

# Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania

## *October 2020 Newsletter*

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The 2020 Virtual Annual Dinner will maintain the spirit of our usual gala evening to support the work of our Society: strengthening the people-to-people ties between the United States and Japan.

The online format is exclusive to this year, and will feature video greetings and performances from local artists and dignitaries including New York Consul General Yamanouchi and JERO! We will still have our silent auction, allowing attendees to bid on exciting items.

Our special remarks will be presented by Hitachi Rail STS. From its beginnings as the Union Switch & Signal Company to its present incarnation, Hitachi Rail STS has deep connections to Pittsburgh while extending the influence of Japanese rail technology internationally.

Registration is required. Registration is pay-what-you-like, but there are opportunities to support and sponsor the JASP. You won't want to miss it!

Sign up for our newsletter for details about the silent auction items before the event, or contact us to donate a prize!

**Register now!**



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## October Educational Resources

## 10月、神無月、神在月



The ancient name for October is *kaminazuki* (神無月) which means the month with no god. The mythology says all the gods in Japan gather to meet at Izumo Ōyashiro Shrine in Shimane prefecture. There will be no gods elsewhere except for one god who stays behind to protect people. In Izumo, they called it *kamiarizuki* (神在月) which means the month with gods. There are many celebrations held at Izumo shrine during *kamiarizuki*.

October in Japan usually is the best time of the year. The trees start to change colors, the weather is often perfect, and it is the harvest time. Rice is the main crop in Japan. The first harvest of rice will be offered to the gods. Food is best in October: matsutake mushrooms, chestnuts, apples, Asian pears, persimmons, sweet potatoes, Pacific saury fish are must haves for autumn.

[See more on the Japan in the Schools page.](#)

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## The JASP Welcomes

### New Members!

ようこそ！

#### Individual Members:

- Mr. LeRoy Wright

#### Family Members:

- Ms. Jennifer Jones
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Your donation plays a key role in sustaining our Society and programs!

**Support the JASP**

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## Upcoming Webinars from the National Association of Japan-America Societies Network

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**October 1, 3:00 - 10:00 PM:**

[Sake Day USA 2020](#)

**October 1, 4:00 PM:**

[Something's Brewing: Make Tea, Not War](#) (University of Pittsburgh)

**October 5, 7:30 PM:**

[A Night of Japanese Traditional Music with Master Kouzan Oyama of Shishido](#) (JS Northern CA)

**October 7, 6:30 PM:**

[Tasty Creations: Vegan Sushi](#) (JS NY)

**October 8, 12:30 PM:**

[Friends of Japan: African American Women's Visions of Afro-Asian Solidarity](#) (University of Pittsburgh)

**October 8, 7:00 PM:**

[U.S.-Japan Networking Night](#) (JAS Dallas & Georgia)

**October 8, 7:30 PM:**

[The evolution of stakeholder capitalism from Eiichi Shibusawa's gapponshugi to the B-Corp movement in the US. and globally](#) (JS Northern CA)

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**October 14, 9 AM:**

[Best Practices in ESG: A View from the U.S., Europe & Japan](#) (JS NY)

**October 14, 7 PM:**

[Nobody Knows, Hirokazu Koreeda Virtual Film Series 1](#) (University of Pittsburgh)

**October 15, 8 PM:**

[How Japan Maneuvers Within the US-China Rivalry](#) (JAS Oregon)

**October 20, 9 AM:**

[The 2020 U.S. Presidential Election: How Will It Affect U.S.-Japan Relations?](#)(JS NY)

**October 21, 7 PM:**

[Moving the Needle on Gender Equity in the Workplace](#) (JAS Southern California)

**October 27, 6:30 PM:**

[Painting Edo: Early Modern Masterworks from the Feinberg Collection](#) (JS NY)

**October 30, PM:**

Music, Sound, and Nostalgia in My Neighbor Totoro and Grave of the Fireflies (University of Pittsburgh)

**November 4, 7 PM:**

[Shoplifters, Hirokazu Koreeda Virtual Film Series 2](#) (University of Pittsburgh)

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## **Support the JASP with your sake certification!**

Support the JASP and earn your Wine & Spirit Education Trust Level 1 in Sake certificate at the same time!

Join Certified Sake Sommelier, Deb Mortillaro, as she leads this internationally recognized WSET certification on Sake right here in Pittsburgh! For every registrant who indicates they saw the class in our newsletter, Palate Partners will donate \$30 to the JASP.

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The next course will take place on October 17th & 18th, and registration is required by October 2. Read more and sign up on the [Palate Partners website](#).

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## **Master Teacher Workshop: Picture This! Traveling Through Time with Japanese Art and Manga**

**Saturday, October 10, 1-3:00 PM EDT**

The National Consortium for Teaching about Asia, University of Pittsburgh coordinating site invites teachers to learn about the "Journey along the Tōkaidō," a series of engaging K-12 lesson plans compiled by East Asian Studies faculty at The Ohio State University with support from the Japan Foundation. This robust online teaching resource emphasizes change over time while comparing global cultures through the lenses of art and manga from Early Modern and Modern Japan (ca. 1800s to 1930s). Webinar participants will discover new ways to engage students in this exploration of Japan's most important trade route, the Eastern Sea Route (the Tōkaidō), which has connected Tokyo, Kyoto and Osaka since ancient times. [Registration is required.](#)

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## ***Virtual Japanese-English Reading Circle***

The Japanese-English Reading Circle is held on the first and third Saturdays of the month. Members discuss Japanese- and English- language readings with each other as well as play vocabulary games in their second language.



### **Upcoming Dates**

- Saturday, October 3, 5:00-6:30 PM
- Saturday, October 17, 5:00-6:30 PM
- Saturday, November 7, 5:00-6:30 PM
- Saturday, November 21, 5:00-6:30 PM

Visit the [Facebook](#) group for more information.

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## Largest Collection of Tsukioka Kōgyo's Woodblock Prints Digitized by the University of Pittsburgh Library System

The University of Pittsburgh Library System, which holds the largest collection of artist Tsukioka Kōgyo's (1869-1927) color woodblock prints outside of Japan, has digitized four complete sets that depict Noh theatre. This online collection comprises the largest digital representation of Kōgyo's work freely available online. The set contains: Nōgaku zue 能楽圖繪 (Pictures of Noh), Nōgaku hyakuban 能楽百番 (Prints of One Hundred Noh Plays), Nōga taikan 能画大鑑 (A Great Collection of Prints of Noh Plays), and Kyōgen gojūban 狂言五十番 (Fifty Kyōgen Plays) and is available via the [Kōgyo: The Art of Noh](#) website.



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**See what's trending at the JASP!**

Join 1,014 people who follow the JASP on Facebook by [liking our page](#) today! Get updates on events, news, and more!

Did you know we're also [on Twitter](#)? Connect with us and stay on top of JASP news and events as they happen!

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We would like to thank our Gold Members



We would like to thank our Silver Members

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*The Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania (JASP), established in 1986, is an association of individuals and corporations actively engaged in bringing the peoples of Japan and America together in understanding, appreciation and cooperation in order to promote a better relationship between the countries.*

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Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania

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