



THE JAPAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON
A BRIDGE BETWEEN CULTURES

Monthly Newsletter



Please View Entire Message in your Email to see all of what we have to offer in our newsletter!



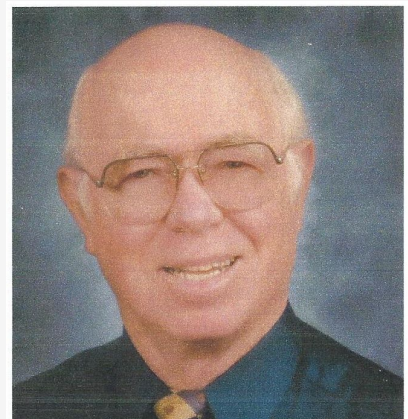
Gerald P. Rooney

Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society, Inc.

President & CEO

What is the connection between Fairhaven, MA and Japan?

Fairhaven, MA is the location of the home of Captain William Whitfield where Manjiro Nakahama became the first Japanese person to live in the USA in 1843 having been rescued by the whaler, John Howland, from New Bedford in 1841. In 1987 a group of officials from New Bedford and Fairhaven travelled to Tosashimizu, Kochi Ken, (Manjiro's home town) and signed a "Sister City" agreement. Since that time, our organization has carried on that relationship with alternating "Manjiro Festivals" in Fairhaven and Tosashimizu. Our latest festival was on October 7th this year. We hosted 24 visitors from Tosashimizu for the weekend and all shared a joyous exchange.



What does your organization do?

Our organization operates the Whitfield-Manjiro Museum at 11 Cherry Street, Fairhaven. We have had over 11,000 visitors from all continents except Antarctica (We are waiting for polar bear). We also schedule and conduct tours of the Manjiro Trail, eight locations pertinent to Manjiro's life here. Of course we keep an on-going relationship to Tosashimizu. We are also in the process of rehabbing the old horse stable to a cultural center with great assistance from four

classes of the New Bedford Vocational High School.

Click [here](#) to read the full interview!

Announcements from JSB



JSB Fall Fundraiser Campaign

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Fall Fundraiser Campaign! We could not operate without the kindness of our members and donors.

Thanks to your support, we were able to hit our goal and raise over 5,000 dollars for JSB. We hope to continue offering the best programs on Japanese culture, and supporting the US-Japan relationship in Boston.



JOHN E. THAYER III AWARD

John E. Thayer III Award 2023 Recipient

Akemi Chayama is the Educator, Japan Program Manager, and a member of the Arts & Culture Team and the Programs & Exhibits Department at [Boston Children's Museum](#).

Akemi was chosen for her work as the curator to the Japanese House exhibit (also known as [Kyo-no-Machiya](#)), an authentic 1800's house from Kyoto, Japan, which was gifted to the City of Boston on the 20th anniversary of their Sister Cities' Relationship and installed in the Boston Children's Museum in 1979. Akemi manages the Museum's Japan Program, and strives to develop programs inviting the Museum's young learners and their adults to experience Japan in a multifaceted way, through training in the Anti-bias/Anti-racism education framework.



Born and raised in Hiroshima, Japan, Akemi grew up in an environment where research and

discussions to study peace was part of the school learning curriculum from a young age. While pursuing the medical nurse profession in Japan as a young adult, Akemi's interest in creating a space of intercultural relationships grew more, which eventually led Akemi to study English (ESL) and Visual Arts in the United States. Akemi mostly developed the knowledge and skills of Museum Studies, Historic House Preservation/Curation, and most importantly about Kyoto through the hands-on experience of working at the Museum and various professional development opportunities and mentors, which Akemi is forever grateful for.

Akemi uses both "she" and "they" pronouns, loves the autumn foliage of New England and the winter snow scene of Boston, and believes in and practices the Power of Play - learning through play every day.



JSB Fundraising Apparel

Thank you to everyone who participated and voted in our Summer 2023 Design Contest!

Marie Romano's design is now available to purchase as shirts and sweatshirts that we are selling to fundraise for JSB.

Check out our online shop to see the different colors and styles!

[Shop](#)

Crane & Turtle Workshops

Bunny Ear Bookmark Workshop

Enjoy a traditional craft that has a history of over 1500 years!

Multiple stiff paper cords are used to create specific types of knots. Mizuhiki crafts have been used not only for gift decorations, but also for accessories and everyday items in recent years.



Kintsugi Workshop for Beginners, and Intermediate Level - Step 2 & 3

Kintsugi is the Japanese art of repairing broken pottery with natural lacquer and



gold powder. Class time is up to 2 ½ - 3 hours long and you will be provided with all the materials you need including broken pottery.

JSB members get a 10% discount! Visit the [Member Portal](#) for code.



[Long Hill](#) estate in Beverly, MA is offering free general admission to JSB members who bring their membership cards. This limited time opportunity runs until the end of their visitor season on **October 29th**. Please note that special programs and events will require additional tickets.

Visit Long Hill to see their vast collection of Japanese native plants and enjoy the beauty of their private gardens surrounded by woodland trails!

JSB Programming

CELEBRATING HACHIKO: ALL ABOUT AKITAS

WITH **LESLÉA NEWMAN**

ONLINE
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH | 2:30 PM ET

SHE WROTE
HACHIKO WAITS!



Celebrating Hachiko: All About Akitas with Lesléa Newman
Saturday, November 4th, 2023 - 2:30 PM ET
Online

The Japan Society of Boston is celebrating the 100th anniversary of Hachiko's birth

with an event all about Akitas!

Lesléa Newman will be discussing her book, [Hachiko Waits](#), as well as her writing process and connection to Japan. We will also be joined by the president of [Big East Akita Rescue](#), Jo Ann Dimon, to hear more about the special akita breed.

This is a free, hour long talk with Q&A hosted on zoom. Children and families are welcome.

Register



The Art of Kintsugi

Online

Monday, December 11th, 2023 | 6pm ET

The Art of Kintsugi **Monday, December 11th, 2023 - 6:00pm ET** **Online**

Kintsugi is the traditional Japanese practice of repairing broken pottery with urushi lacquer and metal powder, transforming it into something even more beautiful than before. Unlike many restoration techniques that work to hide the damage, this technique embraces the “imperfections” and highlights the life of the object.

During this online presentation by Kintsugi artist, Tatsuya Murao of [Kintsugi Boston](#), we will explore the history and philosophy of kintsugi, the dying art of urushi lacquer harvest, and briefly demonstrate the repair process.

This is a free, hour long presentation with Q&A hosted on zoom.

Register

TOMODACHIUSJETAA

JET & TOMODACHI Panel:

Insider Tips on Work, Study,
and Life in Japan

Tuesday, October 17 | 6pm ET



JET & TOMODACHI Panel

Insider Tips on Work, Study, and Life in Japan

Tuesday, October 17th, 2023 - 6:00 PM ET

Online

This event is designed specifically for young professionals and students to gain valuable insights about what it's really like to live in Japan. Our panel guests will include alumni from the [JET Program](#), [TOMODACHI Initiative](#), and study abroad programs.

They will share their firsthand experiences and invaluable advice on various aspects of life in Japan, from navigating the job market to immersing oneself in local culture and making lasting connections.

This is a free, hour-long presentation with Q&A hosted on Zoom. Registration is required to receive the Zoom information.

Register



INSIDE THE JAPANESE HOUSE: PART III

with Adam Zgola

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH @6PM ET

Inside the Japanese House: Part III

Tuesday, November 14th, 2023 - 6:00 PM ET

Online

The Japan Society of Boston is proud to present *Inside the Japanese House*, a three-part series exploring traditional Japanese homes through the lens of Architecture,

Culture, and Handcraft. The series will be hosted by Adam Zgola, a carpenter who specializes in traditional Japanese wooden construction with over two decades of experience in Japan.

Our final part of the series will continue our discussion from previous parts, and address a broader conversation about the art of traditional Japanese handcraft, exploring concepts including wabisabi and mingei. Although these ideas are usually viewed as uniquely Japanese, Adam will share how their universal sentiments can be employed to better understand our own connection with objects and spaces.

Please join us for this very special one-of-a-kind seminar series. This is a free, hour-long presentation with Q&A hosted on Zoom.

Register



Join the JSB
Language Room

A Japanese and English
Virtual Language Exchange

JAPAN SOCIETY
OF BOSTON

Sponsored by:
Temple
University
Japan Campus

JSB Language Room

Friday, October 20th, 2023 6:00 to 8:00 PM ET

□□□□□□□10□21□□□□□□7□□9□□

Online

Practice your Japanese (or your English) at our next online Japanese / English language exchange. Our monthly language room is sponsored by [Temple University, Japan Campus \(TUJ\)](#). TUJ is the oldest and largest foreign university in Japan.

This month's theme is Climate and Environment (□□□□□).

Register

Ouchigohan!

おうちごはん!

Online Cooking Class
via ZOOM



\$10 | JSB Members
\$15 | Non-members



□□□□□□! **Ouchigohan Nikujaga Japanese Meat & Vegetable Stew**
(with Hakusai and Clementine Cabbage Salad)
Sunday, October 22nd, 2023 - 5:00 PM ET
Online

Join us in this family-friendly Japanese cooking class hosted by the Japan-America Society of Washington DC. This October we will be making an iconic Japanese home-cooked dish, nikujaga!

This Japanese nikomi, stew, combines sweet and savory flavors with a classic method of cooking down the liquid until it permeates the ingredients. A comfort dish of home and kyushoku (school lunch), it's easy to make and will become a favorite in your house. Pair it with refreshing cabbage and clementine salad.

Vegetarians can use yaki dofu (grilled tofu comes in a package) or tofu cutlet instead of meat.

The ingredient list and recipe will be provided before the event. JSB members get discounted tickets!

[Register](#)

2023 BOSTON ASIAN AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL

FINDING HER BEAT

OCT. 15 | 1:00PM ET
EMERSON PARAMOUNT CENTER



DOCUMENTARY

Finding Her Beat (preceded by Gund Kwok)

Sunday, October 15th, 2023 - 1:00pm ET

Emerson Paramount Center: Bright Family Screening Room

A master of Japanese drumming and a Korean adoptee from Minnesota boldly convene an all-female troupe to perform Taiko, the Japanese drumming art that has been off-limits to women for centuries. As the early menace of Covid rumbles in the background, the group faces down hurdles to prepare for a historic performance in snowy St. Paul. Buoyed by dynamic drum performances and do-or-die spirit, FINDING HER BEAT is an energizing and uplifting story of music, cultural expression and sisterhood.

Q&A with filmmaker to follow film. Tickets on sale now. JSB members see [member only portal](#) for a discount code.

Register



**“Food Security and
US-Japan
Agricultural Trade”
Yutaka Arai
Commissioner, Consumer
Affairs Agency**

**Monday, October 23, 2023
12:00pm ET**



**Food Security and US-Japan Agricultural Trade
Monday, October 23rd, 2023 - 12:00pm ET**

Bowie-Vernon Conference Room (K262), CGIS Knafel Bldg.
1737 Cambridge St, Cambridge, MA
& Online (Zoom)

[Harvard's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs](#) will welcome Yutaka Arai, Commissioner for Japan's Consumer Affairs Agency, for a seminar on October 23, 2023.

The session will be moderated by Christina L. Davis, Director, Program on U.S.-Japan Relations; Edwin O. Reischauer Professor of Japanese Politics, Department of Government, Harvard University.

Registration not required for in-person attendance.

Register



“Macroeconomic Policy and Inflation Targeting in Japan, 2013-2023”

Haruhiko Kuroda

Former Governor of the Bank of Japan;
Professor, National Graduate Institute for
Policy Studies

Monday, November 6, 2023
12:00pm ET



Macroeconomic Policy and Inflation Targeting in Japan, 2013-2023

Monday, November 6th, 2023 - 12:00pm ET

Bowie-Vernon Conference Room (K262), CGIS Knafel Bldg.
1737 Cambridge St, Cambridge, MA
& Online (Zoom)

[Harvard's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs](#) will welcome Haruhiko Kuroda, Professor at the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies and Former Governor of the Bank of Japan, for a seminar on November 6, 2023.

The session will be moderated by Christina L. Davis, Director, Program on U.S.-Japan Relations; Edwin O. Reischauer Professor of Japanese Politics, Department of Government, Harvard University.

Registration not required for in-person attendance.

[Register](#)

Programs for JSB Members

Harvard Art Museums

Private Tour

Friday, October 27 | 2pm

Harvard Art Museums Private Tour
Friday, October 27th, 2023 - 2:00 PM ET

Havard Art Museums
32 Quincy St., Cambridge, MA

In collaboration with Harvard Art Museums, we are excited to announce a private tour of their Japanese galleries and a peek at their new exhibit Objects of Addiction.

JSB members and guests will enjoy an inside look at the gallery's background and creation, guided by Rachel Saunders, Abby Aldrich Rockefeller Curator of Asian Art, and Sarah Laursen, Alan J. Dworsky Associate Curator of Chinese Art.

These are programs for members and spaces are limited, so as a member you are welcome to bring one guest, but a guest cannot attend in your place.

[Register](#)



**Connect
with JSB!**

Hojoko

1271 Boylston St, Boston, MA 02215.

Connect with JSB!

Monday, October 16th, 2023 - 6:00 PM ET

Hojoko

1271 Boylston St., Boston, MA

Connect with JSB is a great way to get to know us better, meet other society members, practice your Japanese in a casual environment, and enjoy great food at Japanese restaurants in Boston!

This event is open to JSB members only. Registrants are welcome to bring a plus one, but their guest must be included in the registration. All attendees should be prepared to pay for their own meal/drinks.

[Register](#)

Between the Lines

A Monthly Discussion on **Medieval Japanese Women's Literature** for JSB Members every first Thursday of the month.

Between the Lines

Thursday, November 2nd, 2023 - 6:00 PM ET

Online

Join us to discuss some of the greatest classics of medieval Japanese literature, written by women authors! In this session, we will be looking at the second section of a Kamakura era classic, *The Confessions of Lady Nijo*, as translated by Karen Brazell.

The club is limited to Japan Society of Boston Members.
Consider becoming a [Member](#) today!

[Register](#)



JAPAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON MEMBER

BOOK CLUB

THE FACTORY
BY HIROKO OYAMADA

JSB Book Club

Wednesday, October 25th, 2023 - 6:00 PM ET

Online

Do you love Japanese literature? The JSB Book Club will be meeting to discuss *The Factory* by Hiroko Oyamada. It follows three new employees as they begin their lives at the mysterious self-sufficient compound that is the factory.

The JSB Book Club meets on the last Wednesday of every other month to discuss great modern Japanese novels. The purpose of our club is to strengthen the Boston community of Japan enthusiasts by creating a space for thoughtful and sociable discussion.

The club is limited to Japan Society of Boston Members.
Consider becoming a [Member](#) today!

Find a copy of *The Factory* [here](#).

Register

More Content from JSB



#MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Japan Society of Boston

japansocietyboston.org/

Member Highlight

The Japan Society of Boston is pleased to introduce you to the wonderful members of our community through this blog series.

Each month, we will feature a JSB Member and ask them to share with us their Japan Story.

This Month: [Susan Schopp](#)

"My very first New Year's in Japan. I was teaching English at a college in Kyoto, and one of my students invited me to go home with her for the holiday. Her mom made me a kimono, which I'm wearing in the photo and still have to this day."



Full Article

JSB MEETS JET ALUMNI

An interview series on alumni experiences in Japan



JSB Meets JET Alumni

As part of our partnership with the [United States Japan Exchange and Teaching Alumni Association](#) (USJETAA), the Japan Society of Boston features a new JET Alumni in our monthly blog!

This month's JET Alum is [Sean Bramble](#) - Nagasaki (1992-1995).



[Read the Blog](#)

FAMOUS IN JAPAN

Celebrities from Around the World



Famous in Japan

Studying individuals from around the world who are famous in Japan, both past and present.

This month, read about horror manga artist, [Junji Ito](#).

Read the Blog

Other Japan-Related Events



Boston Asian American Film Festival **October 12-22, 2023** **In Person and Virtual**

WATCH FILMS | MEET FILMMAKERS | ENGAGE IN DISCUSSIONS

The Boston Asian American Film Festival (BAAFF) empowers Asian Americans through film by showcasing Asian American experiences and serving as a resource to filmmakers and the Greater Boston Community. The festival is here for YOU—to see and been seen, to hear and be heard— as individuals exploring the joys and challenges of a collective community.

Visit their [website](#) for more details regarding showings, both online and in-person.

Tickets

Yoko Miwa Jazz Trio

@ The Mad Monkfish

Friday Evenings 7pm & 8:45PM



Yoko Miwa Jazz Trio
Friday Evenings, 7PM & 8:45PM ET

The Mad Monkfish

524 Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA 02139

Take advantage of the opportunity to see Yoko Miwa, acclaimed jazz pianist and longtime faculty at Berklee College of Music. Her jazz trio will be playing at the Mad Monkfish on Friday evenings at 7pm and 8:45pm for the next couple of months. She will be accompanied by Brad Barrett on bass and Scott Goulding on drums.

Register

Independent Film Festival Boston

Fall Focus 2023

Japanese Film screenings
October 21-22 at the Brattle



Japanese Films at Independent Film Festival Boston

October 21-22, 2023

The Brattle Theatre

40 Brattle St, Cambridge MA 02138

The Independent Film Festival Boston is back again to host a mini-festival with our friends at the Brattle to give you more opportunities to see great Japanese films.

The festival runs from October 19th to 23rd. Check out their [website](#) to buy tickets and see the rest of the lineup.

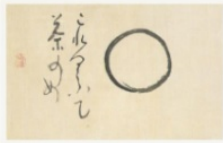
EVIL DOES NOT EXIST (Aku wa Sonzai Shinai) Directed by Hamaguchi Ryûsuke

MONSTER (Kaibutsu) Directed by Kore-eda Hirokazu

PERFECT DAYS Directed by Wim Wenders, starring Yakusho Kôji

Tickets

Boston International Antiquarian Book Fair
**JAPANESE AESTHETICS AND THE
CREATION OF 'MODERN ART'**



1pm | Oct 29, 2023



Japanese Aesthetics and the Creation of 'Modern Art'
October 29th, 2023, 1:00PM ET

Hynes Convention Center
900 Boylston St, Boston MA

The Boston International Antiquarian Book Fair is three-day event featuring fine and rare materials from around the globe, including manuscripts, modern first editions, children's books, ephemera, maps and autographs, as well as antiquarian books on a vast array of topics.

Featured Session: Japanese Aesthetics and the Creation of 'Modern Art'
"Many of us who love the visual arts are convinced that the idea of the Modern is a Western concept. Perhaps there is more to it than that."

See link for full schedule and details.

FREE admission for students with current valid student ID, and children 12 and under.

[Info](#)

Music Worcester presents



MIDORI
with **FESTIVAL
STRINGS
LUCERNE**

November 3 @ 8PM | Mechanics Hall

Midori with Festival Strings Lucerne
Friday, November 3rd, 2023 - 8:00 PM ET
Mechanics Hall
321 Main St, Worcester, MA 01608

Internationally-renowned violin soloist Midori joins The Festival Strings Lucerne, an established string orchestra featuring Swiss conductor and violinist Rudolf Baumgartner.

Currently led by the violinist Daniel Dodds, who was appointed artistic director in 2012 and has particularly extended the scope of the ensemble, the orchestra is led from the concertmaster's chair.

JSB members, see the [Member Portal](#) for 20% off adult ticket prices!

[Tickets](#)



Omoiyari

November 21st, 2023, 7:30PM ET

Berklee Performance Center

136 Massachusetts Ave, Boston MA

This event will be the screening of the documentary film, Omoiyari, followed by a conversation and live set by Kishi Bashi performing the album in its entirety. Violinist and songwriter Kaoru Ishibashi travels on a musical journey to understand WWII era Japanese Incarceration, assimilation, and what it means to be a minority in America today.

Tickets are now on sale at the registration link.

[Tickets](#)

EXPLOSIVE JAPANESE TAIKO DRUMMING

DRUM TAO

Friday, February 2, 2024 | 8PM ET

BERKLEE
PERFORMANCE
CENTER



Drum Tao at Berklee Performance Center
February 2nd, 2023, 8:00PM ET
Berklee Performance Center
136 Massachusetts Ave, Boston MA

With explosive taiko drumming and innovative, acrobatic choreography, DRUM TAO offers a breathtaking, vibrantly modern twist on a traditional art form—and a visual and sonic tour de force celebrating its 30th anniversary.

Check out their English [website](#) for information about the group, videos, and news.

Tickets are now on sale by Global Arts Live.

JSB members visit the [Member only](#) portal for a 20% off discount code. This discount expires 2/2 at 12PM.

[Tickets](#)

MFABoston

Toshiko Takaezu: Shaping Abstraction

September 30, 2023 - September 29, 2024



Toshiko Takaezu: Shaping Abstraction

September 30, 2023 - September 29, 2024

[Museum of Fine Arts Boston](#)

Saundra B. and William H. Lane Galleries (Gallery 332)

Born in Hawaii to parents of Okinawan ancestry, Toshiko Takaezu (1922–2011) was a technically masterful and innovative artist best known for her ceramic sculptures,

which she treated as abstract paintings in the round. The MFA holds a significant collection of Takaezu's pottery—more than 20 examples are featured here alongside loans from private collections.

Challenging traditional presentations of American abstraction, “Toshiko Takaezu: Shaping Abstraction” celebrates the extraordinary range of Takaezu's work—aiming to make her contributions more widely known. It is organized in partnership with the Noguchi Museum and the Toshiko Takaezu Foundation.

Info



REISCHAUER SCHOLARS PROGRAM
AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY

PROGRAM DATES:
FEB 1 – JUNE 16, 2024

APPLICATION DATES:
SEPT 4 – OCT 20, 2023

DISCOVER
Join 25–30 high school students across the United States in an intensive online study of Japan and U.S.–Japan relations from both Japanese and American perspectives.

COLLABORATE
Learn from and with your RSP peers via Zoom and in offline discussions, and develop lifelong friendships and connections with students like you who love learning about different cultural and societal contexts.

BE INSPIRED
Meet with top scholars, experts, and diplomats who study and work in Japan and U.S.–Japan fields. Become the next-generation leaders in the U.S.–Japan relationship!

An online course about Japan and U.S.–Japan relations

www.reischauerscholars.org

Stanford | **SPICE** Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education

Questions? Email Naomi Funahashi, RSP Manager, at naomif1@stanford.edu

Reischauer Scholars Program (RSP) is an online course that takes place from February to June 2024 and offers a creative, intensive, and innovative approach to teaching high school students about Japan and the U.S.–Japan relationship. With unique opportunities to interact with top scholars, experts and diplomats, the RSP introduces students to both American and Japanese perspectives on many historical and contemporary issues.

They are now accepting applications from high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors in the United States for the 2024 RSP cohort.

The application deadline is on October 20, 2023.

More information is available on the RSP [website](http://www.reischauerscholars.org).



10/13 Fri **10/29 Sun**

JB Line Week

JB Line, Inc. | <http://www.jbline.org>
JB Line Week | <https://bit.ly/jblineweek>

Free Webinar

"Why Anime"

"Hokusai" seminar

Online Seminars

Online auction

"JB Line" Founding day concert
Gloucester Hornpipe & Clog Society

10/26 (Thu) 7 PM
@Showa Boston Institute, Rainbow Hall

Online Seminars

Hybrid

Seiza meditation

Japanese Cooking

QR code

JB Line Week 2023
Fundraising events with a connection to Japan
October 13-29, 2023

JB Line, Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to supporting the Japanese community in New England will host its third annual fundraising event, JB Line Week 2023. This year's event is a showcase of five special programs in English, as well as auction events.

Why Anime? by Prof. Susan Napier of Tufts University
How was the MFA's Hokusai exhibition created? by Dr. Sarah E Thompson(MFA)
Seiza Sitting-in-Stillness meditation class by Reverend Miki Nakura
Japanese cooking class by Yoshiko Sullivan
JB Line Founding Day Concert by Gloucester hornpipe and clog society

Info

Please send information about Japan-related events in Boston to info@japansocietyboston.org to help us feature select events.



[The Japan Society of Boston, Inc. | \[www.japansocietyboston.org\]](http://www.japansocietyboston.org)

THE JAPAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON, INC. | 50 Milk Street, 16F, Boston, MA 02109

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