

# August 2020

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### Thank You to Our Members and Friends



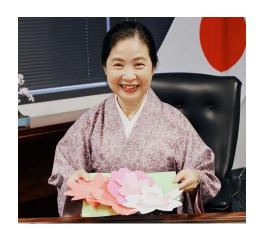
Dear JAST Members and Friends,

As summer winds down amid the backdrop of a pervasive and persistent pandemic, all of us at JAST are especially mindful of the unique challenges that our respective families, communities, and workplaces face each and every day. Our hearts go out to those whose health may be under threat and to those who must endure the loss of loved ones in the wake of this deadly virus.

Yet, there is so much to be grateful for as we persevere. Particular thanks go to all of you who, despite innumerable hardships, find it possible to provide financial and in-kind support to the Japan-America Society of Tennessee. We are truly grateful for the privilege of putting your investments to work across the state to deliver lasting, mutual benefit through collective efforts that strengthen bilateral relationships between Tennessee and Japan.

Read more...

#### Partner Spotlight - Consulate-General of Japan in Nashville



The Consulate-General of Japan in Nashville, <u>headed by Consul-General Kayoko Fukushima</u>, serves the states of Tennessee, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, and Mississippi. The mission of the Consulate is not only to provide consular services (such as processing passports and visas), but also to ensure the safety of Japanese residents in the area, promote trade between the region and Japan, and spread further knowledge of Japan to the people of the five-state area.

As part of its economic activities, the Consulate works together with local governments, as well as organizations like JAST, to foster a warm environment for Japanese businesses moving to the region and with American companies who are interested in working with Japan. The Consulate also participates in many cultural events around the region, including the Nashville Cherry Blossom Festival and Memphis Japan Festival, working together with hosting organizations to create exciting events where guests can learn more about Japan through food, performances, and cultural demonstrations. For those interested in living and working in Japan, the Consulate promotes the JET Program, in which college graduates can move to Japan to work as English teachers for up to five years.

Since many events in 2020 were cancelled due to COVID-19, the Consulate has introduced several new social media campaigns with the goal of maintaining a connection between the Mid-South and Japan, even when travel and public events are not possible. Along with many other posts, followers can enjoy weekly series such as Japanese Culture Corner, a virtual folk craft exhibit, Japanese language tips, and kamishibai storytelling. You can follow the Consulate on Facebook, Instagram, and their website.



Consul-General Fukushima hosted a reception for JET Program alumni and supporters at her Official Residence in Nashville.



Consulate-General of Japan in Nashville's activity table at the Nashville Cherry Blossom Festival

#### Cooking with JAST: Tennessee Kitchens, Japanese Style



Chef Makoto Fujiwara Ichiban Japanese Restaurant

In the first installment of our new cooking series, Chef Makoto Fujiwara prepared Jack Daniel's Baby Back Ribs with a Japanese flair. Fujiwarasan answered questions after his cooking demonstration. If you missed the webinar on August 29th, the recording is available. JAST thanks Chef Fujiwara and host John Gale for kicking off Cooking with JAST.

Recording Here

# The 2020 Mitsui U.S.A. Foundation Scholarships in Tennessee Program





From left to right: Stella Clymer, Seth Pierce, Rachel Hodge, Denton Stout

We are excited to introduce the four outstanding Tennessee high school seniors selected for The 2020 Mitsui U.S.A. Foundation Scholarships in Tennessee Program.

- Stella Clymer and Rachel Hodge are both from Franklin, and they are attending the University of Tennessee Knoxville.
- **Seth Pierce** is also attending the University of Tennessee Knoxville. Seth is from Greeneville.
- Denton Stout is from Livingston, and he is attending Tennessee Tech.

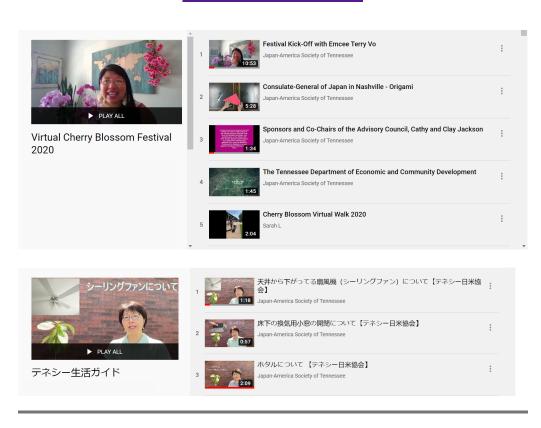
Now in it's 17th year, The Mitsui U.S.A. Foundation Scholarships in Tennessee Program was established by **The Mitsui U.S.A. Foundation** to provide educational opportunities to college-bound high school seniors and to promote cross-cultural understanding between Japan and Tennessee. The scholarship program is administered by Japan-America Society of Tennessee.

Scholarship recipients are selected by the Scholarship Review Committee on the basis of academic merit, aptitude for foreign language study, extra-curricular activities, community involvement and leadership. The Review Committee also looks for a multi-cultural and international personal and/or career interest. Four \$5000 freshman-year scholarships are awarded to the selected applicants enrolling in a four-year Tennessee public college or university.

Established in 1987, The Mitsui U.S.A. Foundation is the philanthropic arm of Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. for active, social contribution programs in communities where the company does business. Currently, it supports more than 50 initiatives across the U.S. in the areas of education, community welfare, arts & culture, employee matching and volunteerism with special emphasis on international education and U.S.-Japan exchanges. More than 50% of its grants target education primarily for college level scholarships, study abroad, forums and Japan research.

JAST joins The Mitsui U.S.A. Foundation and Mitsui & Co. (U.S.A.), Inc. in congratulating these exceptional, globally-minded students and wishing them much success in college and in their chosen careers.

## JAST is on YouTube!



## **Guide to Daily Living in Tennessee**



JAST's Guide to Daily Living in Tennessee is now available! It's for newcomers and long-time residents originally from Japan to familiarize them with essential information on aspects of daily life that may differ from life in Japan and other parts of the world where they may have lived before relocating to Tennessee. Please let your Japanese friends know about this guide. We hope this will be helpful to our Japanese community!

https://www.jptnguide.org/

# **Upcoming NAJAS Events**

Nakamura Hashigo and the New Face of Kabuki in the 21st Century	September 8, 2020 Japan-America Society of Northern California
Virtual Tsukimi Moon Viewing Zoom Gala	September 9, 2020 Japan-America Society of Georgia
USMCA for the Automotive Industry Webinar	September 9, 2020 Japan-America Society of Alabama
U.S. Businesses for the Japanese Market	September 22, 2020 Japan-America Society of Chicago

#### **Partner Resources COVID-19**

Baker Donelson Bearman Caldwell & Berkowitz, PC

**Deloitte & Touche, LLP** 

**Dickinson Wright PLLC** 

**Frost Brown Todd LLC** 

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**Greater Memphis Chamber** 

**KPMG LLP** 

McMinn County Economic Development Authority

Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce

Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP

Tennessee Department of Economic & Community Development

# More Information HERE

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