



## David LaCharite

President, JETAA Rocky Mountain 2022-Present  
(Term Ends March 31, 2026)

Board Member, JETAA Rocky Mountain  
2020-2022

- Treasurer
- Event Coordinator
- Webmaster

### JETAA USA Experience

NATCON Presenter: 2023, 2025  
NATCON Delegate: 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2025  
NATCON Volunteer 2018

Member of Dispute Resolution Committee, 2025-Present

### JET Experience

ALT (ES & JHS) - 2012-2016  
Kagoshima Prefecture, Tanegashima Island

AJET Peer Support Group Volunteer  
2015-2016

USJETAA Microgrant Recipient, 2015

### JET Experience Fun Facts

- My placement was on the island where the Japanese space agency (JAXA) launches rockets. I helped my placement town, Minamitane, host a team of 200 NASA engineers and Ambassador Caroline Kennedy for a joint JAXA-NASA Rocket Launch mission in 2014.
- I got way out of my comfort zone by competing in my town's amateur Sumo tournament!

I'm David LaCharite, outgoing President of the JET Alumni Association of the Rocky Mountains (JETAARM), and I'm excited to ask for your chapter's support to serve our alumni community as a JETAA USA Country Representative. As President of JETAARM for the past four years and as an active member of the national JETAA community, I've been deeply involved in our network. I am inspired every day by the ways our alumni support each other, aid our local Consulates and other Japan-related organizations in building deep ties between our local communities and Japan, and, beyond the US-Japan friendship, serve as ambassadors for broader grassroots internationalization in our communities. I love the JETAA community, and I'd be honored to represent us as a Country Representative!

### **JETAA Rocky Mountain Experience**

My very first meeting as a JETAARM Board member was in March 2020, the day before Colorado shut down for COVID-19. I spent my first two years on the board taking on whatever task was needed—whether treasurer, event coordinator, or webmaster—to keep our chapter thriving during challenging times. During that time, I developed a deep familiarity with the nuts-and-bolts, in-the-weeds challenges associated with running a chapter.

In 2022, I took on the President's role and refocused my efforts on building a strong board and chapter culture, thinking about our role in the community and how to communicate a strategic vision to other organizations and stakeholders, building strong relationships with partners, and increasing member engagement. I've been incredibly fortunate to have a core group of talented and dedicated board members work with me over the last three years to achieve these goals. In 2024, JETAARM was recognized with a Certificate of Commendation from the Consul-General of Japan in Denver for "distinguished service in contributing...to the friendship between Japan and the United States of America."

### **Why I am running for Country Representative**

The collective talents and experiences of our 50,000+ JETAA community give us an incredible capacity to impact the US-Japan friendship and our local communities. I believe we can best serve our members and communities through continued strong, well-organized local Alumni Chapters supported by national-level stakeholders and leaders. I want to leverage my deep experience from my local chapter — both strategic and operational — to serve as a leader in the national community and support our local chapters.

### **What I want to do as a first-year Country Representative**

If elected, I would approach this role with humility, knowing that initiatives succeed only with the support of members and chapter leaders. In my first year, I would focus on:

- **Building Upon Existing Relationships:** Through my consistent engagement with USJETAA and JETAA USA activities, I have built an extensive network among other chapter leaders and national stakeholders.
- **Listening & Scaling Success:** I want to learn the successes your chapter is most proud of, and help spread those wins to other chapters.
- **Tackling Frustrations:** I want to identify the challenges that frustrate you most and determine how national leadership can help you overcome them.

Based on my own experience and interactions with fellow leaders, I plan to target support in four key areas: **building relationships with Japan-related organizations, increasing member engagement, refining communication strategies, and fostering sustainable board cultures.**

ありがとうございます！ よろしくおねがいします！