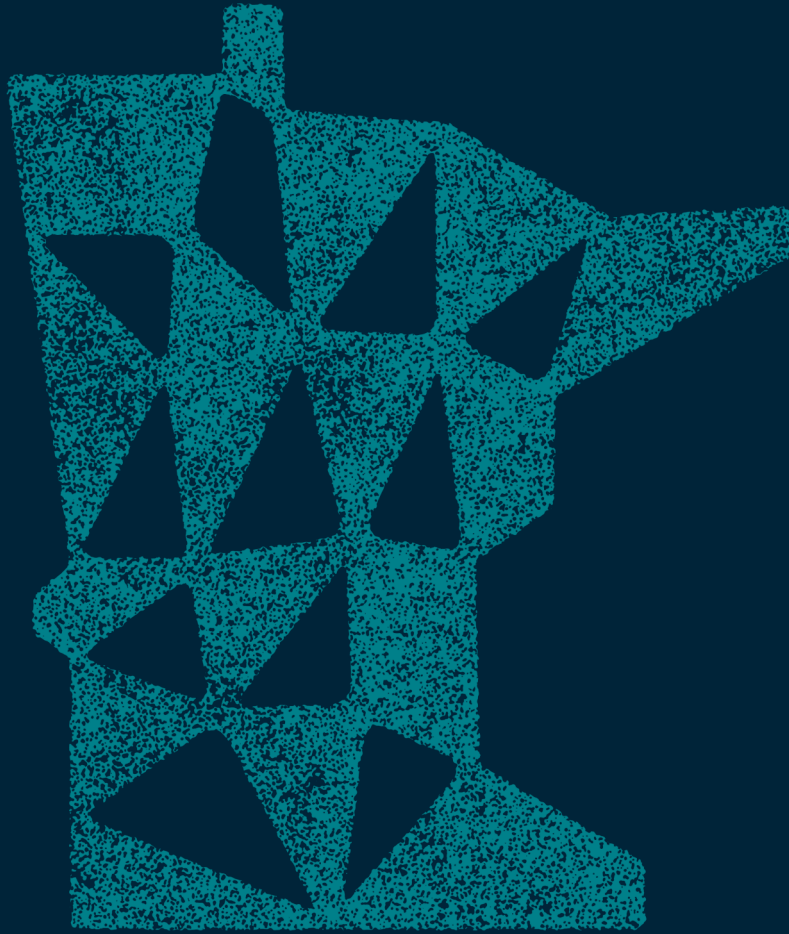


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2022 Annual Report
JAPAN AMERICA SOCIETY
of MINNESOTA

A Letter from the President



Bob Luck, JASM President

2022 was an important year for JASM. After two long years of holding events online and outdoors only, we started meeting face to face. Our first in-person event was the Harukaze spring music festival in June. It was quite emotional for me to get together with so many old and new friends at Sundin Hall to see an inspiring and, at times, humorous performance by three Minnesota-based artists: Rie Tanaka, pianist; Yuki Tokuda, classical ballet dancer; and Jesse Nummelin, cellist.

This was followed by the O-bon festival at Como Park in August. Over 7000 visitors attended, and dozens of JASM volunteers gave them an authentic summer festival experience by staffing booths featuring calligraphy, yo-yo fishing, J-Quiz, and festival merchandise.

In September, we held the second annual JASM Charity Golf Tournament, organized by JASM members Tom Haeg and Marc Bleher. Participation nearly doubled from 2021 and they even managed to convince outspoken golf critic Bob Luck to join in. My verdict? It was a blast! Rumor has it that Executive Director Rio Saito is on Tom and Marc's hit list for 2023.

In November, we held the Mondale Award and Scholarship Dinner at the Oak Ridge Country Club. I must admit that I was nervous about attendance: would people really return to an in-person dinner when they got so accustomed to take-out during the pandemic? I didn't need to worry. Attendance was strong, not least because so many people wanted to see 2022 Mondale Award winners Gayle and Judith Fleming receive their award, including two tables of family members! I am thankful to all who attended the event and generously supported our Mondale scholarship fund through donations and participation in the silent auction.

We continued the strong online presence that we developed during the pandemic, hosting events that showed many facets of Japan from tattooing to baseball cheering to textiles. Online events have been a silver lining of the pandemic, as they have made JASM accessible to a wider audience within and outside the Twin Cities Metro area. We intend to develop our online offerings further in 2023, and work to develop hybrid events that can be attended online or in-person.

We received a record number of applications for Mondale scholarships by Minnesota-based college students who wish to study in Japan. Due to the generosity of our members and supporters, we were able to match this surge in applications by awarding a record number of five scholarships, while significantly increasing the average size of the award. One of the greatest privileges of serving as JASM president is participating on the Mondale Awards committee. I was amazed at the diversity, accomplishments, and passion of all the candidates we interviewed.

As you will see from the enclosed Treasurer's Report, we are in a strong financial position. As we entered the pandemic, we took aggressive cost control measures, including closing our physical office and asking our staff to work from home, which, despite some personal hardship, they willingly agreed to do. Thank you, Rio-san and Yoko-san! We were also able to take advantage of government support programs related to the pandemic. Those programs have expired, but we successfully replaced them with grants for several program-related events in 2022. Throughout this challenging period, the financial support of our members and supporters has been critical. Thank you!

We saw some major changes on our Board of Directors. After serving for three years as President of JASM, Elizabeth Fehrman retired from the Board at the end of 2021. Our treasurer, Yoko Torigoe, retired in November, 2022. I would like to thank them for their service during a particularly challenging time in JASM's history. Thanks as well to Masako Yoshida, Motoko Hioki, and Sukanya Momsen, who left the board in 2022. A warm welcome to our new treasurer, Mio Ishida, and to new board members Saiko McIvor, Lydia Rose, and Kat Dalager. This month, we will elect three additional board members! Thanks to everybody who submitted a nomination.

In 2022, we celebrated our 50th Anniversary. I believe there are three important factors that have brought us this far:

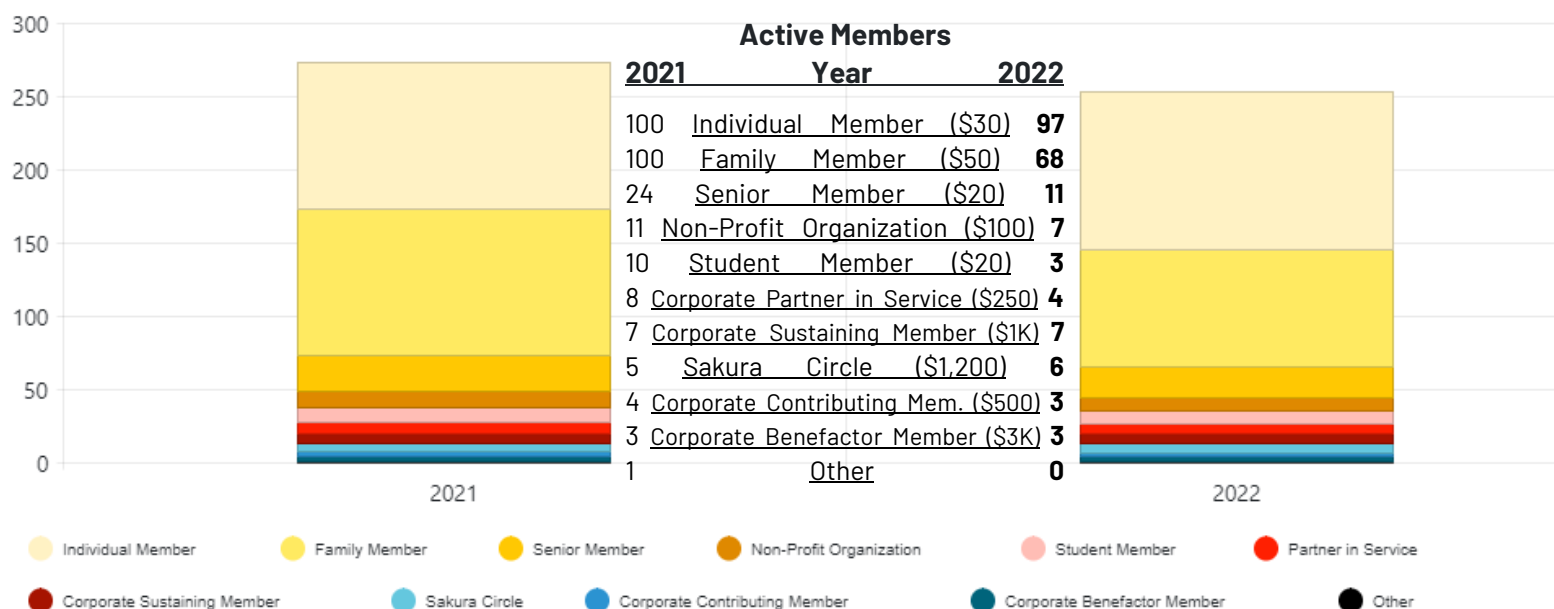
1. We have an important and inspiring mission, to connect Minnesota and Japan.
2. We have adapted to change, most recently, the enormous changes brought about by the COVID pandemic.
3. Finally, we are blessed with dedicated staff, members, and supporters. Thank you for getting us through our 50 years. I look forward to the next 50!

Bob Luck, JASM President

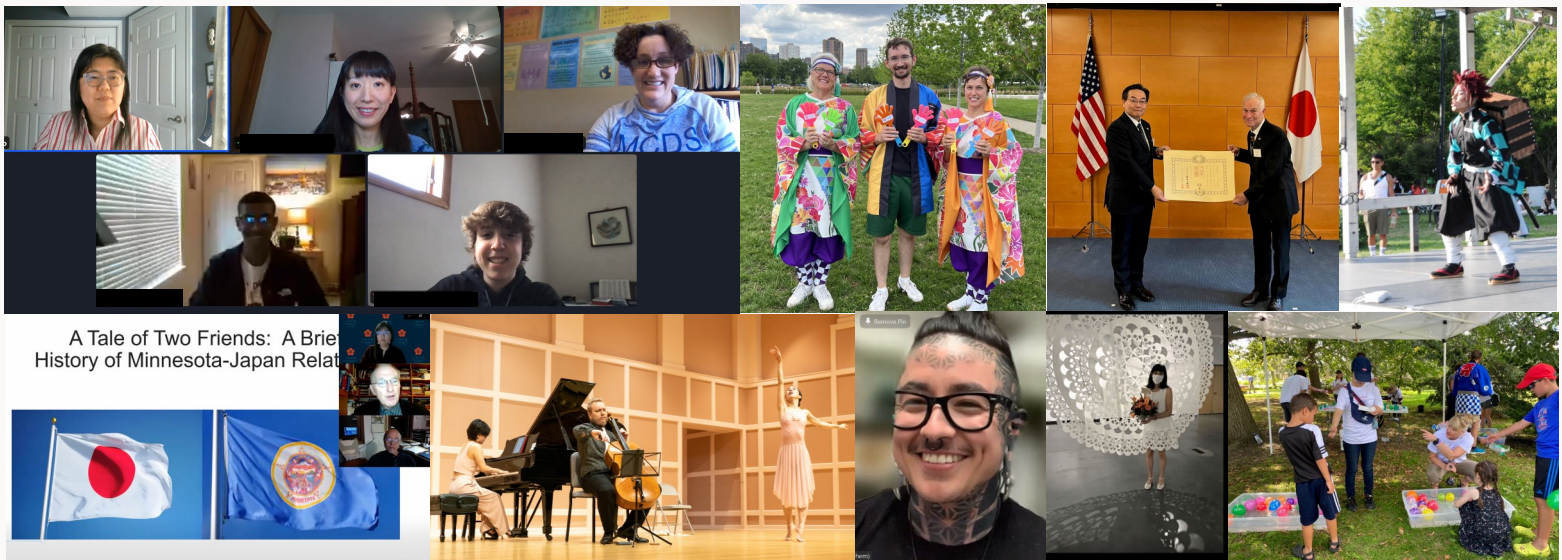
Financial Report

	Jan.– Nov. 2021	Jan.– Nov. 2022
Membership Dues	\$28,709	\$27,113
General Donations	\$8,418	\$9,406
Grants	\$54,634	\$38,477
Scholarship Donations	\$3,444	\$8,860
Event Sponsorships	\$13,081	\$14,220
Program Income	\$16,568	\$31,452
Advertisement	\$50	\$150
<u>Total Revenue</u>	<u>\$124,904</u>	<u>\$129,678</u>
Payroll	\$79,744	\$88,268
General Operations	\$8,615	\$10,159
Scholarships	\$0	\$8,000
Programs	\$17,674	\$18,268
<u>Total Expense</u>	<u>\$106,069</u>	<u>\$124,695</u>
<u>Net Income</u>	<u>\$18,839</u>	<u>\$4,983</u>

Membership



JASM Events in 2022



A Tale of Two Friends: A Brief History of Minnesota-Japan Relations

- January 27 A Tale of Two Friends: A Brief History of Minnesota-Japan Relations (Online)
- February 12 Virtual J-Quiz 2022
- February 24 Artist Talk "Water Flows, Life Blooms" with Mayumi Amada (Online)
- April 21-22 30th National Japan Bowl (Online) by Japan America Society of Washington DC
- April 28 "Tattoo History" with Emi Nijiya (Online)
- June 8 Corporate Roundtable with AgriPro/Syngenta
- June 12 Primavera: JASM 50th Anniversary Harukaze Concert 2022
- June 30 Mia Curator Talk: "Minneapolis' New Clothes: Dressed by Nature—Textiles of Japan"
- July 17 YOSAKOI Dance Workshop: Bringing Japanese Summer to the Sculpture Garden
- August 21 Japanese Obon Festival
- September 17 2022 JASM Charity Golf Tournament
- September 24 Rhythm of Japan in ND: Celebrating the friendship of North Dakota and Japan
- October 6 Enthusiastic Cheering Culture of Japanese Baseball Fans (Online)
- October 20 Conferment Ceremony in Honor of Ben van Lierop, Recipient of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays by Consulate General of Japan in Chicago
- October 27 Smart Agriculture and its Benefits (Online)
- November 19 25th Mondale Award and Scholarship Gala (in-person): JASM's 50th Anniversary
- December 13 Annual Meeting and Foreign Minister's Commendations

Visit our event page: <https://mn-japan.org/Events>

JASM was invited to have a booth at the following events:

Cherry Trees Celebration by Saint Paul - Nagasaki sister city committee (June 4), The International Festival of Burnsville (July 16), Taste of Asia (October 23), Twin Cities Comic Con (November 11-13)



Hukht

Hukht people, Amur River region, Khabarovsk Krai, Russia
19th century
Cloth: fish-skin, snow (reindeer), cotton thread; appliqué and embroidery
54 x 43 in (137 x 109 cm)

Board

Honorary Directors

The Honorable Hiroshi Tajima	Consul-General of Japan in Chicago
Mr. Ron Leonhardt	Honorary Consul of Japan in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota
Mr. Richard Stahl	Former Honorary Consul of Japan
Ms. Mirja Hanson	Former Honorary Consul of Japan

Emeritus Directors

Mr. John Babcock
Mr. Marc Blehert
Ms. Elizabeth Brailsford
Ms. Irene “Inkie” Brons
Ms. Sheila Cooke
Mr. William Deef
Ms. Elizabeth Fehrmann
Dr. Mirja Hanson
Mr. James Hoffman
Ms. Shirley Huskins
Mr. Takuzo Ishida
Mr. Geoff Klaverkamp
Mr. Kenneth Port
Mr. David Smith
Mr. Richard Stahl
Mr. William Strang

Officers

Mr. Bob Luck	<i>President</i>
Mr. Joseph Montgomery	<i>Vice President</i>
Ms. Yoko Torigoe	<i>until mid-Nov. Treasurer</i>
Ms. Mio Ishida	<i>from mid-Nov. Treasurer</i>

Board of Directors

Ms. Kat Dalager
Ms. Saiko McIvor
Ms. Motoko Hioki *until March*
Ms. Sukanya Momsen *until March*
Ms. Lydia Rose *from May*
Ms. Michiko Smith
Mr. Tom Whaley

Staff

Ms. Rio Saito	Executive Director
Ms. Yoko Ueno	Program Manager

Corporate Membership and Donations

*JASM would like to thank its generous members and those who have made financial contributions.
It is because of their support that the U.S-Japan relationship is strong in Minnesota.*

Sakura Circle Members

Sam and Mirja Hanson, Noriko Ishida, Ron and Molly Leonhardt, Bob and Hisayo Luck,
John and Hiroko Shade, Betty Tisel and Sarah Farley

Corporate Benefactor Members

Daikin Applied, Sawai Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd., Taiyo International

Corporate Patron Members

Dorsey & Whitney, LLP, Fredrikson & Byron P.A.

Corporate Sustaining Members

Hamre, Schumann, Mueller & Larson PC, Japan Lifeline Co. Ltd., Mall of America,
MGK Inc., Metropolitan Airports Commission, Naigai Industries USA Inc., Satellite Industries Inc.

Corporate Contributing Members

Conner IP, Minnesota Trade Office, Saint Paul Saints Baseball Club

Partners in Service Members

JK's Table, Kiku Enterprises Inc.,
Surdyk's Liquor and Cheese Shop, Voyager Group Inc.

Non Profit Members

Friends of Normandale Japanese Garden, JETRO Chicago, JETAA Minnesota
Macalester College Asian Languages & Cultures Department, Minneapolis Institute of Art,
Red Wing Sister City, St. Paul-Nagasaki Sister City Committee,
UMN Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Japan Language Program,
Winona State University Global Studies and World Languages Department

Individual Donors

(\$100 or more)

Anonymous

Ajmal Ahmed

Ben Allard

Gretchen Anderson

Thomas Anderson

Michael & Yoshie Babcock

Charles Breer

Michiko Todokoro Buchanan

Kat Dalager

Bill Deef

Elizabeth Fehrmann

Gayle and Judith Fleming

Scott Fritchie

Naomi Fujioka

Takayuki Fujii

Sara Garrett

Kevin & Kathleen Hollahan

Jason Hite

Deborah Huskins

Mio Ishida

Noriko Ishida

Don Katagiri

Ron and Molly Leonhardt

Bob and Hisayo Luck

Darryl & Yukiko Magree

Reid Mandel

Saiko McIvor

David Mixon

Eiko Mizushima

Joseph Montgomery

Hidetaka Nakane

Randy Nelson

Alan Peterson

Yumiko Ramberg

Lydia Rose

Steven Savitt

David and Olivia Smith

Michiko Smith

Scott and Yuko Smith

Richard Stahl

Seiichi Suda

Satoko Suzuki

Masanao Takahashi

Honorable Hiroshi Tajima

Takatoshi Takizawa

Kenichi Tazawa

Betty Tisel & Sarah Farley

Katsunori and Yoko Toda

Pete Tonsager

Ben and Chis van Lierop

Luke Walbert

Sarah Walbert

Joseph Wiltse