

Bi-Weekly Newsletter

April 22 - May 6, 2020



While we practice physical distancing, our events are going to look and feel different. So will our newsletter! Enjoy the resource filled newsletter that will keep you connected with the JSB Community!

Now open for registration!

4/21 - 5/5 JSB Google Map Scavenger Hunt -part 2-

5/1 Virtual Japanese / English Language Exchange

Registration for the new Theme-based Online Japanese Classes will open on 4/24.

Registration for the Cooking Class will open on 5/1. Make sure to take the poll and help choose what the menu will be!

JSB Staff Pick of the Week

With more time at home, we've asked our staff to pick some of their favorite Japanese movies and books. Here's the staff pick of the week:



Rebirth (2011)

Kiwako abducts the 6-month old child of a man she was having an affair with, then raises the child as

her own. Eventually, she gets arrested and the child is returned to her parents.

Directed by Izuru Narushima. Japanese title 囃子 (Yôkame no semi).

[IMDb page](#)



Japanese of the week:

□□□□ (□□□□

□):

"Katakana"

□□□□ (*katakana*) is one of the three writing systems Japanese use, along with □□□□ (*hiragana*), and □□ (*kanji*, Chinese-derived characters). The term, □□□□, means fragmentary syllabary because the □□□□ characters are based on the parts of □□.

□□□□ was invented at the same time as □□□□, in the 8-9th century. The □□□□ characters were originally developed to help the Japanese read and understand Chinese Buddhist scriptures. However, now they are used to transcribe words in foreign languages, onomatopoeia, scientific terms, names of animals, plants, and minerals, and technical terms. For example, □□□□ is used for words such as □□□□ *juusu*, from juice, and □□□□ □ *amerika*, from America), □□□□ *botan*, from the Portuguese word "botão," which means button), □□□□ □ *buriki* from the Dutch word, "Blikje," meaning tin, and □□□□ *ikura*, from the Russian word "ikra," which means caviar.

Think Japanese is a fascinating language? Come take our Themed-based Japanese Language Classes we will be launching in May! More details below.

Facts about Hokkaido

Honoring the 30th Anniversary of the Massachusetts - Hokkaido sister state relationship



Hakodate is Hokkaido's third largest city, sporting many attractions for both locals and

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!

Join Now

Keep up with JSB on social media!



travelers alike. From the star shaped fort Goryōkaku, to Hakodate Nanae Snow Park, there is not a shortage of things to do and see here. Goryōkaku was built by the Tokugawa Shogunate to protect the Tsugaru Strait from possible Russian invasion.



Japan Society of Boston: Information

You Voted!

Last time, we presented you with 3 different types of noodles to be highlighted in this newsletter. Udon came out on top!

As you know, udon noodles are the thickest when it comes to Japanese noodles. They can be served both hot or cold and can be enjoyed in a variety of different styles based on the region of Japan.

(□□□□□□□□) Top 3 types of udon in Japan: Inaniwa, Sanuki, and Mizusawa

Inaniwa comes out of Inaniwacho in Akita Prefecture. Thinner than commonly found udon, but thicker than somen, Inaniwa udon is easy to slurp and known for its chewy-ness.

Sanuki is named directly after the city in which it originates in Kagawa Prefecture of Shikoku. They are the most famous out of all the udon that can be found in Japan today.

Mizusawa makes the cut as the third spot for best udon. Reaching back 400 years into the past, this hand-cut udon was given to visitors of the Mizusawa Temple in Gunma Prefecture.

What's your favorite type of Udon?



Make udon noodles from scratch

Feeling adventurous? Why not make udon noodles at home with "Francis the dog" that our friends at Table for Two recommended! Follow along and give your noodles your own personal touch.

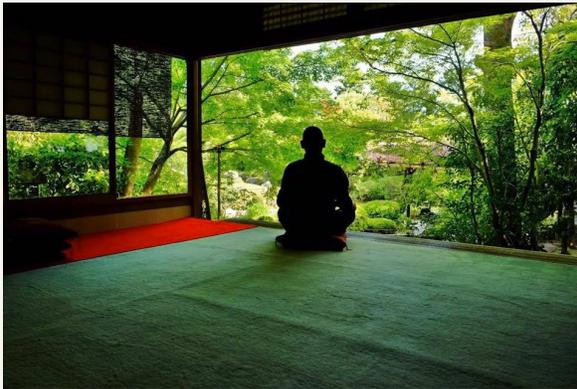
The best location in Japan to eat

udon



Check out the various types of udon that can be found in Japan's Kagawa Prefecture. The location also served as the setting for the 2006 Udon based film *Udon*.

The Japan Society of Boston is proud to be closely tied to Taizo-in Zen Buddhist Temple in Kyoto. Daiko Matsuyama was honored as our 2019 Shigemitsu Award recipient. Our friendship parallels the sister city relationship between Boston and Kyoto which celebrated 60 years of continued efforts to bridge the gap between cultures last year. Daiko Matsuyama sent us this "Introduction to Zazen Meditation" video we can use while we practice physical distancing.



Zazen meditation at home with

Learn how to meditate Zazen style with this introduction and lesson provided by Daiko Matsuyama at (Taizo-in Zen Buddhist Temple).

(kodomo no hi) Children's Day

(*kodomo no hi*) or Children's Day is a national holiday that celebrates children's happiness and future every year on the 5th of May in Japan.

You often see (*koinobori*) or carp-shaped windsocks hung in various places in Japan during this time.

(*koinobori*) consists of a big carp for the father, a medium size one for the mother, and a smaller carp for each child.

Children learn the (*koinobori*) song to sing on Children's Day. Listen to the song, beautifully played on piano by Emma. [Listen here](#)



Children's Day this year is going to be an extra special day as Giving Tuesday announced it as a Day of Global Action for Giving and Unity in Response to COVID-19.

Japan Society of Boston Online Events

Theme-based Online



Japanese classes

Would you like to learn about Japanese food or interesting places in Japan while learning Japanese? We're offering a series of theme-based Japanese online classes starting in May. This is a great opportunity for people who would like to learn about Japan while studying Japanese – or even people who aren't sure about taking a structured 12-week Japanese course but would like to practice Japanese conversation.

Each class will have two levels: Beginners and Intermediate/Advanced.
Registration will open on Friday, April 24th.

Choose from 4 different exciting themes

- Like Japanese Food? Learn Japanese through Cuisine!
- Not just Tokyo and Kyoto. Discover Japan that even the Japanese may not know!
- Japanese in Manga
- The Japanese Writing System: Not as Scary as It Seems!

Reach out to us [here](#) for further inquiries.

[Read More](#)

Google Map Scavenger Hunt -part 2-

A fun and interactive way to explore the streets of Japan as if you were actually there!



We've set up some trivia to encourage participants to get to know popular and unique locations scattered across Japan. Take some time to explore the streets around these locations using the street view function of Google

Maps and have fun "getting lost"! 5 lucky participants will be selected randomly on May 5th to receive a Shoyeido incense. We will be sending the incense out once we are able to get back into the office.

Lucky winners from the first round!

Edward and Lyn Christiansen
Smita Prasadh
Mary, Rafael, and Urso Blackburn
Morris Yen
Shivani Hernandez

Thank you all for participating and we will be sending out your prizes once we are able to safely do so. Make sure to check out part 2!

[Read More](#)

[Virtual Japanese/ English Language Exchange](#)

**Friday, May 1st
6:00-8:00 pm**

Online

Our last Virtual Language Exchange was much fun with many participants joining. We hope to continue that momentum moving forward as we received lots of positive feedback. This time around, we have word from a lot of our friends in Japan that they would like to join in.

We will begin with a half an hour of speaking in Japanese, followed by a half an hour of speaking in English, and alternate until we hit 8 PM. We hope that our guests will meet others and find new paths for improving and enjoying their Japanese and English language skills. We expect all guests to come with a friendly disposition to learn and help others learn!

日本語

[Read More](#)

Easy Japanese Home Cooking for the Non-Cooks!

Saturday, May 30th
5:00-7:00 pm
Online



As part of our initiative to keep us connected even amidst physical distancing, we've been asking you for more inputs into our programmings. Yuko, our Managing Director asked in her letter in March what specific online program you wanted to see and over 50% of you chose cooking with her! Yuko reminds you that she is in no way a professional cook. As a matter of fact, cooking is probably not something she will say is her #1 favorite thing to do, but rather a routine of life as a mom. So if you want to learn easy, no fuss, Japanese home cooking, join Yuko as she shows you what she makes for her two children at home!

Registration will open on Friday, May 1st!

We love getting you involved! Help us determine what menu you would like to see in Yuko's "Easy Japanese Home Cooking for the Non-Cooks".

What do you want to learn to cook with Yuko?

Onigiri rice balls (traditional and contemporary ones) & (ball sushi)

Select

Omurice (Japanese Omlette Rice)

Select

Online activities from other Japan Societies across the US

[The Japan-America Society of Georgia](#)

[How MedTech Companies are Fighting COVID-19](#)

Thursday, April 23, 1:30 - 2:30 PM

While healthcare workers across the globe work tirelessly to keep patients healthy, experts in medical technology are using innovative approaches to fight their own war against the Covid-19 crisis. The Japan-America Society of Georgia presents an executive dialogue Webinar featuring industry leaders who will discuss ways technology is key to overcoming the current pandemic.



HOW MEDTECH COMPANIES ARE FIGHTING COVID-19

医療技術会社のコロナウィルス対策

Thursday, April 23, 2020

2020年4月23日(木)

1:30pm – Panel Discussion

2:15pm – Q&A Session

Moderator & Panelists:



David Ku
Chair of Engineering
& Entrepreneurship
Georgia Tech



Nozomi Morgan
CEO
Michiki Morgan
Worldwide

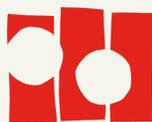


Jan De Backer
CEO,
Fluida - Functional
Respiratory Imaging



[Read More](#)

Japan Society of Northern California



JAPAN SOCIETY
OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

[Read More](#)

Same Disease, Different Approaches How Japan and the US are Fighting COVID-19

Tuesday, April 28, 4:30 to 5:30 PM
(7:30 - 8:30 PM EST)

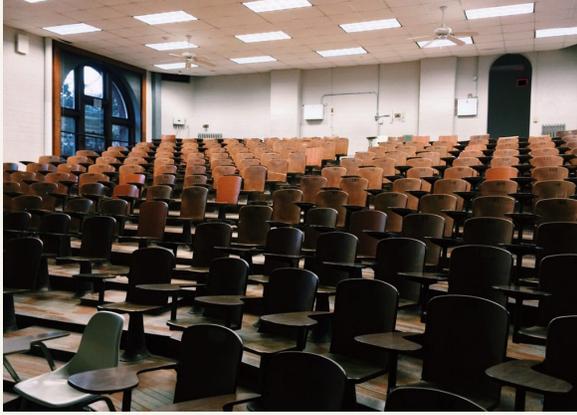
The US and Japan have adopted very different approaches to responding to the COVID-19 pandemic, including on testing, tracking, social distancing, procurement of medical materials and devices and treatment of the illness. We will know in the next weeks how successful these varying approaches have been. Please join us for a webinar on April 28 to listen to two medical doctors from Stanford discuss the different approaches that the US and Japan have taken, with reference to the strategies taken in China, Taiwan and South Korea; the results so far in countering the virus; what we can learn from each other; and prospects for containing the virus and restarting economic activity.

Japan America Society Dallas/ Fort Worth

The Future of Higher Education in the Era of COVID-19: Lessons from Japan and the United States

Wednesday, April 29, 6:30 - 7:30 PM
(7:30 - 8:30 PM EST)

The spread of COVID-19 has drastically altered everyday life for hundreds of millions around the globe. In Japan, coronavirus numbers were maintained at a relatively low total after being exposed in early 2020, however cases have now seen a significant



rise since early April. The U.S. has experienced a rapid increase, now holding one of the highest tallies for both confirmed cases and deaths. The higher education industry, in particular, has been significantly affected to the point where it has shuttered campuses and moved almost entirely to providing instruction online. Although this is a short-term solution, there are many mid-term and long-term uncertainties, as well as opportunities to implement innovation for positive change.



[Read More](#)

Non JSB Online Activities

EXPEDITION JAPAN
Commodore Perry's Hidden Interest in Science

Presented by the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Foundation and Co-Sponsored by National Association of Japan America Societies, the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University, and the John Manjiro Whitfield Commemorative Center for International Exchange US

Thursday, April 23, 2020
6:30pm, Eastern Daylight Time (US)
7:30am, Japan Standard Time (Japan)

WEBINAR VIA ZOOM

RSVP by April 21
<https://tinyurl.com/OISTwebinar02>

Questions? david.janes@oist.jp

FEATURING
Dr. Matthew C. Perry
Emeritus Scientist
Patuxent Wildlife Research Center,
USGS and relative of
Commodore Matthew C. Perry

MODERATED BY
Mr. Peter Kelley
President of the National Association
of Japan-America Societies

Join this exciting OIST Foundation webinar to learn about the unknown scientific aspects of Commodore Matthew C. Perry's exhibition to Japan. Featuring Dr. Matthew Perry, a wildlife scientist and descendant of Commodore Perry, the webinar will touch upon the ways in which this early US-Japan interaction formed a base for long-term US-Japan science diplomacy and exchange. The webinar will be moderated by Peter Kelley, President of the National Association of Japan-America Societies.

Logos for NAJAS, OIST FOUNDATION, and OIST are visible at the bottom.

[Expedition Japan: Commodore Perry's Hidden Interest in Science](#)

Thursday, April 23, 6:30 PM

Sponsored by the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Foundation and Co-Sponsored by the National Association of Japan America Societies, the Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology Graduate University, and the John Manjiro Whitfield Commemorative Center for International Exchange US.

[Read More](#)

[Japanese-inspired Food Education Course for students of all ages](#)



Looking for a fun online educational program?
This is what our friends over at Table for Two



are doing to bring people together virtually.

Join for an unique Japanese-inspired food education online course, “Wa-Shokuiku – Learn. Cook. Eat Japanese!” for free now through April 30th!

Through the course, participants can learn the principles of Japanese cuisine and food culture and gain the skills to prepare healthy, nutritious foods to strengthen the body and mind!

[Sign up Here](#)



[Travel to Japan with NHK World](#)

Experience a virtual tour across Japan brought to you by NHK World.

[Visit Here](#)



[Painting Edo: Japanese Art from the Feinberg Collection](#)

Painting Edo — one of the largest exhibitions ever presented at the Harvard Art Museums — offers a window into the supremely rich visual culture of Japan’s early modern era. Selected from the unparalleled collection of Robert S. and Betsy G. Feinberg.

Learn more about the exhibition in a series of videos, including an introduction by Rachel Saunders, as well as a recording of the opening night lecture “Into the Kaleidoscope: Painting in Edo Japan” by Timon Screech (SOAS University of London)

[Intro and lecture](#)

[MFA Youtube featuring lectures on Japanese art and more](#)

[Bad Monks, Temple Warriors: The Spectrum](#)



[of Japanese Religious History](#)

[Japanese Art: Tattoos, Prints, and Design](#)

[Art of Japan: The Many Worlds of Ukiyo-e Prints](#)

[Gilded-Age Bostonians and Old Japan: An Ironic Love Affair](#)

[Cultural History of Late Tokugawa Japan](#)

[Hokusai: The End of an Era](#)

[Naoya Hatakeyama: Personal Landscapes](#)

[Bostonians in 19th-Century Japan: The Formation of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Collection](#)

[MFA Boston Youtube](#)



Japanese study resources

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

[Aozora Bunko](#) (in Japanese)

[Learn Japanese with Erin](#)

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

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

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

[NHK-World Japan: News Web Easy](#)

[How to Read and Write Hiragana](#)

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