

July 8, 2025

Mr. Daniel Humm
Chef and Owner
Restaurant Eleven Madison Park
New York, USA

Dear Mr. Humm,



As New York enters the height of summer, bringing with it warmth, vibrancy, and a sense of excitement, I hope this message finds you in good health and spirits.

My name is Yukihiisa SHIDA. I am a doctor specializing in internal medicine and hold a Doctor of Medical Science degree from National Mie University in Japan. I currently reside in Tokyo.

I have a reservation at Restaurant Eleven Madison Park for 5:30 p.m. on Friday, August 1, 2025. If possible, I would be sincerely grateful for the opportunity to take a photo with you (James Beard Foundation Outstanding Chef in 2012). If you are not available that day, I would also be thankful for a chance to take a photo with the kitchen staff.

Chef Humm, I met Chef Jean-Georges Vongerichten at Jean-Georges Restaurant Tokyo on March 25, 2025. It is a small restaurant with only a counter (14 seats) and a private room (6 seats), though Chef Jean-Georges did not speak with me personally. I also met the chefs of the Cerulean Tower Hotel Tokyo at the Special Gala Dinner held yesterday (July 7, 2025). Additionally, I sent an email dated July 1, 2025, to TSUMURA & CO., Japan's leading manufacturer of Kampo (traditional Japanese herbal medicines), containing the following content.

Thank you very much for your kind attention.

Sincerely yours,

Yukihiisa Shida, M.D., Ph.D. from National Mie University (Japan)

Chef Jean-Georges



At the Jean-Georges Restaurant Tokyo on March 25, 2025

Chef Jean-Georges was named Outstanding Chef by the James Beard Foundation in 1998. A long time ago, when I had lunch at Jean-Georges Restaurant at the Trump International Hotel in New York, I found it quite unique that marshmallows were cut tableside with scissors. At dinner at Jean-Georges Restaurant Tokyo on March 25, 2025, Chef Jean-Georges demonstrated a level of professionalism in the open kitchen—located in front of the guests' counter seats—that was, needless to say, far beyond the elementary-school level often seen at private universities in Japan.



Restaurant Jean-Georges Tokyo



Restaurant Jean-Georges New York (present)

Key leadership of the Cerulean Tower Tokyu Hotel Tokyo



From left to right: Japanese Chef, Chinese Chef, Dr. Shida, Former Executive Chef, Guest Patisserie, Executive Chef, Mr. Takashi TAKEI (President, Tokyu Hotels & Resorts Co., Ltd.), and Mr. Shinichi YOSHIOKA (General Manager) at the Cerulean Tower Tokyu Hotel Tokyo, July 7, 2025.

The Cerulean Tower Tokyu Hotel Tokyo is a near first-class, five-star hotel. Former Executive Chef Nobuhiko FUKUDA (fourth from the left) serves as the Honorary Chairperson of the Japan Escoffier Association (Japan Association of French Cuisine). However, even though I asked the hotel to refrain from saying “Are you okay? (Daijoubu-desuka?),” both male and female restaurant staff habitually ask guests the same phrase repeatedly. The Cerulean Tower Tokyu Hotel Tokyo also continues to use childish Japanese expressions such as “chatte” as of 2025. [Reference: “Paper on October 1, 2019 (China),” “Paper on January 6, 2021 (Roppongi Hills Club, Japan)” and “Paper on October 5, 2022 (Japan Hotel Association)” on the academic website *chairperson.jp*]



Cerulean Tower Tokyu Hotel Tokyo

Letter to TSUMURA & CO.



Thank you for sending me a relatively recent academic paper on Kampo (traditional Japanese herbal medicines).

At the Kampo information seminar hosted by Tsumura on Monday, June 16, 2025, at Owada Hospital (a 91-bed long-term care hospital in Saitama City, Japan) — with a Tsumura representative as the speaker and about 10 participants including physicians and medical staff, in a 15-minute study session including a Q&A segment — I apologize that the seminar turned out to be rather noisy, with loud voices of doctors and medical staff unrelated to the meeting echoing throughout the conference room.

At our hospital, these explanatory sessions on pharmaceuticals organized by various pharmaceutical companies are held about once a month, and unfortunately, this level of noise is quite common. As you may already know, for doctors and staff from private universities (such as Tokyo Medical University, Dokkyo Medical University, etc.), this level of noise is typically considered “no problem (*Daijoubu*),” and in fact, is treated as normal.

At my previous full-time workplace, Seikokai Hospital (Chosei District, Chiba Prefecture), the Chairperson and Hospital Director, Dr. Saito, and the Office Director, Mr. Kumada, were both mediocre individuals from third-rate private universities (Kyorin University or a private university in Gifu Prefecture). They too were accustomed to a low-tension, “elementary school-level” environment where childish phrases like “*chatte*” were commonly heard, resulting in what was effectively the collapse of basic classroom-like discipline in medical care. [Reference: “Paper on March 31, 2025 (Japan)” on the academic website *chairperson.jp*]

Incidentally, today (July 1), I made a dinner reservation for one at Eleven Madison Park in New York on Friday, August 1, 2025, during my business trip to the U.S. There, including in the kitchen, they appear to maintain a first-class level of professionalism with a sense of healthy tension.

I look forward to your continued support.

Sincerely yours,

Yukihisa Shida, M.D., Ph.D. from National Mie University (Japan)

July 1, 2025

2025 年 7 月 1 日

(株) ツムラ 埼玉支店御中

いつもお世話になります。

漢方薬に関する比較的新しい学術 Paper を、郵送していただき有難うございました。

2025 年 6 月 16 日 (月) の大和田病院 (療養型病院、91 床、さいたま市) でのツムラ主催・漢方説明会 (ツムラ担当者、医師、医療 Staff、計 10 名程が参加の勉強会) では、にぎやかな説明会になってしまひまして失礼いたしました。当院では現在 1 か月に 1 度ほど開催されています各製薬会社によります薬の説明会ですが、にぎやかなのはいつものこととして、知って見えます様に、私立大学の先生方、Staff の場合、それで「大丈夫」とのこと。普通な感じです。

私の前常勤勤務先の聖光会病院 (千葉県長生郡) の齋藤理事長兼病院長、熊田事務長も、同様に三流私立大学 (私立杏林大学、岐阜県の私立大学) ご出身の凡才でみえ、やはり普段から「ちゃって」「ちゃって」と小学生 Level の緊張感のない医療、学級崩壊をされてました。

なお本日 (7 月 1 日)、米国出張時の 8 月 1 日 (金) に、Dinner 1 名の予約をしました Eleven Madison Park (New York) は、Kitchen を含め緊張感のある一流の仕事をしてみえます。

今後共、どうぞよろしくお願い申し上げます。

志田幸久 (国立三重大学医学博士)