

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

THE APPLICATION PROCESS IS TO:

- 1 Provide payment for dues via credit card or check.
- 2 Complete the HAJAS Corporate Member Enrollment Form, which is available for download from the HAJAS website, so we have information to create a membership record and secure credit card information.

The cost of corporate membership is \$200 per year for a year that begins each January 1. If joining after August 1, the cost for the remainder of the year is \$100. Complete information is available on the HAJAS website at the tab for Sponsors & Corporate Members.



HEART OF AMERICA JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY Corporate Membership

PROMOTING CULTURAL
AWARENESS
IN THE HEART OF AMERICA

日米協会



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THE JAPAN-AMERICA SOCIETY

The Heart of America Japan America Society (HAJAS) was founded in 1962.

Our mission is to further understanding between the peoples of Japan and the Greater Kansas City area by promoting social, cultural, and educational exchanges. We are a non-profit, non-political 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.



OUR JAPANESE SISTER CITY

In 1972, Kurashiki became the Sister City of Kansas City, Missouri. HAJAS enjoys a strong relationship with Kurashiki. During the summer months, we offer student exchanges between our two cities. The lives of these youth are deeply affected by their memorable experiences and deepened friendships.

These are special events in our history. In 1997 Kurashiki gave Kansas City 25 sakura (ornamental cherry) trees to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Sister City relationship. Five years later, in 2002, the Loose Park Japanese Garden and Tea Room were jointly dedicated by officials from each city. In 2007, 500 citizens of Kurashiki, including adults, students, performers, teachers, athletes, and city officials arrived in Kansas City for a week of cultural activities. In 2012, a delegation of officials from Kurashiki and Japanese Ambassador to the United States, Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki, dedicated 20 sakura trees from the Japanese government in recognition of the 100th anniversary of gifted trees planted in Washington, DC. There was a celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the founding of HAJAS and the 40th Anniversary of the Sister City relationship.

MEMBERS GET TOGETHER MANY TIMES, IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS.

Shinnenkai | We begin the year at a special dinner with friends and business associates to celebrate the Japanese New Year.

Monthly Meetings | Members gather to learn about Japan's culture, history, food, dance, and to receive reports on upcoming HAJAS activities.

Japanese Garden & Tea Room | Members and friends help the City of Kansas City to maintain a beautiful garden and authentic tea room at the Loose Park Garden Center.

Cultural Classes and Conversation | Learn about Japanese films, Taiko drumming, flower arranging (Ikebana), Japanese language and conversation, Kendo and other martial arts through our member connections. In April we gather for a true Hanami (flower viewing) event at Loose Park.



Festivals | HAJAS supports and participates in the Ethnic Enrichment Festival, the Asian Cultural Festival, and the JETAA Film Festival. Our members do more than just attend these events—they volunteer and participate in them as well.

Greater Kansas City Japan Festival | The GKCJF is sponsored by the HAJAS and is our premier outreach and fund-raising event featuring cultural, contemporary, educational, and highly entertaining performances, lectures, and programs. Companies and individuals are offered opportunities to promote their business to enthusiastic attendees of the Festival.



CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

HAJAS has a long history of individual and family membership. In addition, there is a history of strong support by the corporate community for the Greater Kansas City Japan Festival.

Some corporations or foundations cannot participate in these current opportunities or may seek additional opportunities including support for our mission and various activities throughout the year. Corporate membership is being created to fill this void.

The benefits of **corporate membership** include:

- Listing on the HAJAS web page highlighting corporate members and the sponsors of the Greater Kansas City Japan Festival, including logo display.
- Listing in the HAJAS Shinnenkai program book as a Corporate Member.
- Use of the corporate logo designed exclusively for use by corporate members on your website and in publications.
- Corporate profile included with announcement of membership in the HAJAS newsletter, *Nichibei News*, in the Corporate Member Spotlight section.
- Opportunity to be a sponsor at a monthly membership meeting by providing an in-kind contribution that promotes your product or service.
- The corporate member can designate up to five persons within their company to receive individual member benefits which includes:
 - ✦ Invitations to all HAJAS meetings, receptions & events.
 - ✦ Volunteer opportunities for all HAJAS events.
 - ✦ Adding to their resume or vita "Member, Heart of America Japan-America Society".

