

Benefits

JAST members gain access to educational, cultural, business, and social programs, which provide opportunities for developing personal relationships with members of both the Japanese and American communities.

Additionally, membership allows Japanese firms with a way to contribute to the cultural fabric of the state, to show community interest, involvement and concern outside of Japanese circles, and to meet American business people who are doing business or are interested in Japan.

Receive great discounts for all JAST events and classes (Conversational Japanese, Calligraphy).

Activities and Events

- Japan Festival at the Memphis Botanic Garden
- New Years and cherry blossom celebrations
- Business Seminar and workshop
- Traditional Dance and Musical Concert
- Iron Sushi Chef Contest
- Arts and Crafts (origami, calligraphy, and ink brush painting)
- Collaboration with the Way of Tea in TN, Shibui Kimono, the Japanese school and Ikebana International Bamboo Chapter 44

Programs and Classes

- School visit program
- Internship program
- Translation/ Interpretation
- Calligraphy Class
- Conversational Japanese
- Japanese for young children



2012 Centennial Celebration of the Gift of Trees

In 1912, a gift of 3,000 cherry blossom trees was bestowed on Washington, DC by Tokyo, Japan. Rooted strongly and surviving outside elements, the trees have withstood the test of time – and in spring 2012, the National Cherry Blossom Festival held an unprecedented tribute in honor of the 100-year anniversary of the gift. In honor of one of our nation's most beloved treasures, and a living reminder of international friendship and the beauty of nature, the Centennial was a celebration of our past, present, and future.

JAST West Center Staff

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| ■ Chairman | Mr. Kanzi Takayama |
| ■ Regional Director | Dr. Yuki Matsuda |
| ■ Program Manager | Ms. Akemi Sommer |
| ■ K-12 School Visit Project Coordinator | Ms. Junko Tokuda |
| ■ Calligraphy | Ms. Chikako Kamimura |
| ■ Traditional Dance | Ms. Miho Ponnath |
| ■ Japanese school and Community relations | Ms. Yukiko Terada |
| | Ms. Kaori Fujii |
| | Ms. Shinobu Watanabe |

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JAST WEST

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MEMPHIS



Newly established in spring 2009 on the campus of the University of Memphis, the West Tennessee Center of the Japan America Society of TN (JAST) hopes to promote awareness and understanding of Japan in Memphis areas through cultural event, business seminar, research, workshop, and various educational programs and events.

The JAST West is located on the main campus of the University of Memphis and is partner with the Memphis Botanic Garden, Japanese Traders & Manufacturers Association of Memphis, and Great Memphis Chamber.