



News Release

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Racing to the Future: U.S.-Japan Technology Trends and Leadership in Self-Driving Vehicles

Sasakawa USA to host public discussion at 2019 National Cherry Blossom Festival

Washington, D.C. - Join Sasakawa USA from 4:30-6:00 p.m. on April 2 for a panel discussion on technology trends in the United States and Japan and U.S.-Japan leadership in autonomous driving technologies. A welcome message will be provided by a special robot guest. Embracing the National Cherry Blossom's Festival's 2019 "light and festive" theme, Sasakawa USA will also host an early evening reception following the discussion to feature Japanese appetizers and cherry blossom-themed décor.

The event will feature Silicon Valley experts including, Joanna Drake, General Partner, Core Ventures Group; Jim Adler, Managing Director and Board Member of Toyota AI Ventures; and Bert Kaufman, Head of Corporate and Regulatory Affairs, Zoex. Business journalist Fred Katayama will moderate.

The panelists will discuss technology trends in the United States and Japan with a focus on technologies surrounding autonomous driving vehicles. They will explore how autonomous driving can dramatically transform our future way of life and the many potential ways that the United States and Japan can collaborate to promote and govern the application of self-driving vehicle technology in the United States, Japan, and the rest of the world.

This free event is open to the public and will be held at the Mayflower Hotel. The program will be held from 4:30-6:00 p.m. on April 2, followed by a reception. Pre-registration is required. For more information and to RSVP, visit spfusa.org/event/ncbf2019/.

About Sasakawa Peace Foundation USA

[Sasakawa USA](http://SasakawaUSA.org) is an independent American non-profit, non-partisan institution devoted to research, analysis, and better understanding of the U.S.-Japan relationship. 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. Follow us on Twitter, [@SasakawaUSA](https://twitter.com/SasakawaUSA).

About National Cherry Blossom Festival

The National Cherry Blossom Festival is the nation's greatest springtime celebration. The 2018 Festival, March 20-April 14, includes four weeks of events featuring diverse and creative programming promoting traditional and contemporary arts and culture, natural beauty, and community spirit. Visit nationalcherryblossomfestival.org or call 877.44.BLOOM for more information, or check out Facebook ([CherryBlossomFestival](https://www.facebook.com/CherryBlossomFestival)), Twitter ([@CherryBlossFest](https://twitter.com/CherryBlossFest)), and Instagram ([@CherryBlossFest](https://www.instagram.com/CherryBlossFest)).

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