1. BRIEF HISTORY OF THE INSTITUTE

The Japan Institute of Architects (JIA) is Japan’s only professional organization of architects. Its principal role is to define and promote the social and legal status of professional architects in Japan.

Following seventy years of efforts on the part of our predecessors to establish the profession of architecture in Japan, the current JIA was founded in May 1987, by unifying two former individual associations that shared the same professional ideology:

1) The Japan Architects Association (JAA) and
2) The Japan Federation of Professional Architects Association (JFPAA).

As an association of free and independent architects, the JIA is striving to create a greater understanding of the field of architecture within Japanese society, and to establish a firm social foundation and recognition for its members and their foreign counterparts worldwide.
2. CURRENT OFFICE BEARERS
Officers representing the JIA for the fiscal year 2016 (2016/06/24 - 2017/06/30) are:

Mr. Masaharu ROKOSHIKA: President
Ms. Tomoko HIDARI: Vice President
Mr. Koji SUZUKI: Vice President
Mr. Nobuya TSUTSUI: Executive Director
Mr. Yoshimitsu NOUSE: Auditor
Mr. Mitsuyoshi YAMAMOTO: Auditor

3. CURRENT MEMBERSHIP STRENGTH (as of August 10, 2016)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Annual Membership Fee (x10^3 JPY)</th>
<th>Total (x10^3 JPY)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Full Member</td>
<td>3,890</td>
<td>45,000</td>
<td>175,050</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Member</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allied Member</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorable Member</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>3,931</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Variable according to the rule of the respective local chapter
4. BUDGET OF THE INSTITUTE
Operational funding for the JIA is generated from the assessment of membership fees, admission fees, sales of JIA publications and registration fees paid by both members and non-members for participation in various activities.

In April 2005, the JIA annual membership fee was dramatically reduced by one half to encourage the acquisition of young new members. In April 2011, however, JIA raised the fee to strengthen its financial situation.

5. NUMBER OF CHAPTERS
The JIA has ten (10) regional chapters located throughout Japan: 1) Hokkaido, 2) Tohoku, 3) Kanto-Koshinetsu, 4) Tokai, 5) Hokuriku, 6) Kinki, 7) Chugoku, 8) Shikoku, 9) Kyushu and 10) Okinawa. Each regional chapter includes district organizations that develop community-based activities of the architects.

6. GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND NATIONAL CONVENTION
The last JIA General Assembly 2016 was held in Tokyo on 24 June, 2016.
The annual JIA National Convention will be taken place in Osaka from 27 to 29 October, 2016.
7. LEGAL STATUS OF THE JIA IN JAPAN

The JIA was incorporated in June, 1987 as a Japanese juridical corporation conforming to the Civil Law and approved by the then Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport. The current legal status of JIA is an aggregate corporation for public benefit under the Civil Law. JIA is now supervised by the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT).

The Japanese government made a radical reform of Public Interest Corporation legal framework in the early 2000s, and the related laws were promulgated in June, 2006. All current aggregate corporations must be reorganized into a “General Incorporated Association” or into an “Authorized Public Benefit Corporation (APBC)” by November, 2013.

JIA had been analyzing the pros and cons of these two legal statuses for many years since 2006. It was finally decided to become APBC at the special JIA General Assembly, held in September 2011.

This decision shows the commitment of JIA to serve the public for the promotion and provision of better built environment. JIA is now strongly promoting the concept of “community architect,” in which the architects play a major role in the quality enhancement of local built environment.

As such, JIA became new APBC in 2013.
8. LEGAL STATUS OF ARCHITECTS IN JAPAN AND
9. REGISTRATION AUTHORITY OF ARCHITECTS IN JAPAN

In Japan, architects are authorized to practice under the “Kenchikushi Law (Architect Law)” which was enacted in 1950. However, this law is applied to both architectural and engineering design, and is fundamentally unique from common architectural regulations established outside Japan.

The Kenchikushi Law was formally amended in January 2007, providing the new additional regulations regarding the qualifications for structural engineer and building mechanical engineers. Also, regular and compulsory training system for the Kenchikushi was introduced.

However, the role of an architect under this Kenchikushi law was not amended fully to meet international standards. Therefore, JIA has been continuing its effort to improve the qualification system of architects in Japan.
10. INTERNATIONAL AFFILIATION OF THE JIA AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

The JIA represents “Japan Section” of the International Union of Architects (UIA) as a full member, and has been a member of the Architects Regional Council Asia (ARCASIA) since 1991.

Additionally, in May 1999, the JIA revised the “Accord of Professionalism” that was concluded with the American Institute of Architects (AIA) in 1989.

The JIA has also exchanged a “Memorandum of Understanding” with the Association of Siamese Architects under Royal Patronage (ASA) in 1993.

In 2003, The JIA exchanged an “Accord on Professionalism” with the Korean Institute of Architects (KIA) and the Korea Institute of Registered Architects (KIRA) respectively.

In 2008, The JIA exchanged an “Accord on Professionalism in Architecture” with the Union of Mongolian Architects (UMA).

The JIA hosted the UIA XXIV Congress and UIA XXV Assembly in Tokyo, Japan in September 2011.

At the end of 2011, the JIA exchanged “Accord on Professionalism in Architecture” with the Architectural Society of China (ASC).
12. OUTREACH PROGRAM OF THE JIA
The JIA publishes the periodical “JIA Magazine” on a monthly basis, as well as regularly updates its Website: www.jia.or.jp

13. ARCHITETURAL COMPETITIONS / AWARDS FOR JAPANESE ARCHITECTS
The JIA Awards 2015 comprise:
I. JIA Grand Prix,
II. JIA Award,
III. JIA Young Architect Award,
IV. JIA Sustainable Architecture Award,
V. JIA Twenty-Five Year Award and
VI. JIA Architects of 2015
Winners of each award are as follows;
I. JIA Grand Prix:
Architects: Shigeru BAN + Nobutaka HIGARA + Keita SUGAI,
Work: “Oita Prefectural Art Museum (OPAM)”
II. JIA Award:
1) Architects: Mr. Takaharu TEZUKA + Ms. Yui TEZUKA, Work: “SORA no MORI CLINIC”

2) Architect: Mr. Tomotsune HONDA, Work: “The House in Grove”
III. The JIA Young Architect Award:
1) Architect: Mr Jun YANAGISAWA,  
   Work: “Enpark, Shiojiri City Complex and Community Center”

2) Architect: Mr. Kazuyasu KOCHI,  
   Work: “Apartment House”
IV. JIA Sustainable Architecture Award:
1) The First Prize of the Buildings in General
Architect: Yoshihiko IIDA,
Work: “Okinawa Nursing Training Center”

2) The First Prize of the Residential Buildings
Architect: Koichi YASUDA
Work: “[[[cell]]]”
V. The JIA Twenty-Five Year Award 2015:
Among excellent works more than 25 years old, the followings were selected for this award 2015;
1) “Art Tower Mito”, Arata ISOZAKI & Andrea MAFFEI Associates
2) ”Shinjuku Mitsui Building”,
   (Original Design by Mitsui Fudosan Co., Ltd., NIHON SEKKEI Inc., Muto Institute of Structural Mechanics. nc.,
   (Seismic Retrofitting 2014)KAJIMA DESIGN, NIHON SEKKEI Inc.
3) “OSAKA GAS BUILDING (north)”, Yasui Architects & Engineers, Inc.

VI. JIA Architects of 2015:

100 Japanese architects were selected to be published in the “Japan Architecture of the Year 2015 selected by the JIA”, which is the year book of the JIA.
The JIA Grand Prix and JIA Awards shown above were selected from the works shortlisted in this book.
14. KEY ISSUES FACING ARCHITECTS AND THE ARCHITECTURAL PROFESSION

As stated before, current Japanese “Kenchikushi Law” (translated as “Architects Law” in English) defines qualifications both for architects and building engineers, which are remarkably different from architectural standards established by most other countries.

Consequently, the JIA has developed in December 2003, a system known as the Qualification System of Architects in Japan. Additionally, within this context, the JIA has instituted a “Continuing Professional Development” system that is based on the UIA Accord on Recommended International Standards of Professionalism in Architectural Practice.
14-1. JIA REGISTERED ARCHITECTS

The Qualification System for JIA Registered Architects was approved by JIA at the General Assembly in May 2003, as a certification system that meets or exceeds the standards stipulated by the UIA Accord. The Council of Architect Certification was established soon after.

To be certified as a JIA registered architect under this system, current certification as a *First Class Kenchikushi* in combination with five years of practical experience is required. For a new architect, completion of the JIA Practical Training Program is required to be certified.

A JIA Registered Architect who intends to renew his/her registration must acquire a minimum of 108 CPD (Continuing Professional Development) credits over three years. In Japan, there are some other architectural institutions in addition to the JIA, and the JIA’s intention is to establish commonality by having these other institutions adopt the Qualification System for Architects as well.
14-2. JIA CPD

The JIA established the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) system for JIA members in April 2002. All JIA members are requested to acquire 108 CPD credits for 3 years. One credit is approximately equal to one hour of training. Currently, there are two ways to acquire credits: (1) participate in a program accredited by the JIA CPD Council, or (2) obtain credits through self-motivating training programs. Since JIA members are dispersed across Japan, the JIA places particular importance on self-motivating training.

Generally speaking, the training can be sorted into four categories:
(1) the social role of an architect,
(2) improved practical ability as an architect,
(3) improvement in the ability to manage a project, and
(4) management of an architectural firm.

Because the JIA established the Qualification System for JIA Registered Architects in 2003 and acquiring CPD credits is mandatory for all registered architects, CPD for JIA members is recommended now.
15. QBS (QUALIFICATION BASED SELECTION) IN JAPAN

In Japan, competitive bidding system remains popular especially among local governments, where architects are selected through a bidding process more than 80% of all public building cases. Other selection practices, such as design competitions, place an additional burden on clients in terms of time and cost. However, there is growing concern over the quality of public buildings in Japan, and the JIA believes that improvements in quality cannot be achieved through the practice of bidding.

Therefore, the JIA has been actively encouraging local governments to adopt Qualification Based Selection (QBS), a system that has been adopted by many countries, as a measure of an architect’s ability. The JIA is willing to dispatch experts in building design to act as QBS judges when required to explain the procedures of QBS. Consequently, the JIA is confident in its ability to provide practical examples of selecting an architect through QBS.

16. RESOURCES OF THE JIA

Although established in 1987, the JIA has not yet accumulated significant assets. However, the JIA is striving to further develop the “JIA Architects International Fund” (established in 1992) with the goal of improving international communications among architects in the future.
17. OTHER IMPORTANT ISSUES
17-1. DISASTER RELIEF
Following the Great Earthquake hit the East Japan region on 11 March 2011 and the Great Kumamoto Earthquake occurred on 17 May 2016. JIA keeps working on disaster relief activities voluntarily and performs the damage investigation into cultural assets and heritage building with the local government and the Agency for Cultural Affairs.
17-2. INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

1) Based on the success of UIA2011Tokyo, the Japan Supporting Board for International Activities of Architecture (JSB) was established in early 2013 with the aim of supporting students of architecture and young architects to encourage them for taking initiative of international activities. In 2015-2016, the following three projects were executed with a great success.

> Select and send one young architects to the Tri-continental Master in Advanced Architectural Design, hosted by Madrid European University (Jan.~Sep. 2015). Related tuition fee is paid by JSB.

> Select and support international programs arranged by students of architecture or young architects. JSB provides grant to each selected program.

> Exchange young professionals, wishing to work in architectural firms for one year (Thailand and Japan for the term 2016~2017). JOB helps the applicants find relevant firms.
2) Major International Workshops arranged and operated by JIA

>February 2016: The Earthquake Resistance Design Workshop for ASA

The Association of Siamese Architects under Royal Patronage (ASA) visited Japan in early February 2016, to execute workshops and tours on Earthquake Resistance Practices and Tsunami Prevention and Mitigation for Thai architects.

The Japan Institute of Architects (JIA) organized three days core events, the theme of which is very relevant for both institutes, in corporation with the Building Research Institute of Japan (BRI), and many others.

The objective of this event was to sensitize architects in earthquake resistant design practices through technical lectures and tours of on-site visits.
17 March 2016: The first Iran-Japan International Workshop in Tokyo on Architectural and Urban Design

Architects and engineers associations of Iran (12 persons) and Japan (19 persons) discussed about the future possibilities of mutual exchange and collaboration, through this very first workshop at JIA in Tokyo in a friendly manner and atmosphere, initiated by Prof. Riichi MIYAKE, Fuji University. Major theme was Disaster Preparedness Design in both countries.
>9 March 2016: International Workshop with Swedish Association of Architects

“Strengthening local culture with innovations in wooden architecture - new perspectives and solutions in Sweden and Japan”

The timber volume in Sweden and Japan are large. To encourage to exchange related knowledge and experiences, this workshop was held for using wood as a sustainable building material for constructing larger buildings such as apartment houses. It was also envisaged to strengthen the networking and business opportunities between both countries.
17-3. SOCIAL ACTIVITIES
The JIA has positively promoted the social responsibilities of architects on a variety of issues ranging from the global environmental and urban development for improving living conditions and providing consulting services for citizens with problems at the local level.

These activities are intended not only to address current issues among the adult population, but also to acquaint the younger generation – who hold Japan’s future in their hands – with such issues. In this regard, the JIA is planning fundamental programs that will support educational institutions.

17-4. JIA’s willing to invite ARCASIA 18th Asian Congress of Architects (ACA18) in 2018 to Japan

Since a year, JIA has been considering to bid to hold the ARCASIA 18th Asian Congress of Architects (ACA18) in Tokyo, Japan. This issue was already officially endorsed by the Council Meeting as well as the general congress of JIA, held in June 2016 and will be put on the agenda of the ARCASIA Council Meeting to be held on 28 September 2016. The details will be announced then. JIA is looking forward to receiving your supports for this initiative.
Bidding presentation

Why don’t you come over to and join Asian Congress of Architects 2018 (ACA18) in Tokyo, JAPAN

“Simplicity | Multiplicity” to open, connect, and foster Asia