



MARCH 2013

CWAJ annual report

2012-2013

CWAJ PROUDLY CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Believing we can better the world through nurturing women leaders

On 20th October 2012 during the 57th CWAJ Print Show, 30 past and current scholars with nearly 50 CWAJ members joined to celebrate the 40th anniversary at CWAJ's Scholarship Reunion Party. In her toast, the very first scholar to study abroad Miiko Kodama, Professor of Mass Communication and Journalism at Musashi University (now Professor Emeritus), said, "I will be retiring in March but I had to retire from my first job as a television announcer nearly 40 years ago when I was 28, being told that I was no longer young enough to perform on TV. The CWAJ Scholarship opened a door for that 'old lady' as my experience studying abroad helped me launch a new career."



Before the reunion party, scholars joined docent tours of the Print Show and experienced the Hands-on Art Exhibit which is created every year for visitors with visual impairments. These activities, mingling with other scholars and CWAJ members including those visiting from overseas, reinforced the strong bonds

and friendships that CWAJ scholars maintain with the CWAJ community.

Since 1972, CWAJ has helped 327 women to study at universities and graduate schools both in Japan and abroad, paving the way for their development as leaders in a wide range of fields. The profiles of 101 scholars are now available for viewing in the slideshow introduced in the CWAJ website (www.cwaj.org, Scholarship section).

The funds for the CWAJ Scholarship Program are raised every year by the Print Show and other events as well as individual and corporate donations.

CWAJ has always focused 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. Unlike most scholarships in Japan, CWAJ does not have eligibility restrictions based on age or field of study. For women mid-career and/or with children, this means the opportunity to follow their dreams.

Additionally, as part of CWAJ's commitment to people with visual impairments, CWAJ was the first organization to provide non-loan academic scholarships. Since its establishment in 1978, 60 recipients of the Scholarship for the Visually Impaired have gone on to become remarkable leaders at the forefront of education, law, business, art, etc.

More recently, CWAJ established the Fukushima Relief Scholarships, part of CWAJ's Great East Japan Relief initiatives, to help students who were directly affected by the March '11 disasters to continue their nursing studies.

As needs in society change, so does CWAJ, but we remain committed to our mission of supporting higher education for women of all nationalities and for men and women with visual impairments.

From Past Scholars

KIKUCHI, Takashi (1999 Visually-impaired Scholar to Study Abroad)

Violist and researcher, London, UK

"I joined the British Paraorchestra and was involved in a number of unique opportunities, including performing at the closing ceremony of the London Paralympics . . . another was playing the British National Anthem for the Queen's Christmas Message."



MORI, Sumiko (2004 Scholar to Study Abroad)

Bureau Chief, Washington, DC Office, Fuji Television Network, Inc.

"I arrived in Washington, DC as the first female Bureau Chief and now I am in charge of collecting news from The White House, the Department of State and The Pentagon. I feel really grateful to CWAJ for giving me the opportunity to study at the Harvard Kennedy School and building a network of friends in government and embassies."



FUKUSHIMA RELIEF PROJECTS

Since April 2011 CWAJ has been supporting Fukushima victims through a number of relief projects. In December 2012, Misa Yasukawa, 2012 CWAJ President, along with six other CWAJ members visited Soma City and Fukushima City for the second time. As a result of the two visits, we realize the most significant way we can offer support to the people in Fukushima is by demonstrating our awareness of their situation and keeping them in our thoughts.

CWAJ also hopes to continue making financial contributions to the future of the stricken area with warm understanding and support from donors at home and abroad.

Support for the Mental Health Care Center Nagomi

Soma Mental Health Care Center Nagomi is a project center for the maintenance and improvement of the mental health of victims living in temporary housing, patients with mental disorders and their families, as well as local residents at large. On the occasion of the opening of the Nagomi Center in January 2012, CWAJ donated a van with a wheelchair lift to facilitate home visits and the transportation of patients. The Nagomi van bearing the red CWAJ logo travels through the city daily, assisting those in need.

On our December visit, CWAJ presented 190,000 yen for maintenance and insurance for the van. Additionally, of play equipment, toys and art materials (valued at 150,000 yen) were donated for the Center's Saturday program for



children living in temporary housing. As a special gift, we also presented both Nagomi and Fukushima Medical University Hospital with a framed print inscribed "Ganbatte Tohoku!" (Wishing you all the best, Tohoku!). These were kindly donated by MINAMI Masao.

This is what the Nagomi 'Activity Report' on their website had to say about CWAJ's donation of toys:

"The first Saturday Children's Program in 2013 was held on 12th January. Twenty two children and mothers attended. In December we received from CWAJ a generous gift of plastic tunnels, large color blocks, picture books, drawing papers, crayons etc. The most popular toy of the day was a soft hoop ring! It can be used as a jump rope, or as a hula hoop to swing around the waist, and when the staff held the ring up, children enjoyed throwing balls through it. Children are so innovative that they find numerous ways to play with one toy. It is such a joy to watch them play. We receive power from them."

Fukushima Relief Scholarships

The Fukushima Relief Scholarships, launched in 2012, are specially designated to assist male and female students at The Fukushima Medical University School of Nursing who were directly affected by the March '11 disasters to continue their studies. The award of 500,000 yen per year is almost equivalent to a full year's tuition. All four recipients of the 2013 scholarships (two are in their second year of the two-year scholarship) are from Fukushima Prefecture and either had their homes damaged or were required to evacuate due to the nuclear power plant accident. The two most recent recipients entered the university in April 2011, just a few weeks after the earthquake and tsunami.



On our visit to Fukushima in December, we were able to meet with the 2012 scholars to hear about their progress.

We also met with Professor Yoko Nakayama of Fukushima Medical University School of Nursing as well as Assistant Professor Takako Okawa who is in charge of the Nagomi administration. It was rewarding to hear from Professor Nakayama about the positive impact of the CWAJ scholarships. Currently no other scholarships are available to students in the School of Nursing.

CWAJ Fukushima Art Project (plan)

Print artists played an important role in raising funds for CWAJ's Fukushima Relief Projects. It was the artists themselves who approached CWAJ with the idea of donating their prints to support the relief efforts. Letters were sent to a selection of artists exhibiting at the 2011 and 2012 Print Shows and resulted in 143 prints being generously donated by 37 artists. The sale of these prints at the 2012 Print Show raised more than 1.5 million yen. CWAJ used part of the fund to purchase and donate art materials and toys for Nagomi. Educational art programs for children in Fukushima are also being arranged.

CWAJ is grateful for the generous contributions from members and friends all over the world. The reconstruction of Fukushima will take a long time. Your ongoing support will enable us to continue our relief projects.

2012 CWAJ SCHOLARS

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

2 scholarships of 2 million yen

CHONDO, Yvonne (Kenya)

Study program: MS, Hygienic Chemistry, Graduate School of Medical Science, Division of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Kanazawa University

CWAJ Sano Chikara NJG Scholarship

XING, Jingrui (China)

Study Program: PhD, Psychiatry, Graduate School of Medicine, Nagoya University

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

1 scholarship of 2 million yen

PARK, Jisun (Rep of Korea)

Study program: PhD, Comparative Politics, Graduate School of Law and Politics, University of Tokyo

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

2 scholarships of 2 million yen

OYAMA, Ayumi

Study Program: MA, Special Support Education, Graduate School, University of Tsukuba

Scholarship for the Visually Impaired in Memory of Yasuhide Oka

MORII, Shingo

Study Program: PhD, Biological Information Systems, Graduate School of Innovative Life Sciences, University of Toyama

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

1 scholarship of 2 million yen

TOMPKINS, Rebecca (USA)

Study Program: AM Candidate, Regional Studies - East Asia, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University

CWAJ 60th Anniversary Overseas Scholars

1 scholarship of 180,000 yen,

5yrs **GAYAGAY, Sandra Glynn**

(Philippines) **Study Program:** MD, School of Medicine, Saint Louis University, Baguio City, Philippine

CWAJ PRINT SHOW

The 58th (2013) CWAJ Print Show will be held on
Thursday 10th - Saturday 12th October 2013

at Tokyo American Club

The 3rd (2013) Kobe CWAJ Print Show will be held on
Friday 18th - Sunday 20th October 2013

at Kobe Club (Participation in Kobe Biennale)

Enquiries: PrintShow@cwaj.org



Every year art lovers eagerly await Japan's largest annual exhibition and sale of contemporary Japanese prints—the CWAJ Print Show. It all started in 1956 at the 1st Print Show, which featured 91 contemporary woodblock prints (*hanga*) by 39 artists. In 2012, the 57th Print Show presented 201 prints by 200 artists.

The Print Show is CWAJ's main fundraiser. The proceeds go to the Scholarship and Education Programs as well as the Fukushima Relief Projects.

The 57th Print Show had a special feature: a selection of artists donated small prints for a special sale to support CWAJ's relief efforts in Fukushima.

In addition, we are grateful to Mercedes-Benz Connection for providing free space at their showroom in Roppongi Midtown for a series of exhibitions promoting the Print Show and raising awareness of CWAJ's mission.

The Associate Show, which debuted in 1968, has offered in-depth explorations of focused topics. In 2012 the Associate

Show featured monotype artworks by four young printmakers—FUJITA Yumeka, MAENO Tomohiko, OKUYAMA Naoto, and ONO Kouseki. In 2013 the Associate Show will present oil paintings, paintings on glass, tea bowls, and sculptures by renowned Print Show artists.

In addition to the scholarships and projects mentioned on previous pages, CWAJ also 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. The Young Printmaker Award was established in 2005.

2013 CWAJ Young Printmaker Award
1 award, 500,000 yen

ICHINO, Yu

Tokyo Zokei University, 4th yr student
Ms Ichino plans to use the award money to purchase a larger lithographic stone than the one she owns now. She hopes to source this in Germany, which is a major lithographic stone-producing country.

2013 CWAJ Artist-in-Residence Program

1 award, 800,000 yen

MOMMA, Hidemi

MFA Musashino Art University

Instructor at Miwada Gakuen Junior High and High School; Education Development Staff at Kawasaki City Museum

Ms Momma will work as an artist-in-residence at Nova Scotia College of Art and Design (NSCAD) in Halifax, Canada for two months in 2013. She will exhibit artworks inspired by this experience at the 59th (2014) CWAJ Print Show.

SHINODA Toko Special Exhibition at the 58th CWAJ Print Show



SHINODA Toko celebrated her 100th birthday in March 2013. To celebrate and honor one of the longest-standing and most prestigious contributors to the CWAJ Print Show, we will showcase 15 prints produced in the 1980s, 1990s, and 2000s.

2013 CWAJ FUKUSHIMA RELIEF SCHOLARS

4 scholarships of 500,000 yen

AKIYAMA, Saiko (4th yr student, 2nd yr of CWAJ Scholarship)

Ms Akiyama is determined to become a midwife and help mothers and young children in her home prefecture of Fukushima.

KOJIMA, Fumika (3rd yr student)

After losing her home in the disaster, Ms Kojima's dream to be a nurse was reaffirmed seeing the tireless efforts of nurses working with disaster refugees.

NAGASAWA, Sonoko (3rd yr student)

Ms Nagasawa had to move after the disaster as her home is under high risk of radiation. Because of her strong interest in women's issues, she plans to become a midwife.

YAMADA, Hiroko (4th yr student, 2nd yr of CWAJ Scholarship)

Ms Yamada realized the importance of mental health care during and after disasters after her own experience living as a refugee following the tsunami.

CWAJ Friendly Quilt

The gorgeous Friendly Quilt, hand sewn by members of CWAJ Friendly Crafters was again awarded to the lucky winner of the draw held at the 2012 December Luncheon. Purchase of raffle tickets raised ¥123,500 for the CWAJ Fukushima Relief Projects.



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 for more information.

CWAJ supports people with visual impairments

CWAJ's ongoing programs for people who are visually impaired (VI) make an enduring, positive impact by providing (i) scholarships for VI to study in Japan and abroad, (ii) English instruction and events for VI to learn and apply English skills, and (iii) opportunities to appreciate works of art at *Hands-on Art Exhibit* at the Print Show.

CWAJ Scholarship for the Visually Impaired

Japanese undergraduate and graduate students with visual impairments are eligible for scholarships to study in Japan and abroad. See p.2 for 2012 recipients.

VVI (Volunteers for the Visually Impaired)

VVI has been a leader in responding to the needs of the visually impaired community since 1975, primarily through the English language programs that broaden their career and personal growth 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 program.

English Conversation Gatherings

2012 was a year of record attendance at three English conversation gatherings, two of which were hosted by Embassies. CWAJ member Israeli Ambassadors Carmela Ben Shitrit introduced the intellectual, technical and cultural achievements of Israel. Oman Ambassador Al-Muslahi described Oman's long-standing relationship with Japan, including student exchanges. The third gathering highlighted Easter and spring celebrations in the US, Germany and India. About 35 VI learned firsthand at each gathering about customs and cultures around the world.



Special Needs Education School for the Visually Impaired, University of Tsukuba

In June and November, in a program provided only by CWAJ, 16 volunteers gave mock interviews to 35 VI high school students 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 194 individuals in 2012 by email, in braille and enlarged type.

Hands-on-Art Exhibit

35 VI attended Hands-on Art (HoA) at the Print Show in 2012. Four prints were made into tactile prints called 'raised images' which VI touch to feel the



general composition of the print. HIROTA Raifu generously lent an artist proof of his print providing a special chance for VI to touch an actual print. HoA is a unique opportunity for VI to enjoy art with the general community. CWAJ members guide VI through HoA and the Print Show. VI could also listen to an audio-tape of the artists' descriptions of their prints.

Cultural Programs

The CWAJ Cultural Programs provide enjoyable educational events for the community at large and are usually conducted in English.

On 17th March 2012, a charity concert of koto and shakuhachi music by Curt and Bruce Duo was held at the Franciscan Chapel Center in Roppongi. The "Going Home — Reflections on Fukushima" concert was attended by 250 and raised over 400,000 yen to support CWAJ's Relief Projects.



On 30th November 2012, a presentation about Tokyo Skytree and its construction was given by Mr Hiroshi Takagi of Obayashi Corporation, a Japanese construction company with a rich history responsible for building the tower. The audience of 100 was fascinated to learn the inside story of the construction and functions of the world's tallest free standing broadcasting tower built with Japanese cutting-edge technology. Additionally, Mr Makoto Kanai, the Vice President of Obayashi Corporation, provided an interactive surprise quiz with prizes.

Two cultural programs are planned for 2013. Open to the public, all proceeds will go to support CWAJ's scholarship

program. Please join us at "Kimono Magic", a fun event highlighting creative ideas to wear kimono in modern times, on 14th May 2 - 4 pm at International House.

The second event will be a concert of Chinese music featuring Minjyun Wang (Chinese flute) and Yumi Oikawa (piano) on 18th September. Visit the CWAJ website, Cultural Program for more information.

Education Programs

Children's English Circle

During 2012 CWAJ volunteers held 30 after-school activity classes for Japanese elementary school children who have returned to Japan after living abroad. The children had fun exploring various topics through reading, arts, crafts and singing. Children's English Circle's goal is to help these children to retain their English skills.

Foreign Students' Circle

35 foreign students from eight countries participated in Foreign Students' Circle programs in 2012. They had a lecture in Pasona on working in Japan, attended Kabuki, Noh and Bunraku performances, and experienced making soba noodles. CWAJ volunteers assist foreign students seeking guidance and friendship while living in Japan.

You can make a difference!

By supporting the CWAJ Scholarship and Education Programs and the CWAJ Fukushima Relief Projects you can make a genuine and long lasting impact on the lives of individuals and communities both in Japan and beyond.

CWAJ welcomes and accepts donations of any amount throughout the year. Please contact Donations/Sponsorships Co-Chairs:

Barbara Hancock, Tomoe Kondo
donations@cwaj.org

For donations by bank transfer:

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CWAJ



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