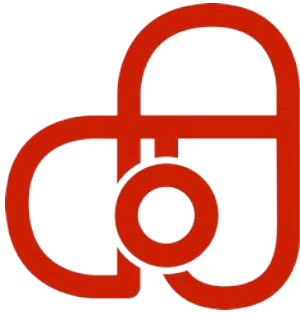


AATJ NEWSLETTER

全米日本語教育学会 American Association of Teachers of Japanese



全米日本語教育学会

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Message from the President

NOBUKO CHIKAMATSUI

Greetings from the frigid, windy city of Chicago! 2025 marks my first year serving as AATJ's president, and I am truly excited and humbled by this honor. To prepare for my role as president, over the past few weeks I have met with the new and continuing directors of various AATJ units to discuss their goals and plans for the upcoming year and beyond, including Advocacy, DEIB (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging), Global Network, NJE (National Japanese Exam), JLL (Journal of Japanese Language and Literature), JNHS (Japanese National Honor Society), the Nengajo Contest, Newsletter, Professional Development, and the Spring and Fall Conferences. These interactions have been inspiring and have empowered me to learn more about AATJ's work and its far-reaching impact.

This newsletter showcases some of this work and highlights our upcoming activities, including many opportunities available for you and your students!

I am thrilled to welcome our new Executive Director, Ms. Katie Ross. Katie has worked tirelessly alongside Ms. Susan Schmidt since the transition period in December and January. Although Susan's official term ended on January 31, we are fortunate that she will continue to provide us with her guidance and wisdom as Emeritus Executive Advisor. Welcome, Katie, and thank you, Susan!

I joined the AATJ Executive Board after teaching Japanese for almost 30 years at DePaul University, an urban institution in the heart of Chicago. More than one-third of DePaul's student body consists of first-generation college students, and half are students of color. While many of our Japanese language students embrace Japanese culture through digital media or Japanese cuisine in a multicultural metropolitan environment, few have had the opportunity to study the Japanese language in a formal classroom setting before coming to DePaul. For

them, learning Japanese is transformative—it opens doors to personal, academic, and future professional growth. I hope we can open more doors for them at much earlier stages, starting from K-12, and help them build their own paths to explore Japanese language and culture during their college years and beyond.

This past December, my colleague and I took 22 undergraduate students—from diverse personal and academic backgrounds—to Kyoto, Hiroshima, and Nagasaki for two weeks to explore the ethical and cultural representations of the atomic bombings. Our visit coincided with the public viewing of the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony honoring *Nihon Hidankyo*, which took place on the final night of our stay in Hiroshima. With extensive media coverage of U.S. students sharing this experience with the support of local people, including *hibakusha*, I witnessed my advanced Japanese language students (who made up one-third of the participants) respond with sincerity and compassion to journalists' questions in Japanese. It was an emotional yet incredibly proud moment for me as their teacher. These students also stepped into leadership roles, using their language skills to guide and assist fellow students with no prior knowledge of Japanese. This experience reaffirmed my belief in the power of language learning and the agency of learners. Back on campus, they are now applying their insights through two-term projects in my winter course, *Japanese Popular Culture of the Atomic Age*.

Collaboration with communities and other academic disciplines has been a central part of my work over the past two decades. Now more than ever, interdisciplinary approaches and partnerships are crucial for the sustainability and effectiveness of language programs, as emphasized by [JNCL-NCLIS](#). I know our AATJ members are at the forefront of innovative curricula and programs at the K–16 levels, and I am eager to learn from your experiences through webinars, SIG meetings, and upcoming conferences.

Speaking of the Spring Conference—it is just two months away! We will feature thirty individual presentations and five panels throughout Thursday, followed by the Lifetime Achievement Award ceremony and a keynote address by Professor Mari Noda, Emeritus Professor at The Ohio State University. AATJ will also host a casual gathering on Wednesday evening as a pre-conference kickoff event. The program is now available [online](#), and I hope to see you in Columbus, Ohio, this March!

We are also excited to announce the winners of the 2025 Nengajo Contest, which showcased the artistic and linguistic creativity of young learners. Meanwhile, the National Japanese Exam (NJE) will take place nationwide from early March to mid-April. All of these wonderful events and programs are made possible by the tireless efforts and dedication of AATJ's directors and officers. With their leadership, and with the active participation and support of our members, I hope to help AATJ grow as a dynamic platform where we can freely and passionately communicate, share, create, and implement our ideas.

As we embark on this new year together, I invite you to join us in making 2025 a year of meaningful connections, exciting opportunities, and impactful collaborations.

Enjoy this issue!

Message from the Vice Presidents



KATE DAVIS
K-12



STEPHEN LUFT
POST-SECONDARY

2025年より、ミシガン州とオレゴン州で15年間K-12、今はウォッシュトノー・コミュニティー・カレッジで教えているケイト・デービスが新規にK-12の副会長を勤めさせていただきます。POST SECONDARYからは去年同様ピッツバーグ大学のスティーブン・ラフトが勤めさせていただきます。二人で力を合わせて全米日本語教育学会のメンバーの皆様と近松会長のサポートをしていく所存です。

今年度も全米の各教師会との連携と教師会同士の横の繋がり強化を推進していきたいと思っております。先ず2025年の最初のイベントとして2月8日にアフィリエイトのズームミーティングを行います。今回は国際交流基金ロサンゼルス(JFLA)からHENRYMITCHELLさんとJARED MCCLELLANさんにご参加いただき、グラント等の有益な情報についてご説明いただくと共に参加者同士でお互いの現状や問題点について話し合う機会も設けたいと思っております。

2025年度も昨年同様全米日本語教育学会最優秀教師賞(AATJ TEACHER AWARDS)の選考を行います。各地で数多くの先生が教育現場や各コミュニティなどの多方面においてご活躍なさっていますので、この機会に是非推薦していただければ幸甚に思います。

また、全米日本語教育学グローイング・プログラム賞の選考を初めて行います。この賞はK-12プログラムの優れた常勤講師1名、または非常勤講師1~2名だけに贈られるもので、多くの方に推薦をご検討いただければ幸いです。

二人ともいろいろな形で会員の皆様のお役に立てるように努力していきたいと思っておりますのでご協力の程よろしくお願い致します。

Happy 2025! This year, Kate Davis, who taught K-12 Japanese in Michigan and Oregon for 15 years, and currently teaches at Washtenaw Community College, will fill the K-12 Vice President position for AATJ. Stephen Luft of the University of Pittsburgh continues to fill the post-secondary Vice President position. We both hope to provide the best support we can for all of our teachers as well as President Chikamatsu.

This year, we will continue to promote collaboration with other teachers' associations across the U.S. and strengthen horizontal ties among teachers' associations. The first event of 2025 will be an affiliate Zoom meeting, held on February 8th. Henry Mitchell and Jared McClellan, from The Japan Foundation, Los Angeles, will provide useful information about grants and other topics, as well as an opportunity for participants to discuss their current teaching and any issues they are dealing with.

This year we will again hold the AATJ Teacher Awards. With such a large number of teachers actively engaging with their students and communities in many different ways, we hope that many of you will consider applying for these awards.

We will also hold the AATJ K-12 Growing Program Award for the first time. This award recognizes outstanding K-12 programs that employ no more than a single full-time or one or two part-time instructors. We hope that many of you will consider nominating eligible programs.

We look forward to supporting and working with each of you this year.



Incoming Executive Director

KATIE ROSS

はじめまして!

I am honored and excited to be AATJ's Executive Director. Throughout January, I have enjoyed working with and learning from Susan Schmidt. She has so much knowledge, wisdom, and experience. I will do my best to continue Susan's dedication and hard work at AATJ. I hope you can bear with me as we go through this transitional time.

I live in a south Denver suburb with my husband, Jake, and four kids. Actually, I should say I live with three kids, as my oldest is a freshman at University of Colorado – Boulder and lives there. I have two kids in high school, and my youngest is in fifth grade. As a family, we are usually busy supporting the kids' various school and extracurricular activities (rock climbing, soccer, running, piano, guitar, theatre, art, skiing, etc.) or finding something delicious to eat wherever we happen to find ourselves.

I was born in Kawaguchi, Saitama, just north of Tokyo. My family moved permanently to northern Utah when I was in elementary school, but I spent many summer vacations visiting my おばあちゃん in Japan. Even though my grandparents have passed away, my favorite place to go in Japan is still my hometown.

I participated in the JET Programme as a CIR in Gifu City in 2000-2001. After JET, I earned Master of Public Administration and Juris Doctor degrees. Prior to coming to AATJ, I was working as an attorney at a civil defense litigation firm in Denver. I also spent many years as a stay-at-home parent and caregiver.

As a former student and a parent of a gaggle of students, I am truly thrilled to work to promote and further the mission and vision of AATJ. I look forward to meeting many of you at the upcoming spring conference in Columbus. よろしくお願ひします!

Retiring Executive Director

SUSAN SCHMIDT

EMERITUS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



In the spring of 1996, I moved back to the United States after living and working in Japan for more than 20 years. I settled in Boulder, Colorado, where I had attended university before starting a career as a book editor and moving to Tokyo, where I worked for several publishers.

At the University of Colorado, in Boulder, Professor Laurel Rodd, the chair of the East Asian Languages department, had in 1996 just become the President of the Association of Teachers of Japanese (ATJ), which was founded in the 1960s by Japanese language and literature educators in colleges around the U.S., and she was setting up an office for the organization at CU-Boulder.

Dr. Rodd received a grant from the Japan-US Friendship Commission to establish a clearinghouse that would promote and support study abroad in Japan by college students, and to hire a staff member to direct that clearinghouse and manage an ATJ office. In 1997, I became that staff person.

Over the next 25 years, as Japanese language education grew in popularity and new programs sprang up, language teaching became a mature and dynamic profession, and it grew beyond its base in colleges and universities. In 1999, ATJ formed an alliance with the National Council of Japanese Language Teachers (NCJLT), an organization started in the early 1990s by the growing number of teachers of Japanese to students in K-12 schools.

That alliance formally became the American Association of Teachers of Japanese (AATJ) in 2012, serving teachers at all levels of instruction and providing professional development for them through publications, conferences and workshops, and leadership training programs. At the same time, AATJ took on a new challenge - administering the annual Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT – 日本語能力試験) to thousands of Japanese language learners around the United States. This project has underlined for us the enthusiasm that so many learners of all ages, from all walks of life, feel for Japan and its language and culture.

It has been my privilege to work on these projects with many of AATJ's member teachers, and I have been inspired every day by their creativity, their dedication, and the joy they take in their students' accomplishments. I've been excited to read their contributions to AATJ's publications, to meet them at national and regional conferences and workshops, and to help them advocate for and expand and defend their programs in their schools and communities.

I am retiring this month, and I'm so pleased to be leaving the organization in the very capable hands of a new Executive Director, Katie Ross. I will continue to cheer from the sidelines, as an AATJ member, and I look forward to participating in the future events and activities of this vibrant organization.

またお会いできる機会を楽しみにしています。

AATJ at the 2025 Association for Asian Studies Conference

JAE DIBELLO TAKEUCHI, YOSHIHIRO MOCHIZUKI
 SPRING CONFERENCE CO-DIRECTORS

AATJ Spring Conference 2025: Registration Now Open!

Join us for [the AATJ Annual Spring Conference](#) on **Thursday, March 13, 2025**, in Columbus, Ohio. The conference will be held in conjunction with the [Association for Asian Studies](#) annual meeting at the [Hyatt Regency Columbus Hotel](#).

Conference Highlights

- Distinguished keynote speaker: Professor Mari Noda (The Ohio State University)
- Comprehensive program of paper and panel presentations
- Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings
- Welcome Reception (前夜祭) on **Wednesday, March 12th at 5:30pm**

Wednesday 5:30 - 7:30 pm	Welcome Reception (前夜祭) Morrow Room				
8:00 am -	Registration				
8:30 - 8:55 am	Opening remarks Land Acknowledgement				
Session 1: Individual Papers 9:00 - 10:30 am	Session 1A: Language & Technology Papers	Session 1B: Curriculum Development Papers	Session 1C: Linguistics Papers	Session 1D: Material Development / SLA Papers	Session 1E: Language & Culture Papers
Session 2: Panel sessions 10:40 - 12:20 pm	Session 2A: SIG Panel	Session 2B: CURRIC Panel	Session 2C: SLA Panel 3	Session 2D: LANGTECH Panel	Session 2E: LANGCULT Panel
12:20 - 1:50 pm	LUNCH				

Session 3 : SIG Meetings 1:50 - 2:20 pm	Session 3A: Study Abroad for Language Advancement (SAFLA)	Session 3B: Graduate Program Networking	Session 3C: Translating and Interpreting	Session 3D: TBD	Session 3E: TBD
Session 4: Individual Papers 2:30 - 4:00 pm	Session 4A: Language & Technology / Curriculum Development Papers	Session 4B: Curriculum Development Papers	Session 4C: SIG Papers	Session 4D: SLA Papers	Session 4D: Language & Culture / Assessment Papers
Ceremony, Keynote Speech 4:10 - 5:40 pm	Lifetime Achievement Award Ceremony Keynote Session followed by the QA Prof. Mari Noda, The Ohio State University Closing				

The complete conference program and registration details are available on our [website](#).

Introduction to Columbus by Prof. Etsuyo Yuasa, The Ohio State University

The 2025 AATJ Annual Spring Conference will be held in Columbus. We would like to share what it is like to visit Columbus with AATJ members.

[Hyatt Regency Columbus Hotel](#), where the AATJ conference is held, is about seven miles away from [John Glenn Columbus International Airport](#) and is located right at the center of downtown Columbus. The area around the hotel is the [Short North Arts District](#) where there are many restaurants and art galleries, and the [North Market](#) is within walking distance. (Please check [Columbus Maps](#) for more information about the District.) In the downtown area is the [Columbus Museum of Art](#), [COCI: Center for Science and Industry](#), and the [Ohio Statehouse, Free Guided Tour](#). Because Honda’s American Headquarters is in a suburb of Columbus, there is a small shopping complex, [Japan Market Place](#), where you can find a Japanese restaurant, grocery store, and gift shop. For more information about sightseeing in Columbus, please visit [Experience Columbus](#).

The Association for Asian Studies Conference Local Arrangements Committee will host a variety of tours and events during AAS. On March 14 (10:30am), there will be a guided “behind-the-scenes” tour of the [Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum](#) at The Ohio State University, which holds one of the [largest collections of Japanese manga](#) (over 30,000 volumes) in North America. For more information, please check [AAS website](#).

Columbus is now the 14th largest city in the country. It is also the fastest-growing city in the Midwest. I hope we can welcome you all here in Columbus.

Dr. Mari Noda Honored with the 2025 AATJ Lifetime Achievement Award

YOSHIKO MORI

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT



It is with great pride that the Board of Directors of the American Association of Teachers of Japanese (AATJ) announces Dr. Mari Noda, Professor Emeritus at The Ohio State University, as the recipient of the 2025 AATJ Lifetime Achievement Award. This distinguished honor recognizes individuals who have dedicated their careers to advancing Japanese language and culture education on both national and international stages. The award has been granted to only a select group of exemplary educators and scholars, whose remarkable achievements are detailed on the AATJ website: [Lifetime Achievement Awards](#).

With a career spanning over four decades, Dr. Noda has made transformative contributions to Japanese education through her leadership, teaching, service, and research. Beginning as a Japanese lecturer at Cornell University in 1976, she later earned her Ph.D. in Linguistics and spent 33 years at The Ohio State University, where she revolutionized Japanese language pedagogy and trained countless educators and students. Dr. Noda also served as the President of ATJ (the predecessor to AATJ) from 2008 to 2009, as a Board member, and as Chair of the Study Abroad Special Interest Group for nearly two decades, shaping the direction of the organization and advancing its mission. A prolific scholar, Dr. Noda authored groundbreaking teaching materials, such as the Japanese: The Spoken Language series, and presented her research at over 130 conferences, leaving a lasting legacy on Japanese education worldwide.

The nomination for Dr. Noda was submitted by a distinguished group of her colleagues: Dr. Etsuko Yuasa (OSU), Dr. Patricia Wetzel (Portland State University), Dr. Tom Mason (ALLEX Foundation), and Dr. Hiroaki Kawamura (University of Findlay). Their nomination highlighted her unparalleled achievements and lasting contributions to the field, and the AATJ Board unanimously approved her selection for this prestigious award.

Dr. Noda shared the following message upon receiving the award:

I am deeply honored to receive this award from AATJ. I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the AATJ officers for their tireless work on behalf of the organization, and to all those who made this award possible. I am indebted to my colleagues, whose insightful ideas and invaluable feedback have been inspirational. I feel truly blessed to have had the opportunity to work with both graduate and undergraduate students, whose dedication, creativity, and innovative ideas continue to energize me.

The highlight of my career has been working with more than 2,000 participants in the teacher-training programs, particularly those offered by the Alliance for Language Learning and Educational Exchange (ALLEX) and its predecessor Exchange: Japan, as well as The Ohio State's Summer Programs East Asian Concentration (SPEAC). I share this honor with them, my fellow trainers, and the dedicated staff members who have made these programs possible.

I am indebted to my mentor, the late Eleanor Harz Jorden, whose principled approach to linguistic analysis and language pedagogy guided me. Finally, I want to thank my family members near and far, especially my husband and co-conspirator, Galal Walker, and my daughter, Amelia Nakahata, for their patience, wisdom, and good humor.

The award will be presented to Dr. Noda during the 2025 AATJ Annual Spring Conference, held on March 13, 2025, in Columbus, Ohio, in conjunction with the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) Annual Conference. In addition to receiving the award, Dr. Noda will also deliver the keynote speech titled "Remembering the Future Part 2" at the conference, followed by brief remarks reflecting on this milestone in her career.

The AATJ community is thrilled to celebrate Dr. Noda's extraordinary achievements and looks forward to hearing her inspiring keynote address. Please join us in honoring her remarkable career at the 2025 AATJ Annual Spring Conference.



Japanese Language and Literature

Japanese
Language
and
Literature

[Japanese Language and Literature](#), JLL, is an academic journal of the American Association of Teachers of Japanese. JLL, which started in 1966, aims to provide a scholarly forum for AATJ members and the larger academic world in the areas of Japanese literature, Japanese linguistics, teaching Japanese as a second or foreign language, and Japanese culture. It is published twice annually, in April and October. Scholarly articles, JLL Forum items, and items in Translations will be reviewed anonymously by at least two reviewers.

As described in the Tribute to Dr. Hiroshi Nara, the editor for many years, retired from University of Pittsburgh last year and passed the baton to me. And I want to take this opportunity to present the editors including myself:

- **Suwako Watanabe** (Portland State University), Journal Editor
- **Ann Skolsky** (Denison University), Section Editor for scholarly articles on literature
- **Yumiko Nishi** (University of Iowa), Section Editor for scholarly articles on language and linguistics
- **Joan Ericson** (Colorado College), Section Editor for review articles of books other than pedagogy
- **Nobuko Chikamatsu-Chandler** (DePaul University), Section Editor for review articles of pedagogy books

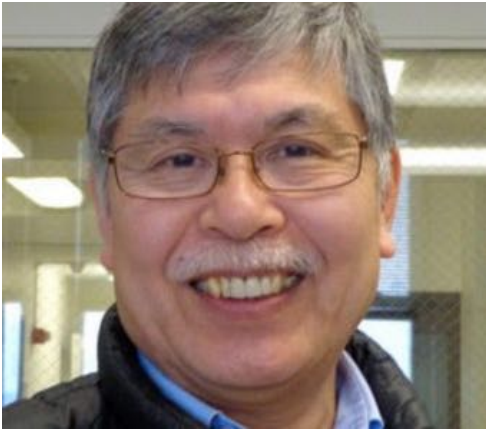
I am honored to take on this important role, and I hope JLL will be a great venue for AATJ members and scholars in related disciplines to advance research in the fields. I encourage many AATJ members to submit their research papers. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at suwako@pdx.edu.



Hiroshi Nara Retires as Editor of Japanese Language and Literature

SUSAN SCHMIDT

EMERITUS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Hiroshi Nara, Professor of Japanese Studies at the University of Pittsburgh, took up the post of Coordinating Editor of AATJ's journal Japanese Language and Literature in 2010. During his 15-year tenure, the journal went from strength to strength, winning praise and support in the international academic community as the only peer-reviewed journal publishing research in the multiple fields of Japanese literature, linguistics, and pedagogy between the same covers.

As Coordinating Editor, Professor Nara recruited outstanding section editors in the several disciplines covered by the journal. He created layouts for complex bilingual content and edited challenging and path-breaking articles. He worked to publish the work of K-12 Japanese language educators along with that of college faculty, and commissioned a striking new, modern cover design for the journal.

In perhaps his most far-reaching achievement, he initiated and oversaw the journal's transition to online, Open Access publication, under the auspices of the University of Pittsburgh Libraries, in 2019 – a transition that made the journal accessible to a wide new community of readers and scholars. Under his editorship Japanese Language and Literature's impact expanded beyond the shores of the United States to an international audience.

A true “Renaissance man” in Japanese studies, Professor Nara earned BFA and BA degrees in painting and art history before moving to advanced degrees in linguistics. At the University of Pittsburgh, he has taught courses on translation as well as on the work of modern Japanese philosophers like Watsuji Tetsuro and Kuki Shuzo, in addition to Japanese language and linguistics.

We salute and thank Hiroshi Nara as he retires from the editorship of JLL, leaving a strong legacy that AATJ can build on.



First Global Network Meeting of 2025

YOSHIKO MORI

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

The first regular meeting of the Global Network for the Japanese Language Education (GN) in 2025 was held on January 12 at 9:00 a.m. (JST). GN is an international organization comprising 12 Japanese language education and Japanese studies associations worldwide. The 2024 ICJLE (International Conference on Japanese Language Education), organized by GN, was co-hosted by AATJ and CAJLE (Canadian Association for Japanese Language Education).

AATJ has been a long-standing member of GN. Starting in 2025, the Immediate Past President will serve as the representative with voting rights, while the President will participate as an observer. This year, I, along with President Chikamatsu, are attending GN meetings as AATJ's representatives.

Key Topics and Updates

1. Adoption of Proposed Amendments to GN Bylaws

2. Updates on the 2026 ICJLE

- **Location:** Taiwan
- **Timing:** Tentatively scheduled for April 2026 or later, with October to November being considered due to public holidays
- **Program:** Diverse formats, including individual presentations, panel discussions, and graduate student workshops
- **Format:** Hybrid model under consideration to accommodate diverse needs
- **Call for Participants:** Expected to begin around November 2025

3. Online Activities

- ***Nihongo Kyooiku Gakkai* (Association for Japanese Language Education) Online Exchange Event**
 - **Date and Time:** Saturday, March 22, 2025, 9:00–11:00 p.m. (JST)
 - **Theme:** Part of the "Global Online Japanese Language Education Series"
 - **Participation Fee:** Free
 - **Registration Deadline:** January 25, 2025

Graduate Student Workshop

A follow-up initiative by graduate students who contributed to ICJLE 2024. The workshop targets graduate students in Japan, Taiwan, Singapore, and North America.

GN Facebook Page Launch

A task force reported on plans to establish a GN Facebook page as a platform for information sharing.

The next GN meeting is scheduled to take place in July or August 2025.

AATJ's active participation and leadership in GN activities play a significant role in advancing Japanese language education. We will continue to encourage our members to engage in GN initiatives and events actively.



Mark your calendars! Are you looking for ways to recognize and motivate your Japanese language students while fostering leadership, collaboration, and advocacy? Join us for this informative webinar on the Japanese National Honor Society (JNHS), where we will explore its purpose, benefits, and the impact it can have on your students and program.

JNHS Webinar

Speakers: JNHS Co-Directors Kumi Kobayashi, Los Gatos High School, CA, and Yayoi Takeuchi, University of North Texas

Facilitator: Yoshiko Saito-Abbott, Ph.D, California State University, Monterey Bay, AATJ Professional Development Director

Date: March 1, 2025

Time: 10:30am-12:00pm PT; 11:30am-1:00pm MT; 12:30pm-2:00pm CT; 1:30pm-3:00pm ET

Title: Engage, Inspire, Advocate: Maximizing JNHS for Students and Programs

[Please register at this link.](#)

Affiliate Members First Meeting of 2025

アフィリエイトメンバーが今年最初の会合に集結

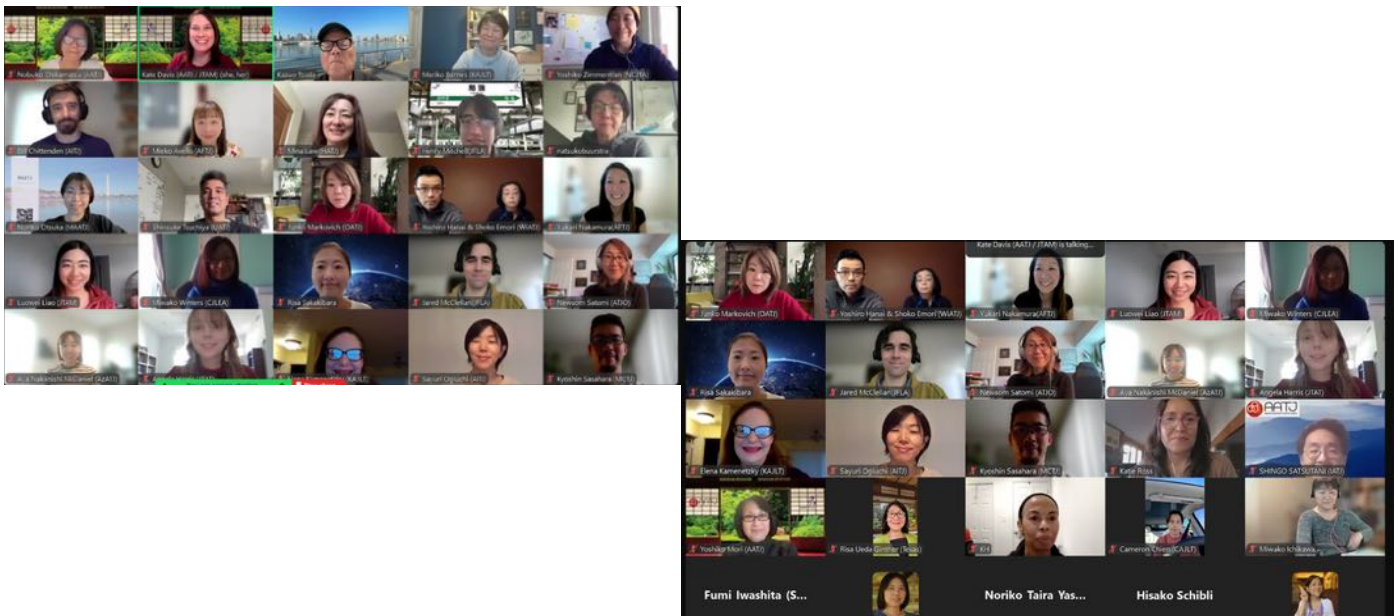
Incoming K-12 Vice President Katharine (Kate) Davis held the first affiliate meeting of the year on Saturday, February 8th. Members were greeted by Katie Ross, AATJ’s new Executive Director, and incoming AATJ President, Nobuko Chikamatsu. Henry Mitchell and Jared McClellan of the [Japan Foundation of Los Angeles](#) also attended and shared several useful resources that JFLA has available to Japanese teachers.

Advocacy team members Patty Breun and Shin Tsuchiya encouraged affiliate members to update their association websites and to share event information and photos with them so they can be shared on AATJ social media accounts to promote AATJ member activities. They also revealed they are working on an advocacy video project, so please stay tuned for more info! Members can contact [Patty Breun](#) and [Shin Tsuchiya](#) by email.

Finally, members contributed to a discussion about bylaws. Kate Davis will begin working on a list of tips and advice for affiliates looking to create or update their bylaws. Affiliate members are invited to share their bylaws with [Kate Davis by email](#) to help create a database of examples for affiliate members to look over.

Affiliate meetings are held four times throughout the calendar year: three meetings are virtual, and the fourth and final meeting occurs during the annual [ACTFL Conference](#) in November, this year in New Orleans, LA. Any affiliate member is welcome to attend these meetings; it is helpful if at least two members from each AATJ affiliate participate.

After each meeting, the slideshow, recording, and information will be shared with affiliate officers to distribute to their membership. Please reach out to your local officers or [Kate Davis](#) if you did not receive this information.



2025 Year of the Snake: A Celebration of Creativity and Talent Nengajo Contest Results

MAKO NOZU

NENGAJO CONTEST DIRECTOR

AFFILIATE	TOTAL TEACHER PARTICIPANTS	TOTAL WINNING CARDS
AzATJ	0	0
AFTJ	6	3
AITJ	3	0
AKATJ	2	1
ATJO	3	0
CAJLT	12	9
CJLEA	4	1
HATJ	4	0
IATJ	1	1
JLCTIA	0	0
JTAM	4	2
JTAT	5	4
KAJLT	5	1
MAATJ	18	10
MCTJ	1	0
NCATJ	1	1
NCJTA	1	0
NECTJ	10	5
NJATJ	3	1
OATJ	1	0
SCATJ	0	0
SEATJ	1	0
SNJTA	0	0
UATJ	0	0
WATJ	11	5
WiATJ	3	0
No Affiliate	4	4

We are thrilled to announce the successful conclusion of the 2025 AATJ Nengajo Contest. Our heartfelt congratulations and a big thank you to all the students and teachers who participated with such enthusiasm and passion. Your creativity and dedication to the Japanese language and culture have truly shone through your entries!

This year, we received a total of 497 qualified entries, which included:

- 30 entries from Lower Elementary School
- 30 entries from Upper Elementary School
- 125 entries from Middle School
- 295 entries from High School
- 17 entries from College/University

Unfortunately, 100 cards were disqualified due to non-compliance with naming conventions, category-specific rules, or late submissions.

The eligible cards were judged by approximately 25 Japanese professionals from across the country. These judges were not given any information about the students, schools, or teachers to ensure a fair and unbiased evaluation. None of these professionals participated in the contest this year.

The selected cards represent the best of the best and showcase a tremendous amount of talent, creativity, and effort. All student participants received participation certificates. Students with winning cards were awarded certificates and online Amazon gift cards at the end of January.

Once again, thank you all for your participation. We look forward to seeing your amazing creations again next year!

Total Cards Submitted Per Level

	ES	MS	HS	CL	TOTAL
2025	60	125	295	17	497
2024	55	104	299	13	474
2023	87	119	407	33	646
2022	94	157	465	40	756
2021	119	100	288	14	472

For 2025, there were 100 cards that were disqualified prior to judging.

Nengajo Contest Results

Lower Elementary 1st	Tamotsu Isozaki Kimie Matsumoto Southeast Japanese School	Olivia Binschus Keiko Endo Fox Mill Elementary School		
2nd	Sakura Adachi Kimie Matsumoto Southeast Japanese School	Sora Ferguson Akane Shirata Washington Japanese Heritage Center		
3rd	Ruby Fields Ayaka Monheim Great Falls Elementary School	Taylor Tugman Emiko Nomoto Maloney Interdistrict Magnet School		
Upper Elementary 1st	Kaori Arasaki Kimie Matsumoto Southeast Japanese School	Noah Del Manzo Lili Kennington Great Falls Elementary School	Tyler Tsai Cynthia Rinehart Great Falls Elementary School	
2nd	Thomas Akikawa Kaori Iwai Washington Japanese Heritage Center	Franco Cruz Emiko Furuya South Academy of International Languages		
3rd	Emi Lee Chie Fujie Verdugo Woodlands Elementary	Emma Goldel Lili Kennington Great Falls Elementary School		
Middle School 1st	Moe Ho Kimie Matsumoto Southeast Japanese School	Hana Smith Aya Tachiki Gulliver Prep	Maya Mazur Alia Greenbaum Charles Wright Academy	Sofia Ventimiglia Kristy Laidlaw Felix V Festa Middle School
2nd	Alexandra Grinchuk Kristy Laidlaw Felix V Festa Middle School	Meagan Nguyen Yoshimi Gallan Hayfield Secondary School	Olivia Domingo Galiano Aya Tachiki Gulliver Prep	Anju Fukudome Takako Reckinger Hamilton Int'l Middle School
3rd	Madi Vaca Steven Trussell Burr Elementary School	Jeremy Chen Yukiko Wilson East-West School of International Studies	Elina Pan Catherine Fisco Hillside Avenue Middle School	Karina Feng Fung Yukiko Wilson East-West School of International Studies
High School 1st	Yukiko Hsu Kimie Matsumoto Southeast Japanese School	Sophie Li Sandra Mizuno Eastlake High School	Lucien Leeman Kei Tsukamaki Juanita High School	Moe Ohnogi Asuka Maniwa Mills High School
2nd	Theodore Nakamoto Jenny Shuman Novi High School	Raymond Johnston* Etsuko Barber R.L. Turner High School Sarah Lujan* Michael Kluemper Atherton High School	Alex Havermann* Carla Swick Palmer High School Eimer Qiu* Shinobu Nagashima Stevenson School	Julia Alcantar Sandra Mizuno Eastlake High School
3rd	Misaki Yagi Sachiko Iwami Palos Verdes Peninsula High School			Alan Graham Madison Steakley Paschal High School
College 1st	Madeline Storey Yuki Waugh Texas A&M University	Marley Humbach Katharine Davis Washtenaw Community College	Saraie Andujar Mako Nozu University of South Florida	Henry Vicente Pastor Sumiko Gibson Aims Community College
2nd	Sara Watts Yayoi Takeuchi University of North Texas	Sadie Downing Shinji Shimoura William and Mary	Rivers Hoag Shinji Shimoura William and Mary	Caitlin Misao Zecca Shinji Shimoura William and Mary
3rd	Jiayi Jiang Jinhwa Chang Mount Holyoke College	Isabella Le Jinhwa Chang Mount Holyoke College		Xing Yang Jinhwa Chang Mount Holyoke College

Nengajo Showcase

See Chart on Page 16 for teacher and school information

 <p>Tamotsu Isozaki Lower Elementary Artistic - 1st</p>	 <p>Sakura Adachi Lower Elementary Artistic - 2nd</p>	 <p>Ruby Fields Lower Elementary Artistic - 3rd</p>	 <p>Olivia Binschus Lower Elementary Comical - 1st</p>
 <p>Sora Ferguson Lower Elementary Comical - 2nd</p>	 <p>Taylor Tugman Lower Elementary Comical - 3rd</p>	 <p>Kaori Arasaki Upper Elementary Artistic - 1st</p>	 <p>Thomas Akikawa Upper Elementary Artistic - 2nd</p>
 <p>Emi Lee Upper Elementary Artistic - 3rd</p>	 <p>Noah Del Manzo Upper Elementary Comical - 1st</p>	 <p>Franco Cruz Upper Elementary Comical - 2nd</p>	 <p>Emma Goldel Upper Elementary Comical - 3rd</p>
 <p>Tyler Tsai Upper Elementary CGI - 1st</p>	 <p>Moe Ho Middle School Artistic - 1st</p>	 <p>Alexandra Grinchuk Middle School Artistic - 2nd</p>	 <p>Madi Vaca Middle School Artistic - 3rd</p>

Nengajo Showcase

See Chart on Page 16 for teacher and school information



Hana Smith
Middle School
Comical - 1st



Meagan Nguyen
Middle School
Comical - 2nd



Jeremy Chen
Middle School
Comical - 3rd



Sofia Ventimiglia
Middle School
Encouragement - 1st



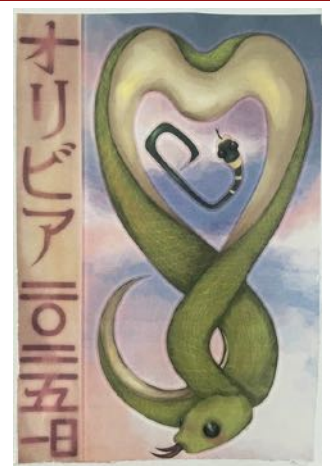
Anju Fukudome
Middle School
Encouragement - 2nd



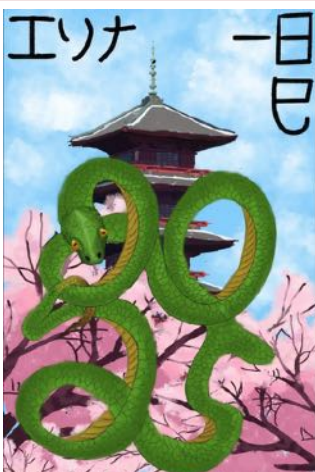
Karina Feng Fung
Middle School
Encouragement - 3rd



Maya Mazur
Middle School
CGI - 1st



Olivia Domingo Galiano
Middle School
CGI - 2nd



Elina Pan
Middle School
CGI - 3rd



Yukiko Hsu
High School
Artistic - 1st



Theodore Nakamoto
High School
Artistic - 2nd



Misaki Yagi
High School
Artistic - 3rd

Nengajo Showcase

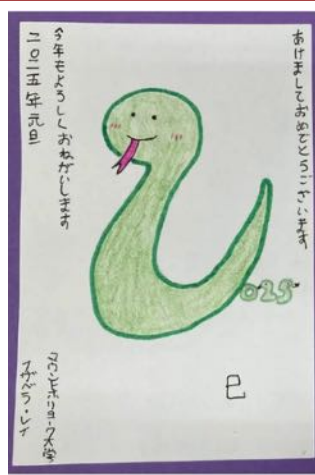
See Chart on Page 16 for teacher and school information



Marley Humbach
College
Comical - 1st



Sadie Downing
College
Comical - 2nd



Isabella Le
College
Comical - 3rd



Henry Vicente Pastor
College
Encouragement - 1st



Caitlin Misao Zecca
College
Encouragement - 2nd



Xing Yang
College
Encouragement - 3rd



Saraie Andujar
College
CGI - 1st



Rivers Hoag
College
CGI - 2nd



NATIONAL JAPANESE EXAM



Voices from Exam Development Team Members

視野を広げたいという思いで、NJEのワークショップに参加したのが10年ほど前のことです。ワークショップで、じっくりとACTFLのProficiencyのレベルに合わせたテスト作りのノウハウを学び、それ以来毎年NJEの作成に携わってきました。Professional Developmentという点で、これ以上ない素晴らしい機会を頂きました。毎年、夏の間、その年に日本で起こった出来事やイベントなどをチェックして、そこから、課題に使えるトピックを選び、オーセンティックさを保ちながらも、日本語学習者たちにも伝わるように、手を加えて問題を作るようにしています。学生が興味を持つトピックを選ぶ作業は、毎年ワクワクします。また、そのためにウェブ検索をするうちに、NJEのテストだけでなく、次の年、教室で使えるトピックにも巡り合うことが多く、テスト作りは教室活動にも大きく影響しています。



Masako Lackey Sensei
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

NJEの問題作成に関わることは、私にとって大きなプロフェッショナル・デベロップメントの機会となっています。リーディング問題では、単に読み物から答えを探し出すのではなく、情報を理解しそれを基に答えを導き出すような問題作成を目指します。これが非常に難しいのです！実社会で目にする状況を最大限再現しながら、レベルに応じた設問を作成し、複数の条件を考慮した選択肢を設定することが求められます。リスニング問題も同じです。受験者が興味を持って取り組めるよう工夫し、「できた！」と達成感を味わえるような問題を作ることは、私にとって大きなチャレンジです。NJEに関わることで、私自身の授業にも変化が生まれました。問題作成の過程を通じて、状況やキーワードから推測する力を養う質問をより意識的に授業に取り入れるようになりました。この経験を今後も活かし学習者にとって有意義な教育を提供していきたいと考えています。

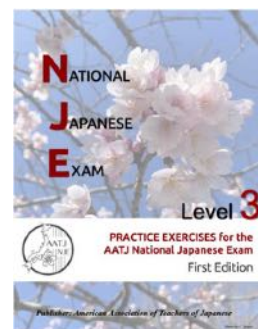
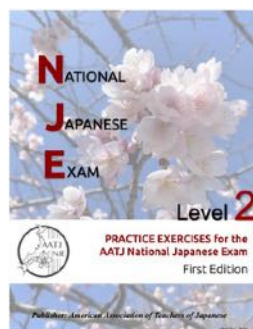
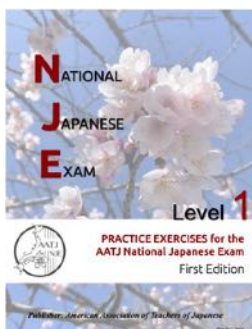


Izumi Takeda Sensei
University of California, San Diego

Practice Exercises for the AATJ National Japanese Exam are available [online](#)!

NJE 練習問題集は NJE 本試験の受験準備、普段の授業活動にも活用いただけるほか、ティーチングや試験作成の際のアイデアとしてもご参考いただけます。

These exercises are useful for the preparation of NJE, as well as for class activity. They are also an excellent resource for teaching and test making.



Sample questions (Level 2)

Listening

To play audio, click  or scan QR code.



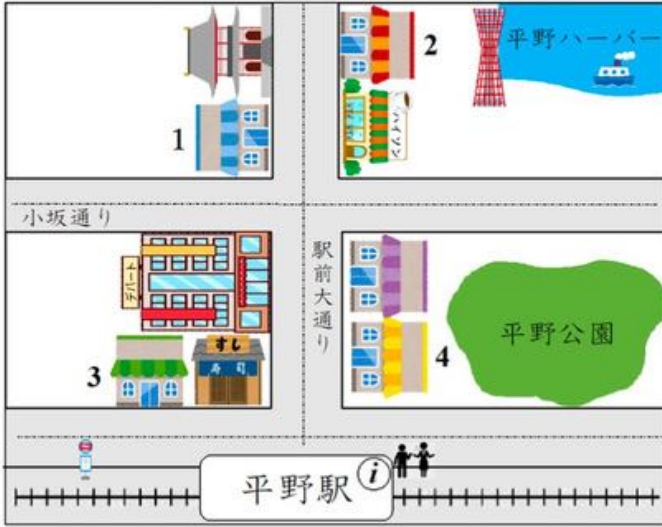
Listening

Section 1

Track 1

You and your friend are visiting the town of Hirano for the first time. You are at the Hirano Town Center, where you have joined other visitors to hear some information about the town. You are looking at the map of the town while you are listening to the attendant.

平野町タウンマップ



- Which spot is popular among young couples?
 - The sushi shop
 - The harbor
 - The coffee shop
 - The park
- Where is the drugstore on the map?
 - 1
 - 2
 - 3
 - 4
- Which statement is true about the sushi restaurant?
 - It requires reservations.
 - It opens at 10 a.m.
 - It is reasonably priced.
 - It is the oldest in town.
- What does the attendant ask the visitors?
 - If they want to go somewhere else in town
 - If they want to check the transportation schedule
 - If they want to buy local souvenirs
 - If they want to wait in front of the stores

Section 1

You are reading the results of research on the "Daily Lives of Japanese Children."

Listening

Reading

あなたは学校から帰ったあと、どのぐらいの時間メディアを見たり聞いたりしていますか。

<メディアに使う時間>

	テレビを見る	テレビゲームをする	スマートフォンを使う	パソコン・タブレットを使う	音楽を聞く	本を読む	新聞を読む
小1-3年生	1時間20分	25分	25分	20分	4分	14分	1分
小4-6年生	1時間40分	44分	36分	38分	12分	22分	2分
中学生	1時間25分	53分	48分	46分	32分	20分	2分
高校生	1時間5分	38分	1時間36分	40分	58分	13分	3分

このリサーチから次の3つのことがわかりました。

- 小4～6年生がテレビを一番長く見る（1時間40分）
- 高校生はスマートフォンを使ったり（1時間36分）、音楽を聞いたりする時間が長い（58分）。
- 小学生も中学生も高校生も本や新聞をあまり読まない。

Contents adapted from ベネッセ (https://berd.benesse.jp/up_images/research/kodomoseikatsu_digest_03.pdf p.6)

- What does this research try to find out about Japanese children?
 - What media they use for schoolwork
 - What media are popular among them
 - How quickly they learn about media
 - How much time they spend on media
- Which group of children play video games the most?
 - Lower elementary school students
 - Upper elementary school students

Click [here](#) to download the booklet.

Any questions? [Email us!](#)

Japanese National Honor Society

YAYOI TAKEUCHI, JNHS CO-DIRECTOR

spotlight on Univ. of Virginia!
UNIVERSITY of VIRGINIA

JNHSでは、全米に広がる高校・大学の様々なチャプターをAATJニュースレターにて、毎回交互にご紹介しています。今回はUniversity of Virginiaの佐藤友美先生より、活動、授賞式の流れをご紹介していただきました。

様々なアプローチや運営方法で取り組まれていらっしゃるの、皆様の参考にしていただけるのではないのでしょうか。今後とも、チャプターの様々な形を、ご紹介していける機会を楽しみにしています。

JNHS-College Chapter at University of Virginia
University of Virginia 佐藤友美先生

本校では2011年にJNHSを開設しました。学部での卒業式、そしてインフォーマルなアワードセレモニーで受章者を表彰しています。

学部の卒業式には日本語を専攻した学生が招待され、そのご家族も出席されている中で学部長からJNHSの榮譽を称えられる機会を設けています。また、受章者は卒業式のしおりにも掲載しています。

インフォーマルなアワードセレモニーは、学年末に日本語科の卒業セレモニーの一環としてイベントに組み込み、アドボカシーも兼ねて学部長にも出席してもらえるようしています。受章者だけでなくその他プログラム内の卒業生、在校生も招待し、下級生の動機づけ、また学年を超えた学生同士の繋がり場の場として日本語学習者コミュニティ全体で盛り上げています。

当校では、サティフィケートにかかる費用は学部に負担してもらっていますが、該当者の増加に伴い、費用も増え学部に負担がかかりすぎることになったため、該当者全員に授章するのではなく、申込にて受章希望者を募るシステムに変更しました。

アワードセレモニー、卒業式の後には学部のウェブサイトやフェイスブック、また学内のニュースレターなどでも受章者を紹介しています。

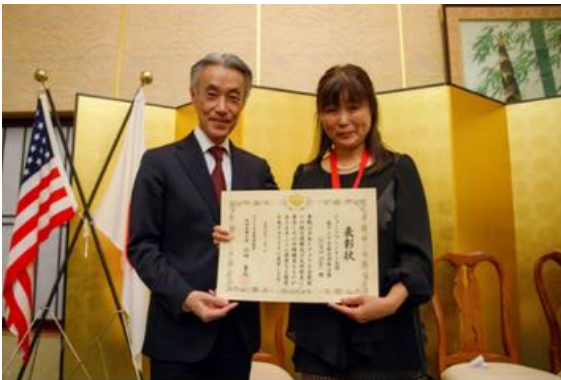


J.LIVE Talk 2024 Report

TAKAE TSUJIOKA

On November 1, 2024, the Japanese Learning Inspired Vision and Engagement (J.LIVE) Talk program of The George Washington University's Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures received the Ambassador's Commendation in recognition of "its contributions to fostering friendly relations and mutual understanding between Japan and the United States over the years." The Award Ceremony and Reception took place on December 9 at the Ambassador's Residence, honoring J.LIVE Talk along with two other awardees: Randolph-Macon College's Department of Asian Studies and the Japanese Language Education Advocacy and Resource Network (J-LEARN).

Dr. Takae Tsujioka, Executive Director of J.LIVE Talk and Teaching Associate Professor in the Japanese Language at The George Washington University, accepted the award certificate and medal on behalf of the J.LIVE Talk team. The award was presented by Ambassador Shigeo Yamada.



In his remarks, Ambassador Yamada praised J.LIVE Talk's impact: "Through the establishment of the J.LIVE Talk, a nationwide Japanese presentation contest launched in 2015, the George Washington University Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures has contributed to identifying and nurturing the next generation of leaders with advanced Japanese language and communication skills."

In her acceptance speech, Dr. Tsujioka expressed her gratitude, saying, "I am thrilled to celebrate the occasion with many fellow language educators from the DC area. J.LIVE Talk is truly a collective effort, shaped by the ideas and hard work of many. The program emphasizes the importance of language and cultural education in today's interconnected world, and it is inspiring to witness J.LIVE Talk participants courageously showcase the beauty of language as they refine and craft messages in others' languages to truly connect with people from diverse backgrounds."

Advisory Committee Member, Ambassador John Malott offered a toast in celebration during the reception. "J.LIVE Talk has created something totally new – a language competition for the 21st century, that focuses on presentation skills and audience engagement," said Amb. Malott. "Given our short attention spans today and our desire to be entertained, I think that approach is far more relevant in today's world – and that's why it's been so successful."



“J.LIVE Talk is a testament to our Japanese faculty’s commitment to create a platform on which students of the Japanese language from all over the country can ‘perform’ their passion for the culture and engage with other contestants who share the same. I applaud our department faculty and student volunteers for their tireless efforts of hosting J.LIVE Talk year after year for the past ten years. I also want to thank the Embassy of Japan for acknowledging J.LIVE Talk as a significant contribution of Japanese language and culture to the community. おつかれさま!”



Phoebe Jones (CCAS ‘25), a J.LIVE Talk volunteer since 2021, shared her thoughts: “As someone who majors in Japanese and has spent time living in Japan, it was very meaningful and heartening for me to meet so many people who are equally passionate about the country, its language, and its culture. I also had the great honor of meeting the Ambassador himself, who very graciously took the time to meet each of my fellow J.LIVE volunteers.”

Lucas Kozuch (CCAS ‘26) explained his motivation for volunteering: 「私のような日本語の学生の話を知りたい、みんなが学んだことを発表で伝えるのを手伝いたいので、毎年 J.LIVE Talk にボランティアしています。」 He also shared his excitement about meeting Ambassador Yamada. 「クラスメートと一緒に日本語で山田大使とさえ会話をしました。信じられないですね。この経験を絶対に、忘れません。」



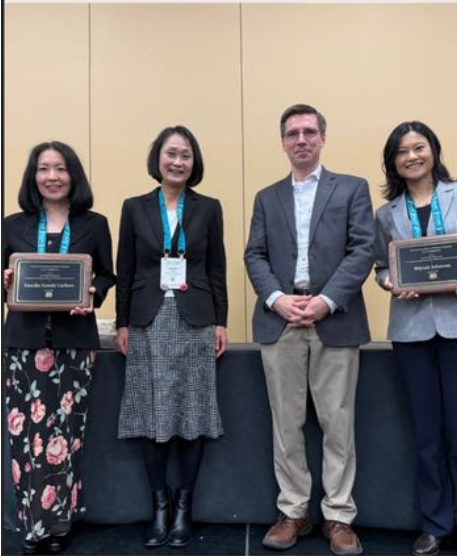
Yizhou Pan (CCAS ‘25)’s words summarize a feeling perhaps shared by all those involved, “Participating in the J.LIVE Talk Ambassador’s Commendation ceremony was a uniquely enriching experience, blending cultural immersion with heartfelt recognition. The event highlighted the passion and achievements of Japanese language professionals, whose dedication to education left me deeply inspired. This celebration of shared purpose—between educators, volunteers, and supporters—reignited my pride in contributing to J.LIVE Talk’s mission. It was a vivid reminder that language is more than words; it’s a bridge to understanding.”

J.LIVE Talk will mark its 11th event and 10 year anniversary this year. We will look forward to receiving applications this September, with the Final Round scheduled for **November 9, 2025**.

Please stay tuned for updates on our website at www.JLIVETalk.com for more details in the coming months.

ACTFL 2025 CONFERENCE

SAVE *the* DATE



**COME TO LEARN, GROW, BOND AND CONNECT!!
2025 ACTFL CONFERENCE/AATJ FALL CONFERENCE IN NEW ORLEANS,
ON NOV 21-NOV 23, 2025. SEE YOU THERE!!**

Dr. Yamamoto named to ACTFL board, 2025



Congratulations to Dr. Junko Yamamoto on joining the ACTFL Board of Directors as a new board member in 2025! In 2022, Dr. Yamamoto was selected to serve on ACTFL's Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce, showcasing her dedication to advancing equitable practices in foreign language education. In 2022, Dr. Yamamoto was selected to serve on ACTFL's Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce, exemplifying her dedication to advancing equitable practices in foreign language education. With her new position, we are excited to collaborate with ACTFL and look forward to Dr. Yamamoto's invaluable guidance in elevating Japanese language education and enhancing AATJ's presence within the landscape of U.S. World Language Education. Below is the [announcement posted on the ACTFL website.](#)

Dr. Yamamoto teaches courses in world language teaching methodology and instructional technology, in addition to supervising student teachers in French and Spanish at Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania. Dr. Yamamoto earned her doctorate in Instructional Technologies from Duquesne University. Her journey began with a Pennsylvania teaching certificate in Japanese. She taught in Pittsburgh at Shady Side Academy Junior School (K-5) and Mt. Lebanon High School (9-12). She also served as a teaching assistant for Japanese conversation at the University of Pittsburgh while pursuing her master's degree in public and international Affairs. She has been an active member of the Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association (PSMLA), serving on the executive committee for ten years, where she was responsible for selling exhibit hall tables for annual conferences. Dr. Yamamoto has been an ACTFL/CAEP institutional reviewer for 14 years, ensuring teacher preparation programs meet the ACTFL/CAEP standards.

AI and Technology SIG

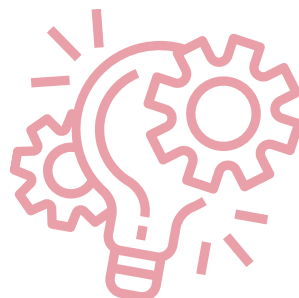
RYO NAKAYAMA

We are excited to announce the launch of the AI and Technology in Japanese Language Education SIG! This SIG is a collaborative group where members work together to shape its direction and activities based on shared interests and goals.

Rather than starting with a fixed agenda, we aim to explore possibilities together, creating a space to connect ideas and innovation. Whether you are new to AI, new to technologies, or experienced in both, everyone is welcome to join and contribute to this evolving community.

Let's explore the future of education together!

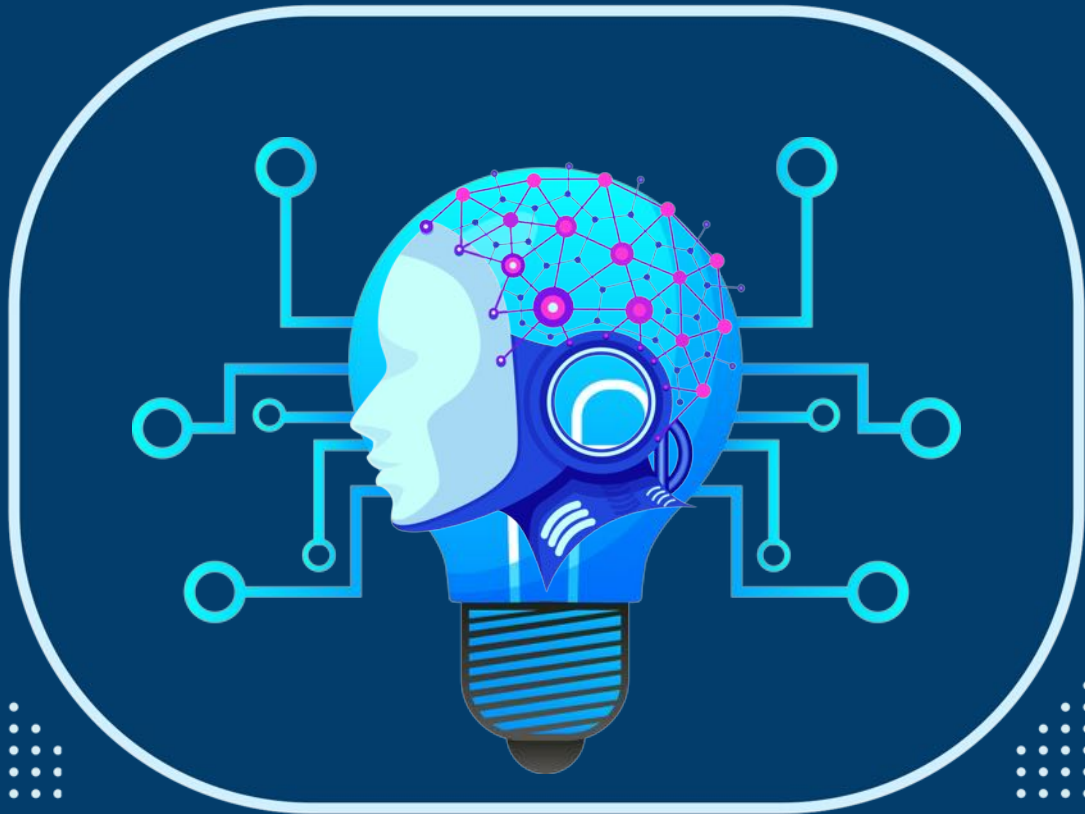
If you are interested, please fill out [this Google Form](#). For more information, contact Ryo Nakayama at ryon@sas.upenn.edu.



NEW

Join us!

AI & Technology SIG



About us

Our SIG explores how AI and technology can enhance Japanese language education. We share tools, methods, and support to improve teaching and learning together.

Scan to join

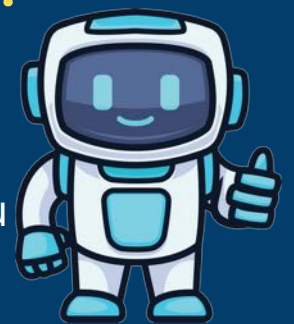


No tech background? **No problem!**

Let's learn and grow together!



Contact Nakayama at ryon@sas.upenn.edu if you have any questions!





2025 Coming-of-Age Ceremony held at the Embassy of Japan

KEN KNIGHT, PH.D., JAPANESE PROGRAM DIRECTOR
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

On Saturday, January 18th students of Japanese in the Washington DC area were treated to an exceptionally rare opportunity to celebrate the milestone of achieving adulthood at a Coming-of-Age Ceremony (成人式) held at the Embassy of Japan. In late 2024 Ambassador Yamada very kindly embraced the idea of holding the first ever Coming-of-Age Ceremony at the Embassy, and Ms. Nakamura and Ms. Nonaka of the Public Affairs Office quickly began planning the event in earnest. A Coming-of-Age Ceremony was held privately at American University in 2020 to great student acclaim but was discontinued due to the Covid pandemic. The Embassy had graciously taken it upon themselves to reintroduce this event and generously open it to students from multiple universities in the area.

The ceremony was held at the elegant and historic Former Ambassador's Residence attached to the Embassy and was attended by students from American, Georgetown, George Washington, and Howard Universities. It featured stirring speeches by Public Affairs Minister Miyake as well as Dr. Knight of American University, Dr. Mori of Georgetown University, Dr. Morley of George Washington University, and Dr. Yamakita of Howard University, and student representatives from each university. The student representatives spoke passionately and skillfully in both Japanese and English on their goals moving forward using Japanese and the motivations that brought them to learn about Japan.

Participants celebrated with fancy dress, including suits and Japanese formal wear, which they were able to change into at the Residence. They enjoyed a mix of Japanese and American food as they mingled with their fellow students, faculty, and Japanese Embassy staff members. Students commented on their particular joy in being able to interact with their peers from across Washington DC and ask questions of the Embassy diplomats. They made meaningful connections and deeply increased their interest in acquiring and using Japanese.

This event also proved a special opportunity for faculty in the area to cooperate on an event that is both beneficial to all students and allows for greater opportunities for cooperation among educational institutions in the future.

The event was covered by Japanese news outlets Fuji News Network and the Hokkaido Shimbun. The FNN article can be [accessed here](#).

The ceremony was a great success, enjoyed by all who attended. This event is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for these students that they will surely cherish throughout their lives. We are tremendously grateful to Ambassador Yamada, Minister Miyake, and the Embassy of Japan for providing this amazing opportunity to the students and faculty of these universities in the Washington DC area. I am especially grateful to my fellow faculty members and Ms. Nakamura and Ms. Nonaka, who worked hard during a particularly busy time of year to ensure this event would be a resounding success.



Call for Proposals

Japanese Language Teachers Association of New England (JLTANE)



Date: Saturday, June 7, 2025 (9:00 AM – 5:00 PM)

Venue: Luce Hall, Yale University

[Conference Website](#)

We are honored to have Dr. Yasu-Hiko Tohsaku, Professor Emeritus at the School of Global Policy and Strategy, University of California, San Diego, deliver the keynote speech titled "Future-Ready, Future-Proof Japanese Language Education."

We invite submissions of abstracts on topics related to Japanese language and culture education. Presenters will be allocated 25 minutes for their presentation, followed by a 10-minute Q&A session. Please ensure that the abstract and proceedings are written in the same language as the presentation. The deadline for abstract submissions is Monday, March 31st, 11:59 PM (EST). For more details, please visit our conference website.

日時：2025年6月7日（土）9時～5時（予定）

場所：イェール大学、LUCE HALL

[学会のウェブサイトはこちらです](#)

基調講演は、當作靖彦先生（カリフォルニア大学サンディエゴ校（UCSD）グローバル政策・戦略大学院(GPS)名誉教授）をお招きして、「未来志向の日本語」というタイトルでご講演いただくことになりました。基調講演の詳細は、ウェブサイトをご覧ください。

発表の要旨を2025年3月31日まで受け付けています。上記ウェブサイトの「SUBMIT ABSTRACT」から提出をお願いいたします。発表は、2024年の学会と同様、25分間の発表と10分間の質疑応答を予定しています。発表要旨、発表、PROCEEDINGSに使用する言語は、日本語か英語のどちらかに統一してください。発表の要旨を提出される際には、まず大会への登録をお願いいたします。皆様のご応募をお待ちしております。

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Diversity and Inclusion: **Andy Scott** (Kamehameha High School, Maui, HI), **Yasuko Takata Rallings** (Wake Forest University, NC)

Nengajo Contest: **Mako Nozu** (University of South Florida, Tampa)

Japanese National Honor Society: **Kumi Kobayashi** (Los Gatos High School, CA), **Yayoi Takeuchi**, (University of North Texas, Denton)

National Japanese Exam: **Tomomi Sato** (University of Virginia)

Fall Conference (ACTFL-affiliated): **Nobuaki Takahashi** (Elizabethtown College, PA), **Makiko Fukuda** (University of Texas, San Antonio), **Marisa Bellini** (American Fork High School, UT)

Spring Conference (AAS-affiliated): **Jae DiBello Takeuchi** (Clemson University, SC), **Yoshihiro Mochizuki** (University of Michigan)

Japanese Language and Literature (journal): **Suwako Watanabe** (Portland State University)

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AATJ Membership Renewal

Thank you to the members who have already renewed their AATJ membership for 2025!

If you have not renewed yet, please take a moment to make sure you are included in the benefits that membership brings: professional development opportunities like conferences and webinars; activities for your students like the Japanese National Honor Society; publications and other resources.

Renew online by going to <https://www.aatj.org/membership>. We'll look forward to seeing next year, online or in person!

Get Involved with AATJ!

AATJ's activities and events thrive thanks to the dedication of our Directors, Co-directors, and many enthusiastic volunteers. Becoming involved in AATJ is not only rewarding, but it also provides outstanding opportunities for professional growth. There are countless ways for members to participate in AATJ's programs and events. Please let us know your areas of interest by selecting completing [this survey](#), selecting one or more areas of interest. We're excited to collaborate with you and look forward to your contributions!



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