



## Greetings {FIRST\_NAME|Member},

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## The JASP invites you to our Pittsburgh Sushi Experience

### April 21, 2011 at 7 PM at Chaya Japanese Cuisine 2032 Murray Avenue in Squirrel Hill

Experience Pittsburgh sushi with the Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania! Our second experience will be at Chaya, a cozy Squirrel Hill restaurant supplying Pittsburgh with authentic Japanese cuisine since 2001. Owner and Head Chef Yasuzawa's creations were voted Best Sushi by Pittsburgh magazine in 2008. The cost is \$25 (including tax, tip, and green tea). The evening will include a sampler plate handpicked from the restaurant's menu and green tea. It's a great opportunity to try a new sushi place and network with other JASP members. Don't forget to bring your business cards, because we will hold a drawing for a gift card to each restaurant! [Click here](#) to make a reservation. [Back to top](#).



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## Corporate Spotlight - Elliott Group



Elliott Group, with headquarters in Jeannette, Pennsylvania and Sodegaura-shi, Chiba-ken, Japan, is a twenty-year member and corporate supporter of the JASP. Elliott first joined the JASP in 1991 under the leadership of Paul Smiy, President of Elliott Company and later a recipient of the JASP Three Rivers Award. In recent years, Elliott Company's President and CEO, Tony Casillo, has also served on the Board of Directors of JASP. Since October, 2008, Elliott has been represented on the JASP board by Yasuyuki Uruma, Chief Executive Officer and

Director of the Board of Elliott Group. Elliott Group is a wholly owned subsidiary of Ebara Corporation, a major industrial conglomerate headquartered in Haneda (Tokyo), Japan. [Read More.](#)  
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## Save the Date! Golf Outing May 9, 2011

The Paul J. Wilhelm Memorial Golf Outing will be held Monday, May 9, 2011 at Valley Brook Country Club in McMurray, PA. Watch for your invitation in the mail in late March. [Back to top.](#)

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## Japanese Speech Contest March 4, 2011

The 2011 High School Japanese Speech Contest will take place on Friday, March 4, 2011 at the William Pitt Union on the University of Pittsburgh Oakland Campus. Japanese language students of all levels are able to compete against other area students. Each year over 70 students participate. Students are required to write a speech on the chosen topic for the contest. Winners receive prizes and trophies! [Click here](#) for more information. [Back to top.](#)



## Volunteer Spotlight - Yuko Kumamoto

The JASP is very grateful for Yuko Kumamoto's generous and enthusiastic work on our behalf. Yuko, originally from Tokyo, came to Pittsburgh almost four years ago. At the invitation of long-time JASP member Kazuko Macher, Yuko began volunteering with the JASP in November of last year. Yuko's favorite memory of volunteering with the JASP happened when an elementary school student from Homestead tasted Japanese green tea and declared, "It tastes like broccoli!"



Yuko shares her native language and culture by teaching Japanese and Japanese culture at the Carnegie Library in Oakland. She is encouraged and inspired that people from all over the world, not just Americans, are interested in Japan and eager to study Japanese. [Back to top.](#)

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## Japan in the Schools and Pittsburgh Taiko

The JASP's Japan in the Schools (JIS) program featuring both classroom visits and Pittsburgh Taiko workshops is having a very successful season. Thanks to our great volunteers and financial supporters who make this educational outreach possible. [Click here](#) for a complete list of JIS visits scheduled so far this year. Financial support of the JIS educational outreach comes through funds raised at our golf outing and annual dinner and through other means



found by [clicking here](#). [Back to top](#).

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## EITC at the JASP

If given a choice of either sending a check to Harrisburg to pay for taxes on your business earnings OR making a donation to the Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania to support students receiving Japan-centered educational programs in area schools, which would you choose? **You have such a choice through the Educational Improvement Tax Credit program (EITC)!**



Talk to your employer about receiving state tax credits for contributions to the JASP supporting our Japan in the Schools program. [Click here](#) for more info. [Back to top](#).

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## KODO: One Earth Tour – Discounted Tickets for JASP Members

Join us March 1 and 2 at 7:30 PM at the Byham Theater

Japanese word "Kodo" conveys "heartbeat," the primal source of all rhythm. Since 1981, Kodo has been exploring the limitless possibilities of the traditional Japanese drum, the taiko, and continues to forge exciting, new directions for this vibrant art-form. With great passion and purpose, Kodo strives to both preserve and re-interpret traditional Japanese performing arts. Its ongoing collaborations with a broad range of artists and composers transcending the musical spectrum inspire Kodo members to produce startling new fusion and forms. JASP Member Prices: \$38.80, \$31.60 and \$19.00. To order tickets online go to [www.pgharts.org/events/tickets/login.aspx](http://www.pgharts.org/events/tickets/login.aspx) and use promo code TRUSTD. [Back to top](#).

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## Farewell Message from Our Intern, Marie Pappas

I have had the privilege of interning here at the Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania for the last six months. During my last semester at the University of Pittsburgh and in the months since I graduated, I've both enjoyed my time here and learned a lot. I've gotten a job doing bilingual Japanese/English administration and translation in Kentucky and will be moving at the end of February. So while I'm sad to have to say good-bye, I'm also looking forward to the future with excitement![Back to top](#).

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## Check Out Our New History Pages

In celebration of our 25th Anniversary, we have highlighted our history over the past 25 years. [Click here](#) to view the timeline. Share your favorite JASP stories with us by emailing Kelly Chaney at [kchaney@us-japan.org](mailto:kchaney@us-japan.org).

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## We Welcome New JASP Members

Eric Shiner, The Andy Warhol Museum

Joseph B. Shirk, Shirk and Associates

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## Turandot

Journey to ancient China in this Puccini favorite, where a complete stranger solves Turandot's cruel riddles and fulfills her quest for true love.

Performances @ Benedum Center on March 26 – 8:00 PM, March 29 – 7:00 PM, April 1 – 8:00 PM, April 3 – 2:00 PM

[Click here](#) to buy tickets. [Back to top.](#)



## Cherry Blossoms 3rd Annual Tree Planting

Join us Saturday April 9 near the boathouse at North Park to plant cherry trees. For more details visit [www.pghsakuraproject.org](http://www.pghsakuraproject.org).

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## 21st America–Japan Grassroots Summit

The 21st America-Japan Grassroots Summit will be held June 27-July 4 in Kochi Pref. in Japan. The trip is open to all and has four features you do not normally find on trips to Japan:

1. Interesting, rarely visited location; Kochi Prefecture on Shikoku, with locally organized events
2. Home stays for 3 nights arranged by the summit organizers with local families
3. Great price- \$2200 (depending on departure city) including airfare, 6 nights stay, most meals
4. A chance to participate in the 5-day grassroots summit activities

The JASP is a member of the National Association of Japan America Society (NAJAS.) NAJAS is a partner of the Center for International Exchange, the organizer of these summits for 20 years, and Japan-America Society of Kentucky and the Japan Society of Boston have hosted summits in the US in recent years. A great tradition of grassroots contact and a terrific opportunity to see Japan reasonably, you can find the electronic brochure on their website: <http://www.us-japan.org/>.

Any questions, call NAJAS office at 202-429-5545 and please see all the details of schedule, location and pricing at: <http://www.manjiro.or.jp/eng/summit/kochi/index.html>

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We would like to thank our 25th Anniversary Platinum Sponsors:



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The Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania (JASP), established in 1986, is an association of individuals and corporations actively engaged in bringing the peoples of Japan and America together in understanding, appreciation and cooperation in order to promote a better relationship between the countries.

**Japan-America Society of Pennsylvania**

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