

Kakehashi 架け橋

Building a bridge between Colorado & Japan



Winter Issue, Volume 2 February 2011

Dear Readers:

I hope you have all survived the arctic blasts which recently enveloped parts of Colorado. Never have I longed more for my beloved *kotatsu* than during the subzero temperatures of weeks past.

This latest issue of *Kakehashi* features a number of Japan-related events going on around town in the coming weeks. It's exciting to see so many opportunities for the people of Colorado to engage with and learn about Japanese culture!

JASC's new Board of Directors (see page 8) have formed a number of committees to ensure 2011 is a full year for our members and friends. If you would like to play a more active role in JASC and its programs and events, please see page two for details on how you can get involved!

As always, I hope to feature more recipes and pictures in future issues, so be sure to send those in!

Happy reading,

Dilek

Points of Interest:

- Reminder: Japan Cup!
- 2011 JASC Board of Directors
- Japan Events
- Hosokawa Fellowship: 2011 Grant Cycle

2010 Donation Drive a Success!

In December, JASC launched its annual year-end donation drive. Thank you very much to those listed below who so graciously donated to help the organization; your generosity enabled JASC to raise **\$3,900**—all of which will go towards future programs and events.

2010 Donors:

*Masako Beecken
Kim Chandler
Richard & June Clark
Ikuyo Coscarart
James K. Durgin
Mathew & Dilek Eccles
Dave Hagberry
Eric Hiraga
Rick & Kelley Jarecke
Isao & Miko Kamitani
Mike Kelley
John Kivimaki*

*John & Katy Ley
Tomomi Matsuzawa
David M. McCrosky
Tom Migaki
James Moore
T.R. Reid & Margaret M. McMahon
Norimichi Saito
Kimiko Side
Brian Pendleton & Susan Stein
Seiichi Urabe
Bill Waters
Shinobu Yoshitomi*

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It's never too late to donate! If you missed out on the drive, but still wish to contribute to JASC, please visit our website today! As a 501(c)(3) organization, all donations are tax deductible.

Committee Member Search 2011

At our most recent Board meeting, JASC President Shinobu Yoshitomi announced the following co-chairs, appointed for JASC's various committees:

Cultural Committee:	Kathy Ajisaka and Kim Chandler
Membership Committee:	Isao Kamitani and Margaret d'Emery
Fundraising Committee:	Dick Clark and Ebi Kondo
Business Committee:	Eric Hiraga and Mike Kelley
Marketing Committee:	Missy Kautt and Jim Reis
Education Committee:	T.R. Reid and Tomomi Matsuzawa

These co-chairs will, along with committee members, help orchestrate programs and events for JASC members to ensure the people of Colorado are provided plenty of opportunities to learn about Japanese culture!

Here are the committee descriptions, to give you a better feel for what they are all about:

Cultural Programs Committee shall be responsible for identifying, developing, executing and evaluating cultural programs and events that aim to educate and introduce Japanese culture to Coloradans. The committee shall be responsible for family activities that aim to encourage exchange and friendships among the family members of JASC members.

Membership Committee shall be responsible for identifying and recruiting new members and help the JASC office to retain current members and update membership materials. The committee shall also be responsible for planning, executing and evaluating the membership recruitment programs.

Fundraising Committee shall be responsible for identifying, developing, executing and evaluating fundraising efforts including major fundraising events, fund drives, and grant applications to raise funds for JASC's programs and operational costs.

Business Programs Committee shall be responsible for identifying, developing, executing and evaluating business programs that aim to educate the local and Japanese business communities in Colorado on how to improve business relationships between the two nations, and also provide current business trends and/or economic updates of Japan and the US (Colorado).

Marketing Committee shall be responsible for identifying, developing, executing and evaluating the marketing efforts to increase the visibility of the JASC by working with the media and online resources to better publicize the JASC's programs, improve and maintain good image and relations between Colorado and Japan, and to reach out to more potential members.

Education Programs Committee shall be responsible for planning, executing and evaluating the JASC's educational programs that include Japan Cup and Japanese language classes. The committee shall also be responsible for identifying, developing, executing and evaluating for additional educational programs such as cultural trunk programs for local schools and/or scholarships.

If you are interested in getting involved with any of the aforementioned committees, please e-mail info@jascolorado.org with your details, including committee preference and past Japan-related experiences.

Future Events!

Japan Cup

Please note that the deadline for the 2011 Japan Cup is fast approaching! All students interested in participating need to submit their applications by **Friday, March 4th!** Registration forms, along with the information pack and study guide, will be made available on the JASC website in January; please stay tuned.

If you are interested in **volunteering for the 2011 Japan Cup**, we are still looking for help with registration and also cultural demonstrators; Japanese language proficiency is not required for these tasks! Please contact Dilek at dilek@jascolorado.org if you are able to volunteer.

William & Alice Hosokawa Fellowship Grant: 2011 Cycle Announced!

Every year, the William and Alice Hosokawa Fellowship program, under the auspices of the Japan America Society of Colorado, provides grants to create a better understanding of Japan by educating people in Colorado about Japanese history, culture and arts.

We are pleased to announce the process for accepting applications for 2010 has begun, and would urge anyone eligible to apply.

Past winners include: Cherry Creek Arts Festival; Trinidad History Museum; Colorado Historical Society; Denver Museum of Miniatures, Dolls and Toys; Japanese American Resource Center; and Denver Botanical Gardens.

Please visit the programs section of our website (www.jascolorado.org) to obtain guidelines and information, as well as the 2011 application. Best of luck to all applicants!

Kaiwa Club!

JASC continues to hold its *Kaiwa Club* **every Wednesday** of the month (excluding the fifth Wednesday).

We meet at **Buzz Café in Denver**, from **6:30 to 8:00 pm**. Nami Larson from the Consulate General's Office and Dilek Eccles teach various aspects of Japanese language and culture. Each week has a different theme: pair talk grammar and vocabulary. *Kaiwa Club* is **free for JASC members to attend**.

The theme for the first week is pair talk; the second week is a lesson on grammar (followed by pair-talk); the third week is pair talk again; and the fourth week is a vocabulary lesson.

We are always looking for native speakers to join *Kaiwa Club* and help with pair talk sessions. This is also a great way to meet members of the community with an interest in Japanese. **If you are a current JASC member and a native Japanese speaker**, please join us for the next *Kaiwa Club*!

BUZZ CAFÉ DETAILS:

1229 East 6th Avenue
Denver, CO 80218-3579
(303) 831-1077

Members' Corner!!

New and Renewed Corporate Members!

Investor:

- Denver International Airport

Patron:

- Sumitomo Corporation of America

Supporter:

- Cosmo System USA
- Sakata Farms

Associate:

- Colorado Japanese Language Education Association
- Davis, Graham & Stubbs

New and Renewed Individual Members!

Friends:

- Ron Otsuka
- Charles Ozaki

Families:

- William & Susan Boatright
- Mehmet Ali & Sherry Dogruyusever
- William Fickas
- Jeff & Etsuko Hanscom
- Janine Hurst & Andrew Novick
- Ken & Karen Kanemoto
- Charles & Fumi Lux

Individuals:

- Jan Castle-Ferrada
- Paul Colton
- Matthew Coop
- Michael Doherty
- Rochelle Hoffman
- Julie Hulstein
- Chelsey Hunninghake
- Tokiyo Imanaka
- Kenneth Ingram-Lyle
- Gail Jackson
- Michael Reilly
- Dylan Schowengerdt
- Kathryn Stelloh
- Yasuko Tsunekawa
-

Educators:

- Takeko Sakakura
- Susan Schmidt
- Barbara Vandenberg

Students

- Daniel Green
- Caroline Jarecke



Membership Levels:

INDIVIDUAL:

- Friend: \$150
- Family: \$75
- Individual: \$48
- Educator: \$40
- Student: Free! (with ID)

CORPORATE:

- Investor: \$5,000
- Benefactor: \$3,000
- Patron: \$1,500
- Supporter: \$650
- Associate: \$300

Did you know??

Joining JASC and renewing your membership is now as easy as ever! Please visit www.jascolorado.org/membership2.php today!

*Around Town:
Announcements about upcoming events related to Japan*



Ko-tsuzumi In Japan for over a millennium, this hand drum has evolved in both design and playing style along with the theater traditions of Noh and Kabuki it accompanies. The ko-tsuzumi's iconic sound is definitive of Japanese percussion music. Tasajo Mochizuki has been performing the shamisen and the ko-tsuzumi, and singing Nagauta music in Tokyo for over thirty years.

Shakuhachi This vertical bamboo flute has been loved and celebrated both in Japan and around the world for its mystical expressions and its connections to the world of Zen. The shakuhachi has enjoyed further popularity as it spans musical cultures in the modern world. Kansuke II has been teaching and performing the shakuhachi in Japan and around the world for over thirty years.

Friday, Feb. 18, 7:30 PM
Kelly's Barn 1360 Sumac Ave.
(North Boulder, just east of Broadway)
\$15 (Students + Seniors \$10)
Info/Res. 303-449-2935
Kansuke Productions, LLC

Please read over the following exciting announcement, from the National Association of Japan-America Societies. This is great news for those who have been wanting to go to Japan for a truly local experience!

The 21st America-Japan Grassroots Summit will be held June 27-July 4 2011 in Kochi Prefecture in Japan. The trip is open to all and has four features you do not normally find on trips to Japan:

- Interesting, rarely visited location; Kochi Prefecture on Shikoku, with locally organized events
- Home stays for 3 nights arranged by the summit organizers with local families
- Great price- \$2200 (depending on departure city) including airfare, 6 nights stay, and most meals
- A chance to participate in the 5-day grassroots summit activities

NAJAS is a partner of the Center for International Exchange, the organizer these summits for 20 years. This offer is available to members and friends of all NAJAS societies—including JASC—so please be sure to visit <http://www.us-japan.org/> for all the details. In addition, the JASC office has a number of pamphlets, as well as a CD-rom, containing information on the summit. Please e-mail Dilek Eccles (Dilek@jascolorado.org) if you wish to obtain a brochure.

JASC Associate Members **Foundation for Asian Pacific Foundation** released the following news on their website recently: The Foundation for Asia Pacific Education today announced its global expansion and name change to the Foundation for Global Scholars to provide [study abroad scholarship](#) opportunities to all North American students regardless of destination.

The foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, is expanding beyond its original Asia Pacific focus to include all study abroad destinations so more university students can enrich their lives through international education experiences. The foundation's website is now <http://www.foundationforglobalscholars.org>.

The **11th Annual Aikido Summit** will take place on Saturday, March 26th, 2011. The event will take place at Denver Buddhist Temple, and will run from 7:45 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. For more details, please e-mail denveraikikai@comcast.net, or call 720-570-3599.



*Around Town:
Announcements about upcoming events related to Japan*



The University of Colorado Denver College of Arts & Media and the Consulate-General of Japan present

TSUGARU SHAMISEN

*featuring the Monsters of Shamisen –
Kevin Kmetz and Mike Penny*



THE MONSTERS OF SHAMISEN IN CONCERT

The Monsters of Shamisen – Kevin Kmetz and Mike Penny – are the first non-Japanese Tsugaru Shamisen performers ever to have participated and placed in the national tsugaru shamisen tournaments held annually in Tsugaru region of northern Japan. Kmetz and Penny have performed throughout Japan and the USA in a great number and variety of musical groups.

Having both come from studying western music, Kmetz and Penny have made a name for themselves adapting musical styles from numerous countries (among them western classical music) to the shamisen while simultaneously integrating many traditional shamisen playing techniques.

Monsters of Shamisen offers audiences the most exciting and innovative example of modern Tsugaru shamisen in the world. Pooling their respective musical backgrounds, Monsters draw inspiration from a wide variety of musical styles including baroque/classical, Balkan gypsy, American bluegrass, Irish folk music, and even modern rock/pop. To see this ensemble live is to experience one of the most unforgettable fusions of not only East and West but of past and future.

This event is sponsored by the University of Colorado Denver, College of Arts & Media, and the Consulate-General of Japan.

Monday, February 21, 2011
King Center Concert Hall
855 Lawrence Way on the Auraria Campus
7:30pm
FREE ADMISSION
303.352.3500



JAPAN FOUNDATION



www.camarts.org/#events/details/53

JASC ORGANIZATION

On Wednesday, February 2nd, JASC gathered for its first Board of Directors meeting of the year, where elections were held for new members/current members of the Board whose terms were about to end.

Please find below the 2011 Board Directory:

OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Shinobu Yoshitomi	President
Richard K. Clark	Senior Vice President
John Bywaters	Treasurer
Kim Chandler	Executive Committee
Eric Hiraga	Executive Committee
Isao Kamitani	Executive Committee
Missy Kautt	Executive Committee
T.R. Reid	Executive Committee
Jim Reis	Executive Committee
Bill Waters	Executive Committee

JASC STAFF

Dilek Eccles	Executive Director
Andre Martinez	Japanese Instructor
Janet Winterburn	Intern

JASC is a private, 501(c)(3) non-profit, non-political membership organization with a programmatic focus devoted to education, business, culture, and public affairs. It is a statewide organization, with the majority of its operations and membership based in Denver. The Board of Directors is comprised of leaders in business, government, education, and the arts. The general membership represents most of Colorado's major population centers and is a mix of Japanese Americans, Japanese nationals, and other Americans.

BOARD of DIRECTORS

Kathy Ajisaka
John Bywaters
Kim Chandler
Richard K. Clark
Margaret d'Emery
Michael Driver
Eric Hiraga
Isao Kamitani
Missy Kautt
Michael Kelley
Akiyoshi "Ebi" Kondo
Ganpat Mani
Tomomi Matsuzawa
Tom Migaki
Charles Ozaki
T.R. Reid
Jim Reis
Bob Sakaguchi
Bob Sakata
Rie Seaver
Philip Seng
Kimiko Side
Susumu "Steve" Takeuchi
Masanori Tanaka
Seiji Tanaka
Bill Waters
Shinobu Yoshitomi

JASC INVESTORS & BENEFACTORS:

*Thank you to the following corporations and organizations
for your continued support of JASC!*



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www.flydenver.com



www.kpmg.com



1625 Broadway, Suite 680
Denver, CO 80202
Phone: 303-592-5364
Fax: 303-592-5367
E-mail: info@jascolorado.org

www.jascolorado.org