



JAPAN-AMERICA
SOCIETY *of the*
State of Washington

2025

Member-Exclusive Reception

Connection through Business,
Culture and Education

PORT OF SEATTLE
FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2025
4:30PM-7:30PM

Supported by



ABOUT JASSW

OUR MISSION

The mission of JASSW is to promote mutual understanding and friendship between the peoples of Japan and Washington State by providing a forum for the exchange of ideas and information.

OUR HISTORY

JASSW was founded on July 24, 1923, by leaders from Seattle's business, academic, and diplomatic communities. Except for a brief period during World War II, we have remained active in fostering Japan-Washington State trade, business, and cultural ties. We maintain close relationships with key government, business, and nonprofit organizations, including the Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle and the Japan Business Association of Seattle. Today, we have a diverse membership of Japanese and American corporations and individuals across the state and offer programs that build positive U.S.-Japan relations. We are one of 38 independent members of the National Association of Japan-America Societies.

LEARN MORE



<https://jassw.org>



@japanamericasocietyofwa

STAY CONNECTED



Sign Up for Our Newsletter

<https://jassw.info/contact-list>



Join Our Events

<https://jassw.info/events>



JASSW at the Olympic Hotel in 1929

PROGRAM

Opening by Mark Harman
Membership Committee Chair, JASSW

Welcome by Karin Zaugg Black
Port of Seattle
Past Chair (2019-2020), JASSW

Greeting by Consul General Makoto Iyori
Consul General, Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle

Greeting by Yuka Shimizu
Current Chair, JASSW

Education Program Report by Yoshie Phillips
Education Committee Chair, JASSW

Introduction to Howard Behar by Koichi Kitazumi
Starbucks
Lead Volunteering JIS Presenter, JASSW

Special Session:
“Motivational Conversation with Howard Behar”

Event Updates by Misa Murohashi
Executive Director, JASSW

SPECIAL THANKS



Howard Behar

Howard Behar is a longtime business leader with over 50 years of experience in consumer-focused industries. He spent 21 years at Starbucks, serving as President of North America and the founding President of Starbucks International, helping expand the company from 28 to over 15,000 stores worldwide. He also served on the Starbucks Board of Directors for 12 years.

Behar is a trustee of the Sheri and Les Biller Family Foundation and advises Anthos Capital. A strong advocate for Servant Leadership, he is dedicated to developing future leaders and has authored two books on leadership: *It's Not About the Coffee* and *The Magic Cup*.

OUR OUTREACH AT A GLANCE

1,200+

Participants in
Events Hosted
Across 2024/25



87

Individual
Members



40

Annual
Volunteers



36

Board Members



80

Members of the
Small Business
Empowerment
Academy



12

Counties Across WA
State w/ Active
Members



41+

Interns since
2017



24

Events Hosted in
2024/25



\$55,000

Grants + Donation
to Fund
Educational
Programs



67,800+

US Students
Engaged by Our
Education
Programs



75

Corporate
Members



3,200+

Students Engaged
by Japan in the
Schools in
2024/25



7

2 Full Time and 5
Part Time Staff
Employed

* 1 Full Time and 2 Part
Time (Main) / 1 Full Time
& 3 Part Time (SB)



20+

Members from
Major
Industries



112

Japan in the
Schools Classroom
Sessions in
2024/25



102 Years

Fostering US-
Japan
Relationships



MEMBERSHIP SUMMARY

JASSW has been a cornerstone of the community, offering valuable networking and programs for individuals, families, and businesses. As a member, you will enjoy exclusive benefits, including:

- **Discounted Rates** – Enjoy reduced member pricing for JASSW programs and events.
- **Exclusive Event Access** – Receive priority invitations to select high-profile events.
- **Expanded Networking** – Connect with key leaders in government and business across Japan and Washington State.

Individual Memberships Annual Fees

Regular (\$60)	Open to individuals under 65 years of age.
Senior (\$30)	Available for individuals aged 65 and older.
Young Professionals (\$30)	Open to individuals aged 30 and under.
Student (\$20)	Available to undergraduate and postgraduate students.
Family (\$75)	Covers all family members living in the same household.

Individual Memberships Annual Fees and benefits

Level	Annual Fees	# of designated representatives	Company Recognition
Benefactor	\$5,000	20 employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logo in monthly e-newsletter • Logo on JASSW website top page • Large logo listed on Corporate Members list page of the JASSW website • Large logo listed in event program booklets
Patron	\$2,500	15 employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logo on JASSW website top page • Medium logo listed on Corporate Members list page of the JASSW website and event program booklets
Sustaining	\$1,250	5 employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small logo listed on Corporate Members list page of the JASSW website and event program booklets
Regular	\$600	4 employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name listed on Corporate Members list page of the JASSW website and in event program booklets
Associate	\$350	1 employee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as Regular
Friendship			

*All designated employees receive bundled benefits under a corporate membership.

*Associate leave applies to businesses with 5 or fewer employees worldwide.

*Friendship Circle applies to businesses that do not have an office or representation in Washington State.

CORPORATE MEMBERS

BENEFACTORS



PATRON



SUSTAINING



CORPORATE MEMBERS

REGULAR

- Actapio, Inc.
- Acucela
- AFCO & Sons, LLC
- ANA
- Bellevue Children's Academy
- CAESCO
- Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle
- Delta Air Lines
- FUJIFILM SonoSite Inc.
- Hillis Clark Martin & Peterson, P.S.
- Japan Business Association of Seattle
- JETRO
- Jones Stevedoring
- Kibun Foods (U.S.A.) Inc.
- Kubota Vision Inc.
- Lasher Holzapfel Sperry & Ebberson
- Maruha Capital Investment Inc.
- MITSUI-SOKO (U.S.A.) INC.
- Mitsubishi Heavy Industries America, Inc.
- Moss Adams LLP
- Nichimo International Inc.
- OBI Seafoods
- Okamura Foods Co., Ltd.
- Pacific Software Publishing, Inc. (PSP)
- Port of Everett
- Port of Moses Lake
- Ryan Swanson & Cleveland, PLLC
- Seattle Japanese Garden
- Seattle Shrimp & Seafood Co Inc.
- Seattle Techs
- Shatz Law Group PLLC
- Silver Bay Seafoods
- Starbucks Coffee Company
- The Westin Seattle
- Trident Seafoods Corporation
- Umpqua Bank
- UW, Foster Business School, Global Business Center
- UW, Center for Japanese Studies
- Weyerhaeuser
- Woodburn Company

ASSOCIATE

- Doskoi Japanese Catering
- Hyogo Business & Cultural Center
- Japan Remotely
- Jumpin' jambalaya
- Koto Jelly Coffee
- Mukai Farm and Garden
- Nishijin Accounting & Consulting
- Onigiri Sanzan
- Pac-Maru, Inc.
- Seattle-Kobe Sister City Association
- Sequim Sister City Association
- Teatro ZinZanni
- Yakimono

FRIENDSHIP

- Aoyama Gakuin University - Business School
- Atomi University
- English Pacifica

EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The Education Program is one of the Society's core activities. Our programs include Japan In the Schools (JIS), which offers interactive Japanese language and culture learning opportunities for local children. Funded by our charitable contributions, JIS is available at no cost to private and public K-12 schools across the Puget Sound area. Our lead presenters and volunteers visit classrooms to explore the daily lives of Japanese schoolchildren or conduct language sessions for Japanese language learners.



For more information about JIS and Sign-up for the school visit volunteer, visit www.japan-in-schools.org

JAPAN
IN THE SCHOOLS
Since 1994

Thank you to our dedicated JIS Presenters and School Visit Volunteers!



Lisa Maria D'Aquila has been a JIS lead presenter since joining as a volunteer in 2004, sharing the JIS program with thousands of local students.

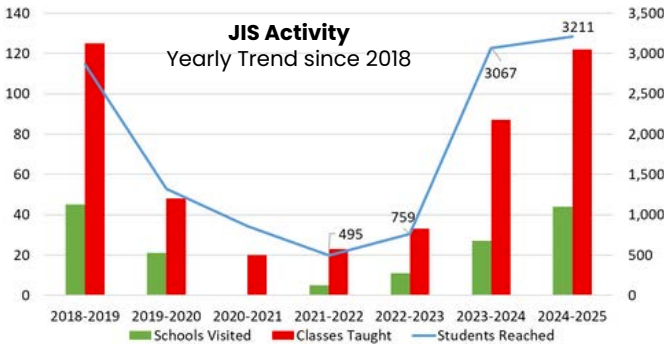
Chiyo Sanada joined the team in 2024 after retiring from a full-time teaching career at public high schools. She is an accomplished Japanese calligrapher.



Koichi Kitazumi is a lead volunteer presenter while working as a UX Researcher at Starbucks. A 4th-generation JA, he also spent time in Kumamoto teaching.



Japan In the School (JIS) Outreach



Program Start	1994
Schools Visited	831
Districts Visited	692
Classes Taught	2,267
Students Reached	67,854



JIS is proudly supported by:



Weyerhaeuser



Share our momentum! #JASSW

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SMALL BUSINESS RESILIENCY PROGRAM



The Japan-America Society of the State of Washington is proud to support local entrepreneurs through its partnership with the Washington State Department of Commerce's Small Business Resiliency Network. We offer dedicated services to empower small businesses, especially those within the Japanese and broader Asian-American communities, to thrive in today's dynamic economy. Our tailored resources, guidance, and connections provide invaluable support to overcome challenges, foster growth, and build resilience. Together, we are creating opportunities for innovation, collaboration, and success across the region. Let us help you take the next step in your small business journey!



For more information, visit
www.jassw.org/small-business.

FREE IN-PERSON Workshops

Let SBRP Answer your questions!

- Business Consulting
- Quick Books Guide
- Marketing & International Trade

DATE
EVERY 4TH FRIDAY
OF THE MONTH

LOCATION
NVC
Memorial Hall

Food Business Incubation Program featuring access to a licensed commissary kitchen ►

◀ **Workshops** led by experts, including a CPA, CFE advisor, QuickBooks ProAdvisor, and Marketing & International Trade Specialist

Food Business Incubation Program



Shared Kitchen

Located at NVC Memorial Hall

For Food Entrepreneurs

JASSW Small Business Bites

Weekly Podcast
Featuring
Useful Business
Information



Weekly Social Media Postings
“知っ得情報”and newsletters ►

◀ **Weekly Podcasts** with helpful information for business owners

Weekly “Did You Know?” Social Media Posting



EVENTS

As part of our mission to promote mutual understanding and friendship between Japan and Washington State, we provide a platform for exchanging ideas and information. We host events ranging from business seminars to culinary experiences with Japanese chefs, celebrating our community's rich diversity.

Upcoming Events

Celebrate Washoku

Date: October

Venue: Matthews Winery, 16116 140th PI NE, Woodinville

Registration: To Open soon

Celebrate Washoku is one of our most popular events, featuring renowned local chefs. We're excited to bring it back this October at the beautiful Mathew Winery vineyard, offering guests an opportunity to learn about and enjoy authentic Japanese cuisine in a stunning setting.

We are currently looking for sponsors to provide food materials.



AI Business Seminar for JASSW Members

Date: Early November (TBC) **Venue:** TBC **Registration:** To Open soon

With support from Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, JASSW will host an exclusive business seminar on AI technology and its fast-growing industry. Leaders from Japanese companies with Pacific Northwest offices and local tech firms will share insights on business trends and innovation. This members-only event offers a unique chance to connect with key players shaping AI's future.

Our Society is shaped by its Members



Membership in the Society offers a chance for members to assist in planning and presenting programs by serving on various committees.

Join one of our committees—such as Education and Membership—or take part in event planning task forces for the events listed. Help us bring these programs to life with your ideas and support.



Find upcoming Japan-related events from JASSW and our members on our calendar

<https://jassw.org/events>



EVENTS

Fundraising Events

JASSW hosts three major fundraising events each year: the Annual Meeting in the spring, the Golf Tournament in the summer, and the Holiday Celebration Dinner in the winter. Proceeds from corporate sponsorships, ticket sales, auction and raffle sales, and other donations support programs that advance JASSW's mission of fostering mutual understanding and friendship between the peoples of Japan and Washington State.

65th Annual Golf Tournament

Date & Time : July 21, 10:00 am – 8:00 pm

Venue: The Plateau Club

25625 E. Plateau Drive, Sammamish, WA 98074

Registration: jassw.org/65th-annual-golf-tournament

Individual \$250 | Foursome \$980 | Dinner Only \$75

Join our Golf Tournament to support the Society at The Plateau Club, a private course nestled in the forests of Sammamish. Enjoy a perfect summer day of golf, networking, and fun. Not a golfer? Join us for the Awards Dinner in the beautiful clubhouse and be part of the celebration!



Holiday Celebration Dinner

Date : December 2

Venue: The Westin Seattle 1900 5th Ave, Seattle, WA 98101

Registration: Coming Soon!



The Holiday Celebration Dinner is our biggest annual fundraising event, bringing together over 300 guests for an unforgettable evening. Enjoy live music, fine wine, and Westin's signature full-course dinner, along with thrilling live auctions and incredible raffle prizes—all in support of a wonderful cause.



Sign up for our newsletter to stay updated on upcoming events!

<https://jassw.info/contact-list>



Become our Member to enjoy discounted rates on JASSW events, exclusive networking opportunities, and more!

Individual Membership Annual Fees

\$60 Regular | \$30 Senior | \$20 Students | \$75 Family

Corporate Membership Annual Fees

\$350 Associate | \$600 Regular | \$1250 Sustaining |
\$2500 Patron | \$5000 Benefactor

*Associate level is only available for businesses with 5 or fewer employees worldwide



For more information, please refer to **page 5** for membership summary, or visit www.jassw.org/join-us

Thanks to Benefactors & Patron Corporate Members



Thanks to Annual Platinum, Diamond and Gold Sponsors 2025



Yoshiaki & Naomi
Minegishi



Yuka Shimizu

