

Chiisai Shinbun 2019-4Q

A quarterly newsletter of the Japan-America Society of Vermont

180 Flynn Avenue, Burlington, VT 05401 (New Address)

This newsletter is to let you know about the JASV events accomplished during the 4th quarter (October, November and December) of 2019.

1. Japanese Culture Presentations at UVM (10/3)

Toshi presented a Japanese folk art overview and life in Japan to two classes, to a total of 39 students. Both went very well. Thank Suzuki-sensei very much for its arrangements. There were one handful Chinese students in each class. He showed a hanging scroll written in Kanji. Reading is different, but we could share its meaning perfectly. He heard from Suzuki-sensei that they enjoyed the presentations very much!!!



2. Japanese Classes Started

2-1. Children's classes started from 10/6.

There were a total of 8 registrations (Beginning: 4 and Intermediate: 5). Both classes will be held on Sundays starting from 10/6 until 11/7 (total 7 weeks). The teacher is Ms. Maki Farnham.

Level-2: 9:30 am -- 10:30 am

Level-1: 10:45 am -- 11:45 am



(Level-1)



(Level-2)

2-2. Adult classes started from 10/7.

There were a total of 8 registrations (Level-1: 5 and Level-2: 3). The Level-1 class started every Monday from 6:30 pm for one and a half hours starting from 10/7 for 10 weeks. The level-2 started every Wednesday from 10/23. The teacher is Ms. Linda Sukop.



(Level-1)

3. Participation in the Vermont International Festival (12/6, 7 and 8)

First Day (Friday, 12/6)

The venue was dedicated to children. Many school buses brought about 2,000 children. Consequently our booth got big attention and was very crowded. Many enjoyed making Origami animals, flowers, fishes, balloons and brought them home. They were happy to have their names written in Japanese and brought them home. Many were also happy to make Gyotaku fish prints themselves, a part of Japanese art. It was hard to recruit volunteers since it was a work day. Luckily Ana Ojeda, Isaac Ojeda and Vikki Ciaffone, all who are JASV's Japanese class students, came to rescue us. In fact they helped us all three days! Without their help, this year's participation in the VIF wouldn't have been successful. Thank you very much Ana, Isaac and Vikki! As a special event, we added a new event this year, which was Kamishibai. Mike Brown presented the story telling and it was appreciated. He did the Momotaro story! Thank you, Mike.



(Origami)



(Origami)



(Calligraphy)



(Calligraphy)



(Gyotaku)



(Kamishibai)

Second Day (Saturday, 12/7)

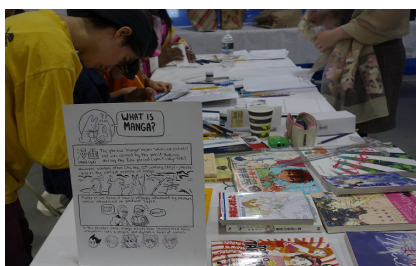
Children came with their parents and it was a relaxed day. The Shodo second Dan (title given to the Calligraphy artist) Takafumi Sato-san came to help us. Although, we didn't have many adults and children. The second day, we had two special events. Our Manga Club teacher Lydia Nguyen held a workshop there. The other was Tara Ditch-san played Shamisen on stage for the sake of the JASV. Thank you very much, Tara-san.



(Gyotaku)



(Calligraphy)



(Manga Workshop)



(Origami)



(Shamisen)



(Shamisen)

The Third Day (Sunday, 12/8)

The third day was also less crowded. All the volunteers were relaxed. Toshi Saitoh made a flower arrangement called Rikka, but he found only 4 persons were interested in it and they asked Toshi few questions.



(Origami)



(Calligraphy)



(Origami)



(Ikebana)

Note: We received donations.

- **Tim Hopper** donated many Manga supplies (utensils and paper) to the JASV Manga club.
- **Tim Haddock** donated Origami paper.

Thank both of you very much!

4. Our Office Move

Per Saint Michael's College's request, the JASV moved out of our office from the Saint Micheal's College Dupont Hall on December 18, and we found an office at a new location. Following is its address.

The Japan America Society of Vermont
180 Flynn Avenue, (Mail Box #5)
Burlington. VT 05401

We sincerely appreciate the SMC's great support up to now of lending our office room with no charge. At the same time, we started having a headache to pay a rent of \$3,600 per year for the new office. The JASV is a 100 percent volunteer non-profit organization. It is almost impossible to add making such a big amount of money to our goal of fostering good understandings and relations between Vermonters and Japanese. We need to look for a generous supporter like SMC. The rent will be a subject of tax reduction for the room lender. Thank you for your help to find a generous room lender!!!

5. Monthly Events

5-1. Kid's Club (Second Saturdays of the month)

October : A total of 11 children and adults enjoyed making Jack-o-lantern craft for Halloween.

November: A total of 16 children and adults enjoyed making Thansgiving crafts. This is the last Kid's club since most of Kids are now grown. And they had a farewell party at the end. Masako-san ran this club 10 years (2 years at her home and 8 years at the JASV office.) Great job, Masako-san.



5-2. Manga Club (First Saturday of the Month)

October: 2 students participated.

November: 3 students participated

December:

We had a Manga workshop at the International Festival of Vermont on 12/7. Many young people enjoyed drawing Manga.



**Happy New Year!
JASV**