THE U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONSHIP IN 2021:
Forging Meaningful Connections in a Changing World
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Dear Friends,

As we worked to navigate and adapt to another year of the pandemic in 2021, the U.S.-Japan Council actively engaged with our influential community of leaders to address growing areas of concern to the bilateral relationship. Our 2021 Annual Report captures how the Council highlighted purpose-driven leadership and cultivated the next generation of leaders while focusing on increasingly urgent issues such as climate change and sustainability, and diversity, equity and inclusion. In many respects, embracing virtual spaces presented us with more opportunities to expand our reach to wider audiences across sectors and generations and far beyond major metropolitan areas.

USJC was privileged last September to present a climate-focused, Bilateral Boardroom online conversation between U.S. Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry and Japan’s then-Minister of the Environment KOIZUMI Shinjiro. A second virtual Bilateral Boardroom in November brought us face to face with other respected government and private-sector executives, including Larry Fink, Founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of BlackRock, Inc., and Toshiaki Higashihara, Representative Executive Officer, Executive Chairman & CEO and Director at Hitachi, Ltd., who shared insights on the strategic advantages of pursuing sustainability and enacting change for societal benefit.

In 2021, we also commemorated the 10th anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake with several previous American and Japanese ambassadors and other leaders reflecting on joint efforts to support, rebuild and revitalize the Tohoku region. This spirit of cooperation led to the creation of the TOMODACHI Initiative, a public-private partnership administered by USJC to invest in the next generation. Nearly 10,000 young leaders in Japan and the United States have participated to date in TOMODACHI’s exchanges, demonstrating the resilience of the bilateral friendship and fueling our hopes for the future.

Indeed, TOMODACHI was one of the many achievements of our late founding president, Irene Hirano Inouye. With the ceremonial presentation last October of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon, the Japanese government acknowledged Irene’s significant contributions to promoting relations and understanding between our two nations, including through her leadership of the Council.

Building on the vision of our founders, we are extremely proud of what USJC accomplished in 2021. Our successes were made possible with the generous support and engagement of our sponsors and donors, as well as our partners and the “beating heart” of the Council -- the USJC community of members. Working together, we can continue to drive meaningful connections, foster deeper ties and spur innovative collaboration, further strengthening the U.S.-Japan relationship.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Basalla, President & CEO
Paul Yonamine, USJC Board Chair
ABOUT THE U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL

OUR MISSION

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

OUR PURPOSE

• We are a unique community that brings together Japanese American and other leaders of the United States and Japan, strengthening ties between the two countries.

• We bring together a network of diverse leaders across sectors for meaningful collaboration, creating deep and lasting relationships.

• We develop the next generation of leaders by offering life-changing experiences that inspire participants to contribute to a stronger U.S.-Japan relationship.

• We believe in service and are committed to action in areas where our multicultural perspectives and experiences can make a difference.

The U.S.-Japan relationship continues to demonstrate its relevance and fundamental role in the Asia-Pacific region. The partnership between the U.S. 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 resilience, the contemporary U.S.-Japan relationship continues to evolve and develop new frontiers for collaboration.
HIGHLIGHTS & FEATURED SPEAKERS

**65,700**
NEW YOUTUBE VIEWS

**5,185 HOURS**
VIEWERS SPENT WATCHING USJC'S VIRTUAL PROGRAMS IN 2021

LAURENCE D. FINK, Founder, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, BlackRock, Inc.

CHRISTINE HARADA, Executive Councilor at Clean Energy for Biden

TOSHIAKI HIGASHIHARA, Representative Executive Officer, Executive Chairman & CEO and Director, Hitachi, Ltd.

KRISTAL KA‘AI, Executive Director of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (WHIAANHPI)

KAREN KELLEY, Senior FSO and East Asia Bureau Senior Advisor for Diversity & Inclusion, U.S. Department of State

CAROLINE KENNEDY, United States Ambassador to Japan, 2013–2017

JOHN KERRY, Special Presidential Envoy for Climate

SHINJIRO KOIZUMI, Minister of the Environment Overseeing Climate Change

KATHY MATSUI, General Partner, MPower Partners

ERIKA L. MORITSUGU, Deputy Assistant to the President and AA and NHPI Senior Liaison

GENERAL PAUL M. NAKASONE, Commander, U.S. Cyber Command, and Director, National Security Agency/Chief, Central Security Service

KANJI YAMANOUCHI, Ambassador, Consul General of Japan in New York
THEMES AND PROGRAMMING

CLIMATE & ESG

BILATERAL BOARDROOM: U.S.-JAPAN LEADERSHIP IN ADDRESSING THE CLIMATE CRISIS
In August, a virtual bilateral boardroom event featured a fireside chat moderated by President and CEO Suzanne Basalla between Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry, and KOIZUMI Shinjiro, then-Minister of Environment Overseeing Climate Change. The two leaders touched on a variety of issues such as the importance of the U.S.-Japan relationship in the context of climate change and the role of U.S.-China climate cooperation.

BILATERAL BOARDROOM: PURPOSE-DRIVEN LEADERSHIP IN U.S.-JAPAN RELATIONS
In September, the second bilateral boardroom of 2021 explored ESG leadership through conversations with Larry Fink (Chairman and CEO of BlackRock, Inc.) and Toshiaki Higashihara (Representative Executive Officer, Executive Chairman & CEO and Director, Hitachi, Ltd.). This was followed by a discussion with three USJC Council Leaders representing different sectors about the possibilities of ESG-centered leadership on the grassroots level, moderated by Lori Teranishi. Additionally, Melanie Nakagawa, Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Climate and Energy on the National Security Council provided a special update on climate, following the recently concluded COP26 conference in Glasgow.

JAPAN PERSPECTIVES WEBINAR SERIES EXPLORES CLIMATE, ESG AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
The three-part Japan perspectives webinar series convened leaders and experts representing key fields to share insights on critical issues in a virtual format. The first installment of the series took place on January 27 and focused on climate change, with speakers addressing key challenges to energy and environmental sustainability, and how the Biden and Suga administrations were taking action through policy measures and initiatives.

“Deepening the mutual understanding of Japan and America is an essential mission of the U.S.-Japan Council and for myself, and raising awareness of the youth is particularly important. This is also what is expected of the U.S.-Japan Council.”
— HON. KOIZUMI SHINJIRO

“I want to thank the U.S.-Japan Council for having this opportunity to talk. It comes at a moment that the United States-Japan relationship I think really is strong, and it’s very important that it be strong. We are doing so many things, collaborating in many areas from regional security to the international political crises, the global economic and finance matters and on and on. There is just a huge amount that we can and must do together.”
— HON. JOHN KERRY
THEMES AND PROGRAMMING

LEADERSHIP & EDUCATION

JAPANESE AMERICANS AND JAPAN: LEGACIES
This series of virtual interviews highlights the importance of cultural identity through the personal and professional stories of noteworthy Japanese American leaders within our community. Each of the diverse career journeys illustrated the crucial role of Japanese Americans in the context of the U.S.-Japan relationship and how Japan has contributed to Japanese American identity and community. The Legacy series was produced and moderated by Council Leaders.

REGIONAL WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP
USJC members continued to engage in the Regional Women in Leadership (RWL) series, funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. Held in collaboration with Brown University’s Office of Global Engagement, an event, titled “Advancing Women in Leadership,” featured a keynote fireside chat moderated by Dr. Adobe Paloma, Assistant Provost of the Office of Global Engagement at Brown University. She was joined by Dr. Gail Cohee, Director of the Sarah Doyle Center for Women and Gender. Topics of discussion included strategies that facilitate the inclusion and advancement for all women across different industries and the importance of authenticity in storytelling.

JAPANESE AMERICAN STORYTELLING PROGRAM
During its first full academic year of operation in 2021 since its Autumn 2020 launch, the U.S.-Japan Council’s “Japanese American Storytelling Program” (JASP) completed 50 presentations to universities in Japan. Capitalizing on the now widespread use of distance learning among universities in Japan, JASP expanded the program’s geographic reach, presenting to university student audiences in Okinawa, Hiroshima, Kyoto, Kobe, Osaka and Shizuoka, as well as over 10 schools in the Tokyo/Kanto region. JASP received television news exposure on December 18, when JASP speaker and Program Co-Leader Steve Sugino’s presentation at Gunma University was covered by local media.

“I’ve had such a great appreciation for the people-to-people and business-to-business relationships the U.S.-Japan Council has... nurtured, but also, in my case, really probably ignited.”

—Phyllis Campbell
THEMEs AND PROGRAMMING

BUSINESS & POLITICS

CONVERSATION WITH GENERAL PAUL M. NAKASONE
On January 11, the U.S.-Japan Council hosted an exclusive “off-the-record” interview with General Paul M. Nakasone, Commander, U.S. Cyber Command, and Director, National Security Agency/Chief, Central Security Service. General Nakasone is currently the highest-ranking officer of Japanese and Asian American heritage in the United States Army. Moderated by Presenting Sponsor Deloitte’s US Chief Executive Officer Joe Ucuzoglu, the discussion covered global security and business; leadership development and talent acquisition; and the General’s personal story and Japanese American heritage.

A CONVERSATION WITH DR. SIDDHARTH MOHANDAS
USJC CORPORATE DONORS ATTENDED an intimate, off-the-record conversation with Siddharth Mohandas, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for East Asia on July 22. During the virtual event, Dr. Mohandas shared his insights into the U.S.-Japan relationship, and how to best utilize our strong alliance in the coming years as the political climate and security environment in the Indo-Pacific evolves. Dr. Mohandas offered insight into some of the Biden Administration’s and Department of Defense’s policies and plans focused on maintaining peace and stability in the region.

BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD
THE U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL BUSINESS ADVISORY BOARD (BAB) convened for quarterly virtual meetings in 2021, providing an opportunity for industry leaders from diverse fields to speak on key topics and network with one another. Among the events, USJC welcomed Dr. Robert Alan Feldman (Professor of Tokyo University of Science and Senior Advisor to Morgan Stanley MUFG Securities Co., Ltd.) and Dr. Mieko Nakabayashi (Professor at the School of Social Sciences of Waseda University and Distinguished Fellow of the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Foundation) to exchange insights on the new Biden administration.
THEMES AND PROGRAMMING

BUSINESS & POLITICS

SILICON VALLEY JAPAN PLATFORM (SVJP)

THE SILICON VALLEY JAPAN PLATFORM (SVJP) is an initiative of the USJC and the Asia Pacific Initiative (API). SVJP aims to connect the technological dynamism of Silicon Valley with the current and future needs of digital transformation in Japan through trusting, collaborative relationships. SVJP is co-chaired by Dr. Daniel Okimoto, Professor Emeritus, Stanford University (Member and former Chair of the USJC Board of Councilors) and Mr. James Kondo, President, Asia Pacific Initiative and Chairman, International House of Japan (USJC Council Leader), with Mr. Jon Shalowitz serving as President.

In 2021, SVJP continued with online programming aimed to engage current and future corporate members and the SVJP community. Towards the end of the year, SVJP was able to host two hybrid events. The first was an Executive Roundtable featuring Dr. Lloyd Minor, The Carl and Elizabeth Naumann Professorship for the Dean of the School of Medicine, Stanford University. Dr. Minor discussed the areas where Stanford’s School of Medicine sees the most progress in terms of digital healthcare and the steps they take when exploring collaborative partnerships.

In November, SVJP’s flagship event, the Annual Retreat, took place with high-level executives from their corporate member community traveling to Kyoto for a two-day meeting. Speakers joining online included Dan Schulman, President and CEO of PayPal; Eric Yuan, Founder and CEO of Zoom; Nicole Perlroth, NY Times reporter and best selling author on cybersecurity; KR Sridhar, Founder, Chairman, and CEO of Bloom Energy; and Ali Ghodsi, CEO and Co-Founder of Databricks.

SVJP introduced a newsletter which serves as a platform for SVJP community members to collectively learn more about the themes of SVJP programming. It provides a mix of news, interviews, and deep dives into key topics surrounding business, technology and Japan.
REMEMBERING 3.11
In partnership with the Embassy of Japan in Washington, DC and the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, the USJC community, other U.S.-Japan-related organizations, and other advocates of the U.S.-Japan friendship gathered for an event titled “Remembering March 11, 2011: Looking Back, Looking Forward” in March to symbolize the United States standing together in solidarity with Japan and to underscore the importance of our alliance, friendship, and shared values. The event’s first panel featured former ambassadors John V. Roos and Ichiro Fujisaki, who served during the 2011 disaster. John V. Roos (former United States Ambassador to Japan) and Ichiro Fujisaki (then-Japanese Ambassador to the United States), who served during the 2011 disaster, with former Senior Foreign Service Officer Karen Kelley moderating. A second panel convened other former Japanese and American ambassadors to discuss U.S.-Japan friendship, including Caroline Kennedy, Kenichiro Sasae, Shinsuke Sugiyama and Thomas Schieffer. TOMODACHI alumni Ryota Konno and Miyu Sugita, who are both from the Tohoku region, also expressed their gratitude for the TOMODACHI program.

IRENE HIRANO INOUYE COMMEMORATED BY JAPAN AND UNITED STATES GOVERNMENTS
On October 7, USJC’s founding president, the late Irene Hirano Inouye, was honored in a ceremony awarding her the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon. Irene’s daughter and Member of the Board of Councilors Ms. Jennifer Hirano accepted the decoration on her behalf. Consul General MUTO Akira hosted a conferment ceremony at his residence that brought together Irene’s family and local community leaders. Consul General MUTO Akira presented the award, highlighting ways that Irene worked tirelessly to strengthen and advance the relationship between Japanese Americans and Japan, and was instrumental in the founding and development of the U.S.-Japan Council.

On July 24, First Lady Dr. Jill Biden dedicated a room in the Chief of Mission Residence in Tokyo in honor of USJC founders Senator Daniel K. Inouye and Irene Hirano Inouye, recognizing their significant contributions to U.S.-Japan relations.

Photo Courtesy U.S. Embassy Tokyo
NEXT GENERATION LEADERSHIP

THE TOMODACHI INITIATIVE

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.

Due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic, many TOMODACHI programs were held online, continuing to provide various opportunities to the next generation of leaders from both sides of the Pacific in 2021. Below are just a sample of the programs.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING AND CULTURAL EDUCATION

Thirteen junior high and high school students from Iwate, Miyagi and Fukushima Prefectures heard from MUFG Chairman Kanetsugu Mike at the beginning of the 10th TOMODACHI MUFG International Exchange Program. During this six-week virtual program, students learned about the history of Japanese Americans during a leadership training session conducted by the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles and also met Californian “host families” online.

EMPOWERING YOUNG LEADERS WITH DISABILITIES THROUGH STORYTELLING

TOMODACHI’s inclusive programming continued during the pandemic through the TOMODACHI Story Jam for Youth with Disabilities program. Ten Japanese and American university students showcased video projects, which had been developed over the course of an eight-week program on storytelling. Representatives from the program sponsor company, Northrop Grumman, the U.S. Embassy and USJC and other guests joined to encourage and be inspired by the participants.

TOMODACHI GOES REGIONAL

With almost 10,000 alumni from over 300 TOMODACHI programs since inception, the power of the TOMODACHI Generation is its network, with high engagement of students and young professionals who are inspired to stay connected and become active leaders in their communities. The TOMODACHI Alumni Regional Framework leverages representatives across Japan and the United States to reach and connect with alumni as they continue on their journey.
THE U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL’S 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 become USJC Associates, and join program alumni in strengthening the U.S.-Japan relationship for future generations of leaders. Each class has become engaged with and made meaningful contributions to USJC and the ELP community.

In its twelfth year, the 2021 program brought together 13 young Japanese American professionals for a series of virtual engagements. The cohort participated in a leadership orientation program and networked with senior Japanese American leaders. Throughout the year, alumni organized events to allow members of the ELP community to connect with each other, including the Kaiwa Series program to learn leadership skills from role models, a financial seminar, a Kohaku Uta-Gassen Singing/Lip-Syncing Competition and a Shinnenkai to celebrate the new year.

The program is guided in part by the ELP Steering Committee, which was established in 2016 to ensure ELP alumni are coordinated, engaged, and aligned in their contributions to USJC and U.S.–Japan relations. In addition to its regular online meetings, the ELP Steering Committee held an in-person strategic retreat in Los Angeles in December.

The ELP community benefits from active support from key corporate and individual sponsors whose contributions, mentorship and engagement enrich the ELP experience. This year, USJC Board Members partnered with ELP to develop and pilot a new mentoring program.
WATANABE SCHOLARSHIP ENABLES U.S.-JAPAN EXCHANGES

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

The students selected in 2020 were given the option to defer until Spring 2022, due to the impact of COVID on schools and programs. Scholars also enjoyed a virtual Young Professional Panel and networking event, where they heard about careers, mistakes made and collective insights. The panel featured members of the USJC and alumni of the Emerging Leadership Program (ELP).

NEXT GENERATION SUMMIT

IN DECEMBER, THE COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTED THE U40 (under 40) members of the USJC community including TOMODACHI alumni and Watanabe Scholars during the two-day Next Generation Summit. Topics of discussion included breaking through both mental and physical barriers to create change and issues of importance throughout the different regions of Japan. Alumni also had the opportunity to hear how government leaders value the impact of TOMODACHI.
MEMBERSHIP

THE U.S.-JAPAN COUNCIL COMPRISSES 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.

MEMBERSHIP BREAKDOWN BY COUNTRY

USA 600

JAPAN 81

There are 3 other members based outside of the U.S. and Japan.

MEMBERSHIP BREAKDOWN BY SECTOR

[ BUSINESS ]

501

[ GOVERNMENT ]

87

[ NONPROFIT ]

96

TOTAL: 684
MEMBERSHIP

MEMBERS FORUM
The Members Forum in October allowed members to share their visions for USJC’s future and gave them an opportunity to hear from USJC leadership. The event featured a panel discussion that focused on elevating the Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander communities. Guest speakers were Erika L. Moritsugu, Deputy Assistant to the President and AA and NHPI Senior Liaison and Krystal Ka‘ai, Executive Director of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders (WHIAANHP). The discussion was moderated by ELP alumni Stephanie Nitahara. Programming was followed by member led updates, a special video titled “Art Heals” produced by the Artists & Creatives Affinity Group and a series of virtual breakout sessions that allowed attendees to network with one another.

MEMBER EVENT HIGHLIGHTS MENTAL WELLNESS DURING PANDEMIC
Attendees gathered virtually on January 18 for an event that explored ways to manage mental well-being and health in a time of extraordinary trauma and crisis. As the pandemic led to a startling increase in depression in both Japan and the United States, this webinar shared the importance of mental health and self-care in isolating times. Speakers included USJC Associate Leader Reverend Cristina Moon, an ordained Rinzai Zen priest, and Dr. Sean Sullivan, an expert in digital mental therapeutics, with Council Leader Rika Nakazawa moderating the conversation.

HAWAII REGION GATHERS FOR PAU HANA WITH CENTRAL PACIFIC BANK
The Hawaii region held its first in-person networking event in two years in December. The “pau hana” (after-work party) was hosted by Central Pacific Bank at the heart of downtown Honolulu where over 30 USJC members gathered. The much-anticipated opportunity to reconnect in person also gave members a chance to meet USJC President & CEO Suzanne Basalla and Chair of USJC’s Board of Directors Paul Yonamine (Executive Chairman of Central Pacific Bank).
MEMBERSHIP

MEMBER-DRIVEN AFFINITY GROUPS
The U.S.-Japan Council’s Affinity Groups are member-led initiatives, connecting leaders through discussion-based networking opportunities built around shared interests, professional fields, identities and more.

SHIN-ISSEI AFFINITY GROUP BRINGS TOGETHER JAPANESE MEMBERS IN THE U.S.
The Shin-Issei Affinity Group held its formal kick-off event on March 9. This event brought together about 150 USJC Leaders and guests across the U.S. and Japan who identify themselves as Shin-Issei: the new generation of Issei Japanese Americans. The group was formed with a mission to contribute to USJC and the U.S.-Japan relationship with bilingual and bicultural competences.

OUTREACH AND ALLYSHIP COMMITTEE
In response to change and uncertainty marked by a global pandemic and renewed calls for social justice, USJC’s U40 (under 40) community launched the Outreach & Allyship (O&A) Committee to facilitate critical conversations, educational webinars and empowering programs under the mission of supporting the creation of a more equitable future for all. In 2021, the Committee held monthly discussions on topics including racism, LGBTQ activism and more. In October, the Committee also hosted a virtual workshop addressing uncomfortable conversations in the workplace.

Some of our Affinity Groups of 2021
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.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS (U.S.)**

**BOARD OFFICERS**

Paul K. Yonamine, *Chair;* Executive Chairman, Central Pacific Bank  
Suzanne Basalla, President and CEO, U.S.-Japan Council  
Tomoko Kizawa, *Vice Chair;* Partner, Deloitte LLP  
Susan Morita, *Vice Chair;* Partner, Arnold & Porter  
Dennis R. Sugino, *Vice Chair & Investment Committee Chair;* Founder, Kansa Advisory LLC  
Tasha Yorozu, *Secretary;* Managing Attorney, Yorozu Law Group, PC  
David Nishida, *Treasurer & Finance Committee Chair;* Chief Operating Officer, ORIX Corporation USA  
Phyllis Campbell, *Immediate Past Chair;* Chair, JPMorgan Chase & Co., Pacific Northwest  
Kazuhiro Gomi, *Development Committee Chair;* President and CEO, NTT Research, Inc.  
Todd Guild, Senior Advisor to Vice Chairman, Suntory Holdings Limited

**BOARD MEMBERS**

David Kenji Chang, Co-Founder, AN Capital Partners  
Susan Eichor, President & COO, aio  
James Higa, Managing Partner, Offline Ventures  
Leona Hiraoka, Principal Officer, Zwig  
Yuko Kaifu, *Nominating & Governance Committee Chair;* President, Japan House Los Angeles  
Joshua Morey, President, The J. Morey Company, Inc.  
Norman Nakasone, Retired Senior Vice President, Central Pacific Bank  
Andrew Ogawa, Managing Partner and Founder, Quest Venture Partners  
Mark Okada, Co-Founder & Managing Partner, Sycamore Tree Capital Partners L.P.  
Yoko Otani, *Audit Committee Chair;* Partner, Straterix Inc.  
Curtiss Takada Rooks, Assistant Professor of Asian Pacific American Studies, Loyola Marymount University  
Scott Sato, CEO, Tricor Japan  
Yoshiteru (Terry) Suzuki, President and Chief Executive Officer, ORIX Corporation USA  
Ann Teranishi, President and CEO, American Savings Bank  
Rona Tison, Executive Vice President, Corporate Relations and PR, ITO EN, North America, Inc.  
William Tsutsui, *Program Development Committee Chair;* University President and CEO, Ottawa University

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS (JAPAN)**

**BOARD OFFICERS**

Suzanne Basalla, *Representative Director;* President and CEO, U.S.-Japan Council  
Royanne Doi, *Representative Director;* Corporate Governance Specialist  
Ryuichi Katayama, *Internal Auditor*

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Stan Koyanagi, Member of the Board of Directors, Managing Executive Officer, Global General Counsel, ORIX Corporation  
Gary Moriwaki, Partner, Windels Marx Lane & Mittendorf, LLP  
Takashi Ohde, Advisor, Gakushuin Women’s College Institute of International Studies  
Jenifer Rogers, General Counsel Asia, Asurion Japan Holdings G.K.  
Henry Seiichi Takata, Representative Director, Syn Tech Japan Co., Ltd.  
Miyuki Tani, Executive Director, Morgan Stanley Capital K.K.
BOARD OF COUNCILORS

(AS OF DECEMBER 2021)

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.

BOARD OFFICERS (U.S.)

Ernest M. Higa, Chair; Chairman, President & CEO, Higa Industries Co., Ltd.
Honorable Norman Y. Mineta, Vice-Chair; President & CEO, Mineta & Associates, LLC; Former U.S. Secretary of Commerce; Former U.S. Secretary of Transportation
Takeshi Niinami, Vice-Chair; Representative Director, President & CEO, Suntory Holdings Limited
Masaaki Tanaka, Vice-Chair; Former Representative Director and Deputy President, Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc.; Former Chairman, President and CEO, Nippon Paint Holdings Ltd.

BOARD MEMBERS

Naoyuki Agawa, Distinguished Visiting Professor, Doshisha University
Gerald Curtis, Burgess Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Columbia University
His Excellency Ichiro Fujisaki, President, Nakasone Peace Institute; Former Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the U.S.
Dr. Hiroyuki Fujita, Founder & CEO, Quality Electrodynamics; Chief Technology Officer, Canon Medical Systems Corporation, MRI Division
Glen S. Fukushima, Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress
Honorable Colleen Hanabusa, Attorney and Former Member, U.S. House of Representatives, State of Hawaii
Kazuo Hirai, Senior Advisor, Sony Group Corporation
Jennifer Hirano
Yosuke Jay O. Honjo, CEO & Founder, ITO EN US Group
Masami Iijima, Counselor, Mitsui & Co., LTD.
Noriyuki Inoue, Chairman of the Board & Chief Global Group Officer, Daikin Industries, Ltd.
Ken Inouye, Assistant to the Vice Chancellor for Administration, University of University of Hawai’i West O’ahu
His Excellency Ryozo Kato, Former Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the U.S.
Masaharu Kohno, Former 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
Hiroko Kuniya, Journalist; Goodwill Ambassador for Japan, UN Food and Agriculture Organization
Kanetsugu Mike, Chairman, Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Inc.
Tsuyoshi Nagano, Chairman of the Board, Tokio Marine Holdings, Inc.
Dr. Daniel Okimoto, Ph.D., Director Emeritus, Shorenstein APARC; FSI Senior Fellow and Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Stanford University
Kentarou Okuda, President and Group CEO, Nomura Holdings, Inc.
John Onoda, Principal, IQ 360
W. Douglas Parker, Chairman & CEO, American Airlines
Gill Pratt, Chief Scientist and Executive Fellow for Research, Toyota Motor Corporation; Chief Executive Officer, Toyota Research Institute, Inc.
Susan H. Roos, Partner and CAO, Geodesic Capital
His Excellency Kenichiro Sasae, President, The Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA); Former Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the U.S.
Honorable John Thomas Schieffer, President & CEO, Envoy International, LLC; Former Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the U.S. to Japan
Isao Takashiro, Chairman and CEO, Japan Airport Terminal Co., Ltd.

George Takei, Actor, Hosato Enterprises, Inc.
Dr. Keith Terasaki, Chairman, Terasaki Family Foundation
Toshizo Watanabe, President, Toshizo Watanabe Foundation
Akio Yamaguchi, General Manager, IBM Japan
Kristi Yamaguchi, Founder, Always Dream Foundation
Roy Yamaguchi, Chef and Restaurateur, Roy’s
Dr. Shinya Yamanaka, 2012 Nobel Laureate; Director, Center for iPS Cell Research and Application, Kyoto University

HONORARY MEMBERS

Honorable George Ariyoshi, Former Governor, State of Hawaii
His Excellency Yasuo Fukuda, Former Prime Minister of Japan
Honorable Mazie Hirono, U.S. Senate, State of Hawaii
His Excellency Yohei Kono, Former Speaker of the House of Representatives of Japan
Honorable Doris Matsui, U.S. House of Representatives, State of California
Honorable Mark Takano, U.S. House of Representatives, State of California

BOARD OF COUNCILORS (JAPAN)

Kathy Matsui, Chair; General Partner, MPower Partners

BOARD MEMBERS

Daniel Fujii, President & CEO, Trust Capital Co., Ltd.
William Ireton, Head of Production (Japan), Sony Pictures International Productions
Merle Aiko Okawara, Chairman, DELSOLE Corporation
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.

Tom Iino, Chair; Director, First Choice Bank
Donna Cole, CEO & President, Cole Chemical and Distributing, Inc.
Tracey Doi, CFO and Group Vice President, Toyota Motor North America
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Atsuko Toko Fish, Founding Trustee, Fish Family Foundation
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THE COUNCIL WOULD LIKE to extend a special thank you to all those who have supported us and contributed to the Irene Hirano Inouye Memorial Fund. Her legacy lives on thanks to all of our supporters, volunteers and community members.

THE COUNCIL WOULD LIKE to thank Mr. and Mrs. Toshizo Watanabe for their continued generous contributions that enable The Toshizo Watanabe Study Abroad Scholarship Program.

THE COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO THANK the outgoing members of the USJC Board of Directors. Phyllis Campbell, Susan Eichor, James Higa, Leona Hiraoka, Tomoko Kizawa and Dennis Sugino completed their board service on December 31, 2021 and will join the Legacy Council.