



U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL



EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION

2017 Annual Report

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Dear Friends,

On behalf of the U.S.-Japan Council (USJC), we want to thank our generous donors, dedicated Board members, and engaged Council Leaders, Associates and Friends for your strong support in 2017. 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 2017 Annual Report.

Regional collaboration was a prominent feature of this past year. In May, USJC co-hosted the inaugural Japan-Hawaii Economic Summit in Kona. More than 200 leaders—including governors, vice governors and other representatives of seven Japanese prefectures—gathered on the Big Island to examine different aspects of Japan-Hawaii relations, such as energy, tourism, education and food.

The Silicon Valley Japan Platform (SVJP) remains strong. Building on the momentum of the 2016 Annual Conference in Silicon Valley, SVJP has continued to connect entrepreneurs, startups and investors across the Pacific. This success has enabled USJC to also look into other regions focused on technology, like Kendall Square in Boston and the Shibuya “Bit Valley” in Tokyo.

The 2017 Annual Conference, held in November in Washington, DC, brought together leaders from throughout the United States and Japan. Reflecting upon the changes in the year since the presidential elections, we discussed geopolitical issues and the importance of regional ties, and celebrated diverse leaders such as women on corporate boards and Japanese American millennials.

We also strengthened the regional structure of our membership. Members in many states held Japan-related events with a regional focus, bringing together American and Japanese community leaders. The TOMODACHI Initiative, while continuing its robust programs that inspire young leaders, has also created an Alumni Regional Framework, empowering select TOMODACHI alumni to mentor and guide others.

We express our sincere appreciation to retiring Chairman of the Board Dennis Teranishi, who served from 2015 through the end of 2017. It is thanks to his strong leadership that we were able to achieve so much.

In 2018, we will continue to focus on regional relations with the Japan-Texas Economic Summit, and expand our foundation in Japan with the Annual Conference in Tokyo. USJC has created a new community—creating deep, lasting connections among current and future leaders from varied sectors, regions and backgrounds in the United States and Japan—and offers life-changing experiences for the next generation of leaders. 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

Phyllis Campbell
Chair 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 offices in Tokyo, Japan.

“Looking back over the half-century history of the Japan-U.S. alliance, we have never seen two leaders of Japan and the United States forging such a close relationship and strong bond in just one year . . . but we are not the only ones who have supported this invaluable friendship between Japan and the United States . . . I would like to acknowledge tremendous efforts by leaders from various fields, including political, business and cultural leaders.”

—HIS EXCELLENCY SHINZO ABE,
PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN

“TOMODACHI has become the leading institution for cementing people to people bonds between our two countries . . . Your time, your energy and your support are changing lives and strengthening the very foundation of U.S.-Japan relations.”

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

SIGNATURE PROGRAMS:

2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

JAPANESE AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DELEGATION PROGRAM

ASIAN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DELEGATION PROGRAM

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP



2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE



THE 2017 U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL Annual Conference, themed *Unity in Diversity: Shaping the Future Together*, was held from November 13 to 14 in Washington, DC. Held in the nation's capital a year after the presidential election, the conference brought together leaders from government, business, academia and nonprofit sectors to examine changes in the administration and ways to continue to strengthen U.S.-Japan relations. Participants discussed how to further empower the many leaders in the U.S.-Japan arena, including Japanese Americans and other Asian Americans, millennials and women; and ways to strengthen economic ties between the two countries.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

The Conference featured six Keynote Speakers:

- Mr. Wes Bush, Chairman, CEO and President, Northrop Grumman Corporation
- Secretary Elaine L. Chao, U.S. Secretary of Transportation
- Mr. Nobuchika Mori, Commissioner, Financial Services Agency, Government of Japan
- Secretary Wilbur L. Ross, Jr., U.S. Secretary of Commerce
- Mr. Kazuhiko Toyama, Managing Partner, Industrial Growth Platform Inc.
- Mr. Masayoshi Yoshino, Minister for Reconstruction, Government of Japan

Other prominent speakers included:

Mr. Charles F. Bolden, Jr., 12th NASA Administrator; Dr. Michael J. Green, Senior Vice President for Asia & Japan Chair, Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS); Mr. Tamotsu Hiroyoshi, President, Johnson & Johnson K.K. and Medical Company; Dr. Sachiko Kuno, Founder and Chair, Halcyon; Ms. Kathy Matsui, Vice-Chair, Goldman Sachs Japan Co., Ltd.; Rep. Keiko Orrall, State Representative, Massachusetts Legislature; Ambassador John V. Roos, Former U.S. Ambassador to Japan; and Mr. Paul Yonamine, Chairman, GCA Corporation.

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 Ms. Sarah LaFleur, CEO of MM.LaFleur, a fashion e-tailer for busy professional women; Dr. Judy Sakaki, the first Japanese American woman president of a four-year university (Sonoma State University); Mr. Adam Yamaguchi, the world-traveling Executive Producer and Correspondent of CBS News; and Mr. Roy Yamaguchi (no relation to Adam), Chef and Restaurateur of Roy's Restaurants.

Left: Japanese American stars Sarah LaFleur (left) and Adam Yamaguchi.

Center: The panel with Japanese American millennials.

Right: Keynote Speaker Minister Yoshino.



Keynote Speaker Secretary Chao.

"[We now have] new, disruptive technologies that have the potential to change the way we travel and connect with one another ... Prime Minister Abe has emphasized innovation and creativity. Thank you all so much for what you are doing to build bridges of understanding between East and West."

—SECRETARY ELAINE L. CHAO,
U.S. SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION



Left: (L-R) Chair of the USJC Board of Councilors Paul Yonamine; USJC President Irene Hirano Inouye; Secretary Ross; Commissioner Mori; Mr. Masami Iijima, Member of the USJC Board of Councilors and Representative Director & Chairman of the Board of Directors, Mitsui & Co., LTD.
 Right: ELP Alumni welcome the 2017 TOMODACHI Emerging Leaders at the Annual Conference.

“I usually suggest [U.S.] governors to go and visit Japan, meet the people and see things with their own eyes. Because I think everything is local and individual when it comes to whether you feel like doing something together.”

—AMBASSADOR KENICHIRO SASAE,
 AMBASSADOR OF JAPAN TO THE UNITED STATES

REGIONAL RELATIONS BEYOND WASHINGTON & TOKYO

Recognizing the many ways U.S.-Japan relations can be strengthened through local ties, this panel discussed the important role states, prefectures, corporations and communities have in fostering regional partnerships. Mr. Matthew Goodman, William E. Simon Chair in Political Economy & Senior Adviser for Asian Economics at CSIS, led the panel, which featured Ambassador Kenichiro Sasae (Ambassador of Japan to the United States), Ambassador Tom Schieffer (Former U.S. Ambassador to Japan and CEO of Envoy International) and Ms. Haruno Yoshida (President & Representative Director, BT Japan Corporation and Vice Chair of the Board of Councillors, Keidanren).



Ambassador Sasae (left) and Ambassador Schieffer.



Ms. Yoshida laughs during the discussion.

KEY FACTS

- **THIS WAS USJC’S EIGHTH Annual Conference**, and the fourth to be held in Washington, DC.
- **THERE WERE MORE THAN 700 ATTENDEES**, including over 250 USJC members.
- **APPROXIMATELY 100 GENEROUS SPONSORS** contributed nearly **\$1.5 million**.
- **MEDIA COVERAGE INCLUDED**, *Asahi Shimbun*, *Forbes*, *NHK*, *Politico* and *Reuters Japan*.

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:

- Answering the Call to Public Service
- Policy Experts Forum on U.S.-Japan Current Affairs
- Diversity in Leadership: The Journey of Asian American State Legislators
- Bright Future: Millennial Leaders & the Cultural Seeds of Their Success



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 2017 Japanese American Leadership Delegation traveled to Kanazawa and Tokyo in March. In Kanazawa, they spoke at a symposium about culture and community engagement that was co-sponsored with the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership. In Tokyo, they met 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 close-up perspective that this trip has offered is truly rare and unparalleled. This opportunity has been an honor, a privilege and an adventure never to be forgotten. The JALD trip . . . demonstrated its ability to forge strong alliances between people that promote positive change, exchange of ideas, mutual respect and a more genuine understanding of each country’s values.”

—JUDGE SAWAKO GARDNER

“There were so many rewarding experiences that allowed me to gain a new personal perspective regarding my responsibility to work to strengthen U.S.-Japan relations. I now feel a strong sense of belonging to both countries. The many people-to-people interactions that occurred on this JALD trip are a testament to the value of the program.”

—MR. GARY YAMASHITA

THE 2017 JALD DELEGATES

The 2017 JALD was a diverse group, with delegates from 10 states across America, from Hawaii to New Hampshire, and multigenerational, from Shin-Issei to Gosei. They work in businesses, city government, the judicial system and nonprofit organizations that are focused on social, economic, historical and cultural issues, and the future of Japanese Americans.



JALD ALUMNI

At the 2017 Annual Conference in November, over 80 JALD alumni gathered for dinner. All JALD classes have had the opportunity to sing karaoke with Friend of the Council Taro Kono in Tokyo. Because the now Foreign Minister could not visit Washington, DC this time, the JALD alumni paid tribute to him by singing his favorite song, *Hey Jude*.

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.

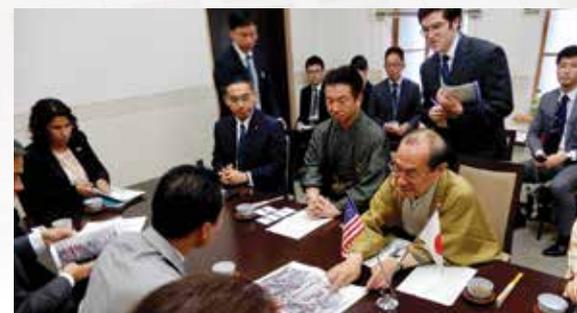
The 2017 program selected six elected state officials from diverse backgrounds and regions of the country. From September to October, the delegates traveled to Tokyo, Kyoto and Osaka to meet with Japanese political and government leaders, business executives and nonprofit leaders to exchange ideas as 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 2017 AALD DELEGATES:

- Have roots in Cambodia, China, Japan and the Philippines
- Are state representatives from California, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, Utah and Washington State



The delegates with (seated, from right) Kyoto Mayor Daisaku Kadokawa, President of the Kyoto City Assembly Kazuhiro Terada, and Vice President of the Kyoto City Assembly Katsunobu Kubo.



Mr. Yohei Sasakawa (left), Chairman of Nippon Foundation, speaks as the delegates and Ms. Junko Chano (right), Executive Director of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, listen.

“Being able to hear from Japanese business leaders about the economy, Japanese corporate norms, and how to better facilitate trade between our two countries was one of the most fascinating aspects of this program ... These discussions yielded important insights to inform our state policies in trying to attract Japanese investment, foster stronger economic relations and improve our states’ business climates.”

—REPRESENTATIVE AARON LING JOHANSON

“As a proud Japanese American, it [was] an honor to be spending my first time in Japan ... traveling as a member of the Asian American Leadership Delegation of 2017 ... I am proud to represent my rich family cultures and my communities of color, which is very rare in my county.”

—REPRESENTATIVE MONICA JURADO STONIER

WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP



Cleveland (left), Washington, DC (center) and Portsmouth (right) were a few of the cities that held Regional Women in Leadership discussions.

IN 2017, USJC'S SUPPORT for women in leadership was stronger than ever. Several events and programs led to dynamic discussions 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 six cities in 2017, including four new locations: Portsmouth, NH; Providence, RI; Cleveland, OH and Little Rock, AR. (RWL events were held in two additional cities, Phoenix, AZ and Salt Lake City, UT, in January 2018.) 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 various aspects of women's leadership, such as ensuring diversity in the workplace and finding ways to turn differences into competitive advantages.



PANEL DISCUSSION AT THE 2017 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

During the 2017 Annual Conference, in an interactive forum called "Women's Leadership & Success on Corporate Boards," seven distinguished women who serve on the boards of Japanese and American companies and organizations shared their personal journeys. Some of the tips the leaders provided include fighting age discrimination by increasing older women in executive positions, and addressing work-life balance so that women do not shy away from higher positions.



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 grow in 2017. The 2017 Fellows of this Boston-based program, which fosters Japanese women leaders interested in nonprofit management, pitched their ideas (pictured with USJC Associate Kozue Sawame, left) in November as part of an event co-hosted by USJC. Also in 2017, following 10 years of success, JWLI launched "JWLI-II," an executive leadership development program.



TOMODACHI PROGRAMS

As part of the 2016-17 TOMODACHI MetLife Women's Leadership Program (TMWLP), Japanese university students from Tokyo, Osaka, Naha and Sapporo traveled to Washington, DC and New York City to meet with several leaders, including members of Congress, heads of NPOs, business executives and USJC members. As part of the TOMODACHI High School Women Career Mentoring Program in Fukushima, supported by the TOMODACHI Combini Fund (FamilyMart Co., Ltd. and Lawson, Inc.), about 120 high school girls from Fukushima participated in dance workshops, met exchange students and learned from mentors with global careers.

TMWLP participants visited the MetLife office in New York.

EDUCATIONAL & NETWORKING PROGRAMS:

WATANABE SCHOLARSHIP

JAPAN-HAWAII ECONOMIC SUMMIT

REGIONAL PROGRAMS

SILICON VALLEY JAPAN PLATFORM

BUSINESS NETWORKING

GOVERNMENT AND LEGISLATIVE NETWORKING



WATANABE SCHOLARSHIP



2016-17 Watanabe Scholars with Mr. & Mrs. Watanabe.



2016-17 Watanabe Scholars ask questions.



2017-18 Watanabe Scholars at the 2017 Annual Conference.

“During the Watanabe Leadership Weekend, I became really good friends with the other scholars. We shared our passion and ideas for studying abroad in the United States, as well as future goals. These discussions motivated me to think about my future from different perspectives and the meaning of studying in the U.S.”

—MS. YURI KIMURA, WATANABE SCHOLAR 2016–17

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.

WATANABE LEADERSHIP WEEKEND

In February, all 10 scholars from the inaugural 2016-17 cohort gathered in Los Angeles for the Watanabe Leadership Weekend, a three-day leadership training and development program. This was the first time the scholars met one another, making it a valuable opportunity to share their accomplishments and challenges while studying abroad. During the program, scholars attended panel discussions, shared their thoughts on various topics and networked with Mr. and Mrs. Watanabe, USJC members and young professionals in the region.

“I challenge you to be persistent in pursuing your goals. Perseverance will accomplish many things.”

—MR. TOSHIZO WATANABE TO THE 2016-17 SCHOLARS AT THE LEADERSHIP WEEKEND

2017-18 WATANABE SCHOLARS

For the 2017-18 year, scholarships were awarded to 21 Japanese students—18 undergraduate and three graduate students—studying at institutions in 10 states across the United States. This second cohort of Watanabe Scholars represent universities in Fukuoka, Kyoto, Miyagi and Tokyo. For the majority of the scholars this was their first study abroad experience, and they were placed all across the United States—including California, Hawaii, Indiana, New York, North Carolina and Rhode Island—specializing in fields like computer science, education, filmmaking, international relations, social work and sports management. Eighteen of the scholars came to Washington, DC for the 2017 USJC Annual Conference in November, where they met with USJC members and TOMODACHI alumni. The scholars also met with Mr. and Mrs. Watanabe over dinner and shared their study abroad experiences so far.

Beginning in 2018, the scholarship will also support U.S. students who wish to study in Japan. The Council looks forward to supporting many more students in the future through this lasting gift from Mr. Watanabe.

“In the future, I want to be someone who can support and inspire the next generation, like the professionals I met at the USJC Annual Conference.”

—MR. ETSUO FUJITA,
WATANABE SCHOLAR 2017–18

JAPAN-HAWAII ECONOMIC SUMMIT



Left: The governors' panel: Governors Ige (center) and Yuzaki (right), as well as founder of the Governors' Circle Dr. Daniel Okimoto, examined regional economic collaboration from a macro perspective. Right: The education panel: (L-R) Moderator Irene Hirano Inouye; Dawn Amano Ige, First Lady of Hawaii; Kuniaki Shimozaki, Superintendent of the Hiroshima Prefectural Board of Education; Shanti Shoji, Co-Founder of Kizuna Across Cultures; David Lassner, President of the University of Hawaii.



MORE THAN 200 LEADERS GATHERED IN KONA in May for the inaugural Japan-Hawaii Economic Summit, which USJC co-hosted with the State of Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT). This three-day summit connected Hawaii with seven Japanese prefectures: those with which it has sister-state relationships, as well as those that are part of USJC's Governors' Circle initiative. Governor David Y. Ige of Hawaii, Governor Hidehiko Yuzaki of Hiroshima, and the vice governors of Fukuoka, Nagano, Oita and Shizuoka all spoke in various sessions, discussing ways to enhance their state or prefectures' relationship with one another and the continental United States.

OPENING RECEPTION

A welcome reception with local food, music and hula was attended by all four mayors of the Aloha State (Hawaii County, Honolulu, Kauai and Maui). After the reception, as part of an impromptu exchange, Mayor Bernard Carvalho of Kauai (pictured right) sang the Japanese song "Furusato" (meaning "hometown") with the delegation from Hokkaido, who had just signed a sister-state agreement with Hawaii the day before.

SPEECHES AND DISCUSSIONS

The Summit welcomed as Keynote Speakers Mr. Robert Harrison, Chairman & CEO of First Hawaiian Bank, and Mr. Masaaki Tanaka, Senior Global Advisor of PwC International.

Panel discussions studied Japan-Hawaii relations from various angles, including cross-cultural businesses, two-way tourism, food and clean energy. Speakers included: Mr. Daniel Dinell, President of Hawaii Coffee Company; Mr. Yosuke Honjo, CEO of ITO EN US Group; Mr. Allan Ikawa, President & CEO of Big Island Candies; Mr. Yasunobu Kyogoku, Managing Partner of Innovation Global Capital; Mr. Alan Oshima, President & CEO of Hawaiian Electric Company; Mr. Pono Shim, President & CEO of the Oahu Economic Development Board; and Mr. George Szigeti, President & CEO of the Hawaii Tourism Authority.

TOUR OF PU'U WA'AWA'A

The Summit concluded with a tour of Pu'u Wa'awa'a, a ranch owned by Founder & CEO of Blue Planet Energy, Henk Rogers. Mr. Rogers (pictured left) explained how the ranch is completely off the grid, storing energy in batteries, and how such renewable energy initiatives could be expanded elsewhere.



"I see a terrific, vibrant future [for Japan-Hawaii relations]. We do know that there is significant investment in Hawaii, and... Hawaii is playing a more important role in the U.S.-Japan relationship."

—GOVERNOR DAVID IGE
OF HAWAII



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. 2017 events included:



LOS ANGELES

In July, USJC and the LA84 Foundation hosted a reception in Los Angeles celebrating the United States and Japan's shared experience hosting the Olympic & Paralympic Games. USJC Board Member Yuko Kaifu (President of JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles) emceed the program. Speakers included Renata Simril, President & CEO of the LA84 Foundation; Donna de Varona, two-time gold medalist swimmer at the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games; and Peter Tomozawa, Vice President and Executive Director of Board Relations of the LA2028 Bid Committee. They talked about the legacy of the Foundation, reflected on the impact of the 1964 Tokyo Games, previewed the 2020 Tokyo Games, and provided an update on plans for hosting the 2028 Los Angeles Games.

NEW YORK

In March, USJC and the American Jewish Committee (AJC)'s Asia Pacific Institute (API) held an event with the Consulate of Japan in New York celebrating the friendship and trilateral ties among the United States, Japan and Israel. Four panel speakers—Irene Hirano Inouye; David Harris, AJC CEO; Ambassador Reiichiro Takahashi, Consul General of Japan in New York; and Amir Sagie, Deputy Consul General of Israel in New York (pictured with Council Leader Wendy Takahisa and API Chair Jeffrey Stone)—shared their perspectives on achievements and areas of collaboration for the future.



TOKYO

In May, the USJC Japan Region co-sponsored a symposium titled "The Role of Technology and Innovative Business Models for Creating a Globalized and Sustainable Economy" with the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan, the U.S. Embassy Tokyo, the Sharing Economy Association and Uber. Speakers included Minister Katsunobu Kato, Minister for Promoting Dynamic Engagement of All Citizens; Ren Ito, Executive Officer of Mercari Inc. and Managing Director and CEO of Mercari Europe Ltd.; Masami Takahashi, President of Uber Japan Co., Ltd.; and Toshihiko Yokoo, Mayor of Taku City, Saga Prefecture. Discussions focused on creative solutions to enable more members of society to participate in the economy.



WASHINGTON, DC

Friend of the Council Taro Kono (front, second from right) was appointed as the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs in August. Soon after his appointment, he visited Washington, DC for a number of meetings related to diplomacy, economics and security. During his stay, he visited the National Japanese American Memorial, where he laid a wreath and met with Japanese American leaders, including USJC members and JALD alumni. As a Board Member of the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, Council Leader John Tobe (right) guided the Minister. Both Minister Kono and his father Yohei Kono, Former Speaker of the House of Representatives of Japan, have been very supportive of Japanese American leaders and USJC since its inception.



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 2017, SVJP welcomed Council Leader Kenta Takamori as its new Executive Director. SVJP held various *benkyokais*, workshops and meetings with corporate leaders over the course of the year. This included an Annual Corporate Members' Retreat in September, which featured visits to Google's "X," Tesla and the Stanford Design School (d.school), as well as discussions with Ambassador John V. Roos, Senator Bill Bradley and senior leaders from companies such as Nest, Toyota Research Institute and McAfee. SVJP was also instrumental in organizing a panel discussion during the 2017 USJC Annual Conference called "Innovation Hubs from Silicon Valley to Kendall Square to Japan's 'Bit Valley.'"



Dr. Rieko Yajima, Visiting Research Scholar at the Stanford Center for Design Research, gives a talk on design thinking during the SVJP Annual Corporate Members' Retreat.

BUSINESS NETWORKING



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 2017. BAB was held four times over the course of the year, each welcoming a speaker for their perspectives on U.S.-Japan relations: Mr. Jesper Koll, Chief Executive Officer of Wisdom Tree Japan (February); Mr. Heizo Takenaka, Professor Emeritus at Keio University and Chairman/Director of Pasona, Inc. (June); Dr. Daniel Okimoto, Professor Emeritus at Stanford University, Co-Chair of the Silicon Valley Japan Platform and inaugural Chair of the USJC Board of Councilors (September); and Mr. Daniel Tani, former NASA astronaut and current faculty member at the American School in Japan (December).

Top Left: Mr. Tani shares the story of his Japanese American heritage, as well as his journey as an astronaut.

Middle: Mr. Koll (left) chats with Mr. Tanaka.



BUSINESS NETWORKING INITIATIVE

IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE in November, USJC hosted in Washington, DC 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.

Left: Ms. Debra Nakatomi listens to Mr. Allen Okamoto's insights.



GOVERNMENT AND LEGISLATIVE NETWORKING



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 2017 discussion, held in Washington, DC in January, focused on key issues such as strengthening regional ties, public diplomacy and bilateral exchange programs. Participants shared their views on U.S.-Japan relations under the new U.S. presidential administration, the importance of supporting programs that build goodwill, opportunities to build relationships across regions, and more. Participants also discussed special events, including educational opportunities related to the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066. Following the meeting, Ambassador Kenichiro Sasae (pictured) hosted a lunch for participants at his residence.



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 a reception on Capitol Hill. The reception welcomed 17 Japanese Diet members who were visiting Washington, DC and brought together over 150 leading figures in U.S.-Japan relations. In July, the U.S.-Japan Conference on Cultural and Educational Interchange (CULCON) and USJC convened the fifth U.S.-Japan Legislative Exchange Summit, facilitating discussions among organizations involved in U.S.-Japan legislative exchange to share resources and increase the number of program participants.



Senator Mazie Hirono of Hawaii (right) spoke at the reception on Capitol Hill.

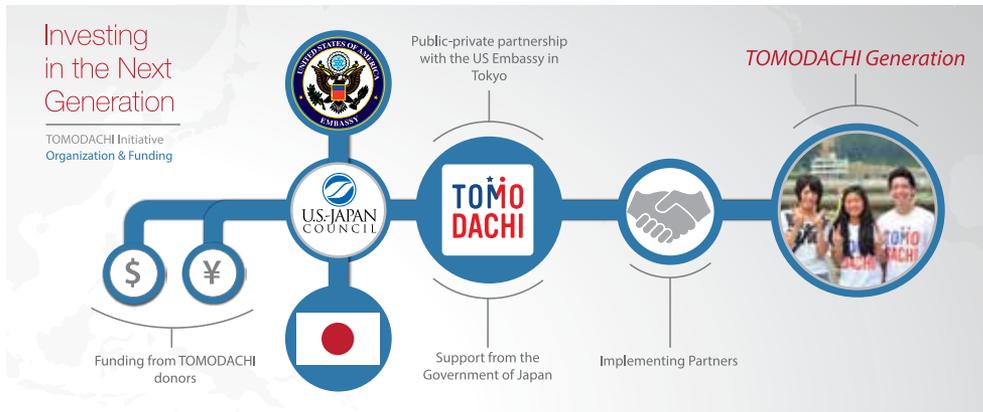
TOMODACHI INITIATIVE:

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**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.

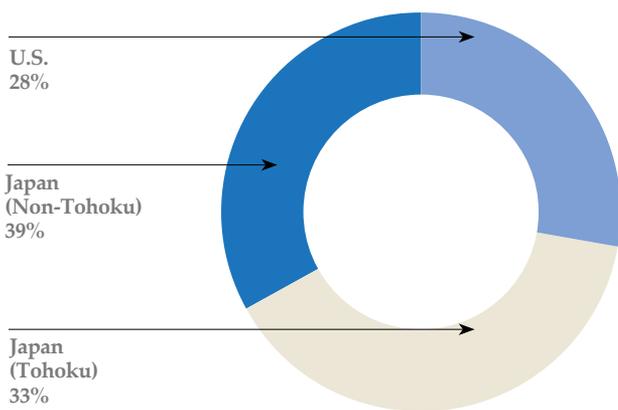
TOMODACHI seeks to foster young American and Japanese leaders who are committed to and engaged

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.

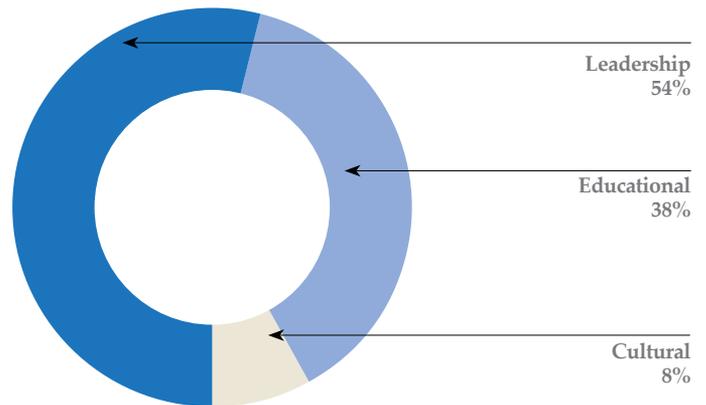
In 2012, the U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) was created to support the administration of TOMODACHI. The U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) is a registered Public Interest Corporation (*koeki zaidan hojin*) and maintains offices in Tokyo, Japan.

1,073 INDIVIDUALS PARTICIPATED IN 39 PROGRAMS

2017 PARTICIPANTS BY HOMETOWN



2017 PARTICIPANTS BY PROGRAM TYPE



TOMODACHI PROGRAMS



WE THANK THE USJC network for their strong support of the TOMODACHI Initiative. Our members and friends participated in or supported many TOMODACHI programs over the course of the year. The following are a few examples.

New U.S. Ambassador to Japan William F. Hagerty, who arrived in Tokyo in August, quickly showed strong support for the TOMODACHI Initiative. He spoke at the 2017 TOMODACHI Generation Summit in September, and called TOMODACHI alumni “the new caretakers of [the U.S.-Japan] partnership.” In December, he hosted a reception in honor of TOMODACHI at his residence, welcoming TOMODACHI alumni and representatives of donor companies, government and nonprofit organizations.



The TOMODACHI Alumni Regional Framework was launched in March, following a reception in Tokyo that commemorated the sixth anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake (attended by distinguished guests that include First Lady of Japan Akie Abe and Governor of Fukushima Masao Uchibori). The framework introduces new leaders in seven regions of Japan, each with a university student and a high school student, as well as a young professional as the regional mentor. This has strengthened relations among TOMODACHI alumni, and empowered them with skills to organize activities in their regions. The 2017 TOMODACHI Generation Summit, which brought together 270 Japanese and American TOMODACHI alumni, guests and supporters, was an even greater success than the inaugural one in 2015.

THESE PROGRAMS WOULD NOT be possible without the generous support of corporations from the United States and Japan. More information about these programs in 2017 and their donors are published in a separate TOMODACHI report. Please see www.tomodachi.org for more information.

THREE KEY SUSTAINING PARTNERS are critical to TOMODACHI’s infrastructure: financial support by Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited goes to overhead and infrastructure; the Prudential Foundation’s support facilitates the Alumni program; and Evolution Financial Group provides pro bono office space and support to the Tokyo team.

“Paying it forward. That is the underlying theme that creates such a strong alumni network and community ... this sense of community and wanting to create a space where others can also connect — is why I decided to invest myself as the Core Committee Chair [of the TOMODACHI Generation Summit].”

—MR. KEITO ANDO,
TOMODACHI ALUMNUS

TOMODACHI PROGRAMS



Twenty-one American and Japanese college students participated in panel discussions, site visits and team-building exercises as part of the 2017 Building the TOMODACHI Generation Morgan Stanley Ambassadors Program. This program teaches models of cross-sector partnerships to address social challenges, and is held in February and March in Washington, DC. The program is a partnership between The Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars and the U.S.-Japan Research Institute.

"TOMODACHI has not only reignited my passion for nursing, it has given me the tools to understand how I can help others."

—MS. KATE ALEKSANDROVA,
TOMODACHI ALUMNA

In August, eight nursing students from Tohoku traveled to New York, New Jersey and Washington, DC to participate in a two-week study tour as part of the TOMODACHI J&J Disaster Nursing Training Program 2017. The cohort was joined by two nursing students from Rutgers University in New Jersey. The students learned about disaster medicine and disaster nursing, as well as medical procedures and medicine that are specific to the United States.



At the 2017 USJC Annual Conference, eight TOMODACHI alumni from the United States and Japan shared their stories of how TOMODACHI transformed their lives. Topics ranged from mentorship and leadership to women's empowerment, reconnecting with your passion, the importance of higher education, storytelling, and giving back to your community.



In December 2016 and January 2017, twenty high school students from Fukushima prefecture participated in the TOMODACHI Honda Cultural Exchange Program 2017 in Los Angeles, California. During this two-week program funded by Honda Motor Co., Ltd., the students participated in volunteer activities and had a homestay opportunity. The students also participated in the Rose Parade by decorating the float created by American Honda Motor Co. (which sponsors the parade), and performing an original piece with musician Daniel Ho.



As part of the TOMODACHI-Mitsui & Co. Leadership Program 2017, ten American delegates visited Iwate and Tokyo in June and July, and gained insights from the revitalization efforts of Kamaishi and Rikuzentakata (pictured here with the pine tree that survived the Great East Japan Earthquake). In September, nine Japanese delegates visited the United States. They traveled to Houston just a week after the floods of Hurricane Harvey, and later expressed how inspired they were by the resilience of Houstonians.

TOMODACHI PROGRAMS

In August, 18 young Japanese social entrepreneurs and community leaders took part in the TOMODACHI Microsoft iLEAP Social Innovation and Leadership Program. Under the guidance of iLEAP (headed by Council Leader Britt Yamamoto) and Microsoft staff, they participated in leadership training in Seattle. Also engaging with the participants were several other Council Leaders, including Harold Taniguchi (pictured center) and news anchor Lori Matsukawa, who wrote and aired a piece on the program for KING-TV, an NBC affiliate based in Seattle.



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

“I knew I wanted to be involved with Japan and had a passion for Japanese Affairs, but didn’t know how to get involved. Attending this conference allowed me to receive advice from young professionals and [senior leaders]. Now I have a clearer vision on how to instill change in the field and contribute to U.S.-Japan relations.”

—MR. COLIN TIMMERMAN,
TOMODACHI ALUMNUS



As part of the 2016-17 TOMODACHI KAKEHASHI Inouye Scholars Program, undergraduate students and chaperones from the University of Hawaii, Manoa visited Kyushu University. During discussions with students on campus, the Hawaii students shared the legacy of the late Senator Daniel K. Inouye. The program is part of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs’ KAKEHASHI Project.

From August to December, two young Japanese women with disabilities participated in the TOMODACHI Disability Leadership Program in America 2017. The program, supported by Northrop Grumman Corporation and implemented by the Institute for Community Inclusion at UMass Boston, engaged the trainees in a spectrum of activities, including a site visit to the Easter Seals of Massachusetts, where they tried assistive technology devices (top) and presented on their experience interning at disability-focused organizations in Boston (bottom).



“Upon returning to Hawaii, I feel a desire to better understand the culture and place (historical and current) of my own lineage (China), as well as those of other people . . . I feel a heightened sense of responsibility to explore my identity as the descendant of immigrants.”

—MS. ANGELINE ZHOU, TOMODACHI ALUMNA

TOMODACHI EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM



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 eighth year, the 2017 program brought 12 Japanese American young professionals to Washington, DC for the 2017 USJC Annual Conference. The Emerging Leaders participated in a leadership orientation program, networked with high-level leaders and participated in the Annual Members Meeting.

“The discussion on [Japanese American] identity, being honest and feeling safe with each other proved to be both an introspective and shared experience that immediately brought us together . . . these cultural connections helped make our friendships more meaningful.”

—2017 EMERGING LEADER
KIMBERLY HARUKI

U40 SUMMIT

IN AUGUST, ELP ALUMNI hosted the second USJC U40 Summit in Los Angeles. Approximately 60 leaders aged 40 years or younger gathered from across sectors in the U.S.-Japan community. This included current and prospective USJC Associates, TOMODACHI Alumni Regional Mentors from Japan and alumni of the TOMODACHI-Mitsui & Co. Leadership Program.

Taking advantage of multicultural Los Angeles, participants gained insight on the unique Japanese and Japanese American community in Little Tokyo. The opening reception was held at the Japanese American National Museum (JANM), and was organized with the USJC Board of Directors (who were in town for a board retreat). Participants also visited historically significant sites, each with tours led by USJC supporters—including JANM, the Go for Broke National Education Center, the Little Tokyo Service Center and the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center—and explored how local relationships could forge global connections.

“The Summit is a powerful engine of both creativity and growth for our community, and makes me excited for what else our U40 group can accomplish.”

—2015 ELP ALUMNUS
DAVID KENJI CHANG



LEADERSHIP AND SUPPORT:

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USJC MANAGEMENT & STAFF
SPONSORSHIP & SUPPORT
MEMBERSHIP



U.S. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

(AS OF DECEMBER 2017)

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 INOUE, *President*, U.S.-Japan Council

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Prudential Financial, Inc. (Japan Representative Office)

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SUSAN MORITA, *Secretary*; Partner, Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer LLP

DAVID NISHIDA, *Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair*

WALLACE K. TSUHA, *At-Large*; President, Tsuha Foundation



Outgoing Chair Mr. Teranishi (left) with Irene Hirano Inouye and outgoing board members (from left) Ms. Doi, Mr. Kono, Mr. Moriwaki and Mr. Okamoto.

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK former Chairman of the Board Dennis Teranishi, as well as the Members of the Board of Directors who completed their terms in December 2017: Royanne Doi, Dayne Kono, Gary Moriwaki, Allen Okamoto and Wally Tsuha. In January 2018, these five individuals join the Legacy Council, which was recently established to utilize the continued leadership and expertise of past Board Members.

BOARD MEMBERS

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SUSAN EICHOR, President & COO, aio
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YUKO KAIFU, President, JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles

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JILL NISHI, *Program Development Committee Chair*; Director of the Office of the President and Chief of Staff, U.S. Programs, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

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DENNIS R. SUGINO, *Investment Committee Chair*; Founder, Kansa Advisory LLC

TASHA YOROZU, Managing Attorney, Yorozu Law Group, PC

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.

Members of the Legacy Council convened for the first time at the 2017 Annual Conference to discuss how it will support USJC's activities, the current Board and senior leadership.

TOM IINO, *Chair*; Chairman of the Board, Pacific Commerce Bank

SHO DOZONO, Principal, Dozono Consulting

MICHAEL K. HIRAI

ROBERT ICHIKAWA, Partner, Kobayashi Sugita & Goda

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JAN YANEHIRO, President, Jan Yanehiro, Inc.

U.S. BOARD OF COUNCILORS

(AS OF DECEMBER 2017)

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*; Senior Global Advisor, PwC International

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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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HIROKO KUNIYA, Journalist

HONORABLE DORIS MATSUI, U.S. House of Representatives, State of California

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DR. DANIEL OKIMOTO, PH.D., Director-Emeritus, Shorenstein APARC; FSI Senior Fellow and Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Stanford University

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HONORABLE MARK TAKANO, U.S. House of Representatives, State of California

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THE USJC COMMUNITY WAS saddened to lose Hiro Ogawa, Member of the Board of Councilors, in 2017. He was the Chairman of CAI International, a transportation finance and logistics company that he founded. He co-chaired the Development Committee of the 2016 USJC Annual Conference in Silicon Valley, and along with his late wife Betty, was a generous supporter of USJC over the years. He hosted several USJC events at his beautiful home in Silicon Valley, including a reception that was held in conjunction with the 2014 Governors' Meeting. We extend our deepest condolences to Hiro and Betty's sons, Council Leaders Andrew Ogawa and Marcus Ogawa, and their families.

HONORARY MEMBERS

HIS EXCELLENCY YOHEI KONO, Former Speaker of the House of Representatives of Japan

HONORABLE WALTER MONDALE, Former Vice President of the United States; Former Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the U.S. to Japan

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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)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AND BOARD OF COUNCILORS
(AS OF DECEMBER 2017)

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BOARD OF COUNCILORS

Kathy Matsui, *Chair; Vice-Chair, Goldman Sachs Japan Co., Ltd.*

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(AS OF DECEMBER 2017)

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Kana Takagi, *Administrative Assistant*

SPONSORSHIP & SUPPORT

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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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 21 Watanabe Scholars to study in universities throughout the United States in 2017-18. Additional contributions from the Watanabe Foundation have enabled the Scholars to meet one another, expand their network and participate in the 2017 USJC Annual Conference.

A full list of sponsors of the Japan-Hawaii Economic Summit is available at: http://bit.ly/Japan_Hawaii_Economic_Summit_Program.
To view a current list of sponsors of the Japan-Texas Economic Summit scheduled for May 7-9, 2018,
please visit our website at: http://www.usjapancouncil.org/Japan_Texas_Economic_Summit.

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Please refer to the 2017 TOMODACHI Annual Report or <http://usjapantomodachi.org/about-us/donors/> for a list of TOMODACHI Strategic Partners, Sponsors and Supporters.

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We would like to thank all donors for their generous support.

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

MEMBERSHIP

(AS OF DECEMBER 2017)

A full listing of Council Leaders, Associates, Friends of the Council and Corporate Members is available on our website, www.usjapancouncil.org.

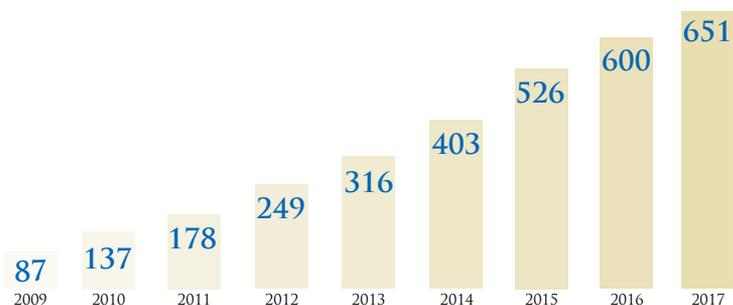
THE U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL COMPRISES members and supporters who are committed to the mission of the organization. Included in these ranks are top leaders from **major corporations, academia and research, politics and law**, as well as **entrepreneurs and thought leaders**. **Council Leaders** are leaders 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** are 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



MEMBERSHIP GROWTH (2009–2017)



“One of the things that’s great about the U.S.-Japan Council is that it’s raising the profile of Japan in the United States—and the importance of the United States to Japan’s economic wellbeing as well its security.”

—AMBASSADOR TOM SCHIEFFER,
FORMER U.S. AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN

“I strongly believe that in the last decade, the willingness, interest and ability to understand each other, connect and build relationships between Japanese Americans and Japanese nationals has grown much stronger, due in large part to the U.S.-Japan Council, Prime Minister Abe, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and their efforts and investments to build and nurture people-to-people relationships with Japanese Americans uniquely positioned as ambassadors between the two countries.”

—MS. LESLIE A. ITO, PRESIDENT & CEO,
JAPANESE AMERICAN CULTURAL
& COMMUNITY CENTER

“I was giving a tour of the Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism in WWII [in Washington, DC] to a group of elementary school students. I told them that I was born in Japan and was adopted by an American family. We spoke about the internment, the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, and the promise of ‘Never Again.’ After the tour concluded, one of the chaperones came up to me. She told me about her son, who was on the tour. As a Muslim American, he had been unhappy recently, unsure about his identity when he saw all that is going on in the news. But having heard my story, he told his mom in amazement that everything was going to be OK. The woman held my hands and thanked me with tears in her eyes. This is why I joined the U.S.-Japan Council. It’s the people-to-people connections that make a real difference, especially in the lives of young people. Having participated in the Japanese American Leadership Delegation, and having met many TOMODACHI participants through various events, I feel that we really inspire each other.”

—MR. BRUCE HOLLYWOOD, PLANNER,
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

MEMBERSHIP BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR

[BUSINESS]

366

[GOVERNMENT]

82

[EDUCATION]

74

[NONPROFIT]

85

[LAW]

44



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