



CALENDAR

Exhibits & Events

Tue., March 2

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

[OSU/SCC Webinar on Yamauba](#) @ online platform

Wed., March 3

[WMU Lecture on Study Abroad in Japan](#) @ online platform

[Cleveland Virtual Japanese Language Meetup](#) @ online platform

Thurs., March 4

[UM-CJS Webinar on Japan's Birth Rate](#) @ online platform

Sat., March 6

[Ohio Japan Bowl](#) @ online platform

Sun., March 7 & 21, and Sat., March 13 & 27

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

Thurs., March 11

[UM-CJS Panel on Gender & Disaster Response](#) @ online platform

[USJC 3.11 Tenth Anniversary Event](#) @ online platform

Sat., March 13

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

Mon., March 15

[OSU-IJS Webinar on Labor, Innovation, & Transportation](#) @ online platform

Thurs., March 18

[UM-CJS Webinar on Ishinomaki Kokeshi](#) @ online platform

Sat., March 20

[JTAM Michigan Japanese Culture Festa](#) @ online platform

Fri., March 26

[OSU-IJS Webinar on Reiwa Era Economics](#) @ 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.

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Michigan Japanese Language Speech Contest

Features High-Level Speakers

On Saturday, Feb. 20, the 26th annual Michigan Japanese Language Speech Contest took place in an online format, with 15 participants from high school and college-level Japanese programs in Michigan. Judges and prizes were provided by the Japan Business Society of Detroit, JSD Women's Club, Japan-America Society of Michigan and Southwestern Ontario, and the Japanese Teachers Association of Michigan.

Congratulations to all the contestants, who placed as follows:

High School Category

Consul-General's Award: Lucia Lee

Gold: Chloe Pottenger and Brandon Sims

Silver: Namrata Peri and Sarah Markoff

Bronze: Sachin Karatha and Christopher Do

University Category

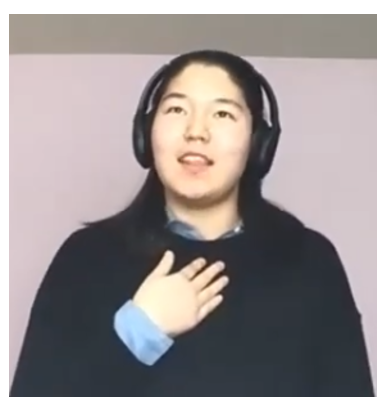
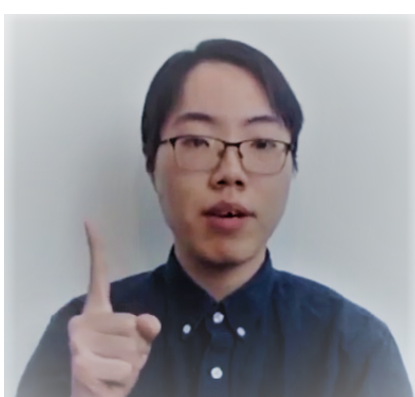
Consul-General's Award: Sungmin Cho

Gold: Dalton Brown and Elizabeth Marshall

Silver: Henry Bransdorfer and Sangwook Hwang

Bronze: Brian Engwall, Anoosha Vemulapati, and Uyen Trinh

Sincere thanks to all the participants, judges, and supporters who helped make this year's event a success. The contest may be viewed on the [Consulate's YouTube channel](#).



Sungmin Cho of the University of Michigan (left) and Lucia Lee of Troy Athens High School (right) earned the Consul General's Award in the university and high school categories of the 2021 Michigan Japanese Language Speech Contest.

Ohio Events to Highlight Students' Japanese Language and Culture Skills

Two contests for Ohio students of Japanese language will take place online this month. On Sat., March 6, teams from upper-level high school classes will participate in the [2021 Ohio Japan Bowl](#), a quiz-bowl type contest about Japanese language and culture. The final round will be livestreamed via the [JASCO YouTube channel](#).

On Sat., March 13, the [2021 Ohio Japanese Speech Contest](#) finals will take place, and will also be livestreamed on the [JASCO YouTube channel](#). Now in its 23rd year, the event will feature 17 finalists (5 high school, 9 university, and 3 advanced category) competing for top honors. Pictured below are participants in the 2020 Ohio Japanese Speech Contest, which was also held online.



Hinamatsuri Doll Festival Celebrates Girls

Hinamatsuri, or "Doll Festival," is a traditional Japanese holiday that takes place on March 3rd. It is also known as "Girls' Day." The main purpose of the festival is to pray for the continuing health and happiness of the girls in the family.

This year, unfortunately, the traditional *Hinamatsuri* event at the Detroit Institute of Arts will not take place. However, the traditional *hinadan* platform with various dolls depicting Japan's ancient Imperial Court is on display at the Consul General's Residence (photo below). To learn more about *Hinamatsuri*, please see the video on the [Consulate's YouTube channel](#).



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

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