



PACIFIC CITIZEN

CELEBRATING 93 YEARS

» **PAGE 6**

PATSY MINK AND THE REVOLUTIONARY ROLE OF MOTHERHOOD

The 50th
anniversary of
the landmark
legislation
Title IX

» **PAGE 5**

JACL National
Board Convenes
in San Francisco.

» **PAGE 8**

‘Bridge to the Sun’
Recounts Epic
MIS Story.

RALLY FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION HELD ON STEPS OF U.S. SUPREME COURT

The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, in collaboration with the African Policy Forum, Asian Americans Advancing Justice, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law and Legal Defense Fund, hosted a rally in support of Affirmative Action on the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court on Oct. 31.

On that date, the Supreme Court began to hear oral arguments for two cases concerning the consideration of race as one factor in college admissions at Harvard University and the University of North Carolina.

Among those participating in the rally were JACL National Youth and Programs Manager Cheyenne Cheng and Norman Y. Mineta Policy Fellow Bridget Keaveney and Daniel K. Inouye Policy Fellow Michael Tanaka.

Speakers at the rally included Maya Wiley, president and CEO of the Leadership Conference Education Fund, and John C. Yang, president and executive director of Asian Americans Advancing Justice.

"Affirmative action helps expand higher education opportunities to



JACL National's Cheyenne Cheng and Fellows Bridget Keaveney and Michael Tanaka were among those who showed their support along with NCAPA during the Oct. 31 Affirmative Action rally.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF CHEYENNE CHENG/JACL

those who have been historically denied by ensuring that the many talents and experiences of students of color aren't overlooked in admissions processes that tend to be biased against them. The time is now to show our support for diversity in higher education and stand against those who seek to divide us," said the Leadership Conference in a statement about the rally.

Said JACL's Keaveney: "Race-based affirmative action provides historically exclusive institutions

the opportunity to right past wrongs. By acknowledging the prevalence of racism in our country, institutions such as colleges and universities can practice and consider preventative steps to eliminate racial discrimination. The belief that race-conscious admissions hurt rather than benefit Asian Americans is false.

"It is clear that Asian Americans continue to be used as political pawns to drive a wedge amongst communities of color," she continued. "It is important, now more than

ever, that as Asian Americans, we come together and debunk harmful myths that pit communities of color against each other. In order to foster more significant equity on campuses, inclusion efforts, such as affirmative action, must be defended."

Added JACL's Tanaka: "If the Supreme Court dismantles Affirmative Action in college decisions, I worry about the millions of youth that won't get their chance to tell their stories," he continued. "I worry about those that have so much more to bring to the world than perfect grades or a good SAT score. Diversity can't and shouldn't be 'quantified.' We are who we are by virtue of how we are perceived and treated, historically and systematically. It cannot be understated, therefore, how essential race and ethnicity is toward our ability to express who we are holistically, truthfully and equitably."

The Supreme Court spent more than five hours listening to arguments in the two cases, which have major implications for the college admissions process as to whether race can be used as one factor in determining a student's admissions eligibility.

The court's decision could rollback a 40-year legacy of affirmative action. A ruling is due out next year.

JACL Reaffirms Support for Affirmative Action

By JACL National

The Supreme Court on Oct. 31 heard oral arguments in two current affirmative action cases: *Students for Fair Admissions (SFFA) v. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill* and *SFFA v. Harvard University*.

JACL has joined 36 other AAPI (Asian American Pacific Islander) civil rights organizations and advocates in signing onto Asian American Advancing Justice's amicus brief in support of race-conscious admissions.

The amicus brief details the harms and addresses misconceptions of race-neutral admission practices. As we get closer to a decision by the courts in these cases, we must stay committed to preventing any potential action that can impede our ability to express our identities and lived experiences.

SFFA's representation of the Asian American community as victims of Affirmative Action is a subtle example of how Asian Americans historically have been and continue to be leveraged toward dividing communities of color.

As noted in the amicus brief, there is no

evidence of the exclusion of Asian Americans by race-conscious admissions in higher education. Furthermore, Harvard and UNC, among many other institutions that have implemented a race-conscious admissions system, have only granted more opportunities for AANHPI-identifying students to pursue higher education.

It is our responsibility, as a community, to challenge these false notions perpetuated by the SFFA and the Project on Fair Representation and unify our voice in cohesion with the 69 percent of Asian American voters that support Affirmative Action and the millions that benefit from it nationwide.



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'I'm glad to see the Pacific Citizen growing and evolving with its website, and especially LOVE the much easier-to-navigate digital archives. It's a treasure trove for JAs to learn about our community's history, and for scholars and journalists looking to connect the past with the present. Thanks for the improvements, P.C.!'

— Gil Asakawa



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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

'DON'T SHOOT THE MESSENGER' Won't Cut It Anymore for Social Media

By David Inoue,
JACL Executive Director

As we went into the 2022 mid-term elections, one of the greatest concerns was the potential for disruption of the electoral process, especially through disinformation and misinformation widely dispersed through the internet.

Then, days before the election, the sale of Twitter to Elon Musk was finalized, and he assumed full control of the company without shareholder or other external accountability. It seemed the perfect storm for electoral chaos was in place.

Fortunately, our elections seem to have proceeded without widespread

interference from third parties, and candidates have been patient as all the votes are counted. However, Twitter has fallen into disarray and remains a cautionary tale for us all about the dangers of social media and the need for further regulation and oversight, contrary to the direction Mr. Musk is taking Twitter, seemingly toward increasing chaos.

There has been a constant push and pull over how to manage social media. The ideal was that these platforms would serve as the modern town square or debate hall where people would engage in serious debate with better ideas rising to the top and untruths quickly being left to the side of the information

superhighway. A perfect forum for freedom of speech.

Instead, what has happened with algorithms employed by the social media companies is an echo chamber of grouping people of like mind, allowing conspiracy theories and lies to flourish with supporters finally finding others who share their misguided beliefs such as that the 2022 election was stolen. The results of such spread and acceptance as truth of disinformation can be catastrophic as the January 6 commission has revealed.

The media platforms have made efforts at controlling the spread of falsehoods through active moderation and removal of posts deemed to be in violation of community guidelines. However, these efforts are piecemeal and half-hearted at best.

The reality is that their models of engagement, and subsequent ad revenue for more time spent on the site, is predicated on people finding content they want to read and interact with. Unfortunately for too many people, this leads them to false information through the site algorithms.

On Dec. 14, 2020, the Federal Trade Commission announced that it was initiating an investigation into

the practices of TikTok, Discord, Facebook, Reddit, Snap, Twitter, WhatsApp and YouTube to better understand how they were using tracking and users' demographic data and how they were using it to direct content and advertising.

Notably missing from the list and that should be included is Google, as well as other platforms that have grown in prominence in the intervening two years. To date, no report has been forthcoming from the FTC.

Congress can also take action. Section 230 of the Communication Decency Act notably shields internet content providers from liability for things posted by third parties on their platforms.

Since its passage, only two significant limitations have been placed on Section 230 immunity, protection of copyright and the prevention of sex trafficking. This leaves a wide swath of content still permissible and able to be shared without consequence by the platform providers.

I recognize that these issues fly in the face of the concepts of freedom of speech, a much-cherished right in this country. However, freedom of speech does not also mean freedom from consequence.

The likelihood that social media platform algorithms are actively directing people to the very hate speech that resulted in the mass shooting at Club Q in Colorado must be taken into account and responsibility laid where appropriate.

I'm sure the response from these social media giants would be "Don't shoot the messenger!" The problem is that it's not the messenger being shot, it is innocent clubgoers at Club Q and the Capitol Police on Jan. 6 whose lives have been lost.

The Supreme Court may believe that these corporations are people, but it is not the corporations that are being killed, it is real people. Whether it is the social media companies that spread the hate, or the gun companies that provide the instruments of mass destruction, these "people" must take responsibility for their role in the growing epidemic of violence.

We need the administration and Congress to take action together to protect us from these corporate accomplices to violence and murder against real people.

David Inoue is executive director of the JACL. He is based in the organization's Washington, D.C., office.



LEGAL-EASE: AN ATTORNEY'S PERSPECTIVE

HANDLING HOLIDAYS AND DIFFICULT TIMES

By Judd Matsunaga, Esq.

Losing someone close to you can be draining physically as well as emotionally and perhaps the most painful transition you'll face in your life. Your world has just been turned upside down. You've lost a loved one — someone so close to your heart, so much a part of the inner fabric of your life, that you feel you can't go on. Grief can affect both the mind and the body in dramatic ways.

At first, grief may permeate everything. You may find it hard to eat or sleep. You may experience restlessness, memory impairment or difficulty concentrating. Symptoms similar to those the deceased had described may crop up in your own body — a frightening experience if he or she died from an illness.

Brain imaging studies show that when a person is grieving, areas of the brain involved in rational thought and emotional control are less active than usual, while the part of the brain that processes fear and other emotions is in overdrive.

Other studies show that emotional pain activates the same brain circuits as physical pain, so your pain is very real, even if you've suffered no physical injury.

Yet, one thing is clear: For all the pain and sorrow the death of a loved one evokes, people are remarkably resilient. Life does go on, if in a different way than before. It may be of some comfort to know that there is help available on this journey. Those who have walked the same path, as well as therapists and counselors who have helped guide people in times of loss, can be a source of consolation and healing.

This article contains practical ideas for coping with grief from Harvard Medical School. As you'll see, no single pathway leads out of grief or ensures closure. Accepting that there is no "right" way to grieve can be a powerful first step. Doing so gives you permission to grieve at your own pace and in your own way.

The following strategies may help ease your pain around holidays and other difficult times.

1. Be with people. Even though you may not feel like it, social contact in person or virtually is usually comforting. Choose people you feel comfortable with. Share what is on your mind. Remind them that they don't need to "fix" your pain, but that it would be helpful for them to listen.

2. Start a new tradition or build on an old one. Remember the deceased on special occasions by placing a lighted candle on the table, leaving an empty chair, cooking one of their favorite recipes or saying a few words of remembrance. If the person who died always played a special role in festivities, ask another family member to carry on the tradition.

3. Ask for advice. Talk to others who have lost people close to them to find out how they have managed holidays.

4. Change the celebration. Opt for a simpler celebration. Go out to dinner instead of planning an elaborate meal at home. Schedule a trip or an outing with family members or friends.

5. Express your needs. Let others know that you may not participate in all the festivities this year or that you need to let go of overwhelming or unsatisfying traditions. Feel free to tell people you're just not up to it right now or to change plans at the last minute. Don't feel pressured to do more than you want to do. Cry if you need to. Leave an event when you wish to.

6. Plan to mark the day. Walk through a nature preserve. Visit the

cemetery or the place where ashes were scattered. Enjoy an activity the deceased would also have loved, tell a joke she would have appreciated or perform a service for others in his honor. Think of a ritual to help you connect. Light a candle and say a prayer. Make a toast to your loved one. Carry a memento from your loved one. Meditate. Tell someone you're close to how you feel and why. Ask people to share their memories of the deceased with you.

7. Help someone else. Volunteer to help others through a charitable or religious organization. Make a donation to a favorite cause in memory of the person who died.

8. Turn to family and friends. If you are fortunate, family and friends can provide a strong source of support. Often, a death prompts people to think about what's important in life. It can break down barriers built up years ago and motivate people to help one another. The compassionate gestures of friends and family cannot be underestimated in times of grief and bereavement. Whether these gestures are small or large, the kindness of loved ones can sustain and console you in a difficult time.

Alan D. Wolfelt, a grief counselor and author of "Healing Your Grieving Heart," suggests identifying three people who can support you through the grief experience. Think about who is the most helpful and the least judgmental in your circle. Ask them whether

they can help by listening to you when you need to talk and spending time with you when you need support. Of course, there are times and situations when such encouragement is not readily available. In these circumstances, a counselor or bereavement group can provide needed support.

It may help to know that most people are resilient. Over time, healing occurs. While most people recover from their grief by drawing on their own inner resources and the support of friends and family, others may find that this is not sufficient. In such cases, you may find it helpful to turn to a mental health professional.

Finally, if time hasn't eased your grief, see your doctor. After a loss, any upsetting physical symptoms may be magnified and can make you feel terribly alone and insecure. A visit to your doctor can identify ailments that could put you further under the weather or may just restore peace of mind.

Judd Matsunaga is the founding attorney of Elder Law Services of California, a law firm that specializes in Medi-Cal Planning, Estate Planning and Probate. He can be contacted at (310) 348-2995 or judd@elderlawcalifornia.com. The opinions expressed in this article are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect the view of the Pacific Citizen or constitute legal or tax advice and should not be treated as such.

A BRIGHT JACL FUTURE

By Emily Murase,
Contributor

If the first meeting of the JACL National Youth/Student Council's new board is any indication, the future of the JACL is bright. The NY/SC convened in San Francisco from Oct. 21-23 to welcome new members, hear from JACL National staff and develop a work plan for the upcoming year.

Organized by National Youth Chair Mika Chan and National Youth Representative Sheera Tamura, the fall retreat was an important opportunity for the NY/SC to strengthen its mission, which is to "raise awareness of AAPI issues and to engage and develop young leaders who create positive change in our community." Nearly every NY/SC member, each a leader in his/her respective communities, participated in the retreat.

To open the retreat, JACL Education and Communications Coordinator Matthew Weisbly presented a brief history of the JACL, from the arrival of Japanese immigrants to the U.S. in the late 1800s through the barrage of race-based discriminatory government actions and laws that gave rise to the founding of the JACL in 1929, to the events leading

up to the World War II incarceration.

Weisbly then walked the NY/SC through the postwar and civil rights era that formed the foundation of the redress and reparations movement, the 1980 appointment of the Commission on Wartime Relations and Internment of Civilians and the landmark Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which provided payments of \$20,000 to survivors of the incarceration.

The NY/SC also received a briefing about JACL National's signature programs, including the Kakehashi Program that takes Japanese American young people to Japan, the wide array of JACL Scholarship Programs to recognize outstanding high school, undergraduate and graduate students, as well as next year's National Youth Conference and the JACL/OCA Leadership Summit.

Showcasing the skills that already exist within the leadership group, NY/SC At-Large Youth Member Claire Inouye conducted a workshop on Canva, an online design tool to facilitate the creation of engaging outreach materials.

The council then participated in a walking tour of San Francisco Japantown led by Lori Matoba, deputy director of the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of

Northern California, visiting legacy and new businesses that keep the historic neighborhood thriving.

Before WWII, there were more than 80 Japanese/Japanese American communities across the country. Today, there are just three: San Francisco Japantown, San Jose Japantown and Little Tokyo in Los Angeles.

Next, Phillip Ozaki, JACL program director for membership and fund development, and Ashley Bucher, JACL membership manager, provided a comprehensive overview of JACL's membership, recent campaigns and results of the organization's 2022 membership survey.

The JACL has nearly 10,000 members in 100 chapters in the U.S. and a chapter in Japan, across seven districts, with the Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific District Council being the largest with more than 4,400 members.

The NY/SC then spent the remaining time brainstorming membership and outreach strategies, including a homework assignment to reach out to local college campus-based organizations and present about JACL programs and activities. The fall retreat concluded with a Kaiwa Convo session, available on Instagram, that included the Northern California-Western Nevada-Pacific District Youth Board.

The NY/SC is composed of the following members:

- **Mika Chan (she/her)**, National Youth Chair
- **Sheera Tamura (she/her)**, National Youth Representative
- **Claire Inouye (she/her)**, At-Large Youth Representative
- **Lana Kobayashi (she/her)**, Pacific Southwest District Council Youth Representative
- **Sarah "Remy" Kageyama (they/them)**, Eastern District Council Youth Representative
- **KC Mukai (she/her)**, Northern

California-Western Nevada-Pacific District Council Youth Representative

- **Lyra Paez (she/her)**, Central California District Council Youth Representative
- **Cameron Sueoka (he/him)**, Intermountain District Council Youth Representative
- **Ayako Tischler (she/her)**, Midwest District Council Youth Representative
- **Lauren Yanase (she/her)**, Pacific Northwest District Council Youth Representative



Members of the JACL's NY/SC convened recently in San Francisco at its fall retreat, spending time creating its program agenda for 2023 and exploring Japantown. Surrounding Cameron Sueoka (center) are (clockwise from middle left) Mika Chan, Lana Kobayashi, Claire Inouye, KC Mukai, Remy Kageyama, Ayako Tischler, Lyra Paez and Sheera Tamura.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF NY/SC



A MOTHER'S TAKE

THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING SEEN: PART II

By Marsha Aizumi

After writing my article last month on the importance of being seen, three separate incidences occurred that confirmed to me, even more, how important visibility is. So, this month, I decided

to share these moments with you.

Many of you know that I am a consultant for a charter school and educational management company. I have been with them almost 25 years, and Aiden works for one of the charter school sites. Yesterday, while working with one of their

employees, I shared how important it was for me to retire in 2011 and devote my time to advocate for my son and his LGBTQ+ community. She had the biggest smile, and later I found out why.

Emily shared, "The second I heard you were a mother of a trans child, I knew you were someone I could open up to. Visibility is so important, and I think it's really hard for trans people to share that visibility."

Emily didn't need to tell me that she was transgender. I would have never known . . . but we now have a heart connection and a bond that goes deeper than just individuals working for the same company.

In that same week, I received an email from a professor on the East Coast. We met many years ago at a conference for LGBTQ+ individuals and allies but have not really connected on any regular basis. However, we are friends on Facebook, and she saw all the work I am doing in this area. This professor explained that she had a student of Japanese descent that needs resources to come out to her parents and if I would be able to provide resources or even take some time to chat with the student.

Two days later, I was on a Zoom call with her student.

Akemi (not their real name) was so sweet and had the most gentle spirit. I asked how she had come to talk about the need for support with her professor. Akemi explained at the end of her meeting, her professor said, "Is there anything else you would like to talk about?" Knowing the professor was queer, Akemi decided to take a chance and ask for support, since she is not out to her family. This student will now be attending Okaeri's support group for Nikkei LGBTQ+ individuals. A professor's visibility made this connection possible.

Please visit www.okaeri-losangeles.org for more Nikkei LGBTQ+ resources or email me at maizumi8888@gmail.com for API LGBTQ+ resources.

Finally, as I was working on this article, I checked my email and opened up this lovely message:

"A few years ago, you came to my (then) church and spoke about the journey you had taken with your son, Aiden. I did not know that your story was God's way of preparing me for a journey that I did not yet understand I would be taking with my own child several years into the future. But when my child revealed their identity, I responded with love, thanks to what I learned from you.

"My journey still continues, as my child may begin hormone treatments

sometime in the future. Regardless of what happens, I do not feel alone, thanks to PFLAG, which I joined thanks to you"

This mother and I will be talking next week, so I can support her on her journey and provide resources.

These three stories, which I have been given approval to share, remind me that visibility of others, whether they be individuals or organizations, matter. We become a safe place for people to reach out to. We become a beacon of hope for others to see that they can live as their true selves. And we can become role models for people who do not even know they need our stories to empower them.

Being seen was terrifying for me in the beginning, but today, I am stronger and more confident in who I am. I hope these three stories inspire you to find ways that you can be seen.

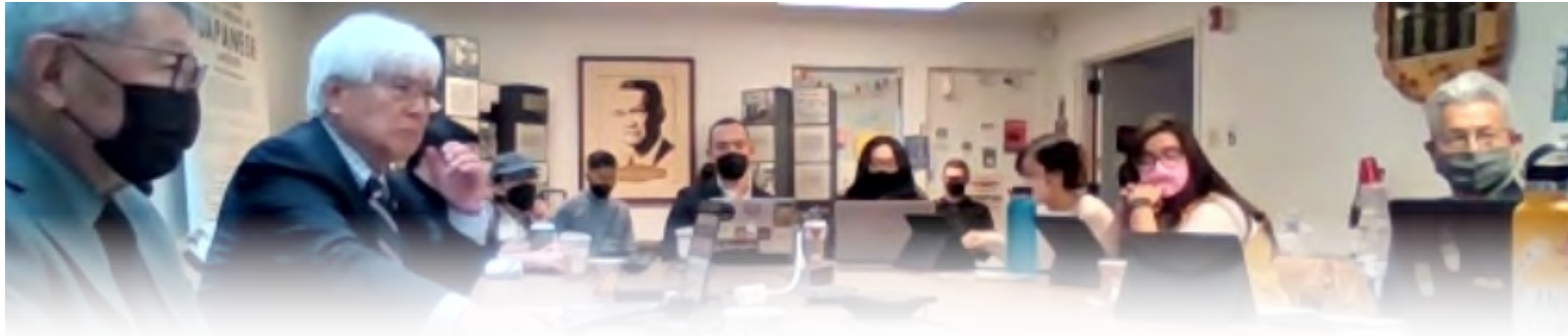
Our country needs positive, courageous and loving voices in this most challenging time for our LGBTQ+ community. And what I believe for certain is that one voice can make a difference and that voice can be yours and mine. . . .

Marsha Aizumi is an advocate for the LGBTQ+ community and author of the book "Two Spirits, One Heart: A Mother, Her Transgender Son and Their Journey to Love and Acceptance."



Amazing leaders in our Okaeri family from 2018. Hope you have a great Thanksgiving with your family!

PHOTO: SCOTT OSHIMA



JACL National President Larry Oda (second from left) led the National Board in its first in-person meeting at the organization's San Francisco headquarters in two years.

PHOTO: GEORGE T. JOHNSTON

ODA REVIVES PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COUNCIL

JACL's national president leads his first board meeting at HQ since 2010.

By P.C. Staff

JACL National President Larry Oda led his first JACL National Board meeting at JACL's National Headquarters in San Francisco on Nov. 5 since he was elected to the position at the organization's August National Convention.

It was also his first time conducting one of these quarterly business meetings at the site in 12 years, when Oda had served as national president in two back-to-back biennia from 2006-10.

The board meeting, held both in-person and virtually, was preceded by a Visioning Session for the JACL National Board and staff that was conducted by Michael Kanazawa, principal and equity partner at EY, and assisted by Ko Nishimura, former CEO of Solectron.

The Visioning Session was an opportunity for how the organization might plot a course of action to sustain itself in the future while still growing and remaining relevant amid changes to the status quo.

Day One's agenda included the National President's report, during which Oda announced that he was "re-establishing the President's Council of Corporate Advisers," which would consist of Kanazawa, Nishimura and Jim Nakamura, a member of JACL's Fresno chapter.

Asked by JACL Northern California District Regional Director Patty Wada why there were no women among Oda's advisers, he answered that the two women he had asked failed to respond.

Oda also noted that Carol Kawamoto and Victor Kimura had, during a monthly board telephone call, already been approved to serve as vp of general operations and secretary/treasurer, respectively. Oda's appointment of John Saito Jr. as *Pacific Citizen* Editorial Board chair was then approved by voice vote.

JACL Executive Director David Inoue then provided his report. He noted that the outcomes from the Nov. 8 midterm election would "have a significant impact on our strategy and what we can expect to accomplish in the next few years, depending on what happens."

It was an allusion to items such as the Norman Y. Mineta Japanese American Confinement Education Act that is awaiting a vote by the full Senate. Inoue also spoke about the Minidoka/Lava Ridge Wind Farm Project, the future of affirmative action policies with regard to university admissions as the Supreme Court weighs in on the matter, anti-Asian hate, the Asian American Museum, preparations for the April 2023 Leadership Summit and the revival of the Kakehashi program in March 2023.

As for the next JACL National Convention, Inoue had few details to share, other than that it would take place during summer 2023 in Los Angeles.

Pacific Northwest District Council Gov. Sheldon Arakaki then asked Phil Ozaki, JACL's program director, membership and fund development, to provide an update on security upgrades for JACL Headquarters.

"We qualified for the grant to stop API Hate and protecting the office building. . . . We'll find out in a month or two," Ozaki said, regarding whether the organization will receive a \$180,000 grant from the state of California to fund much-needed security upgrades covering everything from cameras to cybersecurity.

Secretary/Treasurer Victor Kimura raised more questions than answers during his allotted time, during which at one point he said, "According to these financial documents in front of me, we're about \$365,000 under

budget and revenue, and a little bit over budget in expenditures."

It was suggested that Kimura hold a separate Finance Committee meeting to figure out the answers. It was also noted that JACL had recently received a number of bequests, including a particularly large one that, as one board member put it, "would save us in any year."

VP for Planning and Development David Lin in his report gave a status update on the Centennial Education Fund. Launched in July 2021, he said that at present, the CEF had accumulated a sum of just under \$2 million, via JACL member donations and by engaging corporations and foundations under the leadership of Ozaki and Inoue.

VP for 1000 Club and Membership and Services Dominique Mashburn's report included a status update on JACL's membership and the effect on its revenue. "Membership is on the decline, however, revenue has increased," she said while showing a slide that covered the years 2018-22 that recorded a decline in membership from 8,662 to 7,633.

Despite the decline in membership, Mashburn added, "We project that there is going to be another \$100,000 between now and the end of the year, based off 2020 and 2021 numbers because most people like to give at the end of the year."

Membership coordinator Ashley Bucher followed and explained the results of last summer's survey. "The main takeaway here is that friends and family really plant the

seed," she said with regard to the most-effective method by which non-JACLers become new members.

As for the current demography of JACL, "full" Japanese Americans are mostly Sansei; Yonsei tend to be of mixed Japanese ancestry and "lean female"; and overall, they are "highly educated, they work in socially related industries like education, nonprofit, tech and finance" and are "concentrated in California." As for new members in 2022, 16.8 percent are not ethnically Japanese; 30.5 percent are fully ethnic Japanese; and 52.6 percent are "mixed."

The meeting went into recess and continued on Sunday morning with the *Pacific Citizen* report, given by Executive Editor Allison Haramoto. She said that production for the annual Holiday Issue, the theme of which is "Together Again," is underway. She also reported that the newspaper recently moved to a new office space, which it will share with the Pacific Southwest District and other JACL staffers on the second floor of Weller Court in Little Tokyo.

The National Board also discussed several Old Business topics, including a December call regarding board policies. "This has come up several times before the board and been continued to give people more time to evaluate it. . . . Be prepared to vote on it at that time," said CCDC District Governor Dale Ikeda.

The final item under Old Business had to do with California charitable organization registrations, which Oda referred to as "some chapters that

for whatever reason are in arrears on their registration."

At issue was why some California JACL chapters had failed to file RRF-1 forms which, according to Kimura, say, "I want the state of California to recognize our organization as a nonprofit organization." He added that NCWNP District Governor Carol Kawase had learned that payment notifications from the state about owing the annual \$25 registration fee had been "going to national and not to the individual chapters." The question of fault and who should pay the unpaid funds — and penalty fees — was raised.

"So, the whole thing turns out to be a mess. It's very expensive," said Kimura. "Our chapter consulted with our CPA. We sent in our \$500 [fine]. Plus we sent it and \$175 to cover the six years. There's a form that has to be filled out that answers a whole bunch of questions like, Why did your chapter ignore this? What are you going to do about in the future? How will this closing your nonprofit organization affect the community? So, I answered all those questions for our chapter."

To that, Oda said, "I don't know what the answer is," adding that it is "an issue we need to rectify." He suggested discussing the topic in a smaller group to determine the next steps to take.

The board meeting then adjourned and went into Executive Session to discuss the Visioning Session. ■



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PATSY MINK AND THE REVOLUTIONARY ROLE OF MOTHERHOOD

To the world, she was the mother of Title IX.
To her daughter, she was just mom.

By Lynda Lin Grigsby,
Contributor

“She was ever present. Ever surveilling, ever generous with support,” says Wendy Mink about her mother, pictured here in 1968.

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF WENDY MINK



In June, a new portrait of Rep. Mink was unveiled at the House of Representatives. Wendy Mink was there.



Patsy Mink with Wendy and John Mink in 1966



Honolulu City Council Days: (from left), Herb Lee, Merrie Aipoalani, Patsy Mink and Lee Sichter

PHOTO COURTESY OF HERB LEE



“There is a lot of her mom in her daughter,” according to a staffer. Wendy and Patsy Mink share a laugh here in 1993.

Picture this: A young woman pregnant with her first child is prescribed vitamins by her doctor. She faithfully swallows the round white pills to nourish herself and the life growing inside her body. More than two decades later, the woman receives a form letter from a researcher at the hospital where she received maternal care informing her that she had been an unwitting subject in an experiment during her pregnancy. The pills she took were not prenatal vitamins like she was told, but a synthetic form of estrogen prescribed to pregnant women at the time to prevent miscarriages and other pregnancy-related complications. Now, the letter tells the mother the drug is linked to reproductive health problems in the children exposed in utero.

The drug was called Diethylstilbestrol (DES). The mother was Patsy Mink, the first Asian American Pacific Islander woman to serve in Congress, and her daughter, Gwendolyn Mink, or Wendy as she likes to be called, was a DES baby.

“That was horrifying on multiple levels,” said Wendy Mink, 70, by phone from Washington, D.C. Her mother, a well-known lawmaker who championed women’s rights, discovered that a medical experiment she was oblivious to for 24 years had violated her own rights. Her body had been used as a vehicle for transmitting chemicals to her daughter. The realization caused her mother anguish.

“It was just a basic sort of challenge to her own sense of having been a good mother,” said Wendy Mink.

Motherhood, in all its forms, is an expansive role that represents safety for generations of people who could find it nowhere else. But it also has its trappings, and women like Patsy Mink — a working mom who held public office and once ran for U.S. president — balanced on a knife’s edge of societal expectations.

She had to be everything to everyone and somebody to someone. No one did this better than Patsy Mink, the mother of Title IX. Motherhood informed and fueled her work as a statesperson — not just a politician, as a former staffer insisted — because of her *ano*, what Hawaiians call the depth of character.

On the 50th anniversary of Title IX, the landmark legislation that prohibits gender-based discrimination, Patsy Mink’s legacy is enshrined in her role in positively affecting the lives of generations of mothers and daughters who wanted a fair shot at playing sports or attending school.

Like most mothers and mother figures, she wanted more for the women who came after her. Most of her work was invisible; built so generations after her could forget how hard it was before. Ultimately, she was also a mother who struggled with self-doubt. Am I doing right by the world?

Wendy Mink pauses at my question of her mother’s influence on her own life. The words fall out of her mouth in staccato phrases, then pointedly, she

turns the question around on me.

“Could you answer that question about your own mother?”

I pause. Images swirl in my head of my mother’s jet-black hair and how her manicured nails contrasted with the callouses, badges of honor from a lifetime as a garment worker. How does one quantify the influence of a life-giver and a nurturer? It’s hard, Wendy Mink said, to step back and put an analytic lens on a deeply human, lifelong relationship. Especially if your mom spent her lifetime forcefully bending the arm of justice toward equality. This meant that Wendy Mink had to share her mother with the world.

It wasn’t always easy, according to Claire Shimabukuro, the daughter of Patsy Mink’s campaign manager in her early bids for Congress. In the podcast “Patsy Mink: The Untold Story,” Claire Shimabukuro talked about childhood playdates with Wendy Mink, who is the same age, while their mothers worked.

In these intimate settings, young Wendy Mink would express angst about not being able to see her mom regularly. It’s a theme echoed by other children of AAPI lawmakers in Congress, who back in the 1950s and ’60s, numbered fewer than a handful.

“He wasn’t always there,” said Daniel Ken Inouye Jr. in a 2014 *Hawaii Herald* article extolling his famous dad, the late senator, calling him a family man even when mostly physically absent. “He oftentimes would call back to the house to my mother, probably about four or five times a day, like whenever he had a break between meetings.”

No one questioned the physical distance between the senator and his namesake, often calibrating it as a sacrifice of the job — which it was. But there was much more distance and grace between father and son than mother and daughter, like Patsy and Wendy Mink in the same position, were ever afforded.

When Patsy Mink first won a historic seat in Congress in 1964 at 36 years old as the first AAPI woman of color, she was already a mother. Her daughter was then 12, well past her elementary school days in which she describes herself as a “hellion” who tested boundaries and questioned authority — normal behavior for any child, but acutely different for the daughter of a female elected official.

From an early age, Wendy Mink was hyperaware that how she chose to conduct herself disproportionately reflected on her mother. Before the bugbear of what is known today in modern parenting circles as “mom shaming” even had a name, Patsy Mink was living under its glare.

In the 1959 election season, when Wendy Mink was 7 years old, she said a rumor circulated that labeled her as “mentally retarded,” so shouldn’t a mother attend to such a child? In the political theater in which her mother was the star, there was an ever-present tone — a *sotto voce* she calls it — of neglect. Because of her race and gender in a high-profile job, her mother lived and worked within the smallest margin of error.

“I think the assumption that Patsy was not a good mother was very much a political weapon against her,” said Judy Tzu-Chun Wu, an author and professor of Asian American Studies at the University of California, Irvine.

In the third grade, Wendy Mink’s teacher told her if a nuclear attack were to happen

during school hours, she would likely die alone because her mother was too busy being a politician to come to her rescue. It begs the question: Would a teacher say the same thing to an Inouye or a Matsunaga child?

“It’s hard to say. But I think for men, it’s a more natural arena for them to move into politics,” said Wu. “And they would have their supportive wives there to take care of the family responsibilities.”

In “Snow Theory,” a poem about his own mother, Ocean Vuong wrote, “I lay down over her outline to keep her true.” There is a lot of her mom in her daughter, said Herb Lee, a former staff member. But she is very much her own person. After Patsy Mink died in 2002 from viral pneumonia at 74, her daughter continues to share her mom with the world.

This year, Wendy Mink co-authored a new book with Wu about her mother, “Fierce and Fearless,” and appeared in “Mink!” a short documentary about Title IX and how it almost didn’t happen because Patsy Mink, being a mom, missed the first vote to rush to her daughter’s side after a harrowing car accident. A second vote was called, and Title IX passed.

To the world, she was the mother of Title IX and a groundbreaker. To her daughter, she was just mom.

“She was ever present. Ever surveilling, ever generous with support. Ever inclusive of my needs and my interest and my participation in her life,” said Wendy Mink, a scholar and author. Mother and daughter enjoyed shopping and knitting; a hobby Patsy Mink picked up as a teenager trying to do her part in the war effort in the highly charged time for Japanese Americans during World War II — even in Hawaii. Her mother wasn’t a fancy knitter. There was no stitch-counting, just an emphasis on simplicity. She still has some of her mother’s creations — vests — tucked away in her closet.

Patsy Mink served in the House of Representatives for 24 years. Through all the political drama, her daughter had a behind-the-scenes seat. Her ticket was her birthright. In the Mink home, equality was always a topic of conversation — all data points leading up to Title IX.

When her daughter was in preschool, she noticed teachers encouraged girls to play house and have tea parties while they gave boys blocks and erector sets to build. Patsy Mink had a signature serious expression — brows

furrowed — seen whenever she passionately spoke in front of Congress or constituents and undoubtedly appeared when she appealed to preschool teachers to stop gender tracking.

“Are we a nation that believes in fairness and equality?” Patsy Mink asked rhetorically in a 1990 press briefing with other Democratic female lawmakers, with all the energy of a mom chiding a child, this time President George H. W. Bush, who vetoed the Civil Rights Act of 1990. Throughout her career, she posed the same question repeatedly as a challenge — when can we all step up to level the playing field?

“She was playing with sharks, right?” said Lee, 68, chief of staff when Patsy Mink was elected to the Honolulu City Council. “And it’s so easy to become a shark because that’s how the lifestyle is. But she was an anomaly in that fishpond.”

Throughout her career, Patsy Mink surrounded herself with family, both biological and chosen, to run her campaigns. She was the matriarch in the family, said Lee, now president and CEO of the Pacific American Foundation in Hawaii.

“Her family was the backbone of everything that she did. She was just the auntie, or the mom or the wife or, you know, the cousin,” he said.

A lot has positively changed for women because of Patsy Mink, but a lot stayed the same. Society holds up motherhood in an idealized way. Think of the iconic images of mothers carrying their newborn out of the hospital. Isn’t she lovely? Motherhood tropes are disjointed — the long-suffering stay-at-home mom and the industrious working mom — and leave mothers to fend for themselves without a support system. There is no standardized paid medical leave, equal pay or childcare. The work is hard and often invisible. It’s still hard out there for mothers.

In the 1950s and early ’60s, misogyny was openly held up, said Claire Shimabukuro, 70, and far more oppressive. But she often likes to ask young women a question: Do you know where your justice comes from? It’s because of Patsy Mink. She is the mother you never knew you had.

After Patsy Mink received the 1976 letter revealing that she was an unwitting participant in the DES medical experiment, she and two other mothers sued the university and Eli Lilly, the Indianapolis-based pharmaceutical company that supplied DES pills saying the treatment was given without their consent. Doctors had written thousands of prescriptions to expectant moms as part of



Throughout her career, Patsy Mink surrounded herself with family, both biological and chosen, to run her campaigns. She is pictured here with her family on the campaign trail in 1966.

the experiment. The University of Chicago settled out of court. Her mother lived with the violation for the rest of her life.

Sometimes it’s hard not to bend under the weight of injustice. In 2022, women’s rights feel like they are going backwards. Wendy Mink admits this is true. But in 2002, on the 30th anniversary of Title IX, her mom celebrated the gains that the legislation permitted and admonished all of us not to rest on our laurels. Title IX is not self-enforcing. It requires women and girls to speak up when they encounter inequality.

The legislation is a lesson in the possibility

of making big changes, but also the necessity of defending them. It’s what Patsy Mink would have wanted for us all. ■

The Takemoto women: Patsy (center), her mom (left) and grandmother (right)



Patsy Mink, pictured here at a 1993 press conference on educational equity, was a passionate speaker.

Mother and daughter protested punitive welfare reform in 1995.

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NEW ‘BRIDGE TO THE SUN’ RECOUNTS THE EPIC MIS STORY

Bruce Henderson’s book shines a light on the saga through the eyes of six Nisei linguists.

By George Toshio Johnston,
Senior Editor

If you as a *Pacific Citizen* reader happened to catch an episode of CBS’ “60 Minutes” from a few months ago and thought one of the stories sounded familiar — about individuals from an ethnic group of Americans who were fluent in the language and culture of one of the Axis powers during World War II who were then tapped by the Army to enhance and sharpen their skills via an intensive training program so they could be utilized as translators, interpreters and interrogators — you weren’t alone.

But it wasn’t the story of Japanese Americans who served in the Military Intelligence Service in the Pacific Theater — it was the story of the so-called Ritchie Boys, most of whom were German-born Jews, who served in the European Theater.

It was a story familiar to Bruce Henderson.

As a Vietnam War veteran (Navy) turned journalist, teacher (University of Southern California and Stanford) and author of more than a dozen nonfiction books, including several about WWII, Henderson wrote 2018’s “Sons and Soldiers: The Untold Story of the Jews Who Escaped the Nazis and Returned with the U.S. Army to Fight Hitler.” It was about the Ritchie Boys, and the book was among the resources “60 Minutes” used to research its segment about them.

It’s fitting that his follow-up book is about the Nisei who served in a similar capacity to that of the Ritchie Boys, but in the Pacific Theater. Published on Sept. 27, that

book, more than four years in the making, is titled “Bridge to the Sun: The Secret Role of the Japanese Americans Who Fought in the Pacific in World War II” (Knopf, 480 pages, ISBN 9780525655817, SRP \$35).

It also contains an afterward written by Gerald Yamada, president and past general counsel of the Japanese American Veterans Assn. and a past president of the JACL’s Washington, D.C., chapter.

Thus, “Bridge to the Sun” might be considered the cousin to 2021’s “Facing the Mountain: A True Story of Japanese American Heroes in World War II,” written by Daniel James Brown, the focus of which was on members of the 100th Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team, also comprised mostly of Nisei who also served the Army but in the European Theater (see May 7, 2021, *Pacific Citizen*).

In “Bridge to the Sun,” Henderson chose six veterans — his “cast,” as he called them — to focus on in order to convey the overarching story of the MIS, an approach similar to that used in “Sons and Soldiers.” Those men were Nobuo Furuiye, Takejiro Higa, Grant Hirabayashi, Kazuo Komoto, Hiroshi “Roy” Matsumoto and Tom Sakamoto.

The following is an edited Q & A between Henderson and the *Pacific Citizen* about his book, “Bridge to the Sun.”

PACIFIC CITIZEN: How did you become aware of the MIS saga? What drew you to this particular story?

Bruce Henderson: It was strictly a serendipity kind of thing. I was at the archives, researching “Sons and Soldiers,” which

Bruce Henderson



was the Ritchie Boys. I’ve certainly seen movies and read books about the 442nd, but I had no idea that any Nisei were sent to the Pacific — and here I had already written several WWII books, including two of them that were sitting in the Pacific Theater.

So, I didn’t know [about the MIS], and I knew if I didn’t know, probably a lot of other people didn’t know their story. So, I made a note to myself, “You know, when I finish this book on the Ritchie Boys, I’m going to come back to this” — and I did.

P.C.: Do you see parallels between the Nisei MIS story and the Ritchie Boys story that you worked on?

Henderson: Absolutely there are parallels between the two stories. Not only were they trained largely in secret during the war by the Military Intelligence Service, but



“Bridge to the Sun” focuses on six veterans to convey the MIS story.

they also trained really for the same mission, only in different theaters.

Also, each had to overcome their own brand of prejudice, if you will. For the Ritchie Boys, their motivation was very strong in terms of defeating the Nazis and (Adolf) Hitler — and many still had their families over there. They spoke German, and they often had really thick German accents. So, there was a period of time when people wondered if they could be trusted.

And then you’ve got the Japanese Americans, the whole story there, not only after Pearl Harbor, but also before



Pearl Harbor, when there was all of this anti-Asian immigrant stuff going on. In most cases, they could not even own the land that they farmed. The [Issei] parents, even if they wanted to, couldn't become naturalized American citizens.

Now, here come their offspring, the Nisei, and war breaks out and they've got the face of the enemy. They (Issei and Nisei) get rounded up and put into camps and about 60 percent of the 120,000 that get put into camps were American citizens. They're there because they are not considered trustworthy. So anyway, within a few months, here come the Army recruiters into camp. "We put you here — but Uncle Sam needs you." They needed them because of the language skills that they had to go into the Pacific.

And the Kibei — initially the U.S. government was saying, "Anybody who has spent any time in Japan, they're highly suspect. They could be emperor worshippers, and we can't trust them if they've gone to school in Japan." Well, guess what? Those were the most valuable to the MIS because they were fluent in reading and writing and had been educated in Japan. So, yeah, there were a lot of parallels on these two books.

P.C.: At this point, most of those who served are deceased, and those still living may be incapacitated physically or mentally. If you didn't do in-person interviews, what was your methodology in researching the MIS story?

Henderson: First and foremost, I needed veterans to follow in the book. There was only one of the six still alive when I started the research, and he was already going on 100. Shortly after I spent a couple hours with him, he died. And if I hadn't had other material on him, I wouldn't have been able to include him.



Brothers Warren and Takejiro Higa, both of whom served in the Army's Military Intelligence Service. Warren Higa had been training with the 442nd RCT at Camp Shelby, Miss., before transferring to Camp Savage, Minn., to serve in the MIS and join his younger brother.

The oral histories are sort of the backbone. If you go to my sources in the back of the book, they're listed by chapter, and you will see repeatedly the oral histories. There are different groups that over the years have brought these veterans in — Go For Broke is certainly one. Densho is another. To get other materials, I reached out to families. What did they leave behind? In some cases, there were memoirs that they had written, either privately published or unpublished. I got letters when I could get them.

My book is narrative nonfiction, which means that it should read like a novel and not a work of dry history. But nothing is made up. Not any dialogue, I don't put thoughts into people's minds — it's got

to come from somewhere. About two years alone was the research before I even wrote the first chapter. I always want to get about 90-95 percent of the research done before I start writing. There's always stuff that comes up when I'm writing, like a question or two, but generally, I want the bulk of the research done before I start writing.

On leave to visit to see family incarcerated at the Gila River War Relocation Authority Center in Arizona, Kazuo Komoto shows his younger brother, Susumu, the Purple Heart he received after surviving a bullet wound to his right leg.



P.C.: Has there been any interest to have it translated into the Japanese language for the Japan market?

Henderson: Interestingly, the first translation rights that we sold were to China. And there are actually some discussions going on now in Japan about a translation. But nothing has been finalized as yet. There's also some talk in Hollywood with some people who are interested in adapting "Bridge to the Sun" as a limited series. We're really pushing to get AJA producers and directors involved.

I think timing-wise, it seems like there's never been a better time than right now in this country to have stories like this come out. Sadly, these anti-immigration sentiments are still way too prevalent in this country. We're in an America today that too often prejudices people based on race, ethnicity, countries of origin — and a message like this, this timeless message of service, of courage, of a really true patriotism — I think it should never be forgotten. ■



Kazuo Komoto greets First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt while convalescing at a hospital in Fiji in August 1943. He was shot in the leg while stationed in New Georgia, Solomon Islands. He was the first Nisei in WWII to receive the Purple Heart.

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CALENDAR

DUE TO HEALTH AND SAFETY CONCERNS IN THE U.S. BECAUSE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, PLEASE CHECK REGARDING THE STATUS OF EVENTS LISTED IN THIS ISSUE'S CALENDAR SECTION.

NATIONAL PSW

Irei — A National Monument for the WWII Japanese American Incarceration — Launches
Los Angeles, CA
JANM
100 N. Central Ave.

Led by USC Ito Center Director Duncan Ryuken Williams and Project Creative Director Sunyoung Lee, the Irei Monument Project expands and re-envisions what a monument is through three distinct, interlinking elements: a sacred book of names as monument (Ireichō), an online archive as monument (Ireizo) and light sculptures as monument (Ireih). The Ireichō contains the first comprehensive listing of more than 125,000 persons of Japanese ancestry who were forcibly incarcerated during WWII. Visitors can now view the book and leave a special hanko (stamp/seal) for each person in the monument as a way to honor those incarcerated. The project's online archive is now searchable alphabetically or by camp.

Info: Visit ireizo.com for more information and janm.org.

NCWNP

Mochitsuki Workshops
San Francisco, CA
Dec. 17; 11 a.m.-5 p.m. (30-minute shifts)
JCCNC
1840 Sutter St.
Price: Center Members \$20; General Public \$25

Mochi is a very important part of traditional Japanese New Year's celebrations! Come to the Center's annual workshop to learn how mochi is made and come away with delicious mochi for your enjoyment and seasonal festivities. You'll learn how to make mochi from one of Japantown's manju makers, George Yamada, owner of the Yamada Seika manju-ya, which served the community for 36 years and closed its doors in 1999.

Info: Visit www.jccnc.org.

'Bearing Witness: Selected Works of Chiura Obata'
San Francisco, CA
Thru January 2023
Asian Art Museum
Chong-Moon Lee Center for Asian Arts & Culture
200 Larkin St.

Price: Check Museum for Information
This exhibit showcases Chiura Obata's firsthand depictions of the 1906 earthquake and fire, as well as his paintings documenting the forced incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII. Obata (1885-1975) is renowned as a 20th-century master who merged Japanese painting techniques and styles with modern American abstraction.

Info: Visit <https://asianart.org>.

Hana Holiday Craft Show
Torrance, CA
Dec. 3; 9 a.m.-2 p.m.
Torrance Cultural Arts Center
Toyota Meeting Hall
3330 Civic Center Dr.
Price: Admission and Parking Free
Come and support local artists and small businesses while shopping for handmade and other unique gifts for a jump-start to the holiday season. This one-day only crafting event will feature gifts, apparel, home goods, accessories and much more.

Info: For more information, email hanacraftshow@gmail.com.

San Diego JACL Virtual Dialogue: Gary Sosa
San Diego, CA
Dec. 8; 6:30 p.m.
Virtual Event
Price: Free

Join the San Diego JACL as it presents its monthly virtual dialogue featuring Gary Sosa, English as a second language associate professor at Palomar College, as he shares his discovery of and search for his Japanese-Mexican roots, his 442 connection and an overview of the Japanese immigration to Mexico, followed by conversation about genealogical research and multiracial Japanese Americans.

Info: To RSVP and receive the Zoom link, email sandiegojacl@gmail.com.

'Wakaji Matsumoto — An Artist in Two Worlds: Los Angeles and Hiroshima, 1917-1944'
Los Angeles, CA
Dec. 10; 5-6:30 p.m.
JANM
100 N. Central Ave.
Price: Free

This event features a conversation about the historic significance of Wakaji's work and the story behind the collection. Curator Dennis Reed and project liaison Karen Matsumoto, Wakaji's granddaughter, will be joined by Masami Nishimoto, writer for the Chugoku Shimbun, and others involved in highlighting Matsumoto's work to delve deeper into his photographs and legacy.

Info: Visit www.janm.org.

Ventura County JACL Bus Trip to Gardena Tokyo Central
Gardena, CA
Dec. 12
Price: Free

Seniors and their families are welcome to join on this free bus trip to Gardena Tokyo Central, sponsored through a grant from Keiro. Pick-up and drop-off locations will be in Camarillo, Thousand Oaks and Encino. The trip includes a free bento lunch served at JCI in Gardena after shopping.

Info: To register, email infovcjacl@gmail.com.

Ventura County JACL Oshogatsu & Bingo
Thousand Oaks, CA
Jan. 14; Noon-3 p.m.
Thousand Oaks Library
Community Room
1401 E. Janss Road

Come celebrate the New Year with the Ventura JACL! Bring a potluck dish and play Bingo — a fun event for all to enjoy and be together.

Info: Visit vcjacl.org to sign up or call (310) 948-4808 for more information.

Ventura County Installation Luncheon 2023
Simi Valley, CA
Jan. 29
Ronald Reagan Presidential Library
40 Presidential Dr.
Price: Call for Details

Join the chapter as it holds its installation luncheon and welcomes keynote speaker Tamlyn Tomita, accomplished actress and community activist.

Info: Visit vcjacl.org to sign up or call (310) 948-4808 for more information.

PNW

'Resilience — A Sansei Sense of Legacy'
Portland, OR
Thru Dec. 22
Japanese American Museum of Oregon at Naito Center
411 N.W. Flanders St.
Price: Contact Museum for Ticket Information

Eight artists' work reflects on the effect of EO 9066 as it resonated from generation to generation using traditional Japanese methods in the construction of their work, as well as iconography relating to Japanese culture as a starting point for personal explorations on the subject of the incarceration camps. Artists featured are Kristine Aono, Lydia Nakashima Degarrod, Reiko Fuji, Wendy Maruyama, Tom Nakashima, Roger Shimomura, Na Omi Judy Shintani and Jerry Takigawa.

Info: Visit <https://jamo.org/exhibits/resilience/> for more details.

'Be Water My Friend' Exhibit
Seattle, WA
Ongoing Exhibit
Wing Luke Museum
719 S. King St.
Price: Museum Admission

Do you ever wonder how Bruce Lee developed the philosophy behind his most iconic quote? This exhibit invites viewers to step into the mind, body and spirit of Bruce Lee to see how his pursuit of knowledge informed his philosophy and life. The exhibit's interactive technology interweaves beautiful imagery with the legendary martial artist's personal objects and books to bring his journey to life.

Info: Visit <https://www.wingluke.org/exhibit-be-water-my-friend>.

MDC

Hoosier JACL Holiday Party
Indianapolis, IN
Dec. 10; 12:30-4 p.m.
Masa Sake Grill
5946 E. 86th St. (located near Costco, behind Castleton Square Mall)
Price: Details to Follow

Save the date for the Hoosier chapter's 2022 holiday party, which will be held at Masa restaurant. A menu is available at masasakegrill.com. All guests are welcome to attend. More event details to follow.

Info: Email info@hoosierjacl.org.

IDC

'ZOTTO: A Supernatural, Immersive Japanese Folktale at Sakura Square
Denver CO
Nov. 18-Dec. 11
Sakura Square
1905 Lawrence St.
Price: Tickets \$45

ZOTTO is an immersive and multisensory Japanese folktale and theatrical journey. Audiences will explore three generations of Japanese American women and their relationship to Denver's rich yet sordid history as they encounter Japanese spirits and demons and other unexpected characters, discover hidden secrets within forgotten spaces and engage with interactive elements that will ask them to consider the relationship between intention and impact.

Info: To purchase tickets visit https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/zotto-a-supernatural-japanese-folktale#. For questions, email boxoffice@zottofolk.com.

'Fantastic Brush: 20th Century Chinese Ink Art From the Robert and Lisa Kessler Collection'
Denver, CO
Thru Dec. 30
Denver Art Museum
100 W. 14th Ave. Pkwy
Price: General Admission

The 23 ink paintings featured in this exhibit include works from some of the most important artists in 20th-century China, including Zhang Daqian, Qi Baishi, Xu Beihong, Wu Changshio and Wu Guanzhong.

Info: Visit www.denverartmuseum.org for more details.

EDC

'Tabemasho! Let's Eat!!' Book Talk
Cambridge, MA
Dec. 8; 6 p.m.
Hybrid Event: In-Person/Zoom Webinar
Muckley Building (MIT Building E40)
Pye Conference Room (Room 496)
1 Amherst St.
Price: Free; Registration via Tim Ticket Is Required for In-Person Event

Join the New England JACL as it hosts this book talk featuring Gil Asakawa as he takes participants on a personal tour of the Japanese food revolution in America through his new book "Tabemasho! Let's

Eat." Asakawa will also be joined by Debra Samuels, cookbook author and Japanese food specialist for a post-talk discussion. **Info: To register for the Zoom webinar, visit https://bit.ly/Tabemasho_booktalk. To attend in person, visit <https://bit.ly/TimTicketGIL>. For questions about Tim Ticket, email mit-japan@mit.edu.**

'Creative Confluence: South Asian Community Reflections, Connections and Dialogue' Exhibit
Towson, MD
Thru Dec. 17
Asian Arts Gallery, Center for the Arts
Towson University
1 Fine Arts Dr.
Price: Check Website for Admission Information

Explore the rich array of creativity, cultures and traditions expressed through the works of 22 South Asian artists from across the Greater Baltimore and Washington, D.C., area. Discover the intersecting and distinct experiences of these artists who share their perspectives on lineage, self-identity, ideas of homeland, spiritual traditions, sensory experience and connections to the natural world.

Info: Visit www.towson.edu for more details.

'Yayoi Kusama: Love Is Calling' Exhibit
Boston, MA
Thru Dec. 31
Institute of Contemporary Art
25 Harbor Shore Dr.
Price: Check Museum for Tickets

As part of the exhibition "The Worlds We Make: Selections From the ICA Collection," Yayoi Kusama's beloved "Love Is Calling" is an immersive, vividly colored art installation that surrounds visitors and creates an illusion of infinite space and haunting sound recordings as Kusama recites a love poem in Japanese. This 1-2-minute experience is limited to six visitors at one time. Reservations are required.

Info: Visit <https://www.icaboston.org/kusama-know-before-you-go> for more details.

'Power and Perspective: Early Photography in China'
Salem, MA
Thru April 2, 2023
Peabody Essex Museum
East India Square, 161 Essex St.
Price: Check Museum for Admission

This exhibit explores how the camera transformed the way we imagine China. This exhibit provides a rich account of the exchanges between photographers, artists, patrons and subjects in treaty port China, offering a vital reassessment of the colonial legacy of the medium.

Info: Visit <https://www.pem.org/exhibitions/power-and-perspective-early-photography-in-china>. ■

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Events in the calendar section are listed based on space availability. Place a 'Spotlight' ad with photos of your event for maximum exposure.

FOR MORE INFO:

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In MEMORIAM



Asing, Shyoko (Kurasaki), 80, San Jose, CA, Sept. 1; she was predeceased by her sisters, Sayo Nakamura, Sumi Shiraki and May Sueki; she is survived by her husband, Darrell; children, Tiffany and Chris (Sarah); sisters, Sets Otani, Ruby (Sab) Kobashi; gc: 3.

Davis, Kiyoshi Kay, 80, Tacoma, WA, July 26; she is survived by her sons, Robert and James Davis (Anna); gc: 8; ggc: 4.



Hatasaka, Harry Hideo, 93, Palo Alto, CA, June 12; B.A., University of Colorado; D.D.S., Northwestern University; M.S.D., Orthodontics, University of Washington School of Dentistry; activities: JACL (governor, NCWNPDC); Optimist Club; he is survived by his wife, Sadako (Matsushita); children, Leslie Lynne (Stuart) Blackburn, Harry (Julia) Hideo Jr., Mark Teizo and Kimberley Anne (Matthew) Ainsley; siblings, Lorina, Sam, Stanley, Sharon; gc: 5.

Hirano, Sally Mitsuko, 83, La Palma, CA, June 15; she was predeceased by her husband, Kenneth Tamio Hirano, and sister, Shirley Matsumoto; she is survived by her son, Kelly Saburo Hirano (partner: Lupe De Los Angeles); siblings, Harriet Dunn, Janet Terri (Paul) Ogasawara, Wilfred (Jean) and Earl Kuroyama; she is also survived by grandnieces and grandnephews.



Ikemiya, Carolyn Akiko, 93, Fresno, CA, Aug. 5; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at a WRA Center; B.S., UC Berkeley; activities: Sierra Kings Hospital Auxiliary, the Reedley Buddhist Church, Buddhist Women's Assn. and JACL; she was predeceased by her husband, James; she is survived by her children, Carol Akiyama (Robert), Janet Ikemiya (Michael Lombardo), Stephen Ikemiya (Sonia), Kenneth Ikemiya (Lori) and Cheryl Ikemiya (Alden Bagnall); gc: 11.

Inouye, David G., 68, Westminster, MD, July 1; he was predeceased by his sister, Carol Ward; he is survived by his wife, Mary; sons, Christopher Inouye and Jeffrey Inouye (Hannah Mumbert); uncle, George Kobayashi; aunt, Hester Kobayashi.



Katsumoto, Malcolm Tsuneo, 93, Mercer Island, WA, April 23; B.A., University of Hawaii; veteran (USAF); activities: board, Japan-America Society; he is survived by his wife, Chizuko; children, Diane, Kenneth and Jean; son-in-law, Paul; gc: 4.

Muench, Beverly Miyamoto, 72, Altadena, CA, July 20; she is survived by her husband, Bob; sisters, Madeline Dwyer and Karen Sasaki; brothers-in-law, Stephen Sasaki, Thomas Oshita and Richard (Suzy) Muench; she is also survived by nephews, nieces, grandnephews and grandnieces.



Nakashima, Fujiye Jean, 95, Fresno, CA, June 6; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at the Jerome and Rohwer WRA Centers in AR; activities: Bowles Buddhist Church, Bowles Shinwakai, Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Temple, Fresno Betsuin Senior Club and Fresno Betsuin Buddhist Women's Assn.; she was predeceased by her husband, Masao; she is survived by her children, Mitchell (Lynn) Nakashima and Elaine (Jun) Tamura; gc: 3; ggc: 3.



Obana, John, 62, Walnut Creek, CA, July 13; B.S., UC Berkeley; he was predeceased by his father, George; aunt, T. Miriam Tani; he is survived by his wife, Crysti; mother, Mary Obana; and siblings, Kathryn Obana, William Obana, Mary Obana-Lannon and Stephen Obana.

Shimabukuro, Dean Koki, 58, Vienna, VA, March 29; he was predeceased by his brother, Daryl; he is survived by his parents; brother, Earl; and sister-in-law, Fun.

Tamakawa, Justin T., 47, San Francisco, Aug. 17; B.S., UCLA; he is survived by his son, Kai; sisters, Kerri and Coryne; parents, Thomas and Faye; he is also survived by nieces and a nephew.



Tamura, Haruko, 83, Spokane, WA, Sept. 13; during WWII, she was incarcerated at the Puyallup (Camp Harmony) Assembly Center and the Minidoka WRA Center in ID; she was predeceased by her husband, Jim; she is survived by her children, Jim Jr., Patti and Rod; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives gc: 3; ggc: 3.

Ushiyama, Marcia S., 97, Honolulu, HI, June 19.



Yamaoka, Misako, 99, Sunnyvale, CA, May 6; before WWII, she attended Mt. Diablo High School in Concord, CA, and in Spring 2022 received a belated honorary diploma because she and her family were forcibly relocated and incarcerated at the Gila River WRA Center in AZ; she was predeceased by her husband, George; she is survived by her children, George T. Yamaoka, Larry (Vickie) Yamaoka and Bonnie Yamaoka; sister, Evelyn (Ted) Komaki; gc: 4; ggc: 4.

TRIBUTE

MARION SUZUKI

Marion Tami Suzuki passed peacefully on Oct. 10, 2022, at the age of 97. Marion was the sixth and youngest child of Tokutaro and Toyo Oishi. Her immigrant father and his brothers were pioneers in the nursery business, with floral and nursery operations in San Jose, Richmond, Oakland and San Francisco.

Marion grew up on Blossom Street in the Fruitvale District of Oakland. From 1942-45, the Oishis were held at the Tanforan temporary detention center and then incarcerated at the Topaz concentration camp in the Sevier Desert, Utah. Marion was a member of the first Topaz High School graduating class, in 1943. With assistance from the American Friends Service Committee and the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council, she left Topaz to attend the University of New Hampshire. The Oishis were released in the summer of 1945 and returned to Oakland. Marion graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1951, and completed certificate work in physical therapy at UC San Francisco.

In 1953, she married Frank Suzuki, a Nisei farmer from Cressey in Merced County. Marion moved to the country where they raised five girls. She worked as a physical therapist, working with students with cerebral palsy and other disabilities at the Sonoma School in Modesto until she was 76 years old. Marion served as a mentor to Hmong students in her community, and on the local scholarship committee of the Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative Fund which benefits deserving Southeast Asian American students.

Marion was active in the Livingston United Methodist Church, Livingston United Methodist Women, Livingston-Merced Japanese American Citizens League and the Nisei Bowling League. In 2012, Marion and Frank moved to Alameda to be near their children. Marion is remembered by her family as kind, gracious, fun, fashionable, engaged, ever-optimistic mother of deep spiritual faith who was committed to peace with justice. Marion was an avid sports fan as well as a political activist.

Upon being belatedly awarded a high school diploma from the Alameda County Board of Education, she gave this message to the 2004 Oakland Technical High School graduates:

"I wish to impress upon you to always be aware of the fragility of our civil liberties. Let us affirm our faith in our country by upholding its wonderful principles of justice for all. Let us each be a fearless ambassador for everyone."

Marion was predeceased by her beloved husband, Frank; dear siblings, Ben, Tatsuya, Sada (Mori) and Junko; and extended family, including her 27 Oishi/Sakai/Shimizu cousins of California and Japan. She is survived by her daughters, Lori Suzuki (Dean Ito Taylor), Wendy Horikoshi (Peter), Heidi Suzuki (George Oyama), Tami Suzuki (Rich Eijima) and Teri Suzuki; grandchildren, Steven and Kevin Horikoshi, Masao Ito Taylor, Derek Oyama and Riki and Tomi Eijima.

A service to celebrate the life of Marion Suzuki will be held on Saturday, Nov. 26, 2022, 2 p.m. at Livingston United Methodist Church, 11695 Olive Ave., Livingston, CA. Those attending should be fully vaccinated and wear masks. In lieu of flowers or koden, donations may be made to Buena Vista United Methodist Church, Livingston UMC, Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach, or the Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative Fund.

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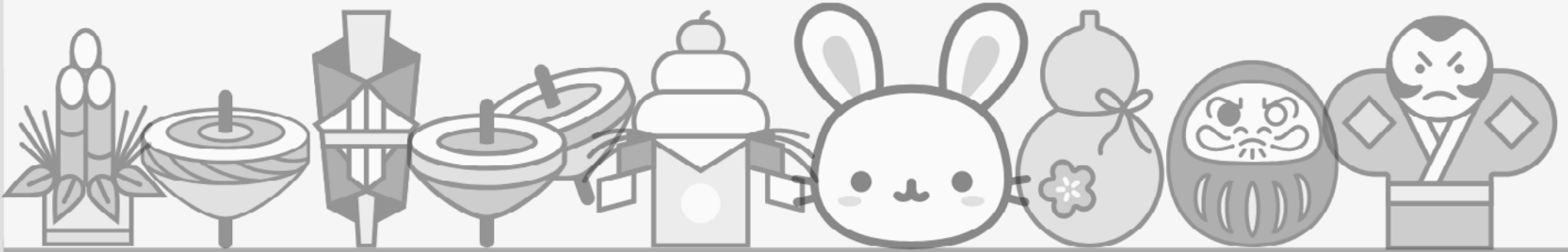
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'In Memoriam' is a free listing that appears on a limited, space-available basis. Tributes honor your loved ones with text and photos and appear in a timely manner at the rate of \$20/column inch.

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