Hanami Dango Food Workshop
Sunday, March 29
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Central Five Hundred Conference Center
500 North Central Expressway, Plano, TX 75074 (Map)
Tickets: Free for Children

K-12 | $3 Members (adult)
$5 Non-Members (adult)

Let's make hanami dango! Hanami dango is a popular Japanese sweet enjoyed during the cherry blossom viewing (Hanami) in Japan. They are sweet mochi rice dumplings on a skewer, and each of them has a different color; pink is used to symbolize cherry blossoms, white represents the remaining snow of the past winter, and green is used as a herald of spring, representing the color of young grass.

In this hands-on workshop, you will learn about Hanami in Japan and how to make Hanami dango with a microwave! You will be surprised how easy you can enjoy Japanese sweets at home.

* Ingredients and cooking utensils will be provided.

You can learn more and register online by clicking here!

Japan's Changing Consumer: Ringing in the Age of Reiwa
Tuesday, April 14
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Central Five Hundred Conference Center
500 North Central Expressway, Plano, TX 75074 (Map)
Tickets: Free for Members | $10 Non-Members
The rapid aging of Japan, along with the economic upturns and downturns of the past three decades, has resulted in a more highly segmented Japanese consumer base – both generationally and in terms of the epicenters of Japan’s wealth. With the dawn of the Reiwa Era comes expanded opportunities for foreign marketers and the global supply chain. These opportunities run deep for a wide variety of products and services – including food and beverage, skincare, and leisure/entertainment. Presented by JASDFW and CarterGroup.

You can learn more and RSVP online by clicking here.

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2020 Sun & Star Legacy Award Dinner
Thursday, May 7
6:00 pm - 9:30 pm
Omni Frisco Hotel, The Star Ballroom
11 Cowboys Way, Frisco, TX 75034 (Map)
Sponsorship currently available and individual ticket purchases will open soon

Join us as we honor exemplary supporters of the U.S.-Japan relationship. Ambassador Kenichiro Sasae, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Japan to the United States (2012-2018) and current President of The Japan Institute of International Affairs, and his wife Nobuku Sasae, President of the Nobuko Forum Japan and conference interpreter, will receive the Sun & Star Legacy Award for fostering cooperation and friendship between the two countries.

Anna McFarland will receive the Bridges-to-Friendship Award for her contributions to North Texas-Japan relations as former Executive Director of the Japan-America Society of Dallas/Fort Worth from 1997 to 2019.

Ambassador Ronald Kirk will serve as the Honorary Host.

To learn about sponsorship opportunities or to purchase a table for your organization, click here.

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Dallas-Sendai Young Ambassadors Program
Deadline: Friday, March 20 12:00pm

Be a leader. Be a world traveler. Be a Young Ambassador. Dallas and Sendai have been International Friendship Cities since 1997, and the Young Ambassadors Program is your chance to strengthen this important relationship.
Six students will stay with host families – experiencing Japanese everyday life firsthand, meeting city officials, and participating in many other exchange activities. Applications and teacher recommendations must be received by JASDFW no later than Friday, March 20, 2020 at 12:00 PM. Semi-finalists will be selected to participate in interviews. The delegation of 6 Young Ambassadors will be announced in early April.

To learn more about the program and applications, click here!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Dallas ISD: Read for Me/International Festival
Saturday, March 7
8:00 am - 1:00 pm
W. H. Adamson High School
309 East 9th Street
Dallas, TX 7520 (Map)

Read for Me is a community event that creates an interactive, multicultural experience in literacy while building advocacy for parents, students, and community members. This family-fun event, also embraces diversity, shares the community’s passion for reading, and gives away over 10,000 books. Students and parents will meet authors, work with community members, and experience the joy of literacy.

This year’s theme is “Stories from Around the World” and JASDFW team members will present traditional kamishibai.

To learn more about the Read For Me/International Festival, you can click here.

Texas Theatre:
Tokyo Godfathers
Friday, March 13
9:00 pm - 11:00 pm
231 W. Jefferson Blvd
Dallas, TX 75208 (Map)

Tokyo Godfathers, the acclaimed classic from master director Satoshi Kon (Paprika, Perfect Blue), comes to Oak Cliff via a brand-new restoration!

In modern-day Tokyo, three homeless people’s lives are changed forever when they discover a baby girl at a garbage dump on Christmas Eve. As the New Year fast approaches, these three forgotten members of society band together to solve the mystery of the abandoned
child and the fate of her parents. Along the way, encounters with seemingly unrelated events and people force them to confront their own haunted pasts, as they learn to face their future, together.

Co-written by Keiko Nobumoto (Cowboy Bebop) and featuring a whimsical score by Keiichi Suzuki, Tokyo Godfathers is a masterpiece by turns heartfelt, hilarious and highly original, a tale of hope and redemption in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds.

For more information and to purchase tickets, click here.

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Sogetsu Ikebana: 45th Anniversary Celebration
Wednesday, March 18 - Thursday, March 19
9:30 am - 2:30 pm
Springhill Suites Marriott (Map)
Tickets: $120

Misei Ishikawa is a Master Instructor of Ikebana with years of experience abroad. In her works, she strives to create a dynamic balance between natural and human elements while abiding by the core theory of Sogetsu Ikebana. Registration for her March 19 Composing with Branches Workshop remains open to interested individuals.

To learn more about Misei Ishikawa and to RSVP, you can click here.

For any questions related to the workshop, please contact Lucia Jentz at leelucia130@gmail.com.

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Spotlight: Japan 2020
Monday, March 23 - Sunday, March 29
Baylor University
1311 South 5th St
Waco, TX 76706 (Map)

Baylor University is excited to host Spotlight: Japan 2020, a week-long celebration of Japanese art, culture, and history from March 23 – 29, 2020, sponsored by the Departments of Art and Art History, Theatre Arts, and Modern Languages and Cultures (Japanese), as well as the Martin Museum of Art, the School of Music, and the Hankamer School of Business.

Spotlight: Japan 2020 will include an exhibition of Japanese prints at the Martin Museum of Art, a production of Okada Toshiki’s Enjoy by the Department
of Theatre Arts, and numerous additional lectures and events by guest artists and Japan scholars.

**Spotlight: Japan 2020** is partially funded with generous support from The Japan Foundation New York and is sponsored in cooperation with the Global Business Forum.

[For more information and to register, click here.](#)

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### Gallery

#### 2020 Japan Currents Photos

![2020 Japan Currents Photos](image)

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UPCOMING:

- **March 5** | DAABA: Screening and Panel Discussion - “Alternative Facts: The Lies of Executive Order 9066”
- **March 7** | Dallas ISD: Read for Me/International Festival
- **March 11** | North Texas Soccer Association: SheBelieves Cup - USA vs. Japan
- **March 13** | Texas Theatre: Tokyo Godfathers
- **March 18** | Sogetsu Ikebana: 45th Anniversary Celebration with Master Instructor Misei Ishikawa
- **March 23-29** | Baylor University - Spotlight: Japan 2020
- **March 29** | Hanami Dango Food Workshop
- **April 14** | Japan’s Changing Consumer: Ringing in the Age of Reiwa
- **April 25-26** | Fort Worth Japanese Society: Japanese Spring Festival
- **April 30** | Japan Rearmed: The Politics of Military Power
- **May 2** | Fort Worth Sister Cities International: Japanese Children’s Day
- **May 2** | Plano AsiaFest
- **May 7** | 2020 Sun & Star Legacy Award Dinner
- **May 8 - 10** | Fort Worth Convention Center: Anime Frontier
- **June 22 - 30** | Dallas Young Ambassadors Program: Travel to Sendai

ONGOING:

- **Now - March 15** | Dallas Contemporary: FRIENDSWITHYOU - The Dance
- **Now - April 29** | Courage and Compassion: Our Shared Story of the Japanese American World War II Experience

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