

**The 2025 Nominating Committee are delighted to share the Slate of Nominees for the 2026 CWAJ Board, approved by the Board at its meeting on Wednesday, September 3.**

**We would like to thank everyone who participated in this important process and we look forward to your support.**

**Here are the members who have been nominated to serve on the 2026 Board:**

### **2026 CWAJ Board Nominees**

<b><u>Position</u></b>	<b><u>Nominee</u></b>	<b><u>Country</u></b>
President	Yoko Moskowitz	Japan
Vice President	Heidi Zukoski Sweetnam	USA
Treasurer	Yuko Yoneoka	Japan
Parliamentarian	Ann Endo	USA
Recording Secretary	Hillary Kobayashi	USA
<b>Directors</b>		
Member Activities	Michiko Motomura	Japan
Scholarship	Catherine Haskin	USA
Print Show	Katherine Long	USA
Community Service	Elizabeth Okada	UK
Cultural Programs	Shigeko Nagaoka	Japan
Public Relations	Emiko (Emi) Doi	Japan
Communications	Yuri Toyota	Japan
Development	Kristen Hughes	USA

### **Board Election Coming Soon!**

The **2025–2026 Board Election** will be held **electronically** during the **first week of October**.

**Election begins on Wednesday, October 1** – ballots will be emailed to all members who have **renewed their membership** for 2025–2026 **by September 30, 2025**. Be sure your membership is **up to date** so you can **vote!**

Results will be announced by our **Head Teller** at the **General Meeting via Zoom on Wednesday, October 8** – **mark your calendars!**

**Every vote matters – make yours count!**

Stacie Kendall, **2025 Nominating Committee Chair**

**Nominating Committee:** Sangita Rajbongshi Das, Nadia El Borai Yamamura, Sandra Lee Godoy, Reiko Nagase, Wako Onodera, and Ritsuko Watanabe

## **2026 Board Nominee Profiles**



### **President: Yoko Moskowitz - Japan**

**Yoko Moskowitz** brings a global perspective to her leadership, having lived and volunteered in the USA and Bulgaria before returning to Japan. A member of CWAJ since 2018, she has served as Co-Chair of VVI, Coordinator of ECG, Director of Education, and Vice President. Her professional background is in medical research and teaching, and she has led volunteer efforts supporting diplomatic families, promoting nutrition education, and providing medical aid to orphanages abroad. Yoko holds a Ph.D. in Pharmacology and enjoys cooking, jazz piano, taiko drumming, and travel. She is inspired by the passion and connections found within the CWAJ community.



### **Vice President: Heidi Sweetnam – USA**

**Heidi Zukoski Sweetnam**, a CWAJ member since 2022 and current President of the 2025 Board, has served in leadership roles across Scholarship and Education, and contributed as General Meeting Program Coordinator, Scholarship Committee member, Print Show volunteer, and YPA Committee member. Originally from the United States, she has also lived in Sweden and Italy and brings extensive nonprofit management and program development experience from her work with the Urban Land Institute, BluePrint Houston, and the Congressional Budget Office. Heidi holds degrees from Stanford University and UC Berkeley, and enjoys traveling, swimming, gardening, reading, and spending time with her husband and two children. She is honored to continue serving CWAJ as Vice President in 2026.



### **Treasurer: Yuko Yoneoka - Japan**

**Yuko Yoneoka**, a CWAJ member since 2022, brings strong experience in finance and nonprofit administration to her role as 2026 Treasurer. She currently serves as Co-Chair of the Print Show and has contributed to various CWAJ activities with dedication and detail. Her professional experience includes accounting and operations in both Japan and the USA, with a focus on nonprofit financial stewardship. Currently, Yuko serves as Director of the Japan Center for Engagement and Remedy on Business and Human Rights (JaCER) and as a panel member for the Allegation System of Nuclear Facilities Safety Information under Japan's Nuclear Regulation Authority. She holds a BA in Japanese Literature from Keio University. Outside of work, she enjoys traditional performing arts, classical and ethnic music, and hiking. Yuko values CWAJ's culture of mutual respect and is committed to ensuring transparency and accuracy in managing CWAJ's financial matters while supporting the Board's goals and long-term sustainability.



### **Parliamentarian: Ann Endo - USA**

**Ann Endo** joined CWAJ in 2006 and has served in a wide range of leadership roles, including Vice President, Director of Member Activities, Recording Secretary, Membership and Scholarship Co-Chair, and Parliamentarian. She currently serves as Parliamentarian and Secretary to the Scholarship and Print Show Committees. Originally from the U.S., Ann moved to Japan in 1981 and has also lived in Germany. A registered nurse, she has contributed to the international community in Japan through her writing and support of various organizations, including the Association of Foreign Wives of Japanese and the Foreign Nurses Association in Japan. Ann values the friendships formed through CWAJ and especially enjoys welcoming new scholars each year. Outside of CWAJ, she enjoys reading, lace-making, and spending time with her family, including seven grandchildren. She holds a BS in Nursing from the University of Cincinnati.



### **Secretary: Hillary Kobayashi - USA**

**Hillary Kobayashi** joined CWAJ in 2021 and currently serves as Recording Secretary, a role she will continue in 2026. Based in Sendai, she supports the Board virtually and brings strong organizational skills to her position. She has also served as Director of Public Relations, Publicity Co-Chair, contributed to Scholarship Publicity, and assisted with Japanese-to-English translation for the Print Show. A freelance writer and editor, Hillary holds a BA in History from the University of Nevada Las Vegas and a PhD in Japanese History from the University of Oregon. She lives in Sendai with her husband, Yuhei, their young daughter, Mina, and their polydactyl cat, Midori. Hillary is honored to continue contributing to CWAJ's mission in 2026.





### **Director of Member Activities: Michiko Motomura – Japan**

**Michiko Motomura**, a long-time member since 2004 returns to the Board as Director of Member Activities. She has previously served as Director of Education, Director of Development, and General Meeting Manager, and has contributed to FSC and Print Show product sales. A certified first-class architect, Michiko brings both creativity and leadership to the role. She has lived in the U.S., Oman, Syria, and Thailand, and is currently President of Ikebana International Tokyo Founding Chapter. She holds a Bachelor of Science from Japan Women's University.



### **Director of Scholarship: Catherine Haskin – USA**

**Catherine Haskin**, a long-time and dedicated member of CWAJ, has served as Director of Scholarship (2018–2021), Parliamentarian (2022–2023), and in several other leadership roles, including Scholarship Co-Chair and SIG Co-Chair. She values the opportunity to support students and the friendships formed through CWAJ activities. Originally from the U.S., Catherine moved to Japan in 1985 and has also lived in Canada, France, and Thailand. She holds degrees in Forestry from Oregon State University and the University of British Columbia. Her interests include reading, sewing, gardening, and folk crafts.



### **Director of Print Show: Katherine Long - USA**

**Katherine Long** joined CWAJ in 2024 and has been active in the Scholarship Committee, Print Show, Young Professionals in Arts programs, and cultural activities. She currently serves as 3rd co-chair of the Print Show committee and looks forward to contributing her skills and passion for the arts as Director of Print Show. She has lived in Italy, Austria, and Ghana, and now resides in Japan with her family. Professionally, she is an experienced program manager with a record of leading complex international projects, budgets, and communications for the IAEA and FAO. She has also served as a long-term election observer, gaining extensive experience in coordination, administration, and organizational oversight. Katherine earned degrees from UC Berkeley, American University, and the University of Chicago. Katherine enjoys swimming, taiko drumming, and exploring Japanese culture, and looks forward to supporting the Print Show and the wider CWAJ community.



### **Director of Community Service: Elizabeth Okada - UK**

**Elizabeth Okada** has been an active CWAJ member since 2024, contributing to the NJG Selection Committee, JBVC teaching, and the Cultural Programs Committee as Co-Chair, and currently serving as an Art Manager for the 2025 Print Show. Originally from the UK, she has lived in Japan since 1986 and also spent time in France, China, the Philippines, and India. With a professional background as a teacher, corporate trainer, and Head of Learning and Development, she now works as a leadership and personal coach. Elizabeth is deeply committed to education and cross-cultural understanding, and for her, CWAJ is a vibrant community where women from many cultures come together to contribute, learn, and share friendship.



### **Director of Cultural Programs: Shigeko Nagaoka - Japan**

**Shigeko Nagaoka** has been an enthusiastic and dedicated CWAJ member since 2005. She currently serves as General Meeting Manager and Working Committee Chair. Over the years, she has taken on many leadership roles, including Board Treasurer, Center Manager, Director of Education, Membership Co-Chair, Luncheon Program Coordinator, Sponsorship / Donations Co-Chair, Development Co-Chair, SVI Coordinator (Scholarship Committee), VVI Co-Chair, and Director of Member Activities. She has also enjoyed supporting the Print Show in various roles. Shigeko brings warmth, energy, and a deep knowledge of CWAJ to all she does. Her long-standing commitment to the organization, combined with her ability to bring members together, makes her an invaluable part of the CWAJ community.



### **Director of Public Relations: Emiko (Emi) Doi - Japan**

**Emiko (Emi) Doi** joined CWAJ in 2021 and has enjoyed contributing as General Meeting Program Coordinator, Print Show volunteer, and Hiking Group member. She values CWAJ's rich history and hopes to share its activities, including VVI initiatives, with a wider audience. She has professional experience as a coordinator, interpreter, writer, and organizer, and brings an international perspective from living in Canada and Japan. She earned a B.A. in Library Science from Keio University in Japan and an M.A. from Alliant International University/California School of Professional Psychology in the United States. In her free time, she enjoys sea kayaking, hiking, and practicing tea ceremony.





### **Director of Communications: Yuri Toyota - Japan**

**Yuri Toyota**, a CWAJ member since 2007, is nominated for Director of Communications on the 2026 Board. She brings a calm, thoughtful approach and a strong belief in the power of clear, inclusive communication to strengthen community ties. Yuri has served as Publicity and Membership Co-Chair and volunteered for Scholarship and Print Show activities. With a professional background in systems engineering, university administration, and translation, she also brings decades of volunteer experience, including with the Girl Scouts and Tokyo Volunteer Guide. She holds a BA in Linguistics from the University of the Sacred Heart Tokyo and studied abroad at Manhattanville University. A proud mother and new grandmother, Yuri's dedication to service and international friendship would make her a valuable addition to the Board.



### **Director of Development: Kristen Hughes –USA**

**Kristen Hughes**, from the USA, is pleased to continue her second year as Director of Development. Since joining CWAJ in 2019, she has served as Scholarship Co-chair, Database Administrator, Task Force Chair, and Print Show Art Manager, and played a key role in introducing Online Scholarship Applications, the Members' Website, Online Directory, and Online Print Show submissions. She especially enjoys the camaraderie of the Art Manager team and the excitement of the Print Show. Originally from San Francisco, California, Kristen studied chemistry at Harvard and earned an M.Ed. from Stanford. She began her career in investment banking and venture capital before becoming a science teacher. Now in Tokyo, she teaches science and math to international school students and is passionate about improving education for all. She enjoys craft projects, gardening and travel.