

日米交流財団



United States ~ Japan
Bridging Foundation
Growing Global Leaders



**2012 Annual Report with
2013 Commentary**

**U.S.—JAPAN BRIDGING FOUNDATION
REPORT for the YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2012**

Table Of Contents

Chairman's Letter	5
Board of Directors	9
List of Donors	10
Student Experiences	12
Audited Financial Statements	14

A Message From The Chairman

I am pleased to present this report for the year 2012 with the related financial statements and provide an activity status for the year 2013.

Together, we've accomplished much. We faced challenges and pursued opportunities: raising funds for the Foundation's core mission; partnering with the U.S. State Department in launching the Friendship Blossoms initiative, piloting the Japan Exchange and Teaching Alumni Association (JETAA) program, collaborating with the U.S.-Japan Conference on Cultural & Educational Interchange (CULCON), the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission (JUSFC) and other organizations.

I have been most grateful for your support – the many corporate, foundation, and individual donors who make it possible for the Bridging Foundation to achieve its mission of establishing bridges of understanding and friendship by expanding cultural and educational exchanges.

Founded in 1998, the Bridging Foundation works very closely with the JUSFC, an independent federal agency established in 1975, and CULCON, a binational advisory panel to both U.S. and Japanese governments established in 1968. We cooperate to advance and strengthen the vital educational and cultural foundation of the U.S.-Japan relationship from direct financial assistance to undergraduate students and professionals to participating in new programs and shaping public policy.

Our core program is the Bridging Scholars, which provides grants to undergraduates for study abroad in Japan. In addition, we managed new programs this year: Friendship Blossoms and JETAA. These programs align well with our core mission and create a broader continuum of ways in which to nurture and strengthen U.S.-Japan relations. These new initiatives are expected to run through 2015.

You have trusted us with your donations and, accordingly, and we have undertaken these activities with careful stewardship. We have maintained an efficient and effective organization with an overhead rate in 2012 of 6.8%, well below the accepted standard of 35%. We expect to report a similarly low overhead when our 2013 audited financial statements are available.

Bridging Scholars

The Bridging Foundation helps to grow global leaders who will comfortably take their place in our global workforce and in their communities. Celebrating our 15th year of service in 2013, the Foundation to date has now provided grants to 1,340 students for study in Japan.

This year we awarded a total of 91 scholarship grants: 71 for a full academic year and 20 for the spring semester. Last year 110 students received scholarship grants, with 90 of them studying in Japan for a year and the other 20 for one semester. Fewer scholarships were offered this year due to economic constraints; however, we remain focused on securing the funding necessary to continue a robust program.

The students were selected from a pool of almost 1, 200 applications. We are proud of the diversity of our scholarship recipients in the broad scope of colleges and universities they attend in the U.S., in the varying majors being pursued, and also in the diversity of programs they attend while studying in Japan. I have enjoyed meeting some of the students in Tokyo. While each shares a passion for Japanese language and culture, their majors vary from engineering to international business to marketing and philosophy and many more. They are deeply committed to absorbing and learning as much as possible during their stay in Japan.

We can report that 100% of our students have successfully completed their study abroad program – a testament to the quality of the students and the selection process that is managed by the Bridging Project Clearinghouse. While in Japan, students meet the U.S. Ambassador or senior ranking US embassy officials, attend high-level public events, hear from a panel of professionals on overseas careers, leadership development, and meet with corporate sponsors. These Bridging Foundation-related activities augment those that the students participate in independently through their host universities or families.

We are happy to have selected our first Grondine Scholar, an aspiring international relations major that is currently attending International Christian University in Tokyo. This scholarship is named in memory of Robert Grondine, a role model and leader in U.S.-Japan relations, who passed away in October 2011. Among a number of U.S.-Japan causes, Bob was an important supporter and chair of the Japan Advisory Committee of the Bridging Foundation. With his family's agreement and support, we have been honored to establish The Robert Grondine Memorial Scholarship Fund.

Friendship Blossoms

In 1912 Japan made a gift to the people of the United States of 3,000 cherry trees, which were planted in Washington, DC. To commemorate the centennial of Japan's gift, the U.S. Department of State launched the Friendship Blossoms—Dogwood Tree Initiative in 2012 with a gift of 3,000 American dogwood trees from the people of the U.S. to the people of Japan.

The Bridging Foundation was selected as the nonprofit partner to manage the program. This major initiative has been undertaken without any additional Bridging Foundation staff. To date, 1,339 dogwood trees have been sent to Japan and, of those, 634 have been planted in various locations throughout Japan. Most recently, Ambassador Caroline Kennedy accompanied the Bridging Foundation, corporate donors, and Nagasaki city elected officials to plant trees at the Nagasaki Peace Park on December 10, 2013.

We are grateful to all sponsors, especially UPS for transporting gratis the trees and Chevron, our lead project donor. Below is a listing of Friendship Blossoms plantings that occurred in 2012 through 2013.

Anjo City, Anjo	Nagoya City, Aichi
Futako Tamagawa Park, Tokyo	Ozaki Foundation, Tokyo
Honmoku Sancho Park, Tokyo	Saikai City, Nagasaki
Itami City, Hyoga	Saitama City, Saitama
Kamaishi City, Iwate	Sasebo City, Nagasaki
Kanazawa, Ishikawa	Tachikawa City, Tokyo
Kawasaki City, Kanagawa	Toba City, Mie
Minami Sanriku-cho, Miyagi	Tsu City, Mie
Mizuho-machi, Tokyo	Yokohama City, Kanagawa
Nagasaki Peace Park, Nagasaki	Yoyogi Park, Tokyo

JETAA

We received funding from the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnerships (CGP) to launch a project to help strengthen the Japan Exchange and Teaching Alumni Association (JETAA). JETAA's all-volunteer, decentralized organizational structure poses challenges and obstacles that may be preventing JETAA from realizing its full potential to support regional and national activities that strengthen the U.S.-Japan relationship. CGP funding provides the resources needed to, among other things, undertake a needs assessment of JETAA members in order to determine how JETAA can improve governance, grow membership, enrich its network, and advance its outreach programming. We hired a part-time project director in July 2013; she has made steady progress towards meeting with and assessing the needs and interests of all 19 of the JET alumni chapters.

Impact

The Institute of International Education (IIE) reports that college students' interest in studying abroad has been growing over the past two decades. Its 2013 Open Doors Report on International Education Exchange reveals that, although the U.K. remains the top study abroad destination, Japan is a popular choice following its recovery from the devastating effects of its 2011 earthquake and tsunami. In fact, the number of American students who studied in Japan increased by 27.8% since 2010, indicating keen interest in the country. That is a very good thing because in order to remain competitive within a global economy, businesses of all sorts need people who know how to create, innovate, and market products, services, and policies within a world of diverse national and regional cultures.

Milestones

We remember the life of Foundation supporters who have passed on. Doreen Brown Freeman passed away on July 12, 2013. Doreen and her late husband, Houghton “Buck” Freeman, have very generously supported the Bridging Foundation through The Freeman Foundation. The Freeman Foundation is now headed by Doreen and Buck’s son Graeme Freeman. Because of the Freeman family’s long-term generosity, 280 U.S. undergraduates have studied in Japan as Bridging Scholars. Doreen’s genuine, hands-on interest in cultivating an appreciation of Asia in young Americans was ever present and creates a lasting legacy.

Our Board member, Thomas Stephen Foley, passed away on October 18, 2013. He had a long and distinguished career in public service, including Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives (1989-1994) and Ambassador to Japan (1997-2001). Ambassador Foley served on the Bridging Foundation Board of Directors (2005-2013) and we will miss his wisdom and experience.

Future Plans

We celebrate the people – with us now and those who came before – who have cultivated people-to-people exchanges through their time, talent, and treasure. Much more remains to be done. For example, CULCON, a bilateral organization focused on advancing intellectual and cultural exchanges between Japan and the United States, released its Education Task Force Report this year. The report recommends doubling the number of U.S. and Japanese students studying in each other’s country by 2020. The Bridging Foundation embraces these recommendations. With a sense of responsibility to nurture that energy, the Bridging Foundation looks forward to strengthening our relationship with you and forging new partnerships that will lead to more productive and fruitful outcomes.

Thank you for being part of the Bridging Foundation’s first 15 years. I’m honored to have your support and hope you will continue the journey with me... growing more global leaders, strengthening U.S.-Japan relations, preparing the next generation of talent to comfortably take its place in our global workforce.

Finally, Vice-Chair Thierry Porte and I wish to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the Foundation’s executive director, Paige Cottingham-Streater, our deputy director, Jean Falvey, and their Washington team – indeed a truly fine team.

Best wishes,



Ronald J. Anderson
Chairman

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2012

Ronald J. Anderson, Chair	Chartis Insurance, New York, NY
Thierry G. Porté, Vice Chair	JC Flowers & Company, New York, NY
Robert A. Feldman	Morgan Stanley MUFG Securities, Tokyo, Japan
Ambassador Thomas S. Foley	Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, LLP, Washington, DC
Michael J. Green	CSIS, Washington, DC
Ellen H. Hammond	Yale University, CT
William W. Hunt	Boston, MA
Velina Hasu Houston	University of Southern California, CA
Anne Nishimura Morse	Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA
T.J. Pempel	University of California at Berkeley, CA
Susan Pharr	Harvard University, MA
George H. Takei	Actor, Los Angeles, CA
Charles K. Whitehead	Cornell Law School, NY
Richard J. Wood	New York, NY
Hon. Lisa Murkowski	U.S. Senate, Washington, DC
Hon. John D. Rockefeller, IV	U.S. Senate, Washington, DC
Hon. James McDermott	U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC
Hon. Thomas Petri	U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC

Tokyo Advisory Board

Webster Coates, Citibank, Tokyo, Japan
Harry Hill, Oaklawn Marketing, Nagoya, Japan
Christopher LaFleur, LM Associates, Tokyo, Japan
Robert Noddin, AIU/Chartis, Tokyo, Japan

FOUNDATION DONORS

2012

The Bridging Foundation is extremely grateful for the generous support of our donors who have made it possible to grant scholarships and implement the Friendship Blossoms and JETAA initiatives. Thank you.

Bridging Foundation Scholars

Major Sponsor

The Freeman Foundation

Other Sponsors

Aflac Japan

AIG Japan Holdings K.K.

Bloomberg L.P.

Chartis Far East Holdings K.K.

Citigroup

Estee Lauder K.K.

Exxon Mobil G.K.

Robby Feldman

Goldman Sachs Gives

Ken Hakuta

Ellen Hammond and Yasuo Ohdera

Ichigo Asset Management

Japan Foundation

J.P. Morgan Securities, Japan

Lockheed Martin Global, Inc.

Merrill Lynch Japan Securities Co., Ltd.

Mission Value Partners

Mitsubishi Corporation (Americas)

Morgan Stanley Japan

Oak Lawn Marketing

ORIX USA

Thierry and Yasko Porté

George and Brad Takei

Temple University Japan

Toyota Motor North America

Robert Grondine Memorial Scholarship Fund

Ronald and Maria Anderson

Laurence Bates

Bill Farrell

Daniel and Mikiyo Foote

GE Corporation

Duan and Myrle Hall

Norimasa and Atsoku Hirai

Shiro Kambara

Jonathan Kushner

Thierry and Yasko Porté

Gary Thomas

Chris Wells



Friendship Blossoms -- Dogwood Initiative

Ambassadors

Chevron
UPS

Friends

Coca-Cola Company
Prudential Foundation

Sponsors

Aflac
Applied Materials
Federal Express
General Electric
Raytheon

We apologize for any errors or omissions in the list of donors. Kindly notify the U.S.-Japan Bridging Foundation of any corrections to this list. The U.S.-Japan Bridging Foundation is a 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are fully tax-deductible under the US IRS code. Donations made in Japan may be made tax deductible through arrangements with the Japan Foundation.

STUDENT EXPERIENCES

I thought before coming to Japan that the highlights of my experience would be the spectacles you often hear about: climbing to the peak of the mountains, exploring the ancient grounds of Kyoto. While those are all great memories, it was the little things, like successfully communicating with fellow Japanese students, or finding my way alone through the city relying on signs and maps, that made my experience worthwhile. The fact of the matter is that you don't come back from studying abroad a changed person, better than when you left, like I had pictured. What you can come back with is perspective – perspective about the choices you make, and how they define you. (*Adrian Rodriguez, Seinan Gakuin / SUNY Oneonta*)

Coming back from Japan, I notice I am different. I think before I speak; I have become more aware of other people as well as more group-oriented. I have also come to realize that Japan is like my home now; it is where I fit in. I want to live there and connect myself with the culture I am only beginning to understand. Whether I am doing research, teaching English, or going to graduate school, I know that I hope to live in Japan someday. (*Anna Thorner, Gifu University / Northern Kentucky University*)



I had the privilege to travel with Japanese friends to Rikuzentakata, part of the Tohoku region so severely damaged by the earthquake and tsunami last year. We worked as volunteers, clearing away some of the debris left by the natural disasters, and also bore witness to the shocking damage and the impact that endures in certain communities in Tohoku. I am very grateful that I had the opportunity to see the region and to meet its residents firsthand, experiences through which I gained a better understanding of the situation there and how communities are moving beyond this tragedy towards a brighter future. (*Russell Ottalini, Sophia University / University of Pittsburgh*)

I experienced the dissonance of living as an obvious foreigner in a country where my mother tongue is not that of my neighbor, and how frustrating and humbling it is to not have the words to eloquently express my thoughts and feelings. But through this I discovered the importance of observation and patience, how most of communication doesn't seem to travel through words, but through context and body language. How someone's smile and encouraging nod made all the difference when I felt stuck in the scary gap between what I wanted to say and my inability to say it. (*Nadia Nasir, Waseda University / University of Maryland*)

Through an internship at the American Chamber of Commerce's Kansai branch, I was forced to quickly adapt and learn new ways of doing things due to differences in culture that range from small details to basic, vital interactions with people, like the proper way to exchange business cards or the importance of timeliness. I learned that although cultural difference can be incredibly hard to adjust to, ultimately it is something that must be adapted to and followed if one wants to succeed in Japan. *(Alex Wachi, Kansai Gaidai / Washington & Lee University)*



I was able to volunteer twice in Iwate. I will never forget the kindness of those affected by the tsunami, sharing what little they had out of appreciation for our efforts. Seeing their expressions of gratitude was overwhelming, especially when we, as volunteers, were grateful for being allowed to be a part of the recovery effort. Working with many volunteers in Iwate inspired me to fold 1001 Hawaiian paper cranes, arranged in a picture representing the ties between Hawai'i and Japan through cherry blossoms and Hawaiian sea turtles, which I sent to the volunteer center where I worked. *(Micah Mizukami, Tokyo International University / Willamette University)*

I came away with a lot of material for art, from nice paper to photographs I took to a Japanese watercolor set, even to a new definition of what art can be. A lot of the art galleries and museums I went to had a much stronger focus on art forms like pottery or woodwork, art that is just as much function as beauty, as opposed to the Western perception of art, which focuses on paintings. I am excited to go back to college in the US for my final year and incorporate my experience in Japan into my final art thesis project. *(Sara Portesan, Associated Kyoto Program / Whitman College)*

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of December 31, 2012

ASSETS

Current Assets

Cash in foreign bank \$ 29,182

Cash in bank, interest bearing 175,853

Operating accounts 277,988

Total cash and cash equivalents 483,023

Other Current Assets

Pledges receivable 5,000

Marketable securities held for sale 5,133

10,133

TOTAL ASSETS

\$ 493,156

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Net Assets

Grondine Memorial Fund \$ 20,232

Friendship Blossoms 157,511

Unrestricted net assets 315,413

493,156

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

\$ 493,156

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITY

As of December 31, 2012

Support, Revenue and Gains

Grants and contributions	\$ 689,953
In kind donations	113,125
Foreign currency transaction gains	2,634
Investment and other income	<u>384</u>
	806,096

Expenses and Losses

Scholarship program	543,095
Friendship Blossoms program	57,488
General and administration	27,057
Fund Raising	<u>23,521</u>
	651,161

154,935

Unrealized gain in investments

49

Change in net assets

154,984

Net assets, beginning

338,172

Net assets, ending

\$ 493,156

STATEMENT OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

For the Year Ended December 31, 2012

Expenses	Scholarship Program Expenses	Friendship Blossoms	General and Administrative	Fund Raising	TOTAL
Grants, scholarships and contributions	\$ 420,470	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 420,470
Professional fees	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
Donated executive compensation	37,700	-	9,425	-	47,125
Consultants	13,328	-	2,352	23,521	39,201
Bank fees	-	128	211	-	339
Postage	-	-	738	-	738
Donated office expenses	10,560	-	2,640	-	13,200
Donated occupancy expenses	47,520	-	5,280	-	52,800
Materials, landscaping, signage	-	45,873	-	-	45,873
Office expenses and miscellaneous	-	-	1,411	-	1,411
Travel	13,517	11,487	-	-	25,004
Total Expenses	\$ 543,095	\$ 57,488	\$ 27,057	\$ 23,521	\$ 651,161

STATEMENT of CASH FLOWS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2012

OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Change in Net Assets	\$ 154,984
Adjustments to reconcile Change in Net Assets to net cash provided by operations:	
Marketable Securities Held for Sale	(49)
Pledges Receivable	(5,000)
Deferred Revenue	(25,000)
Net cash provided by Operating Activities	<u>124,935</u>
Cash at beginning of period	<u>358,088</u>
Cash at end of period	<u>\$ 483,023</u>

Supplemental Non Cash Information:

In-kind contributions	\$ 113,125
-----------------------	------------



1201 15th Street, NW
Suite 330
Washington, DC 20005
USA

T 202.653.9800
www.bridgingfoundation.org