

USJLP 2013: A Tour de Force!



The Fourteenth Annual Conference was held July 21-28, 2013 in Kyoto, Hiroshima and Tokyo. Delegates bonded with boundless enthusiasm throughout the week and were energized even more by a surge of returning Fellows the final two days of the conference. Pictured above is the class of 2013 at Kiyomizu Temple in Kyoto. Turn open the issue for full photo coverage of one incredible conference week!

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Renee Fleming Performs Pieces by Todd Frazier



Todd Frazier (00,01) and his mother Rachel (left) with legend Renee Fleming (center) at the Nashville Symphony Orchestra's gala concert September 21. Todd's "We Hold These Truths" was the center piece in Ms. Fleming's program.

USJLP is thrilled to share that **Todd Frazier (00,01)** is working with celebrated soprano Renee Fleming this fall, as she has programmed two of his compositions with orchestra, "We Hold These Truths" (text by Thomas Jefferson), and "Wild Horses" (based on a folk song by Jean Ritchie), for her gala concert dates in Nashville, Houston and Dallas (September 21, 27 and 28 respectively). Congratulations Todd!

2013 Japan Conference: Week in Review



Excited for the week ahead, first and second year Delegates explore the winding lanes of orange "torii" gates at Fushimi Inari Shrine on Monday, July 22. From left: Kazuo Tase (10, 13), Minoru Shiraiishi (13, 14), Kay Kitazawa (12, 13), Sarah White (10, 13), and Glenn Perkins (12, 13).

The conference started out with a bang, literally, as Delegates were treated to a surprise fireworks display over the Kyoto mountains as self-introductions were made during the Welcome Dinner inside Grand View restaurant at the Westin Miyako Kyoto hotel. The fireworks continued all week as friendships ignited over discussions ranging from disaster recovery, the economy, politics, leadership, the U.S.-Japan alliance, and generational differences.

On the first morning, Prof. Frank Chance presented Delegates with an overview of Kyoto, and its importance as Japan's ancient capital. That afternoon the group took in Fushimi Inari Shrine and Kiyomizu Temple, ending the day with a yakitori feast at a restaurant housed in an authentic 1800s *machiya* residence. Daily plenary sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday were interspersed with outside excursions to Ryoan-ji and Kinkaku-ji, and also included a visit to the mountainous region of Kibune, where Delegates enjoyed a traditional *kaiseki* dining experience over a river.



Left: Delegates pay their respects at the purification fountain before entering Fushimi Inari Shrine.

Right: By mid-week Delegates were ready to refresh and renew their minds at a morning Zen meditation session led by Rev. Taka Kawakami (08, 09) at Shunkoin Temple. Over 25 people made the 6:30 a.m. bus call!



Below: Two of the luckiest USJLPers, Taro Kono (00) and Osamu Kaneda (12, 13), both had the "great fortune" of getting a "daikichi" o-mikuji at Fushimi Inari Shrine.



Below: Minami Tsubouchi (13, 14) and Ben Mazzotta (12, 13) show off the newest USJLP collector's item - a handy umbrella, essential for exploring Japan in July!



Above: Aaron Ford (12, 13), Masaru Tsuchiya (12, 13), Yasumasa Yamamoto (13, 14), Rui Kotani (13, 14) and Julia Nesheiwat (13, 14) enjoy the serene views at Ryoan-ji Temple's rock garden on Wednesday, July 24. Afterwards, Delegates enjoyed a delicious, traditional Kyoto tofu hot pot lunch on the temple grounds.





Above: Teleconference with a... shower head? Mariko Watanabe (13,14), Nicole Gibbs (12,13), Gohei Nishikawa (12,13) and Keisuke Shirai (12,13) enjoy exploring Google Japan's unique work spaces together on Friday, July 26.
Below: Delegates eager to express their thoughts in an open discussion on politics at the International House of Japan.



Right: Minoru Shiraishi (13,14), from the Ministry of Defense, thanks Mr. Keijiro Matsushima, a hibakusha survivor, for sharing his moving testimony with the group in Hiroshima.



Above: Tomo Honda (13,14) surprised and delighted attendees at the Fellows Weekend opening reception on Friday, July 26 with a special arrangement of "The Star Spangled Banner" on the koto.

Many USJLPers contributed to the conference by arranging unique opportunities that became memorable highlights of the Delegates' time in Kyoto. These included a special advance viewing of the film *Japan in a Day*, produced by **Taka Hayakawa (13,14)**, an evening hike up Daimonji mountain, organized by **Satoru Mori (12,13)**, and a morning Zen meditation session, led by **Rev. Taka Kawakami (08,09)**. Delegates also had the honor of having **Hon. Kono Taro (00)**, Member of the House of Representatives and **Dr. Koji Murata (00)**, President of Doshisha University, join them at length in Kyoto.

On Thursday, July 25 Delegates caught an early morning *shinkansen* from Kyoto and spent a moving and meaningful day in Hiroshima, starting with the opportunity to hear an English-speaking atomic bomb survivor's testimony.

Friday in Tokyo began with a lively discussion on politics, spearheaded by a talk given by **Hon. Keiichiro Asao (01,02)**, member of the House of Representatives. Over lunch the group received a guided tour of Google Japan's headquarters, thanks to special arrangement by **Yasumasa Yamamoto (13,14)**. That afternoon Delegates engaged in Japanese calligraphy instruction from a master calligrapher and discussed an array of "forward thinking" issues in small groups.

Friday evening USJLP welcomed Fellows and dignitaries at an evening reception at the International House of Japan, and enjoyed the musical talents of **Tomo Honda (13,14)** on the *koto*, and **Gohei Nishikawa (12,13)** on the piano.

Flip the page to find out all about the fun that was in store for Fellows Weekend attendees on Saturday!

Show us your shodo! Americans and Japanese Delegates alike participated in an art and history lesson from a master calligrapher, Mr. Rogen Ebihara (center), on Friday, July 26. Delegates were instructed in how to make their own "sumi" (charcoal) ink, and each tried their hand at writing either "mizu" (water) or "tenchi" (heaven and earth).
From left: David Abraham (12,13), John Eligon (13,14), Mariko Watanabe (13,14), Mr. Ebihara, Minoru Shiraishi (13,14), Satoru Mori (12,13), and Jason Edgar (12,13).



The Fellows Weekend Experience!

After a lively reception on Friday evening that welcomed back 40 Fellows and just as many family members, on Saturday the 100-plus group embarked on “The Tokyo Experience,” a day-long adventure highlighting all of the best that the city has to offer, while simultaneously allowing Delegates and Fellows ample time and opportunity to forge close bonds in small groups throughout the day.

In the morning, participants were treated to a private tour of Japan’s National Diet building, led by **Hon. Taro Kono (00)**, followed by a sushi lunch in Tsukiji, where all had the opportunity to learn the proper way to make *nigiri* sushi from a master chef. After lunch, groups set out on one of six different itineraries tailored to introduce a different Tokyo experience including a guided tour of Meiji Shrine, led by **Rev. Moriyasu Ito (05,06)**, an academic tour of Yasukuni Shrine and Museum, led by **Dr. Tosh Minohara (04,07)**, a trip to the Imperial Palace and Oedo Onsen Monogatari, a visit to Hama-rikyu Gardens via a boat ride from Asakusa along the Sumida River, and an afternoon taking in ancient and modern culture at the Nezu Museum in the Omotesando district. Group leaders shared photos and stories from the day’s adventures that evening at the closing reception held overlooking the city on the 37th floor of the ANA InterContinental hotel.



Above: Delegates and Fellows pause for the camera before diving in to a sushi lunch in Tsukiji, a quintessential “Tokyo experience.”

Below: Julia Nesheiwat (13, 14) and Amb. Ichiro Fujisaki, President of the Japan-America Society, in conversation with Hon. Sadako Ogata, former UN High Commissioner for Refugees, during Friday’s reception at the I-House.



Above: Fellows Weekenders have a blast trying their hand at making sushi in Tsukiji. From left: Takewaka sushi master Akira Nakamura, David Abraham (12, 13), Keiko Ihara (11, 12), and Eko and Kento Yamada (twins, age 11).

Below: USJLPers beat the heat with ice cream! From left: Jim Lintott (00,01), Jade Lintott, May Liang (04,05), Niko Canner (08,09), Marcus Lintott, Taro Kono (00), Makiko Nakayama (08,09), Sarah White (10, 13), and Nicole Gibbs (12, 13).

Yasumasa Yamamoto (13, 14), Aaron Ford (12, 13), Mika Nabeshima (09, 12), Glenn Perkins (12, 13), Wes Moore (13, 14), Nobuko Kato (05, 06), Hannah Seligson (13, 14), Gohei Nishikawa (12, 13) and Annalisa Barrett (10, 13) brave the summer festival crowds at Senso-ji in Asakusa before gliding down the river to Hama-rikyu Gardens.





As one option for "The Tokyo Experience," Delegates and Fellows received a guided inside tour of Meiji Shrine, thanks to Moriyasu Ito (05,06; far right). From left: Ganesh Mochida (09,10), Laura Winthrop Abbot (11,12), Ryo Sahashi (10,11), Mariko Watanabe (13,14), Ryohei Nakagawa (10,11), Tomohito Shinoda (00), Yo Nagami (13,14), Mark Keegan (13,14), Ren Ito (12,13), Jason Edgar (12,13), Yuko Mochizuki (USJF), Maki Tanaka (11,12), Erik Leklem (12,13), Moriyasu Ito.

Far right: Hideo Ohashi (08,09), Jim Lintott (00,01) and Taro Kono (00) enjoy another memorable USJLP evening at the Fellows Weekend opening reception held at the International House of Japan.

Right: Fellows came in from far and wide to reunite in Tokyo! Masahiro Hayafuji (01,02) flew in from Geneva, Masakazu Hoshima (02,03) came from Kobe, and Marc Walwyn (02,03) made the trek from Tennessee!



Above: Ben Allen (13,14), Tosh Minohara (04,07) and Rui Kotani (13,14) quickly became fast friends when they spent Saturday afternoon together taking an academic tour, led by Tosh, through Yasukuni Shrine and the Yushukan museum.



Group hug! Delegates and Fellows come together for the week's final hurrah at the Fellows Weekend farewell reception, overlooking a sweeping cityscape of Tokyo from the 37th floor of the ANA InterContinental hotel. From left: Ben Mazzotta (12,13), Hideo Ohashi (08,09), Mark Keegan (13,14), Maki Tanaka (12,13), George Packard (USJF), Nobuko Kato (05,06), Kiyoteru Tsutsui (06,07), Keiko Ihara (11,12), Erik Leklem (12,13), and Yuuko Iizuka (00,09).

LISTEN IN

Panels in Kyoto this past summer were a dynamite display of the breadth of knowledge and leadership skills represented among the Delegates. One panel in particular, led by Ben Mazzotta (12,13), expanded on the theme set forth in Seattle 2012: “Defining Leadership” and again sparked a fascinating discussion regarding the many facets of leadership today. We invite you to “listen in” to the remarks made by panelist Ben Allen (13,14), who calls back to an inspiring, ground-breaking story from America’s past as a prime example for modern leaders to draw from as they work to address seemingly intractable problems.

Chess vs. Angry Birds: Leadership Style Strategies

Ben Allen (13,14)

First of all I want to reiterate Wes’ comments about the caliber of the participants here, and say that I cannot help but feel a bit sheepish talking about leadership in front of a group of leaders who are so accomplished. But such is my task today, and I’ll try my very best!

I’m going to focus a bit on a story that most of the Americans will have at least a passing familiarity with; I assume that only those Japanese with a particularly strong knowledge of American history and jurisprudence will likely know anything about this story.

I have been thinking about the comments made yesterday about the great Angry Birds vs. Chess generational divide (ne that alludes to the deeper thinking associated with “old school” games such as chess and the rather shallow, even inane rote action associated with many contemporary games and smartphone applications, such as Angry Birds), and the fact that we in many ways are the generation stuck just in between those older than us who never grew up with the information technology that has seemingly overrun every aspect of life, and those younger than us who have known nothing but tech, and who turn to it for almost every need.

In this new tech-influenced world, a lot of people have talked about the incessant need for instant gratification, the emphasis placed on quick distillation of opinion, and the lamentable fact that there seems to be less time for and less respect for circumspection and time to think.

Perhaps this new tech world exacerbates an already deeply human tendency when it comes to leadership—our attraction to decisiveness, quick thinking, leading from the gut, and the strangely attractive idea that there are key moments in time defined by quick and decisive boldness.

Indeed, one of America’s great founding myths is the story of George Washington, who roused up his broken contingent of troops, frozen, brow-beaten, depressed, huddled together in the unforgiving snows of Valley Forge, and boldly pushed them to cross the Delaware River on a bitterly cold December day, urging them on in a surprise Christmas-day attack on the British Hessian mercenary troops in Trenton. That attack gave the Americans the much-needed morale boost they needed to carry on their eventually successful struggle, and Washington’s bold decisiveness that cold winter’s day is seen to epitomize his stature as one of America’s greatest leaders.

We are born story-tellers, from the earliest days of our cavemen ancestors to the novel to the Hollywood blockbuster movie, and the story of Washington crossing the Delaware has all the elements of great story-telling: courage, boldness, heroes, villains, a simple and dramatic story-line that is easy to grasp, and it is inspirational and transformational.

Alas, if only life always worked like that, and that history was always shaped by such enthralling moments that people can quickly understand and be inspired by. Perhaps because of human nature, our narrative of history is indeed filled with these sorts of stories—stories of heroes and villains, and easy solutions... It’s no surprise that this sort of narrative plays out over and over again in the way that we think about human history and leadership.

“Perhaps this new tech world exacerbates an already deeply human tendency when it comes to leadership--our attraction to decisiveness, quick thinking, leading from the gut and the strangely attractive idea that there are key moments in time defined by quick and decisive boldness.”

This is exacerbated recently perhaps by our 24-hour news cycle and the relentless need for sexy, immediate news-making stories that emphasize the salacious, the short-term, the simple and the bold over the thoughtful and circumspect. Term limits and our election cycle don't help, as politicians are often looking for easy-to-explain "quick fixes" that can help to win over voters for the next election that's right around the corner.

Now, there is a tremendous amount to be said for a sense of timing, working outside of the system, being bold, and being decisive in a leadership context—particularly in the context of war or protest, but also in more traditional forms of public policy. However, there can be downsides too.

Today's *Time* magazine features a cover story that declares that the Egyptians are the "World's Best Protestors" and the "World's Worst Democrats", alluding to the fact that Egyptians' seeming proclivity for taking all of their concerns to the street—this emerging "streetocracy"—has dangerous implications for the long-term health of Egyptian democracy. The irony that the Egyptians have just thrown out their democratically elected government, albeit one with authoritarian tendencies, replacing it with the military (the very same military that brought us Nasser and Mubarak, who was just overthrown less than two years ago by the street), should not be lost on us. It is a perfect example of human beings' tendency, particularly these days, to be attracted to the quick fix, the dramatic, the heroes/villains story. You don't like the current government? Throw them out immediately! Replace them now! Suspend constitutional, legal procedures because they're too time consuming!

Everyone up here on this panel works on seemingly intractable problems—poverty and all of its attendant issues—from the glaring academic achievement gap that divides rich and poor students to dramatic disparities in health, economic challenges, etc. in our home countries and around the world.

We're all working hard to make our respective systems more truly equal in opportunity. I live in a city and a society where a young person's academic achievement and subsequent life chances seem to be largely determined by his or her socio-economic status at birth. And this is a social justice issue that I read about, think about, and work on nearly every day.



A scene from the leadership panel in progress. From left, starting at podium: panel chair Ben Mazzotta (12,13), author and social entrepreneur Wes Moore (13,14), elected Board of Education official Ben Allen (13,14), non-profit executive Mimami Tsubouchi (13,14), elected Fukushima Parliament official Tomo Honda (13,14) and elected Nevada Senate official Aaron Ford (12,13).

Now, I wish I could just stand up there and wave a magic wand and solve all of these sorts of problems quickly and decisively. But I've come to realize that the most difficult challenges we face require relentless, focused, dogged, principled, thoughtful, strategic patience. Not complacency, but patient and steady discipline, an eyes on the prize, steeled focus.

And when I'm in the middle of grappling with difficult social and policy conundrums, I draw inspiration from the story of a man who most in the room have probably never heard of, who is far from given his due in terms of his contribution to the development of American history, and social justice in America in particular.

That gentleman's name is Charles Hamilton Houston.

After training the first generation of Civil Rights lawyers during his years as Dean of Howard University's Law School, Houston was appointed in 1935 to be the first Special Counsel of the NAACP, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, probably the most important American civil rights organization of the 20th century, founded in 1909 by the legendary WEB DuBois. While I might cheekily call him the "Yoda of the Civil Rights Movement" because of his incredibly fruitful mentorship of the young Thurgood Marshall, a young civil rights attorney who would go on to become the first black justice on the U.S. Supreme Court, Houston is actually often referred to as the "Moses of the civil rights movement," as he was the architect and chief strategist of the NAACP's legal campaign to end segregation.

"I've come to realize that the most difficult challenges we face require relentless, focused, dogged, principled, thoughtful strategic patience. Not complacency, but patient and steady discipline, an eyes on the prize, steeled focus"

In 1896, the U.S. Supreme Court endorsed segregation in *Plessy v. Ferguson*, which established the "separate but equal" principle in American constitutional law. Most people thought that the Court had, in so doing, put its permanent stamp of approval on the pernicious system of racial segregation that existed in America in the post-Civil War era. The courts, pessimists argued, were impossibly wedded to the status quo and could never be turned around. But I'd bet some of the lawyers in the room know that even when you really disagree with the Supreme Court's final decision on a case, they have often come to that conclusion based on core principles that we can all often agree on. In analyzing *Plessy*, Houston and his team of NAACP lawyers looked not only at the Court's endorsement of "Separation" but also the critical counterbalancing concept—"Equality," and started working on the inconsistencies between those two ideals at the heart of the Court's pronouncement as they interacted with realities in contemporary American life.

In a study commissioned by the NAACP in the 1930s, Nathan Margold found that under segregation, the facilities provided for blacks were always separate, but never equal to those maintained for whites. This, Margold argued, violated the equality aspect of *Plessy's* "separate but equal" principle, and he proposed a series of lawsuits that would challenge the system.

After joining the NAACP, Houston refined Margold's recommendations, developed a strategy, and implemented a battle plan. Under Houston's "equalization strategy," lawsuits were filed demanding that the facilities provided for black students be made equal to those available to white students. The NAACP lawyers were not directly challenging the message of *Plessy*—they were merely demanding that its stated promise of equality be fully realized. Houston predicted that the states that practiced segregation could not afford to maintain black schools that were actually equal to those reserved for whites. From 1935 to 1940, Houston successfully argued several cases using this strategy, and focused in on something that Supreme Court justices knew very well—prestige and law schools. Justices could quickly relate to the idea that even if you were willing to spend the money, you couldn't just establish a law school down the road that could match the long history of tradition, training and, alumni networks, and depth of elite education that an older, established, respected, elite law school could. Using this logic, he successfully challenged the system in Maryland and Missouri in 1936 and 1938 respectively.

When Thurgood Marshall succeeded Houston as NAACP's Special Counsel, he continued along this trajectory with a legal campaign, challenging "white primaries," which prevented African Americans from voting in several southern states, segregation on buses and trains that were interstate carriers, racially restrictive covenants, and segregated graduate schools. In those cases, succeeding unanimous U.S. Supreme Court held that the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment required those states to admit black students to their graduate and professional schools.

These decisions paved the way for one of the NAACP's greatest legal victories, and perhaps the most important court case in America history. The NAACP lawyers put in more than twenty years of relentless, determined work finding plaintiffs, building up cases, logic, and favorable jurisprudence, persuading a skeptical legal establishment one case, one instance at a time. With all of that groundwork in place—that patient, relentless, disciplined body of work—by 1954 they were finally ready to attack the big kahuna—segregation of America's K-12 primary and secondary education system. This was the issue that was of course addressed by the landmark *Brown vs. Board of Education* case. In this decision, the Supreme Court held that segregation in public education violated the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. This decision was built upon the jurisprudence the NAACP legal team has worked so hard to develop over the years working through the court system, along with the NAACP's innovative strategy of using the testimony of social scientists and other experts to demonstrate the psychological injuries that segregation inflicted on African American school children.

Dwight D. Eisenhower, the President of the United States when the *Brown* decision came down, was once quoted as saying that: "leadership is the art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it."

And that's what the NAACP folks did—creating such a strong logical case over so many years with so many different examples that the Court had already adopted the core logic that made the *Brown* decision nearly inevitable.

It is often very frustrating being an elected official—you work so hard to get elected, see so many problems and want to make so many changes so fast, and then you quickly realized how much your hands are tied in both expected, and unexpected ways.

So in moments of frustration, I think about the patience of the NAACP team... The painstaking task of shifting the understanding of their audience over the long-term, their relentlessness, their determination, and their patience. And I remind myself that there are so many stories of relentless, time-consuming work that led to some of our world's most critical social changes—from the struggle against Apartheid to the peace process in Northern Ireland.

And it makes me think about the fact that in this AKB48 and Kim Kardashian world, even as our proclivities lean toward the quick and easy, there continues to be a vitally important place for long-term, patient strategic work as we work to address seemingly intractable problems.

Those are just a few thoughts about the challenges of leadership today. It is a great honor to be part of this panel, and I look forward to our group discussion. Thank you very much!

USJLPers Recognized for their Impact and Dedication

"A beacon of light in some of the world's darkest places"



Jared Genser (09, 10) guides Chinese dissident Chen Guangcheng (right) to the podium at the National Press Club on September 24, 2013 in Washington, DC where Mr. Guangcheng, known for organizing a class action law suit against the Chinese government, spoke about the ongoing persecution of dissidents and their families. (Photo by Mark Wilson/Getty Images)

The American Bar Association Section of Litigation honored **Jared Genser (09,10)** with its International Human Rights Award at a ceremony on August 9 in San Francisco. The award recognizes an individual who has made substantial and long-term contributions to the furtherance of civil rights, civil liberties or human rights outside the United States. "The award is being presented for Jared's extraordinary contributions to the rule of law, access to justice and human rights," said William R. Bay, chair of the ABA Section of Litigation. "His work on behalf of human rights has been a beacon of light in some of the world's darkest places." [1]

Jared founded Freedom Now in 2001 with the mission "to free prisoners of conscience through focused legal, political, and public relations advocacy efforts." More than a decade later, the organization is thriving with a long track record of success in securing the release of prisoners around the globe.

With regards to this honor Jared says, "As a lawyer, to be recognized by one's peers is very special. I will accept this award on behalf of the Freedom Now clients who courageously fight oppression every day. I stand in solidarity with them as they sacrifice and persevere during difficult times." [2]

[1] http://www.americanbar.org/news/abanews/aba-news-archives/2013/08/lawyer_jared_genser.html; [2] <http://www.landon.net/page.cfm?p=4004&newsid=1257>

"Dedicated to next generation development"

On September 24, 2013 the Akiyama Life Foundation presented the Nitobe - Nambara Award to **Minami Tsubouchi (13,14)** in recognition of her excellence in leadership education as the Executive Director of BEYOND Tomorrow Global Fund for Education Assistance. Minami founded BEYOND Tomorrow in June, 2011 to provide scholarships and leadership training programs to students affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake who, despite facing great adversity, are pursuing their dreams to become societal leaders and make a difference in the world of tomorrow. The Nitobe - Nambara award recognizes individuals who embody the spirit of Inazo Nitobe and Shigeru Nambara, two pioneers of international peace and education. Recipients are leaders making considerable headway in solving various problems of the modern world and who are dedicated to next generation development.



Minami Tsubouchi (13, 14) stands surrounded by student leaders selected for the TOMODACHI Summer 2013 BEYOND Tomorrow U.S. Program on September 23 after receiving the Nitobe - Nambara Award. Left to right: Takuya Kimura (Morioka, Iwate), Ena Kanno (Sukagawa, Fukushima), Minami Tsubouchi, Ayumi Takahashi (Osaki, Miyagi), and Masahide Chiba (Ofunato, Iwate).

Influence the future of USJLP: Nominate a candidate!

The 2014-2015 USJLP application season is upon us! As always, USJF takes a keen interest in your suggestions and nominations in order to discover the best and brightest rising stars in leadership today.

To nominate someone you know personally, or to suggest that we contact a particular leader in the news, please send a brief note to applications@usjlp.org. We will be happy to be in touch with potential candidates personally to introduce them to the Program and provide details on how to apply.

Jo Ann Jenkins (00,01) Named Among Most Influential Nonprofit Leaders in the U.S.

On August 1 *The NonProfit Times* published its annual listing: NPT Power and Influence Top 50, which this year names AARP Chief Operating Officer and, at the time of the distinction, AARP Foundation President **Jo Ann Jenkins (00,01)** among one of the most influential nonprofit leaders in the U.S. The publication annually highlights 50 of the nonprofit sector's leaders for innovation, influence on the broader sector, and for developing organizational models that can be replicated.

Jo Ann joined AARP Foundation in 2010 and has led the organization's far-reaching development and social impact initiatives, including "Drive to End Hunger" which has to-date distributed more than 23 million meals to older Americans struggling with hunger. Under her leadership the Foundation's overall donor base increased by 90 percent over two years.

Jo Ann is currently AARP's Executive Vice President and COO. She continues to lead new initiatives, and recently announced the start of "Mentor Up", a program that brings together young people for mentoring and volunteering that help people 50 and older.



Jo Ann Jenkins (00,01), Executive Vice President and COO, AARP

Fellows Forge Forum for Discussion with NextGen Leaders



On April 8, 2013 eight Fellows took part in USJLP's premiere initiative to actively reach out and meet with high-potential students. Pictured above are Fellows and twenty-four students at Kobe University, commemorating the two hour event under a row of blossoming sakura trees.

USJLPers and Kansai area students engaged in a future-oriented, lively dialogue at Kobe University on Saturday, April 8, 2013.

The first of its kind, this USJLP initiative was conceived by Japan-based members of the USJLP Executive Committee. It grew out of a discussion at the USJLP Delegate selection meeting held in Honolulu earlier this year that USJLP should actively reach out to the younger generation in Japan in order to raise students' awareness about U.S.-Japan relations, and also about the Program.

The event was held on the Kobe University Rokkodai Campus, attended by twenty-four students from Kobe University, Ritsumeikan University, and Kwansai Gakuin University. That morning, an earthquake had disrupted train services in the area, and unfortunately prevented several students and a USJLP Fellow from joining the event.

In the first part of the event, seven USJLPers shared their

own educational and professional paths, citing how their international experiences have shaped who they are. In so doing, **Tosh Minohara (04,07)**, **Masakazu 'Cousin' Hoshima (02,03)**, **Kenji Nawa (03,04)**, **Yuuko Iizuka (00,09)**, **Ryohei Nakagawa (10,11)**, **Rui Kotani (13,14)**, **Hideo Ohashi (08,09)**, and **Taro Kono (00)** created a candid atmosphere, conducive to an active dialogue between students in the latter half of the event.

As a majority of the students were in their third or fourth year of undergraduate studies, much focus was placed on career directions. Students posed questions such as, "What was your turning point in your career?" on this unique occasion where each USJLPer, representing a wide spectrum of professions from academia, the corporate world, medicine and politics, gave first-hand answers. Taro Kono reminded students to look at what is happening outside of Japan in planning out a career path.

After the enthusiastic response from the students, USJLPers are ready to continue this USJLP public service effort, perhaps creating another forum with students.

In the evening, USJLPers drove to the other side of the Rokko Mountain where several other USJLPers joined at Arima Onsen for the annual Kansai-area reunion to renew friendships over a Kobe-beef *shabu-shabu* dinner, and in a relaxing hot bath.

News & Updates

Who's the boss now? Not sure? Check out the side of that Super Hornet!

On September 4, 2013 USJLP friends, as well as Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki (far right), gathered at the Atsugi Naval Air Facility to witness Cmd. Spencer Abbot (10, 11) officially take command of Strike Fighter Squadron 27, the "Royal Maces," at the Changing of Command ceremony.

From left: Kota Yamaguchi (07, 10) holding Ikuko (age 2), Ryo Sahashi (10, 11), Hideo Ohashi (09, 10), Nobumasa Akiyama (09, 10), Laura Winthrop Abbot (11, 12) holding Eloise (10 months), Spencer Abbot, Akihisa Shiozaki (10, 11), Hiroaki Toya (11, 12), and Ambassador Fujisaki.



Anne Craib (00,01)

I recently had the opportunity to spend a short amount of time in Abuja, Nigeria - a fact that generates more comments along the lines of 'you went WHERE?' than any other place I've ever been. Despite some admitted trepidations about safety, my time there was rewarding and successful. My role was to manage a team developing and deploying a technology based platform supporting a maternal and child health initiative. The program we supported is designed to lower the infant and maternal mortality rates by incentivizing the use of skilled medical care; in many parts of the country, traditional medicine is widely relied upon and incentives are needed to encourage the uptake of vaccinations and pre-natal care. The program was designed and is being run by incredibly dedicated and skilled Nigerian health care practitioners, and it was gratifying to be able to support them.

Gretchen Guess (04,05)

We have made the move from Anchorage to Jacksonville where I am working as Director of Ambulatory Service Line for St. Vincent's Healthcare. If anyone comes to the area, please let me know.

Kate Hardin (03,06)

I am still in Cambridge, MA, working on international energy issues at IHS. I am enjoying the fact that our children are now old enough to entertain each other (5 and 9) and they are now in the same school, which makes things much easier logistically. We are beginning to do more family travel, so I am hopeful that we will all be able to join a Fellows Weekend before long. In the meantime, anyone passing through Boston or Harvard should feel free to look me up—I am always happy to reunite with USJLP friends.

Keiko Ihara (11,12)

Keiko has joined the OAK Racing team, a leading team of France. On September 1, 2013, the team placed 5th place in the LM P2 class race in the Sao Paulo 6 Hours, the fourth round of the World Endurance Championship.

Keiko reports, "I'm very happy to have finished this race in fifth place scoring points. It's my best result of the year. I don't yet feel completely at home in the Morgan-Nissan so it wasn't all that simple, all the more so as I hadn't driven for three or four months and it's a very demanding circuit from a physical



John Blake (10, 11) and Christine Chang Blake held a wedding celebration on May 10, 2013 in Berkeley, CA. The Bay Area USJLP family joined in the festivities. From left: Anne Craib (00,01), Christine Blake, John Blake, Eric Nonacs (04, 11), Jennifer Young, Masako Toki (07,08) and Nicole Chabot (01,02).

point of view. We worked hard to make progress throughout the weekend. I received a fantastic welcome from the whole OAK Racing team and everybody helped me improve.” She is now looking forward to the Sixth Round at Fuji Speedway, in Shizuoka, Japan (October 19-20).

Daisuke Iwase (11)

On June 23, 2013 Daisuke assumed the role of President and Chief Operating Officer of Lifenet Insurance Company. Daisuke has been the Executive Vice-President of Lifenet, Japan’s premier online life insurance firm, since he co-founded the company in 2006.

David Janes (02,03)

2013 has been a busy year so far. In early May I became A.B.D. from the New School for Social Research where I am now writing my doctoral dissertation focused on the global use and spread of Sadako Sasaki’s story and origami cranes as a symbol of peace and catalyst for networks of peace. In early June I engaged in a 100 mile bike ride around Lake Tahoe to raise funds for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society to which so many USJLPers donated! I am pleased to report that our team from Westchester, NY raised \$417,000, making it the top team in the country.



Proud new father Ken Jimbo (06,07) and his daughter (and future USJLPer!), Mari.

Later in June I spent several weeks in Japan primarily as a US-Japan Network for the Future Scholar with the Mansfield Foundation. I travelled to Tokyo and Okinawa meeting with senior officials focused on U.S.-Japan relations, U.S.-China-Japan relations, and the important place that Okinawa holds for both. I was also able to spend a day with **Eriko Miyakuni (03,04)**. Following that I travelled to Nagasaki, Fukuoka, Hiroshima, and Kyoto with two groups of pre-college teachers from the U.S. I helped organize a program in Hiroshima that brought out 80 Japanese ju-

nior high school students to meet with the American teachers and tour them around the Peace Park.

Many USJLPers are to be thanked for their help with these programs. For instance, in Kyoto, **Koji Murata (00)** gave a briefing on Doshisha University, **Taka Kawakami (08,09)** provided the teachers with a tour of his temple and an important talk on Buddhism, **Ryohei Nakagawa (10,11)** assisted with a tour of Ritsumeikan’s World Peace Museum, and in Nagasaki **Ken Sakakoshi (02,03)** gave a talk about economic development in the city. Later in the summer, **Minami Tsubouchi (13,14)**, Kelly Nixon, and I organized a BBQ for USJLPers and Beyond Tomorrow participants from Tohoku who were devastated by the 3.11 disaster.

This summer also saw the 10th anniversary of the Reischauer Scholars Program that I conceived and which is directed by Stanford University. The program provides top US high school students with and intensive on-line course about Japan taught by top university professors. I am also pleased to report that the Elgin Heinz Outstanding Teacher Awards I created 12 years ago continues to thrive with the most recent awardee bring Sachiko Kono, the founder of the K-12 Japanese language immersion program in Anchorage, Alaska. I am looking forward to an exciting fall and to seeing many USJLPers throughout the remainder of the year.

Ken Jimbo (06,07)

I and my wife Pim are delighted to announce the birth of Mari. She celebrated her half-year birthday in late September. She can roll over pretty well and has just begun crawling around our living room. We are hoping that she will be trilingual (Japanese, English and Thai)!

Tetsuya Kawabe (01,02)

Lexus opened a new brand inspiration space in Aoyama in August 2013. It was designed by Masamichi Katayama,



On August 9, 2013 USJLPers and family, as well as USJF staff and friends welcomed students from the BEYOND Tomorrow summer leadership program, run by Minami Tsubouchi (13,14; back row center), with an BBQ in Sleepy Hollow, NY overlooking the Hudson river. Participating USJLPers included Debra Saito (12,13), Hajime Matsuura (10,11), Kira Kay (04,05) and David Janes (02,03), who organized the event. Pictured are attendees with the 12 student leaders from Tohoku, whose lives were deeply impacted by the 3.11 disaster and who shared powerful and moving stories of their experiences with the group.

a globally well-known interior designer, who designed Uniqlo at 5th Ave and Soho, Mackintosh in London/Tokyo, etc. The longer you stay there, the more you feel the new luxury of Lexus.

Hiroaki Kuwajima (09,10)

Last August **James L. Schoff (00,01)** and I jointly coordinated an event about the recent Japanese political economy at Carnegie Endowment for International Peace (Washington, DC). The event featured discussions on the recent House of Councillors election in Japan, its subsequent generational change in the Japanese politics, and the implications of both. More than 100 people attended the talk despite it being during vacation season, reflecting DC’s strong attention to Japan.



Jim Schoff (00,01; left) and Hiroaki Kuwajima (09,10) teamed up in August to hold a panel at global think tank Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington, DC.

David Motzenbecker (10,11)

Four months ago I moved companies. I am now the Design Leader in the Landscape Architecture Studio at Cuningham Group. The Landscape Architecture Practice at Cuningham Group is a trend setter in creating solutions in which the urban landscape becomes a crucial centerpiece to each project’s performance and livability. We offer the distinction of having experience in landscape urbanism and the realm of public policy, with the savvy to understand how to use both effectively to create community.

Kathleen Motzenbecker (08,09)

I am happy to announce my new posi-



tion as Executive Director, Minnesota Trade Office and Senior Adviser for International Affairs, working with our Governor Mark Dayton! I started in mid-March and am managing a 12 person staff of international trade experts. The new offices are based in St. Paul, our state capitol, so I am looking forward to getting to know the “other Twin City!”

TK Nakagaki (02,03)

TK had a very eventful summer! First, his book on the history of the Manji and Hakenkreuz “swastika” symbols, based on his doctorate thesis, was published in June by Gendai Shokan, Tokyo. The book examines the difference between Manji (a symbol of auspiciousness, worshipped in Buddhism world-wide) and Hakenkreuz (used by the German Nazis), the origin of the symbols, how the symbols spread around the world, and

how the symbols are perceived in different cultures. The book seeks to dispel the misunderstanding and promote dialogue between different faiths and cultures. In July, soon after his book was published, TK assumed the role of President of the Buddhist Council of New York.



Welcome Kiyona Oda, Class of 2043!

Gohei Nishikawa (12,13)

This year marks the 40th anniversary since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Vietnam and Japan. In the coming fall, Sakai City, Osaka—home to the Consulate General of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam—will host a commemorative concert. I will be performing in a recital with a leading Vietnamese violinist.

Azusa Oda (07,08)

I gave birth to a healthy baby girl on July 28th. Her name is Kiyona (清波) and we hope to visit Japan with her next year!

Jun Okawara (04,05)

I came back to Tokyo in June after staying in Lausanne Switzerland for five



This fall Gohei Nishikawa (12,13) will perform at a concert commemorating the 40th Anniversary of Japan-Vietnam relations in Sakai City, Osaka. Here Gohei stands center with Dr. Hitoshi Kato, Chairperson, Sakai International Association (left) and Consul General Mr. Le Thinh of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam in Osaka (right).

and half years. The vineyards, mountains and lakes were so gorgeous and beautiful and I fully agree that Switzerland is one of the most gorgeous and beautiful place in the world. Winter is maybe too cold, however the summer is so nice, which I currently miss very much as there is no comparison to what I have been experiencing here in Tokyo for the past two months. I am gradually settling down and adjusting myself to the typical Japanese big machine business world. I am trying to adapt myself to the Japanese society and competing with the weather which settles down first and become COOL. Looking forward to seeing all of you soon.

Tim Punke (02,03)

On October 1 Tim took on a new role as Senior Vice President, Corporate Affairs and Public Policy, of Plum Creek Timber Company in Seattle. His responsibilities include oversight of government relations, communications, sustainability and environmental affairs. Plum Creek is among the largest and most geographically diverse private landowners in the nation with approximately 6.3 million acres of timberlands in major timber producing regions of the U.S. and wood products manufacturing facilities in the Northwest.

Dale Rielage (11,12)

I was promoted to Captain in September in a ceremony conducted by the



At a ceremony in September, newly promoted Navy Captain Dale Rielage (11,12) stands by as his wife and mother do the honor of pinning on his Captain's insignia.

Chief of Naval Operations. It was a great honor and very special to have my family and many shipmates join me for this event.

Eriko Sase (08,09)

Eriko has been commissioned to perform a research project by the Japan Medical Association (JMA) on “Human Rights Issues in the post-Great East Japan Earthquake and the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant Accident.” She interviewed victims (including evacuees) as well as medical professionals and government/NGO officials. The result will be published by JMA. She also co-authored a book chapter; “The Right to Health in Japan: Challenges of a Super-Aging Society and Implications from its 2011 Public Health Emergency,” in *Advancing the Human Right to Health* (August, 2013: Oxford University Press). Her other chapter, “Ethics

and Human Rights,” will be published in a textbook, *International Health*, 3rd ed. [kokusai hoken iryo gaku] (October, 2013: Kyorin Shoin).

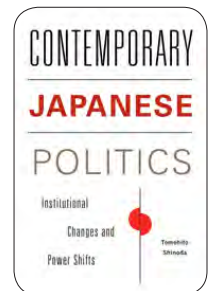
Mitsuki Shimada (00,01)

I was made Hyogo-Kobe Business Support Center (HKBSC) Director in Tokyo six months ago. HKBSC is an agency established in Hyogo Economic Development Center as a general counter from which Hyogo Prefecture offers business site information and consultation services. We will assist your new business development and business expansion as a one-stop service agency for business advances.

The Kobe Biomedical Innovation Cluster projects, the super computer K and the world’s largest-class synchrotron radiation facility “Spring8” and the like, many initiatives and big projects now are going ahead in our region.

Tomohito Shinoda (00)

Tomohito’s new book, *Contemporary Japanese Politics: Institutional Changes and Power Shifts*, is forthcoming from Columbia University Press in October 2013. To summarize the book: “Decentralized policy-making power in Japan developed under the long reign of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP). In the 1990s, institutional



On June 13, 2013 DC-area Delegates were treated to a delightful evening with Ambassador Sasae at the Old Ambassador's Residence, thanks to the coordination of Ken Kaihara (10,11). Pictured left to right are a few of the many attendees from that evening: Ken Kaihara, Ambassador Sasae, Julia Nesheiwat (13,14), Keiko Inoue (03,04), Dan Tani (02,03), Raelyn Campbell (08,09) and Kelly Nixon (USJF).



Joe Daniels (12,13; left), President and CEO of the National September 11 Museum and Memorial, had the distinct honor of guiding Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on a private tour of the memorial when the Prime Minister visited New York September 25, 2013.

changes were introduced, fundamentally altering Japan’s modern political landscape. Tomohito Shinoda tracks these slow yet steady changes to today in the operation of and tensions between Japan’s political parties and the public’s behavior in Japanese elections, as well as in the government’s ability to coordinate diverse policy preferences and respond to political crises.”

Tokuko Shironitta (05,06)

I have ventured into another professional journey. My husband, Tsuyoki Sato, and I have just started a risk and policy research/consulting company, Hummingbird Advisories Pte. Ltd., in September in Singapore. Our company offers such services as due diligence, background screening, corruption risk monitoring, internal fraud investigation, geopolitical risk analysis, business intelligence, market research, and policy research and consulting to companies seeking business opportunity in Southeast Asia and Japan. If interested, check out our homepage at hummingbird-advisories.com.

Shigeki Sugii (11,12)

I recently co-founded a company, LipoStation, in Singapore. LipoStation develops advanced technology to isolate stem cells from fat tissue, and store or apply them for individuals’ future welfare. I welcome donation of your natural resource - fat! Even if not, we welcome your visit as there are several USJLPers

in S’pore now.

Saiko Sugiyama (11,12)

I’m happy to announce the new arrival of our second daughter, Honami, on September 14. Her name means “ears (of wheat/rice) waving in the wind.”

Daisuke Takatsuki (09, 10)

Daisuke is among the launching members of Social Investment Partners (sipartners.org), a Tokyo-based philanthropy fund. The fund provides financial and management support toward social business enterprises, enabling them to solve social challenges (such as education gap, low birth rate and gray-ing society, and declining primary industries), and maximize social impact.

Atsuhito Tanaka (01,04)

In June I returned to Tokyo from Beijing, where I served as the representa-

tive of CLAIR (The Council of Local Authorities for International Relations), Beijing and I was responsible for furthering and promoting Japan China relationships at a local government level. I am now working as Director-General of JMF (Japan Finance organization of Municipalities) which is a Japanese government organization set up to provide funding to local governments. I communicate with domestic and global capital markets to issue our JFM bonds in both domestic and overseas markets.



Welcome to the USJLP family, Honami!

Sachiko Tomita (01,02)

After two and half years assignment in Singapore, I had returned to IBM Japan, supporting security and compliance area for our clients. While I was in Singapore, I had learnt Mandarin Chinese and have basic command, such as placing an order at Chinese restaurant. Hope I have a chance to use my Mandarin on my next trip to China.



The USJLP family in Tokyo gave Alexandra Harney (08,09) a fond farewell on June 9 at the Palace Hotel before her relocation to Shanghai as a special correspondent for Reuters. From left: Hideo Ohashi (08,09), Gen Kanai (06,07), Alex Harney (holding Louis, age 2), and Saiko Sugiyama (07,08) holding Inaho (age 2).

SAVE THE DATES!

Seattle Bonenkai

Thursday, November 21, 2013

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Wild Ginger

New York Bonenkai

Wednesday, December 4, 2013

6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

417 Park Avenue

Washington, DC Bonenkai

Thursday, December 5, 2013

Details TBA

Tokyo Bonenkai

Thursday, December 19, 2013

7:00 - 9:45 p.m.

International House of Japan, Roppongi

Fifteenth Anniversary Conference

July 19-26, 2014

Seattle, WA

Fellows Weekend: July 24-26

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USJLP welcomes applications from American and Japanese citizens between the ages of 28-42 with demonstrated leadership, achievement, or the potential for leadership in their respective fields. For details, visit www.usjlp.org/apply.

Applications must be received by Monday, January 6, 2014.

Please send all inquires to applications@usjlp.org.

We look forward to hearing from you!

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