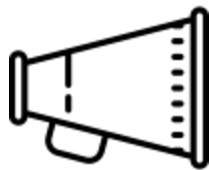


# E-JAPAN JOURNAL

*June 2022*

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Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago



## Announcements

Consular hours and office closures



## Japan-Related Events

Japanese cultural events happening online  
& in-person in the Midwest



## Month in Review

Take a look back at some of the news  
from last month!



## Featured Interview

Interview with attendees at the 2022  
Anime Central (ACen) convention

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## Grants & Scholarships

A list of currently open Grants and  
Scholarships related to Japan

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## JETAA Talks

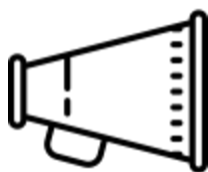
Our JETAA Talks series features  
stories from JETAA (JET Program  
Alumni Association) members in our  
jurisdiction



## This Month in Japan

Learn about the month of June  
in Japan

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## Consular Office Hours

The Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago currently offers the  
following operating times for Consular Services:

- Consular Service windows will be open from Monday - Friday  
10:00am to 12:15pm and 1:15 to 3:00pm.

- The Consular Section's phones will be available to call between 9:15 am and  
12:15pm, and again from 1:15 to 5:00pm.

We do ask that all visitors cooperate with following necessary precautions:

- If you are feeling ill, please wait to come in until you are feeling completely well again.
- In accordance with CDC guidelines, a maximum of 10 people will be allowed in the waiting room. Be aware that you may need to wait outside the waiting room should more than 10 people be present.

## Japan Information Center Hours

The Japan Information Center on the 10th floor's current operating hours are as follows:

Monday – Friday (except Consulate holidays) 9:30am to 12:00pm and 1:30pm to 5:00pm (library procedures will end 15 minutes before closing time)

We ask all visitors please wear a mask and maintain social distance during their visit to the JIC. If the number of visitors exceeds 5 people per group, please contact the JIC in advance to schedule visit.

Thank you for understanding.



文部科学省

MEXT | Scholarships

## MEXT Scholarships

Applications for the **Research, Specialized Training**, and **Undergraduate** scholarships are now available. Applications are due Thursday, June 16, 2022. [Click here for more information.](#)



## Office Closure: Holidays

The Consulate-General of Japan will be closed on:

**June 20** in observance of Juneteenth.

**JAPAN-RELATED  
EVENTS**







## **Ikebana International Chicago Chapter**

### **In-Person Exhibit**

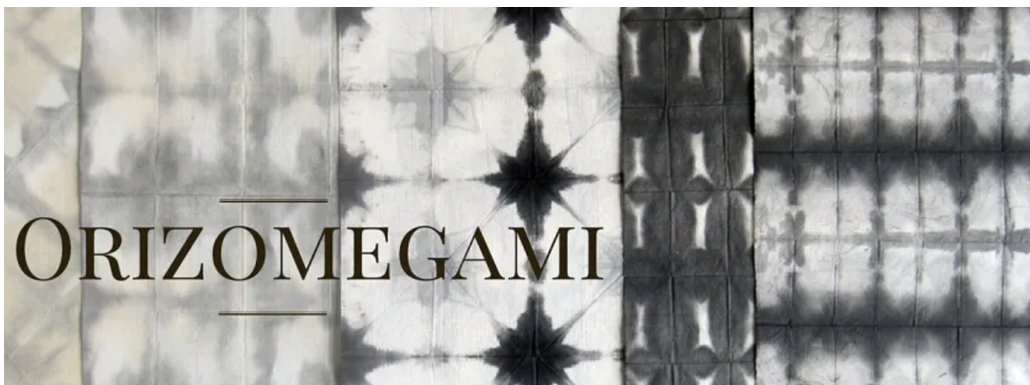
Join the Ikebana International Chicago Chapter for their June in-person exhibit at the Chicago Botanical Garden. Ikebana International will be celebrating Ikebana Day (June 6) with beautiful displays and educational opportunities to learn about the mechanics and techniques of Ikebana. There will also be an Ikebana workshop for children to participate during the exhibit.

#### **IN-PERSON**

Saturday, June 11 and Sunday, June 12 at 10:00am - 4:30pm

Burnstein Hall  
Chicago Botanical Garden  
1000 Lake Cook Road  
Glencoe, IL 60022

Garden admission applies. Visit [here](#) for pricing.



## **Orizomegami – Japanese Paper Dyeing**



# Workshop with the Japanese Culture Center

Join the Japanese Culture Center for a two-hour workshop that will introduce four basic paper folds. Attendees will experiment with non-toxic dye solutions, resulting in beautiful pieces that can be used for future projects such as gift-wrapping, card making, envelope lining, or book binding.

IN-PERSON

Saturday, June 11 at 1:00 - 3:00pm

1016 W Belmont Ave  
Chicago, IL 60657

Visit the event page for pricing information.

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## Primavera: Japan America Society of Minnesota 50th Anniversary Harukaze Concert 2022

To kick-off JASM's 50th Anniversary year, the first big event will be the Harukaze concert at Hamline University's Sundin Music Hall. This year, will feature three Minnesota artists who will perform a program entitled "Primavera".

IN-PERSON

Sunday, June 12 at 3:00 - 5:00pm

1531 Hewitt Ave.

JASM Member: \$10 | Non-Member: \$15

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**JOURNEY TO TOHOKU:  
IWATE**

*Featured Speaker: Reiko Kitatochi, Director of  
International Tourism, Office of Tourism &  
Promotion, Iwate Prefectural Government*

**Thursday, June 16, 2022  
7:00-8:00 pm (CST)**

**FREE ADMISSION**  
EVENT WILL BE HELD VIA ZOOM  
[www.jaschicago.org](http://www.jaschicago.org)

## **Journey to Tohoku: Iwate with the Japan America Society of Chicago**

Learn about places such as Chuson-ji, one of Iwate's best sightseeing locations and world heritage sites, as well as the breathtaking Geibi gorge boat ride and other activities you can only experience in Iwate.

VIRTUAL

Thursday, June 16 at 7:00 – 8:00pm (CST)

Free

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**Hanko 判子  
Japanese Seal Carving**

Saturday, 1:00PM – 4:00PM

## **June Hanko Workshop with the Japanese**

## Culture Center

Join the Japanese Culture Center and learn about the history of Hanko (seal/personal stamp). In this workshop, participants will also design and carve their own Hanko seals.

IN-PERSON

Saturday, June 18 at 1:00 - 4:00pm

1016 W Belmont Ave  
Chicago, IL 60657

Visit the event page for pricing information.

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## Origami Fold and Sip with the Japanese Culture Center

Join the Japanese Culture Center for their popular Fold and Sip event! Learn the traditional art of Japanese paper folding while also enjoying delicious drinks.

IN-PERSON

Thursday, June 23 at 6:00 - 8:00pm

Konbini & Kanpai  
1433 W. Belmont Ave  
Chicago, IL 60657

Free (suggested donation and one drink minimum)

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## Public Tea Ceremony with the Japan House U of I

*Chado*, or the Way of Tea, is one of the most ancient and revered arts of Japan, and is at the very heart of Japan House. Come to a traditional Japanese tea ceremony to learn about Japan House on the campus of the University of Illinois, and the history of this 500-year-old art form.

IN-PERSON

Wednesday, June 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 at 5:30 - 6:30pm

Japan House  
2000 South Lincoln Ave  
Urbana, IL 68102

\$12 - \$15



Curator Talk 'Minneapolis' New Clothes:  
Dressed by Nature - Textiles of Japan

# with the Japan America Society of Minnesota

This exhibition will focus on the resourcefulness of humans to create textiles from local materials like fish skin, paper, elm bark, nettle, banana leaf fiber, hemp, wisteria, deerskin, cotton, silk, and wool. It will showcase rare and exceptional examples of robes, coats, jackets, vests, banners, rugs, and mats, made between around 1750 and 1930, including the royal dress of subtropical Okinawa, ceremonial robes of the Ainu and folk traditions from throughout Japan.

VIRTUAL

Thursday, June 30 at 6:00 - 7:00pm (CST)

JASM Member: Free | Non-Member: \$8

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## The 16th Japan International MANGA Award

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs founded the International MANGA Award in 2007 for the purpose of expanding international exchange and mutual understanding through the MANGA culture which is widely accepted around the world.

This award honors MANGA artists who contribute to the development of MANGA culture in the world.

**Application Period:** April 15– July 8, 2022 (entries must arrive by this date)

Visit the website for award details and eligibility requirements.

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*Does your organization have an upcoming Japan-related event that you would like shared? Feel free to reach out [here](#).*

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Last Month in Review date range: May 1 - May 31

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### Consul-General Attends and Gives Remarks at Hanami: Cherry Blossom Matsuri Event

On May 1st, Consul-General Tajima attended and gave his remarks at the Hanami: Cherry Blossom Matsuri event in the Garden of the Phoenix at Jackson Park. He thanked the event organizers, performers, and volunteers for their hard work in spreading Japanese culture through this event.

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### Consul-General Meets President Shapiro of Northwestern University



On May 5th, Consul-General Tajima met with President Shapiro and Vice President Grynspan of Northwestern University. They discussed about academic exchanges with Japan. After the meeting, Consul-General Tajima met with Japanese language learners studying at Northwestern.

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## JIC Participates in Kodomo no Hi Event in Jackson Park

On May 5th, the Japan Information Center of the Consulate General of Japan, along with the Japanese Culture Center, participated in the Kodomo no Hi (Children's Day) event at the Garden of the Phoenix in Jackson Park. The garden's waterfall, which is off during the cold months, were turned on to commemorate the day. The event was hosted by the Chicago Park District.

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## University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point Japan Club visits JIC

On May 6th, the UW-Stevens Point Japan Club came to the JIC to learn about the Official JET Program USA and Japanese cultural activities such as Kendo.

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## Consul-General Meets South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem

On May 9th, Consul-General Tajima met with Governor Kristi Noem of South Dakota at the state capitol. The two discussed a series of topic including the economic relationship between Japan and South Dakota.

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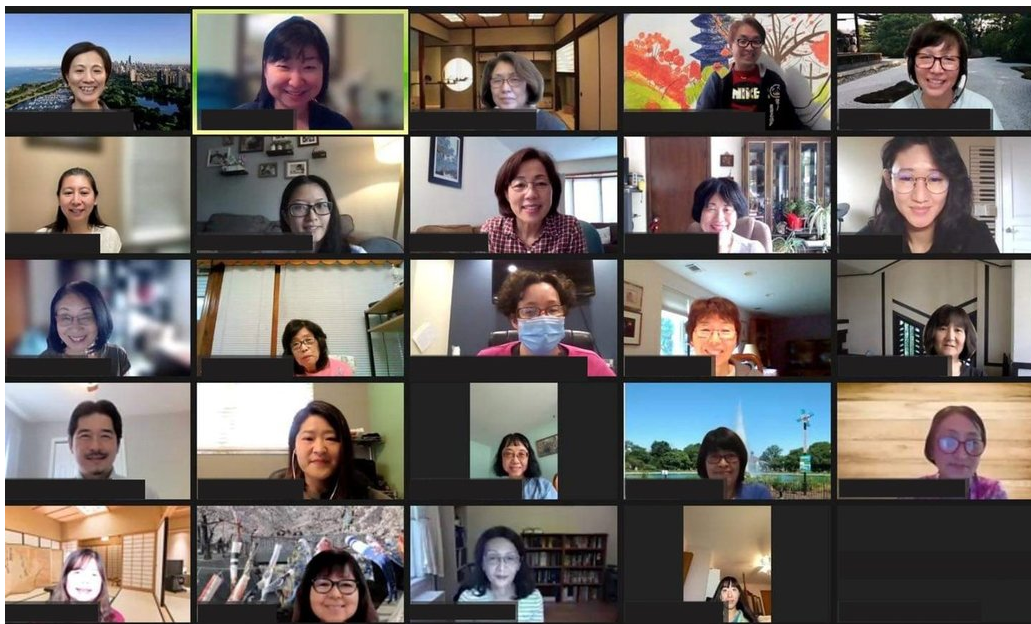


## JET Participants Gathered for Early Departure Orientation

On May 13th, JET participants gathered for the Early Departure Orientation. They departed to Japan on the weekend to begin teaching English at local Japanese schools.

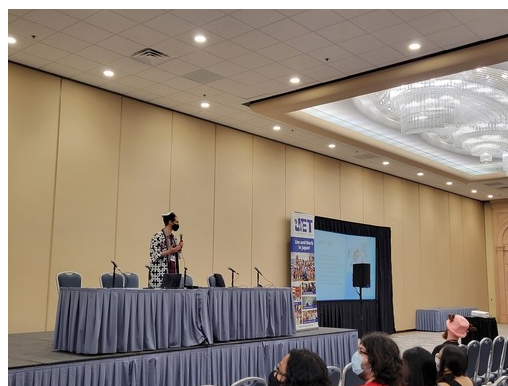
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## Teachers Participate in Japanese Language Teachers' Workshop

On May 15th, more than 20 teachers from Illinois, Wisconsin and Missouri participated in the Japanese Language Teachers' workshop co-organized by Illinois Association of Teachers of Japanese and the JIC. Participants learned about Dyslexia and how to support students with learning differences. The workshop was made possible by a grant from The Japan Foundation.



## JIC Participates in 2022 Anime Central

From May 20th to the 22nd, the JIC participated in the 2022 Anime Central (ACen) convention held at the Donald A. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, IL. Attendees stopped by JIC's booth to learn more about Japanese culture, the JET Program, MEXT scholarships, and more.





## Consul-General Visits Skokie Festival of Culture 2022

On May 21st, Consul-General Tajima visited the Skokie Festival of Culture 2022. He joined the opening ceremony and spoke with festival attendees.

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## Consul-General Joins 20th Anniversary of Japanese Dual Language Program at Dooley Elementary

On May 23rd, Consul-General Tajima joined the 20th anniversary acknowledgement and celebration of the Japanese Dual Language Program at Dooley Elementary. He enjoyed performances and presentation by students and expressed the importance of programs like the one established at Dooley.

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## Consul-General attends Annual Community Memorial Day Service

On May 30th, Consul-General Tajima attended the Annual Community Memorial Day Service sponsored by the Japanese Mutual Aid Society of Chicago for Japanese-American Veterans at Montrose Cemetery in Chicago. This memorial service is held every year on Memorial Day in honor of the Japanese-American Veterans who lost their lives during past wars.

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### SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS



## Japan Foundation Grants

Grants to teachers, institutions, and students engaged in Japanese language, as well as arts and cultural programs.

[Japanese Language Education Project Grant](#)



## CGP Education Grant

The Education Grant program supports nonprofit organizations to assist K-12 students, teachers, and the community to deepen their understanding about Japan, promote cross-cultural exchange, and nurture global perspectives. Project examples include but are not limited to: community outreach, teacher workshops, cultural events.

**Proposal deadline:** Rolling

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## MEXT Scholarships

Applications for the **Research, Specialized Training, and Undergraduate** scholarships are now available.

Monbukagakusho (MEXT), the Japanese Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology offers four different scholarships for non-Japanese nationals wishing to study in Japan. Only U.S. citizens living within the following states can apply for a MEXT Scholarship at this Consulate: IL, IN, IA, KS, MN,



**Deadline for all applications:** Thursday, June 16, 2022

## Featured Interview



## Featured Interview: Attendees at the 2022 Anime Central

This month we interviewed some attendees at this year's ACen. Thank you to those who took the time to speak with us and share your interests about Japanese culture!

**JETAA TALKS**



## JETAA Talks: Joe Galligan

Our JETAA Talks series features stories from JETAA (JET Program Alumni Association) members in our jurisdiction. This month we connected with a JIC member, Joe Galligan. Thank you for sharing your story with us, Joe!

*Are you a JET alumni from or living in our ten-state jurisdiction who would like to share their Japan experience? Please contact us [here](#) with your name, location (in relation to our jurisdiction), JET placement, year(s) you participated on the program, and a small blurb about your time there. We are excited to hear your stories!*

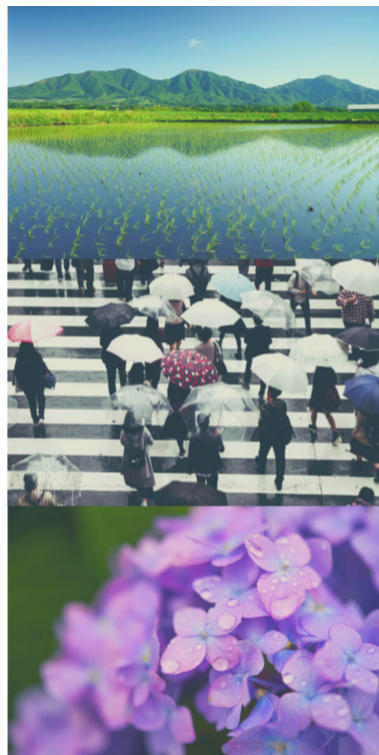
### THIS MONTH IN JAPAN

# 水無月

*minazuki*

水無月 (Minazuki). June. Named after the season of pouring water into the rice fields. “水の月 (Minotsuki)” literary means the month of water.

In Japan, June is also rainy season in most areas so Minazuki might be a perfect name for the month, despite its original reason.



**Minazuki**, the old name for June, means "water month." Tsuyu, or heavy rainfall season takes place during the months of June and July throughout

most of Japan and lasts about 6 weeks. There are no official Japanese holidays in June.

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## NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

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Dear Subscribers,

Happy June! What interesting weather we have been having this past month. Japan is known for having four distinct seasons while the Midwest is known for being able to experience four seasons within the span of a week!

We hope that the weather continues to work in our favor to join in on all the in-person events happening throughout the Midwest. There are still plenty of virtual events to keep us busy during the indoor days, too!

*Itsumo arigatou gozaimasu,*

Japan Information Center

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The e-Japan Journal is the monthly newsletter of the Japan Information Center (JIC) at the Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago. We hope it proves to be an informative window for you into Japan-related activities happening in our 10 Midwest states.

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**\*\*for consular services and other general inquiries\*\***

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