WHY U.S.-JAPAN

The U.S.-Japan relationship continues to prove its relevance and fundamental role in the Asia-Pacific region. The partnership between the United States and Japan is a driving force behind economic growth, while the security alliance maintains peace and stability in the region. Built on shared values such as innovation and resiliency, the contemporary U.S.-Japan relationship continues to evolve and develop new frontiers for collaboration.

WHY JAPANESE AMERICANS

Japanese Americans have a distinct connection to Japan, emanating from a shared heritage, upbringing and history. Recognizing this special tie, the U.S.-Japan Council encourages Japanese Americans to engage in local, regional, national and international activities that contribute to the U.S.-Japan relationship. Japanese American leaders are also uniquely positioned to impact government policy, business decisions and civil society activities by providing expertise and recommendations to counterparts in the United States and Japan. U.S.-Japan Council programming not only involves distinguished Japanese Americans professionals, but also engages the next generation of Japanese American leaders.



THE TOMODACHI INITIATIVE

The TOMODACHI Initiative is a public-private partnership between the U.S.-Japan Council and the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo. 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.

For more information, visit: http://usjapantomodachi.org/



"[The TOMODACHI Initiative] is a groundbreaking public-private partnership [that] invests in the next generation of Japanese and American leaders. I found these students exciting, interesting to listen to, inspiring. They were curious, and they were caring about our shared future, and they were engaged in the issues of the world."

-U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE JOHN KERRY



The U.S.-Japan Council is a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization supported by public and private donors. The Council is grateful to the individuals, organizations, corporations and foundations that contribute annually or choose to support a specific program or event.

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"The friendship between our countries is already very strong, and we welcome new ideas and innovations to deepen our bond. The U.S.-Japan Council has continually been at the forefront of this outreach and we look forward to the exciting times that await us."

- AMBASSADOR KENICHIRO SASAE



OVERVIEW

The U.S.-Japan Council is a 501(c) 3 non-profit educational organization that contributes to strengthening U.S.-Japan relations by bringing together diverse leadership, engaging stakeholders and exploring issues that benefit communities, businesses and government entities on both sides of the Pacific. The Council cultivates an international network and collaborates with other organizations and institutions to develop programs that allow members to engage with their counterparts in the United States and Japan. The Council was founded in 2009 and is headquartered in Washington, DC with staff in California 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.

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.

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's efforts to build networks between Japanese and Japanese Americans while fostering future generations of young talent are invaluable in their meaningful contributions to bolstering the Japan-U.S. alliance."

-MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS FUMIO KISHIDA

PROGRAMS

The U.S.-Japan Council (USJC) and its Members are committed to accelerating the exchange of information through meetings and symposia as well as business and legislative networks among Japanese Americans, Japanese and U.S. leaders.



ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The U.S.-Japan Council Annual Conference is a forward-thinking public event that takes place each fall. Leading professionals and members of the U.S.-Japan community convene to explore cutting-edge topics that provide opportunities for future growth and cooperation between the United States and Japan.

JAPANESE AMERICAN LEADERSHIP DELEGATION

The Japanese American Leadership Delegation (JALD) allows a select group of Japanese American leaders from across the U.S. to travel to Japan to engage with Japanese leaders in the business, government, academic, non-profit and cultural sectors. The JALD program, which began in the year 2000, is sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The U.S.-Japan Council provides administration and organization of the program.



TOMODACHI EMERGING LEADERS PROGRAM

The U.S.-Japan Council's TOMODACHI Emerging Leaders Program (ELP) is an interactive, educational program designed to encourage the next generation of leaders to act as first movers, innovators and entrepreneurs in their professional fields. Each year a pool of young Japanese American professionals is chosen from across the country to attend the U.S.-Japan Council Annual Conference and Annual Members Meeting.

"Japanese Americans have an important place in society today. They can share their culture and experiences with younger Japanese Americans so that the next generations are proud of their Japanese heritage and can contribute to ensuring that the U.S. and Japan continue to be strong partners."

-DR. PAUL TERASAKI



GOVERNORS' CIRCLE

The Governors' Circle establishes a comprehensive platform to connect businesses from Japanese prefectures with their American counterparts on the Pacific Coast. Prefectures and states offer each other innovative technologies, pilot projects and state-of-the-art products through a variety of channels, such as joint ventures and strategic partnerships. This economic collaboration facilitates research and development synergy and educational exchanges, and allows for deep interdependence in the Asia Pacific Coastal Region.

LEGISLATIVE AND BUSINESS NETWORKING

Through the Legislative Networking Initiative, the U.S.-Japan Council seeks to facilitate conversation and exchange between elected officials in the United States and Japan at the state, local and national levels. The Council also brings together Japanese and Japanese American business executives to develop long-term, mutually beneficial relationships locally, nationally and internationally.

REGIONAL PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

The U.S.-Japan Council presents regional programs, which include symposia, joint-policy events, governmental and professional exchanges and networking events. Regional programs aim to strengthen existing relationships and forge new connections that advance conversations on specific areas of collaboration such as high-speed rail, clean & green technology, educational exchange and women in leadership.

