The Japan-America Society of Washington DC is a 501(c)(3) educational and cultural non-profit organization dedicated to strengthening the relationship between Japan and the U.S. at the grassroots public diplomacy level. Our programming aims to bring Japanese and American people closer together in the Nation’s Capital area through cultural and public affairs classes, workshops, and other programs and events.

Signature Program: The 26th National Japan Bowl
The Japan Bowl is an academic competition that tests high school students throughout the U.S. on the Japanese language as well as its culture and history.

In 2018, 206 students, 67 teams, and 30 schools from across the U.S., as well as a team from Mexico, participated. 46 students traveled to Japan as part of the Kakehashi Project.

Signature Program: 58th Sakura Matsuri - Japanese Street Festival
The Sakura Matsuri was first held in 1961 and is the largest Japanese festival in the U.S., showcasing cultural exhibits, food, Japanese beer & sake, modern & traditional music, and martial arts.

The 58th Matsuri was held along Pennsylvania Ave and attracted over 35,000 attendees during the day.

Signature Program: Japan-in-a-Suitcase
Japan-in-a-Suitcase educates students in schools and libraries about Japan and aims to promote cultural awareness and mutual understanding. It is a free program that goes to K-8 grades in DC, Maryland, and Virginia.

In 2018, the program went to 39 schools, after-school programs, and libraries and reached out to over 1,200 students.
In 2018, the Society held a wide variety of educational and public affairs programs, including language and cultural classes, economic and political seminars, cultural workshops, and the Living in the U.S.A. programs, which introduce Japanese expatriates to the United States. Our Japanese Language School, which is the oldest in the D.C. area, had over 800 enrollments in the language and culture classes in 2018.

**Ongoing Programs & Classes**
- Japanese Language School
- English Language Workshops for Japanese Native Speakers
- Ohanashikai – Japanese Story Time
- Yoga in Japanese
- Shodo (Calligraphy) Classes
- Tanaka & Green Academic Scholarships
- Networking Lunch in Japanese
- Ikebana Classes
- Japanese-English Toastmasters
- J-Book Club
- Monthly Waso-do Kimono Classes
- Cooking Classes
- Political Science & Economics in Japanese

**Corporate & Public Affairs Programs**
- Japan in 2018: A Look at the Year Ahead
- Kakehashi: Japan National Student Association Fund Presentations
- Living in the U.S.A.: 第六回アメリカでの資金運用
- Japan-America Student Conference & America Bowl Winners Reception
- JETAAADC & JASWDC Networking Night
- Living in the U.S.A.: 第七回在米日本人、個人事業主税務に影響する2017年米国税制改正条項
- 32nd Annual Dinner & Silent Auction
- Japan-U.S. Military Program (JUMP) Event with the NWC

**Cultural & Educational Programs**
- Japan 360°: Matsukawa Wagashi Workshop
- CineMatsuri: Japanese Film Festival
- The Art of Japanese Painting: An Evening of Style and Technique
- East Coast Premiere of Sekigahara at MGM National Harbor
- 26th National Japan Bowl
- 58th Sakura Matsuri – Japanese Street Festival
- マザーコーチングスクール
- Japan 360°: Anime/Fandom Journalism & Blogging How-to with Lauren Orsini, Journalist & Author
- Ekoji Obon Festival
- Tanabata Star Festival at Hillwood Estate, Museum, and Gardens
- Sake & Washoku Pairing at Mikaku Restaurant
- Getting Ready for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics: Introduction to Judo with Washington Judo Club
- Otsukimi Moon Viewing at U.S. National Arboretum
- Japan 360°: Tsugaru Jamisen with Zachary Murray