

CCEA

**Cross Cultural
Exchange Association**

**Issue 9
2025**

December NEWSLETTER

Holiday Lunch

As the year draws to a close, we will gather for a special Holiday Luncheon at Tokugawaen Garden, one of Nagoya's most beautiful and tranquil settings. Once the retreat of the Tokugawa family, the garden features winding paths, a shimmering pond, and seasonal landscapes that capture the essence of Japanese beauty and harmony.

Together, we'll reflect on a year filled with community, cultural exchange, and shared experiences that have brought warmth and connection. This festive occasion will be a lovely opportunity to embrace the spirit of the season, enjoy exquisite cuisine, and celebrate the bonds we've built in such a serene and historic setting.

Exclusive to Members Who Have RSVP'd:

Friday, December 5th, 2025

11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Registration begins at 10:30 a.m.

Location:

Garden Restaurant Tokugawaen

1001 Tokugawa-cho, Higashi-ku,
Nagoya, Aichi 461-0023



Coming in February...

Welcome Back!

December

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Book Club	2	3	4	5 Holiday Lunch	6
7	8	9 Zumba	10	11 Yamato-e	12 CCEA Board Meeting	13
14	15	16	17 Restaurant Hunters	18	19 Yamato-e	20
21	22 Global Bites	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

December in Japan glows with dazzling illuminations and cheerful Christmas decorations, even though the holiday isn't traditionally religious. Friends and families enjoy lighthearted customs like sharing KFC dinners or indulging in a fluffy Christmas cake, but the true heart of the season is preparing for the New Year. As December ends, households take part in *ōsōji* (a deep cleaning to welcome a fresh start), adorn entrances with *kadomatsu* made of pine and bamboo, and look forward to *hatsumode*, the first shrine visit of the year to pray for health and happiness.



Upcoming General Meetings

Feb
6th

Welcome Back!
Introduction to CCEA



Vida Cater- Dec. 2nd
Hiroko Onishi- Dec. 5th
Pennie Little- Dec. 7th
Yukiko Ochiai- Dec. 9th
Hannah Woods- Dec. 13th
Amy Peacock- Dec. 29th
Anwen Clark- Dec. 31st

Mallory Harris- Jan. 23rd
Gwyn Wilson- Jan. 31st

Member Spotlight



Naomi Hasegawa

Hello! I'm Naomi Hasegawa. I've been a member of CCEA since 2019. I'm a catering staff at CCEA now. I was born and raised in Nagoya and have lived in the same house ever since. There are many things I love, but one of them is hiking. I go to the mountains once a week. In Japan, we have 4 seasons, so it's really fun to be out in nature. I also like traveling, so I often go to mountains overseas. Every summer I go to Himalayas and Karakoram in Pakistan. My parents also loved mountains and traveling, so I took them to the European Alps many times. I currently live with my 89-year-old mother whose memory device is broken. I have less free time now, so I'm really enjoying CCEA activities. I'll use my love of baking to liven up CCEA.

Are you ready to launch an impactful new group? Contact us for more details on turning your ideas into action!

Email: Nagoyacce@gmail.com

Interest Group Directory

Art Club
Shuuko Adachi
shuukosaku@gmail.com

Arts & Craft
Natasha Medella
natashamedella@gmail.com

Book Club
Helen Saito
lanisaito@gmail.com

Shuuko Adachi
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Day Trips
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Manisha Kundu-Nagata
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Global Bites
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Happy Hour Hunters
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Hiking & Walking
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Sofie Franzén
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Ikebana & Calligraphy
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Kimekomi
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Language Exchange
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Pilates
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Photography
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Restaurant Hunters
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Yamato-e
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Zumba
Ashley Conner
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2025 Board Members

President:
Manisha Kundu-Nagata

Vice President:
Chihiro Okuno

Program Coordinators:
Fumika Kusano
Sofie Franzén
Takeno Matsuda (Supporting)

Membership Coordinators:
Takeno Matsuda
Gwyn Wilson

Financial Coordinators:
Sakiko Kato

Catering Coordinators:
Naomi Hasegawa

Marketing Coordinators:
Samantha Brunner

Administrator:
Gwyn Wilson

Recruitment Coordinators:
Vacant- Look for new members , welcome guests EN/JP

Are you interested in becoming a board member? Please contact us for more information!

nagoyacce@gmail.com



Manisha Kundu-Nagata
President



Chihiro Okuno
Vice President



Gwyn Wilson
Membership



Takeno Matsuda
Membership



Fumika Kusano
Programs



Sofie Franzén
Programs



Sakiko Kato
Finance



Wetty Tokuhisa
Supporting



Samantha Brunner
Marketing



Naomi Hasegawa
Catering



🌟 Holiday Greetings from the CCEA Board 🌟

As the year comes to an end, we reflect with gratitude on the joy and community that has filled 2025. From inspiring gatherings and lively discussions to creative workshops and shared meals, every moment together has strengthened the ties that make the CCEA so special.

Through laughter, learning, and the celebration of our diverse backgrounds, we've built connections that remind us how meaningful it is to come together across cultures. Each of you has contributed to this spirit of understanding and warmth, making our group so special.

As we embrace the holiday season, we wish you peace, happiness, and time to cherish with those you love. May your days be filled with comfort, kindness, and the glow of shared joy.

Looking ahead to 2026, we are excited for new adventures and more opportunities to learn, grow, and celebrate together. Here's to another wonderful year of connection and discovery! 🌍❤️🌟

With warmest wishes,
The CCEA Board

