



THE JAPAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON  
A BRIDGE BETWEEN CULTURES

# Monthly Newsletter



As we said good-bye to 2022 and welcomed the New Year, we took a moment to reflect on the beautiful and strong community of the Japan Society of Boston. Your support has been strong and unwavering, making our programs bridging the US and Japan possible. **Thank you.**

We're starting the first newsletter of the year with some exciting programs both online and in-person (see below). You will find our new video production, [Natural Beauty: Japanese-Inspired Gardens](#). Our JSB meets JET Alum features [Jessyca Livingston](#), who took on the Executive Director position at USJETAA this month! There's also so much more in this email with a new [Member Highlight](#) and [Famous in Japan](#) blog posts. So sit back, grab yourself a nice drink and enjoy reading our newsletter!

**Here's to a wonderful 2023!** □□□□□□□□□□□□□□□□



Yuko Handa  
Executive Director of the Japan Society of Boston

**JSB Programming**



**Thursday, January 26th, 2023 - 6:00 PM EST  
Online**

JSB is proud to announce the new season of our **My Japan Journey podcast** which will be available in early February! To celebrate, we will be joined by Season 1 podcast guest Kasia Lynch. Hear Kasia's own Japan Journey and how she established *Ikigai Connections*, an online hub for Japanese-related jobs in the US.

Join us and **share how your own Japan Journey started** as we reflect on the value of the connection between Japan and the other place(s) we call home.

[Register Here](#)

**おうちごはん  
Ouchi Gohan**

Japanese Home Cooking Class

Saturday, January 14, 2023  
5pm ET / 4pm CT

**Register at [www.bit.ly/OuchiGohan](http://www.bit.ly/OuchiGohan)**

TABLE FOR TWO A Special JAS Collaboration

協日会本 JAPAN AMERICA SOCIETY OF BOSTON

協日会本 JAPAN AMERICA SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON DC

協日会本 JAPAN AMERICA SOCIETY OF GEORGIA

協日会本 JAPAN AMERICA SOCIETY OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

**Saturday, January 14th, 2023 - 5:00 PM EST  
Online**

Join us and learn how to make Okonomiyaki! “Okonomi” means as you like it and yaki means grill or fry. This pancake is stuffed with heaps of cabbage and vegetables and topped with a savory sauce.

This is part of our Ouchigohan series we bring to you with the Japan-America Society of Georgia, Japan-America Society of Houston, Japan-America Society of Washington DC, and Japan-America Society of Greater Philadelphia

Register



**Sunday, January 15th, 2023**

**In person**

Join us for a community collaboration with the Boston Children's Museum in celebrating Oshogatsu – Japanese New Year! Stop by to enjoy Chado tea ceremony demonstrations, Taiko drumming, Shishimai Lion Dance, and more! Directions and more information can be found [here](#).



**Friday, January 20th, 2023 - 6:00 PM EST**

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**Online**

Practice your Japanese (or your English) at our next online Japanese / English language exchange. Our theme for this session is: Pets□□□□□

Our monthly language room is sponsored by **Temple University, Japan Campus (TUJ)**. TUJ is the oldest and largest foreign university in Japan. For more information, please visit their website: <https://www.tuj.ac.jp/ug>

Register



# Inside Contemporary Poetry:

A Lecture and Interactive Workshop

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16TH AT 6PM



**Thursday, February 26th, 2023 — 6:00 PM EST**  
**Online**

Join us on February 16th and “dive in” to an interactive workshop on multimedia digital exhibitions of contemporary Japanese poetry. Get ready to let loose, read aloud, and consider how different sounds, shapes, colors, and performances interact with contemporary literary texts. Please join us on Zoom for this digital immersive adventure! Lecture and discussions will be held in English, with texts provided in both English and Japanese.

[Register](#)



## Creating Japanese Inspired Gardens in New England

FEB 28 (Tue) 6PM EST Online



Lee Schneller Sligh went to Japan for the first time in 1974 and has designed hundreds of gardens in New England, many of them Japanese-inspired. Join us to hear about Lee's journey and her work while learning about some of the Japanese garden design principles such as "Hide and Reveal" and "The Beauty of Empty Space". Lee will also talk about rock work and how to achieve a natural effect in the garden. Questions will be welcomed throughout the talk.



**Tuesday, February 28th, 2023 — 6:00 PM EST**  
**Online**

Lee Schneller Sligh went to Japan for the first time in 1974 and has designed hundreds of gardens in New England, many of them Japanese-inspired.

Join us to hear about Lee's journey and her work while learning about some of the Japanese garden design principles such as "Hide and Reveal" and "The Beauty of Empty Space". Lee will also talk about rock work and how to achieve a natural effect in the garden. Questions will be welcomed throughout the talk.

[Register](#)

COMMUNITY WORKSHOP WITH  
**KODO**  
TAIKO DRUMMERS

MARCH 11 @ 1PM EST

CAMBRIDGE FOUNDRY, 101 ROGERS STREET, CAMBRIDGE, MA



**Lecture and Demonstration with Kodo Taiko Drummers  
In-Person**

Join JSB and the Celebrity Series of Boston on March 11th at the Cambridge Foundry for a unique and exciting community drumming workshop by Kodō, the award-winning Japanese Taiko Ensemble.

Additionally, KODO's latest work, *Tsuzumi*, will be presented by Celebrity Series of Boston on Sunday, March 12, 5pm at Symphony Hall, Boston. Tickets are available at the [Celebrity Series of Boston](https://www.celebrityseriesofboston.com) website. Use code KODO25 for a 25% discount\*.

\*Offer valid thru 3/10 at Noon. Valid for up to 4 tickets. Not valid on previously purchased tickets.

Register

**Programs for JSB Members**

**Between  
the Lines**

A Monthly Discussion of **the Tale of Genji** for JSB members held on the third Tuesday of the Month




**Tuesday, January 17th, 2023 - 6:00 PM EST  
Online**

Join us to discuss *The Tale of Genji* by Murasaki Shikibu. We will be discussing chapters forty-seven through fifty-four.

Register

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JAPAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON MEMBER

# BOOK CLUB

SCATTERED ALL OVER THE EARTH  
BY YOKO TAWADA

Wednesday, January 25th, 2023 - 6:00 PM EST  
Online

Do you love Japanese literature? The JSB Book Club will be meeting to discuss *Scattered All Over the Earth* by Yoko Tawada. The purpose of the JSB Book Club is to strengthen the community of Japan enthusiasts by coming together to discuss Japanese literature.

Find a copy of *Scattered All Over the Earth* [here](#).

Register

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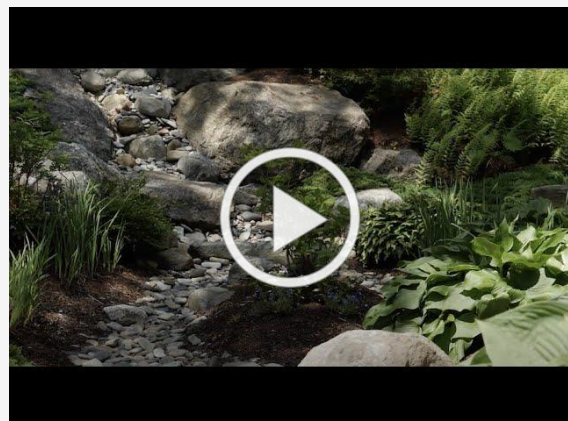
More Content from JSB

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## JSB Presents...

The Japan Society of Boston is proud to present *Natural Beauty: Japanese-Inspired Gardens*, a video produced in collaboration with Lee Schneller Fine Gardens and Orvica Creatives.

This was made possible by a grant from The Japan Foundation Global Partnerships Department.





# #MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Japan Society of Boston

[japansocietyboston.org/](http://japansocietyboston.org/)

## JSB Member Highlight

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

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

This Month: **Kira Wencek**



## 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 [Jessyca Livingston](#), Urahoro-cho, Hokkaido 2003-2006. Jessyca is the new Executive Director of [USJETAA](#)!



[Read the Blog](#)

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# JAPAN VIEWED FROM THE INSIDE

In Collaboration with Kokoro Media

INTERVIEW



We are teaming up with [Kokoro Media](#) in Japan to bring you "Japan Viewed from the Inside." This month we are featuring an interview with Michele Fujii titled "How to Learn Japanese Literature, Language, and History"

[Read the Interview](#)

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# FAMOUS IN JAPAN

*Celebrities from Around the World*



## JSB Blog

### Famous in Japan: Celebrities from Around the World

This month we featured **Hanae Mori**, a Japanese fashion designer and the first Asian to be recognized as an official haute couture designer known for blending Eastern and Western styles..

[Learn about Hanae Mori](#)



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