

JAPAN SOCIETY
OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA



118th ANNIVERSARY

37th AWARD of
HONOR GALA

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2023



MUFG is proud to support Japan Society of Northern California's 37th Award of Honor Gala

MUFG Bank, Ltd.

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WELCOME REMARKS

Steve Pollock | President, Japan Society of Northern California
Nobuko Saito Cleary | Gala Chair, JSNC Board

SPECIAL REMARKS AND TOAST

Yo Osumi | Consul General
Consulate-General of Japan in San Francisco

DINNER

AWARD PRESENTATIONS

VISIONARY AWARD

Ira Ehrenpreis

Introduction: Larry Greenwood | Chairman of the Board

CULTURAL AMBASSADOR AWARD

Hello Kitty

Introduction: Rehito Ray Hatoyama | JSNC Board

AWARD OF HONOR

Yoshiki

Introduction: Nobuko Saito Cleary | Gala Chair, JSNC Board

PERFORMANCE

YOSHIKI

LIVE AUCTION | FUND-A-NEED

Jay Huston | Auctioneer

CLOSING REMARKS

Steve Pollock | President, Japan Society of Northern California
Nobuko Saito Cleary | Gala Chair, JSNC Board

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AWARD OF HONOR



YOSHIKI

YOSHIKI is a composer, classically-trained pianist, rock drummer, and the leader of the rock groups X Japan and The Last Rockstars. YOSHIKI was named “one of the most influential musicians and composers in Japanese history” by Consequence and is described by Billboard as “a musical innovator”. He is the first Japanese artist to be honored with a hand and footprint ceremony at the Chinese Theatre in Hollywood since the tradition began in 1927.

His worldwide projects include a song dedicated to the tenth anniversary of the Emperor of Japan’s reign, the official theme song for the World Expo, Hollywood film soundtracks, and the official theme song for the prestigious Golden Globe Awards. Led by YOSHIKI, X Japan has sold over 30 million albums and singles and sold out the 55,000-seat Tokyo Dome a record-breaking 18 times. He was the first Asian musician to perform at the world’s greatest music halls including Madison Square Garden, Wembley Arena, and solo performances at Carnegie Hall.

In 2022, YOSHIKI’s talent competition series YOSHIKI SUPERSTAR PROJECT X became the #1 ranked variety show on Hulu Japan, leading to the upcoming debut of hot new boy band “XY”. Recently, YOSHIKI formed

the rock supergroup The Last Rockstars, followed by two single releases and a sold-out world tour. In July 2023, X Japan released “Angel”, the band’s first single in eight years.

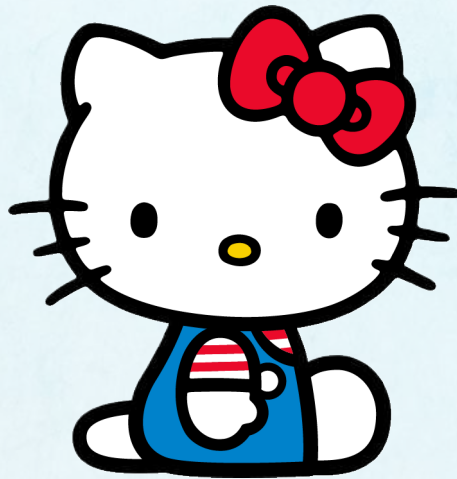
In addition to his music activities, he is also a fashion icon as the designer of his high-fashion kimono brand YOSHIKIMONO and the first Japanese male to appear on the cover of Vogue Japan. YOSHIKI was chosen to be the first living person to have a Hello Kitty doll named after him, called “yoshikitty”. He is also the founder of Yoshiki Foundation America, a 501(c)(3) non-profit public benefit organization, and has long been committed to philanthropy. In 2021, Baccarat selected YOSHIKI to design a Harcourt glass in celebration of its 180th anniversary.

His Y by Yoshiki wine brand is continually sold-out across Japan, and the newly-released Y by Yoshiki x Champagne Pommery is sold in Japan and Germany, setting unprecedented sales records. In 2022, YOSHIKI formed a business partnership with Coca-Cola Japan to launch the energy drinks Real Gold X and Real Gold Y. In 2023, YOSHIKI announced his new high fashion brand MAISON YOSHIKI PARIS.

In September 2023, the feature documentary film YOSHIKI: Under The Sky was released, with premieres in New York, Tokyo, London, and Los Angeles. The film is YOSHIKI’s directorial debut and features live performances by The Chainsmokers, St. Vincent, Sarah Brightman, Scorpions, HYDE, SUGIZO, SixTONES, Jane Zhang, Lindsey Stirling, Nicole Scherzinger, and more.

In October 2023, YOSHIKI will perform Yoshiki Classical 10th Anniversary World Tour with Orchestra 2023 “REQUIEM”, headlining shows at Tokyo Garden Theater (Tokyo), Royal Albert Hall (London), Dolby Theater (L.A.), and Carnegie Hall (New York). This tour will be the first time a Japanese artist has headlined all these historic venues.

CULTURAL AMBASSADOR AWARD



HELLO KITTY®

Sanrio® is the global lifestyle brand best known for Hello Kitty® who was created in 1974. Spreading happiness for generations, Hello Kitty inspires friendship, kindness, and inclusivity throughout the world, transcending international borders from Japan to the United States. As the brand's flagship character, this global pop icon touches a wide range of categories including art, design, fashion, food, play and pop culture, proving that one girl really can do it all. She is a friendly reminder to think of others first and to always be kind. Her impact spans four generations, winning the hearts of devoted fans that have continued to evolve with her as she expands into spaces like the digital world. With her 50th anniversary in 2024, she will celebrate in style with activities and promotions throughout the year that will create new opportunities to spread more kindness and joy to the world.

Sanrio is also home to many other beloved character brands such as My Melody™, Kuromi™, LittleTwinStars™, Cinnamoroll™, Pompompurin™, gudetama™, Aggretsuko™, Chococat™, Badtz-Maru™ and Keroppi™. The brand was founded on the philosophy that a small gift can bring happiness and friendship to people of all ages. Since 1960, this philosophy has served as the inspiration to offer quality products, services and activities that promote communication and inspire unique consumer experiences across the world. Today, Sanrio's business extends into the entertainment industry with content series, gaming offerings and theme parks. Sanrio boasts an extensive product lineup, which is available in more than 130 countries.

VISIONARY AWARD



Ira Ehrenpreis

simultaneously driving social or environmental change.

Ira is a recognized leader in the venture capital industry, having served on the Board, Executive Committee, and as Annual Meeting Chairman of the National Venture Capital Association (NVCA). He currently serves as the Chairman of the VCNetwork, the largest and most active California venture capital organization, and the President of the Western Association of Venture Capitalists (WAVC), the oldest venture capital organization in California.

For his significant contributions to the Venture Capital and Impact industries, Ira has been honored with several prestigious awards. Ira was awarded the NACD Directorship 100 for being “one of the most influential leaders in the boardroom and corporate governance community.” He was also named one of the “Top 50 Most Influential Men Under 45.” For his pioneering work and leadership in sustainability innovation, Ira was inducted into the International Green Industry Hall of Fame. In addition, Ira also received the National Venture Capital Association “Outstanding Service Award,” which is awarded to one venture capitalist each year for career contribution to the venture capital industry.

Ira Ehrenpreis is Founder and Managing Partner of DBL Partners, a leading impact investing venture capital firm, currently managing more than \$1 billion of capital. DBL invests in companies that can deliver top-tier financial returns, while

Ira serves on the board of Tesla (NASDAQ: TSLA) and currently leads DBL's investments in several companies including Airspace, Apeel, Boring Company, Mapbox, Menlo Micro, Planet (NYSE: PL), R-Zero, and SpaceX.

A sampling of Ira's leadership includes serving for several years as the Chairman of the Silicon Valley Technology Innovation & Entrepreneurship Forum (SVIEF). He is the Founder and Chairman of one of the most prominent energy innovation industry events, the World Energy Innovation Forum (WEIF). Ira also served for many years on the Advisory Board of the Forum for Women Entrepreneurs (FWE).

Ira is also an active leader at Stanford University, where he has served on the Board of Visitors of Stanford Law School and is currently an advisory board member of the Stanford Precourt Institute for Energy (PIE) Advisory Council. Ira has also been a frequent guest lecturer, including helping to teach a course on Venture Capital.

Ira received his JD/MBA from Stanford Graduate School of Business and Stanford Law School, where he was an Associate Editor of *Stanford Law Review*. He holds a B.A. from the University of California, Los Angeles, graduating Phi Beta Kappa and *Summa Cum Laude*.

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Yo Osumi

*Consul General
Consulate-General of Japan
in San Francisco*

It is an honor to greet you as newly arrived Consul General of Japan in San Francisco at the 37th Annual Award of Honor Gala hosted by the Japan Society of Northern California. I am impressed by the wide range of selections of its awardees in last 36 events, and this year, what an amazing selection! I would like to congratulate Mr. Ira Ehrenpreis, Founder and Managing Partner of DBL Partners; YOSHIKI - songwriter, drummer, classically-trained pianist, leader of X Japan and the Last Rockstars; and Hello Kitty, global icon celebrating her 50th anniversary, on receiving the 2023 Awards.

Since its founding in 1905, the Japan Society of Northern California has endeavored to celebrate, expand, and strengthen the relationship between Japan and the United States. It accomplishes its mission through an impressive range of public programs which interweave technology, business, travel, food, art, and culture, a scope evidenced by this year's honorees. One of the Japan Society's greatest achievements is its promotion of dialogue between Japan and Northern California with accessible and relevant content for this region, providing a forum for people of all walks of life to engage with Japan.

I am grateful for the leadership of Board Chair Ambassador Larry Greenwood, President Mr. Steve Pollock, Gala Chair Ms. Nobuko Saito Cleary, and the Board and Staff of the Japan Society of Northern California for their hard work in organizing tonight's Gala, and their tremendous year-round efforts to strengthen Northern California's connections to Japan. As Consul General of Japan in San Francisco, I look forward to working closely with the Japan Society of Northern California. I wish the organization, its leadership, and its members continued success in all their future endeavors.



Steve Pollock

*President
Japan Society of Northern California*

Hello Friends,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to an evening of fun and purpose in celebration of the Japan Society of Northern California.

Our mission has always been to foster connections between Japan and the Bay Area, and our Gala represents a special moment in which we unite to celebrate the work we've done and the friendships we've made over the last year. I hope that this evening is also helping to renew your commitment to this cause and to strengthen your ties to others who share a passion for our work.

This gala is not just about celebrating the past; it's about securing our future. This is our most important fundraiser of the year, and your generosity tonight will support our work to build community, nurture cultural understanding, and foster goodwill between Japan and the Bay Area through our many programs.

I particularly want to thank Ms. Nobuko Saito Cleary for her tireless work on behalf of the Society to make this Gala a wonderful success - and to thank all of you for being such an important part of the work we do. I look forward to seeing all of you at our programs in the coming months.

BOARD CHAIRMAN | GALA CHAIR



Larry Greenwood

*Chairman of the Board
Japan Society of Northern California*

In this uncertain world we need connections more than ever. For most of us, our homes and our families, our work and our play, our hobbies and passions, span the Pacific Ocean. We are the grassroots connections that bind the US and Japan, creating a friendship that few would have thought possible when I was born

in the years following the war and showing that seemingly unbridgeable rifts can indeed be healed with time, goodwill and effort.

In these dark times we need joy and this year's Gala delivers! Yoshiki is Japan's most enduring rock star who has delighted his fans for years with his passionate music and worked to make the world a better place through his philanthropy. Hello Kitty, Japan's top pop cultural icon who has kindly agreed to celebrate her anniversary with us, is a reminder to not overthink this world and instead allow a simply-drawn cartoon girl (she is NOT a cat) with no mouth and big head to steal our hearts. Ira Ehrenpreis, a long-time fixture in Silicon Valley, and early investor in Tesla and Space X, shares that love of Japan and its genius for design and quality. Congratulations to all of this year's award recipients.

Thank you to Nobuko Saito Cleary for her come-back triumph recovering from a serious accident to chair yet another successful Gala. And thanks to all of you who support the Society's mission of lasting US-Japan friendship.



Nobuko Saito Cleary

*Gala Chair, Member
Japan Society of Northern California*

Esteemed Guests,

Thank you for joining us this evening for the 37th Annual Award of Honor Gala. This year, we are continuing a long history of honoring those who have been instrumental in developing relationships between the US and Japan. As we follow the mission of

the Japan Society of Northern California, we are pleased that our recognitions include people who have influenced many beyond our membership. Yoshiki, our Award of Honor recipient, has made contributions extending to multiple areas, including business, philanthropy, music, entertainment. We are so proud that Hello Kitty will honor us with her appearance recognizing her 50 years as a global icon. We thank Ira Ehrenpreis, a true visionary who is a superior example of an international entrepreneur.

I am pleased to welcome our new Consul General of Japan in San Francisco, Mr. Yo Osumi. His recent arrival was much anticipated, and we are happy he can join us tonight. I also extend my appreciation to Steve Pollock, JSNC President, Larry Greenwood, Board Chair, the Gala Committee and the JSNC staff.

I hope you will enjoy this gala that will offer many extraordinary experiences, including the music of renowned honoree, Yoshiki. The special significance of our honorees gave me the strength to recover quickly from my accident so that I could enjoy this evening with you all. Congratulations to the honorees and thank you to everyone for attending and supporting the Japan Society of Northern California.

In Appreciation,

Nobuko Saito Cleary

Gala Chair and Executive Board Member

MENU

MENU

Salad

Roasted Red & Gold Beet Salad

Spinach Puree, Wild Chicory, Red and Yellow Beets, Citrus Dressing

Nikko Bread Basket & Sweet Butter

Entrees

Seared Halibut

Seasonal Root Vegetable, Edamame Hummus, Garlic Thyme Beurre Blanc

Butter Roasted Filet Mignon

Scallion Potato Puree, Roasted Purple Cauliflower, Black Garlic Molasses

Potato Cannelloni

(Vegetarian/Vegan)

Vegetable Ragout, Potato Foam, Spinach, Balsamic Caviar Pearls

Dessert

(alternating)

Chocolate Mousse

Hazelnut Praline Encased in a Marbleized, Pyramid-Shaped Chocolate Shell

Raspberry Cheesecake

Graham Cracker Crust, Raspberry Cheesecake, White Chocolate, Fresh Raspberries

Coffee/Teas

Freshly Brewed Organic Regular and Decaffeinated Coffee

Traditional Herbal and Japanese Tea

Wine

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JAPAN SOCIETY | AUCTIONEER



JAPAN SOCIETY
OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

Founded in 1905, the Japan Society of Northern California works to advance U.S. – Japan collaboration and understanding in a global context. The Society offers an array of programs and networking opportunities for people and organizations in the Bay Area with a strong interest in Japan. It is the place to go for U.S. – Japan insights, opportunities, collaboration, and networking.

Thank you for participating tonight, as your presence supports our mission to understand and shape one of the Bay Area's most important global relationships!



Jay Huston is Head of High School and a Science Teacher at Stanbridge Academy, a private school for students with mild-to-moderate learning differences in San Mateo, CA. Jay also performs improv comedy with Chicken

Scratch Improv. This past summer Jay graduated from Johns Hopkins University with a Master of Science in Education in Gifted Education. He has twice received the Masters and Specialist Award from the National Association for Gifted Children for his work helping exceptional students access gifted education. As a father of a cross-cultural family, Jay is excited to support the Japan Society of Northern California.



HELLO KITTY®

Let's celebrate today as we look forward to many more years of spreading friendship and kindness with the world and each other. The future is our friend. And friendship is forever with Hello Kitty.



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Thomas Brunner –	Satsuki Kai
Glaucoma Research Foundation	Mark Shigenaga – Photographer
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Jay Huston – Auctioneer	Gala Volunteers
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PAST AWARDEES

Award of Honor Gala History

Every year since 1987, the Society has honored distinguished individuals from both cultures at the Annual Award of Honor Gala. Awards are given to those who have worked to foster better American understanding of Japan and better United States-Japan relations. The first recipients of this award were Edwin O. Reischauer and Haru Matsukata Reischauer. The complete list of recipients are as follows:

2022 William Hagerty, U.S. Senator & Former U.S. Ambassador to Japan (Award of Honor)
Takuya Okada, Honorary Chairman, AEON (Humanitarian Award)
Akiko Nakajo, Managing Director, YouTube Partnerships Japan G.K. (Visionary Award)

2021 Stéphane Bancel, Chief Executive Officer, Moderna, Inc. & Christophe Weber, Chief Executive Officer, Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Limited

2020 His Excellency, Shinzo Abe (Award of Honor)
Ambassador Deborah L. Birs, MD, White House Coronavirus Response Coordinator & Dr. Shinya Yamanaka, Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine (Humanitarian Award)

2019 Ben Yoneyama, Chairman, YONEX CO., LTD. & Carl and Yurie Pascarella Executive Advisor, TPG Capital

2018 Hiroaki Nakanishi, Executive Chairman, Hitachi and Chairman, Keidanren & William Perry, Former Secretary of Defense

2017 David Pearson, CEO, Opus One & Yuzo Kayama, Actor, Artist, & Singer

2016 Hiroshi Mikitani, Rakuten, Inc. & Hayao Miyazaki, Animation Director Studio Ghibli (World Imaginator Award)

2015 Marc Benioff, Salesforce & Haruo Murase, Canon Marketing Japan Inc., Nobuyuki Tsujii, Van Cliburn Gold Medal Winner (Music Ambassador)

2014 Ambassador John V. Roos & Ken Watanabe, Actor and Humanitarian MUFG Union Bank, N.A. (Visionary Award)

2013 Margrit Biever Mondavi, Robert Mondavi Winery & Kenzo Tsujimoto, Kenzo Estate, Capcom Co., Ltd, Capcom U.S.A., Inc. Dr. Shinya Yamanaka, 2012 Nobel Prize Winner (World Visionary Award)

2012 Georges Desvaux (on behalf of McKinsey & Company)

2011 Japanese Ambassador to U.S. Ryozo Kato, William H. Neukom (on behalf of the San Francisco Giants) & Lewis Wolff (on behalf of the Oakland Athletics)
Masanori Murakami (Lifetime Achievement), Sadaharu Oh (Lifetime Achievement)

2010 U.S. Ambassador to Japan J. Thomas Schieffer & Takahiro Moriguchi, JP Morgan Japan
Hatsuro "Hats" Aizawa (Lifetime Achievement)

2009 Japanese Ambassador to U.S. Shunji Yanai & Toichi Takenaka, Takenaka Corporation

2008 Sakie Fukushima, Korn/Ferry International & Kathy Matsui, Goldman Sachs Japan (Women in Business Gala)
Richard Heggie (Lifetime Achievement)

2007 Yuzaburo Mogi, Kikkoman
Philip Kan Gotanda, Playwright (Artistic Achievement)

2006 Yoshihiko Miyauchi, Orix & A.W. Clausen, Bank of America
Alexander D. Calhoun (Lifetime Achievement)

2005 Tatsuro Toyoda, Toyota Foundation & Scott Cook, Intuit
Atsuhiko Tateuchi, Tateuchi Foundation (Humanitarian Award)

2004 Keiji Tachikawa, NTT Docomo

2003 Nobuyuki Idei, Sony Corporation

2002 Walt Disney Corporation/Oriental Land Company
Osamu Yamada (Lifetime Achievement)

2001 Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta (On behalf of the Japanese American Community)

2000 Yotaro Kobayashi, Fuji Xerox

1999 James C. Morgan, Applied Materials

1998 Norio Ohga, Sony Corporation

1997 Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa

1996 Dr. Donald Keene, Columbia University

1995 U.S. Ambassador to Japan Michael H. Armacost & Japanese Ambassador to U.S. Nobuo Matsunaga

1994 James Clavell, Novelist & Jesse Takamiyama, Sumo Wrestler

1993 Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone & Secretary of State George P. Schultz

1992 Sadako Ogata, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees & Dr. Robert Scalapino, National Committee on United States-China Relations

1991 U.S. Ambassador to Japan Michael Mansfield & Ambassador (and former Consul General in San Francisco) Hiroshi Kitamura

1990 U.S. Ambassador to Japan Robert Ingersoll

1989 Dr. Robert Ward, Stanford University

1988 Japanese Ambassador to U.S. Yoshio Okawara

1987 U.S. Ambassador to Japan Edwin & Haru Matsukata Reischauer

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Ira Ehrenpreis | YOSHIKI | Hello Kitty



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Ira Ehrenpreis
Yoshiki
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Congratulations, Ira!

From the DBL team, our portfolio companies, and the Ehrenpreis family

On behalf of the entire DBL team, our portfolio companies, and the Ehrenpreis family we extend our warmest congratulations to you for receiving this prestigious award. This recognition is a testament to your outstanding leadership, innovative spirit, and the incredible impact you've made in the realm of impact investing. Thank you for your leadership in advancing DBL's foundational belief that financial performance (the First Bottom Line) and positive social and environmental impact (the Second Bottom Line) are inherently connected, and that each factor reinforces the other to support a company's growth and success. Congratulations on your nearly 30 years of service to the venture capital community and pioneering of the impact investing category.

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YOSHIKI

FOUNDATION AMERICA

a 501(C)(3) non-profit foundation

Yoshiki Foundation America is a California 501(c)(3) non-profit, public benefit corporation founded in 2010 by Japanese musician YOSHIKI, leader of rock bands X Japan and The Last Rockstars.

Led by YOSHIKI's desire to help others following tragic events in his personal and professional life, Yoshiki Foundation America provides support for multiple causes important to this groundbreaking artist, including:

- Mental Health and Suicide Prevention through an annual grant to MusiCares, a partner of the Recording Academy (GRAMMYS), to help music professionals affected by depression, anxiety, suicidal thoughts, or other mental health concerns;
- Refugee Assistance in the form of emergency relief operations in Ukraine and neighboring countries;
- Natural disaster relief and recovery for hurricane, earthquake, and wildfire victims in the U.S., Japan, Australia, and the Amazon.

For his prolific philanthropic endeavors, YOSHIKI was chosen by Forbes as one "Asia's 2019 Heroes of Philanthropy" and received a Medal of Honor from the Japanese Government in 2021 for his support of the National Center for Global Health and Medicine and his ongoing charitable works.