



**NOTABLE NIGHT.** This image released by NBC shows Sandra Oh accepting the award for best actress in a drama series for her role in "Killing Eve" during the 76th Annual Golden Globe Awards at the Beverly Hilton Hotel in Beverly Hills, California. Oh thanked her parents, movingly, in Korean. (Paul Drinkwater/NBC via AP)

## Snubs, surprises, and a Satanic shout-out? Key Globes moments

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stunning way, and her own life. "I am thinking of my mom who really sublimated herself to my father her whole life," Close said. She added that women are expected to be nurturers, "but we have to find personal fulfillment. We have to follow our dreams. We have to say, I can do that and I should be allowed to do that." The crowd rose to cheer.

### Gaga's win

At least Lady Gaga didn't go home empty-handed: She won as a co-writer for best song, "Shallow," which she performs with Cooper in *A Star is Born*. In her speech, she too referred to the challenges women face, not in the film industry but in music. "As a woman in music it is really hard to be taken seriously as a musician and as a songwriter," she said, adding that her co-writers "lifted me up, they supported me." Gaga wrote the song with Mark Ronson, Anthony Rossomando, and Andrew Wyatt.

### Colman's "favourite" thing

Not every speech had a serious tone to it. Olivia Colman, who won best actress in a musical or comedy for *The Favourite*, in which she plays a comically troubled

queen, told the crowd: "I would like to tell you how much this film meant to me, but I can't think of it." She also noted that one of her "favourite" things about making the film was that she "ate constantly through the film."

### What was that, dude?

We're not really sure what he was saying in his rambling speech accepting the Cecil B. DeMille Award — especially when he started talking about ships, and saying, "Tag, you're it!" But hey, Jeff Bridges is best known as a stoner icon in *The Big Lebowski*, so it was sort of apt that he wasn't so easy to follow. It was simply fun to experience his joy; it's just too bad he wasn't wearing a bathrobe. Harrison Ford, coming next, was even crustier than usual. "Nobody told me I had to follow Jeff Bridges," he said.

### Wow, she knows me?

It was a sweet red carpet moment as Elisabeth Moss, star of "The Handmaid's Tale," discovered that Taylor Swift was a fan. Ryan Seacrest presented her with a video from Swift, gushing about the show. "I can't believe she even knows who I am!" Moss exulted, showing that stars can sometimes be exactly like us.

## Japanese "Coming-of-Age" ceremony honors students turning 20 years old

By Bill Schackner  
Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

**P**ITTSBURGH (AP) — Getting into a kimono was not the issue for University of Pittsburgh senior Oliver Jia. He's worn traditional dress from Japan in the past.

Nor was the Japanese major from Mt. Lebanon likely to be intimidated by any differences in culture, having spent 15 months in Japan as an undergraduate with plans to return for graduate school.

But the speech he was to deliver on Pitt's campus was another matter. The young man conversationally fluent in Japanese would see those skills tested by his first formal address in the language. Many in the University Club audience would know instantly if his cadence was off or his usage incorrect.

That's because the event, "Seijin Shiki," is a Japanese "Coming-of-Age" ceremony, honoring students turning 20, the start of adulthood in Japan. Pitt hosted the 7:00pm ceremony for students visiting from Japan and unable to celebrate back home, and for Pitt students intent on bolstering their Japanese studies by experiencing one of the country's rites of passage.

"Five to seven minutes," said Jia, explaining his speaking assignment and his planned message. "I'm going to talk about becoming an adult, about bravery and courage to do new things, of trying new things and new ideas and new cultures."

Just as that message resonated with him, it struck home for some two dozen students from Yasuda Women's University in Hiroshima who have been at Pitt for five months improving their English skills. They accounted for most of the 34 participants and will soon be heading back to Japan.

One of them, Mai Takamoto, 20, a second-year Yasuda student, delivered a speech in English, her second language. She talked about coming to Pittsburgh, struggling to meet people, and the organizations she joined as a result.

"All of those activities were part of me

growing up, becoming more independent," said the young woman who hopes to be a social worker for children, perhaps in the United States.

She, like Jia, was roundly applauded for her remarks and for stepping outside the comfort of what they know. In part, that was the point of the event, which drew more than 200 people.

"We are here to build bridges between cultures," said Joseph Alter, director of the Asian Studies Center, which co-hosted the ceremony with the English Language Institute.

Coming of Age Day in Japan is a national holiday, traditionally the second Monday of January. It celebrates passage into adulthood and the responsibilities, privileges, and vices that come with it.

Some activities, including the right to vote, have dropped to age 18, event organizers said. But for now, 20 remains the threshold, the age at which they take on the mantle of adulthood, and — yes — are able to gamble and consume alcohol legally in their country.

Though alcohol was not part of Pitt's ceremony, gifts were, specifically chopsticks bearing Pitt's logo, said Lynn Kawaratani, an assistant director with Pitt's Asian Studies Center. A cherry blossom tree was planted in the students' honor in North Park.

The event may have no precise equivalent in American culture, but there are similarities, said Rob Mucklo, associate director of the English Language Institute.

"It's got the pomp and circumstance of a prom, but the tradition and coming-of-age elements of a debutante ball, or a Sweet 16 party, or a Bar Mitzvah or Bat Mitzvah," he said.

During the afternoon, the students arrived for appointments during which volunteers, including members of Pittsburgh's Japanese community, helped them into their kimono, a process in which they are wrapped in multiple silk layers secured with a sash, or *obi*.

Those colorful garments were loaned to the students.

Women did their hair. The participants, once into Japanese garb, waited inside the club to preserve their appearance until the ceremony began.

In general, those participating turned 20 between last April and this April. Jia, though he already is 21, got to experience the event as a speaker.

There was a procession and a performance by members of Pittsburgh Taiko, whose barrel-shaped drums filled the room with sound as the new adults filed into the room in a procession.

County executive Rich Fitzgerald and Feysisola Alabi, a representative of Pittsburgh mayor Bill Peduto, gave remarks, as did Sally Wiggin, a retired TV broadcaster who studied Japanese and Chinese at Pitt.

Shortly after watching Pitt sophomore Emily Farmer, 20, of Easton, Pennsylvania, put on a kimono for the first time, retired Japanese instructor Sono Takano Hayes beamed as she talked about the joy of volunteering for the event.

"It makes me feel very, very happy. Why? They are very much involved. They are learning so much about Japan. I'm so proud to see them."

## Japan's whaling decision could affect Alaska Native whalers

FAIRBANKS, Alaska (AP) — Japan's decision to leave the International Whaling Commission could have consequences on subsistence whaling by Alaska Natives.

Alaska's Energy Desk reports Japan announced in December that it's leaving the commission to resume commercial whaling for the first time in 30 years.

John Hopson Jr., chairman of the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission, says Japan has been a "strong ally" in helping Alaska Native whalers obtain their hunting quota for the animals.

The international commission sets the quota for subsistence whaling. The commission approved a rule change last year that made the renewal of aboriginal subsistence whaling automatic.

Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission lawyer Jessica Lefevre says Japan's absence on the commission could shift the balance of power, possibly leading to the automatic renewal rule being challenged.

## Oregon man who made racist remarks allowed to teach again

BEND, Ore. (AP) — An Oregon teacher who lost his teaching license after state education officials say he used racist nicknames and made derogatory comments toward students has been allowed to teach again.

*The Bulletin* reports the Oregon Teacher Standards and Practices Commission issued a new license that allows former Bend-La Pine Schools music instructor Jeffrey Simmons to be a substitute teacher.

Simmons lost his teaching license in 2013 following an investigation. State education officials found that Simmons used racist nicknames for students, including calling a student of Asian descent "chopsticks," "potsticker," and "cheap Chinese labor." He also made demeaning comments about students' weight and sexual orientation.

The newspaper could not reach Simmons for comment. The commission is imposing four years of probation, requiring Simmons to complete two graduate-level courses on diversity and inclusion.

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	4			5		2	7	8
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9								

Difficulty level: Medium

#38616

**Instructions:** Fill in the grid so that the digits 1 through 9 appear one time each in every row, column, and 3x3 box.

### Solution to last issue's puzzle

Puzzle #18137 (Easy)

All solutions available at <www.sudoku.com>.

4	3	9	2	1	8	7	5	6
8	6	1	3	5	7	9	4	2
7	2	5	9	6	4	3	8	1
5	8	6	4	2	3	1	7	9
1	4	2	6	7	9	8	3	5
9	7	3	1	8	5	6	2	4
6	1	8	5	3	2	4	9	7
2	9	7	8	4	1	5	6	3
3	5	4	7	9	6	2	1	8

## Mark your calendar!

*The Year of the Pig begins February 5, 2019.*

*The Asian Reporter's Lunar New Year special issue will be published on Monday, February 4, 2019.*