

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS 2019—2020



In mid-March, 2020, Japan Society closed its doors to staff, guests and the public in compliance with the COVID-19 pandemic shutdown. All onsite programs were cancelled or postponed, including the newly opened spring Gallery exhibition, with virtual events and other digital initiatives replacing physical programming.

SPECIAL EVENTS

2019 Bash + Benefit Auction

7 November

Japan Society's seventh annual benefit auction, an evening of festive food, drink and entertainment with live and online auctions, was held in support of the Society's Arts & Culture programming. Following a VIP dinner with special guests David Bouley, Candice Kumai, Shohei Shigematsu, Hiroshi Sugimoto and Basil Twist, Christy Williams Coombs of Sotheby's conducted the live auction. Guests enjoyed installations, live performances, and projections by Ximena Garnica and Shige Moriya featuring the LEIMAY Ensemble, with featured performers Masanori Asahara, Krystal Copper, Mario Galeano and Andrea Jones.

Supporters: Bash Chairs Joseph and Amy Perella; Vice Chairs Bank of America, Louis J. Forster, Jun Makihara and Mimi Oka, and William K. Tomita; and Committee members Amy Cherry-Abitbol, Ariel and Cathy Deckelbaum, Yosuke J.O. Honjo/ITO EN (North America) INC., Shigesuke and Noriko Kashiwagi, Hidemoto Mizuhara/Mitsubishi Corporation (Americas), Masako H. Shinn; and Joshua and Geula Solomon.

Special Thanks: Anomaly, Artsy, Asahi-Shuzo Sake Brewing Co., Ltd., Chef David Bouley, Brooklyn Kura, Christy William Coombs, EN Japanese Brasserie, Issey Miyake USA Corp., Kubota Sake USA Inc., Dr. Stephen and Michiko Levine, Malfatti Glass, Miyako Yoshinaga Gallery, Mizuma Art Gallery, Moto Creative Services, Chef Hiroki Odo, Paul & Joe Beauté, Ronin Gallery, Ryuichi Sakamoto, Scholten Japanese Art, Masako H. Shinn, ShugoArts, Sotheby's, Suntory America Inc., Taka Ishii Gallery, Chef Masa Takayama, Takuro Someya Contemporary Art, Julie Taymor, Tiffany & Co., The Tolman Collection of Tokyo, Wuhaio New York Inc., Ximena Garnica and Shige Moriya | Leimay, Koichi Yanagi and Yuko Hosomi, Kazuhito Yoshii, and participating artists.

2020 Japan Society Annual Dinner: Reimagined Gala and Awards

18 June

Japan Society's first ever virtual *2020 Annual Dinner: Reimagined Gala and Awards* led the way for fundraising events in New York during the COVID pandemic, with New York and Tokyo co-hosts and approximately 350 guests—20 percent of the audience joined from Japan. The program featured presentations by Keynote Speaker Daniel P. Amos, Chairman and CEO, Aflac Incorporated and kyogen actor Mansaku Nomura, the Japan Society Award Recipient. TV personality and international model Mika Ahn was the Master of Ceremonies Tokyo and Joshua W. Walker, Ph.D., President & CEO, Japan Society was the Master of Ceremonies New York. Shinzo Abe, Prime Minister of Japan, offered a message of hope for New York and reinforced the immutable friendship and alliance between the U.S. and Japan. Additionally, there were exclusive video remarks from The Hon. Caroline Kennedy, former U.S. Ambassador to Japan, Governor George Pataki, 53rd Governor of New York State and Ambassador Joseph M. Young, Chargé d'Affaires, U.S. Embassy in Japan. Pianist Yuri Aoki and soprano Yunuet Laguna, Lindemann Young Artists at the Metropolitan Opera, gave a heartfelt musical performance. Our two countries' relief worker efforts were recognized through the presentation of an award to the Japanese Medical Society of America in New York and the Disease Control and Prevention Center/ National Center for Global Health and Medicine in Japan.

EXECUTIVE INITIATIVES

Two new executive initiatives were launched in 2020, *Leadership Briefings* and *Tea Time*.

LEADERSHIP BRIEFINGS

An ongoing series of C-suite invitational briefings brings together influential executives and other thought leaders from the U.S. and Japan to discuss industry-specific topics defining and driving the U.S. and Japan.

Leadership Briefing

21—22 May

Online invitational program. Co-presented with Brunswick Group. With Neil Wolin, CEO, Brunswick Group.

TEA TIME VIDEO SERIES

Tea Time, streaming on YouTube, is an online space to enjoy a cup of tea while listening to a conversation between an expert on topics affecting U.S.-Japan relations and series host Joshua Walker, Ph.D., President and CEO, Japan Society.

Tea Time Season #1

March—June

Guests: Dr. Robert Yanagisawa, Professor of Medicine, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai; Co-Director of the Mount Sinai Global Health Program in Japan; President of the Japanese Medical Society of America; Sakura Yagi, COO T.I.C. Restaurant Group; Vice Chair, U.S.-Japan Council; Parag Khanna, Managing Partner, FutureMap; Catherine Kobayashi, journalist; Jeremy Hunter, Founding Director, Executive Mind Leadership Institute; Ambassador Kanji Yamanouchi, Consul General of Japan in New York; Rona Tison, Executive Vice President, ITO EN (North America) INC; Kumiko Makihara, author; Rosanne Haggerty, President & CEO, Community Solutions; and George Pataki, former Governor of New York.

BUSINESS & POLICY

CONFERENCES, PANEL DISCUSSIONS, SEMINARS & SYMPOSIA

Korea-Japan Relations & the U.S. Role 12 September

With Sheila A. Smith, Senior Fellow for Japan Studies, Council on Foreign Relations and Thomas C. Hubbard, Senior Director, McLarty Associates; Chairman, The Korea Society; former U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Korea.

Energy & Geopolitics: Is Japan Ready to Deal with the Uncertainties? 10 December

With Go Katayama, Senior Consultant, Poten & Partners, Inc.; Katherine Spector, Research Scholar, Center on Global Energy Policy, Columbia University; and Michael Tran, Managing Director, Global Energy Strategy, RBC Capital Markets. Carolyn Kissane, Academic Director and Clinical Professor at Center for Global Affairs, New York University, moderating.

2020 Global Risk Landscape: What Lies Ahead? 28 January

With Keishi Hotsuki, Executive Vice President & Chief Risk Officer, Morgan Stanley; Alessandra Quane, Executive Vice President & Chief Risk Officer, AIG; Gillian Tett, Chair of the Editorial Board & Editor-at-Large, Financial Times; and Joshua W. Walker, Ph.D., President & CEO, Japan Society.

The Future of Digital Currencies: Libra & Beyond 5 February

With Oki Matsumoto, Chairman & CEO, Monex Group, Inc. and Simon Potter, Nonresident Senior Fellow, Peterson Institute for International Economics; former Head of the Markets Group & System Open Market Account Manager, Federal Reserve Bank of New York. Brady Dale, Senior Reporter, CoinDesk, moderating.

Overcoming Mountains: Mindfulness as a Leadership Practice for Anyone 20 February

With Jeremy Hunter, Founding Director of the Executive Mind Leadership Institute & Associate Professor of Practice, Peter F. Drucker Graduate School of Management, Claremont Graduate University and Dai Ajari Ryojun Shionuma, Head Priest of Fukuju-san, Jigenji Temple.

LECTURES

From Heisei to Reiwa: The People's Emperor 1 October

This program was supported, in part, by an award from the Japan-United States Friendship Commission as part of the institution-wide *Passing the Torch* series.

With Ken Ruoff, Professor of History & Director of the Center for Japanese Studies, Portland State University. Carol Gluck, George Sansom Professor of History, Columbia University, presiding.

Cybernetics Revolution: Cyberdyne's Vision & Strategy 7 October

This program was supported, in part, by an award from the Japan-United States Friendship Commission as part of the institution-wide *Passing the Torch* series.

With Yoshiyuki Sankai, Founder, President & CEO, CYBERDYNE Inc.; Professor & Executive Research Director, Center for Cybernetics Research, University of Tsukuba. Bruce Lieberthal, Chief Innovation Officer, Henry Schein, Inc., presiding.

Free & Open Indo-Pacific: U.S.-Japan-Australia Alliance 16 October

With Tadashi Maeda, Governor, Japan Bank for International Cooperation. Alan MacDonald, Chief Client Officer, Vice Chairman, Citibank, N.A., presiding.

Special Duty: A History of the Japanese Intelligence Community 12 November

With Richard Samuels, Ford International Professor of Political Science, Director of the Center for International Studies, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Gerald Curtis, Burgess Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Columbia University; Director, Toyota Research Program, Weatherhead East Asian Institute; Distinguished Senior Research Fellow, Tokyo Foundation, presiding.

LUNCHEONS

NEC's Facial Recognition Technology: Vision for a Brighter Biometric Tomorrow 17 September

With Masahiro Ikeno, President & CEO, NEC Corporation of America. Satoru Murase, Partner, Mayer Brown LLP, presiding.

Has the Japanese Economy Changed? Challenges & Prospects 3 October

With Masazumi Wakatabe, Deputy Governor, Bank of Japan. Kathleen Hays, Global Economics & Policy Editor, Bloomberg Television and Radio, presiding.

Special Luncheon with Federal Reserve Board Vice Chair Richard Clarida 1 November

With Richard Clarida, Vice Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. Hiroyuki Kasama, President & CEO, Mizuho Bank (USA), presiding.

Japan's Indo-Pacific Strategy in the Emerging U.S.-China Rivalry 16 January

With Yuichi Hosoya, Professor of International Politics, Keio University. Joshua W. Walker, Ph.D., President & CEO, Japan Society, discussant.

WORKSHOPS

Applied Mindfulness Workshop **Life is a Practice: Transform Your Mind, Create Quality of Life** 21 February

With Jeremy Hunter, Founding Director of the Executive Mind Leadership Institute & Associate Professor of Practice, Peter F. Drucker Graduate School of Management, Claremont Graduate University and Dai Ajari Ryojun Shionuma, Head Priest of Fukuju-san, Jigenji Temple.

Professional Development Workshop: Advancing Your Career Your Way 27 February

With Maureen McGurl, CEO of Sutton Place HR Consulting Group, LLC.

WEBINARS

Geopolitics of Coronavirus: Japan & Korea 10 April

Online. With Sheila A. Smith, Senior Fellow for Japan Studies, Council on Foreign Relations and Stephen Noerper, Senior Director, Policy and Corporate Programs, The Korea Society. Joshua W. Walker, Ph.D., President & CEO, Japan Society, moderating.

Promoting Our Mission in the Age of COVID-19: U.S. Relations with Japan, Asia & the World 21 April

Online. With Bill Clifford, President and CEO, World Affairs Councils of America and Ambassador Josette Sheeran, President and CEO, Asia Society. Joshua W. Walker, Ph.D., President and CEO, Japan Society, moderating.

COVID-19: Economic Implications for Japan & the United States 29 April

Online. With Glenn Hubbard, Dean Emeritus; Russell L. Carson Professor of Finance and Economics, Columbia Business School; Takeshi Komoto, Minister, Embassy of Japan in the United States

of America; and Keiko Tashiro, Deputy President / Member of the Board, Daiwa Securities Group Inc. Yumiko Shimabukuro, Director, Urban and Social Policy Program, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, moderating.

The Role of Central Banks in the COVID-19 Pandemic: The U.S., Japan & Beyond

1 May

Online. With Patricia Mosser, Director, MPA Program in Economic Policy Management; Senior Research Scholar, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University and Koji Nakamura, General Manager for the Americas, Bank of Japan. Kathleen Hays, Global Economics & Policy Editor, Bloomberg Television and Radio, moderating.

COVID-19: Practical Guidance for Employers

15 May

Online. With Devjani H. Mishra, Shareholder, Littler Mendelson, P.C.; Melissa K. Peters, Special Counsel, Littler Mendelson, P.C.; and Hironobu Tsukamoto, Partner & Head of Overseas Office (New York Office), Nagashima Ohno & Tsunematsu NY LLP. Philip M. Berkowitz, U.S. Practice Co-Chair, International Employment Law Practice Group & Co-Chair, Financial Services Industry Group, Littler Mendelson, P.C., moderating.

Statecraft in the 21st Century: Policy Coordination on Traditional & Non-Traditional Security Threats

20 May

Online. With Ambassador Oh Joon, Professor of United Nations Studies, Kyung Hee University; Kanehara Nobukatsu, Senior Advisor, The Asia Group; Distinguished Research Fellow, Japan Forum on International Relations; Ambassador Kathleen Stephens, President & CEO, Korea Economic Institute in America; Chair of the Board, The Korea Society; and Ambassador Qi Zhenhong, President, China Institute for International Studies. Joshua W. Walker, Ph.D., President & CEO, Japan Society, moderating.

The Storm Makes You Stronger: Managing Your Mind in the Face of Crisis with Jeremy Hunter Ph.D.

16 June

Online. With Jeremy Hunter, Founding Director of the Executive Mind Leadership Institute & Associate Professor of Practice, Peter F. Drucker Graduate School of Management, Claremont Graduate University. Joshua W. Walker, Ph.D., President & CEO, Japan Society, presiding.

New York & California Privacy Laws: What Employers Need to Know

25 June

Online. With Philip L. Gordon, Chair, Privacy & Background Checks Practice Group, Littler Mendelson, P.C.; Zoe M. Argento, Shareholder, Littler Mendelson, P.C. and Hironobu Tsukamoto, Partner

& Co-Head, Nagashima Ohno & Tsunematsu NY LLP. Philip M. Berkowitz, U.S. Practice Co-Chair, International Employment Law Practice Group & Co-Chair, Financial Services Industry Group, Littler Mendelson, P.C., moderating.

INVITATION-ONLY EVENTS

Private Dinner & Discussion with The Honorable Haruhiko Kuroda, Governor, Bank of Japan

19 July

With The Honorable Haruhiko Kuroda, Governor, Bank of Japan. Motoatsu Sakurai, President, Japan Society, presiding.

Private Meeting with Keizai Doyukai

2 October

SDGs, Climate Change & Environmental Issues

5 March

With Mari Yoshitaka, Chief Environmental & Social Strategist, Environmental Strategy Advisory Division, Mitsubishi UFJ Morgan Stanley Securities Co., Ltd. Joshua W. Walker, Ph.D., President & CEO, Japan Society, presiding.

The season was sponsored by Global Leaders Citi and Deloitte; and by Corporate Partners Mizuho Americas, Toyota and United Airlines.

Additional support was provided by: All Nippon Airways Co., Ltd.; Henry Schein; Littler Mendelson, P.C.; and Nagashima Ohno & Tsunematsu NY LLP.

Program co-organizers and outreach partners were: APEC Study Center at Columbia University; Center on Japanese Economy and Business at Columbia Business School; Consulate General of Japan in New York; Mount Fuji Dialogue; National Committee on American Foreign Policy; Poten & Partners, Inc.; U.S.-Japan Council; and The Korea Society.

INNOVATORS NETWORK

PUBLIC FORUM

Embrace Rural: Why it Matters

22 October

Embrace Rural: Why it Matters, presented as part of *Exploring an Innovative Model for Rural Revitalization*, was supported by The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership. Transportation assistance was provided by United Airlines, the exclusive U.S. airline sponsor of Innovators Network programs. Co-organized by New Food Economy; Design and Urban Ecologies, Parsons, The New School for Social Research; and Slow Food New York City.

With Tsuyoshi Sekihara, founder, Kamiechigo Yamazato Fan Club in Joetsu, Niigata; Janet

Topolsky, Executive Director, Community Strategies Group, Aspen Institute and Richard McCarthy, Slow Food International. Kate Cox, Editor, *New Food Economy*, moderating.

The Innovators Network was made possible, in part, by James Read Levy and Japan Society's endowment for policy projects. Transportation assistance was provided by United Airlines, the exclusive U.S. airline sponsor of Innovators Network programs, and All Nippon Airways Co., Ltd.

GALLERY

Made in Tokyo: Architecture and Living, 1964/2020

The exhibition was supported, in part, by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation, The Japan Foundation New York, the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts, Thierry and Yasko Porté, and Shigesuke and Noriko Kashiwagi. This program was also supported, in part, by an award from the Japan-United States Friendship Commission as part of the institution-wide *Passing the Torch* series. Transportation assistance was provided by Japan Airlines, the exclusive Japanese airline sponsor, and American Airlines, the exclusive U.S. airline sponsor of Gallery. The East-West Dialogues series was sponsored by the Asian Cultural Council.

Exhibitions and Arts & Culture Lecture Programs at Japan Society were made possible, in part, by the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Endowment Fund, the Mary Griggs Burke Endowment Fund established by the Mary Livingston Griggs and Mary Griggs Burke Foundation, Raphael and Jane Bernstein, Friends of the Gallery, and an anonymous donor. Support for Arts & Culture Lecture Programs was provided, in part, by the Sandy Heck Lecture Fund.

VIP and Members' Receptions

10 October

EXHIBITION

11 October, 2019—26 January, 2020

Tokyo, the transforming metropolis, has experienced a variety of social, economic and political shifts. The 1964 Summer Games, hosted by Tokyo, were the trigger to facilitate the rapid improvement of infrastructure. And the city is still changing—in advance of the 2020 Tokyo Summer Games (postponed to 2021). Following a period of strong economic growth up to the 1970s, Japan's bubble economy of the 1980s greatly reduced property values. In the new century, the population ratio shifted to elderly-dominant, and the 2011 Great East Earthquake, tsunami and nuclear disaster critically altered the population's sense of values for living. With Japanese architectural firm Atelier Bow-Wow taking on a double role as curator and exhibition designer, this exhibition explored the development of socio-architectural facilities and compared landscapes with art and performance generated from Tokyo between the two seminal worldwide games, in 1964 and 2020.

EXHIBITION-RELATED PROGRAMS

TALK | Rirkrit Tiravanija & Atelier Bow-Wow on Current Work

11 October

Co-organized with The Architectural League of New York. With artist Rirkrit Tiravanija and Atelier Bow-Wow.

TALK | Shohei Shigematsu and Atelier Bow-Wow on the Past & Future of Architecture

11 October

Co-organized with The Architectural League of New York. With architects Shohei Shigematsu, partner of OMA, and Atelier Bow-Wow.

LECTURE | East-West Dialogues Kengo Kuma: Vision of Architecture Beyond 2020

12 November

Organized in collaboration with the Asian Cultural Council (ACC). With architect Kengo Kuma.

LECTURE | Architectural New Wave: From Ruins to the Future of Housing

17 January

With architects Fuminori Nousaku and Mio Tsuneyama. Jing Liu (architect and co-founder of SO-IL), moderating.

ESCAPE EAST @ 333 SERIES

18 October

With artist Nobutaka Aozaki.

20 December

With clarinetist Mingzhe Wang and cellist Mihai Marica.

17 January

With artist Zai Nomura.

Boro Textiles: Sustainable Aesthetics

The exhibition was supported, in part, by The Coby Foundation, Ltd., the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation. This program was also supported, in part, by an award from the Japan-United States Friendship Commission as part of the institution-wide *Passing the Torch* series. Transportation assistance was provided by Japan Airlines, the exclusive Japanese airline sponsor and American Airlines, the exclusive U.S. airline sponsor of Gallery. Additional support was provided by Ralph Puccii Mannequins and Sugimoto Production.

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the Gallery, and an anonymous donor. Support for Arts & Culture Lecture Programs was provided, in part, by the Sandy Heck Lecture Fund.

VIP and Members' Receptions

5 March

EXHIBITION

6 MARCH—19 JULY, 2020

Boro ("rags" or "tatters") are patchwork textiles hand-pieced by peasants in Japan in the 19th and early 20th centuries. The inability to cultivate cotton in the northern climate of Tohoku necessitated the practice of stitching remnants of used fabric into utilitarian items, including blankets, coats and mittens. These hard-used garments—reworked over generations—express essential principles of Japanese ethics and aesthetics, such as an appreciation for distinguished imperfections and the avoidance of waste. For the first time in the U.S., this exhibition assembled over 50 archival pieces from the personal collection of folklorist and cultural anthropologist Chuzaburo Tanaka (1933-2013), presented alongside new portraits by editor-photographer Kyoichi Tsuzuki, designs by pioneers of Japanese avant-garde fashion Rei Kawakubo, Issey Miyake, Yohji Yamamoto and textile-based works by Susan Cianciolo and Christina Kim—part of a generation of contemporary artists influenced by the aesthetics and ethics of mending, patchwork and re-use. The installation, designed by New York architecture firm SO-IL, rediscovered this traditional handicraft, its history of survival and ingenuity, and its continued legacy within creative practices today.

In March 2020 the newly opened *Boro* exhibition was closed to the public under New York City's lockdown during the COVID-19 pandemic. A multimedia tour of the exhibition and an educational tour for kids with related activities were offered to viewers through the Society's website, and discussions and studio visits went virtual.

EXHIBITION-RELATED PROGRAMS

LECTURE | Kyoichi Tsuzuki: The Beauty of Survival

7 March

With photographer/editor Kyoichi Tsuzuki.

PANEL DISCUSSION | Japanese Textiles: New Perspectives

7 June

Online. This program was organized in collaboration with the Japanese Art Society of America (JASA). With Elizabeth Wilson, owner of Asiatica, author Thomas Murray and Dr. Monika Bincsik, The Metropolitan Museum of Art.

GALLERY EVENTS

SPOTLIGHT, ONLINE ARTIST SERIES

This series was supported, in part, by the NYC

COVID-19 Response and Impact Fund in The New York Community Trust.

28 May | Vol. 1

With artist Mika Tajima.

25 June | Vol. 2

With architect Florian Idenburg (Co-founder, SO-IL).

INSTALLATION

En/trance: Teppeï Kaneuji 2020-21

For his new installation in the Society's lobby garden, *S. F. (Splash and Flakes)*, Teppeï Kaneuji combined natural elements—tree branches from New York City—with ready-made artificial items—tubing and pipe fittings—in bricolage sculptures that add a dynamic narrative to the space. Works from his signature series, *White Discharge*, for which he assembled everyday objects and plastic goods covered with white resin, were displayed on the second floor atrium.

PERFORMING ARTS

Japan Society's 2019-20 Performing Arts season, while cut short by COVID-19, featured five full-scale productions—two of which enjoyed U.S. tours produced and organized by the Society. The season struck a balance between traditional and contemporary performing arts, and included such illustrious names as Shiro Sano, Kurouemon Katayama X and visual artist Tabaimo.

Following the COVID-19 lockdown in mid-March 2020, online viewers enjoyed *JS-ENCORE*, a video series highlighting popular past performances, as well as a month-long streamed video performance of Seinendan Theater Company's *Control Officers*, written and directed by Oriza Hirata, one of Japan's most influential theater makers and pioneer of the "quiet theater" movement, that also featured a newly recorded Q&A with Hirata and Japan Society's Artistic Director Yoko Shioya.

Reigakusha: Gagaku & Bugaku 21 September

Reigakusha: Gagaku & Bugaku was supported by Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture), The Japan Foundation, The JEC Fund, and The Asahi Shimbun Foundation. This program was also supported, in part, by an award from the Japan-United States Friendship Commission as part of the institution-wide *Passing the Torch* series.

The distinguished *gagaku* ensemble Reigakusha presented two back-to-back shows with stunning performances of ancient and modern pieces as well as a *bugaku* piece—a traditional ensemble piece accompanied by dancers in court costumes. Dr. Joshua Banks Mailman, professor at Columbia

University's Department of Music, led a pre-performance lecture an hour before curtain.

Kwaidan—Call of Salvation Heard from the Depths of Fear

24 October

Kwaidan was supported by Matsue City, The JEC Fund, and the ORIX Stewardship Foundation, and, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council. Special thanks to the Embassy of Japan in the United States of America and Shimane Prefecture.

Acclaimed actor Shiro Sano gave a dynamic reading of his selection of Japanese folktales and writings by Lafcadio Hearn (1850-1904), highlighting the author's open-minded view of Japan and the world. Accompanied by distinguished guitarist Kyoji Yamamoto, the performance was preceded by a lecture from Bon Koizumi, Hearn's great-grandson and the Director of the Lafcadio Hearn Memorial Museum in Matsue City.

Taiten: Noh & Kyogen

14—16 November

Taiten: Noh & Kyogen was supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan through the Japan Arts Council, and, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council. *Taiten* was presented in association with Yokohama Noh Theater. Pre-performance lectures were supported by the Japan-United States Friendship Commission, as part of the institution-wide *Passing the Torch* series, and the National Association of Japan-America Societies, with funding from the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership.

Kurouemon Katayama X returned to the Society's stage with a modern noh play titled *Taiten*, originally create to commemorate the Taisho Emperor's enthronement, to celebrate the new Emperor Naruhito and the Reiwa Era. Noritoshi Yamamoto from the prestigious Yamamoto Tojiro Family performed a beloved piece from the traditional kyogen repertoire, *Kagyu (The Snail)*. Dr. Roberta Strippoli, amateur noh practitioner and professor at Binghamton University's Department of Asian and Asian American Studies, held a pre-performance lecture an hour before curtain.

The Unknown Dancer in the Neighborhood

10—14 January

The Unknown Dancer in the Neighborhood was presented by Japan Society as part of The Public Theater's *Under the Radar Festival 2020*. This production was supported by Arts Council Tokyo (Tokyo Metropolitan Foundation for History and Culture), The Japan Foundation, and, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.

Playwright-director Suguru Yamamoto shared his multifaceted portrayal of city life in this one-man dance theater piece performed by Wataru Kitao, director/founder of Dance Company Baobab. The production featured Yamamoto's signature directing style, in which invisible characters' thoughts and feelings are conveyed through projected text.

Yamamoto held a special Q&A session for students from Marymount College and New York University following Tuesday night's performance.

Fruits borne out of rust

6—7 March

Fruits borne out of rust was supported by the Agency for Cultural Affairs, Government of Japan through the Japan Arts Council, and The Japan Foundation through the *Performing Arts JAPAN* program. Special thanks to NEC Display Solutions Ltd.

Internationally known Japanese visual artist Tabaimo used her signature-style animations to transform the stage in this multimedia dance piece set to live music that probed themes surrounding birth and aging. Performed by Paris-based dancer Chiharu Mamiya, the program was also part of a four-city tour produced and organized by the Society.

WORKSHOPS

Introduction to Gagaku for Musicians

22 September

Held in conjunction with *Reigakusha: Gagaku & Bugaku*. Members of the ensemble Reigakusha introduced the individual instruments in a traditional *gagaku* ensemble, providing a rare opportunity for amateur and professional musicians to try their hand at them.

The Basics of Noh & Kyogen

15—16 November

Held in conjunction with *Taiten: Noh & Kyogen*. This two-day workshop introduced the basic movements from two of Japan's most distinguished theatrical traditions. The first day was led by Kurouemon Katayama X and focused on the intricate costumes and history of noh. On the second day, members of the prestigious Yamamoto Tojiro Family taught the exaggerated physicality and voice work needed to perform kyogen—noh's comedic cousin.

The season was sponsored by Lead Sponsor MetLife Foundation and Corporate Partner Orix Stewardship Foundation. Major support was provided by The New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, Doug and Teresa Peterson, the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature, and The Fan Fox and Leslie R. Samuels Foundation, Inc. Additional support was provided by Dr. and Mrs. Carl F. Tausch II, Dean Jeanette C. Takamura, Mr. Alan M. Suhonen, Sarah Billingham Solomon and Howard Solomon, The Royal Little Family Foundation, Pamela Perlman, Mr. Norton Belknap*, Dr. John K. Gillespie, Paula S. Lawrence, Dr. Stephen and Mrs. Michiko Levine, Hiroko Onoyama, Karen and Samuel Richardson, and Lyndley and Samuel Schwab. Endowment support was provided by Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Endowment Fund and the Endowment for the Performing Arts, established with a leadership gift from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation. Special transportation assistance was provided by All Nippon Airways Co., Ltd. Yamaha was the official piano provider of Japan Society. *MetLife Meet-the-*

Artists Reception support was provided by MetLife Foundation.

* In memoriam.

FILM

MONTHLY CLASSICS

Year-round screenings of beloved classics, hidden gems and recent discoveries of Japanese cinema.

Tora-san's Cherished Mother (Yoji Yamada, 1969)

6 September

Tora-san's Dear Old Home (Yoji Yamada, 1972)

4 October

Tora-san's Runaway (Yoji Yamada, 1970)

1 November

Tora-san Meets His Lordship (Yoji Yamada, 1977)

6 December

Keep Your Chin Up (Toshio Masuda, 1962)

3 January

It Was a Faint Dream (Akio Jissoji, 1974)

7 February

Nowhere Man (Naoto Takenaka, 1991)

13 March

FILM SERIES

Tokyo Stories: Japan in the Global Imagination

8 November—7 December

This program was supported, in part, by an award from the Japan-United States Friendship Commission as part of the institution-wide *Passing the Torch* series.

An 11-film series considering the ways Japan—and the elusive concept of “Japaneseness”—has been rendered and interpreted outside its borders with a revealing selection of Tokyo-set films by foreign directors, including Japanese co-productions, Hollywood blockbusters and European arthouse favorites.

Family Romance, LLC (Werner Herzog, 2019) New York Premiere

8 November

Tokyo-Ga (Wim Wenders, 1985)

9 November

Cherry Blossoms (Doris Dörrie, 2008)

9 November

Like Someone in Love (Abbas Kiarostami, 2012)

9 November

Lost in Translation (Sofia Coppola, 2003) with introduction by producer Stephen Nomura Schible

19 November

Tokyo Pop (Fran Rubel Kuzui, 1988) with introduction and Q&A by director Fran Rubel Kuzui

22 November

Sans Soleil (Chris Marker, 1983)

23 November

Fear and Trembling (Alain Corneau, 2003)

23 November

Tokyo! (Michel Gondry, Leos Carax, Bong Joon-ho, 2008)

7 December

House of Bamboo (Samuel Fuller, 1955)

7 December

The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift (Justin Lin, 2006)

7 December

Akio Jissoji: The Buddhist Trilogy

15 & 22 February

A two-day presentation of brand-new digital re-masters of the innovative and overlooked independent filmmaker Akio Jissoji's trio of highly experimental and visually daring narrative features that offer transgressive interpretations of Buddhist philosophy and the existential problem of impermanence.

This Transient Life (1970) introduced by Ethan Spigland, Professor of Humanities & Media Studies, Pratt University

Mandala (1971)

Poem (1972)

WATCH PARTY

Lupin III: The Castle of Cagliostro (Hayao Miyazaki, 1979)

Online. 7 May

FILM FESTIVAL

JAPAN CUTS: Festival of New Japanese Film 2020

17—30 July

This festival was generously supported by The New York Community Trust. Sponsorship was generously provided by Shiseido Americas. Additional support was provided by The Japan Foundation, New York and Sapporo U.S.A., Inc. Transportation assistance was provided by Japan Airlines, the exclusive Japanese airline sponsor and American Airlines, the exclusive U.S. airline sponsor of Film.

Online. North America's largest festival of contemporary Japanese cinema returned for its unprecedented 14th edition as an entirely online experience. Featuring a diverse slate of 30 features and 12 shorts—including studio blockbusters, independent productions, documentaries, restored classics, animation and avant-garde works—*JAPAN CUTS 2020* offered 14 days of unique access to the best new films from Japan with filmmaker video introductions, live virtual Q&As and panel discussions for audiences across the entire United States.

Bath House of Whales (Mizuki Kiyama, 2019)

Beyond the Night (Natsuki Nakagawa, 2019)

Birdland (Takeshi Kogahara, 2019)

Bleached Bones Avenue (Akio Fujimoto, 2020)

Blind Bombing, Filmed by a Bat (Kota Takeuchi, 2020)

Book-Paper-Scissors (Nanako Hirose, 2019)

Cenote (Kaori Oda, 2019)

The Day of Destruction (Toshiaki Toyoda, 2020)

Extro (Naoki Murahashi, 2020)

Fuel (Yu Araki, 2019)

Fukushima 50 (Setsuro Wakamatsu, 2020)

i—Documentary of the Journalist— (Tatsuya Mori, 2019)

It Feels So Good (Haruhiko Arai, 2019)

Kinta and Ginji (Takuya Dairiki, Takashi Miura, 2019)

Kontora (Anshul Chauhan, 2019)

Labyrinth of Cinema (Nobuhiko Obayashi, 2019)

Life: Untitled (Kana Yamada, 2019)

Lost Three Make One Found (Atsushi Kuwayama, 2019)

Mrs. Noisy (Chihiro Amano, 2019)

The Murders of Oiso (Takuya Misawa, 2019)

My Identity (Sae Suzuki, 2019)

My Sweet Grappa Remedies (Akiko Ohku, 2019)

Nana (Fumiya Hayakawa, 2019)

On-Gaku: Our Sound (Kenji Iwaisawa, 2020)

Prison Circle (Kaori Sakagami, 2020)

Reiwa Uprising (Kazuo Hara, 2019)

Roar (Ryo Katayama, 2020)

Sacrifice (Taku Tsuboi, 2019)

The Sculpture of Place & Time (Tatsuhito Utagawa, 2019)

See You on the Other Side (Yoko Yamanaka, 2019)

Seijo Story—60 Years of Making Films (Isshin Inudo, Eiki Takahashi, 2019)

Sending Off (Ian Thomas Ash, 2019)

Shell and Joint (Isamu Hirabayashi, 2019)

Special Actors (Shinichiro Ueda, 2019)

Tokyo Girl (Nebiro Hashimoto, 2019)

Tora-san, Our Lovable Tramp (Yoji Yamada, 1969)

Tora-san Meets the Songstress Again (Yoji Yamada, 1975)

Tora-san, My Uncle (Yoji Yamada, 1989)

Tora-san, Wish You Were Here (Yoji Yamada, 2019)

Voices in the Wind (Nobuhiro Suwa, 2020)

What Can You Do About It? (Yoshifumi Tsubota, 2019)

Wheel Music (Nao Yoshigai, 2019)

Wolf's Calling (Toshiaki Toyoda, 2019)

TALK EVENTS/PANEL DISCUSSIONS

Nobuhiko Obayashi: A Conversation

Online. With Chigumi Obayashi, Takako Tokiwa, Yo Nakajima, Noriki Ishitobi and Aaron Gerow. Part of *JAPAN CUTS 2020*.

Collaboration & Community in Japanese Cinema during the Pandemic

Online. With Ryusuke Hamaguchi, Noriko Yamasaki, Yuichi Watanabe, Yuko Iwasaki and Aiko Masubuchi. Part of *JAPAN CUTS 2020*.

New Approaches to Documentary from Japan

Online. With Ian Thomas Ash, Nanako Hirose, Kaori Oda and Kaori Sakagami. Part of *JAPAN CUTS 2020*.

Opening Night Live Q&A with Shinichiro Ueda

17 July

Online. Part of *JAPAN CUTS 2020*.

Centerpiece Presentation Live Q&A with Koichi Sato & Ken Watanabe

23 July

Online. Part of *JAPAN CUTS 2020*.

Closing Night Live Q&A with Obayashi Prize Recipient Anshul Chauhan

30 July

Online. Part of *JAPAN CUTS 2020*.

Shinya Tsukamoto on Nobuhiko Obayashi

30 July

Online. Part of *JAPAN CUTS 2020*.

The season was generously supported by the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Endowment Fund and Gaia Holistic Health Foundation/Dr. Kazuko Tatsumura- Hillyer. Additional season support was provided by an anonymous donor, The Globus Family, George Gallagher, James Read Levy, Masu Hiroshi Masuyama, Geoff and Fumi Matters, David Toberisky, Akiko Koide and Shoehi Koide, Dr. Tatsuji Namba, David S. Howe, and Michael Romano.

TALKS+

Japanese Craft Beer: Lecture & Tasting 2019

13 September

The *Food Talk* series was sponsored by Kikkoman Corporation.

With Anne Becerra, beverage director at Treadwell Park and NYC's first female Certified Cicerone. Timothy Sullivan, certified Sake Samurai and founder of UrbanSake.com, moderating.

Japanese *Nerikomi* Pottery

27 September

With Risa Nishimori of NY Togei Kyoshitsu studio.

Forest Bathing: Seeking Wellness through Nature

23 October

With Dr. Yoshifumi Miyazaki, former deputy director of Chiba University's Center for Environment, Health, and Field Sciences and author of *Shinrin Yoku: The Japanese Art of Forest Bathing*.

Get to Know Japan Series: Nagano

This series was co-organized by Nagano Prefectural Government.

Get to Know Nagano: The Home of Nature, History & Sports

20 November

With Akira Kumagai, Executive Director for Shinshu Brands and Director General of Business Bureau. Susan Miyagi McCormac, founder of JapanCulture-NYC, moderating.

Get to Know Japan Series: Nagano *Mizuhiki*: Japanese Embellishment Cords

21 November

With an instructor from Kinoshita Mizuhiki.

Get to Know Japan Series: Nagano *Shichimi* Making: Spice of Japan

21 November

With Yuki Muroga from spice shop Yawataya Isogoro.

Stitch & Design: *Watoji* Bookbinding

12 December

With Amanda Hu, mixed media artist.

Get to Know Japan Series: Kanagawa

This series was co-organized by Kanagawa Prefectural Government.

Get to Know Kanagawa: Hot Springs, Zen & the Great Wave

23 January

The *Food Talk* series was sponsored by Kikkoman Corporation.

With Hitoshi Suzuki, Director, JETRO NY, Kanagawa Division, Nanako Sadasue, Director, Maker's Shirt Kamakura Co., Ltd., and Kenichi Noda, Odakyu Electric Railway Co., Ltd. Susan Miyagi McCormac, founder of JapanCulture-NYC, moderating.

Japanese Self-Care: *Me-byo*

27 January

With Wataru Kasahara of the International Tourism Division in Kanagawa, Dr. Rai Shimoyama, from Shonan Kamakura General Hospital and Dr. Hideki Katano, founder of Venex Co. recovery-ware.

Kamakura Zen: A Samurai Legacy

27 January

With Rev. Eon Asahina, head priest of Jochi-ji Temple of Engakuji and Pamela D. Winfield, Associate Professor of Religious Studies, Elon University.

Functional & Alluring: Japanese Bamboo Art

6 February

This program was co-organized by Beppu City.

With Kenichi Otani and Takayuki Shimizu, master bamboo craftsmen, Takashi Kawakami, Deputy Mayor of Beppu City and Satoru Nakajima of Sestante Japan.

Japanese Tea Ceremony: *Omotesenke*

26 February

With an instructor from the Omotesenke Domonkai Eastern Region USA school of tea ceremony.

Japan's Alcohol Traditions: Sake, Shochu, Whisky & More

10 March

With Stephen Lyman, co-author of *The Complete Guide to Japanese Drinks: Sake, Shochu, Japanese Whiskey, Beer, Wine, Cocktails and Other Beverages*.

(Virtual) Annual Sake Lecture & Tasting: Sake Etiquette

11 June

Online. This program was co-organized by the Sake Export Association.

With sake expert Timothy Sullivan.

The season was generously sponsored by MUFG (Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group). Additional support was provided by an anonymous donor and the Sandy Heck Lecture Fund. Transportation assistance was provided by United Airlines.

EDUCATION & FAMILY

Programs for Families

Education and Family Programs received generous support from an anonymous donor, The Norinchukin Foundation, The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership, the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, Council Member Keith Powers through the New

York City Department of Youth and Community Development, James Read Levy and Takayoshi Wiesner and Pan Gu. These programs were also supported, in part, by an award from the Japan-United States Friendship Commission as part of the institution-wide *Passing the Torch* series.

Japan's Annual Festivities

Japan Society's Annual Festivities programs brought together diverse communities to experience Japanese culture through interactive workshops, art-making and live performances.

Shichigosan: Celebrating the Health of Children

19 & 20 October

Oshogatsu: New Year's Celebration

26 January

Children's Day (*Kodomo no Hi*) at Home

5 May (online)

Monthly Family Program Series Creative Play (for 3-5 year-olds) & Family Workshops (6-10 year olds)

Introduced children and their caregivers to Japanese arts and culture through storytelling, craft activities and performance workshops.

Creative Play: *Tsukimi* (Autumn Moon Viewing)

Family Workshop: Japanese Four-Hole Bookbinding (*Watoji*)

15 September

Creative Play: *Yokai* Masks Family Workshop: *Kowai/Kawaii* Basket Making

27 October

Creative Play: Autumn Foliage (*Momijigari*)

Family Workshop: Japanese Architecture

10 November

Creative Play: *Nengajo* Postcards Family Workshop: Woodblock Printing

8 December

Creative Play: Sapporo Snow Festival Family Workshop: *Kakizome*—New Year's Calligraphy

12 January

Creative Play: *Setsubun* (Bean Throwing)

Family Workshop: Colorful *Suminagashi*—Paper Marbling Designs

9 February

Creative Play: *Hinamatsuri* (Doll's Festival)

Family Workshop: Japanese Folk Dance

1 March

VIDEO

Bilingual Kamishibai Storytelling

Video. A series of kamishibai stories introduces some of Japan's most popular folktales featuring Japanese-English bilingual narration. These free online videos are designed for children of any age, but are also perfect for students and adults learning about Japanese language and culture.

***Issunboshi* (*The One-inch Boy*)**

April

***Momotaro* (*Peach Boy*)**

May

***Kaguya Hime* (*Bamboo Princess*)**

June

PROGRAMS FOR EDUCATORS

Educators Professional Development Program

Support for the Professional Development Program was provided by an anonymous funder.

The Professional Development program provided educators with the resources and skills to create and refine lesson plans for middle and high school social studies, literature, global history, geography and art classrooms.

Japan Goes Global: History & Impact of International Exchange

5, 19 October, 2, 9 November & 7 December
In collaboration with the New York City Department of Education.

With Dr. Michael Barnhart, Distinguished Teaching Professor, Department of History, Stony Brook University, NY; Dr. Thomas Conlan, Professor of East Asian Studies and History, Princeton University, NJ; Dr. Matthew Feely, Adjunct Professor, Business School, Columbia University, NY; Dr. Matthieu Felt, Assistant Professor of Japanese, University of Florida, FL; Dr. Robert Fish, The Masters School, Dobbs Ferry, NY; Dr. Sheldon Garon, Professor of History and East Asian Studies, Princeton University,

NJ; Dr. Kaoru Iokibe, Professor at Tokyo University, Tokyo, Japan; Dr. Fumiko Sasaki, Adjunct Assistant Professor, School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University, NY; Dr. Akira Shimizu, Assistant Professor, Global Culture, Wilkes University, Wilkes-Barre, PA; and Dr. Takeshi Watanabe, Assistant Professor of East Asian Studies, Wesleyan University, CT.

East Asia Since 1800

26 October & 16 November

In collaboration with the U.S.-China Institute at University of Southern California.

Offsite at the University of Southern California, Los Angeles. With Dr. Saori Katada, Professor of International Relations, Director of the Center for International Studies, University of Southern California; Prof. Vinayak Bharne, Adjunct Associate Professor of Architecture and Public Policy, University of Southern California; Dr. Ulrike Schaeede, Professor of Japanese Business, University of California, San Diego; Dr. Toshihiro Nakayama, Adjunct Fellow, The Japan Institute of International Affairs, Keio University; and Mr. Clayton Dube, Director of U.S.-China Institute, University of Southern California.

Social Studies Supervisors Association Professional Development Conference

5 November

In collaboration with the NYC Social Studies Supervisors Association.

Offsite at Edward Murrow High School, Brooklyn, NY. With Fumiaki Kubo, Tokyo University, and Jack P. Chan, President, Social Studies Supervisors Association in New York City; and Motoatsu Sakurai, President, Japan Society.

Teaching Japanese Internment Using Memoir *Farewell to Manzanar*

7 February

In collaboration with the nonprofit Facing History and Ourselves.

With Juan Castellanos, Associate Program Director, New York, Facing History of Ourselves and George Hirose.

STUDENT PROGRAMS

Japan Society Junior Fellows Leadership Program

The Japan Society Junior Fellows Leadership program was supported by generous grants from an anonymous family foundation, ITO EN (North America) INC., Mitsubishi Corporation (Americas), the Wendy Obernauer Foundation, THE TOKYO CLUB, Sony Corporation of America, the Sojitz Foundation and Hiroko Onoyama. Transportation assistance was provided by All Nippon Airways Co., Ltd.

The Junior Fellows Leadership Program brings 20 selected high school students to Japan and the United States to meet with industry leaders, experience daily life

with a host family and travel to historical sites. This ongoing three-week culturally immersive program connects Junior Fellows with present leaders and establishes a network of Junior Fellow alumni with a global worldview, forming close bonds between the U.S. and Japan.

U.S. Junior Fellows to Japan 8—28 July (program) and 22 August (luncheon)

Offsite in Japan. Ten American students participated in company visits, school experience, homestay, team projects, networking with Japanese Fellow alumni and a post-program leader luncheon. With Desmarie Carby, Worldview High School, NY; Alexandra Cherry, Belleville High School, NJ; Connor Johnston, The Hudson School, NJ; Katherine Kolitch; Columbia Preparatory School, NJ; Jared Cohen, Clarkstown High School South, NY; Erica Levine, LaGuardia HS, NY; Pierson Cohen, Horace Mann School, NY; Nathaniel Plesner; United Nations High School, NY; and Jacob Grimm, Bronx HS of Science.

Junior Fellows Host School: Gakuho High School, Aizuwakamatsu, Fukushima Japan. Company visit supporters: Ashinaga; Safecast; Meiji Ginju Shrine; Nikkei Inc.; and SONY Corporation.

Japanese Junior Fellows to the U.S. 14 March—30 April

Online. Ten Japanese Junior Fellows participated in online leader meetings, networking with the U.S. Fellows alumni, and conducted team projects. With Taiki Koizumi, Kaijo Senior High School, Tokyo, Japan; Daiki Kusahara, La Salle High School, Kagoshima; Akira Kusama, Japan; Waseda University Senior High School, Tokyo, Japan; Joichi Matsunaga, Seiko Gakuin High School, Kanagawa, Japan; Rei Mitsui, Ishikawa Prefectural Kanazawa Izumigaoka Senior High School, Ishikawa, Japan; Ayumi Namba, Notre Dame Seishin Girls' High School, Okayama, Japan; Airi Seya, Fukushima Prefectural Sukagawa Toyo High School, Fukushima, Japan; Daiki Utoo, Okayama Asahi Senior High School, Okayama, Japan; Noa Yamamoto, Gunma Kokusai Academy, Gumma, Japan; and Ai Yoshida, Fukui Fujishima High School, Fukui, Japan.

Online leadership: Ivan Cheung, Chairman, Eisai Inc., Global President, Neurology Business Group, Senior Corporate Officer, Eisai Co., Ltd. and Robert L. Noddin, President and Chief Executive Officer, AIG Japan Holdings KK.

Manga Madness 12-16 August

In collaboration with HiArt!

A weeklong workshop for aspiring young manga artists and enthusiasts.

K-12 School Group Tours & Workshops

K-12 School Group Tours & Workshops were supported by the U.S.-Japan Friendship Commission.

In October 2019–March 2020, K-12 students visited Japan Society for a one-hour guided tour

of the exhibitions *Made in Tokyo: Architecture and Living, 1964/2020* and *Boro Textiles: Sustainable Aesthetics* and/or a 90-minute arts & culture workshop, including *sumi-e*, woodblock printing and bonsai. Most visiting schools were NYC public schools, and a significant portion of the visiting school groups received Title I funding, which means that the majority of their students live below the poverty line. Participating schools: World View High School, New York, NY; NYC Museum School, New York, NY; Girls Prep Bronx Middle School, New York, NY; and New Settlement School, New York, NY.

Virtual Gallery Tour for Kids: *Boro Textiles: Sustainable Aesthetics* Spring 2020

To enhance at-home learning and opportunities for families, a free child-friendly video tour of *Boro Textiles: Sustainable Aesthetics* was created in collaboration with Japan Society Gallery, supplemented with an at-home activity worksheet.

LANGUAGE CENTER

2019—20 Language Classes

Mini-Workshops: Learn to Read Hiragana & Katakana 23 August, 6 September 10, 17 January 1, 8 May (online)

Workshops for beginner students to efficiently master the reading of hiragana and katakana.

Mini-Workshops: Fundamentals of Kanji 12 September 22 January 13 May (online)

Introduction to the fundamental concepts of kanji structure, radicals, *on* and *kun* readings, and more.

Mini-Workshops: Onomatopoeia 23 January 14 May (online)

Students learned different groups of onomatopoeia such as *giongo* and *gitaigo*, covering many topics including animal sounds, weather, health, action and food.

Japanese Language Courses 16 September—6 December 27 January—6 April 18 May—31 July (online)

Thirteen levels of Japanese, from beginning to advanced, including JLPT preparation, kanji and specialized courses including J-Drama, Conversation, Anime, Japan Right Now (breaking news) and Poetic Expressions.

Japanese Language Levels 1, 2, & 10 12 August–11 September 9 December–16 January 13 April–12 May (online)

Level 1 introduced elementary Japanese to students with no previous background in the language. In Level 2, students continued to actively participate in the process of acquiring beginners level language skills in basic Japanese, while Level 10 students continued formal study of Japanese grammar, vocabulary and kanji, with particular emphasis on speaking practice.

Intensive Japanese Weekend Courses 20, 21, 27 & 28 July 9, 10, 16 & 17 November

Total immersion in the Japanese language for people planning to travel or move to Japan, or for students unable to attend regular weekday classes.

Conversational Japanese 12 August—11 September 9 December—16 January 13 April—12 May (online)

Designed to help students master the fundamentals of Japanese conversation, with an emphasis on communicating effectively in social situations, with classes for beginners through advanced students.

Learn Japanese: Anime for Beginners 1 June—14 August (online)

A free course for high school aged children of frontline workers of the COVID-19 pandemic that used popular anime as a medium to introduce elementary Japanese language.

Mini-Workshops: Crash Course for Travelers to Japan

This program was supported, in part, by an award from the Japan-United States Friendship Commission as part of the institution-wide *Passing the Torch* series.

25 June 8 August 13 September 26 November 10 February 13 March 15 May (online)

A quick introduction to the Japanese language and customs for first-time travelers to Japan.

Mini-Workshops: Japanese Business Etiquette

7 June 30 July 4 October 13 December

Participants learned practical expressions and manners used in Japanese corporate environments, such as formal greetings, business card exchange, seating order, proper bowing, unique hand gestures and table manners.

Haiku Workshop

13 December

With Japanese haiku poet Sho Otaka. Two separate sections were offered, one for native Japanese/advanced Japanese learners and one for intermediate Japanese learner.

English Conversation Courses

23 July—10 September

17 September—3 December

28 January—31 March

9 April—12 May (online)

21 May—23 June (online)

Beginner and intermediate/advanced levels of English as a Second Language (ESL), with classes specifically designed for Japanese natives living in the New York metropolitan area.

Japanese-Language Teacher Training Program: Introductory

18 September—4 December

13 January—19 February

Essential classroom teaching skills for native and fluent speakers of Japanese with little or no formal training in the teaching of Japanese as a second language.

Japanese-Language Teacher Training Program: Intermediate

26 Feb—11 March, 20 May—8 July (online)

A continuation of the teacher training program, providing the skills necessary to teach Japanese at the intermediate level.

Shodo Workshops

Shodo course materials were provided by The Japan Foundation, Los Angeles.

5 August—13 September

16 September—6 December

13 December—17 January

31 January—3 April

Hands-on workshops on the techniques of shodo.

Weekend Shodo Workshops

19 October-16 November

Weekend hands-on shodo workshops for students at all levels.

Shodo Workshop for Beginners

17 January

A workshop structured for absolute beginners wishing to experience Japanese calligraphy.

Nihongo Chat

The *Nihongo Chat + J-Culture* series was presented in partnership with New York University, Hunter College, Baruch College, and LaGuardia Community College. Generous support for the *Nihongo Chat + J-Culture* series was provided by The Japan Foundation, Los Angeles.

2 July

4 September (*Nihongo Chat + J-Culture: Koto*)

8 October (*Nihongo Chat + J-Culture: Noh*)

8 November (*Nihongo Chat + J-Culture: Wagashi*)

21 January (*Nihongo Chat + J-Culture: Kabuki Dance*)

Japanese-language students and native Japanese gathered at these monthly informal events to practice Japanese and English conversation. *Nihongo Chat + J-Culture* events featured special guests who demonstrated and spoke about an aspect of Japanese culture.

Japanese Trial Lessons for Beginners

1 July

25 July

1 August

26 August

29 August

1 November

19 November

20 November

7 January

15 January

28 February

A single trial lesson structured for absolute beginners wishing to experience a Japanese language class.

Open House for Teacher Training Program and English Courses

21 August

An information session for the Japanese Language Teacher Training Program, English Conversation for Japanese natives and other Language Center opportunities.

Open House for Teacher Training Program

16 December

An information session for the Japanese Language Teacher Training Program and other Language Center opportunities.

Private Lessons

Ongoing

Private lessons were offered onsite and offsite in Japanese language, shodo or English tailored to an individual's needs.

Corporate Group Lessons

Ongoing

Instructors traveled offsite to visit and teach group lessons tailored to a company's needs.

Support for Japan Society's Toyota Language Center was provided, in part, by Mark F. Goldfield and Mary E. Hatch, Christopher Hong, Kurumi Fukushima, Steven Giordano, James Read Levy, and Dr. Bic Kanayjorn.

The Passing the Torch Series: Gallery exhibitions Made in Tokyo: Architecture and Living, 1964/2020 and Boro Textiles: Sustainable Aesthetics; Education & Family programs throughout the season; Fall 2019 Performing Arts programs Reigakusha: Gagaku & Bugaku and Taiten: Noh & Kyogen; Tokyo Stories: Japan In the Global Imagination Film Series; Business & Policy talks From Heisei to Reiwa: The People's Emperor, and Cybernics Revolution: Cyberdyne's Vision & Strategy; and Crash Course for Travelers to Japan were funded, in part, by a grant from the Japan-United States Friendship Commission.

