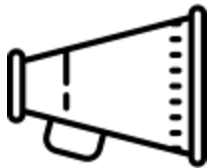


E-JAPAN JOURNAL

September 2022

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Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago



Announcements

Consular hours and office closures



Month in Review

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



Japan-Related Events

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



Grants & Scholarships

A list of currently open Grants and Scholarships related to Japan



Featured Interview

Interview with Honorary Consul to Japan in Kansas City James (Jim) Kanki



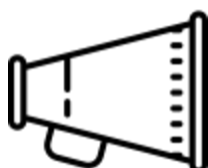
JETAA Talks

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 September in Japan



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.



Office Closure: Holidays

The Consulate-General of Japan will be closed on:

October 10 for Columbus Day/Sports Day.



2023 JET Program Application is open!

Want to live and work in Japan?

The Japan Exchange & Teaching (JET) Program is an employment opportunity for college graduates to live in cities, towns, and villages while working in public schools and government offices across the country.

Application deadline: November 18, 2022

The Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago will be holding virtual information sessions for those interested in applying to the program. Register below for one of the sessions and learn more about an experience of a lifetime!

- **Monday, October 3 (3 – 4pm):** <https://bit.ly/3Sojnb2>
- **Wednesday, October 5 (2 – 3pm):** <https://bit.ly/3UmJeLX>
- **Friday, October 14 (11am – 12pm):** <https://bit.ly/3qNNUwT>

**JAPAN-RELATED
EVENTS**





Enthusiastic Cheering Culture of Japanese Baseball Fans

The Japan America Society of Minnesota is hosting a new online event "Enthusiastic Cheering Culture of Japanese Baseball Fans" by Masaya Muneda and Yuma Miyashita via Zoom. One of the presenters is a former member of one of the Team from NPB's (Nippon Professional Baseball Organization) Cheer Group. They will be presenting live from Japan!

Watching a baseball game in Japan is totally different from watching one in America. Unlike American fans, Japanese fans cheer their team with voice, drums, and dances led by the Cheer Group's command.

This presentation reviews how Japanese Cheer culture works at the baseball park along with the true story of former members of one of the teams from NPB's cheer group.

VIRTUAL

Thursday, October 6 at 6:00 - 7:00pm (CDT)

Nonmembers: \$8 | JASM Members: Free



ASIAN
POP-UP CINEMA

FACETS
Experience the edge
of cinema

APUC HORROR MARATHON



October Japanese Film Screenings at FACETS Cinema with Asian Pop-Up Cinema

As a part of a new film series in

itiative titled "Asian Pop-Up Cinema Horror Marathon," Asian Pop-Up Cinema is curating features for FACETS' special Halloween October programming. Two Japanese films will be a part of the line up.

Ichi The Killer

This visceral, bloody, and often hilarious film follows Kakihara (Tadanobu Asano), a notoriously sadistic yakuza enforcer whose search for his boss' killer brings him into the orbit of a demented costumed assassin known as Ichi (Nao Ōmori).

Screening on Thursday, October 6 at 7:00pm - 9:15pm

Missing

Depressed and in debt following the death of his wife, Santoshi (Jiro Sato, FABLE) tells his young daughter he has found a way out. Pointing to the reward note, he vows to find the infamous serial killer "No Name" (Hiroya Shimizu, TOKYO REVENGERS), claiming he saw the man in the flesh a few days earlier.

Kaeda (Aoi Ito, BLANK) cannot believe her aloof, goofy father. But when he goes missing without a trace, she starts fearing the worst—and begins looking for him.

Screening on Sunday, October 30 at 1:30pm - 3:45pm

IN-PERSON

FACETS Cinema
1517 W. Fullerton Ave.
Chicago, IL 60614

Visit the film pages by clicking the film title for ticket information.



Greater Kansas City Japan Festival

Presented by the Heart of America Japan-America Society, The Greater Kansas City Japan Festival is a celebration of Japanese culture and is coming back as an in-person this year! Attendees can look forward to traditional Japanese musical performances, Japanese candy artist, traditional Japanese food, traditional Japanese snacks and sweets, bazaar shopping extravaganza, exhibits, Japanese cultural village for kids, martial arts, anime & manga, workshops, demonstrations,

and cultural presentations.

IN-PERSON

Saturday, October 8 at 10:00am - 7:00pm

Midwest Trust Center
Johnson County Community College
12345 College Blvd.
Overland Park, KS 66210

Adults: \$15 | Students (with proper ID): \$10 | Children (6-13yrs old): \$5 | Children (5yrs old and under): Free



Japanese Ambience Festival with the Omaha Sister Cities Association

The Omaha Sister Cities Association helps host the Autumn and Japanese Ambience Festival, with a variety of activities to celebrate the Japanese culture. Japanese Ambience also celebrates the anniversary of the gift of the Japanese Sunpu Castle Gate at Lauritzen Gardens by Shizuoka, Japan, Omaha's first Sister City. Enjoy activities like Japanese calligraphy, koinobori, origami, chopsticks, traditional Japanese games, food tastings and more. Performances will include martial arts demonstrations, taiko drumming and traditional Japanese music and dance.

IN-PERSON

Saturday, October 8 & Sunday, October 9 at 10:00am - 4:00pm

Lauritzen Gardens
100 Bancroft St.
Omaha, NE 68108

General Admission: \$15



Autumn Full Moon Tea Ceremony at Anderson Japanese Gardens

Join the Anderson Japanese Gardens for their autumn full moon tea ceremony event. Enjoy observing Reiko Takahashi, Ikenobo Ikebana instructor, as she creates “Tatehana,” the oldest style of the Ikenobo Ikebana School, for an offering to the Moon. Then, Professor Gunji will perform the Kencha, tea ceremony to serve a bowl of tea to the Moon. Guests will enjoy music performed by Donovan Gruner while waiting for the Moon to rise, and tea with Tsukimi Manju (a special sweet for the moon viewing) will be served.

IN-PERSON

Sunday, October 9 at 6:30pm

Anderson Japanese Gardens
318 Spring Creek Road
Rockford, IL 61107

Garden Members: \$30 | Nonmembers: \$35



CHICAGO
HISTORY
MUSEUM

Chicago History Museum's Urban History Seminar - Breaking the Japantown Stereotype: Who Were the Japanese and Japanese Americans in Chicago 1865– 1940?

Join Takako and Michael Day to learn about the many and varied lives of Japanese immigrants, as well as their families and their professions, introducing, through Chicago history, a new aspect of Japanese American history in the United States.

VIRTUAL

Thursday, October 13 at 7:00 - 8:15pm (CDT)

Free



October Lecture: Friendship Through Flowers at Anderson Japanese Gardens

Ikebana is a traditional art of floral arrangement that has been practiced in Japan for over 600 years. It is now practiced by millions around the world who are enamored by its beauty in composition and harmony. Join the Anderson Japanese Gardens for their October lecture Friendship Through Flowers, led by Margot Wang, Ikebana International Chicago Chapter President, Ohara School of Ikebana Demonstration.

IN-PERSON

Thursday, October 20 at 7:00pm

Anderson Japanese Gardens
318 Spring Creek Road
Rockford, IL 61107

Garden Members: Free | Nonmembers: \$5

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

LAST MONTH IN REVIEW





Consul-General Throws First Pitch During Cubs Game

On August 7, Consul-General Tajima threw out the first pitch for the Chicago Cubs vs. Miami Marlins. He enjoyed the pitch experience and talking with members of the team, including outfielder Seiya Suzuki.



Screening of Japanese Film at Chicago International Film Festival

On August 17, film lovers viewed *Poupelle of Chimney Town*, a Japanese film showcased as a part of the Chicago International Film Festival and the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events Summer Screening program. Before the film, viewers listened to Deputy Consul-General Kishi spoke about the importance of Japan and the Midwest becoming closely connected.





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](#)

[JFNY Grant for Online Japanese Studies](#)



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



Featured Interview



Featured Interview: Honorary Consul James (Jim) Kanki

This month we interviewed Jim Kanki, Honorary Consul of Japan in Kansas City.

JETAA TALKS



JET PROGRAM ALUMNI TALK ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCES IN JAPAN

JETAA Talks: Cheyanne Flowers

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

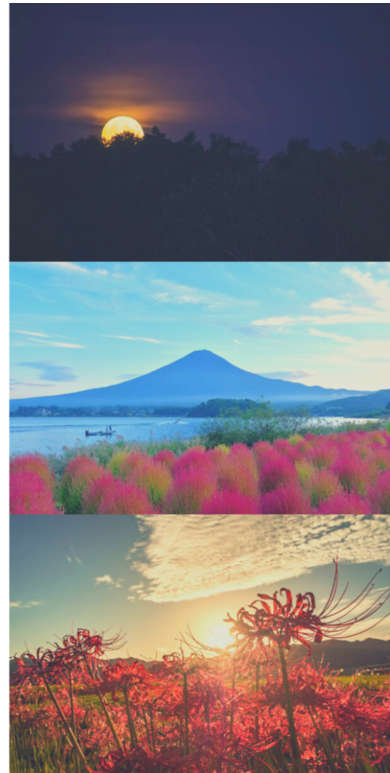
Are you a JET alumni from or living in our ten-state jurisdiction who would like to share their Japan experience? Please contact us [here](#) with your name, location (in relation to our jurisdiction), JET placement, year(s) you participated on the program, and a small blurb about your time there. We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

THIS MONTH IN JAPAN

長月

nagatsuki

長月 (Nagatsuki). September. Named after the season where the nights get longer. The original form was 夜長月 (Yonagatsuki), meaning "month of long nights". You may not feel it that much during September, but during fall season, the nights gradually get longer and Nagatsuki comes from the realization of the season change from fall to winter.



Nagatsuki or *Yonagazuki* means "long-night month," and was the lunar calendar name for the month of September. Respect for the Aged (敬老の日 - Keiro no Hi) Day and Autumnal Equinox Day (秋分の日 - Shuubun no Hi) are the two national holidays of September.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Subscribers,

Summer is over and fall is knocking on our doors!

With more and more in-person events returning after a 1-2 year hiatus, we hope that everyone gets a chance to experience all the upcoming fun activities. Remember to stay hydrated, take breaks when needed, and to enjoy!

Itsumo arigatou gozaimasu,

Japan Information Center



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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Consulate-General of Japan
Japan Information Center
737 North Michigan Avenue
Suite 1000
Chicago, IL 60611

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

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