

Call for Book Chapter Proposals

Commodore Perry and the Black Ships Legacy

(tentative title)

2028 marks the 175th anniversary of Commodore Matthew Perry's landing in Japan. To commemorate this, we, a team of current and former naval officers, historians, and political scientists, have launched the Perry 175 campaign. Through lectures, cultural programs, exhibitions, and commemorative events, Perry 175 is dedicated to remembering and reflecting upon the Perry Expedition, an event that continues to shape modern Japan and the US-Japan relationship. More information about Perry 175 can be found here: <https://www.perry175.org/>

Edited Volume

The Perry 175 campaign invites proposals for book chapters for an edited volume tentatively titled, *Commodore Perry and the Black Ships Legacy*, to be published in 2028. We invite chapters that provide new understandings of the Perry expedition or of its impacts on Japanese society and international relations.

Chapters will be 5,000-7,000 words (excluding references) and may cover (but are not limited to) such topics as:

- new understandings of the Perry expedition, its planning, execution, reception and/or immediate impact.
- how the Perry Expedition is remembered in Japanese society
- representations of Black Ships in popular culture
- the history of Perry, Black Ships, or other Japan-America Friendship festivals
- Perry and the US-Japan relationship
- comparative studies of expeditions and other incidents of gunboat diplomacy

Notes for submission

Proposals should not exceed one A4 (or US letter) page. Please explain your concept, hypothesis and plan for developing new data or using fresh analytical approaches. Include your name, affiliation and contact information on the page. If a chapter is co-authored, please indicate who should be considered the contact author. Please send your proposal as a Microsoft Word file attachment to Perry175@ycaps.org

Production timeline

Deadline for submission of chapter proposals: April 15, 2026

Notification of acceptance: May 8, 2026

Online workshop for authors and editors: September 2026

Submission of full chapters: November 2026

In-person workshop in Newport, RI, USA: early 2027

Submission of revised chapters: 1 month after the workshop

Submission of final revisions: July 2027

Accepted authors will be required to attend an online workshop to discuss their ideas, receive feedback, and develop complementary approaches with fellow authors. They will be then invited to attend an in-person workshop in Newport, RI, USA in early 2027. Although funding is not yet finalized, expenses for the Newport trip will be covered by the Perry175 campaign.

The volume will be edited by: Annette Bradford and John Bradford

The Perry 175 committee members are:

John Bradford (USN, ret.), Executive Director, YCAPS

Rob Dahlin (USN, ret.), President JASNE

Yuki Bito, (CAPT., JMSDF), Director, Strategic Studies Office, JMSDF Maritime and Staff College

Keizo Kitagawa (JMSDF, ret.), Professor, Faculty of Policy Management, Keio University

Benjamin “BJ” Armstrong, Permanent Military Professor, US Naval Academy

Annette Bradford, Special Advisor for Education and Policy, YCAPS

Matthew, C. Perry, Scientist Emeritus, USGS Eastern Ecological Science Center

Grant F. Rhode, Senior Fellow, International History Institute, Boston University

Hiroko Yamaguchi, Special Advisor