



MASAMI IZUMIDA TYSON
JAST BOARD CHAIR
GLOBAL DIRECTOR OF FDI AND TRADE
TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Masami Izumida Tyson serves as the Global Director of Foreign Direct Investment and Trade for the State of Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development. Masami works to create jobs for Tennesseans by recruiting foreign businesses to the State. One of her roles is to manage and develop strategy for Tennessee's offices in five worldwide locations. She also interfaces with international delegations and diplomatic offices to promote economic development in Tennessee. She is also the State's trade director. Masami was born and raised in Yokohama, Japan. She received her B.A. and M.A. in the Writing Seminars at the Johns Hopkins University, where she was a recipient of the Sudler Prize in the Arts. After teaching creative writing at Johns Hopkins and in Tennessee high schools, she received her J.D. from Vanderbilt Law School. Masami had a twenty-year career as an attorney during which she worked as a federal law clerk, a litigator, and in-house counsel at various global companies until she assumed her current role in October of 2018. Masami serves on boards and committees of several organizations, and she is council leader of the U.S.-Japan Council. Masami lives in Nashville with her husband and their three children.



JENNIFER BUTLER
SENIOR MANAGER, STUDENT RELATIONS TEAM
ASHINAGA FOUNDATION (TOKYO)

Jennifer Butler is Senior Manager of Student Relations of the Ashinaga Foundation, one of the largest nonprofits in Japan, providing education support to Japanese and international students who have lost one or both parents. Jennifer works with senior leadership on activities and programming of student support teams in the U.K., the U.S., France and Brazil.

A Jackson, MS native with a lifelong fascination of different countries and an enduring love for the culture of Japan, Jennifer pursued undergraduate studies in International Relations and Japanese at The University of Alabama and later a master's degree in Japanese Studies from The University of Sheffield (UK), with a research focus on International Education Policy in Japan. Jennifer's early career highlights include as the Cultural Programs Coordinator at the Consulate-General of Japan in Nashville and founding and co-chairing JAST's Young Professionals Program. After leaving Nashville, Jennifer managed the study abroad office at Jackson State University, a historically Black university in Mississippi, and in 2017, she returned to Japan. Jennifer feels very fortunate to be able to guide the next generation of young leaders.

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This event is part of the Japan Currents national series and is presented in partnership with the National Association of Japan-America Societies and the Embassy of Japan in Washington, D.C.



EMBASSY OF JAPAN

COLLABORATING ORGANIZATIONS

CONSULATE-GENERAL OF JAPAN IN NASHVILLE

MUSIC CITY JET ALUMNI ASSOCIATION (JETAAMC)

NASHVILLE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

SISTER CITIES OF NASHVILLE

TENNESSEE WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL



*JAST is a qualified 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation
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**JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY
OF TENNESSEE, INC.**

JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE
WELCOMES YOU TO

*Living Our
Best Lives*

LEADING THE WAY TO
A SHARED FUTURE

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL
**WOMEN'S
LEADERSHIP FORUM**

DECEMBER 3, 2021
11:00 A.M. – 2:00 P.M.
TENNESSEE STATE MUSEUM

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

JAST's Women's Leadership Forum brings into focus the critical need to invest in the advancement of women in the U.S. and Japan. By advocating efforts that advance social and economic equality in this way, women from all walks of life stand to benefit from participating in society without gender bias. In turn, their contributions to our mutual society fuel job growth, economic and political stability, and inclusive prosperity.



11:00 A.M.

INFORMAL NETWORKING
& REFRESHMENTS

BLUEGRASS FIDDLE MUSIC PERFORMED BY
YUMI BHATTARAI

11:30 A.M.

WELCOME

LEIGH WIELAND
JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY OF TENNESSEE

ASHLEY HOWELL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

TENNESSEE STATE MUSEUM

NOON

REMARKS PROGRAM

FEATURING

PRESENTER
PETER KELLEY
PRESIDENT

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN-AMERICA
SOCIETIES (WASHINGTON, D.C.)

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

JENNIFER BUTLER
SENIOR MANAGER, STUDENT RELATIONS TEAM

ASHINAGA FOUNDATION (TOKYO)

HOST

MASAMI IZUMIDA TYSON
JAST BOARD CHAIR

GLOBAL DIRECTOR OF FDI AND TRADE
TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

CAPSTONE SPEAKER

KAYOKO FUKUSHIMA
CONSUL-GENERAL OF JAPAN

CONSULATE-GENERAL OF JAPAN IN NASHVILLE

1:00 P.M.

ONE ON ONE WITH
CONSUL-GENERAL FUKUSHIMA

MUSEUM GUIDED TOURS
WILL BEGIN FOLLOWING
THE REMARKS PROGRAM

EXPLORE THE
MUSEUM AND GIFT SHOP
AT YOUR LEISURE



JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY
OF TENNESSEE, INC.

P.O. BOX 330003 • NASHVILLE, TN 37203
615-663-6060 (ENGLISH OR JAPANESE)
JASTNINFO@JASTN.ORG • WWW.JASTN.ORG



KAYOKO FUKUSHIMA

CONSUL-GENERAL OF JAPAN
CONSULATE-GENERAL OF JAPAN IN NASHVILLE

Consul-General Fukushima assumed her post as Consul-General of Japan in Nashville in December 2019. This is her third diplomatic assignment in the United States. She received a Master of Law and Diplomacy at the Fletcher School of Tufts University in 1985 and served at the Consulate-General of Japan in New York. Consul-General Fukushima has extensive experience working with the United Nations, having served as Program Officer at the United Nations University from 2003-2006 and as the Founding Director of the U.N. Women Japan Liaison Office from 2015-2017, both based in Tokyo.

Consul-General Fukushima joined Japan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1981 after receiving a Bachelor of English Literature from Sofia University. She has held a variety of posts in Tokyo, most recently serving as the Director of Diplomatic Archives. Prior to that, she held several posts in the Minister Secretariat, including as Senior Coordinator of the Public Policy Strategy Division, as well as Assistant Chief of Protocol. She also served overseas at the Embassies of Japan in Ireland and Thailand. Consul-General Fukushima is married with two adult daughters.