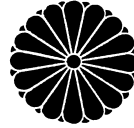


# Scholar Update

Featuring our current and past scholars



## Crown Prince Akihito Scholarship Foundation

September 2017 Edition

### 2017 Imperial Audience

Two CPASF scholars recently experienced a day in Tokyo that they will not soon forget. On July 14, 2017, **Alexander “Xander” Krieg** (2016-2018) and **Yoshiro Sakamoto** (2017-2019) met with Mr. Jason Hyland, Charge D’affaires, at the American Embassy. They then had lunch at the Keidanren where they were briefed about the main event for the day, the Imperial Audience with Their Majesties.



Mr. Uyeda, Mr. Sakamoto, and Mr. Krieg during a tour of the Imperial Palace garden.

The following excerpts were written by Xander and Yoshiro and explain their memorable experiences conversing with Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko.

Xander writes:

On Friday, July 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am, I met with Mr. Allen Uyeda (CPASF Chair) and Mr. Yoshiro Sakamoto outside the American Embassy. We entered and had a short meeting with the Chargé D’affaires, Mr. Jason Hyland. Both Mr. Sakamoto and I were able to share a bit about our research topics and

plans. For the audience with Their Majesties, we were led into an audience room along with several other people, likely handlers of some sort. There was a photographer, videographer, and their staff as well. Since this was the last meeting of Emperor Akihito with the scholarship that bears his name, they wanted to record it. It was a pleasure to meet with their Majesties. I found them to be very calm people, who were soft-spoken and very easy to understand (even with my  
(continued on pg. 3)

### Power & Folly



New CPASF scholar **Jennifer Yoo** (2017-2018) was recently featured in, *Power & Folly: Japanese Satire for the 21st Century* a UHM Department of Theatre and Dance production which ran in mid April 2017.

The show, performed in a Japanese comedic form called kyōgen was well attended and received rave reviews from the audience. Jennifer was outstanding as one of two mountain priests constantly trying to outdo each other.

From the Kennedy Theatre media release, Kyōgen is perhaps the least familiar Japanese theatre form to Western audiences. Finding roots in the 13th century, kyōgen was largely used as a comedic entertainment for commoners at festivals and eventually embedded itself within noh plays. Kyōgen plays are comical and satirical and poke fun at those in power.

The production was directed by Professor Julie Iezzi and benefited from three visiting master kyōgen artists from Japan.

Source: UH Manoa Kennedy Theatre media release *Lords, Priests, and Spirits, Oh My!*

### Chairman’s Message

The CPASF Board has authorized two new committees to support CPASF’s mission. Trustees **Christine Yano** and **Glenn Miyataki** have agreed to co-chair a *Scholar Recruitment and Alumni Relations Committee* with the goals of broadening applicant-recruitment efforts and staying in touch with alumni to strengthen the sense of community among CPASF scholars. A *Nominating and Governance Committee* was also formed with Trustee **Stan Sawai** and me as members.

At a recent meeting, **Denis Isono**, CPASF Treasurer, explained to the Trustees the IRS requirement that in order to remain a publically-funded tax-exempt Foundation, an organization should receive at least 33 1/3% of its funding from the public, based on funding over the most recent five years. If an organization does not meet this target, there is a secondary test (10% Facts and Circumstances test) which CPASF used in 2015 to meet this requirement.

Also, in order to prevent large donors from controlling the organization and also their ability to meet these minimum funding requirements, any person or organization whose contribution exceeds 2% of total donations (based on an average of all donations from the last five years) cannot be included in this test. For CPASF, this means we need multiple donors who contribute less than \$5,500 each. Donations in 2016 enabled CPASF to meet the primary requirement.

I’d like to thank all our donors for their support and encourage CPASF scholars to share updates on their work. As this and prior newsletters have communicated, the CPASF has been able to support over 145 scholars involved in a wide range of research and many different professions.

Mahalo,  
Allen

**Solo Exhibition:  
Transpacific Crossing**

**Ninth-Annual  
Makino Yutaka Concours**



Congratulations to artist **Dr. James Jack** (2008-2010) for his recent solo exhibition entitled, *Transpacific Crossing* which was on display from May 3 to June 3, 2017 at TMT Art Projects in Fukuoka, Japan.

In this artwork, James is painting the landscape under the Pacific Ocean in between Japan and Hawaii. For this exhibit, he displayed the first 13 works in this series depicting the sea between Tokyo and Hawaii. Currently, he is painting the remaining 12 works of the sea between Hawaii and Seattle in the studio.

There is a fascinating video on his website showing how this work of art is being created: [www.jamesjack.org](http://www.jamesjack.org).

Additionally, an exhibit of James' new artworks entitled *Molokai Window* will be on display at the Honolulu Museum of Art from April 27 to September 16, 2018. "Rich earth tones and lively spirits lie right under our



James Jack. 2016. *Transpacific Crossing: Aomi-Tacoma*, 28 x 76 cm, handmade walnut ink on paper

feet," said Jack of the piece. "Turning our gaze towards the earth can show us future directions which are informed by our complex past. Opening a temporary window from dirt, it is possible to contemplate our own existence, and reconnect with the land in a profound way." Source: The Molokai Dispatch, July 12, 2017, *Artist to Create Molokai Window*.

Portrait by Yuriko Nakao

Congratulations to **John Seymour** (2014-2016) whose composition *Namima* (波間, "On The Waves") for a quartet of traditional Japanese instruments, was one of two finalists in the Ninth-Annual Makino Yutaka Concours, a competition for composers of new music for traditional instruments. John's work received an "Honorable Mention," which was the only award given this year (no grand prize was awarded).

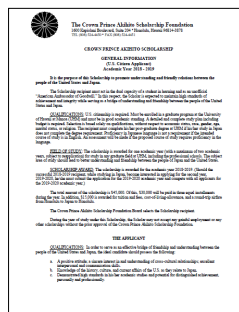
The work was performed on January 29, 2017 at the Concours finale concert in Tokyo. John writes, "A very strict competition! I feel like I won, since I was the only one to receive an award, even though the highest award they gave was honorable mention! In any case, I am pleased that all my studies while at Senzoku Academy in Japan were able to be applied right away to the composition of a new work."

John is currently finishing his dissertation in Music Composition at the UH Manoa.

Photo source: [www.hougaku.co.jp/yutaka/contest09.htm](http://www.hougaku.co.jp/yutaka/contest09.htm)

**2018-2019 Scholarship Applications Now Available**

We're now accepting applications from American scholars who are interested in applying for the 2018-2019 scholarship year. The award covers one-year of study in Japan with an option to apply for a additional year. The total value of the award is \$45,000 which includes a \$30,000 scholarship award and a \$15,000 annual allowance. **Deadline to apply: November 3, 2017**



The scholarship is open to American graduate students at UH Manoa pursuing study in subject area leading to better understanding between Japan and the U.S.

Those interested in applying are invited to attend an Orientation (Q&A) Session on September 13, 2pm to 3pm in the Center for Japanese Studies' Tokioka Room, Moore Hall 319 on the UH Manoa campus.

All applicants must either appear before a

Screening Committee in person or on Skype if they are not in Honolulu on **November 17, 2017**.

Finalists must either appear before the Crown Prince Akihito Scholarship Foundation Board of Trustees in person or on Skype if they are not in Honolulu on **December 14, 2017**.

Applications are available on-line at [www.cpasfoundation.org](http://www.cpasfoundation.org).



Mr. Seymour pictured with his award and a photo of the late Mr. Makino Yutaka.

## 2017 Imperial Audience (continued from pg. 1)

Japanese ability). What surprised me the most was the depth of questioning about my research.

One of the most special moments was the advice I was given by the Empress. I mentioned that my son had just been born and that I had started to think about what things I wanted to convey to the next generation. I explained that I felt that the world was changing but there were some really important traditions to keep in place. The Empress told me to look to the future knowing that many events tend to repeat itself from the past in a circular but different way. The future and the past seem to contradict, but there are places with a high degree of overlap. I was to search for and emphasize the places where the important traditions of the past converge with progress into the future. I think this advice is a great way to leave a legacy for a child....or a country.

### Yoshiro writes:

Needless to say, having the opportunity of meeting and exchanging opinions with Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress was one of the most honorable and memorable experiences in my life. Yet, it was more than just an experience related to my research, rather a vital guidance for my life. In a relaxed and intimate atmosphere in a tranquil room of the Imperial Residence,

Their Majesties, the Emperor and Empress, encouraged us with preciously thoughtful words to do our best in research.

I felt that we shared values of myth, history, and literature, confirming that the force of reminiscing the past gives us a delicate sense of existence in this world. Yet at the same time, Their Majesties made us recognize the importance of regarding the future in this incessantly changing world. The social and technological evolution in our society is inevitable. The world can and should not simply turn back the hands of time and get back to the past. We must step forward to the future, yet with a deep respect for the past: future generations need to keep values and old knowledge in mind. Her Majesty the Empress endowed us with these precious words, manifesting that the human world should evolve in a "spiral" not in a circle, and that this could lead the way to world peace.

Apart from many surprising intersections in our seemingly different research interests, we, Mr. Krieg and I, could also find something in common in our private lives during this day: The fact that we recently became fathers is an important impulse for our strong wish for our research to contribute to making the world a better place for future generations. We were both very impressed with Their Majesties' warm encouragement and guidance to get closer to achieving this goal.

## Redefining Japaneseness



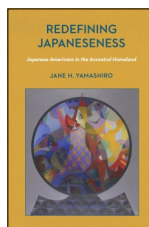
**Dr. Jane Yamashiro** (2004-2006) released her new book, *Redefining Japaneseness: Japanese Americans in the Ancestral Homeland* in January 2017 with Rutgers University Press.

*Redefining Japaneseness* chronicles how Japanese Americans' understandings of Japaneseness – including their own – transform while living in their ancestral homeland. Drawing from extensive fieldwork and interviews, Jane reveals the diverse processes and shifting strategies that Japanese American migrants in the Tokyo

area utilize as they negotiate and challenge conventional social boundaries and meanings related to race, ethnicity, culture, and nationality.

Interested in obtaining a copy of the book? Receive a 30% discount and free shipping at <https://www.rutgersuniversitypress.org/redefining-japaneseness/9780813576367> Please enter discount code **02AAAA16** in order to receive the discount.

Source: [www.redefiningjapaneseness.com](http://www.redefiningjapaneseness.com)



## Appointment to Coalition Board

**Yukie Lloyd** (2011-2013), PhD Candidate in the Department of Tropical Medicine, Medical Microbiology & Pharmacology at UH Manoa, was appointed to the Hawaii Immunization Coalition (HIC) Board in early 2017. She also takes on a new role as the HIC Secretary starting in 2018.

The HIC is a community-based organization committed to improving immunizations of Hawaii's families. The HIC has collaborated with several Tropical Medicine graduate students and faculty to provide vaccination education for health professionals as well as the public.

Yukie also recently returned from Cameroon where she and two undergraduate students trained local students, researchers, and residents on novel malaria diagnostic methods. She will be returning to Cameroon next year to continue her work.

Source: [www.manoa.hawaii.edu/tropicalmedicine/?p=3412](http://www.manoa.hawaii.edu/tropicalmedicine/?p=3412)



Ms. Lloyd (far right) pictured with two undergraduate students and their contact in Cameroon.

The CPASF *Scholar Update* is published on a quarterly basis. Please email updates and photos to [myokomichi@jashawaii.org](mailto:myokomichi@jashawaii.org) for possible inclusion in a future edition.

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