

JASCO Pulse eNewsletter – April 4, 2007

Dear JASCO Members and Friends:

Please check out all of the upcoming Japanese related events taking place this spring! The Ohanami Cherry Blossom Festival is perfect for welcoming in the season. And don't forget about the JASCO Golf Outing Fundraiser in May, a perfect opportunity to network and mingle with other JASCO members! All of the details about these exciting events can be found in this issue of the *JASCO Pulse*.

- JASCO Staff

Future Events

1. ****NEW!**** [Beginning Bonsai – 2 Sessions – April 11 & 18, 2007.](#)
2. ****NEW!**** [Ohanami Cherry Blossom Festival 2007 – April 20, 2007](#)
3. ****NEW!**** [The Mindset of Monozukuri Business Seminar – April 2007](#)
4. ****NEW!**** [Local Cultural Event: Russell Merritt's "Haiku in Pigment" – April 27, 2007.](#)
5. [The Bonsai Series – Wednesdays, May 2, 9, 16 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. – Franklin Park](#)
6. ****NEW!**** [Hanamizuki no Kai \(Japanese Women's Choir\) 12th Annual Concert – May 6, 2007.](#)
7. [JASCO Golf Outing Fundraiser at Golf Club of Dublin – Tuesday, May 22](#)
8. [Local Cultural Event: 27th Ohio Regional Bonsai Show at Dawes Arboretum – Saturday and Sunday, June 9-10](#)
9. ****NEW!**** [2007 Goldman Sachs Foundation Youth Prize for Excellence in International Education.](#)
****Application Deadline is June 11, 2007.**

News and Announcements

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1. Beginning Bonsai – 2 Sessions – April 11 & 18, 2007.

Wednesday, April 11 & 18, 2007, 7-10 p.m., Zand Education Center. This two-session bonsai course will introduce you to the art of bonsai. The first session will lead you through the history of bonsai, types of plants to use, containers, bonsai soil, tools needed and pruning needs. During this first session, students will also plant a tree in a container to take home and nurture until the next session. During the second session, students learn how to prune and style their tree using special wire. Materials for this course include one tree, bonsai container, growing media, wire and an Art of Bonsai booklet. Tools will be available for students to use during the class. Cost is \$45.00 for non-members and \$30 for members. Please visit www.dawesarb.org for more information!

2. Ohanami Cherry Blossom Festival 2007 – April 20, 2007.

Enjoy beautiful cherry blossoms as we celebrate the event with Japanese activities including Japanese calligraphy, koto, origami, traditional games, and Japanese refreshments! To view the invitation, please visit: <http://japan.osu.edu/events/pdfs/2007/Ohanami2007.pdf>. This event is from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at Mileti Alumni Center (corner of Mercer Street and Alumni Street) at Bowling Green State University. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact Akiko Kawano Jones by calling (419) 372-7136, or by sending an email to jakiko@bgnet.bgsu.edu. Sponsored by the BGSU Japanese Club and Supported by the Alumni Association, the Asian Studies Program, and the Center for Multicultural and Academic Initiatives.

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3. The Mindset of Monozukuri Business Seminar – April 2007

This program will feature American and Japanese thought-leaders from the automotive parts industry who will share their insights and experience on the following themes: The mindset of Monozukuri -- perspectives from Denso International; America Inc's., CEO Mitsuo Matsushita; Innovation & advancing the manufacturing process; Human resource development with U.S. suppliers; A quality control interaction with Denso team members. Additional themes will focus on: Critical issues in manufacturing skills bequeathal; Overcoming outsourcing by advanced manufacturing; Digitalization of the design & engineering process - a case study from Japan; Panel discussion by automotive parts executives discussing the product development process between U.S. and Japanese automotive parts suppliers, critical issues in human resource development, and much more. Please use <http://www.jetro.org/monozukuri> to register for either the Chicago program on Monday, April 23rd or the Plymouth, MI program on Wednesday, April 25th -- NOTE: both programs have identical agendas that can be viewed on each registration link. We look forward to your attendance at either one of these seminars. For inquiries, please contact Kevin Kalb, Project Coordinator, JETRO Chicago at: kevin_kalb@jetro.go.jp or at (312) 832-6000, ext. 205.

4. Local Cultural Event: Russell Merritt's "Haiku in Pigment" – April 27, 2007.

The Haiku in Pigment Art Show will take place at the Art Works Gallery, 54 S. Second Street, Newark, Ohio, 43055 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

5. The Bonsai Series – Wednesdays, May 2, 9, 16 – 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. – Franklin Park

This course is a comprehensive beginner's course on the ancient form of bonsai gardening. Students receive their own tree and tools and learn the basics of bonsai in a hands-on repotting and styling session under the expert guidance of FPC Bonsai Specialist Dan Binder and members of the Columbus Bonsai Society. Learn the history of bonsai, compare traditional and American styles, and receive information on basic plant care including soil preparation, fertilizing and pest control. The cost for this course is \$90 for members and \$100 for non-members. Please call (614) 645-5923 to register.

6. Hanamizuki no Kai (Japanese Women's Choir) 12th Annual Concert– May 6, 2007

For the past 11 years, the Japanese Women's Chorus has been directed by Kenichiro Matsuda. This year, the program consists of traditional and popular Japanese songs such as "Bashana Haba'ah" and "Amazing Grace." The concert will be held at the Church of the Redeemer Moravian Church, 3883 Summitview Road, Dublin, Ohio. Admission is free!

7. JASCO Golf Outing Fundraiser at Golf Club of Dublin – Tuesday, May 22, 11:30 A.M.

Mark your calendars now and join us for a day of golf, networking and fun to support JASCO's ongoing educational and cultural programming for the Central Ohio community. Proceeds from this event will support JASCO's continuing educational and cultural programming for the Central Ohio community. For registration information, please click here: [9th Annual JASCO Golf Outing Fundraiser](#).

8. Local Cultural Event: 27th Ohio Regional Bonsai Show at Dawes Arboretum in Newark – Friday and Saturday, June 9-10

Experience the art of bonsai and view more than 100 bonsai specimens at this annual show. For more information, please visit the Arboretum's site at <http://www.dawesarb.org/events/special-events-public.asp>.

9. 2007 Goldman Sachs Foundation Youth Prize for Excellence in International Education

Asia Society and The Goldman Sachs Foundation are pleased to announce the 2007 Goldman Sachs Foundation Youth Prize for Excellence in International Education. The 2007 competition asks students to select a problem or challenge that affects their local community as well as a community outside the United States; to create an in-depth written, audio, video, or animated feature that compares and contrasts how these two communities have addressed the issue; and to explain why these approaches reflect the different cultural backgrounds of those involved, and what lessons the different communities could learn from each other. Five winners will be selected and will receive up to \$10,000 each as well as an all-expense paid trip to New York City in early November 2007 where they will be recognized at Asia

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Society's Gala Annual Dinner. Please visit <http://askasia.org/students/gsfprizes.html> for the contest question, guidelines, rules, and online application. **The deadline for applications for the Youth Prize is June 11, 2007.**

10. Study: Culture and Self Relevant Predictions. Daniel R. Strunk, Sheeva Mostoufi

Sheeva Mostoufi would like to invite you to participate in an exciting study through the Ohio State University Psychology Department. This study will be examining culture, depressive symptoms, and judgment and has the potential to advance our understanding of these factors in important ways. Students of Asian Indian and Japanese descent are encouraged to participate however students of European descent are also welcome. The first of two surveys would take less than 15-20 minutes. The second survey would take no more than 5 minutes. Those completing the first survey gain the opportunity to win a \$100 lottery prize. By also completing the follow up questionnaire 30 days later, you will have the opportunity to win one \$300 prize, one of two \$150 lottery prizes, or one of three \$50 lottery prizes. In addition, you will also be offered the opportunity to be included in a drawing to win one of three additional \$200 prizes if you have a friend or significant other participate in a 5-10 minute questionnaire (more information on this is provided through the link below). If you would like to learn more about the study and/or are willing to participate, please click on the link below to proceed with the study. The survey you would participate in now will take about 15-20 minutes.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?A=178055349E89757>. For any additional questions or concerns please feel free to contact Sheeva Mostoufi at osupsychresearch@gmail.com.

11. 2007 Japanese Language Speech Contest Summary

Imagine giving a speech in front of a bunch of strangers and being judged on your performance... now, imagine doing it in a foreign language! That's what ten university and ten high school students did on Saturday, March 3. Vying for bragging rights as well as prizes such as a round-trip ticket to Japan, these talented students proved that Ohio is a hotbed of Japanese language learning! Impressing the judges with their lingual abilities, Marisol Cerda of Miami University received the grand prize while Kyong Ro of the Ohio State University & Jeehyun Kim of Dublin-Scioto High School took home the first place prizes. 2007's College Finalists were: Marisol Cerda (Miami), Chung-Yang Cheng (Findlay), Kevin Jambor (OU), Kyoung Kim (OSU), Jonathan Lee (OU), Kyong Ro (OSU), Kenneth Skapik (Findlay), George Stey (OSU), Erin Taylor (Findlay), Laura Waiss (Cincinnati). 2007's High School Finalists were: Anjali Alm-Basu (Sycamore), William Blankenship (Dublin-Scioto), Lexi Dooley (Dublin-Scioto), Jeehyun Kim (Dublin Scioto), Kirsten Nelson (Dublin-Scioto), Zach Smith (Dublin-Scioto), Samuel Snow (Sycamore), Erica Wong (Dublin-Scioto), Haejee Yoon (Dublin-Scioto), Stephanie Yurt (Dublin-Scioto) Winners from the University Level are: Grand Prize: Marisol Cerda (Miami University), 1st: Kyong Ro (The Ohio State University), 2nd: George Stey (The Ohio State University), 3rd: Laura Waiss (University of Cincinnati), P&I: Kyoung Kim (The Ohio State University). And another big thank you to our judges: Honorable Tamotsu Shinotsuka, Consul General of Japan in Detroit, Ms. Yoshiko Kishi, Case Western Reserve University, Dr. Bradley Richardson, The Ohio State University, & Dr. Richard Torrance (substituting for Mr. Kenji Hosaka, Hazama Corp., COJAC President). Congratulations to all of our participants for a job well done and keep up the hard work!

12. ConsuLink Newsletter now available from the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit!

The Consulate General of Japan is now offering the ConsuLink Newsletter! Check it out at www.cgjdetroit.org.

13. The Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Newsletter Releases

The Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) has released a newsletter highlighting changing economic fundamentals in Japan. It can be viewed at <http://www.jetro.org/focus>. Also available is the [JETRO Midwest Newsletter - January/February 2007](#).

14. Japan Economic Currents – March 2007

The Keizai Koho Center is pleased to announce the newest "*Japan Economic Currents*," a newsletter designed to provide readers with information about economic and social developments in Japan and the

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US-Japan business environment. The March issue can be viewed at <http://www.keidanren-usa.org/publications/currents/documents/March2007JEC.pdf> Back issues of e-JEC newsletter can be found at <http://www.keidanren-usa.org/publications/currents/archive/default.asp>.

15. Columbus Council on World Affairs (CCWA) eNews

Checkout the Columbus Council on World Affairs upcoming events and information at www.columbusworldaffairs.org.