Opening Remarks: Iwao Ojima, JCSB President & Chair of the Board

Financial Report: Patricia Marinaccio, JCSB Treasurer & Executive Committee

Public Relations: Roxanne Brockner, JCSB Executive Committee

Pre-College Japanese Program: Eriko Sato, JCSB Executive Committee Chair

Teaching Certification Program in Japanese: Eriko Sato, JCSB Executive Committee Chair

The Outreach Program: Gerry Senese, JCSB Outreach Program Director

Program in Japanese Studies: Mary Diaz, JCSB Executive Committee

Inoh Collection: Mary Diaz, JCSB Executive Committee

Study Abroad Program for Japan: Eva Nagase, JCSB Executive Committee

Taiko Tides: Joe Dvorak, Taiko Tides Co-Advisor

Japanese Students Organization (JSO): Sayaka Uoyama

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The Japan Center at Stony Brook
Stony Brook, NY 11794-5343
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The Japan Center at Stony Brook (JCSB) Annual Meeting
11 am – 12 noon (Chapel)

12th Annual Japan Center Essay Competition
at Stony Brook University
Sponsored by Canon U.S.A.

April 22, 2017
Charles B. Wang Center
Stony Brook University

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Canon
JCSB Essay Competition Award Ceremony
2 pm – 3 pm (Chapel)

Opening Remarks:
Iwao Ojima, JCSB President

Greetings:
Jun Liu, Vice Provost for Global Affairs, Dean for International Academic Programs and Services, Stony Brook University
Ellen Pitchford, Vice President & GM of Digital Marketing, Canon U.S.A.
Masaru Sato, Deputy Consul General and Director of Japan Information Center, Consulate General of Japan in New York

Result of the Essay Competition:
Eriko Sato, Chair, JCSB Essay Competition

Award Presentation:
Moderator: Sachiko Murata, Chief Judge, JCSB Essay Competition
Presenters: Jun Liu, Ellen Pitchford, Masaru Sato and Iwao Ojima

1st Place Best Essay Award in High School Division ($3,000 check & Rebel T6)
“A Taiko Roar towards Self Discovery” by Wilfrido Batista (University Neighborhood High School)

2nd Place Best Essay Award in High School Division ($1,500 check & SX720 HS)
“A Buddhist Culture: Japan and the Monks” by Kazuo Nakamura (Northfield Mount Hermon School)

3rd Place Best Essay Award in High School Division ($750 check & SX620 HS)
“Samurai in the Outfield” by Colin Capece (Chaminade High School)

Best Essay Award in College Division ($3,000 check & ELPH360 HS)
“Wrong.” by Mohammed Ali (Stony Brook University)

Uchida Memorial Award ($1,000 check & PowerShot G9X Mark II)
“A Remedy for Loneliness” by Tia Culbreath (The Young Women’s Leadership School of Brooklyn)

Special Award ($500 check & ELPH360 HS)
“Reflections on Japan” by Hein Aung (Columbia University)
“Track: The Mental Game” by Rachel Kitagawa (Syosset High School)

Consul General of Japan Special Award
Presenter: Masaru Sato
“A Taiko Roar towards Self Discovery” by Wilfrido Batista (University Neighborhood High School)

Essay Presentations by Awardees:
“Track: The Mental Game” by Rachel Kitagawa
“Reflections on Japan” by Hein Aung
“A Remedy for Loneliness” by Tia Culbreath
“Samurai in the Outfield” by Colin Capece
“A Buddhist Culture: Japan and the Monks” by Kazuo Nakamura
“A Taiko Roar towards Self Discovery” by Wilfrido Batista
“Wrong.” by Mohammed Ali

Japanese Music Performance
Sumie Kaneko
Introduced by Yoko Ojima, JCSB Board Member

Program
- Akashi
  Kitajima, Kengyo (16th century)
- Mittsu no Dansho
  Nakano-shima, Kinichi (1942)
- Shikisoku
  Evan Ziporyn (2016)
- Tori no Yoni (Like a Bird)
  Sawai, Tadao (1985)

Sumie (Sumi-e) Kaneko, a Japanese Koto & Shamisen player and Jazz singer/songwriter, creates music that spans over a millennium. As a master in the traditional repertoire of these ancient instruments, she has also pioneered their use in jazz and experimental music through solo and group performances worldwide. Sumie began playing Koto at age 5, and by the following year she was appearing on Japanese TV programs at NHK. In 1995 she won the Takasaki International Competition in Koto performance. She studied Japanese traditional music at Tokyo National University of the Arts, and in 2006, studied Jazz vocal at Berklee College of Music. She has performed at Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Blue Note NY, TED talk, Regattabar, Getty Center, Boston Ballet, Yo-Yo Ma’s Silk Road Project and the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. She has also given workshops at Harvard University, MIT, Princeton University, Wellesley College and Berklee College of Music, among other institutions. In 2014, her group was invited to the Washington, DC Jazz Festival, which was cosponsored by the Embassy of Japan. She has collaborated with many world-renowned instrumentalists including Evan Ziporyn, Kenny Endo and Kaoru Watanabe as well as painters, dancers and calligraphers. She has toured internationally in Brazil, Peru, Bolivia, Jamaica, Guatemala, Nicaragua with Japan Foundation, and every year since 2013 she has been invited to Bangladesh, Pakistan and India by the Japanese Embassy. Sumie has released two albums, and the second album, Dead Of The Night (available on iTunes), has been well received for her unique and exquisite sounds.

Raffle
Prizes include two Canon cameras (ELPH190 IS).

Closing Remarks
Iwao Ojima, JCSB President

Uchida Memorial Award
Mr. Kinya Uchida’s warm support was instrumental in launching the JCSB Essay Competition sponsored by Canon U.S.A. in 2005, to which JCSB is deeply grateful. The JCSB instituted the Uchida Memorial Award in honor of the late Mr. Uchida in 2013.