



TOMODACHI

TOMODACHI  
ANNUAL

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INITIATIVE  
REPORT



# Fostering Future Leaders

Dear Friends,

The year 2023 marked yet another important milestone for the TOMODACHI Initiative—the total number of alumni surpassed 10,000 youth. We take pride in seeing that the TOMODACHI program thrives a dozen years after the Great East Japan Earthquake, fulfilling its mission to provide enduring, long-term recovery support for the communities of Tohoku as well as to encourage leadership and connections among young people throughout both countries as an extension of the goodwill on display during Operation Tomodachi in 2011.

Even as we continue to introduce new young people to TOMODACHI each year, we also enjoy engaging with alumni who have become today's leaders. Be they young professionals who are working at global companies, aspiring youth in government, community leaders in non-profit sectors or diligent researchers in academia, many are well on their journey for contributing to the global future of our society.

With negative impact of the global pandemic largely behind us, this past year allowed the resumption of many programs and allowed us to integrate lessons from the COVID era to develop more creative, hybrid content to elevate the effectiveness of our activities. Two major highlights this year were the high energy Next Generation Summit in Tokyo during the summer, as well as the high-profile participation of TOMODACHI alumni at the fall U.S.-Japan Council Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.

Another testament to the vitality of TOMODACHI is the participation of new sponsors. In 2023, Tanaka Sangyo, a prominent construction and freight truck transportation company headquartered in Niigata Prefecture, has joined TOMODACHI Strategic Partners to create a brand-new program under the theme of Agriculture, Climate Change, and Leadership targeting Japanese and American college students.

We are grateful to our founders, sponsors, implementing organizations, advisors, and supporters for their vision and generous support, allowing us to witness the tremendous growth of these leaders and to continue our work of fostering both “next-generation leaders” in the pipeline and alumni “leaders of today” active in society. The U.S.-Japan Council and the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo are proud to work with the Government of Japan and our many partners in contributing to society through our mission to develop young leaders for the United States and Japan.

We sincerely appreciate your commitment to the future of the U.S.-Japan relationship.

Sincerely,

Rahm Emanuel  
U.S. Ambassador to Japan  
U.S. Embassy, Tokyo

Suzanne Basalla  
President & CEO  
U.S.-Japan Council



*“What I have learned from this program is that our possibilities are endless. I feel that with the help of various people, the possibilities of what we can do have expanded, even if we cannot do it alone.”*

~ Nanami Sato



## Our Mission

The TOMODACHI Initiative is a public-private partnership between the U.S.-Japan Council and the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo, with support from the Government of Japan. Born out of support for Japan's recovery from the Great East Japan Earthquake, TOMODACHI invests in the next generation of Japanese and American leaders through educational and cultural exchanges, as well as leadership programs.

## Our History

In the aftermath of the Great East Japan Earthquake of March 11, 2011, the United States military and Japan Self-Defense Forces worked together successfully in Operation Tomodachi to provide immediate humanitarian relief to the Tohoku region. Building upon this cooperation and spirit of friendship, the United States and Japan launched the TOMODACHI Initiative. TOMODACHI is led by the United States Embassy in Tokyo and the U.S.-Japan Council, a tax-exempt non-profit organization, and is supported by the Government of Japan, corporations, organizations, and individuals from the United States and Japan.

## Our Vision

We seek to foster a “TOMODACHI Generation” of young American and Japanese leaders who are committed to and engaged in strengthening U.S.-Japan relations, appreciate each other's countries and cultures, and possess the global skills and mindsets needed to contribute to and thrive in a more cooperative, prosperous, and secure world.

## Our Future

Going forward, the TOMODACHI Initiative will continue to be a model for innovative public-private partnerships. We will develop and design programs that support U.S.-Japan cross-cultural youth leadership development, especially alumni programs that foster the TOMODACHI Generation while enriching and increasing collaboration with U.S.-Japan-related organizations.

## Our Programs

**Educational Programs** provide educational opportunities for students to study abroad and gain exposure to each other's countries.

**Cultural Programs** in sports, music, and the arts provide gateways for Japanese and Americans to learn about and develop enduring interest in each other's cultures.

**Leadership Programs** help the next generation of entrepreneurs and young leaders develop skills and expertise that will guide them towards success.

**Alumni Programs** build upon the initial TOMODACHI experience, and provide TOMODACHI alumni with the skills, opportunities, and confidence to achieve their dreams while becoming the next generation of cross-cultural leaders.



## The TOMODACHI Journey

TOMODACHI supports cross-cultural youth leadership development throughout a lifetime of experiences.







STRATEGIC PARTNERS

# Partnerships for Lasting Impact

The TOMODACHI Initiative’s Strategic Partners provide ongoing support that improves the lives of participants through tailored programs that offer life-changing opportunities.

Diverse leadership trainings with focus on entrepreneurship, community development, scholarship, disaster nursing, sport management and more have empowered next generation leaders build global expertise and leadership skills. Alumni programs build on these connections, ensuring the diverse alumni of the “TOMODACHI Generation” remain engaged and empowered.



### TOMODACHI Amway Japan Foundation Tohoku Future Leader Program

Initiated in 2019, this program aims to foster next-generation leaders seeking to revitalize the Tohoku region, especially its tourism industry. Training programs in Japan and the United States enabled participants to revive and rediscover the charms of their local communities. Engaging with local students in the U.S. also led to developing unique projects for their communities. In 2023, the program resumed in Rikuzentakata, Iwate Prefecture to prepare for the full program in 2024.



### TOMODACHI Boeing Entrepreneurship Seminar

This program is for high school, university, and graduate students from all over Japan, and aims to develop human resources who can utilize their various values and perspectives to solve social issues and bridge cultures between Japan and the United States. This eight-month program enables participants to have an international perspective, entrepreneurship mindset, and ability to choose their own way of life and carve out their own path. Selected participants will have a chance to visit the United States as an extended field study.



### TOMODACHI-U.S. Embassy Go for Gold Sports Leadership Program

The goal of the program is to encourage Japanese university students to be global leaders in their respective fields and utilize their knowledge acquired in the United States to advance the sports industry in Japan and promote the importance of collaboration between the two countries. In 2023, ten participants successfully completed the four-month program which included a two-week U.S. trip to Los Angeles and New York with a focus on facility management, community engagement, and business of sports management.



### TOMODACHI Goldman Sachs Music Outreach Program

In July 2023, twenty-nine cast members from HEART Global, a U.S. non-profit organization, and 70 children ranging in grades from 1st grade of elementary school to senior year in high school gathered from foster care facilities in Tokyo, Chiba, and Kanagawa to participate in a song and dance workshop with 35 employees from the facilities and 15 Goldman Sachs volunteers. In addition, in October and November 2023, approximately 660 junior high school students in Tohoku joined the workshop.



### TOMODACHI J&J Disaster Nursing Training Program

Since 2015, the program has been empowering Japanese nursing students with understanding of disaster nursing. In 2023, ten nursing students from all over Japan participated in a six-month training program consisting of Pre-Trip Seminars, U.S. Study Tour, Post-Trip Seminar and Final Presentation. Due to the COVID influence, the U.S. Study Tour had been conducted virtually, however in 2023, it was brought back to in-person, and the cohort traveled to New York, New Jersey, and Washington, D.C. in August.



### TOMODACHI MUFG International Exchange Program

The program is an exchange program for Japanese students who were affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake with high school students in Southern California. The program aims to strengthen the ties between American and Japanese students through cultural exchange activities and homestays. Through the program, the students experienced various cultural exchange activities and deepened their understanding of U.S.-Japan relations, disaster prevention, and sustainable social initiatives from many different perspectives.



### Building the TOMODACHI Generation: Morgan Stanley Ambassadors Program

This program is a leadership program focusing on learning about civil society and its role in addressing social issues. In 2023, nine Japanese university students and six American university students participated in this program taking place in Washington, D.C. The 15 participants learned and developed how nonprofit organizations can build cross-sector partnerships with governments and corporations that integrate the strengths and resources of each partner to develop and deliver solutions in key areas of societal need. After returning to Japan, the Japanese students had the opportunity to visit the Tokyo headquarters of Morgan Stanley to have a debrief session.

*“What I learned from this program was that when you look around, there are wonderful people who could give advice and help you.”*

~ Chihiro Funaoka







**TOMODACHI Sumitomo Corporation Scholarship Program**  
 Since 2014, this program has supported high-achieving university students with financial need as they study at universities in the United States for one academic year. The program seeks to develop globally-minded young leaders to connect Japan and the United States. In March, the 2022-23 scholars had an opportunity to participate in the training programs by the Sumitomo Corporation of Americas New York Head Office to help them broaden their global perspectives and gain leadership skills. In 2023, ten students were chosen as 2023-24 scholars and they took part in the U.S.-Japan Council Annual Conference in Washington, D.C.



**TOMODACHI Summer SoftBank Leadership Program 2.0**  
 Building upon a successfully completed "TOMODACHI Summer SoftBank Leadership Program" which started in 2012 with over 1,000 participants, this newly refined program kicked off in 2023. This six-month program offered leadership opportunities to 17 high school and university students from Iwate, Miyagi, and Fukushima prefectures. The participants learned about community contribution and leadership at the University of California, Berkeley for three weeks in summer. They learned how to develop ideas to solve social issues, plan and execute them, and create action plans to solve each issue, and presented them in Sendai as a conclusion of the program.



**TOMODACHI Toshizo Watanabe Leadership Program**  
 This program provides leadership opportunities to high school students from all over Japan. In August, fourteen students visited California. During the 10-day program, the students visited cultural institutions such as Japan House, the Holocaust Museum LA, and the Japanese American National Museum, where they learned about the history and diversity of the United States, U.S.-Japan relations, and various leadership styles. The students also had a chance to visit the official residence of the Consul General of Japan in Los Angeles. They also experienced a homestay with local families on the weekend and deepened exchanges with American high school students through a hands-on experience at a local high school.

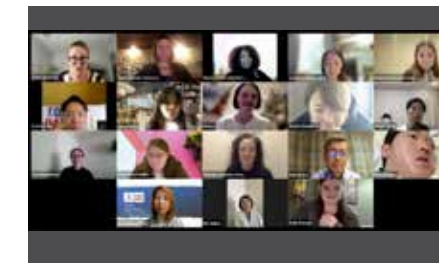


**TOMODACHI-UNIQLO Fellowship**  
 This program, launched in 2013, is an initiative that promises Japanese citizens who aspire to be globally-oriented business managers or fashion designers to receive a top U.S. graduate education in business and fashion. It is hoped that the program will help talented young Japanese aspiring managers and designers realize their dreams and become internationally active in the future. In 2023, a fellow graduated from Parsons The New School for Design. Additionally, the fellow completed an internship at UNIQLO USA and completed the program in October.



**TOMODACHI KAKEHASHI Inouye Scholars Program**

This program is a youth exchange that provides American and Japanese university students an opportunity to learn about one another's countries and cultures. Initiated in 2014, an unique feature of the program is to honor the life and legacy of Senator Daniel K. Inouye and offer the participants an opportunity to learn about his contribution to his country, heritage, and the U.S.-Japan relationship. In 2023, five selected American universities were paired with a partner Japanese university to facilitate the exchange in each country.



**TOMODACHI Story Jam for Youth with Disabilities**

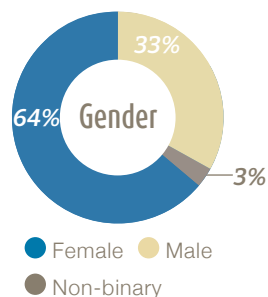
This digital storytelling and leadership program was held for ten young Japanese and American professionals and students with disabilities. During the nine-week program, the participants engaged in weekly Story Jam sessions, discussing moments when they faced significant challenges, how they navigated these challenges, what they learned about themselves, and how their insights and experiences can translate into positive change for themselves and their community. The program culminated in the screening of the participants' advocacy story videos.



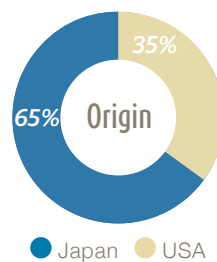
**TOMODACHI-STEM Women's Leadership and Research Program**

This program offers a five-week research internship with a two-week virtual experience for Japanese female undergraduates, majoring in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). Led by Lehigh University and Rice University in the United States, this program provides opportunities for career exploration, English language enrichment, cultural engagement, and collaboration with American students. Ten students successfully completed the 2023 program in March and visited Dow Chemical Japan Limited in Tokyo to present their learning and growth.

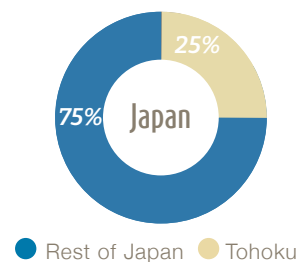
64% Female



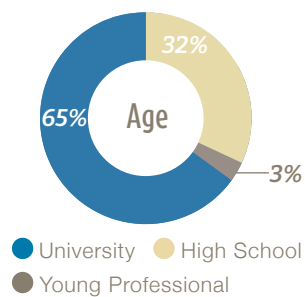
65% Japan



75% Non-Tohoku



65% University



371 programs

10,147 program participants

46,894 program and event participants



## Ongoing Engagement

In 2023, the TOMODACHI Generation marked over 10,000 alumni who went on customized and life-changing leadership programs. However, the TOMODACHI experiences do not end with the participants' initial programs. The power of the TOMODACHI Generation is the network and the high engagement of youth and young professionals who are inspired to stay connected and become active leaders in their respective communities and regions and society as a whole. Throughout the year, the alumni gather through various national and regional programs and events and become catalysts for making positive changes in society. Through innovative programs such as the TOMODACHI Alumni Regional Framework, Next Generation Summit, and TOMO-KIN Career Talks, the TOMODACHI alumni community showcases the unwavering commitment of both the United States and Japan through people-to-people ties to nurture and empower youth and emerging leaders at the grassroots level.

The TOMODACHI alumni programs owe their existence to the generous support of Prudential, whose generosity continues to pave the way for future generations of global leaders.

The TOMODACHI Alumni Leadership Program builds on the initial TOMODACHI experience to inspire and empower the next generation of Japanese and American leaders, providing ongoing engagement, as well as the skills and confidence needed to achieve their dreams, inspire fellow alumni, and contribute to a better world.

## Core Values

**Workforce Readiness**

As leaders of the next generation, we prepare our alumni to become global jinza (global citizens) by providing them with the requisite knowledge, skills, and abilities to thrive with a focus on mentorship and peer-to-peer leadership opportunities.

**Critical & Innovative Thinking**

Out-of-the-box, critical and innovative thinking provide successful and efficient problem-solving skills that are the keys to prosperity in the twenty-first century, and we aim to arm our alumni with these traits.

**Civic Engagement**

Building upon the global experiences participants gained through TOMODACHI programs, we hope alumni will make a difference in their communities through the development of knowledge, skills, values, and motivation.

**Connectedness & Sustainability**

As members of the TOMODACHI Generation, alumni will connect with each other to expand their networks and stay engaged as members and leaders of their communities, and really build on those people-to-people relations.

Engaged and Empowered:  
Building Alumni Connections

## Alumni Highlights

**TOMODACHI Alumni Regional Framework**

The TOMODACHI Alumni Regional Framework, with support from U.S. and Japanese Consulates and Embassies build and bolster the TOMODACHI community in regions across Japan and the United States, to cultivate relationships between alumni. Under this framework, alumni are chosen to become Regional Representatives of their respective regions bring together alumni for networking and skills-building events, and share opportunities to support the community and empower future leaders.

**Next Generation Summit**

On July 1st, the Next Generation Summit brought together a dynamic and diverse group of participants for a day of engaging panel discussions, reconnecting with fellow alumni, skills-building breakout sessions, and a special evening reception. The event provided a platform for TOMODACHI alumni and Watanabe Scholars to connect, learn together, and inspire one another on the pressing issues of our time. The program included dynamic panel discussions featuring TOMODACHI alumni who are keen to share their personal experiences and lessons learned by exploring topics ranging from studying abroad and women's empowerment. The discussions sparked thought-provoking conversations and provided a platform to learn from each other.

**TOMO-KIN Career Talks**

The program began as a response to a TOMODACHI Alumni Survey conducted in 2021 to connect with other alumni in a more casual setting. Therefore, begun during the pandemic, it started as a one-hour virtual session, divided into two sections with the first half being conducted in English and the other in Japanese to accommodate alumni interested in furthering their engagement and knowledge in both languages. Since July 2022, the event has been conducted in person. Three inspirational gatherings were held in 2023, and guest speakers shared their career journey and advice with the TOMODACHI alumni.

*"My favorite part of the program is its focus on encouraging cross-cultural exchange. I would not have been able to meet this group if I had not participated in this program, so I am very grateful for this opportunity."*

~ Sunao Shoji







Aika May Talavera

**“TOMODACHI members ultimately just want to give as many opportunities to people so that they can better themselves and essentially create a better world for everyone.”**

Aika May Talavera is an alumna of the TOMODACHI MetLife Women’s Leadership Program and is our current TOMODACHI Senior Alumni Intern. Aika is also part of the TOMODACHI Alumni Regional Framework that aims to connect and empower alumni in their respective regions across Japan and the United States. Under this framework, she is a core committee member representing the Kyushu region.

#### What made you decide to participate in the TOMODACHI MetLife Women’s Leadership Program?

One of the main reasons I decided to apply for this program was because of its mentorship aspect. I’m very happy that I decided to take part in that leadership program because it became a turning point in my life. I met so many great mentors there who opened my perspective and made me realize ... [that] I can further develop myself and create and embark on bigger and better things.

#### What did you learn from the program?

I think essentially the power of networking is what I learned. I realized that if I don’t ask for help, or go out of my way to ask, I’m never gonna get them. But also, on the other hand, networking is not necessarily just all about you. You also have to think about what you can offer to help.

#### How did you become interested in being an intern with the TOMODACHI Alumni Leadership Program?

The year that I participated in this program was the year of COVID-19, so we were not able to attend the event in the United States. Since I felt this program was not how I expected it, I wanted to continue to be a part of this TOMODACHI community. My mentors dedicated so much time to me to help me out. So what can I do to give back that same effort and energy that this organization did for me?

#### What does TOMODACHI mean to you?

TOMODACHI to me means being selfless. Since I’ve gotten the chance to see how TOMODACHI works behind the scenes, I feel like each of the staff and members who create this community are selfless people. They ultimately just want to give as many opportunities to people so that they can better themselves and essentially create a better world for everyone.



Satoshi Maeda

**“I would like to bring back to Japan the importance of motivation and relationships with people I learned during my training in the U.S.”**

Satoshi Maeda is an alumnus of the TOMODACHI Toshizo Watanabe Leadership program. He is 16 years old and lives in Hiroshima, Japan.

#### What did you learn from the program?

I would like to share two things that left a strong impression on me. The first is what a researcher we met at California Institute of Technology (CalTech) said; “Finding a field of study you like and going in that direction will lead you to your future”. The second is what an associate adjunct professor at University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) said; “You never know what will happen in your life, so cherish your relationships with others.” I would like to bring back to Japan the importance of motivation and relationships with people that I learned during my training in the U.S. and make this training even more meaningful.

#### Was there anything in your life in the U.S. that left a lasting impression on you?

In the United States, the culture, values, people, and things such as greetings and meals, are completely different from those in Japan, and every day was “stimulating” to me. I think this is because every day was filled with new values and experiences that I had never had. In particular, I have been interested in CalTech and UCLA since I was a junior high school student, so the campus tours, guest speaker talks, and Q&A sessions were very valuable, and “stimulating” experiences for me.

#### Could you explain more about your interpretation of the word “stimulation”?

“Stimulation” is an intellectual curiosity to learn what I don’t know yet and it is something I can gain from interacting with others who are different from me. Through my training in the U.S., I was able to find out specifically what I like and what I want to become.

#### What is your future dream?

In the future, I would like to study a field like space engineering, which has a lot of uncharted territory, and to work in a related field. The attraction I find in this career path is that it is full of “stimulation” to find out things no one knows yet and to learn about what I don’t know. Through the encounter with a UCLA associate adjunct professor, I began to consider becoming a researcher as one of my future options.



Matthew Winders

**“I like the idea of TOMODACHI, bringing two cultures together and working on a project together with people from different countries.”**

Matthew Winders is an alumnus of the Building the TOMODACHI Generation: *Morgan Stanley Ambassadors Program*. Currently, he is a student at the University of New Hampshire (UNH) at Manchester majoring in public service and nonprofit management.

#### Could you explain about “commitment to public service” and what led your passion towards this?

When I first went to a gay pride event in Manchester in 2016, I realized that there was an organization and people that cared about these issues. From that time, I felt that I needed to get involved in this organization that put this on. At the time, I was a freshman in high school and I decided to join the Rochester Main Street Board.

#### Why do you think this is an important topic that the younger generation should participate in?

I believe this is important because you can make a community a better place by participating. I feel that there is a stigma around public service that someone who is a good public servant must be a hundred percent committed to it and nothing else, but I disagree with that because you have to be committed to yourself to help others.

#### Do you have any advice for those who are also interested in public service?

First, do not give up! It can be stressful and sad sometimes because you always have to work with many people involved and it could take time to get their approval. But if you don’t give up, you can make things happen so please don’t give up.

#### In your TOMODACHI program, you created a presentation with your team, could you please tell us more about that?

The project was working on educating women in Japan about mental health and providing them with different resources. We came up with this project to create a safe and accepting forum for them to learn about and discuss mental health. Mental health is such a big problem now in the U.S. and Japan. Our goal was to try to bring people with similar problems and situations together to be able to communicate and hopefully get through together.

#### What does TOMODACHI mean to you?

I like the idea of TOMODACHI, bringing two cultures together and working on a project together with people from different countries.



Sarah Okuno

**“Participating in this program was a great opportunity to meet new people in the middle of the pandemic, and being involved with so many different people helped me learn that there are students from all over the world with different ways of thinking.”**

Sarah Okuno is an alumna of the TOMODACHI MUFG International Exchange Program. She is currently a high school senior in the United States. She spent most of her school life online due to the pandemic.

#### Why did you apply for the TOMODACHI MUFG International Exchange Program?

I spent most of my early years in high school online (and the end of junior high school). I applied for the program in order to spend my summer vacation better. Therefore, participating in this program was a great opportunity to meet new people in the middle of the pandemic, and being involved with so many different people helped me learn that there are students from all over the world with different ways of thinking.

#### Was there anything in the program that left a lasting impression on you?

Yes, in 2021, I participated as an American high school student in a program for high school students in Tohoku, introducing American holidays to Japanese students. Learning about the cultural differences made me realize the importance of seeing things from both the Japanese and American perspectives.

#### Did this program have an impact on you?

Yes, in 2022, I participated in a program as an American participant. I was born and raised in a place where there were few Japanese people around, but participating in the program gave me a sense of pride in my Japanese culture and traditions, and gave me the confidence to influence others. Moreover, the Japanese participants in the program gave me the courage to experience Japanese culture, even if I could not speak Japanese well.

#### How did you learn Japanese, Sarah?

I studied Japanese until junior high school at a Saturday school. Now I am attending a high school that provides Japanese language classes as a second language, and I am currently studying in the highest level of Japanese class! I believe that this TOMODACHI program has a great impact on the students’ futures. I have one year left in high school, and I would like to take a picture with my TOMODACHI pin at the graduation ceremony, which holds so many memories for me!

## Sharing Stories

The 2023 U.S.-Japan Council Annual Conference was held in Washington, D.C. During the Closing Plenary, TOMODACHI Alumni bravely shared their experiences to an audience of over 500 attendees and spoke about the impact that their program had on their lives.

**“I always wanted to be someone who can take care of others, but there were lessons I needed to learn in order to reach my full potential.”**

You Sato participated in the 2022 TOMODACHI J&J Disaster Nursing Training Program. The people she met through TOMODACHI helped her to challenge herself through unique experiences and solid connections to pursue her passion for helping others. Furthermore, the program encouraged her to move to the United States by herself to pursue her career in the emergency field. You told the audience at the conference that the TOMODACHI program inspired her in two ways: 1) taught her the importance of caring for herself to care for others, and 2) taught her the value of people-to-people connections to help her challenge herself and helped her grow.

As she continues to work in the emergency department at a hospital



in Virginia, she will take these valuable lessons she learned, along with many more, and promise to continue to pay it forward to help others. She concluded her speech by thanking people whom she met through TOMODACHI. She said the program has helped and has led her to where she is today.

Yukina Chiba is an alumna of the TOMODACHI-STEM Women's Leadership and Research Program 2019. She is a graduate student in the U.S. conducting neurobiology research. Her mentor is Natsumi Komatsu who is also an alumna of the program. Natsumi created a safe space for her to gain confidence and believe in herself. Yukina hopes that someday, she will be able to pay it back to Natsumi, but until then, she is paying

**“The mindset of ongaeshi is essential in further developing the next generations of the U.S. and Japan.”**



it forward to the next generations of Japanese female students in STEM. She believes that the mindset of ongaeshi, paying it back and paying it forward is essential in further developing the next generations of the U.S. and Japan.

Taiki Yamamoto is an alumnus of the TOMODACHI Sumitomo Corporation Scholarship Program. Taiki is taking a semester off from school and doing two internships in the United States. When he moved to the U.S., he knew nothing about American job hunting. However, thanks to his mentor from Sumitomo Corporation who shared amazing hands-on advice, Taiki was able to get job offers. Taiki believes that maintaining the circle of mentorship is key for our future.

**“Maintaining the circle of mentorship is a key for our future.”**



The U.S.-Japan Council (U.S.) and the U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) work in collaboration with the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo to implement the TOMODACHI Initiative as a public-private partnership. Implementation includes program development and oversight, communications and outreach, marketing, fundraising, donor relations and management, and operations.

The U.S.-Japan Council is a non-profit 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization headquartered in Washington, D.C., with staff across the United States, and Tokyo. The Council is dedicated to strengthening people-to-people connections among Japanese and Americans of all generations. The Tokyo-based U.S.-Japan Council (Japan) is a Public Interest Corporation, Koeki Zaidan Hojin. The two organizations are separate entities, each governed by an independent Board of Directors, which work closely together in the administration of TOMODACHI.

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(as of December 31, 2023)

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(as of December 31, 2023)

#### Board Officer

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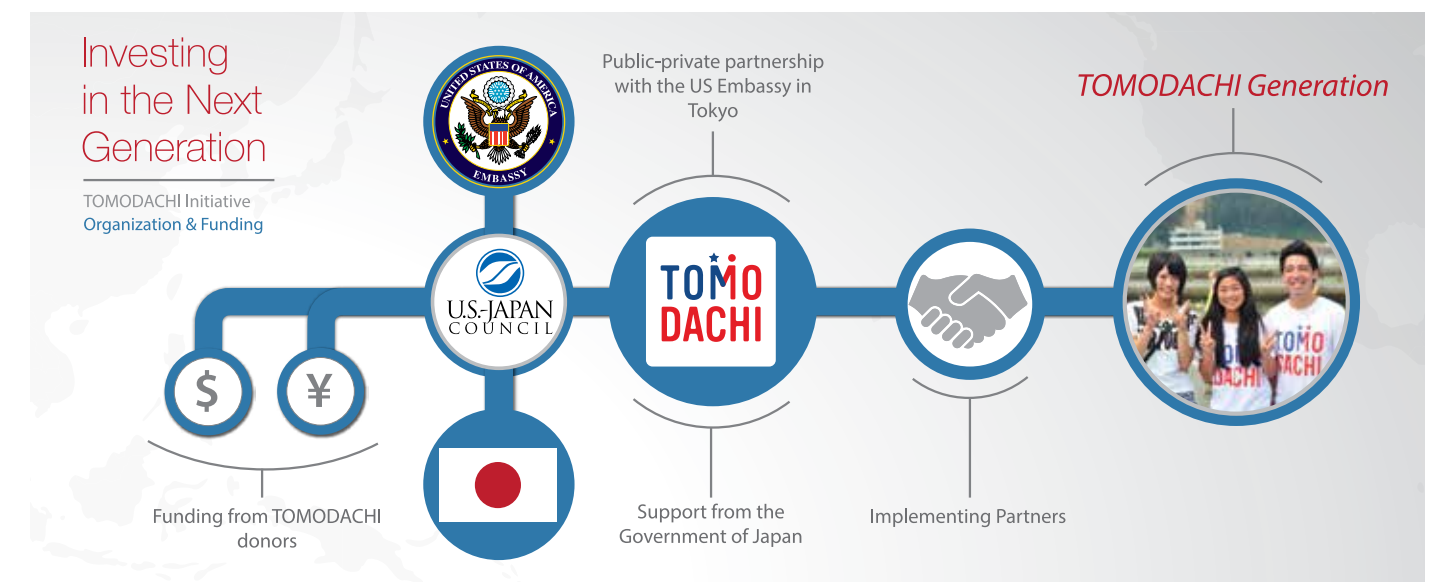
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Our appreciation to the Board of Directors and Councilors of the U.S.-Japan Council in the U.S. for their support. Their names are found at: <https://www.usjapancouncil.org/board-of-directors-us>





Thank You

Founding Strategic Partners  
(\$1,000,000 or more, with initial donation in 2012)



Strategic Partners  
(\$1,000,000 or more)



“The circle of community has expanded and is filled with people I would have never met if I had not done [the program], and I felt a tremendous sense of growth.”  
~ Haruna Yoshida



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All Nippon Airways Co., Ltd. | ExxonMobil Japan | Imperial Hotel, Ltd. | Hayasaka Tax Accountants' Office Co., Ltd. | Japan Association of Charitable Organizations | Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP | Tricor K.K.

TOMODACHI in the Spotlight

We thank our many corporate partners for raising the profile of the TOMODACHI Initiative and spreading the word about the importance of U.S.-Japan youth exchange.



ANA airplanes display the TOMODACHI logo



TOMODACHI signage throughout Haneda Airport

Implementing Partners

TOMODACHI works with many partners in order to make these life-changing experiences possible for young people. In 2023, the following partners helped the TOMODACHI implement programs.

Asuenokibou | Children's National Hospital | Global Seed | The Japanese Association of the Experiment in International Living | Japan International Cooperation Center | Jibun Mirai Club | SFC Forum Foundation of Keio University Shonan Fujisawa Campus | Lehigh University | Parsons The New School for Design | Rice University | University of Massachusetts Foundation, Inc. | University of California, Berkeley | The Washington Center | Japanese Association for Sport Management (JASM) | LA84 Foundation | LeadOff Sports | World in You

Financial

Cumulative TOMODACHI Commitments by Year (USD)  
U.S.-Japan Council (Consolidated)

TOMODACHI CONTRIBUTIONS AND PLEDGES	2011-2022	2023	2024-26 (committed)	TOTAL
USJC (Japan)	\$35,908,412	\$2,063,196	\$ —	\$37,971,608
USJC (U.S.)	24,176,107	730,000	830,000	25,736,107
Total Contributions and Pledges	60,084,519	2,793,196	830,000	63,707,715
In-kind Donations (U.S.-Japan)	5,239,611	0	0	5,239,611
Total Contributions and Pledges	\$65,324,130	\$2,793,196	\$830,000	\$68,947,326





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