

Bi-Weekly Newsletter

June 4 - 17, 2021



Now open for registration!
[06/05 #EdamameChamp](#)

[06/08 Constant Change, Changeless
Constancy: Japan in the Summer of
its Olympics](#)

[06/12 Easy Japanese Home Cooking for
Non-Chefs - Part 12 -](#)

[06/15 The Botany of a Buddhist
Sculpture: Prince Shōtoku at Age
Two and Hinoki Cypress](#)

[6/18 Language Room](#)

[06/21 and 06/28 Travel Japanese](#)

[06/24 Shiba Inu \(🐕🐕\)](#)

[06/29 Japan's Pop Culture Takeover
Speaker Series Part 2: Japanese Film](#)

[7/28 JSB Members' Book Club](#)

Read more about all our events below!

Fundraiser Fortnight coming up!

JSB's annual fundraiser begins June 21st! Our online auction will open on the 21st and run for two weeks. We'll also be hosting special events for the fundraiser, including our upcoming **Pop Culture Takeover Speaker Series**, **Shiba Inu** Program and a special **Travel Japanese** language program. Find more details about these events below!

[JSB meets JET Alumni](#)

Our interview this week is with JET alum **Bahia Simons-Lane** who was placed in **Gunma** prefecture, a well-known *onsen* destination! Check below to read an excerpt of the interview, or read the complete version on our [website](#)!

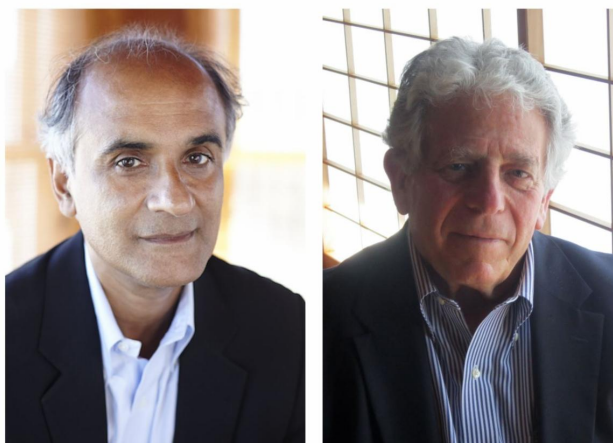
Featured Events



June 29, 2021 at 5:00 PM EDT

Our **Pop Culture Takeover Speaker Series** continues! **Susan Napier** and **Ian Condry** return, joined by Harvard Professor **Alexander Zahlten**. Get ready for an evening discussing a Japanese film with three Japanese pop-culture experts! Title of the movie we will be discussing will be shared on our social media! Keep an eye out for more details on our social media.

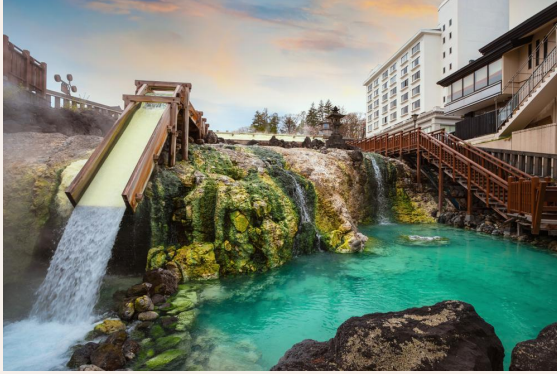
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**CONSTANT CHANGE,
CHANGELESS CONSTANCY:
Japan in the Summer of its Olympics**

June 8, 2021 at 7:00 PM EDT

Internationally renowned author, journalist,



Join or Renew Your Membership

The Japan Society of Boston is a community of bridge makers and curious minds who have found connections with others through their common interest in strengthening the ties between the US and Japan.

[Join or Renew](#) your Membership and support us continue this important work of bridge making!

Keep up with JSB on social media!



and TED talk favorite Pico Iyer in conversation with President Emeritus of JSB Peter Grilli.



The Botany of a Buddhist Sculpture: Prince Shōtoku at Age Two and Hinoki Cypress

June 15, 2021 at 7:00 PM EDT

This event offers a close encounter with one of the best-known residents of the Harvard Art Museums, Prince Shōtoku at Age Two (c. 1292).

Japan Society of Boston Featured Online Events

#EdamameChamp

in collaboration with Table for Two and
Japan America Society of Minnesota



Saturday, June 5, 2021
5:00 PM EDT (4:00 PM CDT)

Learn how to make MISO
RAMEN at home !

#EDAMAMECHAMP is an
annual spring campaign to
promote healthy eating through

Japanese cuisine focusing on soy and to raise funds for teaching healthy eating to more children.

We are joining our friends, Debra Samuels at Table for Two and Japan America Society of Minnesota for #EdamameChamp. Come learn about healthy Japanese cuisine and enjoy some fun challenges using edamame!* Participants will also learn how to **make miso ramen at home**.

Table for Two's partner organizations will donate food education for 1 child per participant and/or photo posted. 1 participant or 1 photo posted = Food education for 1 child.

**This is a virtual event to challenge your chopsticks skills. To join the chopstick challenge, prepare two plates and a couple of edamame pods. If you don't have edamame, you can join with any kind of dried beans. You can also use two pencils if you don't have chopsticks.*

[Learn More](#)

CONSTANT CHANGE, CHANGELESS CONSTANCY: Japan in the Summer of its Olympics

Internationally renowned author, journalist, and TED talk favorite Pico Iyer in conversation with President Emeritus of JSB Peter Grilli

**Tuesday, June 8, 2021
7:00 PM EDT**

Born in England and traveled across the globe, Pico Iyer has spent much of his time since 1992 in a small town in Nara, Japan, and at a Benedictine hermitage in Big Sur, California.

In his new books, *Autumn Light* and *A Beginner's Guide to*

Japan: Observations and Provocations, Pico Iyer reflects on the changes as well as the changelessness and the paradoxes of his adopted home.

Join us as we catch Pico Iyer in conversation with his friend, Peter Grilli, as they reflect on their Japanese journeys and how it has influenced the way they think, write, speak and live their lives.

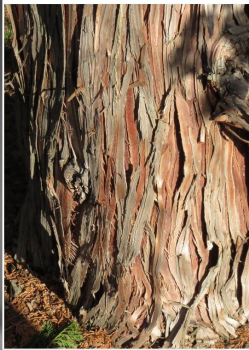
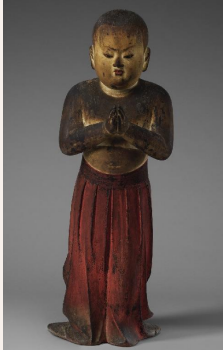


[Learn More](#)

The Botany of a Buddhist Sculpture: Prince Shōtoku at Age Two and Hinoki Cypress

In collaboration with Harvard Art Museum and Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University

**Tuesday, June 15, 2021
7:00 PM EDT**



This event offers a close encounter with one of the best-known residents of the Harvard Art Museums, Prince Shōtoku at Age Two (c. 1292). In the 1930s, the sculpture was found to contain a group of relic-like objects, perfectly preserved thanks to the remarkable qualities of the hinoki cypress wood from which the

sculpture is made.

Join conservator Angela Chang, horticulturist Stephen Schneider, and curator Rachel Saunders for three perspectives on Prince Shōtoku and the ongoing collaborative research into this extraordinary sculpture.

[Register Here](#)

Shiba Inu (🐕🐕)



**Thursday, June 24, 2021
6:00 PM EDT**

Calling all dog lovers! Please join us to learn about one of the most popular (and cutest) Japanese dog breeds, the Shiba Inu. Shibas are one of the 9 monument breeds to Japan and are considered the nation's oldest and

smallest dog breed.

Mary Beth Ross, Director of Education at ***National Shiba Club of America*** will shed light on the history of Shiba Inu in Japan and give an in depth view of their role today.

[Register Here](#)

Japan's Pop Culture Takeover Series Part 2 on Japanese Film



June 29, 2021 at 5:00 PM EDT

Our **Pop Culture Takeover Speaker Series** continues! Susan Napier and Ian Condry return, joined by Harvard Professor Alexander

Zahlten. Get ready for an evening discussing a Japanese film with three Japanese pop-culture experts! The movie title will be determined and shared on our social media. Keep an eye out for more details on our social media sites!

[Register Here](#)

Japan Society of Boston Other Online Events

Easy Japanese Home Cooking for Non-Chefs! - Part 12- Karaage and Dashimaki Tamago

Saturday, June 12, 2021

5:00 to 6:00 PM EDT

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

Hosted online via Zoom

Karaage (カラアゲ) is chicken that's marinated in soy sauce and fried. It is a popular dish that can be found in food stands at many festivals all over Japan, and there are even restaurants specializing in karaage.



Dashimaki tamago (ダシ巻き玉子), or rolled omelette, is made by rolling a thin layer of egg into multiple layers. It is a variation of tamagoyaki, which is cooked the same way but uses different seasonings. Tamagoyaki became popular in the 1950s, after the government encouraged parents to give children more protein and farmers to keep more chickens. Eggs became very cheap and tamagoyaki became standard in bento boxes. Dashimaki tamago is made with dashi broth mixed into the egg batter and is popular in Japan's Kansai region.

JSB volunteer Masayo Kawaguchi is excited to show you how to make your own karaage and dashimaki tamago! You'll be able to enjoy two bento box classics on your next picnic. Be sure to bring your appetite for this next installment of our Easy Japanese Home Cooking series, and we look forward to seeing you there!



Masayo Kawaguchi was born in Fukuoka and grew up in Osaka and Tokyo. When she was in Japan, she was a singer and an actor. She lived in New York for over 20 years, where she continued her studies in acting, and worked as an actor (a SAG-AFTRA member), a voice actor for anime, then later focused on reporting as a TV journalist. She moved to

Boston a few years ago and has been an enthusiastic volunteer at the Japan Society of Boston.

[Register Here](#)



The JSB Language Room (Virtual Language Exchange)

**Friday, June 18, 2021
6:00 to 8:00 PM EDT**

**Hosted online via Zoom
(you will be sent the meeting code after registering)**

Please join us for two hours of conversation, where you will be grouped based on your proficiency level. We hope you will take part in our community as we strive to bridge Japanese and American cultures.

The JSB Language Room is currently free for all. To help us continue offering our language exchange, please consider [making a donation](#) or [becoming a member](#) today!

[Register Here](#)

Travel Japanese (2 sessions)

For beginners



**Monday, June 21, 2021
7:00 to 8:00 PM EDT
and
Monday, June 28, 2021
7:00 to 8:00 PM EDT**

*Note: A minimum of 4 registrants is required to hold the class.
Registration is limited to 8 students.*

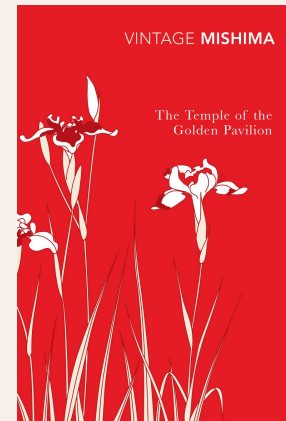
Are you ready to visit Japan? This is a class for beginners who would like to learn basic expressions to navigate you during your trip. You will learn greetings, how to check in at the hotel, use the bus, train, and taxi, order food at a restaurant, buy souvenirs, etc. The price includes two sessions.

[Register Here](#)

Japan Society of Boston Members' Book Club

**Wednesday, July 28, 2021
6:00 - 8:00 PM EDT**

Do you love Japanese literature? Our goal at the JSB Members' Book Club is to strengthen the Boston community of Japan enthusiasts by coming together to discuss Japanese works. Join us for a conversation about the novel ***The Temple of the Golden Pavilion*** by Yukio Mishima.



Our book club is limited to members only, but don't worry, you can sign up [here](#) today! If you are already a member and interested in the group, please [contact us](#) to have your name added to the club mailing list.

[Register Here](#)

Notes from JSB

JSB Meets JET Alumni



As part of our partnership with the [United States-Japan Exchange & Teaching Alumni Association](#) (USJETAA), we will be sharing excerpts of interviews with JET alums in our newsletter!

To read the full interviews, [please visit our website](#).

Episode 12: Gunma
Interview with Bahia Simons-Lane
(Numata, Gunma 2005-2007)

Q: What are some of the things your prefecture is known for?

Gunma has a quite a few random things it's known for. When you view the prefecture from above it's shaped like a crane in flight, has delicious cabbage and produces *konnyaku*. It's also a well-known *onsen* destination, particularly Kusatsu, and is popular for skiing and hiking. I've climbed several mountains in Gunma, including Mt. Akagi and Tanigawa-dake. Another interesting thing I did was canyoning in Minakami, which involves putting on wetsuits and sliding down waterfalls.

Did you pick up any of the regional dialects? What are some of your favorite words or phrases?

My Japanese wasn't very good when I got to Japan, but I did learn a little bit about Gunma-ben. In Gunma-ben, they tended to shorten words and add ~be on the end. For example, saying *ikube* instead of *ikimashou*!



Q: If you were to return to live in Japan, would you choose to live in that same prefecture?

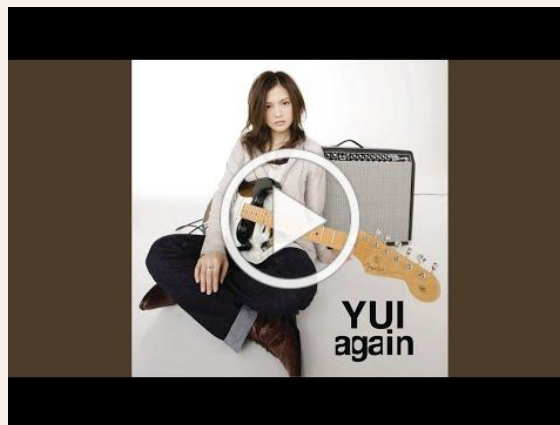
I felt like Gunma was the perfect JET placement. It was rural, so I got to experience what it was like to live in the countryside. It also had incredible hiking, which is a hobby I took up while living in Japan. The other nice thing is that it wasn't too far from Tokyo, so I could go visit some weekends.

[Read the rest of Bahia's interview here!](#)

JSB Staff Song of the Week

[again](#)
[by YUI](#)

YUI is a Japanese singer-songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, and actress. In her solo career, she sold more than 5 million physical copies in Japan.



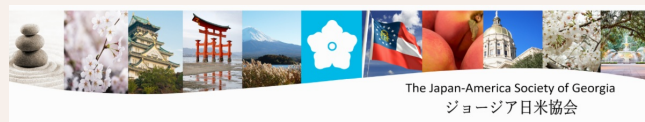
Online activities from Other Japan Societies

[Virtual Daruma Workshop & Demonstration](#)

**Saturday, June 12, 2021
7:00 PM EDT**

Join the Japan-America Society of Georgia, Imai Daruma Nayo, and I go Tokyo for a unique virtual workshop featuring the Introduction of Daruma, Uniqueness of Takasaki Daruma, a Tour of a real Daruma Studio in Japan, and a LIVE Daruma demonstration on how Daruma dolls are made.

[Learn More](#)



Virtual Daruma Demo
June 12, 2021 7:00pm EST | 日本時間 6月13日 午前8時

Join the Japan-America Society of Georgia, Imai Daruma Nayo, and I go Tokyo for a unique virtual workshop featuring the Introduction of Daruma, Uniqueness of Takasaki Daruma, a Tour of a real Daruma Studio in Japan, and a LIVE Daruma demonstration on how Daruma dolls are made. To purchase your own Daruma, visit www.IgoTokyoStore.com

ジョージア日米協会では、「今村だるまNAYO」商店様によるだるまの紹介、達磨だるまの展示、だるまスタジオのツアーやだるま製造のデモンストラーションなどを紹介いたします。このユニークなバーチャルワークショップにぜひご参加ください。まただるま購入ご希望の方は、I go Tokyoのサイト www.IgoTokyoStore.com から購入できます。

Register: www.bit.ly/JASG-Daruma

The Daruma Doll is a hollow, round, Japanese traditional doll modeled after Bodhidharma, the founder of Zen Buddhism. Although these dolls are typically red and depict a bearded man, they vary greatly in color/design and is also rich in symbolism and regarded as a talisman of good luck in Japan.

だるまは、禅仏教の開祖である達磨をモデルにした、中空の丸い日本の伝統的な人形です。これらの人形は通常赤でひげをよした男を表現していますが、色やデザインが大きく異なり、象徴性も豊富で、日本では幸運のお守りとして知られています。



[Kamishibai \(Japanese Paper Theatre\) Performance for Kids \(Virtual Workshop\)](#)

**Wednesday, June 16, 2021
4:00 PM EDT**

Join seasoned performer Emiko Moore as she shares the traditional art of Kamishibai -- Japanese storytelling with colorful story

A PAPER THEATRE PERFORMANCE FOR KIDS

KAMISHIBAI
JAPANESE PAPER THEATRE



[Learn More](#)

**Network for Success in
Work & Life**

Wednesday, June 16, 2021
7:30 - 9:00 PM EDT (6:30 - 8:00PM CDT)

This workshop is co-sponsored by JASC-
Japanese American Service Committee, CTC
– Career Transitions Center, The Japan
America Society of Chicago, and JETAA
Chicago.

This interactive workshop helps participants
gain insight, perspective, and practice with
useful techniques for more effective
networking.

[Learn More](#)



**Network for
Success in
Work & Life**

June 16, 6:30 pm

Networking is a critical skill to develop for job search
and ongoing career success - in truth, we believe it is
essential for work and life! This low-cost online
workshop with Anita Jenke from CTC helps participants
gain insight, perspective, and practice.

A workbook with resources will be provided.



Non-JSB Online Activities



**'Japan: world's best winter
birding' by award winning
author James Lowen**

by RSPB Bromley Local Group

Wednesday, June 9, 2021
1:45 - 4:00 PM EDT

James Lowen is an experienced naturalist
based in Norfolk, as well as an award-
winning author and photographer
specialising in natural history, conservation



**The Evolutionary Origin of
Periodical Cicadas:
A Sci-Fi Story**

by Japan Information & Culture
Center, Embassy of Japan

Wednesday, June 9, 2021
7:00 - 8:30 PM EDT

Periodical cicadas are known for their

and travel. Of his 13 books, two have been named Travel Guidebook of the Year. This interesting talk will make the compelling case for why Japan offers the very best of winter bird watching anywhere in the world. The avian stars of this conservation-infused lecture include such glamorous and sought-after species as red-crowned crane, Blakiston's eagle owl, Steller's sea eagle and much more besides. And the best bit? Travel around the beautiful and fascinating country of Japan proves surprisingly easy and inexpensive!

[Learn More](#)

unique 17- and 13-year life cycles and mass emergence events. This mystery of why they would have evolved these two prime-numbered life cycles has attracted many biologists and mathematicians. Dr. Yoshimura will explore this phenomenon through a science-fiction story of the prime-numbered life cycles in periodical cicadas during the ice ages. In this talk, he will also introduce a new technique of catching cicadas that sing at the tops of trees, for any children with insect collections, as many Japanese children (Dr. Yoshimura very much included) do.

[Learn More](#)



Queer Japan Limited Screening
at FujoCon 2021
by BL Garden of DFW

Friday, June 11, 2021
7:00 PM EDT

Trailblazing artists, activists, and everyday people from across the spectrum of gender and sexuality defy social norms and dare to live unconventional lives in this kaleidoscopic view of LGBTQ+ culture in contemporary Japan. From shiny pride parades to playfully perverse underground parties, Queer Japan pictures people living brazenly unconventional lives in the sunlight, the shadows, and everywhere in between. Culled from 100+ interviews conducted over 3 years in locations across Japan, Queer Japan features dozens of individuals sharing their experiences in their own words.

Join us for a Q&A with director Graham Kolbeins after the show.

[Learn More](#)



Designs That Defined
Modern Japan
by The Japan Foundation

Wednesday, June 23, 2021
8:00 AM EDT

Are there any tangible items in particular which can be said to stand out as the game changers in the history of Japanese design? To answer this question, we invite Professor KASHIWAGI Hiroshi, a prominent design historian, and critic, who will draw on his long-standing career in the field to give his view as to the objects which deserve such an esteemed title. After introducing and providing a socio-historical background on his selection of objects, he will delve into where he believes the future of Japanese design is heading. Following KASHIWAGI's presentation, there will be a short discussion with Josephine Rout, Curator at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

[Learn More](#)

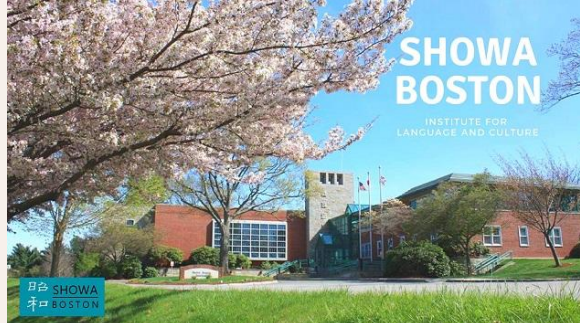
Join student projects and have

interesting online discussions! Showa Boston Online

Our students, Global Business majors studying at Showa Women's University in Tokyo, Japan, are embarking on semester-long business projects.

Each group has a cross-cultural learning objective, as well as a business twist.

An essential part of their project is discussions and feedback from people in the US.



[Learn More](#)

Additional Resources

Japanese study resources

[Tofugu: Learn Hiragana](#)

[Tofugu: Learn Katakana](#)

[WaniKani](#)

[Tae Kim's Guide to Learning Japanese](#)

[Learn Japanese with Erin](#)

[NHK-World Japan: Easy Japanese Grammar](#)

[How to Read and Write Hiragana](#)

Google Arts & Culture Virtual Museum Collections

[Tokyo National Museum](#)

[The National Museum of Modern Art, Tokyo](#)

[Kyoto National Museum](#)

[Fukuoka Asian Art Museum](#)

[Yamatane Museum of Art](#)

[Adachi Museum of Art](#)



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