



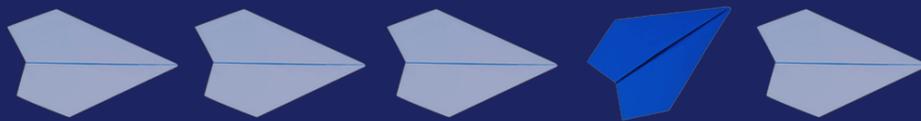
SVJP
Silicon Valley Japan Platform

DAN OKIMOTO

RISING

INNOVATORS

FELLOWSHIP



*To create a world where bold, diverse leaders
from **Silicon Valley and Japan** collaborate
to drive transformational innovation
and challenge traditional boundaries.*



<https://okimotofellowship.svjp.org/>

SVJP is excited to launch the **Dan Okimoto Rising Innovators Fellowship**, a new initiative connecting the next generation of leaders from Silicon Valley and Japan. This program brings together leaders from diverse backgrounds and perspectives to explore the possibilities of transformation through open dialogue and shared experience. It aims to support those who seek to lead authentically—beyond traditional boundaries and societal expectations—by expanding their perspectives and inspiring bold action. SVJP supports the bold efforts of leaders who embrace change and are committed to building a more inclusive future.

MISSION

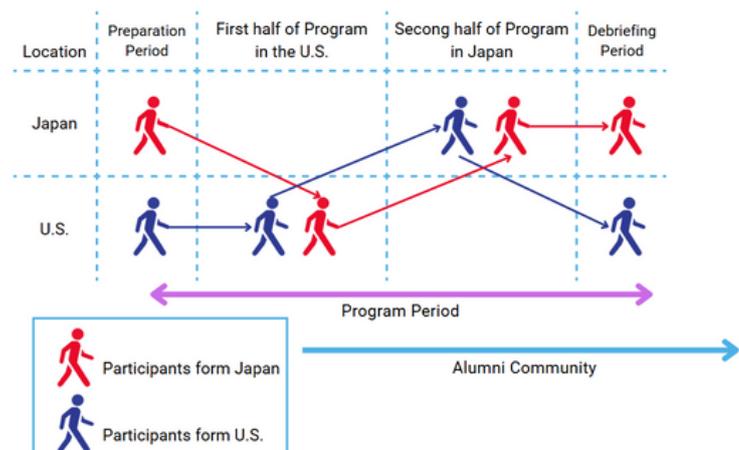
We bring together US and Japanese underrepresented changemakers, to unlock their full potential, by engaging in an exchange program with thought leaders, innovators, and industry pioneers.

- Opportunities to meet and engage in dialogue with diverse leaders and innovators in Silicon Valley and Japan.
- Hands-on workshops designed to foster mutual learning and collaboration.
- Opportunities to learn the structure and characteristics of innovation ecosystems in the U.S. and Japan
- Networking with a community of peers and future collaborators

PROGRAM

※ Japanese-English interpretation will be provided for programs in Japan and the U.S.

- Orientation sessions held in participants' home countries
- 5-day workshop in Silicon Valley, including visits to companies and startup founders
- 5-day workshop in Japan, including visits to SVJP member companies/CEOs and other organizations
- Final presentations and debrief sessions held in participants' home countries
- Alumni community



PROGRAM FEE

The program is fully funded through a dedicated SVJP-managed fund, and no costs will be incurred by participants.



WHO WE'RE LOOKING FOR

We encourage applications from individuals who have had limited access to leadership or entrepreneurial opportunities due to various circumstances.

This program is designed for people who:

- want to turn their lived experiences and minority perspectives to drive positive social change
- aspire to grow as inclusive, globally minded leaders
- seek to become role models in spaces where few exist today
- are interested in social innovation or entrepreneurship
- are eager to expand their potential and take on new challenges

Note: This is not an accelerator program and is not intended for entrepreneurs seeking funding or investors.

Eligibility :

- 18 years or older, based in Japan or the U.S.
- Able to travel to both Japan and the U.S. (or obtain valid travel authorization on your own)
- Open to college students and working professionals
- Able to participate in all components of the program in person without major conflicts (e.g. academic exams, work obligations)
- Basic communication skills in Japanese or English (fluency not required)
- This year's program is in a pilot phase and will prioritize applicants who are able to participate independently. We strive to expand support and accessibility in future editions.

SELECTION PROCESS

- First Round: Document Screening**
Review of application form and letters of recommendation.
- Second Round: Short Movie and/or Essay Submission**
Applicants will submit a short video or essay (in Japanese or English) introducing their current work and motivation for joining the program.
- Final Round: Online Interview**
Online interview conducted by the selection committee.

SCHEDULE

2025		
June	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	First Round Submission Start on June 16 Deadline on July 18
July	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Review submitted information Second Round Submission & Review
August	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Interview online Result to be announced by Aug 31
September		Orientation (Japanese language training is provided for those who wish to attend) - late Aug or early Sep
October	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	First half of the program in the U.S (Oct 9 - 13)
November	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Second half of the program in Japan (end of October to the first week of November) Debriefing online



WHO WE ARE

The Silicon Valley Japan Platform (SVJP) was established in 2016 with the mission of fostering innovation through a trusted Japan-U.S. network. It is co-hosted and operated by the U.S.-Japan Council and the International House of Japan (formerly the Asia Pacific Initiative).

At the core of SVJP is its Annual Retreat, which brings together business leaders, investors, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and researchers from both countries for candid dialogue on social challenges and emerging technologies. Since 2020, increased participation from entrepreneurs has led to the formation of a new community where corporate decision-makers and startup founders engage on a level playing field.

In 2024, Saima Hassan and Naoaki Mashita were appointed as co-chairs. Even in an increasingly uncertain world, SVJP remains committed to empowering the next generation of U.S.-Japan innovators by providing a practical platform for future-oriented dialogue.

PROGRAM ADVISORS



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SELECTION COMMITTEE



Saima HASAN
Founding Partner, Evolution
(SVJP Co-Chair)



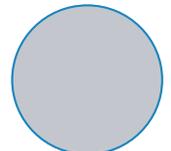
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Tokio Marine Holdings Inc.
(SVJP Advisor)



Daniel OKIMOTO
Professor Emeritus,
Stanford University
(SVJP Co-Chair Emeritus)



PARTNERS



TO APPLY

To apply, please complete the form and upload letters of recommendation at the website below. Please also visit the website for program details and FAQs (coming soon).

<https://okimotofellowship.svjp.org/>

Contact : info@svjp.org

