



CENTER FOR JAPANESE STUDIES

New interdisciplinary approaches in the understanding of Japan and its place in the world

The Center for Japanese Studies (CJS) promotes and disseminates research on Japan, fosters communication among diverse disciplines, and encourages new approaches in the understanding of Japan and its place in the world. Founded at the University of Michigan in 1947, CJS is the oldest interdisciplinary center in the U.S. devoted exclusively to Japanese Studies, making it one of the top places for teaching and research on the region in the nation. Since the 1940s, CJS has played an active role in the recruiting and retention of top faculty, has supported a wide variety of faculty research and publications, and has attracted and trained Ph.D. students from departments across LSA. CJS serves as a home to graduate students, faculty from a variety of disciplines and professional schools, visiting artists and scholars, and community organizations pursuing Japan-related interests and activities at the university.

The Center for Japanese Studies is part of the university's U.S. Department of Education Title VI East Asia National Resource Center, along with the Lieberthal-Rogel Center for Chinese Studies and the Nam Center for Korean Studies. CJS's outstanding faculty includes more than 55 area specialists from various departments in the humanities, social sciences, and professional schools. The center offers an interdisciplinary M.A. program, as well as joint M.A./M.B.A. and M.A./J.D. programs, in addition to its undergraduate curriculum.

Because federal appropriations to support area studies centers are always at risk, CJS must find ways to ensure the high quality of its programs. Gifts help secure U-M's position as a leader in the field of Japanese Studies and can support a wide range of CJS activities, including student funding, academic programs, research, and public events.

STUDENT TRAVEL FELLOWSHIPS

The opportunity to travel and study in Japan will significantly enhance the education of our students. We seek expendable gifts of \$10,000 – \$50,000 and endowed funding to provide scholarships that will enable students to participate in a wide array of experiences in Japan or with Japanese institutions and organizations all over the world. We also seek partnerships with Japanese companies in setting up internship opportunities for U-M students. An endowed gift of \$100,000 will provide funding for one student to pursue an internship or study-abroad experience.

ENDOWED LANGUAGE LECTURESHIP

Language provides our students unparalleled opportunities to explore the Japanese culture broadly and deeply. A gift of \$1M for an endowed named lectureship will ensure that Japanese language will be taught at the University of Michigan in perpetuity.

NAMED ENDOWED CENTER

A named center will ensure that CJS continues to be the premier destination in the U.S. for scholars of Japanese Studies. An endowment of \$10M would cover the annual needs of the center, including staffing costs, operating and program budget, and support for faculty- and student-led initiatives. It would also ensure that a leading scholar will continue to direct the Center for Japanese Studies in perpetuity.

WAYS TO FUND YOUR GIFT

Your partnership connects the college's rich past to a boundless and bright future. You can change lives with gifts of cash, pledges, or appreciated securities, and create a meaningful legacy through your bequest, trusts, gift annuities, and other planned gifts. Your generosity makes an impact on what's next, for a better tomorrow.

“I express my sincerest gratitude to the Center for Japanese Studies for making study abroad a possibility for me. Attending the Tokyo Women’s Christian University in the summer was my first time traveling overseas, alone or otherwise. I have wanted to go to Japan for as long as I can remember, so this was an opportunity I could not pass up. I never could have imagined that a two-week experience would change my life so much.”

–Vanessa Kiefer, B.S. '21

for what's next ▶

Look to Michigan

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