

2023 Annual MeetingOfficer/Director bios

Nominated officer for term ending 2024

Kota Akagi (Japanese First Vice President)

Mr. Akagi is HR Coordinator at Kubota Tractor Corporation located in Grapevine, Texas. He joined the company in 2015 with an assignment in human resources at Osaka Sakai Plant, which is the biggest factory in Kubota's Japan operations. In September 2020, he came here to Dallas and his role is to maximize harmony and make synergy for the company's growth in the U.S. and Japan. Mr. Akagi holds a bachelor's degree in education and he loves watching ice hockey games – he is a big fan of the Dallas Stars. He joined the Dallas Japanese Association Board from 2022 and the JASDFW Board in 2023.

Nominated regular director for term ending 2024

Makoto Yasuda (Immediate Past Japanese First Vice President)

Mr. Yasuda is SVP and Head of the Network Business Strategy Unit at Fujitsu Limited, based in Richardson, TX. He joined Fujitsu in 1995 starting his career as a network systems engineer for international projects. From 2001 to 2003, he served as lead technical sales for the Paris branch of Fujitsu Telecom Europe Limited, where he established wireless product business with major mobile network operators in France. After coming back to Japan, he held a variety of management positions at Fujitsu in the Telecom business segment. Most recently, from 2020 to 2022, he served as Executive Director for Corporate Executive Office at Fujitsu Limited. Mr. Yasuda holds a BSc and a MSc in Naval Architecture & Ocean Engineering from the University of Tokyo. He loves playing tennis and watching professional tennis tournaments. He relocated from Tokyo to the US and joined the JASDFW Board in 2022.

Nominated elected directors for term ending 2024

Masahiro Kishimoto

Mr. Kishimoto is Director, Americas Corporate Banking Department No.1 and Head of Dallas office for Mizuho Bank, Ltd. He most recently served as Director, ICT & Retails Industry Department No.3 for Mizuho. His early roles included working in Mizuho's financial institution department and with the financial solution department focusing on securitization. He began his career with Mizuho in securities with the M&A advisory department. Mr. Kishimoto has master's and bachelor's degrees in science and technology from Keio University in Tokyo.

Anne Moroni

Mrs. Moroni is Vice President of Operations Planning and Performance at American Airlines (AA). She leads the strategic planning efforts for AA's operational divisions, including crew planning/crew scheduling, block planning and schedule reliability planning and leads the Operations Performance & Analytics team for American. Anne joined AA 12 years ago and her career has spanned the Finance, Commercial and Operations organizations. Before joining American, she spent several years in Investment Banking for Société Générale in Paris, France, and New York City. She holds Bachelor of Business Administration from École Supérieure de Commerce de Paris (ESCP), and a Master of Business Administration from the College of William & Mary, Virginia. Anne is a proud member of PWA, IAWA and an executive sponsor for the Asian Pacific Islander Employee Resource Group at American.

Nominated elected directors for term ending 2026

Angela Marcellus

Ms. Marcellus is Chief of Development, International Relations, and Alumni Affairs at International Leadership of Texas (ILTexas), a free public charter school serving more than 22,000 K-12 students at 21 campuses throughout the state. In her role, Ms. Marcellus helps IL Texas grow through fundraising, increases the school's international presence by leading the IL Texas global team, and pioneers the alumni affairs department to ensure connections with scholars and celebrate alumni successes. She is a graduate of Texas A&M University and a founding charter member of IL Texas. As a career educator with 30 years of experience, Angela has worked in charter, public, and private school systems in Houston and the Dallas-Fort Worth regions. Ms. Marcellus opened IL Texas Garland K-8 as a founding principal. She has also served as a teacher, dyslexia/reading specialist, dean, and superintendent in her education career.

Doug McDonald

Mr. McDonald leads the City of Plano's Economic Development Department with over 15 years of municipal government experience. McDonald has spent his career working with local municipalities and regional partners to support the growth and development of the Dallas-Fort Worth region. His experience includes working with Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) on transit-oriented development and collaborating with the University of Texas at Dallas to support the region's ecosystem for startups and small businesses. Mr. McDonald received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Texas Tech University and a Master of City and Regional Planning and a Master of Public Administration, both from the University of Texas at Arlington. McDonald is also a graduate of the Economic Development Institute at the University of Oklahoma.

Yoichiro Suzuki

Mr. Suzuki is senior vice president of corporate collaboration for NTT DATA Services. Formerly with NTT DATA Services' parent company, NTT DATA Corporation, he serves as liaison with the leadership team in Japan as well as other operating companies, while complying with the group governance process to achieve our strategic goals and profitable growth as One NTT DATA. This includes merger and acquisition activities and large-scale contracts. With more than 20 years of professional experience, including corporate finance at NTT DATA, he is also a member of the Board of Directors at NTT DATA International L.L.C. He holds a bachelor's degree in economics from Hitotsubashi University.

Naoto Takayanagi

Mr. Takayanagi is Senior Director, Strategic Planning at NEC Corporation of America, an industry leading provider of biometrics and communications technology and integrator of IT solutions. He is responsible for planning and organizing the company's mid- to long-range strategic goals and guiding the company's executive management team as they make important decisions about the company's direction. In addition to many other roles, he works closely with the President and CEO of NEC Corporation of America on organizing, planning, and guiding regular monthly and quarterly meetings with the executive leadership team. Prior to joining NEC in 2014, he held multiple executive roles in the areas of corporate strategy, business development and global talent acquisition at Pasona NA, Inc., a leader in Japanese human resources services. He was born in Tokyo and has a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, International Business, from California State University, Long Beach.