

Highlights of Melanie Brock's 30 plus years in Japan include leading nationwide marketing campaigns, a successful bilateral free trade agreement and architect of regional Japan CSR activities. Melanie is currently engaged by several companies as a senior advisor including Tanarra and Pollination Group. She uniquely combines language skills, high level political, media and business networks, and practical commercial business leadership.

She is on the board of several Japanese listed companies including Sega Sammy Holdings (2019), Mitsubishi Estate (2022), Kawasaki Heavy Industries (2023) and Asahi Group Holdings (2024). Melanie has been a member of the Australia-Japan Research Centre Advisory Board since July 2019 and an Advance Global Ambassador since October 2019. The Japan Australian Business Cooperation Committee asked her to join the steering committee in November 2023.

In 2020 she was the recipient of the Japanese Foreign Minister's Commendation for her role in the advancement of the Australia-Japan economic relationship. Further to this, Melanie was awarded the Member of the Order of Australia, AM, for significant service to Australia-Japan relations in January 2022.

Melanie was Head Delegate for Australia's W20 delegation in 2021. A long-term supporter of gender equality and women in leadership, Melanie established a not-for-profit called Celebrating Women in Japan.

Melanie was a passionate supporter of reconstruction activities in Tohoku post 3.11 and has been awarded an honorary ambassadorship in several towns because of her work there. She has collaborated with regional governments in Tohoku and the national government on specific areas such as the promotion of sport (RWC2019/Kamaishi), youth development through the establishment of support networks and mentoring sessions, as well as a range of activities related to engaging with women in regional Japan.

Melanie has a media profile regularly featuring in the Nikkei, Australian Financial Review and the ABC giving her an unparalleled media network. Her guest speaking engagements include for business and NGO groups in Japanese and English.



Board Experience

Mar 2024 – present	Asahi Group Holdings, Non Executive Director
Nov 2023 – present	Japan Australia Business Cooperation Committee Steering Committee
June 2023 – present	Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Non Executive Director
June 2022 – present	Mitsubishi Estate, Non Executive Director
Oct 2020 – present	Member, Global Advisory Board, Tanarra
Oct 2019 – present	Global Ambassador, Advance
July 2019 – present	Board Member, Australia-Japan Research Centre Advisory Board
June 2019 – present	Sega Sammy Holdings Inc, Non Executive Director
April 2019 – present	Senior Advisor, Pollination Group
Nov 2016 – present	Chair Emeritus, Australia & New Zealand Chamber of Commerce in Japan, Tokyo (ANZCCJ)
April 2010 – Nov 2016	Chair of the Australia & New Zealand Chamber of Commerce in Japan, Tokyo (ANZCCJ)
April 2010 – present	Board Member, Australia Japan Business Cooperation Committee (AJBCC)
Mar 2010 – Mar 2015	Board Member, Australia Japan Foundation

Professional Memberships/Committees

- Member, Chief Executive Women (CEW)
- Member, ANZCCJ
- Founder, Koaladachi and Nichigo Network
- Founder, Australian Chefs and Hoteliers Network, Japan



Awards and Honours

- Recipient of the inaugural Diversity Award from the Australian & New Zealand Chamber of Commerce in Japan as part of the Chamber's 50th anniversary celebrations.
- Awarded the Member of the Order of Australia (AM) in January 2022 in the Australia Day Honours.
- Awarded Commendation by the Japanese Foreign Minister for contribution to the Australia Japan business relationship.
- Selected as 100 Women of Influence 2019 (Qantas/Australian Financial Review)
- Advance Ambassador – Japan, appointed in 2019
- Business Sydney Events Ambassador, appointed in 2018
- Goodwill Ambassador, Kamaishi, Iwate, appointed in 2019
- Goodwill Tourism Ambassador, Hachinohe, Aomori, appointed in 2015
- Nominated for NAB Women's Agenda Leadership Awards 2013
- Nominated for Telstra Women's Business Awards in 2013
- Awarded special 'citizen' status of Iitate-mura, Fukushima, Japan in recognition of work to assist in the aftermath of 2011 earthquake, tsunami, and Fukushima nuclear disaster.
- Advance Award for Recognition as One of the Top 50 Current and Emerging Australian Leaders in 2011



Education and Qualifications

1990

National Accreditation Institute of Translators and Interpreters

Level 4: English – Japanese and Japanese – English (highest level and entry point for United Nations interpreting proficiency)

January 1989 – Nov 1990

University of Queensland

Master of Literary Studies in Japanese Conference Interpreting / Translation

January 1983 – Nov 1987

University of Western Australia, Bachelor of Arts

