI, JAXA Astronaut

Dr. Kanai participated in Expedition 54/55 to the International Space Station and is at the center of ongoing cooperative efforts between JAXA and NASA. He is involved in the operation and control of Kibo as J-COM (controller of correspondence with astronauts), while providing mission and mission preparation support to Japanese astronauts.



MR. DANIEL TANI, NASA Astronaut (ret.)

Mr. Tani is a veteran of two spaceflight missions. He flew as a mission specialist on STS-108 in 2001 and then went on to serve on the International Space Station as a flight engineer during Expedition 16, launching in 2007. Mr. Tani completed his NASA career with more than 131 days in space and six spacewalks to his credit.





SPEAKER

**MAJOR GENERAL CHARLES F. BOLDEN JR.,
USMC (RET.)
12TH NASA ADMINISTRATOR**

First as a Marine Corps Major General and then as NASA Administrator, Charles F. Bolden Jr. has dedicated his life to the service of the United States, working to secure our nation's security and prosperity and guiding efforts to explore our universe and better understand our fragile planet. In 2009, President Barack Obama appointed Bolden to be the 12th NASA Administrator, making him only the second astronaut to hold that position. While heading NASA, Bolden oversaw the transition from the Space Shuttle system to a new era of exploration, fully focused on the International Space Station (ISS) and aeronautics technology development.

Bolden led the development of the Space Launch System and the Orion Crew Capsule. Bolden also oversaw the shift toward commercial space initiatives handling resupply of the ISS. He created NASA's Space Technology Mission Directorate, responsible for developing the technology that will make future exploration missions successful.

During his career as a NASA astronaut, Bolden flew on four Space Shuttle missions, logging over 680 hours in space. He piloted Space Shuttle Columbia in 1986 (STS-61C) and Space Shuttle Discovery in 1990 (STS-31) - the mission that deployed the Hubble Space Telescope. He also served as Mission Commander on Space Shuttle Atlantis in 1992 (STS-45), and Space Shuttle Discovery in 1994 (STS-60).

Bolden holds a Master of Science degree in systems management from the University of Southern California. His past honors include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal, three NASA Exceptional Service Medals and four NASA Space Flight Medals. He received the Rotary National Space Trophy in 2014, the Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy in 2020 and holds Honorary Doctorate degrees from numerous institutions of higher education.



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WASHINGTON TOHO KOTO SOCIETY

The Washington Toho Koto Society was organized by Kyoko Okamoto in 1971 to promote the enjoyment of Japanese koto music. The Society has earned wide acclaim and has participated in many national events. These have included Presidential Inaugurations, Japanese Embassy events (including the then Crown Prince and Princess Akihito and Vice President Bush), White House event to welcome Prime Minister Kishida in April 2024, and National Cherry Blossom Festivals.

In October 2003, the Washington Toho Koto Society was honored with a Special Award from the Foreign Minister of Japan, Yoriko Kawaguchi, in recognition of more than 30 years of contributing excellent performance in spreading Japanese koto music in the United States and promoting mutual understanding and friendship between the two countries.

In 2014, the Toho Koto Society was awarded with JASWDC's Marshall Green Award at the US-Japan Capital Gala.

In December 2022, Kyoko Okamoto received the Foreign Minister's Commendation from the Japanese Government in recognition of her contribution to the promotion of Japanese culture in the United States.

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Tanaka & Green

Academic Scholarships

In 2014, JASWDC established the Tanaka and Green Academic Scholarships to support short-term academic study (one semester or one academic year) at colleges and universities in Japan. The scholarships are made possible thanks to the Society's H. William and Lily Tanaka Scholarship Endowment and the Marshall and Lisenard Green Educational Endowment.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 2024-25 TANAKA & GREEN SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!

ALANIS STAPELFELDT – OSAKA GAKUIN UNIVERSITY

RUBY THOMPSON – RITSUMEIKAN UNIVERSITY

EMMA COHEN – RITSUMEIKAN UNIVERSITY

JOURDEN JONES – INTERNATIONAL CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

SYDNEY CHEN – OSAKA GAKUIN UNIVERSITY

SERGIANNI JENNINGS – DOSHISHA UNIVERSITY



In Memory of

SUMIO OHTSUJI

Ohtsuji-san was a former Vice Chair of the Society and former President of JCAW. Mr. Ohtsuji was a leader in JCAW's successful campaign to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the Cherry Blossoms in DC, an effort which also resulted in the JCAW Foundation's ability to support language study in our region for over a decade following. A wonderful man with a quiet demeanor and an infectious smile, Mr. Ohtsuji was a generous advisor to the Society after his retirement, and a regular participant in JASWDC "OB-Kai" gatherings in Tokyo.



In Memory of

STEPHEN ECTON

Stephen Ecton was a former Director of the Office of Japanese Affairs at the State Department, Consul General in Hokkaido, and longtime friend of the Society and the US-Japan relationship. He was always proud of the fact that his early education included attending a one-room schoolhouse through the third grade and later serving as a minister at the Rockfield Methodist Church in Bowling Green. Foreign Service Officers who knew Steve admired his quiet leadership, integrity, and professionalism. He often expressed gratitude for the adventures, connections, and lifelong friendships that came with his career.

**THANK YOU MR. OHTSUJI AND MR. ECTON
FOR YOUR FRIENDSHIP AND SUPPORT.
YOU WILL BE DEARLY MISSED.**

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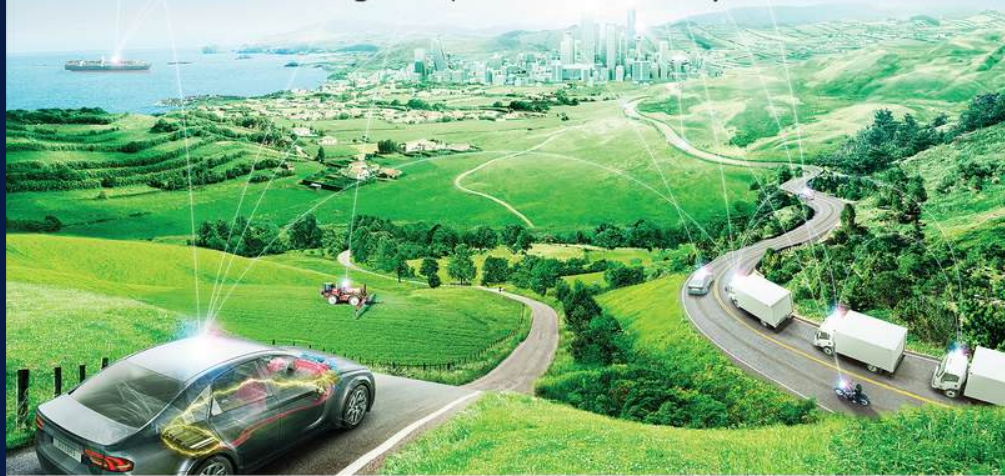
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Eric Cheek- Sakura Matsuri Volunteer

Keisuke Wada- JAXA Intern & Georgetown University -M.A. Candidate in Asian Studies

Elora Florence- Sakura Matsuri, National Japan Bowl and JASWDC Volunteer

Grace Florence- Sakura Matsuri, National Japan Bowl and JASWDC Volunteer

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