Each year, the Japan Foundation confers the Japan Foundation Awards and the Japan Foundation Special Prizes on individuals and organizations who have made outstanding contributions to cultural exchange and mutual understanding between Japan and other countries. The Awards are conferred in recognition of conspicuous past contributions upon those whom it is thought will continue to be influential; the Special Prizes are awarded to individuals or organizations of impressive achievement, in the particular hope that they will be increasingly active in the future.

This year recipients were chosen from among 165 nominees worldwide. The selection committee was composed of the following members: Shinichiro Asao, Yoneo Ishii, Kazuki Kasuya, Yoshihiko Miyauchi, Hiroko Nakamura, Takashi Oshio, Tetsuo Yamaori, and Masakazu Yamazaki.

The Japan Foundation Awards (Additional Prize of 5 Million Yen)

Dr. Yoshiaki Ishizawa
Professor, the Faculty of Foreign Studies, Sophia University

For more than forty years, Dr. Ishizawa has been involved in investigation of cultural properties, and he has rendered service toward the preservation of the cultural heritage of Southeast Asia. He deserves special mention for his involvement in the excavations, preservation, and restoration of the Angkor Wat remains in the virgin forests of Cambodia and his cooperation with local researchers, even throughout the civil war there, leading to the designation of Angkor Wat as a World Heritage site. Thus he has made great contributions toward the rediscovery of Southeast Asian history and to international cultural and academic exchange.

Brief Personal History

1961 B.A., the Faculty of Foreign Studies, Sophia University (French language and Studies)
1974-79 Conducted research on ancient Khmer inscriptions at the Ecole Pratique des Hautes Etudes à la Sorbonne (France) (1974-75, 78-79)
1977 Ph.D. in literature, Chuo University. Became an Associate professor at Kagoshima University
1982 Professor of the Institute of Asian Cultures of the Faculty of Foreign Studies, Sophia University
1982- Chief of the Sophia University Angkor International Mission
1984-93 Director of the Institute of Asian Cultures and Chairman of the Department of Asian Cultures, Sophia University
1992-93 Chairman of the Japan Society for Southeast Asian History
1992- Member of the UNESCO International Consultation Committee for World Heritage
1992- Member of the committee for Architectural and Cultural Properties in the Asia-Pacific, the Agency of Cultural Affairs (Japan)
1995-98 Dean of the Faculty of Foreign Studies, Sophia University

Awards Received

1987 International Foundation of the Daido Insurance Area Studies Encouragement Prize
1991 Foreign Minister’s Commendation (Japan)
1992 Cum Sophia Award (Sophia University)
1998 Decoration of Grand Officer de l’Ordre Royal du Cambodge de Sahametrei from His Majesty King Sihanouk Varman

Major Publications

Protohistory of Southeast Asia (Southeast Asian History Series vol.1) (Tokyo: Iwanami Shoten, 2001, in Japanese)
Formation and Development of States in Southeast Asia (Southeast Asian History Series vol.2) (Tokyo: Iwanami Shoten, 2001, in Japanese)
Dr. Josef Kreiner
Director, the Institute of Japanese Studies, The University of Bonn

Dr. Kreiner is one of the major figures in the field of Japanese studies both in Europe and throughout the entire world. He has done outstanding research on the society and culture of all parts of Japan, including Okinawa and Hokkaido, and he continues his studies from a broad viewpoint. In 1987, he received the Japan Foundation Special Prize, and subsequently, he has continued remarkable activities, including his service as Director of the Institute for Japanese Studies (Tokyo) for eight years. It is in recognition of these outstanding activities that he has been selected as the recipient for the Japan Foundation Award this year.

Brief Personal History
1964 Ph.D. in Ethnology, the University of Vienna
1968 Professor of the Literature Department, the University of Vienna (Habilitation)
1971-77 Professor and Chair in Japanese studies, the University of Vienna
1974-79 Chairman of the European Association of Japanese Studies (EAJS)
1975-76 Visited Japan as a Fellow, the Japan Foundation
1977- Professor and Director of the Institute of Japanese Studies, the University of Bonn
1981-88 Director of the Institute of Oriental Languages of the University of Bonn
1988-96 Founding Director of the German Institute for Japanese Studies, Tokyo
1998- Representative of the Center for Asian Studies, the University of Bonn

Awards Received
1987 The Japan Foundation Special Prize
1995 Higa Shuncho Prize of the Society for the Research on Okinawan Culture
1995 Yamakata Bunto Prize
1996 Officer’s Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany
1997 Austrian Cross of Honor for Science and Art First Class

Major Publications
The Concept of God in the Religion of the Ryukyu Islands (with Kazuhiro Sumiya; Tokyo: Mirai-Sha, 1977; in Japanese)
The Dawn of Tokugawa Japan-Seen by Father and Son Siebold, (editor; Tokyo: NHK Publishers, 1998)
Othernesses of Japan: Historical and Cultural Influences on Japanese Studies in Ten Countries (with Harumi Befu; Munch: Indicium, 1992)
Japanese Culture and Society: Models of Interpretation (with Hans-Dieter Ölschleger; Munich: Indicium, 1996)
Ryukyu in world history (Bonn: Bier’sche Verlagsanstalt, 2001)

The Japan Foundation Special Prizes (Additional Prize of 2 Million Yen)

Turkish Japanese Foundation
This foundation serves as a base for the promotion of a friendly and cooperative relationship between Turkey and Japan, in which capacity, it has made an outstanding contribution to the introduction of Japanese culture, though the carrying out of broadly diverse cultural programs, including film screenings, art exhibitions, and lectures. It has also exerted prodigious efforts toward the promotion of Japanese-Language, and great expectations are held for its increasing activities in the future as a symbol of friendship between Turkey and Japan.

Birth History
1993 Founded under the initiative of the then President Suleyman Demirel. Tayyar Sadiklar, then Customs and Government Monopoly Minister, was appointed as Chairman of the board of directors of the foundation.
1996 Construction of the Turkish-Japanese Foundation Culture Center Began.
1998 Completed the construction of the Turkish-Japanese Foundation Culture Center (The Turkish government provided the building site and paid most of the construction expenses, and the rest was covered with the support of the Japanese government and private sector.)
2000 Opening of Japanese-Language courses
2001 Completion of construction of a Japanese garden
Major Activities
The purpose of the Foundation is to promote exchange and friendship between Turkey and Japan. There are 5 existing Japan-Turkey friendship groups that have their offices in the Cultural Center: Turkish-Japanese Women’s Friendship and Culture Association, Turkish-Japanese Friendship Association, JICA Alumni Association, and Turkish-Japanese Exchange Students’ Solidarity Association for Japanese Culture and Studies.

On a site of 10,000 m², the Culture Center that is founded and managed by the Turkish Japanese Foundation, has following facilities; a large hall (450 seats), a seminar hall (80 seats), an exhibition hall, and a tea room. Since it’s opening, it has conducted such varied activities as Wadaiko performances, Japanese dance performances, Turkish-Japanese students’experiences, lectures on the macro-economy of Japan, Japanese film screenings, photo exhibitions of Japanese architecture, and Japanese-language speech contests. They operate also Japanese-language courses. It has also a library with a large number of books and documents related to Japan that is open to both the general public and people of other Japanese-Language organizations in Turkey.

Mikio Kato
Trustee and Executive Director, The International House of Japan
Kato has been involved in the practical work of cultural exchange among the various foreign nations, centered on America and the countries of Southeast Asia, for many years. The International House of Japan plays an important role as a major Japanese international exchange organ, as well as serving as a base in Japan for American-cultural-exchanges and universities. As the executive in charge of cultural-exchange programs at I-House, he has made outstanding accomplishments toward intellectual exchange and mutual understanding on a global scale.

Major Personal History
1959 B.A., Department of Political Science and Economics, Waseda University
1959-1964 Joined International House of Japan
1961-1964 Graduate studies as a Fulbright exchange student at Brandeis University, USA
1962 On-the-job training at the Japan Society of America (New York)
1964 Returned to his former post at International House of Japan
1979 Trustee and Executive Director of International House of Japan

He has also contributed to international exchange in the capacity of special advisor and executive director of the Aspen Institute Japan; as councilor and director of the English Language Education Council.

Awards Received
1972 Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters, Wittenberg University
1993 Foreign Minister’s Award of Distinguished Service for International Understanding (Japan)
1994 Fellow, Brandeis University

Major Translations
The World Destroyed – Atomic Bomb and Grand Alliance by Martin Sherwin (TBS Britannica, 1978)
Japan and Its World – Two Centuries of Change by Marius B. Jansen (Tokyo; Iwanami Shoten, 1982)
On Leadership by John Gardner (Tokyo; Diamond, 1993)
Japan and its East Asian Neighbors by Marius Jansen (Tokyo; Iwanami Shoten, 1999)

Far Eastern National University Institute of Oriental Studies
This institute boasts a long history as a traditional base for Japanese studies on the Pacific coast of Russia. Thus, it has exerted great influence on the diffusion and dissemination of Japanese-language studies and Japanese culture. It is also actively involved in academic and artistic exchange activities with neighboring countries, including Japan, with an aim toward the development of university education in close cooperation with the Asia-Oceania region.

Major Activities
This institute started as the first Japanese-Language institution in Far East Russia, and has played an important role as a key base of Japanese-Language and Japanese studies over 100 years. It gives priority to educate small number of elites for practical capacity building. Large number of graduates who majored in the Japanese-language work actively in various fields such as Japanese-language instructors and interpreters, as well as Japan specialists in local governments, municipal governments and Russian Foreign Ministry. The Japanese students of the Hakodate branch of the Far Eastern National University are given opportunities to study on its main campus. In such ways it has contributed to the promotion of mutual understand between Russia and Japan.
The University’s Japanese-language department maintains friendly link relationships with 9 Japanese universities, including Waseda University, through which it carries out such activities as mutual training, joint research, and internet and video conferences for both students and teachers.

For the establishment of the Vladivostok Japan Center, the University provided a building site on its campus free of charge, and it continues its active cooperation in the promotion of understanding of Japanese culture in Far East Russia.

**Brief History**

1899  Established the forerunner of the Institute of Oriental Studies

1920  Established the Far Eastern National University

1936-56  Closed temporarily

1956  Reopening of the Far Eastern National University

1962  Reopened as the Oriental Studies Department of the Far Eastern National University

1993  Recognized as a Core Organization for Japanese studies by the Japan Foundation

1994  Reorganized as the Institute of Oriental Studies of the Far Eastern National University

1996  Supported the establishment of the Vladivostok Japan Center
The Japan Foundation has presented The Japan Foundation Prizes for the Promotion of Community-based Cultural Exchange since FY1985 to commend organizations and individuals who have contributed to the promotion of mutual international understanding and friendship through international exchange programs in the region and who are expected to continue their contribution. The following three organizations won the award in FY2003 from among over 120 candidates after deliberation by Noriyu Arita, Sadao Iketani, Katsutoshi Enokida, Eiko Katsumata, Masayuki Sasaki, Takako Tamura and Akihiro Minato in the 19th award presentation.

The Japan Foundation Prizes for the Promotion of Community-based Cultural Exchange (Additional Prize of 1.5 Million Yen)

- **Artist-in-Residence “Mino Paper Art Village” Executive Committee (Gifu Prefecture)**
  The characteristics of the Artist-in-Residence Program are the use of “Mino Washi”, which possesses 1,300 years of history as a traditional craft, and promotion of international exchange in which the members of the Executive Committee and the volunteer service groups of citizens act as interpreters, conduct publicity activities, plan and manage workshops for children and support the creative activities of the artists. Artists from abroad are encouraged to use the technique in their creations after they return home, and members of the Mino community are energized by the experience of communicating with artists who are freely creative without being constrained by local tradition.

- **Takefu International Music Festival Board**
  The Takefu International Music Festival Board is an organization consisting entirely of local volunteers and has created the current music festival style through high quality program structure including contemporary music pieces. During the festival, performances are held not only at the Main Hall of the Takefu Bunka Center, the primary event venue, but also at schools, temples, shrines, restaurants and a host of other locations that serve to envelope the town in music. The passion of the Takefu International Music Festival Board’s local volunteers to have others share the pleasure of enjoying superlative performances and communicating with musicians and composers from abroad is what maintains the world-class level of this music festival.

- **The International Symposium on the Okhotsk Sea and Sea Ice Executive Committee (Hokkaido)**
  At the International Sea Ice Symposium held in Mombetsu, researchers from around the world gather and make presentations on the results of scientific research related to sea ice and the Okhotsk Sea. Over 300 local volunteers and the Executive Committee of the International Symposium on the Okhotsk Sea and Sea Ice have been united in supporting international scientific exchange over the past 18 years. It is also a staging area for grassroots international exchange, and opportunities are created for researchers from abroad to visit local schools and take part in events designed to foster cultural exchange. The residents unite forces in this international scientific exchange with its close ties to local features, and they have been provided with the opportunity to reevaluate local culture while enjoying the stimulation of international exchange.