



—*Sasakawa USA: The Alliance Working in America (TAWA) Series*—

Strengthening U.S.-Japan Relations: Opportunities and Challenges for the JET Alumni

March 2, 2018 | 6:00-8:00pm
Elephants Delicatessen - Garden Room (115 NW 22nd Ave.)

Since the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program was founded in 1987, over 32,000 Americans have worked in schools, boards of education, and government offices throughout Japan. Widely recognized as one of the most successful international exchange programs of its kind, JET participants strive to go beyond teaching English in Japanese classrooms by also serving as cultural ambassadors and international liaisons promoting soft diplomacy in their local communities. With last year's 30th anniversary of the JET Program, there has also been increased focus on the program's alumni as many have gone on to have distinguished careers in the U.S. Foreign Service, Fortune 500 companies, academia, among other fields. Upon their return, these alumni contribute their in-depth and nuanced understanding of Japan to enhancing cross-cultural understanding and strengthening U.S.-Japan bilateral relations in their personal and professional lives.

As part of Sasakawa USA's [The Alliance Working in America \(TAWA\) series](#) and in partnership with the JET Alumni Association of Portland, we invite you to join a special dinner discussion with **Bill Clifford** (Shizuoka ALT, 1987-89) President and CEO of World Affairs Councils of America, and **Doug Smith** (Okayama CIR, 1987-89), International Business Development, Port of Portland. The discussion will explore how the JET Program experience has contributed to their career and their role in U.S.-Japan relations, and the challenges and opportunities ahead for JET alumni to contribute towards strengthening U.S.-Japan relations in their personal and professional networks.

Agenda

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| 6:00pm | Registration & Networking |
| 6:20pm | Dinner Buffet opens |
| 7:00pm | Welcome Remarks and Introductions
Joy Champaloux , Associate Program Officer, Sasakawa USA (Wakayama, 2009-2012) |
| 7:05pm | Featured speaker:
Bill Clifford , President, World Affairs Councils of America (Shizuoka, 1987-89) |
| | Commentator:
Doug Smith , International Business Development, Port of Portland (Okayama, 1987-1988) |
| | Moderator:
Michael Richey , Editor, Tofugu (Shiga, 2008-2010) |
| 7:30pm | Discussion and Audience Q&A |
| 8:00pm | Adjourn |

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Speaker Bios



Joy Champaloux joined Sasakawa USA as an Associate Program Officer in November 2016. In this role, she leads the day-to-day management of Sasakawa USA's Education Programs, which offers opportunities for U.S. policymakers, experts, and the broader public to improve their understanding of U.S.-Japan relations through frequent public events, people-to-people exchanges, dialogues, and fellowships..

Prior to joining Sasakawa USA, Joy worked for the Embassy of Japan in Washington, D.C. in its Political Section from 2013 to 2016. In this capacity, she provided logistical, administrative, and research support to the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Defense on issues pertaining to the U.S.-Japan security alliance. From 2009 to 2012, Joy taught English on the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program in rural Wakayama Prefecture.

Joy currently serves as President of the JET Alumni Association of Washington, D.C. (JETAADC) and led the organization's efforts to formally establish its 501(c)(3) educational nonprofit status in 2017. She is on the JET Program review and interview committees and is a member of the Japan America Society of Washington, D.C.

Joy earned her B.A. in International Studies with minors in Economics and Japanese language from Willamette University and studied abroad at Tokyo International University in Saitama Prefecture.



Bill Clifford has served since October 2013 as President and CEO of the World Affairs Councils of America, where he leads the WACA national office in Washington, DC, and represents its nonpartisan nonprofit network of more than 90 World Affairs Councils across the United States. From 2008-2013, he was the chief executive of WorldBoston, a WACA member council known for innovative programming, access to leaders, and a tradition of advancing public learning about critical international issues.

Previously, Bill worked as an editor, bureau chief, and correspondent in Asia, where he launched and directed news bureaus in Japan and Hong Kong for the pioneering multimedia venture CBS MarketWatch. Before that, he was senior Tokyo correspondent for CNBC Asia and Asia Business Television. Bill began his career in journalism during graduate school in the early 1990s, working at the Washington, DC bureaus of The Wall Street Journal and Far Eastern Economic Review magazine, and later he became a staff writer for The Nikkei Weekly in Tokyo.

In March 2018, Bill was appointed Nonresident Senior Fellow at the Foreign Policy Institute at The Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, and joined the editorial board of the SAIS Review.

Bill holds an MA in international economics and Asia studies from Johns Hopkins SAIS, a BA summa cum laude in international relations and French literature from Tufts University, and a Certificate d'Etudes Politiques (CEP) with distinction from Sciences Po in Paris, France.



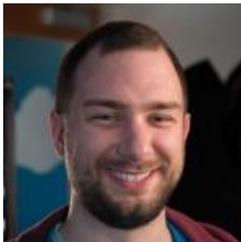
Doug Smith is responsible for international business development at the Port of Portland, the region's driver of economic opportunity in transportation and logistics.

The Port operates the Portland International Airport (PDX) as well as marine terminals transporting grain, minerals, autos and break-bulk services to overseas markets.

Prior to joining the Port, Doug spent 20 years in the engineering and construction industry where he led site selection and construction management projects as well as served in Executive Management as cofounder of an entrepreneurial firm focused on providing full-service support to Foreign Direct Investors (FDI) in the advanced materials, chemicals, food processing and renewable energy sectors.

Doug is past-Chair of the Board of Directors of the Japan-America Society of Oregon and Southwest Washington (JASO) and serves as a member of advisory boards with Portland State University's Center for Japanese Studies as well as the Okayama Prefectural University. In addition, sits on the US District Export Council, an appointment by the U.S. Secretary of Commerce.

He has lived, worked and/or studied in both Europe and Asia. He is a graduate of Cornell University with a concentration in International Economics.



Michael Richey is the Editor/YouTube-man at Tofugu. He grew up in Charlotte, NC and studied writing and film production at North Carolina School of the Arts. After college, he lived in Hikone, Shiga in Japan for two years on the JET Program. In his spare time, Michael studies Japanese, plays Famicom, and overanalyzes movies. He is the current president of JETAA Portland.

About Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA (Sasakawa USA)

Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA is an independent American non-profit, non-partisan institution devoted to research, analysis, and better understanding of U.S.-Japan relations. Through research and education programs, Sasakawa USA facilitates people-to-people exchange and dialogue between American and Japanese policymakers, influential citizens, and the broader public. Sasakawa USA's newest outreach series, ***The Alliance Working in America (TAWA)*** aims to increase understanding of U.S.-Japan relations with regional and local leaders in U.S. cities outside of Washington, D.C.

About JETAA Portland

The Portland Chapter of JETAA (The JET Program Alumni Association) was created to serve the bonds of friendship developed by the program participants. JETAA's purpose is to achieve, through its activities, a broader and deeper understanding between Japan and the other countries participating in the program.