

Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania

September 2020 *Newsletter*

In this issue:

[2020 Virtual Annual Dinner](#)

[JASP Late Summer Lecture Series](#)

[September Educational Resources](#)

[Prime Minister Shinzo Abe Resigns](#)

[Japan Documentary Film Award](#)

[The JASP Welcomes New Members](#)

[Upcoming Webinars from the NAJAS Network & Online Resources](#)

[Sister Cities Remember the 75th Anniversary of Atomic Bombings](#)

[Virtual Japanese-English Reading Circle](#)

[Follow us on Facebook and Twitter](#)

2020 Virtual Annual Dinner

We are pleased to announce the 2020 Virtual Annual Dinner! This event 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.

The program will be broadcast on Tuesday evening, October 27, to registered attendees only. Registration is pay-what-you-like, but there are opportunities to support and sponsor the JASP. You won't want to miss it!

[Register now!](#)

JASP Late Summer Lecture Series

Join us for our last installment in the Late Summer Lecture Series.
Registration is required.

[Drinking Tea in Japan](#)

Wednesday, September 2, 6:30 - 7:30 PM

Japanese tea drinking has been a part of Japanese culture and tradition for hundreds of years. The influence of Japanese tea has not only expanded across the globe, but it also developed into a practice with its own types of aesthetics. Join Katsuko Shellhammer for a presentation on the history and types of tea in Japan. We will also explore modern ways to drink tea and what snacks to pair with your tea time. Finally, follow along at home and learn how to make dorayaki pancakes!

This series is supported by the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia
University of Pittsburgh Coordinating site.

[Register now!](#)

September Educational Resources

9月、長月



In September, the days get shorter and the nights get longer. The ancient name "Nagatsuki" came from *Nagayotsuki* which means the month of long nights.

Visit our [Japan in the Schools page](#) to read more about September or to schedule a virtual school visit in 2020.

Prime Minister Shinzo Abe Resigns

On August 28, 2020, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced he would resign due to a recurring illness. Journalists, think tanks, and commentators around the world have been looking back on his legacy and speculating on his successor. Here are a sampling of links exploring the issue:

[Assessing Abe's Economic Statecraft](#) (CSIS)

[Japan After Abe: Legacy and Next Moves](#) (CSIS)

[As Japan's Abe Leaves, 'Abenomics' Will Remain, for Good or Ill](#) (NY Times)

[Shinzo Abe's Departure Throws Wrench Into U.S.-Japan Ties](#) (Wall St. Journal)

Japan Documentary Film Award

The Japan Council of the University of Pittsburgh and SCREENSHOT: ASIA are pleased to announce the winners of the second biennial University of Pittsburgh [Japan Documentary Film Award](#): Grand-Prize winner An Ant Strikes

Back, directed by Tokachi Tsuchiya, and Honorable Mention Book-Paper-Scissors, directed by Nanako Hirose.

Starting September 24, the films will be screened virtually on [Vimeo](#) and will include an introduction by the filmmaker and a Q&A discussion of the film with the director.



The JASP Welcomes New Members!

ようこそ！

Individual Members:

- Mr. Andrew Drazdik, Jr.
- Ms. Marianne Jew

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

September 8, 8 PM:

[Nakamura Hashigo and the New Face of Kabuki in the 21st Century](#) (JAS Northern California)

September 9, 7 PM:

[U.S. and Japan Media Trends](#) (JAS Chicago)

September 9, 8 PM:

[Book Talk with Womenomics Pioneer Kathy Matsui](#) (JAS Northern California)

September 10, 6 PM:

[Japanese Business Etiquette](#) (JS NY)

September 15, 9 AM:

[Cybersecurity in the 21st Century: Outlook for Japan & the U.S.](#) (JS NY)

September 16, 1 PM:

[Sustainability and Manufacturing Virtual Discussion](#) (JAS Georgia)

September 17, 8 PM:

[Anime Sway: How Japan Came to Dominate the Global Pop Culture Landscape](#) (JAS Dallas/FtWorth)

September 22, 9 AM:

[Artificial Elegance: Japanese Prosthetics for World-Class Athletes](#) (JS NY)

September 22, 8 PM:

[Adapting U.S. Businesses for the Japanese Market](#) (JAS Chicago)

September 30, 8 PM:

[Motoko Rich: The Face of the New York Times in Japan](#) (JAS Oregon)

Sister Cities Remember

the 75th Anniversary of Atomic Bombings



For the 75th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Sister Cities International launched the "[U.S. Japan Sister Cities Bell Ringing](#)" initiative. Mayor Peduto [recorded a video](#) and the Pittsburgh-Saitama City Sister City Committee released the following statement: *After 75 years of not just peace but amity, it is difficult to comprehend that there was ever a time when Japan and the United States were at war with one another. Our decades-long sister city alliance with Saitama City has meant more to the Pittsburgh community than just an opportunity to make political and economic connections; it connects us on a personal level. Our Sister City relationship honors the victims of the tragedies of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by ensuring that the darkest parts of history never repeat themselves; because hatred and violence can never exist where goodwill and respect reign. By remembering together the terrible and regrettable actions of war, may we appreciate even more the benefits of friendship and never again look at each other and see an enemy.*

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, September 5, 5:00-6:30 PM
- Saturday, September 19, 5:00-6:30 PM
- Saturday, October 3, 5:00-6:30 PM
- Saturday, October 17, 5:00-6:30 PM

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

JASP Member Sam Kidder's Book on PA-Born Ambassador to Japan

Sam Kidder has published a book on his research about John Bingham, born in Mercer, PA, and active in law and politics across the Ohio-PA border before becoming the longest-serving U.S. Ambassador to Japan.

[Of One Blood All Nations](#) chronicles his childhood in Ohio through his diplomatic career in Meiji Japan. Called the father of the 14th Amendment, John Bingham was a key political figure in America's Reconstruction era. His twelve years as America's senior diplomat in Japan came at a crucial time in the emerging bilateral relationship.

Your donation plays a key role in sustaining our Society and programs!

Support the JASP

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!



THE JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA

We would like to thank our Platinum Members



Deloitte.



UPMC
LIFE CHANGING MEDICINE



We would like to thank our Gold Members



MEYER UNKOVIC SCOTT
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

We would like to thank our Silver Members

Mitsubishi Electric US, Oriden, University of Pittsburgh, and Wheeling-Nippon Steel

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.

Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania

2375 Mosside Blvd, Suite 402, Monroeville, PA 15146

Tel: 412-856-8608 | Email: jasp@us-japan.org | www.japansocietypa.org

[Facebook](#) • [Twitter](#) • [Unsubscribe](#)