



THE JAPAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON  
A BRIDGE BETWEEN CULTURES

# Monthly Newsletter



## Boston: The U.S.-Japan Intersection

**Takahito (Brad) Yamazaki, Japan Airlines,**  
Vice President, Regional Manager, Northeastern  
Region, U.S.A.

1. How long have you been in Boston?

I was transferred to Boston in May 2021.

2. What does your company do?

Japan Airlines (JAL) was founded in 1951, and is a certified 5-Star Airline by Skytrax. I am the Regional Manager for our Northeastern Region in the US, and I oversee all operations for the Boston office. It is my job to show the appeal of Japan to the people in Boston and to have many people visit Japan. Now that things have gone back to normal, we're seeing more tourists visiting Japan from overseas. We have daily direct flights from the Logan International Airport to Tokyo. We're looking forward to serving you.



3. What are the benefits and challenges of working in America?

In America, both our customers and staff are so diverse, and I think it is great that a variety of cultures come together. I try to be mindful of cultural differences in terms of languages and gestures when I interact with customers.

4. What is your favorite thing about Boston?

I love the historic and quaint cityscape of Boston. My favorite thing to do is to enjoy strolling through neighborhoods lit by street lights in the evening after I've had a little bit of drink.

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## Announcements from JSB

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We are excited to announce our new membership level, **Online-Only Membership** to those of you who don't live in the Boston area.

Our newest addition to the JSB site is a **members-only page**. To access the page, visit the **Member Portal** and log in.

Kokoro Care Packages is offering our readers 10% off on their **Sakura & Ume Care Package** and **sakura and ume specialties**. Please use the code, **JASBOSsakura2023** and make sure to place your order by **March 31st!** They also joined our member discount providers, so if you are a member, please find the discount code by accessing the **Member Portal** mentioned above.



## 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 long time 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](#)

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## JSB Programming

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JSB PRESENTS A FILM SCREENING OF

# COCKTAIL PARTY

FOLLOWED BY Q&A SESSION  
WITH DIRECTOR REGGE LIFE  
MODERATED BY SARAH FREDERICK

APRIL 12TH, 6:30PM  
640 COMMONWEALTH AVE  
ROOM B05



**Wednesday, April 12th, 2023 — 6:30 PM EST**  
**Boston University College Of Communication, Room B05**

Join us for a night at the theater! It's sure to be an equally entertaining and educational event. We will be holding a screening of the acclaimed film Cocktail Party followed by a special Q&A session with director Regge Life and moderated by BU Professor Sarah Frederick. We will be joined by Professor Frederick's students, so please take advantage of this college lecture experience at BU!

[Register](#)



Distinguished  
Visitor Lecture:  
**Glen S. Fukushima**

Wednesday, April 26, 2023  
12:00pm EST



**Wednesday, April 26th, 2023 12:00 PM EST**  
**Harvard's Bowie-Vernon Conference Room (K262), CGIS Knafel, and Online**

Harvard's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs will welcome Glen Fukushima —Vice Chair, Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC); Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress— as a distinguished visitor in April 2023. 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; and Susan S. and Kenneth L. Wallach Professor, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University.

[Register](#)

# Join the JSB Language Room

A Japanese and English  
Virtual Language Exchange



Sponsored by:



Friday, March 17, 2023 6:00 to 8:00 PM EDT

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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.

Register

## COMMUNITY WORKSHOP WITH **KODO** TAIKO DRUMMERS

MARCH 11 @ 1PM EST  
CAMBRIDGE FOUNDRY, 101 ROGERS STR



 Celebrity Series of Boston

Sold Out



Saturday, March 11th, 2023 — 1:00 PM EST  
In-Person

Unfortunately, the Lecture and Demonstration with Kodo Taiko Drummers is sold out. If you are registered and cannot attend, please email us so that waitlisted members can attend. Otherwise, remember to bring ear plugs!

Save the Date! The next **Ouchigohan** will be on **Saturday, April 1st** at 5PM (EDT). We will be making Miso Ramen.



## Programs for JSB Members

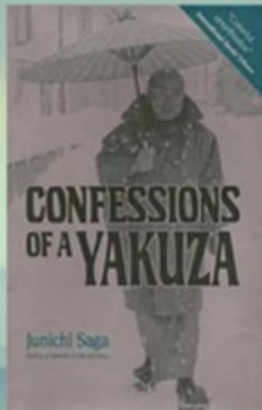
# Between the Lines

A Monthly Discussion on **Medieval Japanese Women's Literature** for JSB Members every first Thursday of the month.

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

Join us to discuss some of the greatest classics of medieval Japanese literature, written by women authors! In this session, we will begin looking into the *Kagerō Nikki*, or *The Gossamer Years : Diary of a Noblewoman of Heian Japan* , by the Mother of Michitsuna.

Register



JAPAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON MEMBER

# BOOK CLUB

*CONFESSIONS OF A YAKUZA:*  
*A LIFE IN JAPAN'S UNDERWORLD*  
BY JUN'ICHI SAGA

**Wednesday, May 24th, 2023 - 6:00 PM EST**  
**Online**

Do you love Japanese literature? The JSB Book Club will be meeting to discuss *Confessions of a Yakuza: A Life in Japan's Underworld* by Jun'ichi Saga. The purpose of the JSB Book Club is to strengthen the Boston community of Japan enthusiasts by coming together to discuss Japanese literature.

Find a copy of *Confessions of a Yakuza* [here](#).

Register

## More Content from JSB



# #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: **Susan Pranger & Dan Thomas**



## 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 [Patrick Burleson](#) - Fukuoka (2008-2010).

[Read the Blog](#)

# FAMOUS IN JAPAN

*Celebrities from Around the World*



## JSB Blog

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

This month we featured [Hiroshi Senju](#), a New York-based *nihonga* artist.

[Learn about Hiroshi Senju](#)

## Other Japan-Related Events



### Transforming Crisis into Opportunity

Women's Leadership Global Summit

▶ Thursday  
March 23, 2023  
2:00PM HST / 8:00PM EST

Friday  
March 24, 2023  
8:00AM SGT / 9:00AM JST

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

JWLI ECOSYSTEM



EAST-WEST CENTER

**Thursday, March 23rd, 8:00 PM EST**  
**Online**

The Japanese Women's Leadership Initiative (JWLI), in partnership with East-West Center, is hosting a women's leadership global summit. The summit will be hosted in-

person in Hawai'i and live-streamed globally. The summit will feature a panel of speakers from around the world, exploring crises as opportunities and showcasing women's leadership behind them. Global women leaders will come together and share their experiences and expertise in crisis response. It aims to empower women leaders to make a difference and build a global network for positive impact.

Register



**March 26th - July 16th**  
**Museum of Fine Arts Boston**

Taking a new approach to the work of the ever-popular Katsushika Hokusai (1760–1849), this major exhibition explores in detail his impact on other artists—both during his lifetime and beyond. Throughout a career of more than 70 years, Hokusai experimented with a wide range of styles and subjects, producing landscapes such as the instantly recognizable Great Wave and Red Fuji (both about 1830–31), nature studies known as “bird-and-flower pictures,” and depictions of women, heroes, and monsters.

Tickets

[Brattle Theatre, Cambridge](#) will be showing a number of **Kurosawa** films in the coming weeks, starting with *Stray Dog* and *Drunken Angel* on April 18th.

If you know of Japan-related events in Boston, please let us know and reach out to [info@japansocietyboston.org](mailto:info@japansocietyboston.org) so we can feature select events.



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

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