



JAPAN SOCIETY
OF BOSTON

GREEN GALA

A SHARED U.S. - JAPAN ECOLOGY

6:00 P.M. June 16th, 2022
at The Gardens at Elm Bank

That which is not good
for the beehive cannot be
good for the bees.

- MARCUS AURELIUS



Putnam is proud to salute the
Japan Society of Boston and tonight's honorees,
including our own Katherine Collins,
for inspiring a more sustainable world.



GREEN GALA



Program Book Contents:

Run of Show

Board of Directors

Message from the Director

Green Gala Co-Chairs

Green Gala Honorees

Thayer Award

Performance

Gala Sponsors

Green Movement Leaders List

Click arrow throughout this document to return to this page



GREEN GALA



Welcome Remarks
Yuko Handa | Executive Director

Tribute to Ezra Vogel

Opening Remarks
Bill Hunt | Board Chair

Toast
Setsuo Ohmori | Consul General of Japan in Boston

Soba Making Demonstration
Shuichi Kotani | Towari, Worldwide-Soba
with music by Junko Kobayashi

Dinner

Thayer Award Presentations
Sarah Thompson and JB Line

Award Presentations
Distinguished Professional and Cultural
Achievement
Katherine Collins and Shigeatsu Hatakeyama

Closing Remarks

Board of Directors

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JAPAN SOCIETY
OF BOSTON



Message from the Director

Dear honored guests, members, supporters, and friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you, one and all, to this year's Japan Society of Boston's Annual Gala celebration. After the very difficult and trying years of the pandemic, it brings me a special joy to be back together in person with all of you. I especially want to thank you for your unwavering support and encouragement for our organization during these last few years. Without that, we would not be back with you this evening, engaging together once again and building upon a storied history of building bridges across the Pacific between the people of Boston and Japan.

This year our theme is the "Green Gala," as we seek to emphasize and highlight the unique role that the U.S. - Japan relationship has to play in offering up to the global community at large its combined knowledge, technology, willingness, and commitment to tackle some of the most important challenges of our time. We have no doubt that through the long earned and valued partnership of our two countries, there is, and will be, much to offer and great achievements made in this area. We also expect that Boston, with its rich fabric of scientists, academics, researchers, financial experts, and policy leaders, will be at the forefront and working closely with our Japanese counterparts on important and critical matters in the "Green" arena.

As always, we have endeavored to create an evening that allows us to enjoy and to celebrate the warm bonds of friendship between all of us that we hold so dearly in our hearts and minds.

This year, we've strived to do that with, for the first time, an indoor, outdoor approach to provide comfort and peace of mind to those of you in attendance tonight. We are grateful to all of you for being with us, and hope that you will find it to be a memorable evening.

With my warm thanks and regards,



A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be 'Yuko Handa' written in a cursive style.

Yuko Handa
Executive Director



Green Gala Co-Chairs

Megan Gates

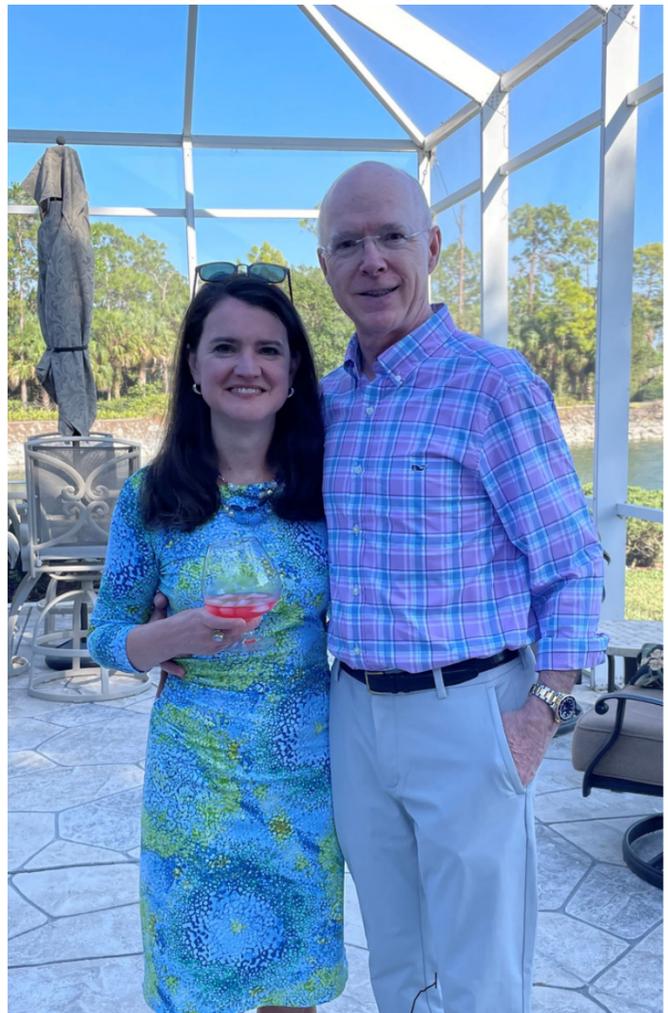
Chair of the Corporate Practice Group

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Bill Whelan

Co-chair of the Life Sciences Practice Group

Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.



Megan Gates is Chair of the Corporate Practice Group at the law firm Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C., based in Boston. She represents publicly traded and late-stage private companies, primarily in the life sciences industry, on capital raising, SEC reporting and corporate governance obligations, and merger and acquisition transactions. She has been a Director of the Japan Society of Boston since 2019, and lived in Tokyo for ten years as a child, graduating from the American School in Japan in 1987.

Bill Whelan is Co-chair of the Life Sciences Practice Group at the law firm Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C., based in Boston. Bill represents biotechnology, medical technology, healthcare IT, and other types of technology companies in venture capital financings, commercial contracts and alliances, mergers and acquisitions, and IPOs. He is also a member of the Board of Advisors of the Boston Ballet and is an avid traveler with a particular passion for Asia (including Japan) and France.



Green Gala Co-Chairs

Bill Hunt

Board Chair
Japan Society of Boston

Yuko Kageyama -Hunt

Senior Preceptor in
Japanese at Harvard
University



Bill Hunt is a former financial services executive turned private investor and entrepreneur. He has served as Chair of the Japan Society of Boston board for the last ten years.

Yuko Kageyama-Hunt received her B.A. in Linguistics from the University of Hawaii, and her M.A. in Linguistics from Cornell University. Specializing in linguistics and pedagogy, she has taught at Cornell University, Middlebury College, University of Hawaii, Beloit College, and Showa Women's University. Her research interests include the development of effective pedagogical approaches to teaching concepts of tense, aspect, and modality, as well as technology and media-based innovation for language instruction.





Green Gala Honoree:

Katherine Collins

Head of Sustainable Investing
Putnam Investments



Katherine Collins is Head of Sustainable Investing at Putnam Investments and Portfolio Manager for Putnam's Sustainable Leaders and Sustainable Future portfolios. She is also Founder of Honeybee Capital, the precursor to Honeybee Capital Foundation.

After many years serving as head of research and portfolio manager at Fidelity Investments, Katherine set out to re-integrate her investment philosophy with the broader world, traveling as a pilgrim and volunteer, earning her MTS degree at Harvard Divinity School, and studying biomimicry and the natural world as guides for investing in an integrated, regenerative way, beneficial to our communities and our planet. Katherine is the author of *The Nature of Investing: Resilient Investment Strategies Through Biomimicry*.

A recognized thought leader, Katherine was named to Forbes 2021 list of leaders “50 Over 50” who are shaping the future of finance. Katherine is a graduate of Wellesley College and majored in Japanese Studies, which included time studying at Nanzan University in Nagoya. She serves on nonprofit boards of the Santa Fe Institute, Omega Institute, Harvard Divinity School Dean's Council, and Wellesley Centers for Women, and is a devoted amateur beekeeper.





Green Gala Honoree:

Shigeatsu Hatakeyama

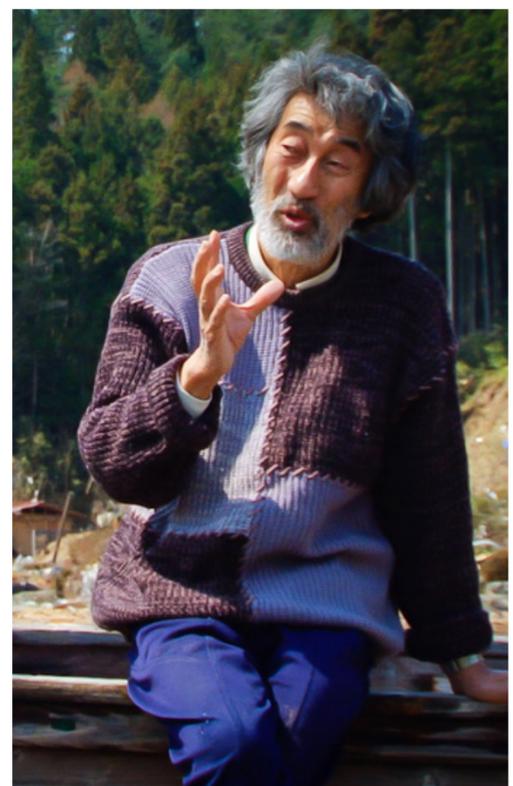
Founder of Mori wa Umi no
Koibito | 森は海の恋人

The forest is longing for the sea, the sea is longing for the forest
United Nations 2012 Forest Heroes Award Winner

Shigeatsu Hatakeyama (畠山重篤) is the Chairman of Mori wa Umi no Koibito (The forest is longing for the sea, the sea is longing for the forest). As he took over his family's oyster farming business, he realized that it was essential to protect the forests in the upstream areas and the rivers flowing into the ocean in order to conserve the marine environment. He is known as "Grandpa Oyster" after spending more than 30 years developing the forest environment that keeps the Okawa River in Kesenuma clean and his oysters healthy.

He has received the Asahi Forestry Culture Award (1994), the Prime Minister's Award for Afforestation Promotion (2003), and the Kenji Miyazawa Ihatov Award (2004), and was chosen by the United Nations Forum on Forests as one of the 2012 Forest Heroes Award winners.

Mr. Hatakeyama is also professor of Field Studies and Practical Learning at the Field Science Education and Research Center of Kyoto University. He continues his grassroots work building healthy forest and provides hands-on education for children, bringing them awareness and first-hand experience in nature's work by bringing them closer to the ocean and the forests.





JOHN E. THAYER III AWARD

for Outstanding Contributions to
Cultural Exchange Between the
United States and Japan

The John E. Thayer, III Award was established in 1991 to commemorate the work and commitment of Mr. Thayer, 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 or organizations that have made outstanding contributions to the progress of the understanding and friendship between the people of the U.S. and Japan.

Sarah Thompson

Curator, Japanese Art
Museum of Fine Arts Boston

As Curator at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, Sarah Thompson works tirelessly to maintain, grow, and exhibit the Museum's collection of Japanese art, especially the color woodblock prints. With the help of dozens of MFA staff and volunteers, she created a bilingual online database of the entire Japanese print collection of over 50,000 sheets, the largest outside of Japan. She has curated many exhibitions at the MFA, including a large Hokusai show in 2015, as well as traveling shows that have visited Japan, Australia, and Italy.



A new show in 2023 will feature Hokusai and other artists who were influenced by him. She has published eight books (so far) on aspects of Japanese prints, most recently *Genji: The Prince and the Parodies*.

Sarah Thompson's efforts have helped to bring Japanese art and culture to the forefront at Boston's largest museum, making her a beacon of cultural connection between the Greater Boston Area and Japan.

JB Line, Inc.

Japanese Bostonians Support Line

JB Line was born when its founder, Satoko Watanabe, lost touch with her relative living in a distant city in North America, but had no one to turn to in finding him. Luckily, he was found later with the help of a Japanese network in that city. This critical incident made Satoko see a great need for a social safety net for Japanese people in the U.S.



The small group she started in the fall of 2010 as a 24/7 Japanese language hotline, named the JB Line, has since grown into a non-profit organization with its Board of Directors and staff as well as about 100 volunteers. Today, it is truly a crucial lifeline for the wellbeing of the Japanese and Japanese American communities in New England.

Over the past 11 years, JB Line has been expanding its scope of operations and gaining wide recognition. After the 2011 Tohoku Triple Disaster, JB Line held community support groups to talk about concerns related to the disaster. This was followed by the creation of a senior visitation service and senior support groups, as well as a support group for women, and a support network following the 2013 Boston Marathon Bombing.

In 2018, JB Line received a commendation from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan for its dedication in offering support to Japanese immigrants throughout all six states of New England.

Performance

Shuichi Kotani

Junko Kobayashi



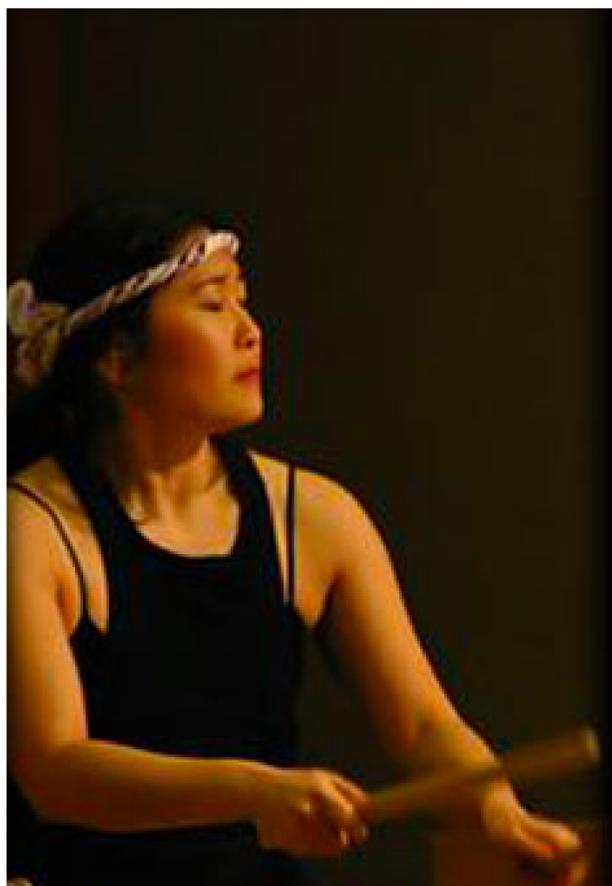
Shuichi Kotani

Shuichi Kotani is the owner of TOWARI in New York, CEO of WORLDWIDE-SOBA, INC., Director at All Japanese Food Association, Founder of New York Japanese Culinary Academy, Inc., and Goodwill Ambassador of Japanese Cuisine at the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries of Japan.

A soba master based in New York, Kotani's buckwheat noodles have a distinguished taste recognized for their elegance by the world-famous French master Joël Robuchon.

After losing his mother to cancer, Kotani began working to improve the diets of people suffering from the illness, focusing on 100% additive-free soba, which has all the nutrients that human beings need to maintain their health with none of the carcinogenic preservatives used to extend the shelf life of the noodles. Kotani began using soba to educate both young and old about health and diet.

He continues to share the charm of soba to the world while cultivating buckwheat at Blue Hill at Stone Barns Farm in Upstate New York.



Junko Kobayashi

Odaiko New England

Born in New York and raised in New Jersey and Tokyo, Junko began her musical studies at age 5, first on classical piano under the tutelage of Alexander Alexay, and then branched out to percussion at age 10.

Junko holds a Bachelor of Music Performance Degree from the University of Illinois, School of Music where she was the recipient of the Talented Undergraduate Award, the Edgar Varese Award and the Presser Scholar Award.

Junko discovered Odaiko New England at First Night Boston 2000 and started learning taiko with Odaiko New England founder and the then artistic director, Elaine Fong. Later Junko studied with Mark H Rooney and many other taiko artists such as Tiffany Tamaribuchi, Kenny Endo, KODO members Yoshikazu Fujimoto, Eiichi Saito, Chieko Kojima, Yoko Fujimoto, and Kaoru Watanabe.

Junko performs and teaches taiko regularly throughout New England and has also toured internationally with the NY-based taiko group Taikoza under the artistic direction of Marco Lienhard.



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and its work to promote deeper ties
between Japanese and Americans.

Congratulations to this
evening's honorees.



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**CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS
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the Japan Society of Boston Annual Gala

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