



U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL

2018 Annual Report



EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION



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Dear Friends,

On behalf of the U.S.-Japan Council (USJC), we thank our generous donors, dedicated Board members, and engaged Council Leaders, Associates and Friends for your strong support in 2018. We extend special thanks to our hard-working staff. We reached new milestones in our mission to strengthen U.S.-Japan relations and foster people-to-people connections, which we are proud to highlight with this 2018 Annual Report.

In 2018, we continued to strengthen regional collaboration. Working with close to 50 cities and organizations, we held the Japan-Texas Economic Summit in May, bringing more than 400 leaders to Houston. We continued to hold Regional Women in Leadership events in cities ranging from Oakland, Michigan to Salt Lake City, Utah.

This was a key year for Japanese Americans. In celebration of “Gannenmono,” the first Japanese immigrants to arrive in Hawaii 150 years ago, several of our members organized a symposium in Honolulu, and communicated their significance through events in Tokyo and Yamaguchi City. Alumni of the Japanese American Leadership Delegation program welcomed Foreign Minister Taro Kono when he visited California, Hawaii and New York.

Together with several Japanese American and Japan-related organizations, USJC also established the Japan Flood Friendship Fund. The fund supported four Japanese nonprofit organizations that were providing services to those affected by the floods in Western Japan.

The 2018 Annual Conference, held in November in Tokyo, brought together approximately 750 leaders from throughout the United States and Japan. We discussed how to create a more sustainable future—including investing in next-generation leaders like TOMODACHI and Emerging Leaders Program alumni—and continue to strengthen the U.S.-Japan relationship regardless of geopolitical trends.

To ensure the future of USJC, we developed a new three-year Strategic Plan. Stakeholders from across the organization provided feedback through seven listening sessions and many individual consultations, providing guidance and advice on USJC. A new plan was approved by the Board of Directors in December, and includes an updated Mission and Purpose Statement, which is on page 4 of this report.

2019 will mark the 10th anniversary of the U.S.-Japan Council. We will hold our Annual Conference in Los Angeles for the first time. Our work going forward will focus on leadership development, connecting and convening diverse leaders to address key issues important to U.S.-Japan relations, and ensuring a strong infrastructure to support our ambitious goals. We have accomplished much in the last 10 years, thanks to the strong support of so many people, companies and organizations. We thank you again for your partnership, and look forward to another dynamic year in strengthening U.S.-Japan relations.

Sincerely,

Irene Hirano Inouye
President

Phyllis Campbell
Chair of the Board

ABOUT THE U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL



OUR MISSION

THE U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL develops and connects diverse leaders to create a stronger U.S.-Japan relationship. Founded by Japanese Americans, the Council brings together leaders of the United States and Japan from across backgrounds, sectors, and generations to partner for a better future for the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

OUR PURPOSE

- We are a unique community that brings together Japanese American and other leaders of the United States and Japan, strengthening ties between the two countries.
- We bring together a network of diverse leaders across sectors for meaningful collaboration, creating deep and lasting relationships.
- We develop the next generation of leaders by offering life-changing experiences that inspire participants to contribute to a stronger U.S.-Japan relationship.
- We believe in service and are committed to action in areas where our multicultural perspectives and experiences can make a difference.

The U.S.-Japan Council, a 501(c)3 nonprofit educational organization, was founded in 2008 and is headquartered in Washington, DC with staff in California, Hawaii and Tokyo. In 2012, the U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) was created to support the administration of the TOMODACHI Initiative, and in 2013, it became a Public Interest Corporation (*Koeki Zaidan Hojin*). The U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) maintains offices in Tokyo, Japan.

"I believe that the U.S.-Japan Council's vigorous efforts to strengthen the relationship between Japan and Japanese Americans over the past decade are highly valuable. In particular, its efforts to cultivate the next generation of Nikkei leaders and strengthen networks will create the foundation for amicable Japan-U.S. relations for the coming 50 or even 100 years."

—HIS EXCELLENCY SHINZO ABE,
PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN

"The sort of leaders we're creating today through the TOMODACHI Initiative, I believe, are the leaders that will carry us forward, that will help us bring new innovative technology solutions to challenges that confront both our nations."

—AMBASSADOR WILLIAM HAGERTY,
U.S. AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS:

2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

JAPANESE AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DELEGATION PROGRAM

ASIAN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DELEGATION PROGRAM

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP



2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE



THE 2018 U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL Annual Conference, themed *Partnering for Impact Today, Investing in a Sustainable Tomorrow*, was held from November 8 to 9 in Tokyo. Issues that were discussed included how to further develop philanthropy and the NPO sector in both countries, how to create a more sustainable future for all, as well as how to continue to strengthen the U.S.-Japan relationship regardless of political trends. The Conference also highlighted women and millennial leaders, as well as those who lead in diverse areas such as sports and technology.

Left: Hiroko Kuniya (Journalist and Goodwill Ambassador for Japan, UN Food and Agriculture Organization) and Mr. Toshio Arima (Chairman of the Board, Global Compact Network Japan) discuss ways to fulfill Unsustainable Development Goals. Center: Kabuki Actor Ebizo Ichikawa performs. Right: U.S. Ambassador to Japan William Hagerty speaks at a reception celebrating the TOMODACHI Initiative.

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS:

The Conference featured two Distinguished Speakers:

- Governor Yuriko Koike, Governor of Tokyo
- Mr. Kanetsugu Mike, President & CEO of MUFG Bank, Ltd.

Other prominent speakers included Mr. Peter Fitzgerald, President, Google Japan G.K.; Dr. Yoichi Funabashi, Co-founder and Chairman, Asia Pacific Initiative, and Former Editor-in-Chief, *The Asahi Shimbun*; Governor Ryuta Ibaragi, Governor of Okayama Prefecture; Dr. Heita Kawakatsu, Governor of Shizuoka Prefecture; Mr. Peter Landers, Tokyo Bureau Chief, *The Wall Street Journal*; and Governor Hidehiko Yuzaki, Governor of Hiroshima Prefecture. Separately, a video message from Prime Minister Shinzo Abe praised the efforts of Japanese Americans in strengthening U.S.-Japan relations.

PHILANTHROPY LEADERSHIP ROUND TABLE

A group of selected philanthropic leaders from the United States and Japan discussed some of the opportunities and challenges in furthering philanthropic activities in both countries. The approximately 30 participants explored potential approaches to strengthen collaboration across sectors to maximize impact and build a more sustainable future. This program was made possible by the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership, New York.

GANNEMONO: CELEBRATING THE 150-YEAR LEGACY

A session on “Gannenmono,” the first group of Japanese immigrants to arrive in Hawaii 150 years ago, showed how the solid ties between Hawaii and Japan are based on personal relationships built within the community. Council Leaders Christine Kubota and Tyler Tokioka discussed their work serving on the committee that hosted a symposium in Honolulu in June, which was attended by members of the Japanese Imperial Family. Dr. Dennis Ogawa, Professor at the University of Hawaii Manoa, described the friendship between King Kalakaua and Emperor Meiji during the time of the Gannenmono.



Governors Kawakatsu, Ibaragi and Yuzaki, with Dr. Daniel Okimoto, Co-Chair of the Silicon Valley Japan Platform.

“I believe that the U.S. and Japan are important partners and that the U.S.-Japan relationship underpins our politics, economy and relationships with other nations.”

—GOVERNOR YURIKO KOIKE



Dr. Dennis Ogawa, Professor at the University of Hawaii Manoa.



Left: Alumni of the TOMODACHI Emerging Leaders Program (L-R) Mana Nakagawa, David Kenji Chang and Nicole Velasco discuss the importance of diversity.
Center: Dr. Xavier Briggs, Vice President of Inclusive Economies and Markets at The Ford Foundation, addresses the audience.
Right: Distinguished Speaker Mr. Kanetsugu Mike, President & CEO of MUFG Bank, Ltd.

"Consistency is how we build trust. So I want to humbly commend USJC for your consistent devotion to protect and strengthen this special friendship between our two nations today, tomorrow and far into the future."

—MR. KANETSUGU MIKE

JAPAN FILM PREMIERE OF AN AMERICAN STORY: NORMAN MINETA AND HIS LEGACY

The Japan Film Premiere of *An American Story: Norman Mineta and His Legacy* celebrated the life and career of Secretary Mineta (President & CEO, Mineta & Associates, LLC; Former Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation; Former Secretary, U.S. Department of Commerce) as a pioneering Japanese American politician committed to justice and bipartisanship. This event, presented by the Mineta Legacy Project, the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership and USJC, included a panel discussion with Secretary Mineta and filmmakers Dianne Fukami and Debra Nakatomi.



Secretary Mineta with Dianne Fukami, President, Bridge Media and Director/Co-Producer, Mineta Legacy Project (left) and Debra Nakatomi, President, Nakatomi & Associates and Co-Producer, Mineta Legacy Project (center)



(L-R) Sachin N. Shah, Chairman, President and CEO, MetLife Insurance K.K. and President, The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan; Takeshi Niinami, Representative Director, President & CEO, Suntory Holdings Ltd.; and Jesper Koll, CEO of WisdomTree Japan.

KEY FACTS

- THIS WAS USJC'S NINTH Annual Conference, and the second to be held in Tokyo.
- THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY 750 attendees, including about 240 USJC members.
- APPROXIMATELY 120 GENEROUS SPONSORS contributed more than **\$1.6 million**.
- MEDIA COVERAGE INCLUDED *The Asahi Shimbun*, *Nihon Keizai Shimbun*, *Sankei Shimbun*/JAPAN Forward and *Yomiuri Shimbun*/The Japan News.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMMING:

The many dimensions of the U.S.-Japan relationship were reflected in the Conference's nearly twenty panel discussions and programs. These included:

- New Trends in Philanthropy
- Political Trends and Security Implications
- Social Innovation and Changemakers
- Aging Populations: Developing Solutions



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan
外務省

JAPANESE AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DELEGATION PROGRAM



THE JAPANESE AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DELEGATION (JALD) program provides the opportunity for a select group of Japanese American leaders to travel to Japan to engage with Japanese leaders in the business, government, academic, nonprofit and cultural sectors.

The 2018 Japanese American Leadership Delegation traveled to Tokyo and Yamaguchi in March. In Tokyo, they met with senior leaders in the business and government sectors, including Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. In Yamaguchi, they spoke at a symposium that was co-sponsored with the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership, and commemorated the 150th anniversary of the first emigration from Japan to Hawaii.

JALD is generously sponsored by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan.

"Regardless of the distance or cultural differences, Japanese leaders face similar challenges that we do in the U.S. My biggest takeaway was the affirmation and value that people-to-people relationships play in our increasingly busy and complex world. We often get lost in the speed but we must always remember to slow down and build true sustainable friendships that will carry us forward."

—MR. CHRIS UEHARA



JALD ALUMNI

Over the course of the year, Foreign Minister Taro Kono (a Friend of the Council), who has been a staunch supporter of Japanese Americans and the JALD Program, met with JALD alumni in several cities. In August, Minister Kono met with alumni in Honolulu, San Francisco/Silicon Valley and Los Angeles, and in September, met with alumni in New York City.

In November, JALD alumni from all over the United States and Japan gathered at a reception that was part of the 2018 Annual Conference in Tokyo. They reunited with many who supported their trip or served as speakers, including Minister Kono (pictured with Lisa Sakai, JALD '18).

THE 2018 JALD DELEGATES

The 2018 JALD was a diverse group comprising delegates from Guam to Washington, DC. The majority of the delegates had mixed heritage, and there were more than twice as many women as men.

ASIAN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DELEGATION PROGRAM



THROUGH THE ASIAN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DELEGATION (AALD) program, USJC works with elected officials to broaden the understanding of U.S.-Japan relations at the state legislative level.

The 2018 program selected six elected state officials from diverse backgrounds and regions of the country. From November to December, the delegates traveled to Tokyo, Kyoto and Osaka to meet with Japanese political and government leaders, business executives and nonprofit leaders to exchange ideas as well as create networks that can mutually benefit the U.S.-Japan relationship. The delegates also spoke about their



varied personal and professional journeys at a panel discussion in Osaka titled “Diversity in Leadership: The Journey of Asian American State Legislators.”

AALD is funded by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation and implemented by USJC, in collaboration with the National Asian Pacific American Caucus of State Legislators and the National Conference of State Legislatures.

THE 2018 AALD DELEGATES:

- Have roots in China, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and Thailand
- Are state representatives from California, Hawaii, Illinois, Maryland, Minnesota and New York



“I am so grateful for the opportunity to meet my colleagues and peers from across the nation, as well as those in Japan. It honestly makes me feel very inspired that there are so many thoughtful and wonderful individuals looking at different ways to make the world a better place from wherever we are sitting.”

—ASSEMBLYMEMBER YUH-LINE NIOU

“I truly appreciate the opportunity to participate in the 2018 AALD program because it shows how impactful leaders are to the success and direction of their organizations, legislative bodies, and between countries. I am committed to facilitating these types of exchanges in Minnesota among elected officials, business and philanthropic leaders, and scholars to further strengthen U.S.-Japan relations.”

—REPRESENTATIVE FUE LEE

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP



Left: Council Leader Laurie Van Pelt (center) speaks on a panel during the Oakland RWL; Center: Dr. Robin Yasui of Denver joined community leaders in Salt Lake City for their RWL event; Right: The Hawaii networking event welcomed USJC Chair of the Board Phyllis Campbell (center)

IN 2018, USJC'S SUPPORT for women in leadership was stronger than ever. Several events and programs led to active discourse and stronger networks, inspiring women and men of all generations.

REGIONAL WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP AND OTHER NETWORKING EVENTS

USJC members throughout the United States continued to organize and participate in the Regional Women in Leadership (RWL) series, funded by the Embassy of Japan. USJC held RWL events in five cities in 2018: Dallas, TX; Oakland, MI; Phoenix, AZ; Sacramento, CA and Salt Lake City, UT. Community leaders discussed Japan's Womenomics agenda, as well as ways that Americans can support it. Apart from RWL, USJC members in Hawaii and the Midwest also held events examining women's leadership.



DISCUSSIONS AT THE 2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

During the 2018 USJC Annual Conference, Ms. Yuka Tanimoto, Deputy Editor-in-Chief & Event Promotion Section Chief Producer of *Forbes JAPAN* (left) and Ms. Emi Takemura, Fellow, Mistletoe Inc.; Co-founder, FutureEdu Tokyo; and Co-founder/Advisor, Peatix Inc., shared tips for women to succeed as leaders, including celebrating one's own differences. In another session, Dr. John Maeda, Global Head of Computational Design + Inclusion at Automattic, discussed with his colleague Lena Morita the importance of diversity in the field of technology. Women spoke at 13 out of 15 sessions at the Conference.



JAPANESE WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE

The Japanese Women's Leadership Initiative (JWLI), founded by USJC Board Member Atsuko Fish and supported by USJC, continued to thrive in 2018. This Boston-based program, which fosters Japanese women leaders interested in nonprofit management, is offered twice a year. The 2018 Fall Fellows (pictured with Ms. Fish (third from left) and guest Ms. Susan Whitehead) concluded their program by pitching their ideas at a joint event with participants of the TOMODACHI Disability Leadership Program in America, which also takes place in Boston.



Council Leader Mayumi Uejima-Carr and her husband discuss work-life balance with TMWLP participants in DC.

TOMODACHI PROGRAMS

As part of the 2017-18 TOMODACHI MetLife Women's Leadership Program (TMWLP), Japanese university students from Naha, Fukuoka, Tokyo and Osaka traveled to Washington, DC and New York City to meet with members of Congress and other leaders. High school students participating in the TOMODACHI High School Women Career Mentoring Program in Fukushima, which is supported by Lawson and FamilyMart Co., Ltd., learned from mentors with global careers. Female Japanese undergraduate students who participated in the TOMODACHI-STEM @ Rice University Program visited Houston and Washington, DC.

EDUCATIONAL & NETWORKING PROGRAMS:

WATANABE SCHOLARSHIP

JAPAN-TEXAS ECONOMIC SUMMIT

REGIONAL PROGRAMS

SILICON VALLEY JAPAN PLATFORM

BUSINESS NETWORKING

JAPAN FLOOD FRIENDSHIP FUND

GOVERNMENT AND LEGISLATIVE NETWORKING



WATANABE SCHOLARSHIP



Mr. Watanabe addressing the scholars attending the Annual Conference.



Mr. and Mrs. Watanabe with the 14 American scholars at the Annual Conference.



Mr. Palacios at a sports festival at Tokyo International University.

"I am very grateful that I got this opportunity to study abroad, because it has made me think more carefully about who I want to be in the future."

—MS. NAOMI ISHIMURA,
JAPANESE WATANABE SCHOLAR 2018-19

THE TOSHIZO WATANABE Study Abroad Scholarship Program provides financial assistance to undergraduate and graduate students for a semester or year-long study abroad in the United States or Japan. A generous endowment gift of \$10 million from Mr. Toshizo (Tom) Watanabe to the U.S.-Japan Council makes it possible to award scholarships to students for whom study abroad would not be possible without financial support.

2018-19 WATANABE SCHOLARS

For the 2018-19 year, scholarships were awarded to 20 Japanese students and 18 American students—35 undergraduate and three graduate students—specializing in fields like civil engineering, political science, public diplomacy, music and computer science. 2018 was the third year for the scholarship to support Japanese students studying in the United States, and the inaugural year supporting American students studying in Japan. Scholarship recipients are studying at institutions in 11 states across the United States and six prefectures across Japan. 2018 was also the first year supporting students in semester-long study abroad programs.

"I kept thinking about a way to show my appreciation for the opportunity provided to us scholars. And I realized that the best way to thank Mr. Watanabe is to do our best to reach our personal, academic and professional goals."

—MR. DAVID PALACIOS,
U.S. WATANABE SCHOLAR 2018-19

WATANABE SCHOLARS AT THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Fourteen of the American scholars studying in Japan traveled to Tokyo to attend the 2018 USJC Annual Conference in November. They learned about various topics in U.S.-Japan relations, shared their own perspectives, and networked with USJC members, TOMODACHI alumni and other conference attendees. They also joined Mr. and Mrs. Watanabe, their daughters and Watanabe Scholar alumni for dinner, where they discussed the impact of the scholarship and their study abroad experience so far.

The Council looks forward to supporting many more students in the future through this lasting gift from Mr. Watanabe.

JAPAN-TEXAS ECONOMIC SUMMIT



Ambassador Shinsuke Sugiyama with USJC Board Member Donna Cole, Chair of JTES.



(L-R) Council Leader Eric Takahata, Irene Hirano Inouye, Mayor Sylvester Turner of Houston, USJC Immediate Past Chair Dennis Teranishi.



Council Leaders Peter Sakai (center) and Glen Gondo greet a guest.



Keynote Speaker Governor Ohmura.

"I am honored that Texas is home to one of the first U.S.-Japan Council regional summits, which underscores the importance of Japan's partnership with the Lone Star State, as well as the enormous potential for growth we see today and in the years ahead."

— SECRETARY ROLANDO PABLOS,
TEXAS SECRETARY OF STATE



Mayor Ron Nirenberg of San Antonio.

IN MAY, MORE THAN 400 LEADERS from throughout the United States and Japan convened in Houston for the Japan-Texas Economic Summit (JTES). USJC hosted the Summit in collaboration with close to 50 cities and organizations. Issues discussed during the Summit included ongoing trade and investment, opportunities for further collaboration, sister city ties and people-to-people exchanges.

SPEECHES AND DISCUSSIONS

The Summit featured keynote addresses from Bruce Culpepper (President, Shell Oil Company), Shigeru Hayakawa (Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors, Toyota Motor Corporation and Vice Chair, Keidanren), Shigeki Maeda (Executive Vice President, Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO)), Hideaki Ohmura (Governor, Aichi Prefecture, Japan) and Secretary Rolando Pablos (Texas Secretary of State).

Other speakers included Mitsuru Claire Chino (President & CEO, ITOCHU International Inc.); Henry Cisneros (Founder & Chairman, CityView, Former HUD Secretary and Former Mayor of San Antonio, TX); Ambassador Tom Schieffer (Former U.S. Ambassador to Japan, and President and CEO of Envoy International); and Japanese Ambassador Shinsuke J. Sugiyama, who traveled from Washington, DC.

Panel discussions explored the many aspects of Texas-Japan relations, including security and defense, energy, healthcare, workforce development, technological innovation, food and beverage, and people-to-people exchanges.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PRESENTATIONS

The summit also included a unique session of 15 speakers, each representing various regions across Texas, as well as sister cities in Japan. Mayors and other officials shared the strengths of their cities, which included metropolises like Dallas and Houston, cities with close Japanese ties like Plano (which recently welcomed Toyota Motor North America's new headquarters), cities with distinct characteristics like El Paso (which borders Mexico), and Japanese locales Kumamoto City, Chiba City and Oita City (which have sister cities in Texas). Following the session, many of the regions further presented their charms with booths, regional delicacies and music.

REGIONAL PROGRAMS

USJC HOLDS REGIONAL PROGRAMS throughout the year to provide opportunities for Japanese and Americans to network and explore areas of collaboration in U.S.-Japan relations. We thank the many members who organize, execute and report on these programs. 2018 events included:



LOS ANGELES

In June, USJC members organized a seminar by Dan Ichinose, the Project Director for Demographic Research at Asian Americans Advancing Justice, who spoke about the demographic trends of the Japanese American community. Forty-five percent of Japanese Americans, which number 1.5 million, are multiracial and multicultural, and that figure is predicted to exceed 50% by the 2020 census. Of all the Asian communities, the Japanese American community has the lowest immigrant population, the highest median age, and is the most multicultural. Mr. Ichinose inspired a robust discussion about the future of Japanese American organizations, what services will be needed in the future, and the impact this has on identity and culture.

NEW YORK

In October, USJC partnered with the American Jewish Committee (AJC)'s Asia Pacific Institute, the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership (CGP) and Japan Society to host an event focused on collaboration and innovation in automotive technology among the United States, Japan and Israel. The panel speakers included (pictured left to right) member of the AJC Executive Council Kim Pimley; Mr. Ben Rabinowitz, Founder and Managing Partner at Amity Ventures; Dr. Wendy Ju, Assistant Professor at the Jacobs Technion-Cornell Institute; and Ms. Yumi Kawabata, automotive journalist and advisor to the Japanese government. (Photo © Japan Society/Alan Klein).



TOHOKU

In November, four USJC members visited Iwate prefecture as part of a trip organized by World in Tohoku (WIT). WIT, led by Executive Director Mio Yamamoto (ELP '14 and USJC Associate), educates people on the challenges in Tohoku following the Great East Japan Earthquake. One of the participants was naval officer Jaden Risner (ELP '13 and USJC Associate, pictured second from left with local residents), who was a first-responder taking part in Operation Tomodachi. Mr. Risner, who was returning to Tohoku for the first time since then, shared photos and stories from the operation. Trip participants also met social entrepreneurs who address local problems, and exchanged perspectives on educational, political and socio-economic issues.



WASHINGTON, DC

In December, USJC and the Columbia University Alumni Association of Washington, DC hosted a lecture by Professor Takako Hikotani, Gerald L. Curtis Associate Professor of Modern Japanese Politics and Foreign Policy at Columbia University. Her presentation, held at the Japan Information & Culture Center, Embassy of Japan, discussed Japan's globalization and democratization. Dr. Hikotani spoke about the country's relationship with the United States, as well as its efforts to expand ties with Europe, Africa and other parts of Asia as part of a long-term vision to build relations with allies.



SILICON VALLEY JAPAN PLATFORM

THE SILICON VALLEY JAPAN PLATFORM (SVJP) is an initiative of USJC and the Asia Pacific Initiative (AP Initiative). SVJP aims to connect the technological dynamism of Silicon Valley with the current and future needs of economic revitalization in Japan. SVJP is co-chaired by Dr. Daniel Okimoto, Professor Emeritus at Stanford University (Member and former Chair of the USJC Board of Councilors) and Mr. James Kondo, President, AP Initiative (USJC Council Leader).

IN 2018, SVJP ORGANIZED a variety of events aimed at expanding and deepening ties of collaboration between the U.S. and Japan. One regular event, the monthly Benkyokai meetings, feature speakers who share their expertise on a cutting-edge topic of interest. Some speakers and topics featured in 2018 were: Dr. Vincent Vanhoucke, Principal Scientist at Google Brain - "Deep Learning: Bright Machine Intelligence to the Human World"; Tim Swanson, Founder and Director of Research at Post Oak Labs and Chris Finan, CEO and Co-Founder of Manifold Technology - "The Promise and Limitations of Blockchain Technology"; and Jim Adler, Founding Managing Director at Toyota AI Ventures and Executive Advisor at Toyota Research Institute - "Driving Disruption: Investing in Innovation to Create Capabilities."



Dr. Vanhoucke presents at the Benkyokai in August.

BUSINESS NETWORKING



Ambassador Hagerty with Kathy Matsui, Chair of the USJC (Japan) Board of Councilors, who moderated the discussion.



Ambassador Sasae speaking with TOMODACHI Alumna Miku Yoshiba (right) and TOMODACHI Alumni Manager Kaoru Utada.

BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD

THE BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD (BAB) is a group of business leaders in Japan with experience in the United States who are also familiar with the work of USJC. Under the leadership of Mr. Masaaki Tanaka, Vice Chair of the USJC Board of Councilors, BAB continued to be successful in 2018. BAB was held three times over the course of the year, each welcoming a speaker for their perspectives on U.S.-Japan relations: Ambassador William Hagerty, U.S. Ambassador to Japan (March); Ambassador Kenichiro Sasae, Former Ambassador of Japan to the United States (June); and Mr. Mike Kayamori, CEO and co-founder of QUOINE (September).

JAPAN FLOOD FRIENDSHIP FUND



IN RESPONSE TO EXTREME flooding in July 2018, USJC established the Japan Flood Friendship Fund (JFFF) in collaboration with other organizations—the Japanese American Citizens League, the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California, the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i and the United States-Japan Foundation—to offer support for relief and recovery to the flood-affected areas in Western Japan. Thanks to the generous contributions of close to 300 donors, the Fund provided financial support to four organizations: Civic Force, Japan Platform, Japan Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (JVOAD) and the Peace Boat Disaster Relief Volunteer Center (PBV). From providing mobile medical clinics, book buses and food assistance, to cleaning homes and working at volunteer centers, these outstanding nonprofit organizations in Japan are supporting the needs of those impacted by the disaster.

GOVERNMENT AND LEGISLATIVE NETWORKING



Irene Hirano Inouye recognizes Ambassador Sasae as an Honorary Japanese American.



Japanese American leaders and Japanese Consuls General gathered in Chicago.

AMBASSADOR, CONSULS GENERAL AND JAPANESE AMERICAN LEADERS MEETING (CG-JA)

THE ANNUAL CG-JA MEETING is sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and organized by USJC and the Embassy of Japan. Prominent Japanese Americans selected by their respective Consuls General from across the United States gather for a discussion with Japanese government leaders.

The 2018 discussion, held in Chicago in February, focused on key issues such as strengthening regional ties, public diplomacy and bilateral exchange programs. Participants shared their views on U.S.-Japan relations one year into the current U.S. presidential administration, the importance of partnering with other communities on issues of mutual interest, exploring new opportunities for programs that build goodwill between the two countries, and more. Following the meeting, Ambassador of Japan Kenichiro Sasae hosted a lunch at the Union League Club of Chicago. USJC President Irene Hirano Inouye presented the soon-departing Ambassador with a certificate recognizing him as an Honorary Japanese American, as a special token of appreciation for his years of service and friendship to the Japanese American community.

LEGISLATIVE NETWORKING

THROUGH LEGISLATIVE NETWORKING, USJC seeks to facilitate exchange between elected officials in the United States and Japan at the state, local and national levels. In May, USJC joined the Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE), The Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation and a coalition of other U.S.-Japan interest groups in hosting an annual reception on Capitol Hill. The reception welcomed 10 Japanese Diet members—including Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Yoshimasa Hayashi—who were visiting Washington, DC to meet with key officials of Congress. Over 150 leading figures in U.S.-Japan relations attended, including Congressman Mark Takano (Member of the USJC Board of Councilors) and Japanese Ambassador Shinsuke J. Sugiyama.



(L-R): Jun Aketa of Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc.; Irene Hirano Inouye; Diet Member Naokazu Takemoto; Congressman Takano; Diet Member Yukihisa Fujita.

TOMODACHI INITIATIVE:

ABOUT TOMODACHI

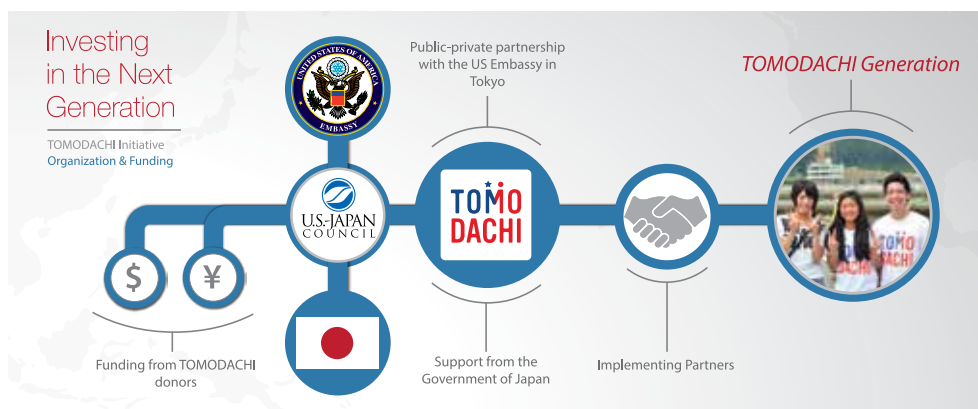
TOMODACHI PROGRAMS

TOMODACHI EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM



TOMO
DACHI

ABOUT TOMODACHI



THE TOMODACHI INITIATIVE is a public-private partnership between the U.S.-Japan Council and the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, with support from the Government of Japan. Born out of support for Japan's recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake, TOMODACHI invests in the next generation of Japanese and American leaders through educational and cultural exchanges as well as leadership programs.

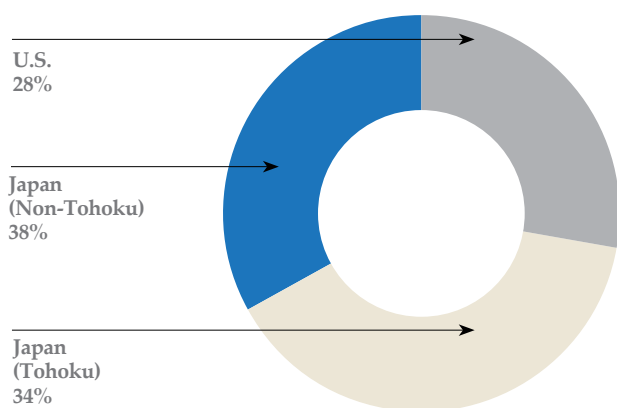
TOMODACHI seeks to foster young American and Japanese leaders who are committed to and engaged

in strengthening U.S.-Japan relations, appreciate each other's countries and cultures, and possess the global skills and mindsets needed to contribute to and thrive in a more cooperative, prosperous and secure world.

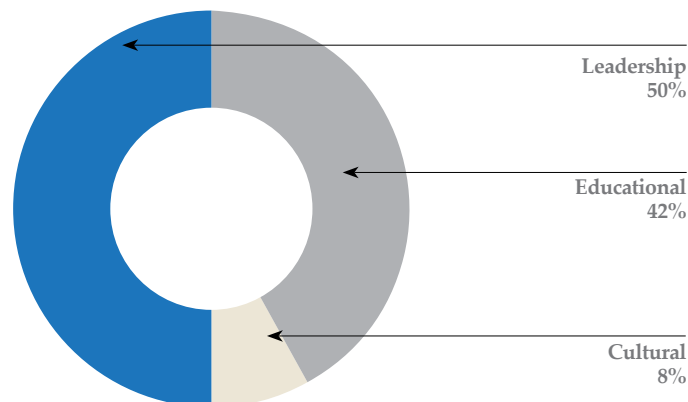
In 2012, the U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) was created to support the administration of TOMODACHI. The U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) is a registered Public Interest Corporation (*koeki zaidan hojin*) and maintains offices in Tokyo, Japan.

1,038 INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATED IN 38 PROGRAMS

2018 PARTICIPANTS
BY HOMETOWN



2018 PARTICIPANTS
BY PROGRAM TYPE



TOMODACHI PROGRAMS



In September, nearly 300 TOMODACHI alumni, guests and supporters gathered at Showa Women's University in Tokyo for the 2018 TOMODACHI Generation Summit. This event created by alumni, for alumni, is a core feature of the TOMODACHI Alumni Leadership Program. Speakers included Masaharu Kohno, TOMODACHI Initiative Senior Advisor and Special Representative of the Government of Japan for the Middle East and Europe and Special Envoy of the Government of Japan for the Middle East Peace; Ernie Higa, Chairman, President and CEO of Higa Industries Co., Ltd.; and Joseph M. Young, Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy Tokyo.

"The opportunity that the summit provides is to have alumni from various programs with different themes gathered to share their experience with one another. It gives people motivation to try something further in the alumni network."

—MR. HAYATO KIMURA, TOMODACHI ALUMNUS AND CHAIR,
2018 SUMMIT CORE COMMITTEE



From July to August, 12 high school students from Japan and the United States participated in the TOMODACHI U.S.-Japan Youth Exchange Program, managed by American Councils in Education in partnership with Globalize DC and Common Earth (Japan). The program took place in Washington, DC (where the students examined issues such as race, diversity and immigration in the United States) and Japan (where students explored culture and learned about resilience in Kesennuma and Minamisanriku, Tohoku cities devastated by the Great East Japan Earthquake). At the conclusion of the program, the students gave a final presentation on what they learned, using various formats like dancing (pictured), singing and playing videos that they produced.

THESE PROGRAMS WOULD NOT be possible without the generous support of corporations from the United States and Japan. More information about these programs in 2018 and their donors are published in a separate TOMODACHI report. Please see www.tomodachi.org for more information.

"In Kesennuma and Minamisanriku we were welcomed with kindness. Where I am from, people don't greet people they don't know. But in Kesennuma we were always greeted by strangers on the streets."

—MS. ARJERNAE MILLER,
TOMODACHI ALUMNA

THREE KEY SUSTAINING PARTNERS are critical to TOMODACHI's infrastructure: Takeda's financial support goes to overhead and infrastructure; Prudential's support facilitates the Alumni program; and Evolution Japan provides pro bono office space and support to the Tokyo team.

TOMODACHI PROGRAMS



From July to August, 20 middle and high school students selected from Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima Prefectures participated in the 2018 TOMODACHI MUFG International Exchange Program, and visited Los Angeles for two weeks. The participants deepened their knowledge of Japanese American history and the U.S.-Japan relationship, interacted with young professionals and university students in the region, and gained new perspectives on their future paths.



In August, seven nursing students from Tohoku participated in a study tour in New York, New Jersey and Washington, DC as part of the TOMODACHI J&J Disaster Nursing Training Program. The students learned about disaster medicine, disaster nursing and medical procedures in the U.S., as well as about recovery from 9/11 and Hurricane Sandy. This is the fourth year of the program, which has now supported 35 nursing students from Tohoku.

"I used to think that one person's opinion could not reach all of society. However, through the program, I saw that when many people communicate their own messages, their voices gradually become bigger and bigger, and it ultimately leads to the creation of a community, although it may take some time. From now on, I want to firmly deliver my own opinion."

—MS. KOTOMI TAKADA,
TOMODACHI ALUMNA



At the 2018 USJC Annual Conference, three TOMODACHI alumni from the United States and Japan shared their stories of how TOMODACHI transformed their lives. They were joined by USJC Executive Vice President & COO Laura Winthrop Abbot, Lata Reddy (Senior Vice President, Diversity, Inclusion & Impact, Prudential Financial, Inc.; Chair and President, The Prudential Foundation) and USJC Board Member Todd Guild.



In January and March, several TOMODACHI Sumitomo Scholars—Japanese undergraduate students studying abroad and participating in the TOMODACHI Sumitomo Corporation Scholarship Program—traveled to Washington, DC and New York for week-long visits that were sponsored by the Sumitomo Corporation of Americas. The scholars who visited in March met with DC public high school students who are studying Japanese, and engaged in discussions in Japanese and English.

TOMODACHI PROGRAMS

Right: The TOMODACHI Daiwa House Student Leadership Conference, held in Los Angeles in April, convened 16 Japanese students and 25 American students from cities across the West Coast, including Seattle, Portland and Honolulu.



In July, nine former TOMODACHI-UNIQLO Fellows took part in a reunion event held at UNIQLO CITY TOKYO. This year marked the fifth anniversary of the TOMODACHI-UNIQLO Fellowship, which provides scholarships for graduate school in fashion and business.



In August, 20 high school students selected from across Japan participated in the TOMODACHI Honda Global Leadership Program. They traveled for two weeks to Los Angeles and Ohio, where Honda's sales offices and manufacturing base are located.

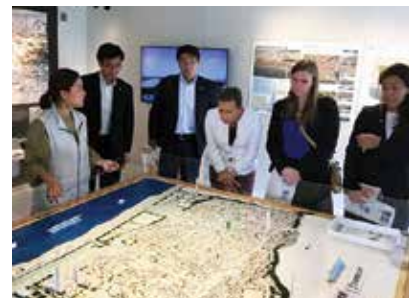
Here, they are seen visiting a high school in Dublin, OH. The TOMODACHI Honda Global Leadership Program was established in 2018, based on the success of the TOMODACHI Honda Cultural Exchange Program from 2014 to 2017.

"One of the most memorable parts of this conference was the improvisation. It made us step outside the box. One of the activities we did was making eye contact, shaking hands with each other, and making sure we are actively listening to each other. I can apply that anywhere."

—MR. KAI MARK YONASHIRO,
TOMODACHI ALUMNUS



Above: As part of the 2017-18 TOMODACHI KAKEHASHI Inouye Scholars Program, students and professors from Prefectural Hiroshima University and Yamaguchi University visited Hendrix College in February. The students learned about social justice, met with the mayor of Conway, AR (where Hendrix is located), took part in community service, and taught origami at First United Methodist Church. During this exchange program, students from four pairs of American and Japanese universities learn about the legacy of the late Senator Daniel K. Inouye. The program is part of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' KAKEHASHI Project.



As part of the TOMODACHI-Mitsui & Co. Leadership Program 2018, ten American delegates visited Tokyo and Miyagi in July, meeting with business leaders and learning about revitalization efforts in coastal cities in Tohoku.

In September, ten Japanese delegates visited Boston and Washington, DC (pictured at a breakfast with alumni and USJC members), where they learned about innovation, entrepreneurship and leadership. Alumni of the program also remain active; in February, four alumni in Kyushu shared their experience with Joy Sakurai, Principal Officer at the U.S. Consulate Fukuoka.

TOMODACHI EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM



The 2018 Class.

THE U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL'S TOMODACHI Emerging Leaders Program (ELP) identifies, cultivates and empowers a new generation of Japanese American leaders. Emerging Leaders participate in leadership education, design and implement original USJC programming, and develop powerful, lifelong personal and professional friendships. A new cohort of leaders aged 24-35 is selected annually to attend the Annual Conference, become USJC Associates, and join program alumni in bridging the future of the U.S.-Japan relationship.

In its ninth year, the 2018 program brought 12 Japanese American young professionals to Tokyo for the 2018 USJC Annual Conference. The Emerging Leaders participated in a leadership orientation program, networked with high-level leaders and participated in the Annual Members Meeting.

"Now we have so many opportunities to connect with people on [social media], but it's so rare to have the opportunity to meet people in real life who share the same passion. That commonality is not just being Japanese—it's a passion that you have for the community."

—2018 EMERGING LEADER EIKO OKAMOTO

JAPANESE HERITAGE DAY

IN AUGUST, ELP ALUMNI hosted a Japanese Heritage Day at Angel Stadium in Anaheim, California as Shohei Ohtani and the Los Angeles Angels took on the Oakland Athletics. The event, a fundraiser in support of ELP alumni activities, sold over 1,200 tickets. Council Leaders, Associates and sponsors traveled from as far as New York, Washington, DC, Hawaii and Japan to support the event. Additional guests included Consul General of Japan in Los Angeles Akira Chiba and Mrs. Chiba, and four Japanese parliamentarians who were in town for Nisei Week.

GUESTS RECEIVED A LIMITED edition Ohtani bobblehead and enjoyed a lively taiko performance. USJC board members, ELP sponsors and USJC President Irene Hirano Inouye presented the Angels Foundation with a donation during a special pre-game ceremony. The first pitch was then thrown on behalf of the ELP alumni by a local young cancer survivor selected through the My Wishlist Foundation.



ELP alumni, including Josh Morey (back row, third from right), organized Japanese Heritage Day (photo by Wyatt Conlon).



A boy admires his two-way Shohei Ohtani bobblehead (photo by Wyatt Conlon).

LEADERSHIP AND SUPPORT:

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USJC MANAGEMENT & STAFF

SPONSORSHIP & SUPPORT

MEMBERSHIP



U.S. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(AS OF DECEMBER 2018)

THE U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL'S BOARD of Directors consists of leaders from across the United States and in Japan who provide their expertise in establishing and guiding the Council's mission and activities.

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Irene Hirano Inouye, *President*, U.S.-Japan Council

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Susan Morita, *Vice Chair*; Partner, Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP

Dennis R. Sugino, *Vice Chair & Investment Committee Chair*; Founder, Kansa Advisory LLC

Tasha Yorozu, *Secretary & Engagement Committee Chair*; Managing Attorney, Yorozu Law Group, PC

David Nishida, *Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair*

Dennis Y. Teranishi, *Immediate Past Chair & Nominating and Governance Committee Chair*; President & CEO, Pacific International Center for High Technology Research



Board Members (L-R) Masami Iijima, Elly Keinan, Masaharu Kohno and Masaaki Tanaka during a meeting at the 2018 USJC Annual Conference.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK the outgoing members of the USJC (US) Board of Directors. In January 2019, Tracey Doi and Susan Morita, who completed their terms in December 2018, join the Legacy Council, and Yosuke Jay O. Honjo becomes a member of the USJC (US) Board of Councilors.

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Tracey Doi, CFO and Group Vice President, Toyota Motor North America

Susan Eichor, President & COO, aio

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James Higa, Executive Director, Philanthropic Ventures Foundation & Mentor in Residence, Index Ventures

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Yosuke Jay O. Honjo, CEO & Founder, ITO EN US Group

Yuko Kaifu, President, JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles

Norman Nakasone, Senior Vice President, Product & e-Channel Management, Central Pacific Bank

Jill Nishi, *Program Development Committee Chair*; Director, Strategy Planning & Management and Chief of Staff, U.S. Program, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Scott Sato, *Development Committee Chair*; CEO, Tricor Japan

LEGACY COUNCIL

USJC'S LEGACY COUNCIL includes members of the Board of Directors and select members of the Board of Councilors who completed full terms of service on the Board. It was established to recognize the invaluable contributions of Board members, past, present and in the future, and to encourage previous Board members to remain active leaders at USJC.

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Henry Ota, Board Member, Japanese American Cultural & Community Center

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Wally Tsuha, President, Tsuha Foundation

Jan Yanehiro, President, Jan Yanehiro, Inc.

U.S. BOARD OF COUNCILORS

(AS OF DECEMBER 2018)

THE U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL'S DISTINGUISHED Board of Councilors consists of leaders who are recognized for their lifelong contribution and commitment to strengthening U.S.-Japan relations. Their expertise and guidance directs the Council's mission and activities.

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Masaaki Tanaka, *Vice Chair*; Advisor, Japan Financial Services Agency

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Honorable Mazie Hirono, U.S. Senate, State of Hawaii

Masami Iijima, Representative Director & Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mitsui & Co., LTD.

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Elly Keinan, Country General Manager and President, IBM Japan, Ltd.

Masaharu Kohno, Special Representative of the Government of Japan for the Middle East and Europe; Special Envoy of the Government of Japan for the Middle East Peace

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Honorable John Thomas Schieffer, President & CEO of Envoy International, LLC; Former Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the U.S. to Japan

Honorable Mark Takano, U.S. House of Representatives, State of California

THE USJC COMMUNITY WAS saddened to lose Ambassador Yoshio Okawara, Honorary Member of the Board of Councilors, in 2018. He was the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the U.S. from 1980 to 1985. After retiring from the Government of Japan, he continued to support U.S.-Japan relations through the America-Japan Society (AJS), among other posts, and was AJS's longest serving president. Ambassador Okawara was an active supporter of USJC since its inception, and attended many meetings. We extend our deepest condolences to Ambassador Okawara's family.

Isao Takashiro, Chairman and CEO, Japan Airport Terminal Co., Ltd.

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Dr. Katsuhiko Shirai, Former President, Waseda University

His Excellency Shunji Yanai, President and Judge, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea; Former Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the U.S.

U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL (JAPAN)

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(AS OF DECEMBER 2018)

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(AS OF DECEMBER 2018)

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THE U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL (U.S.) and U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) are supported by the generous contributions of our corporate, individual and foundation donors who share the goal of strengthening U.S.-Japan relations through people-to-people connections. We gratefully acknowledge the following who generously supported the Council's many educational and networking programs including the Annual Conference, Regional Programs and Summits, the Emerging Leaders Program, the Leadership Institute and the Silicon Valley Japan Platform.

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Please refer to the 2018 TOMODACHI Annual Report or <http://usjapantomodachi.org/about-us/donors/> for a list of TOMODACHI Strategic Partners, Sponsors and Supporters.

The U.S.-Japan Council and its collaborating partners—the Japanese American Citizens League, the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California, the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i, and the United States-Japan Foundation—thank the nearly 300 generous donors that contributed to the Japan Flood Friendship Fund (JFFF). The Fund was established in July 2018 to support relief and recovery in Western Japan following extreme flooding in the region. 100% of the funds received were provided to four experienced Japanese nonprofit organizations that supported on-the-ground efforts.

Copies of the U.S.-Japan Council's audited financial statement and 990 Tax Return are available on our website at: www.usjapancouncil.org/operations

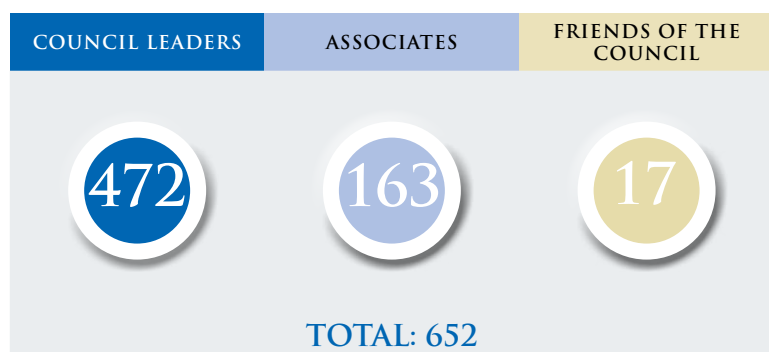
The Council would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Toshizo Watanabe, The Toshizo Watanabe Endowed Scholarship Fund and The Toshizo Watanabe Foundation for their generous contributions that enabled 38 students to study in colleges and universities in the U.S. and Japan in 2018-19. 2018 marked the third year to support Japanese students studying abroad in the U.S. and the inaugural year for American students studying abroad in Japan.

MEMBERSHIP

(AS OF DECEMBER 2018)

A list of all members, including Corporate Members, is available on our website,
www.usjapancouncil.org.

THE U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL COMPRISES members and supporters who are committed to the mission of the organization. Included in these ranks are top leaders from **major corporations, academia and research, politics and law**, as well as **entrepreneurs and thought leaders**. **Council Leaders** are leaders who actively contribute to shaping U.S.-Japan relations through the work of the Council. **Associates** are young professionals, ages 18 to 40, who are engaged in the Council's work. **Friends of the Council** support the Council's work and initiatives, and want to affiliate with and support the organization but for various reasons are not able to become actively engaged in the Council's activities. **Corporate Members** designate individuals from companies that financially contribute to the Council's general mission and programs on an annual basis at the level of \$10,000 or more.



MEMBERSHIP BREAKDOWN BY COUNTRY



"I want to commend [USJC leadership] for . . . not only the promotion of U.S.-Japan relations but also having a pipeline of developing young leaders."

—SECRETARY NORMAN MINETA,
PRESIDENT & CEO, MINETA & ASSOCIATES, LLC;
FORMER SECRETARY, U.S. DEPARTMENT
OF TRANSPORTATION; FORMER SECRETARY,
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

"USJC . . . enabled me to have unparalleled access to some of the most remarkable people and individuals in Japan today, which effectively enabled [us] to gain insights that most people would only dream of having firsthand."

—MS. ARIELLE MONTGOMERY,
SENIOR FINANCE ADVISOR,
SHELL OIL COMPANY

"Members of USJC are diverse across a number of ways: background, work experience, types of careers, ways of thinking, gender and even ethnic backgrounds . . . we have our differences but we always have this bedrock foundation of shared culture and mission for us to connect over, so we don't just accept diversity but we embrace it and celebrate it . . . In USJC I found the community that I'd always wanted. It's been really amazing to have this huge pool of people who are like me who I can look up to and live up to."

—MR. DAVID KENJI CHANG,
PORTFOLIO MANAGER,
TYVOR CAPITAL, LLC

MEMBERSHIP BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR

[BUSINESS]



[GOVERNMENT]



[NONPROFIT]





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