



What's your story?

TOMODACHI Story Jam for Youth with Disabilities

The COVID-19 pandemic has profoundly changed us, our families, and our communities. It has uncovered new and intensified existing accessibility issues. For many youth with disabilities, the pandemic poses unique challenges and opportunities in their personal and professional lives.

TOMODACHI Story Jam for Youth with Disabilities is an 8-week digital storytelling and youth leadership program that:

- **Brings together** Japanese and American college students and young professionals with disabilities
- **Collectively explores** experiences in the time of COVID-19 through digital storytelling
- **Gives space** for you to describe your pandemic experiences to a broader community
- **Provides opportunities** to interact with peers from Japan and the U.S., and to learn about each other's cultures

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

- **How has the COVID-19 pandemic challenged you as a student or young professional with a disability?**
- **What have you learned about yourself and how you handle challenges during difficult times?**
- **What do you hope others can learn from your experiences?**



What is digital storytelling?

Digital storytelling uses smart phones, tablets, and computers to amplify our voices and bring our stories to life. Connecting through stories is important, particularly in difficult times like a pandemic. Our stories can foster connection with people all over the world!



Learn about this opportunity and **APPLY BY JULY 16**

(via the QR Code)



For more information or questions, contact:

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TOMODACHI Story Jam for Youth with Disabilities is part of the [TOMODACHI Initiative](#), a public-private partnership between the [U.S.-Japan Council](#) and the U.S. Embassy in Tokyo. The program is supported by [Northrop Grumman Corporation](#) and implemented by the [Institute for Community Inclusion \(ICI\) at UMass Boston](#). TOMODACHI Story Jam for Youth with Disabilities is part of ICI's Japan-focused disability initiative "Inclusion Matters."