Keeping you updated on all the latest news and events

December 2020

## CALENDAR **Exhibits & Events**

Extended through Feb. 28: All By Myself: Japanese Creative Prints @ Dayton Art Institute

Extended through March 7: Japanese Prints from the Joy & Timothy Light Collection @ Kalamazoo (MI) Institute of Arts

Tues., December 1 J-CHAT Conversation Group @ online platform

Wed., December 4 Cleveland Virtual Japanese Meetup @ online platform Novi Library Japanese <u>Virtual Conversation</u> Group @ online platform

Wed., December 4 - Sun., December 13 Japanese Film Festival Plus @ online platform

Sat., December 5 & 19 Ann Arbor Japanese <u>Language Meetup</u> @ online platform

Thurs., December 10 <u>UM-CJS Webinar on Art</u> and Activism in Postwar Japan @ online platform JASMO Webinar on US-Japan-China Relations & the Auto Industry @ online platform

Sun., December 13 & 27 Ann Arbor Japanese <u>Language Meetup</u> @ online platform

Wed., December 16 Worthington(OH)-Sayama Holiday Traditions Live @ online platform

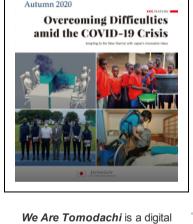
Thurs., December 31 Great Lakes JETAA Bōnenkai @ online platform



**GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN:** We Are Tomodachi

We Are *Tomodachi* 

The official magazine of the



publication that highlights Japan's attractions and initiatives by the Japanese Government. The Autumn 2020 edition is available

in PDF & e-book formats.

You can find them here: Magazine homepage

## Consulate-General of Japan in **Detroit**

**Quick Links** 

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of <u>Japan</u>

## **Goes Online**

Michigan Japanese Speech Contest

We are pleased to announce that the 26th annual Michigan Japanese Speech Contest will be held on Saturday, February 20, 2021, via an online platform. The contest is open to Michigan high school and college/university students who are non-heritage learners of Japanese and who have not visited Japan for more than one year. A panel of judges will determine the winners on the day of the contest, and prizes will be delivered to the winners afterwards. Applications are due by 5:00pm on Monday, February 1, 2021. Guidelines and application form may be found here.



New Year's Eve in Japan is a Family Affair

December tends to be a busy time in Japan, with preparations

for New Year's, the most important holiday of the year. One custom is to do a thorough house-cleaning, and get one's affairs in order, before the end of the year. Another custom is for groups of coworkers, classmates, and friends to attend drinking parties called "bōnenkai" to express gratitude for mutual support and to forget the troubles of the past year. There are also exchanges of gifts and greeting cards. On New Year's Eve, or Ōmisoka, families may gather to eat

symbolize long life, and to watch holiday specials on TV. Some people stay up until midnight to ring in the New Year, visiting their local temple and taking turns striking the temple bell. Before midnight, each bell is rung a total of 108 times, symbolizing purification of what some say are 108 different earthly desires. 良いお年を!

traditional "toshikoshi" (or "year-crossing") soba noodles that



ConsuLink is the official newsletter of

the Consulate-General of Japan in Detroit

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

**CGJ** Website



Detroit. MI I 48243 US

Share this email:





Got this as a forward? Sign up to receive our future emails View this email online

This email was sent to .

400 Renaissance Center. Suite 1600

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

emma