

JASCO Pulse eNewsletter – April 18, 2007

Dear JASCO Members and Friends:

Please take a moment to check out all of the upcoming Japanese related events! There is an exciting event going on almost every single weekend through June so there are plenty of things to do to keep your schedule full. All of the details about these exciting events can be found in this issue of the *JASCO Pulse*.

- JASCO Staff

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1. 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.

2. 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

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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.

3. 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.

4. 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.

5. The 13th Annual Sake Tasting – Friday, May 4, 2007

The Japan America Society of Greater Cincinnati and Tri-State International Education Fund, Inc. are hosting the 13th Annual Sake Tasting on Friday, May 4, 2007 from 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the Oscar Event Center located at 5440 E. Dixie Highway, Fairfield, Ohio 45014. Admission is \$55/ticket or \$100/2 tickets to members and \$70/ticket for non-members. Dress code is business attire. Please RSVP to Japan America Society of Greater Cincinnati (JASGC) by Monday, April 23, 2007. Please visit <http://www.cincinnatijas.com/> for reservation information.

6. Local Cultural Event: Japan Night in Chillicothe, Ohio – Saturday, May 5, 2007

Southern Hills Academy, YSK and Ohio University (Athens) are partnering to provide an evening with events such as Tea Ceremony, Calligraphy, Origami, Anime/Manga drawing, Yukata wearing and others! There will also be a traditional curry rice dinner, complete with Japanese Mugi-cha. We are certain this event will be an entertaining one as families take part in a wide array of activities that highlight Japanese culture. Cost for the dinner is only \$5 and each activity (Tea Ceremony, Origami, etc.) costs only \$1. There will also be a raffle for a variety of Japanese goods ranging from Pikachu dolls to traditional Japanese fans. This event will be held at 365 Keller Road, Chillicothe, Ohio. For more information or to pre-order tickets, please call (740) 779-3865 or visit <http://japan.osu.edu/events/pdf/Japan%20Night.pdf> to view the information flyer.

7. Japanese Pedagogy Workshop, Saturday, May 5 2007

The Japanese Pedagogy Workshop – Ships, Scripts, and Selves: Schema-based Performance Pedagogy will be led by Dr. Paul Warnick, Associate Professor, Brigham Young University at the University of Pittsburgh main campus, 4165 Wesley W. Posvar Hall from 9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. For registration information, please contact Mrs. Brenda G. Jordan at (412) 648-7763 or by email at jordanb@ucis.pitt.edu no later than Monday, April 30, 2007.

8. 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 at 6:00 p.m. Admission is free!

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9. Concourse Gallery Exhibit Series: Five Women Sculptors, May 17, 2007 – June 14, 2007

Five women sculptors celebrates the work of the artists Barbara Chavous, Betty Collings, Ann Dewald, Jeanne Phillip and Yasue Sakoaka, using a variety of materials including wood, paper, fabric, vinyl and light. This event takes place Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at the UA Cultural Arts Division Municipal Services Center, 3600 Tremont Road, Upper Arlington, Ohio 43221. Please visit www.ohio.net for more information.

10. JASCO Golf Outing Fundraiser at Golf Club of Dublin – Tuesday, May 22, 11:30 A.M. – Volunteers Needed!

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](#). Volunteers are needed for this event; you may choose to volunteer for the entire day, or just a couple of hours. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Mr. Nori Ito at ito.12@osu.edu!

11. 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>.

12. 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 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.**

13. Volunteers needed to share Japanese culture!

Are you looking to share your knowledge of Japanese culture with others? If so, this is the opportunity for you! We are currently looking for volunteers with knowledge of Japanese culture such as tea ceremonies, Japanese dance and drumming to name a few. JASCO receives many requests for individuals with these talents. If you are interested, please contact Mr. Nori Ito at (614) 292-4002 or by email at ito.12@osu.edu.

14. Kenyon College Dissertation and Teaching Fellowship

Kenyon College offers its Fellows an attractive stipend of \$32,500, plus housing and a small moving allowance. Kenyon also provides a modest allowance for travel to conferences or for consultation with the dissertation director. Please visit <http://www.kenyon.edu/x27112.xml> for application information.

15. 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

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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.

16. 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!

17. 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.

18. The Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) Midwest Newsletter

The Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) has released a newsletter highlighting changing economic fundamentals in Japan. The latest installment can be viewed at http://www.jetro.org/documents/JETRO_Midwest_Apr07.pdf.

19. 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 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>.

20. Columbus Council on World Affairs (CCWA) eNews

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