



JAPAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON

New England's Gateway To Japan Since 1904

Monthly Newsletter



[Become a Member](#)

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

Announcements from JSB

JSB Japanese language classes begin September 2026!

The Japan Society of Boston is excited to re-launch our Japanese Language Program with online courses that focus on practical application of the language, led by experienced instructors in a supportive community. This fall, we will offer courses at the beginner and intermediate levels that focus on travel to Japan and Japanese media and pop culture.

Registration opens Monday, July 20th, and JSB Members receive a 15% discount on tuition!

[More Info](#)



NEW *Membership* DISCOUNT PARTNER

KOKORO DON CAFE



Announcing a new discount for JSB members! Thank you to [Kokoro Don Café](#) for their support.

Kokoro Don Café is a Japanese comfort food café focused on fresh, made-to-order rice bowls and simple, well-balanced flavors crafted with care.

JSB members receive **10% off online and in-store orders.**

See our website for all discount partners and membership information.

Discount Partners

JSB Programming

Some events are limited to Japan Society of Boston Members. Interested in joining but not yet a member of the Japan Society of Boston? Consider [becoming a member](#) today!



JSB Members Only



Connect with JSB!

Picnic at Cambridge Common
featuring *Kokoro Don Cafe*
Tuesday, June 16 | 6-8pm

[JSB Member Exclusive]

Connect with JSB!

Tuesday, June 16, 2026 - 6:00PM EDT
Cambridge Common

Waterhouse St & Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge, MA 02138

Join Japan Society of Boston members and staff for a picnic dinner at Cambridge Common! Whether you are a new or longtime member, this is a great opportunity to meet others in the community, connect over shared interests, and enjoy Japanese food.

Registrants have the option to pre-order a meal from **Kokoro Don Café**, a Japanese comfort food café focused on fresh, made-to-order rice bowls and simple, well-balanced flavors crafted with care. The deadline to order a meal is Friday, June 12, 8pm ET. You are also welcome to bring outside food or join without a meal.

[Register](#)

COOKING & CULTURE



The Secret of Japanese Home Meals

AT THE FOUNDRY, 101 ROGERS ST., CAMBRIDGE, MA

JULY 25, 2026

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

[JSB Member Exclusive]

Cooking & Culture: The Secret of Japanese Home Meals

Saturday, July 25, 2026 - 11:00AM EDT

The Foundry

101 Rogers St, Cambridge, MA 02142

Learn the foundation of traditional Japanese home cooking through the concept of *ichiju-sansai* – “one soup and three dishes.” In this hands-on class led by Boston-based culinary entrepreneur and educator **Yoko Bryden**, you’ll discover how to create a healthy, well-balanced meal using seasonal vegetables, simple seasonings, and traditional cooking methods.

It’s the perfect opportunity for anyone who wants to understand the essence of Japanese home-style meals and enjoy cooking and eating together with other members of the JSB community!

[Register](#)



SPONSORED BY:
 Temple
University
Japan Campus

JSB LANGUAGE ROOM

A JAPANESE & ENGLISH
VIRTUAL LANGUAGE
EXCHANGE



JSB Language Room

Thursday, June 18, 2026 - 6:00PM EDT
(日本時間では5月22日金曜日午前7時)

Online

Looking for a fun way to socialize and grow your language skills from the comfort of your own home? Join JSB to practice your Japanese or English at our next online Japanese / English language exchange.

Our monthly language room is sponsored by Temple University, Japan Campus (TUJ), the oldest and largest foreign university in Japan.

This Month's Theme: 文化 / Comparing Cultures

Advance registration required.

[Register](#)



[JSB Member Exclusive]

JSB Book Club

Wednesday, June 24, 2026 - 6:00PM EDT
Online

The JSB Book Club will meet in April to discuss *The Devotion of Suspect X* by **Keigo Higashino**, winner of the 134th Naoki Prize.

"In this tightly plotted crime novel, Higashino pits a brilliant math teacher, Tetsuya Ishigami, against Dr. Manabu Yukawa, a shrewd physicist whose deductive prowess has earned him the nickname Detective Galileo. When Ishigami overhears his lovely neighbor, Yasuko Hanaoka, strangling her abusive ex-husband in the next apartment, he rushes to her aid. Smitten, he concocts a perfect, if complex, alibi for her. It's enough to mystify the investigating detective, but when Dr. Yukawa, the policeman's friend, begins his own sleuthing, and Yasuko falls in love with another man, both alibi and participants bend under the pressure." (*Publishers Weekly*)

Find a copy [here](#) or at your local [library](#). The discussion will be in English, but you are welcome to read the novel in any language.

Register



JOIN US FOR

JSB FILM CLUB

JSB MEMBER ONLY

[JSB Member Exclusive]

JSB Film Club

Wednesday, July 29, 2026 - 6:00PM EDT
Online

In July, the JSB Film Club will discuss Isao Takahata's *Pom Poko* (1994).

In this brilliant and often overlooked Studio Ghibli masterpiece, the forests are filled with groups of magical tanuki, mischievous raccoon-like animals from Japanese folklore that are capable of shape-shifting from their standard raccoon form to practically any object. The tanuki spend their days playing idly in the hillsides and squabbling over food – until the construction of a huge new Tokyo suburb clears the nearby forest and threatens their way of life. In an effort to defend their home, the tanuki learn to transform into humans and start playing tricks to make the workers think the construction site is haunted, ending in a spectacular night-time spirit parade, with thousands of ghosts, dragons and other magical creatures descending on the city. (Synopsis from GKIDS)

Watch the trailer [here](#). Films should be viewed independently in advance of our meetings. Find the film [available to stream online](#) or check out your local library.

Register

Oûchigohan!

おうちごはん！

HARUSAME SALAD & REFRESHING COFFEE JELLY

Online Cooking Class
Via ZOOM

SAT
JUNE 13
6 PM ET

\$10 | JAS/JS Members
\$15 | Non-Members



TABLE FOR TWO



おうちごはん！ (Ouchigohan) Harusame Salad & Coffee Jelly

Saturday, June 13, 2026 - 6:00PM EDT
Online

Join the Japan-America Society of Washington DC and Table for Two for this family-friendly online Japanese home cooking class series おうちごはん (OUCHIGOHAN) and cook along or just watch from your own kitchen!

Summer is approaching and the Japanese know how to eat to beat the heat! Join us as we make a refreshing “**Harusame Salad,**” **Spring Rain Glass Noodle Salad,** as well as the uniquely Japanese treat, “**Coffee Jelly**”. There will also be a bonus recipe: “**Cool as a Cucumber!**” a great summertime heat buster!

Advance ticket purchase required (only one registration per household needed). JSB members can visit the [JSB Member Portal](#) for the discount code.

Register

Signature Content from JSB



MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Showcasing stories from our vibrant community

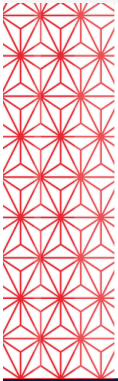


Daniel Lowe

"My interest in Japan started in third-grade social studies and hasn't let up in 30 years.... I earned an MBA in entrepreneurship from Babson and founded Boston Intercultural Consulting to help U.S. and Japan teams collaborate and to support Japan-connected founders entering the U.S. market.... I [also] built JapaneseCircle.com so JET alums and other professionals can make every learning hour count, improving their Japanese in outcome-oriented sprints."

Daniel is the founder of JapaneseCircle.com, one of JSB's membership [discount partners](#). JSB members can get 10% off all offerings!

[Full Article](#)



FAMOUS IN JAPAN

Introducing noteworthy figures, events, and concepts from Japanese culture and history





Sei Shōnagon

In this month's edition of Famous in Japan, we will learn about Sei Shōnagon, author of *The Pillow Book*.

Coming from a line of waka poets, Lady Sei was an author, poet, and excellent observational humorist who served as a court lady to Empress Sadako (Fujiwara no Teishi) and may have had something of a rivalry with *The Tale of Genji* author Murasaki Shikibu.

[Full Article](#)

From Our Friends

Below are just a few featured events and opportunities from other local organizations. Check our [website](#) for many more!

Asian American Ballet Project: *Once Upon Our Time*

Saturday, June 27 at 7:30 PM | Sunday, June 28 at 2:30 PM ET

The Roberts Studio Theatre at the Calderwood Pavilion

527 Tremont St, Boston, MA 02116

The Asian American Ballet Project returns to Boston June 27–28 with *Once Upon Our Time*, a concert of four original ballets inspired by Asian folktales. These are stories many audience members grew up hearing, but rarely see honored on professional stages. Presented by an all-Asian American cast of dancers, choreographers, and composers, the program brings these narratives to life through ballet and live music.

JSB members get 20% off tickets for the June 28 performance! Visit the [JSB Member Portal](#) for the discount code.

Tickets

Giveaway!

Jinsei

Opens Friday, June 12

Various cinemas across New England

“One of the most unique Japanese anime movies of the 21st century.” Our hero becomes a J-pop idol, an outcast, and an oracle in this 100-year chronicle of an extraordinary life, spanning the past, present, and future. JINSEI, written, directed, edited and entirely hand-drawn by Ryuya Suzuki, opens in Boston this month. Watch the trailer [here](#).


We are giving away pairs of tickets! To enter the drawing, respond to this email by June 14, 11:59pm ET with your preferred cinema:

Apple Cinemas Cambridge - Run begins June 12 (tickets valid for any showing)

Cinema-Worcester - Showings on June 18 and 19 only


Winners will be contacted by email on June 15.

Tickets



The Japan Society of Boston is able to provide this newsletter thanks to the generosity of readers like you.

If you enjoy our newsletter and programs, please consider becoming a member or donating today.



[Support JSB](#)

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