



*Live Webinar*  
**Japanese Pop Culture:  
Connecting the World through  
Manga and Anime**

Part of the *Living Traditions* series

**Tues., Feb. 15, 2022**

**7:00 pm – 8:00 pm EST (4:00 pm—5:00pm PDT)**

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*Living Traditions* webinar series is co-presented with Portland Japanese Garden and supported by the Government of Japan.



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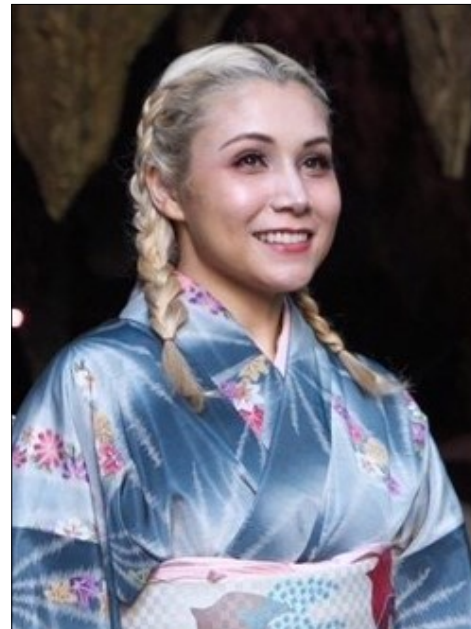
## SPEAKER PROFILES

**Roland Kelts** is a Tokyo-based Japanese-American writer, journalist, scholar and authority on Japanese and Western cultures. His best-selling first book, *JAPANAMERICA*, is considered the ultimate guide to Japan's pop culture juggernaut — required reading for many Hollywood producers, artists and academics worldwide. His writing is published in *The New Yorker*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *Zoetrope: All Story*, *The Times Literary Supplement* and others, and he is a primary source on Japan for *CNN*, the *BBC*, *NPR* and *NHK*. He is also a columnist for *The Japan Times*, a contributing editor of *MONKEY: New Writing from Japan*, and a professor at Waseda University in Tokyo. He has given speeches on Japan for think tanks, embassies, universities, pop culture conventions and private events in the US, Europe and Asia, including TED Talks and The World Economic Forum. Kelts has taught at The University of Tokyo, New York University, Columbia University and Sophia University. He has won several awards and fellowships, including a 2017 Nieman Fellowship in Journalism at Harvard University.



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**Julia Mechler** works for mixi, inc., a Japanese mobile gaming company, as a business development manager overseeing US-based teams that produce gaming app content. Julia also creates manga, publishing her first comic book, *Hymn of the Teada*, an Okinawan-themed comic book released by *Heavy Metal Magazine*. She began her career as a motion graphics designer at the Los Angeles branch of a Japanese anime/gaming company. Though her career focuses on digital entertainment, she is also an expert on Okinawan traditional performing arts, producing shows in Okinawa that mesh traditional dance and digital entertainment.



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## SPEAKER PROFILES

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**William Tsutsui** is an award-winning scholar and teacher, specializing in the economic, environmental, and cultural history of modern Japan. Educated at Harvard, Oxford, and Princeton Universities, he has published widely on Japanese popular culture and globalization, the Japan's postwar "imagination of disaster," and giant monster movies in Japan and the United States. His 2004 book *Godzilla on My Mind: Fifty Years of the King of Monsters* was called a "cult classic" by the *New York Times* and a Japanese translation was published by Chūkō sōsho. He has received Fulbright and Marshall Fellowships and was awarded the John Whitney Hall Prize of the Association for Asian Studies in 2000. He currently serves as President and Professor of History at Ottawa University, and previously taught at the University of Kansas, Southern Methodist University, and Hendrix College. In 2020-2021, he was the Edwin O. Reischauer Distinguished Visiting Professor at Harvard.



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