

Jokichi Takamine Study Group, NPO

Dr. Jokichi Takamine

Dr. Jokichi Takamine lived through the dramatic period of time from the end of the Tokugawa shogunate, Meiji era, and Taisho era. He left a great legacy as a scientist, entrepreneur, and an international goodwill ambassador. Dr. Takamine is called the father of modern biotechnology for his research and development of amylolytic enzymes derived from microorganisms, mainly Taka-Diastase.



Dr. Jokichi Takamine
(photo courtesy Great People of Kanazawa Memorial Museum)

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The NPO, Dr. Jokichi Takamine Study Group, is engaged in educational activities, such as publishing journals and holding lectures, in order to make more people aware of Dr. Takamine, who made a great contribution to the development of science and technology in modern Japan, its commercialization, and goodwill between Japan and the United States.

Main Activities

In 2025, the group held activities in various areas to share Dr. Jokichi Takamine's willingness to take on challenges and pioneering spirit with younger generations. At museums in Tokyo, the group held lectures that highlighted Dr. Takamine's multifaceted endeavors while showing how scientific knowledge connects with society. At a junior high school in Tokyo, the group also took part in entrepreneurship education programs, speaking at places associated with Eiichi Shibusawa and sharing with students how Dr. Takamine and Shibusawa each helped shape their time through both science and business. In Dr. Takamine's birthplace of Takaoka City, and in Kanazawa City, where he spent his childhood, the group held 17th annual lectures, introducing junior high school and university students to Dr. Takamine's life as both a pioneer of biotechnology and an entrepreneur. It also expanded its outreach through a wide range of channels, including providing images for educational books and television programs and publishing research articles. In the coming year, we hope to continue to provide accurate information and educational outreach.

Topic Entrepreneurship Education and Jokichi Takamine

Dr. Jokichi Takamine was not only a scientist who helped pioneer biotechnology in Japan, but also an entrepreneur who launched multiple businesses. His commitment to bringing scientific discoveries to society was further strengthened through his relationship with Eiichi Shibusawa and played an important role in Japan's industrial development during the Meiji era. This year, we advanced initiatives at educational institutions across Japan, including lectures on entrepreneurship education in Tokyo's Kita Ward, presenting Dr. Takamine's thoughts as a foundation for building the future. By repeatedly taking on challenges and developing new fields, the life of Dr. Takamine offers young people living in an era of change a clear model for forging their own paths. His spirit of bridging science and business to shape the future continues to resonate strongly with modern entrepreneurship education.



Lecture at Horifune Junior High School, Kita Ward, Tokyo, held as part of the group's entrepreneurship education activities at a site associated with Eiichi Shibusawa.



Lecture at Kanazawa Institute of Technology, including student-led outreach activities such as science classes and events for elementary, junior high, and high school students, conducted as part of the "You Are the Future Dr. Jokichi Takamine! Fermentation Industry Revitalization Project."



Dr. Takamine has graves at Woodlawn Cemetery in New York and Aoyama Cemetery in Tokyo. Pictured is one of the graves with a furry visitor.

Scan the QR code ▶
to visit the Study
Group's website.



Notification of the recruitment of new members

The Jokichi Takamine Study Group is accepting supporting members. Supporting members will receive publications related to Dr. Takamine and regularly issued newsletters. They also receive information about lectures, events, and news.

If you would like to join us, please write your name (if you are a corporate body, company/organization name and department), postal code, address, phone number (no cell phone number accepted), occupation, age, and sex on a letter or a postcard and mail it to us. We will return a bank transfer form to pay the initiation fee and the annual membership fee.

Address

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*For more details, please visit our website.
<https://npo-takamine.org/membership/>