



TATSUZO TAKASE

MILESTONE 2012

Best describe Tatsuzo Takase as a pioneer, a leader, and a motivator; a man with visions of promise for the future.

In 1985, he became President of the Japan Square Dance Association (JSDA) at a time when it had 136 clubs and 3,035 dancers. During his leadership, JSDA has grown to over 500 clubs and close to 15,000 dancers. This growth occurred over his 26 years of leadership, with his deep commitment to see square dancing thrive in Japan.

With Mr. Takase's influence, JSDA adopted CALLERLAB's Program Policy in 2007. The information, program definitions, and guidance have been relayed to six regional branches of JSDA together with the domestic ones. With his guidance, JSDA has sent representatives to several CALLERLAB Conventions. Mr. Takase negotiated with the Japan Government to allow JSDA to become a public service corporation, which increased square dancing's public recognition and its population.

He was also instrumental in the development of educational programs, leading JSDA to conduct and support various schools, workshops and, clinics for callers, instructors, cuers, dancers and leaders to help them improve their qualities and skills. He developed concrete goals, courses, policies, plans, and leadership which gained popularity for square dance activities in Japan.