



36th Anniversary Shinnenkai Reception

Join us in celebrating Keizai Silicon Valley's 2026 Shinnenkai (New Year's Reception) on Friday, January 30 at the Palo Alto Hills Golf and Country Club

Friday, January 30, 2026

5:30 - 6:45 p.m. Reception

6:45 - 9:30 p.m. Program

10:00 p.m. Venue Close

Early Bird (until Friday, January 9th 11pm PST): \$85

Regular Registration (until Friday, January 23rd 11pm PST): \$135

Late Registration (until Wednesday, January 28th noon PST): \$175

Walk-in: \$200

Location: Palo Alto Hills Golf and Country Club
3000 Alexis Drive | Palo Alto, CA 94304

A buffet dinner will be served

Dress: Business Casual

Registration at [keizai.org](https://www.keizai.org)

This year, we are honored to award Ms. Kristi Yamaguchi with the Keizai Silicon Valley Distinguished Achievement Award.

Ms. Kristi Yamaguchi is an Olympic gold medalist, a two-time World Champion and celebrated Hall of Famer in figure skating. She made history as the first Asian American woman to win an Olympic gold medal in the sport. During her career in figure skating, she worked with a nonprofit, Make-A-Wish Foundation, which inspired her to continue working with families and serve under-resourced children. In 1996, she founded Kristi Yamaguchi's Always Dream organization to support early literacy skills in children in Northern California and Hawai'i. She has also written numerous children's books, making her a New York Times bestselling author.

Ms. Yamaguchi will be giving an acceptance speech and participating in a fireside chat. Dr. Richard Dasher, Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures at Stanford University, will be the moderator.

We will also be performing our traditional Kagamibiraki (sake barrel opening) ceremony. The Deputy Consul General of Japan, Mr. Takeshi Ishihara, is expected to lead this tradition.

Featured Honoree



Kristi Yamaguchi captured the gold medal in the 1992 Winter Olympics in Albertville, France in figure skating. She was the first Asian American ever to win gold at a Winter Olympics. She is also a 2-time World champion and U.S. National Champion. Kristi is a member of the US Figure Skating Hall of Fame, World Figure Skating Hall of Fame, and the US Olympic Hall of Fame. She is the recipient of USOPC's Jesse Owens Olympic Spirit Award for "serving as a powerful force for good in society" as well as the 2019 Heisman Humanitarian Award for the work of her nonprofit organization, Always Dream. Following a long and successful career in professional figure skating, including 10 years of touring with Stars On Ice, Kristi took to the dance floor to win the mirror ball trophy with partner Mark Ballas in season 6 of the popular TV show "Dancing With The Stars."

In 1996, she founded [Kristi Yamaguchi's Always Dream](#), whose mission focuses on early literacy through family engagement with children and families in Northern California and Hawai'i. In 2012, Kristi added New York Times Best-Selling author to her list of achievements by introducing her first children's picture book, "Dream Big, Little Pig!", and then following up with "It's A Big World, Little Pig!" and a third title "Cara's Kindness."



Founded in 1990, Keizai Silicon Valley US-Japan Business Forum is an all-volunteer business and professional networking organization based in the San Francisco Bay Area. Its primary purpose is to provide opportunities for executives and professionals to develop the knowledge and human networks for successful US-Japan Business.