



MARCH 2012

# CWAJ report '11-'12

## CWAJ Great East Japan Earthquake Relief Initiatives

Immediately after the catastrophic earthquake, CWAJ started rigorous research to directly help victims in the Tohoku region. By mid-April 2011 the CWAJ Great East Japan Earthquake Relief Fund had been established and soon the CWAJ Mental Health Care Project was launched under the guidance of Dr Nobumasa Kato. Various other relief efforts followed:

### CWAJ Mental Health Care Project

CWAJ has been providing encouragement and material support to the volunteer psychiatrists who offer on-site mental health care to the victims in Fukushima. Under the strong leadership of Dr Shin'ichi Niwa of Fukushima Medical University, the much awaited Kokoro no Care Center and Mental Clinic Nagomi opened on January 10, 2012 in Soma, a coastal city located 40 kilometers north of Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant. Soma Kokoro no Care Center will serve as the base office for outreach mental health care for which a medical van with a wheelchair lift is absolutely imperative. CWAJ is proud to be its provider. Eighteen CWAJ members were invited to the opening ceremony on January 9th. President Misa Yasukawa presented Dr Niwa with a big golden key emblazoned with the CWAJ logo, a symbol of the donation by CWAJ of the medical van. Print Show Director Reiko Oshima presented a framed print by the late Hideo Hagiwara donated by

his son to the 2011 Print Show for the Kokoro no Care Center.



### CWAJ Fukushima Relief Scholarship

CWAJ believes that financial aid to help the dreams of young students come true is required for the true recovery of the region. To this end, CWAJ created a special scholarship program to support students from the disaster-stricken area.

Three students studying at Fukushima Medical University School of Nursing were selected as recipients of the CWAJ Fukushima Relief Scholarship. They will be awarded 0.5 million yen scholarship for one academic year for up to two years to pursue their studies. (Scholars' information on P.3) CWAJ is grateful for the generous contributions from members and friends all over the world. The reconstruction of Fukushima will take a long time. The maintenance cost of the van is not small. Your ongoing support will enable us to continue our two relief projects described above.



### VVI Charity Concert

CWAJ Charity Concert featuring Visually Impaired Artists was held on Sunday, December 11 at Pasona Hall. 523,000 yen was raised and donated to the National Committee of Welfare for the Blind in Japan. CWAJ's donation will be used to purchase much needed daily use aids and appliances for the visually impaired, lost by victims in the March 11 disasters. More than 200 people enjoyed the beautiful performances of twin pianists Rie and Risa Kimura, guitarist/vocalist Ryota Kuriyama, and Tsukuba School for the Visually Impaired Alumnae Handbell Choir "Akane".

We would like to thank all the performers and Pasona Group for donating their services and also, Mr. Minamisawa (1999 CWAJ SVI Scholar) for donating all the sales of his handmade pendants and cellphone straps.

### 2012 CWAJ Cultural Program Curt and Bruce Duo Koto and Shakuhachi Charity Concert

**Date:** March 17, 2012, Saturday

**Time:** 1:30, Doors Open 1:00

**Place:** Franciscan Chapel Center, Roppongi

**Tickets:** ¥2000 (Age 12 and below ¥1000)

Proceeds go to the CWAJ Earthquake Relief Fund. (More about VVI and CP on p.4)

## Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of CWAJ SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

*Believing we can better the world through nurturing women leaders*

In the forty years since the establishment of its current CWAJ Scholarship program in 1972, CWAJ has helped 320 women to study at universities and graduate schools in Japan and abroad, paving the way for their development as leaders in a wide range of fields. While countless children in the world are deprived of the chance to study at school due to poverty, CWAJ continues to focus on women, believing that the best use of our limited funds is to support women who have the passion and determination to make a social contribution. Begun by supporting Japanese women to study abroad, the CWAJ Scholarship program expanded in 1980 to fund foreign women studying in Japan.

As part of CWAJ's commitment to higher education for people with visual impairments, the Scholarship for the Visually

Impaired (SVI) was initiated in 1978 for Japanese women and men. In the last 10 years two VI scholarships of 2 million yen have been awarded annually for study in Japan and abroad. CWAJ was the first organization to establish non-loan type academic scholarships targeted only for visually impaired, and the 58 recipients have gone on to be remarkable leaders at the forefront of education, law, business, art, etc.

CWAJ's newest scholarships will be awarded to Fukushima University School of Nursing students as part of its Great East Japan Relief Initiatives, and there are plans to continue this program next year.

A distinguishing characteristic of CWAJ scholarships is the absence of eligibility

restrictions based on age or field of study. Women over 40 years old, women who take their children along or have a child while studying abroad – all would have been rejected by other scholarships but have made great achievements through CWAJ's support. Another unique quality is that past CWAJ scholars keep strong bonds with the CWAJ community. Past SVI recipients in particular participate in and provide valuable support to VVI (p.4). We look forward to many past scholars gathering together to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of CWAJ's Scholarship Program this fall.



## 2011 CWAJ Scholars

### Graduate Scholarship for Japanese Women to Study Abroad (SA)

*2 scholarships of 3 million yen*

**SHIRAI, Arei**

BA Social Sciences, Hitotsubashi University  
**Study Program:** MBA, The Said Business School, University of Oxford

**TAKEUCHI, Nao**

BS in Environmental and Agricultural Engineering, Nihon University  
**Study Program:** MS in Sustainable Urbanism, The Bartlett School of Planning, University College London

### Graduate Scholarship for Non-Japanese Women to Study in Japan (NJG)

*2 scholarships of 2 million yen*

**KECELI, Sumru (Republic of Turkey)**

MD, Hacettepe University Faculty of Medicine,  
**Study Program:** PhD, The Graduate University of Advanced Studies, National Institute for Physiological Sciences

### CWAJ Sano Chikara NJG Scholarship

**LIANG, Zilu (People's Republic of China)**

BEng, Electrical Engineering, University of Electronic Science and Technology of China  
**Study Program:** PhD, Electrical Engineering, The University of Tokyo

### CWAJ-Tokyo American Club Women's Group Non-Japanese Graduate Scholarship

*1 scholarship of 2 million yen*

**JEYAMOHAN, Prashanti (India)**

MPhil, Bio-Technology, Bharathidhasan University, India  
**Study Program:** Doctorate in Bio-Nano Fusion Science, Graduate School for Interdisciplinary New Science, Toyo University

### Scholarship for the Visually Impaired Study Abroad (SVI-SA)

*1 scholarship of 2 million yen*

**FUKUCHI, Kentaro**

BA Human Science, University of Tsukuba  
**Study Program:** MA in International Education and Development, University of Sussex

### Scholarship for the Visually Impaired Study in Japan (SVI-SJ)

*1 scholarship of 2 million yen*

**MISONO, Masamitsu**

MS, Special Education, University of Tsukuba  
**Study Program:** PhD, Life-long Human Sciences, Tokyo Women's Christian University

### Scholarship to the Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies (IUC)

*1 scholarship of 2 million yen*

**SARGENT, Katherine (USA)**

BA East Asian Languages and Cultures, Smith College  
**Study Program:** MA Candidate, Asian Studies – Japan, University of Michigan

### CWAJ 60th Anniversary Overseas Scholarship

*1 scholarship of 180,000 yen, 5 years*

**GAYAGAY, Sandra Glynn (Philippines)**

BS Nursing, Saint Louis University, Philippines,  
**Study Program:** MD, School of Medicine, Saint Louis University, Baguio City, Philippines.



# CWAJ PRINT SHOW

The 57th (2012) CWAJ Print Show will be held on  
Friday 19th - Sunday 21st October, 2012  
At Tokyo American Club, Azabudai

The 56th CWAJ Print Show in 2011 presented 192 prints by 192 artists. The proceeds went to the Earthquake Relief Fund as well as the Scholarship and Education Fund.

Since 1956, the CWAJ Print Show has grown into a highly respected annual exhibition of contemporary Japanese prints (*hanga*), assuring significant funds for the CWAJ Scholarship Program.

The Associate Show, which debuted in 1968, has allowed in-depth explorations of focused topics. Last year, the Associate Show featuring woodblock prints by HAGIWARA Hideo (1913-2007) was also exhibited and well-received at the 2011 Kobe Biennale.

CWAJ works to support and promote the



development of *hanga* as well. The Art Grant inaugurated in 1985 has evolved into the new Artist-in-Residence Program in 2011. The Young Printmaker Award was established in 2005.

## 2011 CWAJ Young Printmaker Award

1 award, 0.5 million yen

### HIROSE, Risa

MFA, Tokyo Zokei University  
Works as an engraver at the National Printing Bureau

Ms Hirose plans to use the award money to adapt her home for printmaking and to have a solo exhibition in May 2012.

## 2011 CWAJ Artist-in-Residence Program

1 award, 0.8 million yen

### TANUMA, Toshinori

MFA Tama Art University  
Lecturer at DOUMU Printmaking Studio



Mr Tanuma stayed and worked as an artist-in-residence at Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (NSCAD) in Halifax, Canada for two months.

In cooperation with Mercedes-Benz Connection, CWAJ is offering a series of contemporary print exhibitions throughout 2012 at the Roppongi showroom (2F)

**Now On: Exhibition and Sale of Contemporary Prints by MARINCHEVSKI Veliko at Mercedes-Benz Connection, Roppongi**

January 5-April 28, 2012

Bulgarian print artist MARINCHEVSKI has generously pledged all proceeds to the CWAJ Earthquake Relief Fund.

## About CWAJ

Founded in 1949, the College Women's Association of Japan (CWAJ) continues to promote education and cross-cultural exchange through the CWAJ scholarships, the Annual Print Show and other programs that benefit the community. A volunteer, not-for-profit organization, CWAJ's 450 members from 30 different countries work together in a unique system of pairing Japanese and non-Japanese members for leading every aspect of the organization. Offering opportunities for women from all over the world to share unique cultural experiences with their Japanese peers, CWAJ provides a long-term link with Japan as well as the immediate benefits of a wide range of activities in and around Tokyo.

Interested in joining CWAJ? Please contact [membership@cwaj.org](mailto:membership@cwaj.org) for more information.

## FROM PAST SCHOLARS

'I still remember how the CWAJ selection committee encouraged me at my interview to follow my dream regardless of the selection results. I would like to let you know that I am still pursuing my dream while also trying to help the younger generation to pursue their dreams as well'.

**KUBOTA, Aya (1996 SA)** Associate Professor,  
Department of Urban Engineering, U. of Tokyo

'CWAJ makes a huge difference in my life. First, it stabilized my finances, allowing me to focus on my research. Secondly, I've been able to meet lots of outstanding CWAJ members, which I think will become a life-long *Kizuna* (bond)'.

**LONG, Ne (2009 NJG)**  
MD candidate, Nagoya City University

'CWAJ Scholarship taught me that I was supported by the goodwill of so many people. I have often had to face difficulties working as a person with a disability. But at those times, CWAJ always came to my mind which gave me strength and helped be who I am today'.

**MINAMIZAWA, Hajime (1999 SVI-SJ)**  
Music Teacher at Yanaze Elementary School

## 2012 CWAJ Fukushima Relief Scholarships

3 scholarships, 0.5 million yen each,  
up to 2 years

Male and female students at Fukushima Medical University School of Nursing affected by the earthquake, tsunami and nuclear accident are eligible.

**AKIYAMA, Saiko** (third year student from April 2012)

Ms Akiyama is determined to become a midwife and help mothers in the area affected by the nuclear power plant accident.

**AOKI, Mizuho** (fourth year student)  
Born and raised in Fukushima, Ms Aoki wants to become a reliable midwife who can make mothers feel happy.

**YAMADA, Hiroko** (third year student)  
Ms Yamada wishes to positively contribute to the reconstruction of her home village Namie through nursing.

## CWAJ's efforts to support the visually impaired community

CWAJ regularly supports visually impaired (VI) in three ways: Scholarship for the Visually Impaired, Volunteers for the Visually Impaired (VVI), and the Print Show Hands-on-Art exhibit.

### CWAJ Scholarship for the Visually Impaired

Japanese undergraduate and graduate students with visual impairment are eligible for scholarships to study in Japan and abroad. See p.2 for 2011 recipients.

### VVI

VVI has pioneered programs that respond to the needs of the visually impaired since 1975, broadening opportunities for them through the English language programs listed below. Also, education outings such as the tour of the Eye Mate guide dog training center in May raise members' awareness of VI opportunities.

### Japan Vocational Development Center for the Blind

CWAJ volunteers teach English conversation classes twice a week to adults with visual impairment as part of their job training.

### English Conversation Gathering

Two interesting programs were held in 2011. On April 9 a Senegalese member gave an excellent presentation about her country. 26 CWAJ members and 21 VI enjoyed getting together after the many sad days following the disasters. On September 10 there was a very special event hosted by the South African Embassy. We were honored to have Ambassador Grobler give a presentation about many aspects of South Africa. All 46 VI and CWAJ members were impressed with the hospitality and warm generosity of the Ambassador and all Embassy Staff.

### Tsukuba High School for the Blind Program

In June and November, in a program provided only by CWAJ volunteers, 30 VI high school students were given mock interviews to help them prepare for the Eiken English Proficiency Test.

### VVI Newsletter

Three informative and interesting issues a year – spring, summer and fall– were distributed to more than 190 visually impaired in 2011 by email, in braille and enlarged copies.

### Hands-on-Art

25 VI attended Hands-on Art (HOA) at the Print Show in 2011. Four prints were made into tactile prints called 'raised images'

which VI can touch and feel the general composition of the print, giving them a unique opportunity to enjoy art with the general community. (See photo on p.3)

## Cultural Program

The CWAJ Cultural Programs provide enjoyable learning events to the members and the community at large. The programs are usually conducted in English.

In November 2011 a lecture was given by Japanese architect Paul Tange who designed the award-winning Mode Gakuen Cocoon Tower in Shiniuku. Two of his firm's buildings have recently won awards from the Singapore government for their environmentally friendly credentials. The lecture took place in the Pasona Headquarters Building in Otemachi, famous for its indoor forays into agriculture in every room. The capacity audience enjoyed the talk, the building, and the buffet dinner after the lecture.

The next Cultural Program is a charity concert by the Koto & Shakuhachi jazz duo Curtis Patterson and Bruce Huebner on March 17th, a part of CWAJ's Earthquake Relief Initiatives (See p.1). With a repertoire that runs from the traditional to American jazz and their own dazzling compositions, Curt and Bruce are two musicians uniquely nurtured by the strong cultural heritage of the Fukushima area. After the March 11th disaster they returned to Fukushima and did two tours of evacuation centers. Coincidentally, Bruce teaches music at the Fukushima Medical University School of Nursing, the very school to which CWAJ offers scholarships.

## Education Programs:

### Children's English Circle

On Wednesday afternoons throughout the school year, CWAJ volunteers hold classes for Japanese elementary school children who have returned to Japan after living abroad in countries such as Australia, USA, and the Philippines. Reading, holiday themes, word games are just a few of the ways Children's English Circle helps these children to retain their English skills.

### Foreign Students' Circle

Last year in Foreign Students' Circle, 44 foreign students from 6 countries learned about Japanese culture in programs about Japanese Incense Ceremony, wearing Yukata, Yabusame, tea ceremony, and attended Kabuki and Noh performances. Throughout the year, CWAJ volunteers mentor these foreign students to help them adjust to life in Japan.

## EARTHQUAKE RELIEF INITIATIVES



### CWAJ Mental Health Care Project

In discussion with the 2011 Board members at the CWAJ Center, Dr. Nobumasa Kato and Dr. Nagafumi Doi explained the situation of the psychiatric care in Fukushima. Dr. Kato kindly agreed to be the chief representative of this project.



### CWAJ Friendly Quilt

The gorgeous Friendly Quilt, hand sewn by member volunteers was awarded to the lucky winner of the draw held at the 2011 December Luncheon. Purchase of raffle tickets raised ¥130,000 for the CWAJ Great East Japan Earthquake Relief Fund.

## Support us!

CWAJ welcomes and accepts donations of any amount throughout the year.

Please contact Donation Co-Chairs:

Jackye Lawless, Kayo Motoda  
donations@cwaj.org

For donations by bank transfer:

Citibank, Aoyama Branch,  
Savings Account: No. 7894264  
Account Name: CWAJ Donations

By supporting the CWAJ Scholarship and Education Fund / Earthquake Relief Fund, you can make a genuine and long lasting impact on the lives of individuals and communities both in Japan and beyond.



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