



Progress Report for the 2023 Boston Charity Concert (BCC)

JB Line, Inc.

About JB Line, Inc.

JB Line, Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization established on October 26, 2010.

Our mission is to support people primarily in, but not limited to, the Japanese community in New England to solve problems they face in their daily lives by providing them with consultation, giving them needed information, offering them direct support services, or connecting them with other social resources.

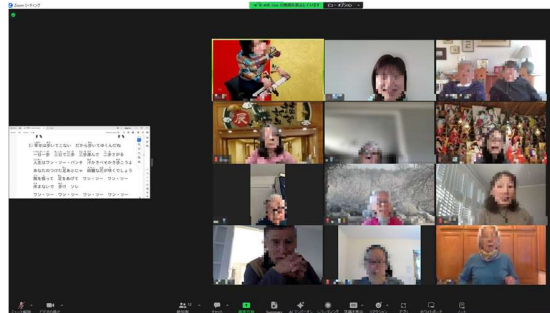
The services we currently provide are

- Japanese / English Support Line
- Community-Based Support (Case Management)
- Domestic Violence/Divorce/Parental Rights Support
- Senior Support
- Parents and Children
- Outreach

About Uta-no-kai (Sing-along Japanese songs) Support Group

With your generous grant, we were able to continue offering our Uta-no-kai support group to the community in the year of 2023.

- In Uta-no-kai, Seniors, led by a music therapist, sing nostalgic songs such as Japanese nursery rhymes and folk songs every other Friday.
- We provide both hybrid and online-only formats to leverage the benefits of online events, allowing broader participation, and the advantages of in-person gatherings, where participants can experience genuine interactions.
- Participants can request specific songs that have particular meanings for them. This is in addition to the more than 200 songs already in our songbook.
- We have prepared lyric songbooks for attendees, and participants attending in person can enjoy singing while following the songbooks.



Photos: Uta-no-kai in-person setting at Brookline public library(left)
Uta-no-kai online-only setting(right)

Utilization of your donation

We had 25 cumulative Uta-no-kai meetings from January to December 2023.

The support funds have been utilized for library space rental fees, fees for the music therapist, and other administrative costs.

Uta-no-kai Outcomes

Singing nostalgic and culturally significant songs provides tremendous comfort and peace, and promotes mental health to those facing the challenges of aging in New England.

Singing can also be enjoyed even by those with cognitive challenges. Many enjoy singing familiar songs from childhood or songs that they heard from their parents. It is very rewarding to see the smiles on their faces and the tears in their eyes when they sing nostalgic songs together. We, JB Line staff and volunteers also enjoy singing with them.

Attendees Voices:

We two, now in our old age, don't get to go out much anymore. The singing group brings out nostalgic Japanese songs, and it is a precious and enjoyable time for us to be able to participate in them.

Just listening to nostalgic songs is a comforting experience for us.

I have been in Boston for several decades and have spent most of my life here. I have fond memories of songs I heard and sang in Japan when I was a child, and I enjoy every time I attend a singing group.

It is good to sing together to cheer up. It warms the body and spirit.

I am hard of hearing and I am not a good singer, but I am happy and enjoy the company of the singing group.

I think singing in a choir is very good for the body since there are not many opportunities to speak loudly in everyday life. I always appreciate the efforts of the staff, especially in preparation. I hope the singing group becomes an event widely loved by seniors.