

40th Anniversary of Chiune Sugihara's Passing
25th Anniversary of the NPO Chiune Sugihara Visas for Life

Proof of Life: Legacy of Chiune Sugihara Commemorative Lecture

The True Story Behind Sugihara's Courageous Decision

April 14, 2026 Tuesday
17:00 Open
18:00 Start

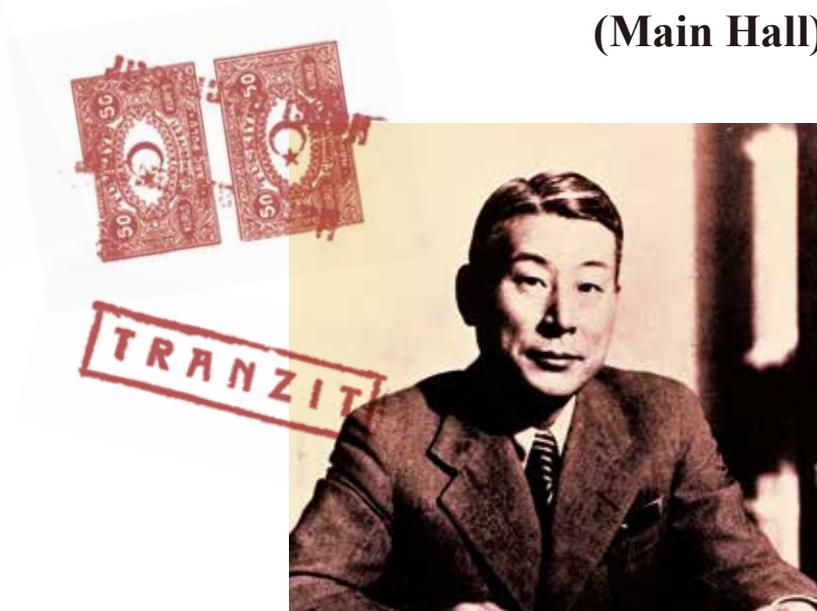
Venue : Waseda University,
Okuma Memorial Auditorium
(Main Hall)



Robert Grynberg
(son of Sugihara visa recipient)



Chihiro Sugihara
(grandson of Chiune Sugihara)



Registration ▶

Capacity: First 500 attendees
Admission: Free (pre-registration required)
How to Apply:
Scan the QR code / Click here to register



General Public



Waseda University
Students, Faculty, and Staff
(authentication required)



NPO Chiune
Sugihara. Visas For Life



WASEDA
University

Host : NPO Chiune Sugihara Visas For Life
Co-host : Waseda University Cultural Affairs Division

Event Overview: NPO Chiune Sugihara Visas For Life will host a special lecture at Waseda University's Okuma Memorial Auditorium welcoming the Grynbergs, family of Sugihara visa recipients.

Historical Context: Chiune Sugihara was assigned Acting Consul in Kaunas, Lithuania in 1939 at the outbreak of WWII. In defiance of government orders, he issued vital transit visas for Jewish refugees fleeing persecution, saving thousands of lives. It is said that the descendants of those rescued number as many as 250,000 persons.

2026 Milestones: The year 2026 marks the 40th anniversary of Chiune Sugihara's passing and the 25th anniversary of the NPO Chiune Sugihara Visas For Life, which was established to convey and perpetuate the former diplomat's legacy. To commemorate this special year, we welcome members of a visa recipient's family to Japan. Together with Chiune's grandson, Chihiro Sugihara, they will lead a joint lecture on the theme, "Chiune's Spirit of Humanism, the Sanctity of Life, and the Courageous Decision."

About the Speakers

Robert Grynberg (85 years old) (Lecture with Japanese translation)

Eldest son of Polish refugees Oscar and Dora Grynberg.

His parents arrived in Japan via a Sugihara visa and gave birth to him in Kobe. Currently resides in Australia.

Chihiro Sugihara (62 years old) (Lecture with English translation)

Son of Hiroki Sugihara, Chiune's eldest son.

Having heard firsthand accounts from his grandfather, he speaks about Chiune's character and the Visas for Life. Currently resides in Thailand. This marks his first lecture in Japan.

Special Exhibition: The venue will feature Replicas of the Visas for Life and commemorative panels.

Supporters

Embassies (in alphabetical order): Australian Embassy, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Embassy of Israel, Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Embassy of the Republic of Poland, Polish Institute in Tokyo

Municipalities & Organizations: Hiratsuka City, Yaotsu Town, Chiune Sugihara Memorial Hall, Komae Tomonkai, Niiza Tomonkai, Zuiryokai, Obanaya Cementex Co.

Contact & Information

Event Website : <https://www.waseda.jp/culture/news/2026/>

Inquiries: e-mail : chiune-koen2026@list.waseda.jp

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*Note: Lecture content is subject to change without notice.