The National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA) at the Program for Teaching East Asia, University of Colorado Boulder, invites applications from elementary and middle school teachers for this winter 2023 online book group.

**Overview:** Take a new look at the genre of biography through the lives of three Japanese people! As informational text, biography meets national standards for English Language Arts instruction. Meanwhile, the genre is also undergoing a creative diversity of formats and elements. This book group will discuss the possibilities of biography in the integration of social studies and literacy curriculum about Japan, through a consideration of three picturebook biographies of a Japanese inventor, artist, and composer. This course for K-8 teachers will explore social, geographic, cultural, and historical aspects of modern Japan.

**Online Format:** The book group will be conducted through three two-week, asynchronous online modules, each consisting of featured works of children's literature about Japan, supplemental readings and/or viewings, and a participant discussion forum on content and pedagogy. The book group opens with online introductions, January 19, 2023. The three modules run: January 26-February 8; February 9-22; and February 23-March 8. Submission of a final paper and evaluation will complete the program on March 20, 2023.

**Eligibility and Expectations:** Open to elementary and middle school teachers nationwide. Admission is selective and priority will be given to contract teachers whose curriculum incorporates Japan and teachers who are not enrolling in another winter NCTA online course. Participants are responsible for acquiring the three books in advance of the book group start date. Teachers are expected to: participate fully in all three module discussions; and submit a four-page Classroom Implementation Plan (CIP) describing ways to use the books in their teaching; and complete an evaluation.

**Participation is free, with the following benefits for full participation:**
- Certificate of Completion for 16 contact hours.
- $75 recognition award upon satisfactory completion of the course.

Apply online at [www.colorado.edu/ptea/Japan-Child-Lit-Reg](http://www.colorado.edu/ptea/Japan-Child-Lit-Reg). Application closes January 12, 2023, or when book group is full. Course limit: 20 eligible teachers. For more information, e-mail Catherine Ishida, [ishida@colorado.edu](mailto:ishida@colorado.edu).

This course is made possible through funding from the Freeman Foundation to the Program for Teaching East Asia, University of Colorado Boulder, 595 UCB, Boulder, CO 80309-0595.