



CALENDAR

Exhibits & Events

Thurs., April 1

[UM-CJS Webinar on Global Supply Chain Management](#) @ online platform

Sat., April 3

[Michigan Shiga Kenjinkai Virtual Hanami Party](#) @ online platform

Sun., April 4 & 18, and

Sat., April 10 & 24

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

Wed., April 7

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

[J-Chat Conversation Group](#)

@ online platform

[Novi Library Japanese](#)

[Virtual Conversation Group](#)

@ online platform

Thurs., April 8

[UM-CJS/Matthaei Botanical Garden Bonsai Lecture](#) @ online platform

Sat., April 10

[OATJ Spring Workshop](#) @ online platform

Wed., April 14

[OSU-IJS Webinar on Monk/Poet Saigyō](#) @ online platform

Thurs., April 15

[Freer/Sackler Gallery Webinar on Yamanaka Art Traders](#) @ online platform

[MSU Webinar on Japan's Platform Economy](#) @ online platform

Sun., April 18

[Cranbrook Webinar on Gardens and Japanese Experience](#) @ online platform

Sat., April 24

[JASCO Wadaiko Gouken Taiko Performance](#) @ online platform

Mon., April 26

[JASGC Business Etiquette Webinar](#) @ online platform



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Kizuna



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"Operation 2000" Plants Cherry Trees in Dayton Area on 3.11 Anniversary

On March 11, the 10th anniversary of Great East Japan Earthquake, the [Operation 2000 Cherry Tree Project](#) planted cherry trees in three locations in the Dayton, OH, area. Consul General Nakagawa participated in ceremonies and cherry tree plantings at Carillon Historical Park (pictured below left), the Dayton Art Institute (below center), and the Fairborn Government Center (below right) near Wright-Patterson Air Force Base.

In the wake of the earthquake/tsunami disaster in March 2011, Dayton resident, Alex Hara, felt gratitude for the national and local response by those around him to assist Japan with recovery efforts. Mr. Hara founded an organization to plant cherry trees across Ohio and the Miami Valley, as a symbol of the special friendship between the U.S. and Japan. The original goal of 1,000 trees was met, and later expanded, so the organization is now known as the Operation 2000 Cherry Tree Project.



Marysville Early College High School Sweeps Ohio Japan Bowl

On March 6, four teams from upper-level high school Japanese classes competed online in the [2021 Ohio Japan Bowl](#), a quiz-bowl type competition about Japanese language and culture. Teams from Marysville Early College High School in Marysville, OH, took top place in both the Level II and Level III categories. Congratulations to those team members and to all of the participants!

This is the third year in a row that this regional version of the National Japan Bowl, created in 1992 by the Japan-America Society of Washington DC, has been offered in Ohio. It is hosted by the Japan America Society of Central Ohio (JASCO) and supported by a variety of sponsors. The final round remains available for public viewing on the [JASCO YouTube channel](#). Below are screenshots from this year's contest, including welcoming remarks from Consul General Nakagawa. Thank you to all who made this event possible!



2021 Ohio Japanese Language Speech Contest Winners Announced

On March 13, the 2021 Ohio Japanese Speech Contest finals took place online, featuring 17 participants from high school and college-level Japanese programs in Ohio. Consul General Nakagawa offered remarks in Japanese and English.

Congratulations to the winners who placed as follows:

High School Category

- 1st place: Keegan Mulligan, Marysville High School
2nd place: Grace Hackett, Marysville Early College HS
3rd place: Meadow Callicoat, Marysville High School

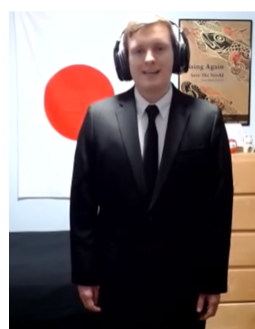
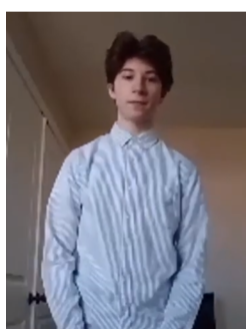
University Category

- 1st place: Yawei Li, The Ohio State University
2nd place: Garrett Brown, University of Findlay
3rd place: Thea Knapp, University of Findlay, and Fred Shippy, University of Toledo

Advanced Category

- 1st place: Branden Mulligan, University of Cincinnati
2nd place: Nahal Pahlevani, University of Cincinnati
3rd place: Karen Xiao, University of Cincinnati

The contest was hosted by the Japan America Society of Central Ohio (JASCO), with support from various organizations and businesses, as well as the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit. The panel of judges included Ms. Noriko Mills, Ms. Laura Renz, and Dr. Terumi Imai-Brandle. Thank you to all the participants, judges, and supporters who helped make this year's event possible. The contest finals may be viewed on the [JASCO YouTube Channel](#).



Keegan Mulligan of Marysville High School (left), Yawei Li of The Ohio State University (center), and Branden Labarowski of University of Cincinnati (right) took 1st place in the high school, university, and advanced categories, respectively, at the 2021 Ohio Japanese Speech Contest.

Welcome to New Consulate Staff Member, Ms. Saimyo!

The Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit is pleased to welcome Ms. Eri Saimyo, our newest administrative staff member. Before her posting in Detroit, Ms. Saimyo worked as an assistant Japanese language teacher at a Pennsylvania middle school on the J-LEAP program, and as a middle school English teacher in Japan.

She says what she enjoys most about her international career are the opportunities to make new friends and try new things in a different environment. Ms. Saimyo's hobbies include dancing ballet and cooking, and her favorite foods include *ichigo daifuku* (strawberry-filled mochi) and wine. Welcome to the Consulate staff, Ms. Saimyo!



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

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