

MINNIBARAKI

Our Fortieth Year

Minneapolis Ibaraki Sister City Association



Bill Deef, 2020 JASM Mondale Award Recipient

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Bill Deef – 2020 Mondale Award Recipient

Bill Deef was recognized as the 2020 Mondale Award Recipient on Friday, November 13 at the JASM Mondale Award and Scholarship Gala.

The Gala was held virtually this year due to restrictions on gatherings as a result of the Covid epidemic.

Bill has been a big help to the Minneapolis Ibaraki Sister City Association since the 1980s; helping to coordinate visits between the two cities – especially meeting between city officials, helping with events such as the Haiku Contest Ceremony, the Cherry Tree Festival, the Aquatennial Parade and Sister Cities day.

Bill has worked for Meet Minneapolis (the city conventions and visitor’s association) since 1987 and is currently the Senior VP for Public Affairs. His primary responsibilities are to work with the Sister Cities programs (Minneapolis has twelve sister cities) and other public affairs initiatives.

Bill was also a member of JASM for many years, serving on their board of directors from 1994 to 2004 and as its President from 1999 to 2000.

MISCA gives its congratulations to Bill for an honor that is well deserved!

**Friends of the
Bell of Two Friends**

Diamond Friends

*Bill Deef
Michael Rainville
Karl Reinhard*

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*Jack Sattel and Karen Sontag Sattel
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Doug & Addona Rivord
James & Norma Solstad
Claire & Paul Spilseth
Richard & Carol Stahl
Vernon Wetternach*

**The Kinetic and Sound Sculpture
at the Ibaraki City Hall**

If you have the chance to visit Ibaraki City hall you will find another piece of artwork in the lobby. Unlike other sculptures, this one actually moves and plays sounds!

Titled "Sound Bridge" it was built and designed by Norman Andersen another Minneapolis artist. It uses an electrically powered motor to move the discs and produce the sounds.

Norman Andersen was an instructor for many years at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. He has been designing electric sound sculptures for over forty years at his studio in Minneapolis. He also designs outdoor kinetic and sound sculptures at his other studio in Baldwin, Wisconsin.

Norman has sculptures displayed around the United States (for example "Rainmaker's Baggage" at Seattle Tacoma Airport), Canada and Europe.



*Norman Andersen's Sound Bridge
in Ibaraki City Hall*



Norman Andersen

About the Mondale Award

The Mondale Award was first presented to Walter and Joan Mondale by the Japan America Society of Minnesota in November of 1997. As you can see it is named after its first recipients. Walter Mondale was a U.S. Senator for Minnesota, Vice-President of the United States and Ambassador to Japan. Joan Mondale was a patron of the arts and accomplished potter. During her time in Japan, she promoted understanding through art, redecorated the embassy with works from American artists and organized tours with a bi-lingual guide.

Every year JASM presents the Mondale Award to an individual or organization to recognize outstanding contributions to the building of understanding, cooperation and respect between the people of Japan and Minnesota.

2021 Haiku Contest

Thank you to all the Minneapolis students and staff who sent in haikus for this year's Haiku Contest.

MISCA received over five hundred haiku submissions on the theme "Hope"!

MISCA board members have completed their judging of the haikus and have selected what they feel are the thirty best entries in each of the different categories; K-5, 6 - 8, 9 - 12 and adult.

These haikus have now been sent to Ibaraki City for final judging where they will select eight winners in each category.

MISCA is planning to hold an Awards Ceremony in April 2021, with a date to be determined. If restrictions relax, we hope to hold an in-person ceremony - if not we will again hold a ceremony via zoom, that will be lived streamed to MISCA's Facebook page.



Although the dining room is still closed, Zenbox is still offering takeout delivery or curbside pickup every Tuesday through Saturday from 4 - 8 p.m.

You can find their online menu at:

Zenbox.com

They have also started a rewards program! Join now and you get 25 points right away. Once you earn 100 points you can get \$100 off your next order!

Greetings from IFAI



We have published Sister Cities News Vol. 75 (40th Anniversary Issue). The newsletters usually introduce our events, but this issue reviews the history of IFAI, and also introduces a part of the 40 years of exchange with Minneapolis. You may see some nostalgic photographs.

We have also received a heartwarming message from Karl san.

In the following pages, you can see it and past newsletters. It is a shame they are only available in Japanese but we hope you will enjoy reading them.

<http://www.ifai.jp/citynews/index.html>

The MINNIBARAKI newsletter is published quarterly (February, May, August and November) by the Minneapolis-Ibaraki Sister City Association.

MINNEAPOLIS IBARAKI SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION

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Minneapolis, MN 55402

MINNEAPOLIS- IBARAKI SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION



Upcoming Board Meetings:

Monday, February 8, 2021

Monday, March 8, 2021

Board meetings are usually held
at ZenBox Izakaya

602 South Washington Ave

Social time 5:30 – 6:15

Business meeting starts at 6:15

However, at this time meetings are
being held virtually. If you would
like to participate, please email Karl
Reinhard at:

Kreinhard1957@gmail.com

Upcoming Events

We are hoping to resume
our events later this year.

Cherry Tree Festival

At this time this event is on
hold with a date to be
determined if restrictions
allow for it to take place.