

# Japan America Society of Minnesota



通 信

*The Tsūshin is a membership publication of the Japan America Society of Minnesota*

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## Another Good Year at the Obon Festival



Consul-General of Japan in Chicago, Naoki Ito; Honorary Consul of Japan, Dick Stahl; Food booth manager, Mami Russell; Tomoko Drake, and JASM Executive Director, Rio Saito

Hailing the end of summer and the arrival of colder months, the highly-anticipated Obon Festival has come to an end. On August 19 roughly 10,000 attendees gathered at Como Park to observe this prominent annual event.

During the Obon Festival, Como Park became a bustling hub of excitement filled with memorable booths, demonstrations,

shopping, and activities. Obon Festival newcomer Dorekuitei Mendokoro was one of the most popular places to grab food. Selling iconic Japanese dishes such as somen (cold noodles) and onigiri, many festivalgoers were able to enjoy an authentic taste of Japanese cuisine at this new favorite festival stop.

In terms of activities, JASM's own Yo-Yo Tsuri booths proved to be an irresistible activity for many eventgoers. The charming water yo-yos kept kids entertained for hours! Meanwhile, JASM's Kingyo Sukui (goldfish scooping) booth was also very successful. As always, the booth's buckets full of goldfish drew a huge crowd of both potential fisherfolk as well as curious onlookers. At the J-Quiz booth, participants answered Japan-related trivia in a mock version of the J-Quiz program that has been adopted by high schools across the United States. Last but not least, participants at the calligraphy booth had the option of learning how to write something in Japanese, or having something written for them by a calligraphy master.

Booths aside, numerous events took place throughout the day. To name a few: bon odori dancing, taiko drumming, and martial arts demonstrations. One special occasion was that Consul-General Naoki Ito from Chicago as well as Mayor Carter of St. Paul visited the Obon Festival for the first time and gave a speech to the audience.

Of course, the night would not be complete without the lantern-lighting ceremony. Derived from traditions of Buddhism, the lighting of these floating lanterns act as a means to pay homage to one's ancestors. The beautiful spread of the lanterns on the water is an unforgettable sight.

*Continues on page 2*

## Linda Hashimoto to Receive Mondale Award 2018 at Mondale Gala



Linda Hashimoto van Dooijeweert

JASM is delighted to announce that the 2018 Mondale Award for Japan-Minnesota Partnership will be presented to Linda Hashimoto van Dooijeweert, founder and dance director of Sansei Yonsei Kai, at the Mondale Award and Scholarship Gala at Oak Ridge Country Club in Hopkins on Saturday, November 17.

Linda has been an active member and leader with Japan America Society of Minnesota (JASM) and the Saint Paul-Nagasaki Sister City Committee (SPNSCC) for nearly 45 years. Her dedication to building relationships has also been demonstrated in her roles as an active leader in other Japan- or Asia-related organizations, such as the Twin Cities Japanese American Citizens League (TCJACL), the Council of Asian Pacific Minnesotans and the MN Nikkei Project. She also has represented the Japanese community at the St. Paul Foundation Asian Pacific Endowment.

As founder and dance director of Sansei Yonsei Kai, a Japanese children's and adult dance group, Linda has contributed a remarkable Japanese dance legacy in Minnesota. Sansei Yonsei Kai incorporates the building of cultural understanding, an appreciation for the performing arts of Japan, and an educational tool for developing young people with cross-cultural understanding. The group performs regularly at Japan-related events, such as the annual Obon Festival; the Cherry Blossom Celebration, the SPNSCC led community-wide event at Como Park; and numerous other events and has also performed in California, Hawaii and was even invited to perform in Japan.

In addition, Linda is a leader and active organizer for "Japan Café" as a participant at the Festival of Nations (FON). Through her dedicated leadership, Linda personally led the initiative to keep a Japan-themed presence at this large multicultural event for Saint Paul and Minnesota. The Japan Café turned out to be an immensely successful venture and a popular draw for many attendees at the event. Additionally, Linda also runs the Kimono Demo Booth and has been performing at the FON stage herself since she was 7 years old.

JASM is very pleased to present the Mondale Award for Japan-Minnesota Partnership to Linda Hashimoto van Dooijeweert in 2018. Everyone is welcome to join us to honor Linda and to raise funds for the Mondale Scholarship. For more information, go to [www.mn-japan.org](http://www.mn-japan.org), or contact us at 612-627-9357, or email [jasm@us-japan.org](mailto:jasm@us-japan.org).

## Letter from the JASM President



Marc Blehert  
JASM President

Dear JASM members and friends,

I feel many aches and pains as I write this letter which can only mean one thing: I was one of the many JASM volunteers at the Obon Festival in Como Park. What a day! No other JASM event is quite as volunteer-dependent as the Obon Festival. A literal army of volunteers is required to feed, entertain, and educate the masses. Thank you all so much for giving your time and energy! Best wishes as well to the several hundred goldfish who found new homes through the JASM Kingyo Sukui booth. I hope these fine fish have acclimated to their new tanks and are swimming happily.

I could not be more pleased with JASM for playing the integral role in the planning and production of this festival, which brings an authentic slice of Japan to St. Paul. Attendance was again around 10,000 people, from all walks of life, showing how important the Minnesota-Japan relationship is to our community.

Months of meticulous planning go into this event to make sure it is executed without a hitch. Our fabulous JASM staff of Rio, Yoko, and a crack team of interns made sure each volunteer knew their role and kept the booths humming efficiently at 100% customer satisfaction. Special thanks to Mami Russell, Tomoko Drake, and the rest of the Dorekuitei food booth staff. They work tirelessly year after year to provide delicious, authentic Japanese food to festival revelers. This year's new menu proved to be a hit as more than 50 pounds of onigiri sold out, and every last somen noodle was consumed.

The conclusion of Obon means that fall will soon be here, and another school year begins. *Ganbattekudasai* to all the students starting or continuing Japanese studies. A special shout-out to students who have departed on Japan study abroad adventures. Safe travels!

There is only one major event left in 2018 and it is a BIG one – the annual Mondale Award and Scholarship Gala. This year's Gala will be held on Saturday, Nov. 17th from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Oak Ridge Country Club. Please be on the lookout for notifications to get the early-bird discount. You do NOT want to miss this fun and inspiring evening!

Thanks everyone for your support and see you at the next event. -- Marc



## Another Good Year at the Obon Festival Cont.

The Obon Festival would not have been possible without contributions from the following volunteers and organizations:



metro  
regional  
arts  
council



MOKO CAKES

Hiroko Belz	Ronald Leonhardt	Naomi Satoh
Marc Blehert	Mariah Luksan	Mark Schmitt
Mizuho Castle	Seigo Masabuchi	Tetsuya Shimano
Kevin Chiles	Yuko Masaki	Kazuhiko Soga
Michiko Christy	Kayoko Mitsuishi	Jace Smith
Clint Conner	Yuko Moon	Michiko Smith
Ben Dobkins	Shuzo Murakami	Shotah Stoffregen
Tomoko Drake	Taketoshi Nagata	Hisayo Sugaya
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Maiko Hosokawa	Ryan Rogers	See Yang
Richiko Kamata	Cain Russell	Masako Yoshida
Takehito Kamata	Mami Russell	Rachel Youngs
Anna Koizumi	Noah Russell	Miyuki Yamamoto

We sincerely thank you all for your time and effort spent helping the JASM organization for the Obon Festival 2018.

## Membership News

Thanks to the following renewing corporate members:

Kiku Enterprises  
Zen Chiropractic Inc.  
Nagomi Ya Senior Living  
Taiyo International

Thanks to the following new & renewing JASM members:

Diane Dettmann, Henry Russel, John Omori, Eiko and James Hoffman, Amethyst O'Connell, Linda Marek, Mark Schmitt, Willt and Linda Dooijeweert, Chieko Millard, Elisha Tamura-Beattie, Keiko Kawakami, Hiromi Mizuno, Chris Armacost, Sharon Bigot, Jean Jarvis, Amey Kazue, Nikita Kirillovichkhazov, Matsumi Barnell, Frances Egan, Luke Walbert, Teagan Jochum, Eric Larsen, Chieko Rogers, Tetsuya Yamada, Megan and Nobby Hashizume, Isomura Sachiya, Richard and Katherine Fournier, Colin and Nell Wirth, Tomita Sanae, Matthew and Michelle Welch, Michiko Buchanan, Ayumi and Joel Malin, Nagai Hiroko, Takehito and Richiko Kamata, David Fink, Keith Vargo, Michiko Dressen, Seikei Hibino, Hiroshi Nomura, Sarah Walbert, Betty Tisel, Jane Powers, Julie Jochum, Elizabeth Fehrmann, Katherine Furleigh, See Yang, Asako Hirabayashi, Kevin Chiles, Rachael Young, Daisuke Matano, Jan Magree

*At left: Mami Russell and the Dorekuitei Mendokoro team with JASM board members Richiko Kamata and Masako Yoshida*

## A look into the Bon Odori Rehearsal



*Participants learning traditional Japanese dances*

On July 30 at Salem Lutheran Church, the Bon Odori Rehearsal took place. The event started at 6:30 with curry, rice, and dessert prepared generously by members of Sansei Yonsei Kai. After enjoying the delicious food, Executive Director Rio Saito gave a warm welcome and then participants all started to learn some dances. The instructors were from Sansei Yonsei Kai dance group, a local Minnesota dance organization. We were able to learn not one, but six different dances! Among them, the Minnesota Ondo and Pokémon Ondo seemed to be favorites. Many children showed up in their yukata and several of the dancers wore a beautiful kimono. The music group

Mu-Min sang beautiful songs as we danced and a taiko drumming group led by Susie Kuniyoshi performed. We also had the opportunity to meet JoAnn Blatchley, president of the Saint-Paul Nagasaki Sister City Committee, who attended as a participant. Even though the event was a small one, everybody had a wonderful time. JASM would like to thank all of the individuals and organizations who attended this event while giving special thanks to those who were responsible for setting up the venue, teaching the dances, and providing the music: Sansei Yonsei Kai, Mu-Min, and Susie Kuniyoshi with her taiko drummers. Without such generous organizations and participants, JASM would be unable to put on wonderful events like this.



*Member of Sansei Yonsei Kai dancing in her beautiful yukata*

**Please thank our members with your support!**

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Winona State Univ. Global Studies Dept.



JASM is proud to announce **Hubbard Broadcasting Inc.** as the Corporate Membership Spotlight for September!

At Hubbard Radio, the best people in local media build dominant brands that connect consumers and advertisers to build better businesses and communities. Their motto is “we succeed by always doing the right thing with focus, urgency and passion.” Check out their website for more details: <http://corporate.hubbardradio.com/>

JASM wants to thank Hubbard Broadcasting Inc. for their constant support as Corporate Sustaining Members. Without the help of our members, JASM would not be thriving today. Hubbard Broadcasting Inc. has been a long-lasting source of support for JASM and we are excited to continue our partnership into the future.



## Continuing the Greater MN Outreach Effort



The Honorary Consul, Dick Stahl and JASM Vice President, Elizabeth Fehrmann meeting with Red Wing's Sister City Commission

greater Minnesota outreach activities.

The first stop was Red Wing, to meet with Red Wing Sister Cities Commission members and several beneficiaries of their sister city student exchange program. The Japanese sister city of Red Wing is Ikata in Ehime prefecture. The exchange program is thriving, with groups of Red Wing and Ikata students each experiencing home stays in the other's city every summer. Red Wing's sister relationship with Ikata has been in place since 1995. The next stop was Wabasha, to visit the Wind Whisper West Kimono Gallery. The gallery specializes in vintage wedding kimono, and is likely the only one of its kind in the world! The final stop of the day was in Winona, to learn more about Winona's own Japan sister city relationship with Misato, a town just north of Sendai in Miyagi prefecture. The student exchange program has been going strong for over 20 years (since 1997), with Winona students traveling to Japan every April and Japanese students traveling to Winona every October. Additionally, the recent acquisition of Winona-based Peerless Chain company by the KITO corporation only strengthens Winona's ties to Japan.

JASM looks forward to continuing outreach efforts and to future collaborations with the Japan-focused community leaders in Red Wing, Wabasha, and Winona.

-- report contributed by Elizabeth Fehrmann, JASM Vice President

## Support JASM through AmazonSmile



Do you shop at Amazon? If you do, please shop via <https://smile.amazon.com> and choose JASM as your organization to support!

Every time you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of your purchase to JASM.

Please start today!

## Storytelling & Remembrance: From Education Denied to Today

In conjunction with a gathering of Midwest Japanese American community leaders, here's a September opportunity to explore storytelling as a tool for activism.

Focusing on the legacy of Japanese American reparations, participants will analyze the extension of America's apology to the systematic denial of a college education to Nisei (second-generation Japanese Americans) during WWII, and hear from young Japanese American storytellers. Combined with the stories of local civil rights groups, participants will learn storytelling as a tool to accomplish civil rights goals.

**When:** September 8th (pre-event potluck on September 7)

**Where:** Historic Fort Snelling, Saint Paul, Minnesota

**Logistics:** Travel assistance available (carpooling from Chicago), meals and lodging covered from Friday evening to Sunday morning.

To attend (or ask any questions), please contact Eric Langowski at [erhlangos@gmail.com](mailto:erhlangos@gmail.com) by 8/31.

Sponsored by: The Japanese American Citizens League's National Youth/Student Council, Young Professionals Caucus, and Next Generation Nikkei (JACL Chicago)

Supported by: JACL Midwest District Council and Twin Cities Chapter

## Looking for New Interns

JASM is currently searching for new interns! We are looking for individuals who are:

- Interested in Japan
- Have a familiarity with Microsoft Office programs
- Undergraduate students or recent graduates
- Willing to work flexible hours and participate in JASM events

As JASM internships are unpaid, we offer meaningful work experience and intangible benefits. The networking opportunities introduce interns to influential individuals working within Japanese-related businesses and organizations. For more information regarding details on a specific position, please visit our website at [mn-japan.org/volunteering/internships](http://mn-japan.org/volunteering/internships).

If interested in applying, please email, fax, or mail a resume and cover letter to:

*Yoko Ueno, Program Manager  
Japan America Society of Minnesota  
Riverplace EH-131  
43 Main Street SE  
Minneapolis, MN 55414  
[yueno@us-japan.org](mailto:yueno@us-japan.org)*

*T: 612.627.9357  
F: 612.379.2393*



## Fifth Annual Normandale Japanese Garden Festival



The Normandale Japanese Garden

From **11:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m. on September 23**, the Normandale Japanese Garden will be hosting its fifth annual Japanese Garden Festival, at **9700 France Avenue S., Bloomington, MN.**

Be sure to go and enjoy the many highlights of the festival, including traditional food, taiko and Japanese martial arts performances, origami and ikebana demonstrations, koi feeding, sword demonstrations, kids' activities, and more. The Normandale Community College's Japanese Garden was built by the Bloomington Affiliated Garden Clubs. The garden clubs raised funds to build the garden, while the college donated two acres of land and a portion of Green Heron Pond. Takao Watanabe, a professional garden architect from Tokyo, Japan, was critical to the success of the garden. JASM looks forward to participating in the garden festival and we hope to see you all there! For more information please visit: <http://www.normandale.edu/community/newsroom/newsroom-events-index/japanese-garden-festival-x30745>

## Ben van Lierop's Retirement Party



Ben and Rio with a group of past and current interns

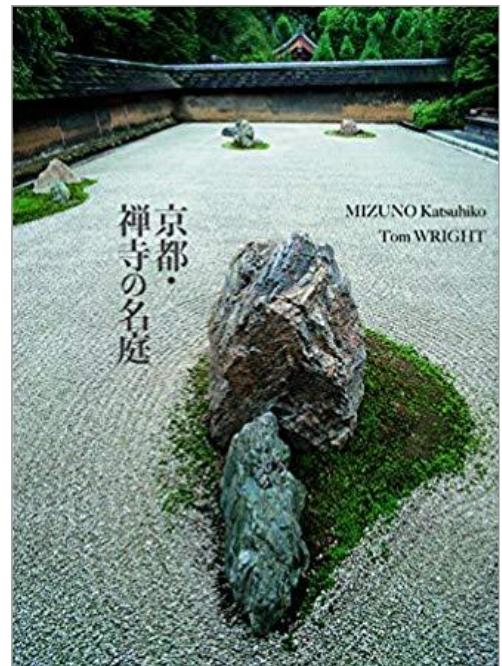
On July 24 from 6-8 p.m. JASM held a small retirement party in a conference room just outside of our office for our beloved outgoing executive director, Ben van Lierop. It was a sad yet memorable occasion as individuals reminisced about how they met Ben, and laughed at all the funny stories friends had to share. While Yoko Breckenridge argued that Ben is "too young to retire," the 12 years Ben worked for JASM were filled with many accomplishments.

Ben has many fine qualities that everyone recognizes: his contagious enthusiasm, the constant energy he exudes, and the care and deliberation he put into his job as JASM's executive director. Even though Ben might humbly beg to differ, JASM has grown exponentially as an organization throughout the years, thanks to his efforts. JASM looks forward to seeing Ben at future events, not as JASM's director with responsibilities, but as a friend, interested in Japanese culture, able to finally relax and enjoy events to their fullest.

## Tom Haeg's Book Review

*Samadhi on Zen Gardens: Dynamism and Tranquility*; Mizuno Katsuhiko (photographer) and Tom Wright (text); Suiko Books, Second Printing 2013, 120 pages.

One of the great delights for visitors to Japan is the opportunity to visit its gardens. They provide a leisurely, peripatetic insight into the country's culture, history and personality. While there are hundreds of thousands of gardens throughout the archipelago -- personal residences, shrines, public parks -- the gardens of Kyoto, both secular and religious, command a unique interest because of their sheer beauty, attention to detail, and simplicity.



*Samadhi* identifies almost 100 gardens in the Kyoto area worthy of this respect which are commonly connected with Zen meditative experiences. Their time-range origin is enormous: Edo period, Kamakura period, Showa period, Nanbokuchō period, Muromachi period, Heisei period, and Momoyama period. We are not talking here about a year of influence, not a decade, not even a century, rather: centuries. Whew.

This breathtaking grasp can be appreciated on several contemplative levels. While meditative experiences immediately drew Wright to these bucolic treasures, he reassures the reader that they can equally be enjoyed for their simple splendor without reading supernatural interpretations into their designs and patterns. He does this through his brilliant bilingual text (Japanese and English) accompanying each garden, thereby elevating the description to a heightened academic level. And Kyoto native Mizuno Katsuhiko expertly captures each garden with his rich photography, subtly drawing the reader into each pastoral setting.

Are you asking my favorite? (See: "Who is your favorite child?"). Answer: *Reito-in*, described as "Pond garden facing shoin" (page 49). It is Edo period style with an elongated pond, irregular granite bridge, mossy banks, *horai* style stonework, a walking path, flat vertical rocks and a small stone pagoda.

Wright is a tenured professor at Ryokoku University in Kyoto, teaching an English language and culture program. Katsuhiko is an accomplished photographer keen on the 'chance encounter' method. They both boast a copious list of published literary works and awards.

-Tom Haeg

## Nihonjinkai Obon Booth and Fall Colors Cruise 2018

Each year Nihonjinkai sets up a booth at the Obon Festival sponsored by JASM. We rely on donations to offer gently used kimono, gift items, art, books, our handmade greeting cards, and various handmade Japanese crafts. All proceeds benefit the free Japanese Library and MN Nihonjinkai. For example, we celebrate birthdays every month at our meeting, so we purchase a cake and main dish to accompany the side dishes each member brings.

This year we bought three new vendor tents as several were destroyed in storms from past years. We also offer a Fall Boat Cruise to the Japanese elderly in October at a greatly reduced price! If you have Japanese items or handmade crafts you would like to donate, we would be most appreciative! Please contact Karen Harwerth, 612-747-0340. Please visit, like, share & join us on Facebook: search for MN Nihonjinkai/Japanese Library to keep up with the latest news!



We have tentatively scheduled our annual Fall Cruise for Sunday, October 14, 2018, 4-6:30 p.m. This is a full dinner cruise that we started three years ago. Elderly members (65+) and volunteers of Nihonjinkai/Japanese Library can join this cruise for only \$10! We are in the process of finalizing details. Register early as this event fills up quickly!



**Yoko Breckenridge**  
612-839-008  
[yoko@yoko4home.com](mailto:yoko@yoko4home.com)



## 月例日本人会のお知らせ

毎月日本語図書館で日本人会の昼食会 (Monthly Nihonjin-kai)を行っています。電話などでお誘い合わせの上、お友達やお知り合いとご一緒にいで下さい。可能の方はどうぞ料理を1品ご持参願います。ミネソタ州在住の日本人達で良い事を考え、ご馳走と日本語で楽しい時間を持ちましょう。

日程：毎月第2月曜日正午より

場所：日本語図書館

(4231 Bloomington Ave S., Minneapolis, MN 55407)

また、毎週土曜日午後2時からは、日本語図書館のお手伝いしてくださる方の集まりがあります。是非ご参加ください。この図書館には、漫画や宗教誌約25000冊や約2500本のビデオDVDがあり、希望者にはセルフサービスで日本人会と同じく無料で貸出しています。お問い合わせは下記までどうぞ。

Yoko Breckenridge

Cell phone: (612) 839-0008 E-mail: [Yoko@yoko4home.com](mailto:Yoko@yoko4home.com)

(Nihonjin-kai monthly meeting is every 2nd Monday at noon. The meeting is held at 4231 Bloomington Ave S. Minneapolis, MN 55407).

## 2018 Studio Ghibli Film Fest



Throughout the year, Fathom Events and GKIDS have been bringing Studio Ghibli films to U.S audiences. The film fest started in March and the final film is in November. These films are showing across Minnesota in **select theatres**. Below are the upcoming films and their dates! If you need a family night out with some delicious theatre popcorn and a large Icée (JASM intern Tatiana's favorite combo), go and see one of Studio Ghibli's amazing animated classics.

**My Neighbor Totoro (Dubbed)**

Sun. 9/30 and Wed. 10/3

**My Neighbor Totoro (Subtitled)**

Mon. 10/1

**Spirited Away (Dubbed)**

Mon. 10/28

**Spirited Away (Subtitled)**

Mon. 10/29

**Castle in the Sky (Dubbed)**

Sun. 11/18

**Castle in the Sky (Subtitled)**

Mon. 11/19

<http://www.marcustheatres.com/marcus-specials/marcus-film-series/ghibli-fest-2018>

# Advertise in the Tsushin!

## Advertisement Rates

Style	Size	Cost/issue
1/4 page	5 x 3.5 in	\$50.00
1/2 page	5 x 7.5 in	\$90.00
Full page	10 x 7.5 in	\$150.00
Classified	80 character line	\$10/ line (min. 2 lines)

Ad production and design available in both Japanese and English for an additional charge.

Deadline for completed ads and classifieds is the 20th of every month.

*Advertisements are 10% off for JASM Members  
A one-year ad subscription guarantees one month free!*

**Questions? Contact  
the JASM Office  
Tel: 612-627-9357  
jasm@us-japan.org**

## Japan America Society Calendar

### September

September 23: Normandale Japanese Garden Festival, 11am - 5:30pm

\*If you would like to let JASM know about an upcoming event, email us at [jasm.interns@gmail.com](mailto:jasm.interns@gmail.com)

## Japanese Speaking Club

The Japanese Speaking Club is an informal meeting place for those wishing to practice Japanese.

We encourage those just beginning the language as well as native speakers to gather at **Corner Coffee** in Uptown Minneapolis to meet new people, discuss experiences in Japan, or simply to speak Japanese. Come when you can, leave when you must.

**Date/Time:** Every Saturday at 3:00 p.m. (however, most people do not show up until 3:30)

**Place:** Corner Coffee (just east of Hennepin Ave.)  
1414 W 28th St, Minneapolis, MN 55408

*For questions, comments, or concerns, please contact JASM at [jasm@us-japan.org](mailto:jasm@us-japan.org) or 612-627-9357*

## Traveling to Japan?



*Cat Temple in Japan  
Taken by Tatiana Gust*

to the Temple gallery, or to take home for good luck.

Compared to other temples around Japan, Gotokuji Temple is rather small and secluded. If you are a cat lover and want to escape from busy Tokyo for a day, take a train to Gotokuji. While there, try some takoyaki from a shop across the road and enjoy the peaceful scenery and clean streets Japan's suburban towns have to offer.

<https://www.tofugu.com/travel/gotokuji-temple/>

## Become a JASM Member online!

*Support our mission and become a member!*

1. Go to [mn-japan.org](http://mn-japan.org)
2. Click on 'Membership' at the top
3. Select your membership type and read the benefits and instructions.

You can also become a member using your smart phone!

### Japan America Society of Minnesota

- Membership Application    Change of Address  
 Tax-deductible Donation

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name (2nd adult of a household membership) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make an additional tax-deductible donation of \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please make checks payable to JASM)

### Individual Membership

Patron.....	\$1,000+
Sustaining.....	\$500+
Contributing.....	\$100+
Individual .....	\$30
Student/Senior .....	\$20
Household .....	\$50
(2 adults plus children under 18)	

Japan America Society of Minnesota  
43 Main Street SE Suite EH—131  
Minneapolis, MN 55414

# Japan America Society of Minnesota



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[www.mn-japan.org](http://www.mn-japan.org)

## 通信

Tsūshin  
September 2018

The Japan America Society of Minnesota is a non-profit, non-political association engaged in bringing the peoples of Japan and the United States closer together in mutual understanding, respect, and cooperation. Through programs and interchange, it endeavors to promote an appreciation of cultural, educational, economic, public, and other affairs of interest to both peoples. Membership in the society is open to individuals, corporations, and other organizations interested in furthering its programs.

The Japan America Society of Minnesota is a member of the National Association of Japan-America Societies.

(Please report any inaccuracies you find in this publication to [jasm.interns@gmail.com](mailto:jasm.interns@gmail.com))

## 2018 Obon Festival

