



Jennifer Sherman
ALT | Mihama, Mie | 2012-2016

Great Lakes JETAA (Ohio, Michigan)

- Member (2016–2018)
- Ohio Vice President (2018–Present)

National JETAA Activity

- 2017: JET30 Reunion All-Alumni Celebration Attendee (Washington, D.C.)
- 2018: JETAA USA National Conference Delegate (Denver, Colorado)
- 2020: JETAA USA National Conference Attendee (virtual)
- 2022: JET35 Alumni Reunion Attendee (Seattle, Washington)
- 2024: JETAA USA National Conference Delegate (St. Paul, Minnesota)
 - 501(c)(3) Panel Presenter

International JET Alumni Activity

- 2022 After JET Conference Speaker

JET Recruitment Activity

- 2017–2018: JET Program Recruiter at Oberlin College
- 2019: Ohayocon JASCO/GLJETAA Table
- 2023: Cleveland Asian Festival GLJETAA Booth

The focus of my 2025–2026 Country Representative candidate platform is **uniting** JETAA Chapter Leaders nationally and **supporting** each other in our shared mission.

We begin 2025 facing unprecedented national and international challenges that give JETAA Chapters a unique opportunity. We can foster **togetherness** among our members, as well as support **mutual understanding** between Japan and the United States. The cooperation among our local JETAA Chapters and over 40,000 JET alumni may be more important than ever in building ties between the JETAA and greater U.S.-Japan communities.

One difficulty many JETAA USA Chapters face is operating while under a sense of isolation as an organization. I want to ensure Chapters that they're never alone in supporting their members or meeting challenges. Because of continued struggles with alumni engagement and officer recruitment, Chapter Leaders sometimes feel strained for resources and ill-equipped to respond to issues as they arise. By emphasizing an open-door policy, I believe CRs can **build bridges** to **empower** Chapter Leaders. In order to "promote the **mission** and future direction of JETAA USA," as the CR job description states, I would further the accessibility of CRs for effective communication and conflict resolution. The more comfortable Chapter Leaders feel in reaching out as soon as issues arise, the greater the chance for a positive outcome will be.

Coordination efforts must also extend to and operate in harmony with the JETAA USA Board of Advisors, USJETAA, CLAIR, MOFA, and myriad supporting organizations. By anchoring their position as **core resources**, CRs can facilitate communication and lead initiatives for all affiliates. Combining our joint efforts to streamline focus is key for the continued sustainability of the future for our collective missions.

Although tentpole Chapter events provide the backbone of JETAA activities across the country, expanding offerings for national events has the potential to boost **interchapter connectedness**. As CR, I want to create novel national connectivity campaigns that encourage Chapter Leaders and members to reach out beyond their local purview. Whether for social **engagement** or tailored **networking**, I believe providing an umbrella that can cover members of all Chapters as one is vital in promoting unity.

Leading national and international presentations among the JETAA community and Japanese pop culture localization industry has enabled me to develop skills essential for hosting events such as the National Conference and Quarterly Forums. With a broad perspective and an eye for inclusivity, I can serve my fellow JET alumni while adapting as challenges arise. Through eight years serving as an officer for GLJETAA, I've learned no community is too small to be worth uplifting.

Our strengths lie in our ability to come together in the face of adversity and further the causes we believe in. Being one member of the ever-expanding network of JET alumni in the U.S. has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. I'm excited to contribute to the influence of Country Representatives and our ability to bolster the impact of JETAA for all alumni.

I look forward to working as one of your JETAA USA Country Representatives and fostering unity in 2025–2026.