

The Japan Foundation Awards

List of Past Recipients

● The Japan Foundation Awards

● The Japan Foundation Special Prizes

The Japan Foundation Special Prizes have been integrated into The Japan Foundation Awards since 2008.



Year	Award	Recipients
2025	●	Marty Gross (Producer/Director, Marty Gross Film Productions Inc.) [Canada]
	●	Jung Giyoung (Professor, Busan University of Foreign Studies) [Korea]
2024	●	SHIOTA Chiharu (Artist) [Japan]
	●	Association of Japanese Language Teachers of Mongolia [Mongolia]
	●	The Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures (SISJAC) [U.K.]
2023	●	MIYAGI Satoshi (Stage Director/General Artistic Director of the Shizuoka Performing Arts Center) [Japan]
	●	OGAWA Yoko (Novelist) [Japan]
	●	Peruvian Japanese Association/Asociación Peruano Japonesa (APJ) [Peru]
2022	●	Robert Lepage (Actor, Playwright, theatre and movie Director) [Canada]
	●	Korean Japanese Association [Korea]
	●	Goenawan Mohamad (Poet, Writer and Painter) [Indonesia]
2021	●	KOREEDA Hirokazu (Film Director) [Japan]
	●	MIYATA Mayumi (<i>Shō</i> Performer) [Japan]
	●	Faculty of Japanese Language and Culture, University of Languages and International Studies -Vietnam National University, Hanoi (VNU) Faculty of Japanese, Foreign Trade University Department of Japanese Studies, Hanoi University [Vietnam]
	●	Irmela Hijiya-Kirschner (Professor Free University of Berlin) [Germany]
2020		The Japan Foundation Awards 2020 were cancelled due to the spread of COVID-19.
2019	●	TANIKAWA Shuntaro (Poet) [Japan]
	●	Association of Indonesian Alumni From Japan (PERSADA) [Indonesia]
	●	Ewa Palasz-Rutkowska (Professor, University of Warsaw) [Poland]
2018	●	TAWADA Yoko (Poet and Writer) [Japan]
	●	TSUGAWA Masahiko (Actor) [Japan] *The Japan Foundation Special Awards
	●	HOSOKAWA Toshio (Composer) [Japan]
	●	Spanish-Japanese Cultural Center of the University of Salamanca [Spain]
		*Specially awarded in honor of the late TSUGAWA Masahiko contribution.
2017	●	Alexandra Munroe (Senior Curator, Asian Art, and Senior Advisor, Global Arts, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum) [U.S.A.]
	●	Frederik L. Schodt (Writer, translator, and interpreter) [U.S.A.]
	●	Andrej Bekeš (Professor Emeritus of Japanese Studies, University of Ljubljana) [Slovenia]
2016	●	Cai Guo-Qiang (Artist) [China]
	●	Susan J. Pharr (Edwin O. Reischauer Professor of Japanese Politics and Director of the Program on U.S.-Japan Relations, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University) [U.S.A.]
	●	Centro Brasileiro de Língua Japonesa (CBLJ) [Brazil]
2015	●	Wang Yong (Professor/Director, Institute of East Asian Studies, Zhejiang Gongshang University) [China]
	●	TOMITA Isao (Composer) [Japan]
	●	Sibiu International Theatre Festival [Romania]
2014	●	YANAGIYA Sankyō (Rakugo Performer) [Japan]
	●	Peter Drysdale (Emeritus Professor, Australian National University (ANU)) [Australia]
	●	Japanese Philology Department, Institute of Asian and African Countries, Lomonosov Moscow State University [Russia]
2013	●	IRIYE Akira (Professor Emeritus, Harvard University) [Japan]
	●	SANKAI JUKU [Japan]
	●	Technology Promotion Association (Thailand-Japan) [Thailand]
2012	●	Department of Japanese Language and Civilization, National Institute of Oriental Languages and Civilizations (INALCO) [France]
	●	MURAKAMI Haruki (Writer/Translator) [Japan]
	●	Irene Hirano Inouye (President, U.S.-Japan Council) [U.S.A.]
2011	●	TAMBUCO Percussion Ensemble [Mexico]
	●	Department of Japanese and Japanese Literature, Faculty of Arts, Cairo University [Egypt]
	●	Augustin Berque (Retired Professor, School of Advanced Studies in Social Sciences) [France]

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2010	●	SATO Tadao (Film Critic) [Japan]
	●	Savitri Vishwanathan (Former Professor of Japanese Studies, University of Delhi) [India]
	●	Ben-Ami Shillony (Professor Emeritus of Japanese Studies, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem) [Israel]
2009	●	Boris Akunin (Grigory Chkhartishvili) (Writer) [Russia]
	●	Alliance of Associations of Teachers of Japanese (AATJ) [U.S.A.]
	●	Arthur Stockwin (Formerly Director of the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies at the University of Oxford) [U.K.]
2008	●	Marco Müller (Director of the Venice International Film Festival) [Italy]
	●	Angela Hondru (Professor of Japanese Literature and Civilization, Hyperion University) [Romania]
	●	Kenneth B. Pyle (Henry M. Jackson Professor of History and Asian Studies, University of Washington) [U.S.A.]
2007	●	Royal Tyler (Former Professor and Head of the Japanese Centre, Faculty of Asian Studies, Australian National University) [Australia]
	●	KITAGAWA Fram (Art Director, Chairman of Art Front Gallery Co.) [Japan]
	●	Levy Hideo (Novelist, Professor of Hosei University) [U.S.A.]
	●	Ayse Selcuk Esenbel (Professor, Bosphorus University, President, Japanese Studies Association) [Turkey]
2006	●	Joe & Etsuko Price (Directors, The Shin'enKan Foundation) [U.S.A.]
	●	Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival Organizing Committee [Japan]
	●	Saint-Petersburg State University, Faculty of Asian and African Studies [Russia]
	●	Kim Yongdeok (Dean, Graduate School of International Studies, Seoul National University) [Korea]
2005	●	MIYAZAKI Hayao (Animated film director) [Japan]
	●	Philippine Educational Theater Association [Philippines]
	●	China Japanese Education Association [China]
	●	Tabassum Kashmiri (Former Foreign Instructor, Osaka University of Foreign Studies) [Pakistan]
2004	●	AKIYOSHI Toshiko (Jazz pianist, Jazz Music Composer) [Japan]
	●	James Quandt (Senior Programmer, Cinematheque Ontario) [Canada]
	●	Yi Dok Bong (Professor, Division of Foreign Languages, Dongduk Women's University) [Korea]
	●	TAKARA Kurayoshi (Professor, Faculty of Law and Letters, the University of the Ryukyus) [Japan]
2003	●	Josef Kreiner (Director, The University of Bonn) [Austria]
	●	ISHIZAWA Yoshiaki (Professor, Faculty of Foreign Studies, Sophia University) [Japan]
	●	KATO Mikio (Trustee and Executive Director, The International House of Japan) [Japan]
	●	Far Eastern National University Institute of Oriental Studies [Russia]
	●	Turkish Japanese Foundation [Turkey]
2002	●	OOKA Makoto (Poet) [Japan]
	●	Gerald L. Curtis (Burgess Professor of Political Science, Columbia University) [U.S.A.]
	●	The Old Japan Students' Association, Thailand (OJSAT) [Thailand]
	●	Warsaw University, Oriental Studies Institute, Department of Japanese and Korean Studies [Poland]
	●	"Japanese Mothers for Foreign Students" Movement of the Tokyo YWCA [Japan]
2001	●	William Gerald Beasley (Emeritus Professor of the History of the Far East, University of London) [U.K.]
	●	HIRAYAMA Ikuo (Artist) [Japan]
	●	Kosta Balabanov (President of the Society for Macedonian-Japanese, Friendship and Cooperation, Honorary Consul-General of Japan in Skopje) [Macedonia]
	●	MIURA Naoyuki (President, Artistic Director of Music From Japan, Inc.) [Japan]
	●	The Berliner Festspiele [Germany]
2000	●	Chi Myong Kwan (Director of Institute of Japanese Studies, Hallym University) [Korea]
	●	ISHII Yoneo (President, Kanda University of Foreign Studies) [Japan]
	●	Willy F. Vande Walle (Department Chair of Department of Oriental and Slavonic Studies, The Catholic University of Leuven) [Belgium]
	●	Tikotin Museum of Japanese Art, Haifa Museums [Israel]
	●	The Daidō Life Foundation [Japan]
1999	●	Frank B. Gibney (President, The Pacific Basin Institute at Pomona College) [U.S.A.]
	●	Wolfgang Sawallisch (Conductor, Music Director of the Philadelphia Orchestra, Honorary Conductor Laureate of the NHK Symphony Orchestra) [Germany]
	●	Ahmet Mete Tunçoku (Professor, Middle East Technical University) [Turkey]
	●	YAMAMOTO Tadashi (President, Japan Center for International Exchange) [Japan]
	●	Japanese American National Museum [U.S.A.]
1998	●	Robert A. Scalapino (Professor Emeritus, University of California at Berkeley) [U.S.A.]
	●	DAN Ikuma (Composer, Member of the Art Academy of Japan) [Japan]
	●	Thomas Erdos (Artistic Director) [France]
	●	Pusan Korea-Japan Cultural Exchange Association [Korea]
	●	Suntory Foundation [Japan]

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1997	●	Sun Ping-hua (President, The China-Japan Friendship Association) [China]
	●	Roger Goepfer (Professor, University of Cologne) [Germany]
	●	Kai Nieminen (Translator of Japanese Literature, Japanologist, Writer) [Finland]
	●	Centre of Japanese Art and Technology "Manggha" in Cracow [Poland]
1996	●	Lee O-Young (Chair Professor, Ewha Women's University) [Korea]
	●	Ezra-Feivel Vogel (Director, Fairbank Center for East-Asian Research, Harvard University) [U.S.A.]
	●	GOTO Midori (Violinist/Founder and President of the Midori Foundation) [Japan/U.S.A.]
	●	Donald Keene Center of Japanese Culture, Columbia University [U.S.A.]
1995	●	SEN Soshitsu (Grand Master, Urasenke Tradition of Tea) [Japan]
	●	Donald Richie (Writer / Film Historian) [U.S.A.]
	●	Haji Abdul Razak bin Abdul Hamid (Head, Look East Policy Programme, Centre of Preparatory Education, MARA Institute of Technology) [Malaysia]
	●	The Association for the Conservation of National Treasures [Japan]
1994	●	Heinrich Pfeiffer (Secretary General, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation) [Germany]
	●	KAWATAKE Toshio (Professor Emeritus, Waseda University) [Japan]
	●	Phaisith Phipatanakul (Secretary General, National Assembly) [Thailand]
	●	Kōdansha International, Ltd. [Japan]
1993	●	Josef Pittau, S.J. (President, The Pontifical Gregorian University) [Italy]
	●	TAKEMITSU Toru (Composer) [Japan]
	●	Tatyana Lyovna Sokolova-Delyusina (Translator, Member of the Moscow Literator Committee) [Russia]
	●	Iwanami Hall [Japan]
1992	●	Sutan Takdir Alisjahbana (Rector, Universitas Nasional/Literature) [Indonesia]
	●	Frits Vos (Professor Emeritus, Leiden University/Japanese Studies) [Netherlands]
	●	KURONUMA Yuriko (Violinist, Director of Academia Yuriko Kuronuma) [Japan/Mexico]
	●	Peter Kornicki (University Lecturer in Japanese, University of Cambridge) [U.K.]
	●	HAYASHI Nozomu (Associate Professor, Toyoko Gakuen Women's College/Japanese Literature) [Japan]
1991	●	The Association for Japanese-Language Teaching [Japan]
	●	Han Byong-sam (Director-General, National Museum of Korea/Anthropology) [Korea]
	●	Ian Nish (Professor Emeritus, London School of Economics, Univ. of London/ Anglo-Japanese relations) [U.K.]
	●	La Asociación Argentino-Japonesa (Argentine-Japanese Association) [Argentina]
1990	●	Japan Silver Volunteers, Inc. [Japan]
	●	UMESAO Tadao (Director-General, National Museum of Ethnology) [Japan]
	●	Wiesław Roman Kotański (Professor, The University of Warsaw/Japanese Studies) [Poland]
	●	The University of Tokyo Press [Japan]
1989	●	The Indonesian Foundation for Intercultural Learning [Indonesia]
	●	Alexander Slawik (Professor Emeritus, The University of Vienna/Ethnology, Asian Studies) [Austria]
	●	David MacEachron (Advisor to the Board of Directors, the Japan Society (NY)) [U.S.A.]
	●	HOSONO Akio (Professor, The University of Tsukuba/Economics, Latin American Studies) [Japan]
1988	●	Japan Association for Foreign Student Affairs [Japan]
	●	Xia Yan (Vice-President, All-China Federation of Literary and Art Circles) [China]
	●	OZAWA Seiji (Music Director, Boston Symphony Orchestra) [Japan]
	●	Jean-Jacques Origas (Professor, l'Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales [INALCO]) [France]
1987	●	Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre (Toronto) [Canada]
	●	James W. Morley (Professor, Columbia University/International Relations) [U.S.A.]
	●	NAKANE Chie (Professor Emerita, University of Tokyo/Social Anthropology) [Japan]
	●	Lokesh Chandra (Director, International Academy of Indian Culture/Buddhism) [India]
1986	●	Josef Kreiner (Professor, Bonn University/Japanese Ethnology) [Austria]
	●	Fosco Maraini (President, Italian Association for Japanese Studies/Anthropology) [Italy]
	●	The Japan Society of Northern California [U.S.A.]
	●	IDA Shōtarō (Associate Professor, University of British Columbia/Indian Studies, Buddhism) [Japan]
1985	●	The Japan-Netherlands Institute [Japan]
	●	Eleanor Harz Jordan (Professor, Cornell University/Linguistics, Japanese-Language Teaching) [U.S.A.]
	●	Bernard Frank (Professor, Collège de France/Japanese Literature, Religious Thought) [France]
	●	The International Education Center [Japan]
●	Japan-China Cultural Exchange Association [Japan]	

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1984	●	MAEDA Yoichi (Managing Director, The International House of Japan, Inc.) [Japan]
	●	Sir John Grenfell Crawford (Former Chancellor, Australian National University/Economics) [Australia]
	●	Edward George Seidensticker (Professor, Columbia University/Japanese Literature) [U.S.A.]
	●	Kawakita Memorial Film Institute [Japan]
1983	●	AFS International/Intercultural Programs, Inc. [U.S.A.]
	●	SUZUKI Shin'ichi (President & Director, Talent Education Institute) [Japan]
	●	Donald Keene (Professor, Columbia University/Japanese Literature) [U.S.A.]
	●	René Sieffert (President, l'Institut National des Langues et Civilisations Orientales [INALCO]) [France]
1982	●	The Asian Cultural Centre for UNESCO [Japan]
	●	The International Students Institute [Japan]
	●	AMANO Yoshitarō (Honorary Director, The Museo Amano of Peru) [Peru]
	●	KUROSAWA Akira (Film Director) [Japan]
1981	●	Marius Berthus Jansen (Professor, Princeton University/Japanese Studies) [U.S.A.]
	●	The Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies [in Tokyo]
	●	The Asiatic Society of Japan [in Tokyo]
	●	Ungku Abdul Aziz (Vice Chancellor, University of Malaya/Economics) [Malaysia]
1980	●	George Richard Storry (Professor Emeritus, University of Oxford/Japanese Studies) [U.K.]
	●	The Institute of Eastern Culture [Japan]
	●	Publishers Association for Cultural Exchange, Japan [Japan]
	●	The Nihon Ki-in [Japan]
1979	●	IWAMURA Shinobu (Professor Emeritus, Kyoto University/Eastern Studies) [Japan]
	●	George Cyril Allen (Professor Emeritus, University of London/Japanese Studies) [U.K.]
	●	Hugh Borton (Senior Researcher, Asian Institute, Columbia University) [U.S.A.]
	●	Africa Society of Japan [Japan]
1978	●	The Society for Teaching Japanese as a Foreign Language [Japan]
	●	MATSUMOTO Shigeharu (Chairman, The International House of Japan, Inc.) [Japan]
	●	Charles Burton Fahs (Former Minister at U.S. Embassy in Tokyo; Former Professor, Miami University) [U.S.A.]
	●	Robert Guillain (Journalist) [France]
1977	●	KURIHARA Ken (Compilatory Staff, Diplomatic Record Office) [Japan]
	●	The Australia, Japan and Western Pacific Economic Relations Research Committee, A.N.U. [Australia]
	●	TAKAGI Yasaka (Professor Emeritus, University of Tokyo; Member of the Japan Academy/U.S. Political History) [Japan]
	●	Frank James Daniels (Professor Emeritus, University of London/Japanese Language Teaching Methodology) [U.K.]
1976	●	James Lanius Stewart (Representative in Japan, The Asian Foundation) [U.S.A.]
	●	The Tokyo School of Japanese Language, The Institute for Research in Linguistic Culture [Japan]
	●	The Kodōkan [Japan]
	●	Ronald Philip Dore (Professor, University of Sussex) [U.K.]
1975	●	ISHIBASHI Choei (Chairman, International Medical Society of Japan/Pediatrics) [Japan]
	●	Meiji Newspapers and Magazine Library, the Faculty of Laws, the University of Tokyo [Japan]
	●	The International Society for Educational Information [Japan]
	●	Simul International, Inc. [Japan]
1974	●	John Whitney Hall (Professor, Yale University/Modern Japanese History) [U.S.A.]
	●	Robert E. Ward (Professor, Stanford University/Politics) [U.S.A.]
	●	The Tōyō Bunko [Japan]
	●	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Natur- und Völkerkunde Ostasiens [in Tokyo]
1973	●	The Fukuoka UNESCO Association [Japan]
	●	YOSHIKAWA Kojiro (Professor Emeritus, Kyoto University; Chairman, The Institute of Eastern Culture) [Japan]
	●	Edwin Oldfather Reischauer (Professor, Harvard University; Former Ambassador to Japan/Japanese Studies) [U.S.A.]
	●	The Asian Students Cultural Association [Japan]
1972	●	The Maison Franco-Japonaise [Japan]
	●	The European Association for Japanese Studies [Europe]
	●	James William Fulbright (Former Senator) [U.S.A.]
	●	Bernard Howell Leach (Potter) [U.K.]
1971	●	Japan Center for International Exchange [Japan]
	●	The Japanese Cultural Society, Singapore [Singapore]
	●	Serge Elisséeff (Professor, Harvard University/Japanese Studies) [U.S.A.]
	●	The International House of Japan, Inc. [Japan]
1970	●	Japan Society [U.S.A.]
	●	Sophia University [Japan]