

The Board Director Training Institute of Japan 公益社団法人会社役員育成機構

# OASIS

# Oasis & Board Director Training Institute of Japan Announce Successful Results of "Director Training Scholarships for Women" Initiative

- 68 Professional Women to Receive Funding for Director Training Programs Offered by The Board Director Training Institute of Japan
- BDTI to almost double female participants in its programs compared to 2021

April [7], 2022, Tokyo – Oasis Management Company Ltd. ("Oasis") and The Board Director Training Institute of Japan ("BDTI") announced the successful results of the inaugural "Director Training Scholarships for Women" initiative.

A total of 68 women were awarded scholarships to attend BDTI's board director training courses and will receive training during this calendar year.. Through the initiative, launched in honor of International Women's Day, Oasis will pay all costs for qualified women who enrolled in the month of March to take any of BDTI's director training courses. These Japanese and Englishlanguage training programs have been designed by leading experts in Japan to prepare candidates to serve as directors or executive officers in Japan.

More than half of the women will participate in BDTI's core director training course, its "Governance Juku". The remaining women will take BDTI's "Shagaitori-juku", which is an advanced course focusing on the role of independent directors; or BDTI's English-language "Director Boot Camp"; or the four modules in BDTI's e-Learning suite. (Please refer to "Programs Covered by Initiative, below.)

BDTI Representative Director Nicholas Benes said, "So many qualified women applied that we had to schedule additional dates for more programs. Every year more women apply to our programs, and their quality is increasing. For this scholarship initiative, we saw a further increase in the number of women with substantial experience and/or qualifications such as CFA, CPA, or law qualifications. In the prior fiscal year, 32% of the participants in our open-to-the-public courses were women, a level that is more than four times the average level of female inclusion in Japanese listed companies' boards. This fiscal year, it looks like that percentage may exceed 50%. Having trained nearly 2,400 persons over the past 10 years, recently we are seeing more of BDTT's female 'graduates' serving as outside directors".

Seth Fischer, the Founder & Chief Investment Officer of Oasis said, "Our goal with the initiative is to significantly expand the pipeline of qualified women director candidates in Japan.

Improving gender diversity on boards in Japan by adding qualified female directors is something we believe will improve governance and competitiveness at Japanese companies. We are pleased with these results and hope that this is only the beginning. "

## **Programs Covered by the Initiative**

# Governance 'Juku' (「ガバナンス塾」, Japanese)

This one-day intensive program prepares participants with the basic knowledge necessary that all directors and executive officers should have. The course is taught by leading experts, and includes sections on corporate governance theory and practice, corporate law, finance, securities law, and case studies.

# Advanced Outside Director Training (「社外取塾」, Japanese)

This full-day course is based on extensive pre-reading materials that have distilled wisdom and detailed advice collected from a diverse group of women, men, and foreigners who have experience serving on multiple boards in Japan. The course covers practical topics such as governance and committee practices, strategic and strategic planning by boards, diversity, ESG, techniques for contributing and monitoring, D&O insurance, the interview and contracting process, as well as many other topics. The interactive program is delivered by two lecturers who can speak from their extensive real-life board experience. (Pre-requisite: Boot Camp, Governance Juku, or equivalent knowledge.)

## E-learning Modules (Japanese)

BDTI offers low-cost e-learning courses on Company Law, Securities Law, Corporate Governance Basics, and Corporate Governance Practice. All four modules come as part of the "package" for the Governance 'Juku', so that participants can gain core knowledge in advance of the course, and afterwards.

## English-language "Director Boot Camp"

This one-day intensive program teaches participants key legal and corporate governance knowledge they need to responsibly serve on boards of Japanese companies, both public and private. The course consists of short lectures interspersed with time for interactive discussion and Q&A about real-life situations that occur on boards, and how to handle them. BDTI also packages its e-learning modules with this course, for Japanese speakers.

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## About The Board Director Training Institute of Japan

<u>The Board Director Training Institute of Japan (BDTI)</u> is a "public interest" nonprofit in Japan dedicated to training about directorship, corporate governance, and related management techniques. It is certified by the Japanese government to conduct these activities as a regulated nonprofit, and also to provide data and database services related to corporate disclosure. Nicholas Benes, the Representative Director of BDTI, is the person who proposed the concept of a governance code to the Japanese government in 2013, including its principle that specifically

mentions gender diversity. Download <u>a summary of BDTI's training programs</u> here, and see <u>a</u> menu of its data services here.

## **About Oasis**

Oasis Management Company Ltd. manages private investment funds focused on opportunities in a wide array of asset classes across countries and sectors. Oasis was founded in 2002 by Seth H. Fischer, who leads the firm as its Chief Investment Officer. More information about Oasis is available at <a href="https://oasiscm.com">https://oasiscm.com</a>. Oasis has adopted the Japan FSA's "Principles of Responsible Institutional Investors" (a/k/a Japan Stewardship Code) and in line with those principles, Oasis monitors and engages with our investee companies. Oasis is a member of the 30% Club Japan and Hong Kong Chapter Investor Groups and a founding member of the Hong Kong Board Diversity Investor Initiative.

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