



## CALENDAR

### Exhibits & Events

Mon., February 1

[OSU-IJS Lecture on Chindon-ya Musicology](#) @ online platform (over)

Wed., February 3

[J-Chat Japanese Conversation Group](#) @ online platform (over)  
[BGSU/JOI Lecture on Japanese Folklore Creatures](#) @ online platform (over)  
[Cleveland Virtual Japanese Language Meetup](#) @ online platform (over)

Sun., February 7, and Sat., February 13

[Ann Arbor Japanese Language Meetup](#) @ online platform

Thurs., February 11

[UM-CJS Lecture on Divorce in Japan](#) @ online platform

Thurs., February 18

[UM-CJS Lecture on Japanese Wives of Korean Repatriates](#) @ online platform

Sat., January 20

[Michigan Japanese Language Speech Contest](#) @ online platform

Tues., February 23

[Webinar about Tokaido Road](#) by MSU professor @ online platform

Tue., March 2

[JASGC/NAJAS Webinar on Geostrategic Challenges](#) @ online platform

Sat., March 6

[Ohio Japan Bowl](#) @ online platform

Sat., March 13

[Ohio Japanese Speech Contest](#) @ online platform

Sat., March 20

JTAM Michigan Japanese Culture Festa @ online platform



The official magazine of the  
Government of Japan:

*Kizuna*



*Kizuna* is a digital publication of the Government of Japan.

It features reports on a wide variety of Japan-related topics, to provide opportunities to strengthen links between Japan and the world.

The inaugural issue is available in online, PDF, & e-Book formats.

You can find it here:  
[Magazine homepage](#)

## Quick Links

[Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit](#)

[Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan](#)



## MI & OH Students Demonstrate Japanese Skills in Online Statewide Contests

During February and March, students of Japanese in Michigan and Ohio will have several opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge of Japanese language and culture. The Michigan Japanese Language Speech Contest, Ohio Japanese Speech Contest, Ohio Japan Bowl, and Michigan Japanese Culture Festival will all be taking place online this year.

On Sat., Feb. 20, the Michigan Japanese Language Speech Contest will feature high school student competition in the morning, and college/university student competition in the afternoon. Both will be viewable by the public via the Consulate's [YouTube channel](#). The [application](#) deadline has been extended to 5:00pm on Feb. 10.

On Sat., March 13, the Ohio Japanese Speech Contest will include participants in the high school, university, and "advanced" (post-college) categories. The [application](#) deadline is 5:00pm on Feb. 5.

On Sat., March 6, teams from intermediate- to advanced-level high school Japanese classes will participate online in the [2021 Ohio Japan Bowl](#). Team applications must be submitted by Fri., Feb. 12.



## MEXT Scholarship Deadline Nears

The deadline for submitting an application for the MEXT Japanese Studies Scholarship is 5:00pm on Monday, February 22. This scholarship offers undergraduates majoring in a field related to Japanese language and/or culture the opportunity to study in Japan for a period of one year.

Applicants are required to submit evidence of earning a passing score on the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT) with their application. Details about the application process and Detroit-specific requirements and deadlines may be found [here](#).

**Japanese Government MEXT (Monbukagakusho) Scholarship**

Applications for the **2021 Japanese Studies** are now available!

The MEXT Japanese Studies Scholarship offers enrolled university students the opportunity to study in Japan for a 1-year time period and can be used as a study abroad program.

**Scholarship Includes:**

- \*Round-trip airfare to and from Japan
- \*University tuition and fees covered
- \*Monthly stipend for living expenses

**Eligibility:**

- \*Must provide certificate of passing JLPT exam
- \*U.S. Citizenship (to apply through U.S.)
- \*Must be an undergraduate student majoring in field related to Japanese language/culture.
- \*Must have studied Japanese studies at a college/university for a period of one year or more as of September 1, 2021.
- \*Born between April 2, 1991 and April 1, 2003

**One Year Scholarship Term:**  
October, 2021 through October, 2022

**Application Deadline: February 22<sup>nd</sup>**  
Applicants must be available for testing and interviews: **March 9<sup>th</sup>**

For more detailed information on how to apply, please see application guidelines at:  
[https://www.studyinJapan.go.jp/en/smap\\_stop-applications\\_japanese.html](https://www.studyinJapan.go.jp/en/smap_stop-applications_japanese.html)

Send your applications or address questions to:  
**Rhea Young**  
Consulate General of Japan in Detroit  
400 Renaissance Center, Suite 1600  
Detroit, MI, 48243  
(313) 567-0120, [rhea.young@dt.mofa.go.jp](mailto:rhea.young@dt.mofa.go.jp)

MEXT

## Setsubun Holiday Brings in Good Luck and Sends Away the Bad

Each February in Japan, the holiday known as Setsubun (literally, "seasonal division") marks the end of winter and the coming of spring with various traditional activities intended to usher in good fortune and send evil spirits away.

One tradition, known as *mame-maki*, or "bean throwing," involves tossing roasted soybeans around one's home and/or at people wearing masks to represent *oni*, evil spirits or demons. Those throwing the beans usually chant, "*Oni wa soto! Fuku wa uchi!*" meaning "Out with the demons! In with good fortune!"

Setsubun usually occurs on February 2nd or 3rd, according to the traditional lunar calendar. This year, Setsubun occurred on the 2nd day of the 2nd month for the first time since 1897.



*ConsuLink is the official newsletter of  
the Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit*

400 Renaissance Center, Suite 1600 | Detroit, MI 48243 US

[CGJ Website](#)

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™

Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.

View this email [online](#).

400 Renaissance Center, Suite 1600  
Detroit, MI | 48243 US

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

emma

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.