



Lessons from Japanese Innovation

Bringing harmony and awareness to the age of AI

Thursday | July 23, 2026 | 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Event Overview

As AI accelerates innovation and automation driven by logic, what can we learn from Japan's tradition of harmony, awareness, and human-centered creativity? Keizai Silicon Valley is pleased to welcome **Allen Miner, Founder & CEO of SunBridge, a Japanese VC firm**, for a discussion on the cultural foundations behind Japanese innovation and entrepreneurship.

The session will examine how Japan's more right-brain-oriented culture has contributed to resilient companies, enduring craftsmanship, and sustainable innovation across generations, and why it may become increasingly important to all of us in the AI era.

For this talk, Allen draws upon decades of experience bridging Silicon Valley and Japan, as well as his recent interest in the work of Oxford psychiatrist and philosopher Ian McGilchrist on the roles of left and right hemispheres of the brain. Allen will explore the contrast between Western left-brain-dominant innovation – reflected in today's logic and language-driven approach to AI – and Japan's more wholistic, relational, and awareness-driven approach to innovation and life.

Following the discussion, attendees will have the opportunity to network with fellow professionals, entrepreneurs, and members of the US-Japan business community.

Date: **Thursday, July 23, 2026**
Registration/Networking: 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM
Program: 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Networking: 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Venue: **Japan Innovation Campus**
214 Homer Ave, Palo Alto, CA 94301

Fees: \$15: Early Bird Discount for first 30 registrations by Thursday, July 9
\$20: Regular Registration by Monday, July 20 (11 PM)
\$35: Late Registration by Wednesday, July 22 (Noon)
\$50: Walk-ins (Seats are limited and may not be available)
Food and beverages will be served.

Registration: <http://www.keizai.org>

Speaker



Allen Miner, *Founder and CEO, SunBridge*

Allen Miner is the Founder and CEO of SunBridge, a venture capital and business development firm focused on bridging innovation and entrepreneurship between Japan and Silicon Valley. With decades of experience building technology businesses across the US and Japan, Allen has played a leading role in supporting startups, venture investment, and cross-border collaboration. He is widely recognized for his deep understanding of both Silicon Valley's logic-driven innovation culture and Japan's human-centered approach rooted in harmony, awareness, and long-term relationships. Through his work, Allen continues to promote innovation that balances

Founded in 1999, SunBridge is one of Japan's original independent venture capital firms and an active startup ecosystem catalyst, supporting companies such as salesforce.com Japan, Marketo Japan, Macromill, and HENNGE.

Organizer



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.



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