



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!



Boston: The U.S.-Japan Intersection

Shin Abe

ZEN Associates Inc.
Founder and Trustee

How long have you been in Boston?

I came to Boston in the summer of 1977, so 46 years ago.

What does your company do?

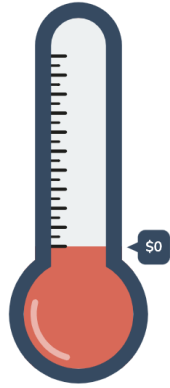
Our company, named ZEN Associates Inc., does Landscape Architectural Design, Landscape Construction, Landscape maintenance, and Architectural and Interior design works. Our design styles are contemporary Asian influenced. Authentic Japanese-style projects make up less than 10% of our entire projects.



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

Announcements from JSB

GOAL: \$5,000



Donate

JSB Fall Fundraiser Campaign Open through September

The Japan Society of Boston has been dedicated to the Japan/Boston friendship since 1904, offering a variety of events and services for our community across New England.

To continue our mission, we need your support. We are a not-for-profit organization reliant on the generosity of our members and donors like you. Please consider donating to our fall fundraiser to raise money for JSB operating costs and make a lasting impact.

Any amount is greatly appreciated, as every dollar goes a long way in sustaining our organization.

Together, we can ensure the future of JSB as a beacon of friendship, culture, and community for generations to come.

As thanks for your support, all donors will be automatically entered into a random giveaway for tickets to [Omoiyari](#) (see link for more information). We will be selecting two winners at the end of the campaign, who will each receive one pair of tickets.

Nihongo Perapera Newsletter

日本語ぺらぺらニュースレター

For the language lovers!

Our monthly language-focused newsletter is designed to be a study resource for both new and seasoned Japanese learners. From information about kanji to culture to different regional dialects, this is the place for Japanese language connoisseurs to be!

To subscribe to the Perapera Newsletter, please email operations@japansocietyboston.org with your name and email address!

And visit the [Archive](#) to check out previous newsletters.

Summer 2023 T-shirt Design Contest Finalists

Thank you to everyone who participated in our Summer 2023

Design Contest!

Please vote for your favorite design to be printed on T-shirts and Crewnecks available for purchase to fundraise for JSB. Voting will remain open until the end of September. One vote per person please.

[Vote Here](#)



A



B



C



D

Calling all Akita Inus!

Do you or someone you know have an akita at home? We are holding an in-person event on November 4th, 2023 at 3pm in Cambridge to celebrate the 100th birthday anniversary of Hachiko, the famously loyal akita!

As part of the event, we are looking for a number of akitas for an akita meet-up, where guests can view and/or interact with the dogs, depending on your comfort level.

Please contact joanneha@japansocietyboston.org if you and your furred friend would like to be a part of this event!



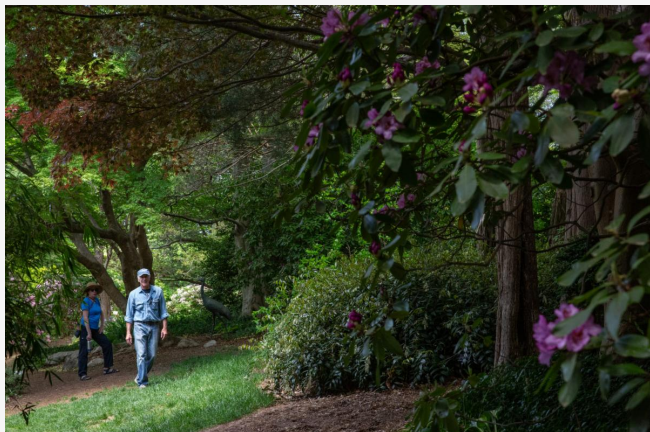
October Nourishing Essentials Care Package Theme

Yuzu: Japan's Beloved Citrus (柚子)



As autumn approaches, it's a great time to incorporate yuzu citrus into your diet! Kokoro Care Packages has a yuzu-themed care package available the entire month of September.

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

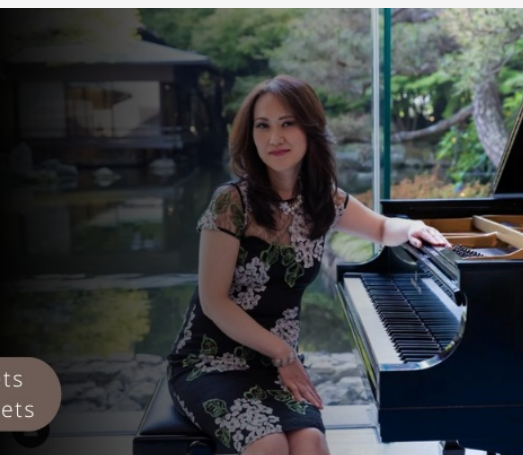
See

Yoko Miwa

with JSB

Friday, September 29th | 7PM
Scullers Jazz Club

JSB members \$33 tickets
Non-members \$35 tickets



See Yoko Miwa with JSB

Friday, September 29th, 2023 - 7:00 PM ET

Scullers Jazz Club

400 Soldiers Field Road, Boston, MA 02134

See Yoko Miwa's jazz trio perform for a discounted price with fellow members of the Japan Society of Boston community. Just 5 tickets left!

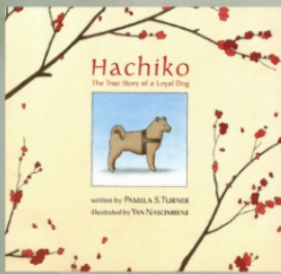
Regular seated tickets for this event are \$38, which includes all processing fees. JSB members get a discount with \$33 tickets and there are \$35 tickets available for non-members.

By purchasing your tickets with JSB, you will be able to take advantage of the discount and also enjoy the show with other members of the JSB community.

[Register](#)



CELEBRATING HACHIKO



AUTHOR TALK WITH PAMELA S. TURNER

Monday, October 2nd
6 PM - 7 PM EDT
Hosted online via Zoom

Writer of *Hachiko: The True Story
of a Loyal Dog*

Celebrating Hachiko: Author Talk with Pamela S. Turner **Monday, October 2nd, 2023 - 6:00pm ET** **Online**

We are celebrating the 100th anniversary of Hachiko's birth with an author talk with Pamela S. Turner, writer of *Hachiko: The True Story of a Loyal Dog*, a children's book that spread the story of his unwavering loyalty to many.

Pamela will be discussing this book along with her other publications such as *Samurai Rising*, as well as other topics such as her own personal connection to Japan and her writing process. She will be joined in conversation by Professor Susan Napier, a local expert on Japanese culture and art.

This is a free, hour-long talk with Q&A hosted on Zoom. Please see registration page for more details.

[Register](#)

TOMO
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USJETAA

JET & TOMODACHI Panel:

Insider Tips on Work, Study,
and Life in Japan

Tuesday, October 17 | 6pm ET

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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](#)



BOSTONLYRIC OPERA

 **JAPAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON**

 **JOHN F. KENNEDY PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY AND MUSEUM**

**OUR STORY:
Cultural Legacies of
Japanese American Incarceration**

Our Story: Cultural Legacies of Japanese American Incarceration
September 11 @ 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm EDT

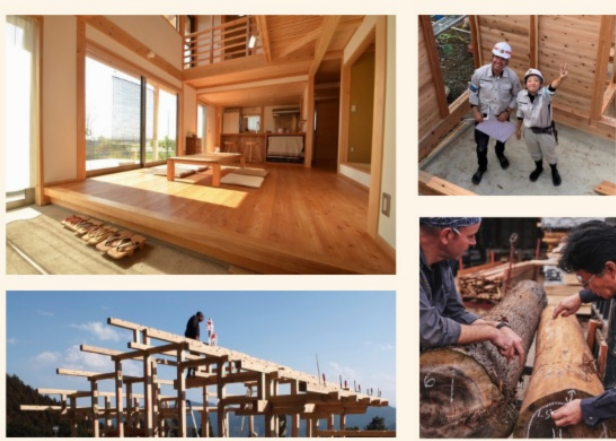
Our Story: Cultural Legacies of Japanese American Incarceration
Monday, September 11th, 2023 - 6:00pm ET
John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum: Smith Hall
Columbia Point, Boston, MA 02125

Join Japanese-American artists, scholars, and advocates for a discussion about the lasting cultural legacy of the United States' forced mass removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II. The evening will include a short program of contemporary musical performances that are in dialogue with this history, followed by a Q&A. See registration page for more details.

This program complements the Kennedy Library's new special exhibit *Service and Sacrifice: World War II - A Shared Experience*. The exhibit will be open free of charge from 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m for event attendants.

The event is free and open to the public. Reservations are strongly recommended. Food and drink options will be available for purchase.

[Register](#)



INSIDE THE JAPANESE HOUSE: PART I

with Adam Zgola

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH @6PM ET

Inside the Japanese House: Part I Tuesday, September 12th, 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.

Part I will delve into Adam's early experiences as an apprentice craftsman in Japan. We will discuss the opportunities and challenges of a Japanese apprenticeship, a process that results in a unique insight in the importance of tradition in handcraft and the responsibilities of craftsmen in the context of culture and society.

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

Oûchigohan!
おうちごはん!

Online Cooking Class
via ZOOM



SUN
SEP 10
6:30pm EDT

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



□□□□□! Ouchigohan Sanshoku Gohan
Sunday, September 10th, 2023 - 6:30 PM ET
Online

Sanshoku Gohan (□□□□) is a meal in a bowl. It also makes a perfect bento box

lunch! Three (*san*) different color toppings: seasoned meat (or tofu), scrambled egg, and a green veggie are set on top of hot rice (gohan) for a blend of classic Japanese flavors.

Traditionally made with ground chicken, you can substitute ground beef, pork, or tofu. This is very easy to make and the slightly sweetened meat makes it a favorite with kids. We round the meal out with a simple miso soup. And for a special treat, we will celebrate the fall fruit, apples, by learning how to make an apple bunny – essential fare for every kid's bento box.

JSB members get discounted tickets!

Register



Join the JSB
Language Room

A Japanese and English
Virtual Language Exchange

協日会本 JAPAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON

Sponsored by:
Temple University
Japan Campus

JSB Language Room

Friday, September 15th, 2023 6:00 to 8:00 PM ET

□□□□□□□9□16□□□□□□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 Fall Delicacies (□□□□).

Register

Programs for JSB Members



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, October 5th, 2023 - 6:00 PM ET

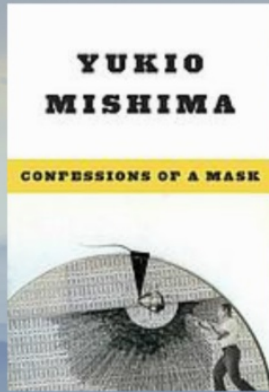
Online

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 introduction and first 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

CONFESSION OF A MASK
BY YUKIO MISHIMA

JSB Book Club

Wednesday, September 27th, 2023 - 6:00 PM ET

Online

Do you love Japanese literature? The JSB Book Club will be meeting to discuss *Confessions of a Mask* by Yukio Mishima, a must-read classic of modern Japanese fiction. In this month's book, our semi-autobiographical protagonist struggles with his sexuality behind a mask of propriety in post-war Japan.

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 *Confessions of a Mask* [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: [Masayo Kawaguchi](#)

"I've even visited 48 of the U.S. states as a reporter. I love to travel, having visited places such as Indonesia, South Korea, New Zealand, and many countries in Europe."



[Full Article](#)

JSB MEETS JET ALUMNI

An interview series on alumni experiences in Japan

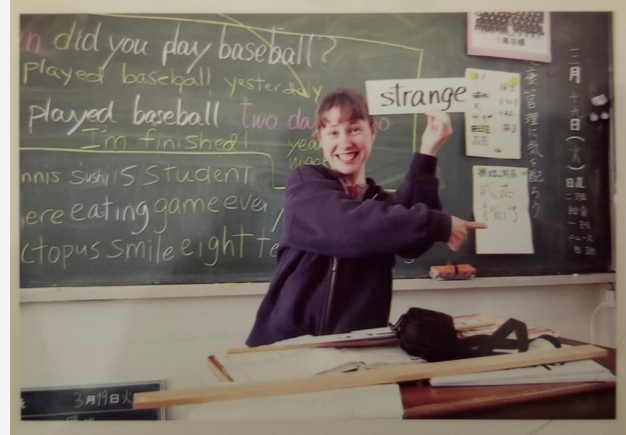


JSB Meets JET Alumni

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 [Alexandra Vaillancourt](#) - Chiba (2001-2002).



[Read the Blog](#)



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gettyimages Getty Images Entertainment | Andrew Toth

Famous in Japan

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

This month, read about contemporary artist, [Yayoi Kusama](#).

[Read the Blog](#)



JOHN E. THAYER III AWARD

The John E. Thayer, III Award was established in 1991 to commemorate the work and commitment of John E. “Jack” Thayer, III, a longtime member of the Japan Society’s board of directors who was dedicated to furthering relations between Japan and the U.S. This award was established to recognize the achievements of individuals, groups of individuals, or organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the progress of the understanding and friendship between the people of the United States and Japan.

[Apply for the Thayer Award](#)

Other Japan-Related Events

**MADAMA
BUTTERFLY**

MUSIC BY
GIACOMO PUCCINI
LIBRETTO BY
**LUIGI ILLICA AND
GIUSEPPE GIACOSA**
*Sung in Italian with
English surtitles*

**A NEW BLO
PRODUCTION**
EMERSON COLONIAL THEATRE
THU SEP 14 &
FRI SEP 22 | 7:30PM
SUN SEP 17 &
SUN SEP 24 | 3PM

BLO.org

BLO
BOSTON LYRIC OPERA

Boston Lyric Opera presents Madama Butterfly
September 14 & 22 - 7pm, September 17 & 24 - 3pm

Emerson Colonial Theatre

106 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116

In a brand-new production from Boston Lyric Opera, wander through the nightlife of San Francisco on the eve of Pearl Harbor through the story of Butterfly, a nightclub performer contributing to the war effort, and Pinkerton, a young soldier, on the eve of his deployment.

A culmination of BLO’s three-year exploration of authentic storytelling through [The](#)

[Butterfly Process](#), this production examines the experience of Japanese Americans during a critical moment in U.S. history. The creative team and cast is full of talented artistic Asian Americans previously underrepresented in the operatic world.

Tickets



Seminar with Ambassador of Japan **Koji Tomita**

Wednesday, October 11, 2023
12:00pm ET



Seminar with Ambassador of Japan Koji Tomita
Wednesday, October 11th, 2023 - 12:00PM ET
Belfer Case Study Room (S020), CGIS South Building
1730 Cambridge St, Cambridge, MA
And Online

Harvard's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs will welcome Ambassador Kojii Tomita, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the United States of America, to a special seminar.

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.

Co-sponsored by the Edwin O. Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies and the Harvard Undergraduate Japan Policy Network.

Register

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](#)



MANJIRO FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2023

CENTER AND WALNUT STREETS, FAIRHAVEN MA

Manjiro Festival Saturday, October 7th, 2023

Center and Walnut Streets, Fairhaven, MA

Visit Fairhaven, MA for a Japanese-American festival commemorating Manjiro Nakahama, the first Japanese person to live in America, and the town's Sister City connection with Tosashimizu, Japan, established in 1987.

There will be Japanese and American music and food, martial arts demonstrations,

taiko drummers, flower arranging, raffles, food and craft booths, a tea ceremony, and much more!

There is free admission to the festival, the bus tour of the Manjiro Trail, Captain Whitfield's house, and the Old Stone School House.

The festival is sponsored by the [Whitfield-Manjiro Friendship Society](#). For more information, email Gerry@WMFriendshipHouse.org or call 508-858-5303.

Info

THE SHOCHIKU CENTENNIAL COLLECTION

The Harvard Film Archive
September 14 - 16



The Shochiku Centennial Collection
September 14th - 16th, 2023
The Harvard Film Archive
24 Quincy St, Cambridge, MA 02138

The Harvard Film Archive has a new partnership, a collaboration with legendary Japanese motion picture studio Shochiku to create a legacy collection of new 35mm prints of classic films from Shochiku's impressive catalogue!

This compact program combines new prints of *The Flavor of Green Tea Over Rice*, an encore from their summer-long Yasujiro Ozu retrospective, as well as vintage prints of Yoji Yamada's *Tora-san*, *Our Lovable Tramp* and *The Sun's Burial* by Nagisa Oshima. Also included is the new 4K version of Masahiro Shinoda's *Demon Pond*, showcased as a prime example of Shochiku's superlative restoration work.

Tickets



Yosooi: Fashion and Vernacular Photography in 20th Century Japan
September 7 – December 9, 2023

Keene State College
Thorne Sagendorph Art Gallery

The exhibition "Yosooi no atae: Fashion and Vernacular Photography in 20th Century Japan" explores fashion and everyday life in Japan through found photographs: snapshots, studio portraits, and family albums.

The displayed photographs (over 200 images) come from a private collection of over 4,000 items, primarily pictures taken in Japan during the Taishō (1912–1926) and Shōwa (1926–1989) eras. The images range from school children on excursions to families celebrating weddings. Through the perspective of fashion, the exhibition aims to provide a broader framework of the visual, cultural, and social history of 20th century Japan.

[Info](#)

MFA/Boston

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

The prestigious University of Tsukuba is hosting a Japanese essay contest for current high school students.

Write about your view on art in Japanese in 2,000 characters. The deadline is September 20th and multiple winners will receive certificates, art materials, and gifts from the university.

For more information about the Art Writer Award for High School Students, check out their application [website](#).



**Kyoto
Soundtrack
Festival
京伴際**

Saturday, Sept 16
11AM ET
Online

KYOBANSAI: Kyoto Soundtrack Festival

Saturday, September 16th, 2023

Online

Kyobansai is a music festival that focuses on anime soundtracks whose goal is to bring the beauty of soundtrack music, which has the ability to bring out the best of the media, to those who love anime all over the world.

Performers and guests include Yasuharu Takanashi ("NARUTO SHIPPŪDEN", "FAIRY TAIL"), Yuki Hayashi ("Haikyuu!!", "My Hero Academia"), Makoto Miyazaki ("SPY x FAMILY", "One-Punch Man"), Taku Iwasaki ("JoJo's Bizarre Adventure", "Gurren Lagann"), Tatsuya Kato ("Dr. Stone", "Free!"), and Alisa Okehazama ("The God of High School", "JUJUTSU KAISEN").

Info



Japanese Tea Ceremony
Sunday, Sep 24th, 2023 - 2:00 PM ET
Art Complex Museum
189 Alden Street, Duxbury, MA 02331

The Art Complex Museum's tea ceremony is performed by tea masters from Urasenke Boston and a narrator will explain the ceremony as it unfolds in the tea hut. Audience members are encouraged to ask questions and will receive a cup of tea at the end of the ceremony, which typically lasts for an hour and a half.

Admission is free. All are welcome on a first-come, first-served basis.

Info

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



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