

## Welcome to Japan Week 2024

### Harmony in Bridging Culture for Collective Well-being

Japan Week 2024 aims to give students and communities the opportunity to obtain a better understanding of Japanese culture and demonstrate the University's ongoing commitment to building bridges between cultures and bringing together people of different customs, religions and ethnic backgrounds. Japan Week seeks to continue to promote diversity and unity and hopes that participants will become leaders in a flourishing dialogue between Japan and the United States and will work towards building a more peaceful global community. The goal of Japan Week is to support an inclusive environment for students and community members of all backgrounds.

### Japan Week 2024 Committee

Anna Dan & Melanie Budney  
Consulate General of Japan in NY

Christopher Kaiser  
College of Arts and Sciences

Mary Balkun  
Department of English

Paula Alexander  
Department of Management

Martin S. Edwards  
Diplomacy and International Relations

Anne Giblin Gedacht  
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Laurie Pine & Olivia Lawson  
Public Relations

Diana Alvarez-Amell  
Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

Jessica Wilson  
LLC Global Learning Center

Shigeru Osuka  
Director of Japan Week

Hiroko Ishikawa  
Associate Director of Japan Week

Ross Bennett, Aaron Im  
Navita Sivakumar, Kaylee Hoo &  
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Program Assistants

### For More Information

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<https://www.shu.edu/languages-literatures-cultures/japan-week/index.cfm>

# JAPAN WEEK 2024

## Harmony in Bridging Culture for Collective Well-being

### April 8 (Monday)

11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. University Center

#### Kendama Contest



Kendama (*Lit.* sword and ball) is a traditional Japanese toy. It consists of a handle (ken), a pair of cups (sarado), and a ball (tama). Kendama is popular toy for developing skills such as hand-eye coordination, focus, and perseverance. Currently, people use Kendama as a means of improving their concentration or as a stress-relief tool. Test your Kendama skills. Hosted by Zachary Edwards, Emily Van Auken & Yinka Akindebe of Advanced Japanese studies.

### April 8 (Monday)

3:30 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. Beck Room

#### A Invoking the Sengoku-jidai: Between the Fantasy and History of Japan's Warring States Era



The setting for countless manga, films, video games, and anime, Japan's Warring States Era evokes deep nostalgia about loyal samurai, ruthless warlords, naginata-wielding warrior monks, and secretive ninja. How much of what we consume about these archetypes is historically accurate and how much is fiction? Who were the true heroes and villains of the Sengoku-jidai? The answer may surprise you! Presented by Anne Giblin Gedacht, Associate Professor of Japanese History.

### April 9 (Tuesday)

11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Fahy 245

#### Japanese Tea Bowls Workshop

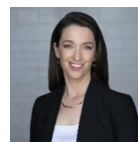


As Japanese matcha tea has influenced American society, we are now living in an era where we can enjoy matcha as part of matcha latte, matcha ice cream, matcha flavored chocolate, etc. However, it seems that Japanese tea bowls are not familiar, only a few collectors and people who are truly interested know about traditional Japanese matcha tea bowls. Therefore, in this workshop we will learn about traditional matcha tea bowls used in daily life. Hosted by Shigeru Osuka, Professor of Asian Studies.

### April 9 (Tuesday)

12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. Beck Room

#### Careers & Opportunities in US-Japan Grassroots Diplomacy



Join alumna Cori Hallock ('07) as she shares her professional journey from SHU student to non-profit leader in the US-Japan sector. In addition to learning about her personal experiences in the Asian Studies program, Japan-Exchange & Teaching (JET) program, legal profession (J.D. Notre Dame Law), writing profession, and non-profit sector, you will hear about the many organizations and opportunities for you to engage in grassroots diplomacy between the US and Japan. Presented by Cori M. Hallock, Director of the Japan-America Society of Miami/South Florida.

### April 10 (Wednesday)

12:00 p.m. - 12:30 p.m. Beck Room

#### Japanese Language & Digital Storytelling Awards Ceremony



The Japanese Program is pleased to honor its motivated and hardworking Japanese language learners. For the 2023-2024 academic year, 75 students have been studying Japanese language and culture, pursuing challenging curriculums in one of the most internationally well-known language programs. The awardees are expected to be future cultural ambassadors in the respective community, foster a peaceful global society, and continue to study Japanese as a lifelong learning pursuit. Congratulations to the awardees!

### April 11 (Thursday)

11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Beck Room

#### SHU-Japan Exchange Program Summer 2023 Report



Twelve SHU students participated in the SHU-Japan Exchange Program in the summer of 2023. The students will report on their experiences and memories in Japan. They participated in a summer program at Sophia University in Tokyo, taking classes in the morning and visiting tourist spots in Tokyo areas in the afternoon. Over the weekends, the students also enjoyed sightseeing in Nikko, the Great Buddha in Kamakura, Mt. Fuji, and an open-air bath at a Japanese-style hotel. And, of course, the students enjoyed the Japanese foods. Hosted by Katsumi Kishida, Director of International Student Services

### April 11 (Thursday)

12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. Beck Room

#### Japan around you and why it matters to the world



Deputy Consul General Kazuya Mori graduated from Faculty of Law at University of Kyoto and entered the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan. He completed studies at Graduate School of Public and International Affairs from University of Pittsburgh. He served Deputy Director at United Nations Policy Division, Foreign Policy Bureau in 2006 and First Secretary, Embassy of Japan in the Russian Federation in 2010. He assumed current position of Director of Japan Information Center at Consulate General of Japan in New York since 2022. Hosted by Hiroko Ishikawa, Japanese Program.

### April 12 (Friday)

11:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. University Center

#### LOL, Laugh Out Loud Contest

"Wa ha ha ha" Laughing is good for health and mental conditions. Japanese culture has practicing Laugh Out Loud Contest since old times and now Seton Hall University proudly presents the opportunity to express yourself. Join us during lunchtimes. Participants will compete from 3 feet from the recording device; at the start signal laugh as loud as you can within 20 seconds. The maximum volume you reach within the time will be recorded! First, Second, Third, and most funny laugh receive prizes. Hosted by Deshawn Romolow, Ross Bennett & Bobby Villarini of Advanced Japanese studies.

### All events are open to the public (*The program is subject to change*)

Sponsorship for Japan Week 2024 is provided by Seton Hall University's Department of Languages and Cultures, College of Arts and Sciences Dean's Office, Office of International Programs, LLC Global Learning Center, Asian Studies Program, Japanese Program, The J.C.C. Fund of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of New York, Consulate General of Japan in New York, Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program, Sekisui America Corporation, Harusame Japanese Cuisine Restaurant, United Airlines, and Amnet New York.