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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MEDIA ALERT

[2021 Japan Society Annual Dinner: Connecting Across Space and Time Virtual Celebration and Awards](#)

Henry R. Kravis Keynote and 2021 Japan Society Awardee Headlines Virtual Gala with Caroline Kennedy, Naoko Yamazaki, a Special Performance by Ryoma Quartet, and a Surprise Guest

Tuesday, June 22, 7:00 pm EST
Wednesday, June 23, 8:00 am JST

WHO: **Henry R. Kravis**, Co-Chairman and Co-CEO of KKR and **2021 Japan Society Award** recipient, and Japan Society Chairman, **Joseph R. Perella**, Chairman Emeritus of Perella Weinberg Partners, in a virtual fireside chat discussing the ongoing issues that define and influence future opportunities within the U.S.-Japan space.

Former JAXA astronaut **Naoko Yamazaki** in conversation with **Ambassador Caroline Kennedy**, marking the 60th anniversary of President John F. Kennedy's landmark Moonshot speech. This year, NASA and the government of Japan formalized the lunar Gateway partnership, supporting long-term human exploration on and around the Moon as part of the Artemis program and opening a new chapter in U.S.-Japan relations.

Musical performance by the **Ryoma Quartet**, a Japanese-Western eclectic fusion of traditional Japanese instruments—*tsugaru* shamisen, *shinobue*, drums and violin—that expresses a new form of sound incorporating rock, funk, and electro grounded in classical tradition.

WHAT: As we navigate out of the pandemic and towards a full reopening, our reimaged Annual Dinner allows us to celebrate and fortify the bridge we built between our two countries 114 years ago, reinforcing our role as a convener for U.S.-Japan relations.

The **Japan Society Annual Dinner** draws over 500 esteemed guests from the business, diplomatic and cultural communities; Japan Society's Corporate and Individual members; and a broad array of eminent individuals important to U.S.-Japan relations. **Japan Society** is the premier organization connecting Japanese culture, business, and society with audiences in New York and around the world through innovative programs in arts and culture, public policy, business, sustainability, and education, online and on-site at our headquarters in a landmarked New York City building. Since 1907, our mission has been to promote mutual understanding and *kizuna* – forging deep connections – between the U.S. and Japan, by convening critical conversations, championing future creators, and serving as a trusted guide to the abundance of Japan. We are committed to strengthening connections within our community and building new bridges beyond. More at www.japansociety.org.

WHEN: Tuesday, June 22, 6:45, Event Website Open; 7:00-8:00, Official Program
PRESS CHECK-IN: Press to register directly via email to kd@kimdonica.com.

WHERE: Link to be provide prior to the online program.

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