



U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL



EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION

2016 Annual Report

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Dear Friends,

On behalf of the U.S.-Japan Council (USJC), we want to thank our generous benefactors, dedicated Board members, engaged Council Leaders, Associates and Friends, and hard-working staff for your support in 2016. 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 2016 Annual Report.

When USJC opened its office in 2009, the common descriptor of U.S.-Japan relations was “Japan passing.” The Council was created on the belief that such words did not describe the state of our bilateral relations, and that it was a critical time to develop strong people-to-people relationships across all sectors and generations.

Over the past eight years, USJC has expanded the engagement of Japanese American leaders, building new partnerships with leaders from both countries. Through the TOMODACHI Initiative, USJC has worked with the U.S. and Japanese governments and many leading companies. TOMODACHI has provided hope and opportunity to thousands of young Japanese in the Tohoku region affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake. This investment in the next generation of leaders has extended beyond the immediate needs of rebuilding in Tohoku, and is now a long-term commitment across Japan and the United States.

USJC is also strengthening regional leadership and programming, building partnerships locally as well as nationally and internationally. This includes a new initiative, the Silicon Valley Japan Platform, which forges opportunities between Silicon Valley leaders and companies and their Japanese counterparts. The 2016 USJC Annual Conference brought over 700 leaders from both countries to Silicon Valley and highlighted the region’s dynamism and innovation, which holds promise for new dimensions in U.S.-Japan relations.

As 2016 ended, we witnessed Prime Minister Shinzo Abe stand with President Barack Obama at Pearl Harbor to honor those who lost their lives 75 years ago, at the start of World War II. This was preceded by President Obama’s historic visit to Hiroshima earlier in the year. Both events highlighted the importance of reconciliation and remembering the past while moving into the future. The two leaders’ friendship mirrored the bond between the United States and Japan, which is now stronger than ever.

In 2017, we will continue to focus on finding common ground, as we work toward the mutually beneficial goal of bringing our countries closer together. We thank you again for your generous support, and look forward to another dynamic year in strengthening U.S.-Japan relations.

Sincerely,

Irene Hirano Inouye
President

Dennis Teranishi
Chairman of the Board

ABOUT THE U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL



OUR MISSION

THE U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL is a Japanese American-led organization fully dedicated to strengthening ties between the United States and Japan in a global context. By promoting people-to-people relationships through its innovative programs in networking and leadership, the Council serves as a catalyst to inspire and engage Japanese and Americans of all generations. It develops the next generation of leaders committed to a vibrant and dynamic relationship.

OUR VISION

We envision a vibrant and dynamic U.S.-Japan relationship, strengthened by the increased diversity of leaders committed to the relationship, and increasing positive and productive cooperation that benefits both countries and the Asia-Pacific region.

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 an office in Tokyo, Japan.

“After one of the most horrific chapters in human history . . . the United States and Japan chose friendship and peace. Over the decades, our alliance has made both of our nations more successful . . . And today, the alliance between the United States and Japan — bound not only by shared interests, but also rooted in common values — stands as the cornerstone of peace and stability in the Asia Pacific and a force for progress around the globe. Our alliance has never been stronger.”

—PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA,
FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

“We are opening a new chapter to the reconciliation of Japan and the United States, and in our history of trust and friendship . . . Together, Japan and the United States will become a light for hope, for the people in the world.”

—HIS EXCELLENCY SHINZO ABE,
PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS:

2016 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

JAPANESE AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DELEGATION PROGRAM

ASIAN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DELEGATION PROGRAM

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP



2016 ANNUAL CONFERENCE



THE 2016 U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL Annual Conference, themed *Imagine. Innovate. Inspire. — The Silicon Valley Experience*, was held from November 14 to 15 in Silicon Valley, California. It brought together leaders from government, business, academia and nonprofit sectors to discuss issues that included technology collaboration in various areas from design to artificial intelligence, as well as women's leadership, fostering young leaders and celebrating diversity.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

The Conference featured three Keynote Speakers:

- Mr. Hiroaki Nakanishi, Chairman of the Board, Representative Executive Officer, Hitachi, Ltd.
- Mr. Peter Schwartz, Senior Vice President, Strategic Planning, Salesforce
- Mr. Brad Smith, President and Chief Legal Officer, Microsoft Corporation

Other prominent speakers included: Ambassador John V. Roos, former Ambassador of Japan to the United States; Ambassador Masaharu Kohno, Special Representative for the Middle East and Europe & Special Envoy for the Middle East Peace of Japan; Ms. Hiroko Kuniya, journalist; and Mr. Tom Kelley, Partner of IDEO.



Left: Ms. Tamlyn Tomita and Mr. Scott Fujita.
Right: Keynote Speaker Mr. Peter Schwartz.



Keynote Speaker Mr. Hiroaki Nakanishi,
Chairman of the Board, Representative
Executive Officer, Hitachi, Ltd.



"If we're going to succeed in promoting better ties between Japan and the United States, if we're going to succeed in helping to move the world forward, we need to make sure that technology can move forward without leaving people behind."

—MR. BRAD SMITH, PRESIDENT AND CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER, MICROSOFT CORPORATION

THE SILICON VALLEY EXPERIENCE

Mr. James Higa, Executive Director of Philanthropic Ventures Foundation and Mentor in Residence at Index Ventures, led a panel called "The Silicon Valley Experience," where panelists Ms. Rochelle King (Vice President of Data, Insights and Design, Spotify), Mr. Hans Peter Brøndmo (General Manager of Robotics, X) and Mr. Bryan Meehan (CEO, Blue Bottle Coffee) shared their perspectives on what Japan may learn from Silicon Valley's success.

(L-R) Mr. Higa, Ms. King,
Mr. Brøndmo, Mr. Meehan.





“It really is great to see Japan’s craftsmanship and sense of design that have become such valuable parts of our growth here in Silicon Valley. I’m excited to witness this kind of exchange that is taking place between our two great countries.”

—SECRETARY NORMAN Y. MINETA,
FORMER U.S. SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND TRANSPORTATION



GOING BEYOND EXPECTATIONS: JAPANESE AMERICAN LEADERS, MOVERS AND SHAKERS

This annual, dynamic panel discussion led by Ms. Jan Yanehiro, President, Jan Yanehiro, Inc., looked at Japanese American leadership from a variety of industries and backgrounds, featuring Mr. Scott Fujita, a former NFL Athlete who was adopted by a Japanese American family; Ms. Kathy Matsui, Vice-Chair of Goldman Sachs Japan Co., Ltd. who is a pioneer in the Womenomics movement; Ms. Tamlyn Tomita, actress and singer known for *Karate Kid 2*; and Mr. Kenshiro Uki, the millennial Vice President of Operations at Sun Noodle North America.



The 2016 TOMODACHI Emerging Leaders at the Annual Conference.

KEY FACTS

- **THIS WAS USJC’S FIRST Annual Conference in California.** There were approximately **700 attendees**, including about **250 USJC members**.
- **APPROXIMATELY 100 GENEROUS SPONSORS** contributed more than **\$1 million**.
- **MEDIA COVERAGE INCLUDED NHK, *The San Francisco Chronicle* and *The San Jose Mercury News*.**



A scene from the Building Bridges session.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS AND SPECIAL PROGRAMMING:

The many dimensions of the U.S.-Japan relationship were reflected in the Conference’s approximately twenty panel discussions, programs, and networking & information sessions. These included:

- U.S.-Japan Artificial Intelligence Innovation
- Silicon Valley Success Stories in Japan
- Building Bridges – Not Barriers
- *Paper Lanterns* Documentary Screening & Discussion



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 2016 Japanese American Leadership Delegation traveled to Japan from March 5 to 12. They visited Kobe and spoke at a symposium about diversity and inclusion that was co-sponsored with the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership. They then traveled to Tokyo to meet with senior leaders in the business and government sectors, including Prime Minister Shinzo Abe.

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

THE 2016 JALD DELEGATES

The 2016 JALD was a diverse group, including many delegates of mixed heritage, from areas that range from Seattle to Guam to Amherst, Massachusetts. All delegates shared an interest in fostering stronger relations between the United States and Japan and a deep curiosity about the progress made by Japan following the launch of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's reforms.

"As I got to know the incredibly talented and accomplished members of the delegation, for the first time, I met folks who lived the same experience [as me]. It is difficult to find words that can describe how it felt to make this personal discovery with my remarkable new friends, while experiencing the culture of my birthplace. It was surreal."

—MR. BRUCE HOLLYWOOD



"We took great pride that our delegation reflected the evolving and diverse faces of our Japanese American heritage, racially, and with regard to generational roots . . . What unified and inspired each of us was the desire to understand more about our shared Japanese cultural roots and the manner in which we could further contribute to the enhancement of relations between the United States and Japan."

—JUDGE KIYO MATSUMOTO

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.

In 2016, six elected state officials from diverse backgrounds and regions were selected. From December 2 to 10, 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

Kyoto 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 2016 AALD DELEGATES:

- Have roots in China, India, the Philippines, South Korea and Taiwan
- Were all born outside of the United States
- Are state representatives from Connecticut, Hawaii, Maryland, Texas, Virginia and Washington State



“I believe that the Japanese people’s sense of quiet optimism and steady focus on moving forward with diligence and purpose will help to continue the nation’s progress for the better. I am now more interested in learning about Japan and our bilateral issues, and am eager to contribute in any way that I can to further improve our relationships.”

—DELEGATE MARK KEAM

“As an Asian American, I am often judged, and there is an underlying expectation to represent all Asians equally. This experience helped me mature at a new level, one that has me asking questions that dig a little deeper into understanding the cultures and needs of each Asian American community.”

—REPRESENTATIVE MIA SU-LING GREGERSON

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP



Left: Ms. Hiroko Kuniya moderated the session “Women’s Advancing Leadership in the Workplace and the World.” Center: Japanese American women in politics: (L-R) Ms. Mariko Yamada, Ms. Yoriko Kishimoto, Ms. Margaret Abe-Koga, Ms. Karyl Matsumoto, Ms. Aimee Sueko Eng. Right: First Lady of Hawaii Dawn Amano Ige speaks to students about leadership as part of RWL.



Ms. Kuraishi, Co-founder and President of GlobalGiving, discusses her experience.

IN 2016, 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 NETWORKING

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 26 networking events in twelve cities ranging from Boston to Honolulu, providing the platform for 396 community leaders to discuss Japan’s Womenomics agenda and women in leadership. Participants developed ideas on how Americans can support Prime Minister Abe’s agenda locally and internationally.



Ms. Nobuko Sasae (first row, second from left), conference interpreter and wife of Ambassador Kenichiro Sasae, was among the RWL participants in Washington, DC.

PANEL DISCUSSIONS AT THE 2016 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

During the 2016 Annual Conference, breakout sessions examined women’s leadership from two different angles. In “Women’s Advancing Leadership in the Workplace and the World,” corporate leaders discussed innovative ideas on advancing women’s impact in the workplace. In “New Paths for Nikkei Women: Elective Politics,” Japanese American women in a variety of elected offices, from school boards to state governments, shared how they overcame cultural norms and gender stereotypes to engage in politics.

JAPANESE WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP INITIATIVE AND WORLD ASSEMBLY FOR WOMEN

In October, Irene Hirano Inouye (along with Council Leaders Mari Kuraishi and Yumi Kuwana) spoke at the Japanese Women’s Leadership Initiative (JWLI) Summit, which fosters women leaders interested in nonprofit management. JWLI was founded by USJC Board Member Atsuko Fish and is supported by USJC. In December, at the invitation of Prime Minister Abe, Irene Hirano Inouye spoke at the World Assembly for Women in Tokyo, where she was part of a high-level round table themed “Work-Life Management 2.0.”



TMWLP participants meet with women leaders in Washington, DC.

TOMODACHI PROGRAMS

As part of the 2015-16 TOMODACHI MetLife Women’s Leadership Program (TMWLP), Japanese university students and mid-career professional women traveled to Washington, DC and New York City to meet with several leaders, including members of Congress, heads of NPOs and USJC members. As part of the TOMODACHI High School Women Career Mentoring Program in Fukushima, which is supported by Lawson and FamilyMart Co., Ltd., about 120 high school girls from Fukushima participated in dance workshops, met exchange students and learned from mentors with global careers.

EDUCATIONAL & NETWORKING PROGRAMS:

PRIME MINISTER ABE'S VISIT TO PEARL HARBOR

OCEAN SYMPOSIUM

SILICON VALLEY JAPAN PLATFORM

WATANABE SCHOLARSHIP

BUSINESS AND LEGISLATIVE NETWORKING

REGIONAL PROGRAMS

GOVERNORS' CIRCLE



PRIME MINISTER ABE'S VISIT TO PEARL HARBOR



Prime Minister Abe stands with President Obama at Pearl Harbor.



Irene Hirano Inouye with Herbert Yanamura, a Japanese American veteran of the Military Intelligence Service.

"It is my wish that our Japanese children, and President Obama, your American children, and indeed their children and grandchildren, and people all around the world, will continue to remember Pearl Harbor as the symbol of reconciliation."

—PRIME MINISTER SHINZO ABE AT PEARL HARBOR

IN DECEMBER, PRIME MINISTER SHINZO ABE made an unprecedented visit to Pearl Harbor with President Obama. Both leaders reflected on the impact of the start of World War II. Their remarks were somber and emotional, and reflected the importance of remembering history, committing to learn from it and using those lessons to build a better future.

Many USJC members and supporters were invited to join events marking the Prime Minister's visit, including USJC President Irene Hirano Inouye, Senator Mazie Hirono, Congresswoman Colleen Hanabusa, Governor George Ariyoshi, Board Chairman Dennis Teranishi and Board Member Wally Tsuha.

USJC also joined other Japanese American organizations in welcoming the Prime Minister, Foreign Minister Fumio Kishida and Defense Minister Tomomi Inada at a reception at the Japanese consulate. Prime Minister Abe thanked the Japanese American community in Hawaii for their support and friendship over the years, and recognized the service of Japanese American veterans in the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd RCT.

The Prime Minister's visit was preceded by President Obama's historic visit to Hiroshima in May. These two leaders' actions made 2016 a milestone year for U.S.-Japan relations.

OCEAN SYMPOSIUM



Governor and Mrs. Ige welcome guests to their residence.

IN AUGUST, USJC and Sailors for the Sea Japan held the Japan-U.S. International Symposium for Ocean Conservation in Hawaii. More than a dozen prominent leaders from both sides of the Pacific, including Akie Abe, the First Lady of Japan, gathered in Honolulu to discuss ocean conservation, the sustainable management of fisheries and more. The event was attended by close to 300 individuals, including leaders from government, business and the civil sector.

Women from Japan and the United States, represented by Mrs. Abe and Irene Hirano Inouye, discussed solutions to protect the ocean. They approached ocean conservation from multiple angles, including policy, education, science and grassroots efforts to promote environmentalism. Speakers included Julie Packard (Executive Director, Monterey Bay Aquarium), Minako Iue (President, Sailors for the Sea Japan), and a panel of students, including a TOMODACHI alumnus. Aya Higa, Board Member of Hands On Tokyo, emceed the event.

Following the Symposium, Governor David Ige and Mrs. Dawn Amano Ige hosted a reception at their residence for 150 leaders of Hawaii and the U.S.-Japan community. Paul Yonamine, Chair of the Board of Councilors, and his wife Lynda hosted a private reception the evening before at their Hawaii residence for the delegation from Japan.

Mrs. Abe addresses the audience.





SILICON VALLEY JAPAN PLATFORM



A scene from the Silicon Valley Demo Session, in which local entrepreneurs and businesses showcased their products and services.



THE SILICON VALLEY JAPAN PLATFORM (SVJP) is an initiative of USJC and the Rebuild Japan Initiative Foundation (RJIF). SVJP emerged out of the success of the Governors' Meeting in Silicon Valley in July 2014 (organized as part of the Governors' Circle) as well as Prime Minister Abe's visit to Silicon Valley in April 2015. SVJP aims to connect the technological dynamism of Silicon Valley with the current and future needs of economic revitalization in Japan. SVJP is led by its two co-chairs, Dr. Daniel Okimoto, Professor Emeritus Department of Political Science, Stanford University (Member and former Chair of the USJC Board of Councilors) and Mr. James Kondo, President, Rebuild Japan Initiative Foundation (USJC Council Leader).

"It is absolutely essential for Japan and Silicon Valley to connect and broaden and deepen the synergies between Silicon Valley and Japan."

—DR. DANIEL OKIMOTO,
CO-CHAIR, SILICON VALLEY
JAPAN PLATFORM; PROFESSOR
EMERITUS, STANFORD
UNIVERSITY

Activities in 2016 included *benkyokais*, workshops and meetings with corporate leaders. SVJP was also instrumental in organizing panel discussions and workshops during the 2016 USJC Annual Conference, including "The Silicon Valley Experience," "U.S.-Japan Artificial Intelligence Innovation" and "Silicon Valley Demo Session."

WATANABE SCHOLARSHIP



THE TOSHIZO WATANABE STUDY Abroad Scholarship Program provides financial assistance to undergraduate and graduate students for a semester or year-long study abroad program 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.

In the 2016-17 year, scholarships were awarded to ten Japanese undergraduate students studying in the United States. This inaugural cohort of Watanabe Scholars represents universities in Tokyo, Chiba and Miyagi prefectures. They attend public and private institutions in California, New York, Virginia, Georgia and Pennsylvania through exchange partnerships with their schools in Japan. There was a high level of interest for this unique scholarship this first year, making the selection competitive. The Council looks forward to supporting many more students in the future through this lasting gift from Mr. Watanabe.



Mr. Watanabe (center) received appreciation from the U.S. State Department for his generous contributions to future leaders in U.S.-Japan relations. He is pictured here with (L-R) Aaron Forsberg, Economic Unit Chief, Office of Japan Affairs, Bureau of East Asian & Pacific Affairs; Margot Carrington, Minister-Counselor for Public Affairs at the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo; Irene Hirano Inouye and Dennis Teranishi.

BUSINESS AND LEGISLATIVE NETWORKING



Mr. Rhodin discusses IBM Watson's innovations in cognitive business.



Adm. Harris discusses security challenges in the Pacific.



Ms. Kuniya (right) chats with students attending BAB.

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 2016. BAB was held four times over the course of the year, each welcoming a speaker for their perspectives on U.S.-Japan relations: Mr. Michael D. Rhodin, Senior Vice President of Watson Business Development (February); Dr. Gerald Curtis, Burgess Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Columbia University (May); Admiral Harry B. Harris, Jr., Commander, U.S. Pacific Command (July); and journalist Ms. Hiroko Kuniya (October).



Ms. Debra Nakatomi speaks at the Business Networking Initiative meeting in Silicon Valley.

BUSINESS NETWORKING INITIATIVE

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE Annual Conference in Silicon Valley, USJC hosted in November the Japanese and Japanese American Business Networking Initiative meeting. USJC Board Members, Council Leaders and other leaders, including representatives of Japanese Chambers of Commerce, discussed how to collaborate across regions to strengthen U.S.-Japan relations through business.

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 June, USJC welcomed Senator Mazie Hirono (D-HI) and Congressman Mark Takano (D-CA-41) for a discussion titled "Asian Americans in U.S. Politics." Senator Hirono and Congressman Takano talked about their experience in Congress, as well as U.S.-Japan relations and other issues of national interest. Representative Kriselda Valderrama, Member of the Maryland House of Delegates, also addressed the audience as an alumna of the 2015 AALD program. In May, USJC was also one of the cooperating organizations for a reception that was held on Capitol Hill in honor of ten Japanese Diet members who were visiting Washington.



Senator Hirono (center) converses with guests.

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. 2016 events included:



BOSTON

In March, USJC hosted a fifth anniversary commemoration for Tohoku, in cooperation with the Berklee College of Music, the Consulate General of Japan in Boston, and the Fish Family Foundation (where Member of the USJC Board of Directors Atsuko Fish serves as a Trustee). Presentations, including a speech by Mayor of Ofunato Kimiaki Toda, addressed various ways in which U.S.-Japan cooperation has helped Tohoku's recovery. Berklee students from Tohoku who are currently studying on the TOMODACHI Suntory Music Scholarship Fund also performed for the audience.

HAWAII

In July, USJC hosted a panel discussion centered on multi-generational companies. The panelists were USJC members who are second- and third-generation leaders of food businesses: Russell Hata (Y. Hata Ltd.), Winston Taira (King's Hawaiian) and Kenshiro Uki (Sun Noodle) (pictured third from right, third from left and second from left, respectively). The discussion focused on the dynamics of family-owned businesses and generational management, including succession planning, management philosophies, family relationships within a business and growth strategies.



HOUSTON

In April, USJC members in Houston took part in the city's annual Japan Festival, which brought together 25,000 visitors overall. Board Member Donna Cole (pictured right) and Associate Kuriko Hasegawa Wong (second from left) were among those who organized and volunteered at a USJC booth, teaching visitors how to make origami kabuto helmets and handing out USJC bookmarks with their names in Japanese.



NEW YORK

In January, USJC welcomed members and supporters to a New Year reception at the Nippon Club. The event featured a presentation by Paul Yonamine, who had just been appointed as the new Chair of the Board of Councilors. He discussed his upbringing in Hawaii, encouraging young Japanese Americans to explore their family roots. He also talked about new ventures at IBM Japan, which he leads as the Country General Manager and President.

REGIONAL PROGRAMS

TOKYO

In July, USJC held a summer member event with current and prospective members. The event featured Council Leader Eriko Talley, Head of HR, APAC at Facebook (pictured in the center), as the speaker, along with Council Leader Janelle Sasaki (left) and Associate Yuta Hasumi (right). Ms. Talley discussed her career and provided advice for the next generation of leaders, encouraging them to take risks fearlessly, learn from mistakes and make the most of all opportunities.



WASHINGTON, DC

In March, USJC and the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF) USA co-hosted “The United States and Japan: Reassessing 3-11,” a full-day discussion on the disaster and the joint response to it. The conference included panel discussions with American and Japanese experts and officials, most of whom were directly involved in the response to 3-11. Speakers included Ambassador John V. Roos; USJC Executive Vice President & COO Suzanne Basalla, who was Senior Advisor to Ambassador Roos at the time (pictured second from left); and Amya Miller, special advisor to the City of Rikuzentakata (pictured in the center), who expressed her appreciation for the event and read a letter from Mayor Futoshi Toba of Rikuzentakata. *(Photo by Joy Asico)*

GOVERNORS' CIRCLE



SINCE 2010, USJC HAS led the Governors' Circle initiative to promote bilateral economic collaboration at the state-prefecture level.

In 2016, under the leadership of Council Leader Hal Amano, representatives from approximately 25 companies in Hiroshima, Okayama, Shizuoka, Fukuoka and Oita participated in the USJC Annual Conference in Silicon Valley.

In a breakout session called “Hidden Gems Showcase,” they shared their technologies and services that have high potential for growth in collaboration with Silicon Valley innovators or investors. These ranged from power technologies, mobile technologies, IoT applications, gaming and 3D applications to FinTech technologies. They made requests for investment or partners in Silicon Valley, offered general technology updates, or raised the importance of collaboration between key U.S. and Japanese leaders to create standards in new technologies. The companies also held trade show presentations, giving conference attendees opportunities to learn about each of the businesses.

Representatives of the five prefectures also spoke about the charms and advantages of their regions, and presented business opportunities reflecting the participating companies. They also highlighted their manufacturing strengths, attractions for visitors and residents, and unique food products.

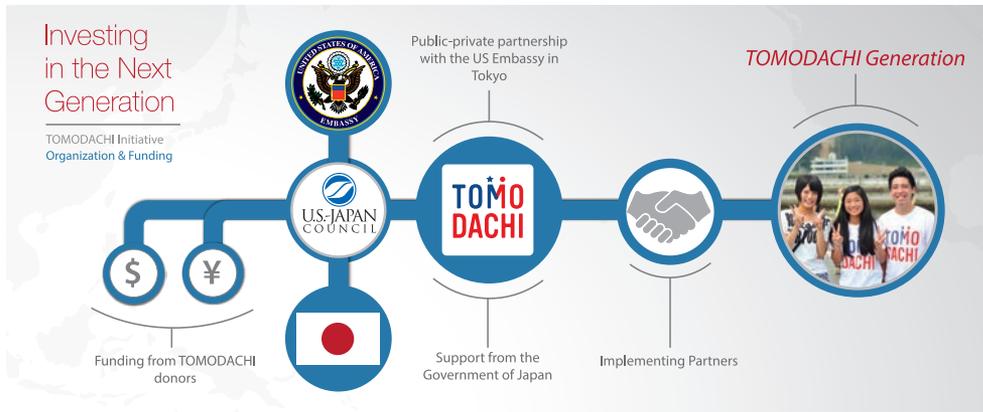
TOMODACHI INITIATIVE:

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.

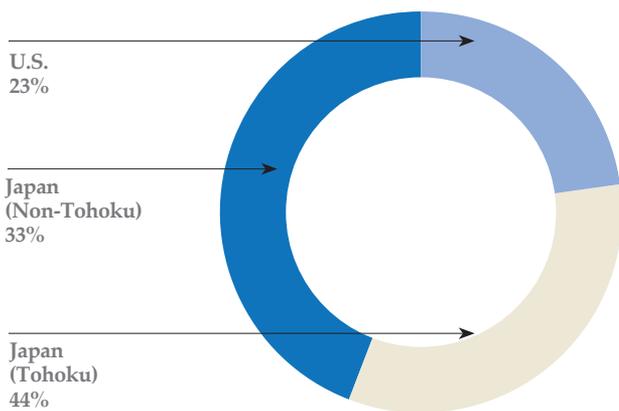
TOMODACHI seeks to foster young American and Japanese leaders who are committed to and engaged

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.

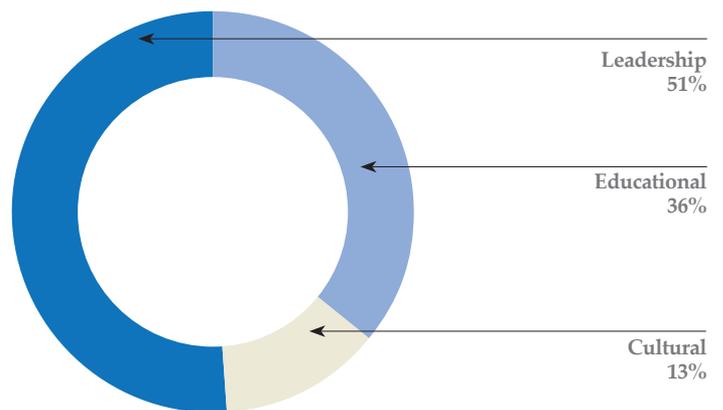
In 2012, the U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) was created to support the administration of TOMODACHI. The U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) is a registered Public Interest Corporation (*koeki zaidan hojin*) and maintains an office in Tokyo, Japan.

1,081 INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATED IN 47 PROGRAMS

2016 PARTICIPANTS BY HOMETOWN



2016 PARTICIPANTS BY PROGRAM TYPE



TOMODACHI PROGRAMS



U.S. and Japanese university students discussed social problems during the Building the TOMODACHI Generation Program in February. The teams that presented the strongest solutions traveled to Tohoku in the summer (pictured). The program is a partnership between The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars and the U.S.-Japan Research Institute.

“I have learned so many things, including civil society, teamwork skills, and skills needed in global fields. But most of all, this program made me realize that we each have different strengths, and that if we combine them together, we can bring changes to create a sustainable and resilient environment.”

—MS. YUMEKO INOUE,
TOMODACHI ALUMNA



In April, five TOMODACHI alumni visited Kumamoto to support those affected by the earthquakes that struck the prefecture earlier that month. Most of these alumni were in Tohoku during the Great East Japan Earthquake, and had participated in the TOMODACHI Alumni Disaster Resilience Training Program. They visited a temporary shelter, offered support and exchanged stories about their experience.



In October, USJC sponsored an evening celebrating ten years of UNIQLO in the United States. Ms. Yo Douglas (pictured on the left with Ms. Nicole Beach of UNIQLO and Ms. Lynn Yaegar of *Vogue* magazine) and Mr. Ryohei Kawanishi shared how their careers have progressed since they took part in the TOMODACHI-UNIQLO Fellowship.



TOMODACHI PROGRAMS



At the 2016 USJC Annual Conference, TOMODACHI alumni highlighted the ways they overcame challenges, including learning from business failures, building sustainable communities after losing their homes, and finding solace in storytelling after losing family members.



From August to September, the TOMODACHI Microsoft iLEAP Social Innovation and Leadership Program hosted 25 Japanese scholars and young professionals who traveled to Seattle and spent a month in leadership training. Microsoft Japan, Co., Ltd. is a new TOMODACHI Strategic Partner, and iLEAP is led by Council Leader Britt Yamamoto.



The TOMODACHI Daiwa House Student Leadership Conference, held in Dallas (April) and Washington, DC (October), enabled Japanese and American university students to discuss U.S.-Japan relations.

“Many places in the U.S. are accessible, and equal opportunities are guaranteed for people with disabilities in a variety of situations. However. . . All of these rights were obtained by the long struggle of people with disabilities. Disability leaders of the next generation must know about the history of disability rights, and continue the disability movement.”

—MS. TOSHIKO KUDO,
TOMODACHI ALUMNA



From July to December, three women with disabilities participated in the TOMODACHI Disability Leadership Program in America. The program, supported by Northrop Grumman and implemented by the Institute for Community Inclusion at UMass Boston, engaged the trainees in a spectrum of activities, including internships with disability-focused organizations or government entities.

THREE KEY SUSTAINING PARTNERS

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

THESE PROGRAMS WOULD NOT be possible without the generous support of corporations from the United States and Japan. More information about these 47 programs in 2016 and their donors are published in a separate TOMODACHI report. Please see www.tomodachi.org for more information.

TOMODACHI PROGRAMS

In May, the TOMODACHI Initiative was recognized by Japan Day (a large-scale Japan festival) in New York for their support to the Tohoku region since the Great East Japan Earthquake. Vice Chair of USJC Board of Directors Gary Moriwaki (pictured in the center with USJC New York Regional Chair Sakura Yagi and Council Leader Fred Katayama) accepted the award on behalf of USJC.



As part of the 2015-16 TOMODACHI Inouye Scholars program, which is part of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' KAKEHASHI Project, a group of undergraduate students and chaperones from the College of Hawaiian Language at the University of Hawaii at Hilo spent nine days in Japan in March. The students traveled to Tokyo and Hokkaido, exploring the Ainu language and culture.



In April, four high school students visited Mie, Japan to represent the United States at the Junior 7 Summit, a students' version of the G7 summit. One of the students was Omar Saracevic (pictured second from left with Ambassador Caroline Kennedy, the other U.S. delegates and USJC intern Taylor Gentry), an alumnus of the TOMODACHI Toshiba Science & Technology Leadership Academy.



In March, the TOMODACHI Initiative hosted a reception to commemorate the fifth year since the Great East Japan Earthquake. The event included a signing ceremony for a Memorandum of Cooperation between the Government of Japan and the U.S.-Japan Council in support of TOMODACHI. TOMODACHI alumni from Tohoku, representatives from the Government of Japan and the U.S. Embassy, and Irene Hirano Inouye also participated in a roundtable discussion.

"I will continue to keep in touch with [my host] family . . . and continue this lifelong relationship that has been created as a result of this Summit."

—MR. OMAR SARACEVIC,
TOMODACHI ALUMNUS

"This faith that we can overcome anything has been inspired by the TOMODACHI Initiative and its countless supporters. The Initiative emphasizes hard work, empathy and the importance of making a difference through volunteerism and selfless acts of kindness. TOMODACHI has shown us the amazing things we can accomplish if we work together."

—MR. FUMIYA OTANI,
TOMODACHI ALUMNUS



In August, eight students participating in the TOMODACHI Suntory Fukushima Mirai Music Program traveled to New York and took part in a workshop with the New York Philharmonic. The students, who had been affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake, performed "Furusato" (which means "hometown").

TOMODACHI EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM



“USJC provided us with the best available platform, tools and resources to effectively advance strong U.S.-Japan relations. As a proud graduate of the seventh TOMODACHI ELP, my next goal is to interact more with the USJC community as an Associate and to find ways to add value to the community.”

—2016 EMERGING LEADER RUSSELL SAITO

The 2016 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 seventh year, the 2016 program brought 12 Japanese American young professionals to Silicon Valley for the 2016 U.S.-Japan Council Annual Conference. The Emerging Leaders participated in a leadership orientation program, networked with high-level leaders and participated in the Annual Members Meeting.

U40 SUMMIT

IN AUGUST, ELP ALUMNI hosted the inaugural USJC U40 Summit in Los Angeles. Over 50 leaders from the U.S.-Japan community, ages 40 and under, gathered for interactive programming focused on fostering leadership, engagement and action in U.S.-Japan relations and the Japanese American community.

ELP alumni organized, planned and raised funds for the Summit, which was themed “Embracing Risk,” with the aim to challenge participants and align the Summit with the USJC Annual Conference in Silicon Valley. USJC Associates, alumni of select TOMODACHI programs and other young professionals from both countries joined them for dynamic discussions on how to contribute to their community, tours of businesses operated by Japanese American owners (Hawaiian Host and Kings Hawaiian), and a reception at Loyola Marymount University.

“We really think that the friendships forged here today will enable people to have authentic, clear conversations [on how to have] more impact in U.S.-Japan relations.”

—SUMMIT CO-CHAIR AND 2011 ELP ALUMNA KEI ASHIZAWA



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U.S. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(AS OF DECEMBER 2016)

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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Ms. Irene Hirano Inouye, Ms. Phyllis Campbell and Mr. Dennis Teranishi with Consul General Jun Yamada, at his residence in San Francisco.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK the Members of the Board of Directors who completed their terms in December 2016: Mr. Henry Ota, Ms. Jan Yanehiro and Mr. Ernie Higa. Mr. Higa will remain Chair of the USJC (Japan) Board of Directors.



Mr. Gary Moriwaki, Mr. Yosuke Honjo and Ms. Tomoko Kizawa.



Board members at the 2016 Annual Conference.

U.S. BOARD OF COUNCILORS

(AS OF DECEMBER 2016)

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



Mr. Masaaki Tanaka (foreground) with Ms. Kathy Matsui and Mr. Scott Sato.

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THE USJC COMMUNITY WAS saddened to lose two members of the Board of Councilors in 2016. Dr. Paul Terasaki, Chairman, Terasaki Foundation, was one of USJC's co-founders and earliest benefactors, and continued to give the Council generous support over the years. In 2014, USJC presented him with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his contributions to U.S.-Japan relations. U.S. Representative Mark Takai of Hawaii was very active in the USJC community, and attended events such as our 2014 Annual Conference in Honolulu and the 2015 Business Networking Initiative in Washington, DC. We will miss these two leaders, and extend our deepest condolences to their families.

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U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL (JAPAN)

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(AS OF DECEMBER 2016)

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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 an office in Tokyo, Japan.

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The Council would like to thank Mr. Toshizo Watanabe and The Toshizo Watanabe Foundation for his generous gift, which allows for a greater number of scholarships in 2017. The gift also enables the 2016-17 Watanabe Scholars to meet one another and further expand their network in 2017, including at the USJC Annual Conference.

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(AS OF DECEMBER 2016)

A full listing of Council Leaders, Associates, Friends of the Council and Corporate Members are 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** are designated 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.



"Rarely do I find an organization that achieves true cross-sector and cross-generational dialogues like USJC has done today."

—MR. MASAOKI TANAKA,
SENIOR GLOBAL ADVISOR,
PWC INTERNATIONAL

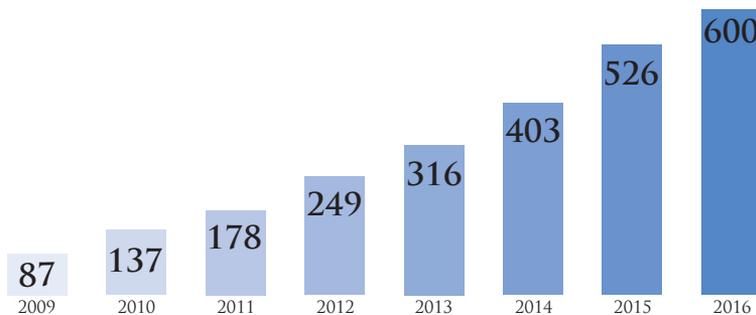
"As an educator who specializes in Multicultural Education, I knew in my head that it is important for children to identify with people they admire who look like them. I never understood this in my heart until I attended the USJC Annual Conference and heard Admiral Harry Harris tell his story. When I learned that he was born in Japan to a Japanese mother and an American father in the U.S. Navy, I thought to myself 'Just like me!' . . . At that time, I was the principal of an elementary school with a number of students who are biracial and bicultural. I realized that they, too, need to hear the stories of people who they can look to and say 'Just like me!' This is why I started to share my story with them. Being part of USJC has given me many things, most significantly a seat at the table surrounded by role models and people who share a similar vision for the relationship between the U.S. and Japan. It has also inspired me to give back and work towards a future where everyone has a seat at the table."

—MS. MARION FRIEBUS-FLAMAN,
DIRECTOR OF LANGUAGE
ACQUISITION SERVICES, NAPERVILLE
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[BUSINESS]

350

[GOVERNMENT]

80

[EDUCATION]

67

[NONPROFIT]

57

[LAW]

46



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