An oasis of Japanese design, elegance and tranquility, Japan Society offers corporations and nonprofit organizations the opportunity to take advantage of its magnificent building. Ideal for conferences, receptions and other special events, the Society’s distinctive and well-equipped facility is available for rental. Located near the United Nations on 47th Street and First Avenue, Japan Society is set against the stunning backdrop of a sculpture garden, reflecting pool and waterfall. The classic elegance and simplicity of architect Junzo Yoshimura’s original vision, completed in 1971, has been preserved even as it has been enhanced by an extensive renovation completed in 1998.

Founded in 1907, Japan Society presents sophisticated, topical and accessible experiences of Japanese art and culture, and facilitates the exchange of ideas, knowledge and innovation between the U.S. and Japan. Year round events encompass world-class exhibitions, dynamic classical and cutting-edge contemporary performing arts, film premieres and retrospectives, workshops and demonstrations, tastings, family activities, language classes, and a range of high-profile talks and expert panels that present open, critical dialogue on issues of vital importance to the U.S., Japan and East Asia.
Main Foyer
The elegant main foyer, with a pool and waterfall as centerpiece, is ideal for welcoming guests and holding receptions. The walls and floor are lined with black slate quarried in Buckingham, Virginia, and grilles with coffers of hinoki (Japanese cypress) form the decorative ceiling.

Murase Room
The Murase Room, dedicated in memory of Kuro Murase, M.D. (1880-1947), is available for receptions, seated meals, meetings and symposia. Located on the Society’s ground floor, this spacious room’s sliding glass windows open onto the main foyer, pool and sculpture garden. An adjoining kitchen is available for use by caterers and service staff.

CAPACITIES: Reception: 150; Meal/Lecture: 100
The 260-seat Lila Acheson Wallace Auditorium is available for lectures, films, and music and dance performances. The space is also suitable for private screenings, media announcements and presentations. The auditorium is equipped with state-of-the-art film projectors, and lighting and sound systems.

CAPACITY: 260
Sky Room

A convertible space on Japan Society’s second level with two rooms in one. The minimal, secluded meeting room can be connected to or separated from a spacious atrium suitable for receptions or meetings, featuring an artful skylight that fills the space with warm natural light.

CAPACITIES: Meeting Room: Meeting 12; Reception 15
Atrium: Meeting 22; Reception 35
Facilities Rental

Japan Society’s facilities are available to corporate members and nonprofit organizations for rental pending the schedule of Society-sponsored events. Preference is given to Japan Society Corporate Members, to whom special discounts are offered. Our House Department is available to assist in the planning and implementation of events and a kitchen on the main floor is available for use by caterers.

To obtain more information, arrange a tour of the facilities or reserve a date for an event, please contact the Director of Program Operations at (212) 715-1240 or email rentals@japansociety.org. Japan Society is handicap accessible.

Corporate Membership

The business community supports Japan Society through the Corporate Membership Program. Benefits include Business & Policy programs, networking events, company recognition, Japanese business etiquette workshops, the opportunity to rent the Society’s facilities for meetings and receptions, and discounts and special invitations to Society cultural events.

To learn more about corporate membership, please e-mail corp-membership@japansociety.org or call (212) 715-1250. For information about individual membership, please call (212) 715-1270 or visit japansociety.org/individual.

Language Center

When language classes are not in session, three spacious classrooms and the C.V. Starr Library are available for meetings and as breakout rooms.

CAPACITIES: 20-30