



# The Japan-America Society of Georgia



## 2010 Programs Calendar

Listed below are key programs and meetings presented by the JASG for the 2010 calendar year.  
For additional information, please visit the JASG website at [www.jasgeorgia.org](http://www.jasgeorgia.org).

January 15	<b>Hogaku: New Sounds of Japan 2010:</b> Presented by The Japan Foundation, the University of Georgia Center for Asian Studies, and the Consulate General of Japan in Atlanta, this special event is a trio of performances featuring the best of traditional Japanese music. Each showcase performance features a different instrument (koto, shamisen, taiko drums), performed by Japan's top young talent in Japanese traditional performing arts.
January 21	<b>2010 Kick-Off Reception:</b> Mr. Takuji Hanatani, The Consul General of Japan, graciously hosts a cocktail party at his official residence to kick off 2009 and to celebrate the year of the Cow for all current and future members of the JASG. The event will be an informal opportunity to interact and strengthen the ties of friendship between Japan and the State of Georgia.
February 23	<b>Japanese Foreign Policy Lecture:</b> Guest Lecturer Professor Ryo Sahashi presents a special lecture entitled, "Whither Japan? Japanese Foreign Policy in the Asian Century and the Future of US-Japan Relations." Dr. Sahashi specializes in International Politics and his current research focuses on regional security architecture in Asia and Japanese security policy. This event is hosted by Georgia State University and is organized by the Consulate General of Japan in Atlanta.
February 25	<b>Okuribito (Departures) Japanese Film Screening:</b> JASG partners with Agnes Scott College to bring the 2009 Academy Award winner for Best Foreign Language Films, <i>Okuribito</i> (Departures). Directed by Yojiro Takita, the film is a blend of comic whimsy and melodramatic pathos, and is carried by beautiful cello and piano pieces throughout. Event starts at 7pm and a Q&A session will follow the end of the film.
February – April	<b>Winter/Spring JASG Business Japanese Classes:</b> A variety of levels of Japanese language classes are offered. Classes meet for two hours, one evening per week, for a total of eight weeks.
March 4	<b>Anime, Manga and More:</b> Kennesaw State University presents a special lecture by popular author, Roland Kelts, who speaks on Japanese Pop Culture: its origins, its Japanese and American character, and why it defines 'Cool'.
March 13	<b>YP Roller Derby Night:</b> JASG's Young Professionals group goes to an Atlanta Rollergirls Roller Derby game. Special discounted tickets are available for all members.
March 23	<b>Kubota Manufacturing of America Plant Tour:</b> JASG members and guests gather at Kubota Manufacturing of America (KMA) Corporation in Gainesville, Georgia for a private tour of its facilities. Kubota Manufacturing of America employs more than 750 employees and is the largest Kubota manufacturing campus outside Japan. Kubota
March 19 – March 28	<b>Macon Sakura/Cherry Blossom Festival:</b> This annual festival in Macon, Georgia celebrates the blooming of the city's 300,000 Yoshino Cherry Trees to welcome in the spring season. JASG has arranged Japanese martial art group, Katori Shinto-Ryu, to demonstrate at the festival. The Society will also have a booth promoting Japan to festival attendees.
March 27	<b>Japan Academic Challenge and Speech Contest:</b> Georgia high school students compete in the Japan Academic Challenge, a quiz show-style contest to test students' knowledge of Japanese language and culture. In the Japanese Speech Contest, college and high school students deliver memorized speeches demonstrating their Japanese language. Co-organized by the JASG, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Georgia, the Georgia Teachers of Japanese, and the Consulate General of Japan in Atlanta, this year's competitions are held at Kennesaw State University in Kennesaw, Georgia.
April 16	<b>Midori Goto Concert:</b> Renowned Japanese violinist Midori Goto comes to the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra to play a Shostakovich concerto. A post concert meet & greet reception is held after the concert for a special opportunity for fans to meet and greet Midori Goto. Discounted tickets are available for all Society members.
April 29	<b>Konnyaku Cooking Demonstration:</b> Join JASG and JETAASE members for this special Japanese cooking demonstration and learn what <i>konnyaku</i> is and how it can help your healthy diet and detox your body. See how <i>konnyaku</i> is used to make smoothies, sashimi, salad dressing and more. This event features Ms. Sachiko Mitsuno, <i>konnyaku</i> concierge, Mr. Masaki Nakayama, Japanese-French chef and <i>konnyaku</i> connoisseur.
May 1	<b>JASG YP Spring Baseball Day Out:</b> Join YP members for day of fun at Turner Field as Kenshin Kawakami & Takashi Saito and the hometown Atlanta Braves battle Kazuo Matsui and the Houston Astros. All tickets give access to Turner Field's newly renovated 755 Club. We encourage you to join us for food, drinks, and fun before the game. Stadium gates open at 1:30 p.m.
May 14	<b>JASG/JCCG Atlanta Braves Luncheon:</b> The JASG partners with the Japanese Chamber of Commerce to enjoy lunch at Turner Field's newly renovated 755 Club and have the exclusive opportunity to meet and greet the Atlanta Braves' Takashi Saito.
May 21	<b>YKK (U.S.A.) Inc. Plant Tour:</b> JASG members and guests gather at YKK (U.S.A.) in Macon, Georgia for a private tour of its facilities. Founded in 1934, YKK is today one of the largest manufactures of zippers in the world. In 1973, it became the first Japanese manufacturing firm to locate a plant in Georgia.
May 22	<b>JASG YP/JETAASE Family Cook-Out:</b> To follow the Japanese tradition of viewing cherry blossoms in the spring, the JASG members and friends gather at the Chattahoochee River Park for a family-style barbecue cook-out by the banks of the Chattahoochee River. Festivities start at 12 p.m.
June – August	<b>Summer Business Japanese Language Classes:</b> A variety of levels of Japanese language classes are offered. Classes meet for two hours, one evening per week, for a total of eight weeks.
June 1	<b>"What's New with OSHA: Current and Future Impact":</b> The JASG partners with the Greater Hall Chamber of Commerce for this breakfast seminar as attendees learn about current OSHA inspection trends and inspection priorities under the current Federal Administration. The current top 10 citations are reviewed and discussed, as well as which industries will be the focus of OSHA Inspections and Compliance.

June 25	<b>JASG Braves Night Out:</b> Society members and friends gather for a Major League Baseball game between the hometown Atlanta Braves and the visiting Detroit Tigers. Consul General Hanatani is scheduled to be the Braves' Honorary Captain. In conjunction with the event, the JASG also hosts a pre-game networking reception 2 hours before the start of the game.
June 27	<b>JASG Family Fun Picnic featuring Noguchi Playscape:</b> Come celebrate <i>Isamu Noguchi</i> , the world renowned Japanese-American 20th century artist/sculptor in Piedmont Park. Spend a nice afternoon with good food and drinks with friends & family. Featuring traditional Japanese storytelling, " <i>Kamishiba</i> " in both English and Japanese, and informational guided tour about Mr. Noguchi's surrealist playground. You can enjoy the park (swimming, birdwatching, biking, strolling and more) and finish the celebration at the historic <i>Stonehurst Place</i> to relax with cold drinks and ice cream for children.
June 29	<b>30th Anniversary Dinner:</b> The Society will celebrate its 30th Anniversary at this ever-enjoyable gala event at the Piedmont Driving Club. Please make plans to join fellow members and special guests as the event features, Dr. George Waldner, one of the JASG's founding members, as the special keynote speaker to discuss the importance of the U.S. - Japan relationship. In conjunction with the dinner, the JASG hosts the ever-popular Silent Auction.
July 13	<b>Annual Membership Meeting:</b> JASG members gather together for a recap of the Society's activities over the past year and a look ahead at the year to come. New officers and board of directors is also voted in at the meeting. A networking reception follows the meeting for all members in attendance.
July 31	<b>YP Night at Malibu Grand Prix:</b> The JASG YP group gather at Malibu Grand Prix for a fun night of unlimited go-carts, bumper boats, miniature golf, arcades and more!
July 31 – August 1	<b>Asian Cultural Experience:</b> The JASG participates as a civic exhibitor in this annual Asian festival featuring performances, exhibits, demonstrations, and food from 15 Asian countries. Festival tickets are \$12 per person and all festivities are held at the Gwinnett Convention Center in Duluth.
August 19	<b>Navigating the rules of ERISA Compliance &amp; the new Health Care Reform Act:</b> Join the JASG for this breakfast seminar as Society members, Mr. Martin Long and Mr. John Hearn, discuss the key elements of ERISA Compliance and critical issues on the Health Care Reform Act. This breakfast seminar is held at the Georgian Club and is free to all JASG members.
August 21	<b>Japanese Cooking Class &amp; Demonstration:</b> Join the Society and learn how to make your favorite Japanese dishes from Chef Taka Moriuchi of Taka Sushi & Passion. This is an event you don't want to miss as Taka-san will share his secrets about how to make gyoza, soba tsuyu, and okonomiyaki. After the cooking class & demonstration, enjoy your creation for lunch.
August 29	<b>Lake Lanier Boating Trip:</b> The JASG's Young Professionals group rents a 26 person 2-story yacht and a jet ski for summer fun on Lake Lanier. The yacht is complete with waterslide, wet bar, stereo, and many other amenities. Feel free to bring snacks, drinks, swim suits, and water sports gear for this great summer event!
September – November	<b>Fall Business Japanese Classes:</b> A variety of levels of Japanese language classes are offered. Classes meet for two hours, one evening per week, for a total of eight weeks.
September 2	<b>Japanese Foreign Minister's Commendation Award Presentation:</b> Join JASG members for a special reception hosted by the Consulate General of Japan in Atlanta to celebrate the awarding of Japan's prestigious Foreign Minister's Award to the JASG for its continued efforts to promote U.S.-Japan relationship.
September 11	<b>JASG Fall Baseball Day Out:</b> Join JASG members for day of fun at Turner Field as Kenshin Kawakami & Takashi Saito and the hometown Atlanta Braves battle the St. Louis Cardinals. All tickets give access to Turner Field's newly renovated 755 Club. We encourage you to join us for food, drinks, and fun before the game. Stadium gates open at 2:00 p.m.
September 18 – 19	<b>JapanFest 2010:</b> Held again this year at the Gwinnett Convention Center in Duluth, this annual festival has continued to grow in size and popularity, reaching over 20,000 attendees. JapanFest is two days of immersing yourself in everything Japan: dance and taiko (drum) performances; learning the intricate maneuvers of Japanese martial arts; tasting various Japanese foods; visiting the many different cultural exhibitions; and appreciating different expositions from Japanese companies in Georgia who employ over 34,000 Americans. Tickets are \$8 and free for children 6 and under.
September 22	<b>TOTO U.S.A. Facility Tour:</b> JASG members and guests gather at TOTO USA in Morrow, Georgia for a private tour of its facilities. TOTO is the world's largest plumbing products manufacturer and has been producing high performance lifestyle enhancing plumbing products for residential and commercial restrooms for over 90 years.
October 10	<b>JASG/JASA Friendship Golf Tournament:</b> This annual golf tournament is always a favorite among the members of the Society. Held at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail at Silver Lakes, the JASG partners with the Japan-America Society of Alabama to host this golf outing, open to golfers of all levels.
October 24	<b>JASG/NAAAP Sake &amp; Sushi Tasting:</b> Join JASG members and friends for an opportunity to learn more about and taste sake and sushi. This event is held at Bishoku Japanese Restaurant and will also feature a special menu inspired by popular home-cooked Japanese dishes.
October 26	<b>"What's New with OSHA: Current and Future Impact":</b> The JASG partners with the Greater Rome Chamber of Commerce for this lunch seminar as attendees learn about current OSHA inspection trends and inspection priorities under the current Federal Administration. The current top 10 citations are reviewed and discussed, as well as which industries will be the focus of OSHA Inspections and Compliance.
December	<b>Bonenkai Holiday Dinner:</b> As a part of the Society's winter tradition, the JASG celebrates the holidays at its 30th Bonenkai Holiday Dinner. The Bonenkai Dinner is one of those rare occasions when a diverse representation of members of the community, including many top Japanese and American business leaders, are gathered together in one place for a time of celebration and enjoyment. In conjunction with the dinner, the JASG hosts the ever-popular Silent Auction.

\*\*\* In addition to these programs and events, the JASG offers monthly **Kayobi-Kai** dinner meetings and **Nihongo-Kai** Japanese conversation club. The **Kayobi-Kai** meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at various restaurants in metro-Atlanta. **Nihongo-Kai** meetings are perfect for people looking to practice their Japanese with native and non-native speakers, and are held at various coffee shops, restaurants, university/college classrooms, and community centers.