COMMUNITY HONORS GRADUATES

by Heidi Tolentino, Board Member

The 2019 Japanese American Community Graduation Banquet
By Heidi Kimiko Tolentino

The 2019 Japanese American Community Graduation Banquet was held at the Monarch Hotel on May 4th.

Consul General Takashi Teraoka congratulated all of the graduates on their achievements and said that he has been impressed by the Japanese American community and their accomplishments both historically and today. Teraoka noted that he was so proud to see Japanese culture in another country and to see the traditions that have been passed down from great-grandparents, grandparents and parents; Japanese Americans have passed the gift of being bicultural to their descendants.

This year’s keynote speaker was Dr. Wynn Kiyama, the Executive Director of Portland Taiko, the Director of the Portland State University Taiko Group, and co-founder of PSU’s Drama Dance Drums, an annual presentation of Japanese Theater and Taiko.

Dr. Kiyama gave a few pieces of advice to the graduates: “Get to know your professors. Learn from your peers. Find your passions and follow them. It may be connected to your Japanese heritage or it may be connected to your gender identity, your religion, or other things. Pursue and find that passion. For me it has woven my life together and given me indescribable joy.”

The presentation of the award and scholarship winners followed Dr. Kiyama’s upbeat and entertaining speech. The first awards and scholarships were given by the Oregon Nisei Veterans.

Michael Hasagawa of Hood River Valley High School won the outstanding male athlete award. Alyson Miyuda of La Salle High School won the outstanding female athlete award. The winner of the Iwasaki/Okamoto Scholarship was Emily Ogawa from St. Mary’s High School. The Mrs. Mark Sumida Awards were presented to Miles Takaguchi from Cleveland High School, Alyson Miura of La Salle High School, Yukaiya Nomoto of Skyview High School and Lauren Yanase of St. Mary’s High School.

This year’s winner of the Hide Naito scholarship was Alexandra Tomito of St. Mary’s High School. The winner of the Mary K. Naito Scholarship was Mili Nakamura of Westview High School. The winner of the Minamoto Scholarship was Luke Wilson of Grant High School.

This year’s winner of the Shokookai of Portland Scholarship was Ella Hirata of St. Mary’s High School. The winner of the Veleda Club Scholarship was Cinclair ...

Please send your community calendar items to Jeff Selby at:
jeff@aiwcreative.com
no later than the 16th of each month!
Mathies of Central Catholic High School. The winner of the Nikkei Fujinkai scholarship was Erica Pasquantonio of Clackamas High School. The winner of the Gresham-Troutdale JACL Scholarship was Kaito Wilson of Sunset High School. The winner of the Yumibe Scholarship was Isaaiah Baltzel from Jefferson High School. The winner of the Mabel Boggs/State Farm Scholarship was Leonard Tanne of Mountain View High School. The Yoshiko Kennedy Scholarship was created in her memory. The winner of the Kennedy Scholarship was Kent Ishida from Grant High School. The winner of the Masuoka Scholarship was Michael Hasegawa of Hood River Valley High School.

After the scholarships were presented, Kent Ishida of Grant High School gave the Graduate's Response. Kent thanked all of the donors and sponsors of the Graduation Banquet and told the other graduates that he was honored to represent such an amazing group of scholars. He thanked his mom and dad for making sacrifices for him and for teaching him to go 110% in every thing he does. Kent also shared some wisdom from his grandparents. “Always do a little bit extra.” “Your only enemy is yourself.” Kent encouraged the graduates, as they enter this next chapter of their lives, to remember that if people tell them they can’t do something, then do what it takes to get it done.

The banquet ended with some fun awards presented to the graduates by Ms. Elaine Yuzuriha who reminded the graduates to return to their communities after college to give back. Words after Meal were given by Reverend Eisei Ikenaga of the Nichiren Buddhist Temple. Then, Chip Larouche presented the 2019 Japanese American Graduates to the community. It was a wonderful event that reminded everyone of the importance of continuing the legacy of each of the sponsoring organizations by remembering those who have come before us and the young people that are our future.


Photo: Curtis Suyematsu
NIKKEI COMMUNITY PICNIC

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18, 2019
OAKS PARK
(SOUTH PARK AREA - UNDER THE LARGE STRIPED TENT)
NOON TO 5PM

Food, Fun, Rides for the Kids; Prizes and Performance by Portland Taiko

Join us for an afternoon of food and fun! The picnic is sponsored by organizations of the Nikkei community to celebrate our ethnic heritage.

We will provide at no cost:
• Main dish: Fried Chicken
• Beverages: hot tea, soda, and beer
• Eating utensils: plates and napkins
• Watermelons
• Games and prizes and ride bracelets
  for kids high school and younger
• Parking

Please bring a side dish to share. In order to ensure a variety we suggest that you bring a side dish that corresponds to the alphabetical groupings listed below:

A-Ki Rice or a noodle dish
Ki-Sa Salad or Vegetable dish
Sc-Z Dessert or Bread

Please RSVP by August 8: Connie Masuoka at 503-243-3291

SEND YOUR COMMUNITY PHOTOS TO JEFF SELBY!
Dear Golfers and Friends:

You are cordially invited to participate in the 19th Annual Japanese Ancestral Society Jerry Inouye Memorial Golf Tournament to be held on Sunday, July 28, 2019 at Glendoveer Golf Course-East (14015 NE Glisan, 503.253.7507). The JAS has hosted this event for over 25 years and renamed in 2001 to honor Jerry for his many years of service in promoting this event. The shotgun start will begin at 8:30 a.m. with check-in at 7:30 a.m.

You must be a JAS member to participate. You can include your membership dues along with your entry fee.

A perpetual trophy will be awarded to the lowest net scorer among the men’s “A” and “B” flights and also to the “ladies” flight. Prizes will be awarded for KP’s on all par 3 holes, a longest drive hole, and low gross honors in each flight. In case of a tie, players score cards will be evaluated from the 18th hole backwards with the first low score winning. Everyone will ride a cart, and lunch will be served at Super King Buffet (following the tournament). If you have a golfing preference for your foursome, please let us know and list the names of each person of your group. If a foursome is requested, please make sure that a golfer(s) of a group is not duplicated in another foursome.

If you are not interested in golf but would like to donate to this annual event, please call Nancy Kajitsu at 503.665.4589. Due to course regulations, we must collect your entry fee by July 21, 2019 to reserve our tee times. No exceptions! Entry fee is $80, which includes golf, cart, and lunch.

Best Regards from your Golf Committee,

Please return this form and a check for $80 (green fee) and your membership fee, unless you are already a JAS member, made payable to the Japanese Ancestral Society of Portland, no later than July 21, 2019.

____ I will play ______ I will stay for lunch ______ Single JAS membership ($25)
____ I will not play ______ I will not stay for lunch ______ Family JAS membership ($40)
____ I (We) will come for lunch only. ($15 per attendee)

____ Please accept my tax deductible donation of $___________

Golfer’s Name___________________________ (circle) Male Female

Golfer’s Phone # ________________________ USGA GHIN Number ____________________

USGA Handicap Index as of July 1, 2019_________ or List last 5 golf scores (18 holes) __________________

For golfers without established GHIN, maximum handicap allowed is 40 for women and 36 for men.

If golfing with a group, please list names ________________________________

Mail form to: JAS, c/o Kurtis Inouye, 31112 SW Willamette Way West, Wilsonville, OR 97070.
OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE

OBON MEMORIAL LANTERN ORDER FORM TO CELEBRATE OBONFEST 2019

Please use one form for each new lantern. This order form is also available on the OBT website.


Deceased's First Name (English) ________________________        Last name______________________

Japanese Version/ Buddhist name (Kanji/Katakana) will be on Lantern_____________________

Date of Passing (if known): ______________________

******************************************************************************


First name/business/ organization in English ________________________  LastName_________________________

Japanese Version (Kanji/Katakana) on lantern________________________________________

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**RE-HANGING** Previously Purchased Lantern: **$15 for the 1st order, $10 Each additional lantern**

Deadline to order by: Thursday, August 1, 2019

Name (English) ________________________

Name (English) ________________________

Name (English) ________________________

Lanterns to be re-hung in 2020 can be stored at the temple OR purchased lanterns can be picked up Sunday following the ObonFest. Lanterns inactive for two years will be discarded.

Thank you very much!  Lanterns OBT Phone contact: 503-234-9456
AROUND THE COMMUNITY

Joe X. Jiang and Simon Tam presented a talk at Portland City Hall on May 7, 2019. The presentation was centered on Simon’s new book, *Slanted: How an Asian American Troublemaker Took on the Supreme Court*. The event was hosted by the City’s Hapa, Asian, and Pacific Islander employee affinity group otherwise known as H.A.P.I. On the right are Jeff Selby and Simon Tam.

Larry Kominz, Rei Barnes, and Toshimi Tanaka performed at Epworth Methodist Church for Tomodachi-Kai. Photo by Setsy Larouche

The City of Hillsboro planted a Hiroshima Peace Tree, which grew from a Gingko tree destroyed in the bombing of Hiroshima. It was planted at the entrance at Jackson Bottom Wetlands. Setsy Larouche, representing the Hiroshima Club, unveils the plaque with Mayor Steve Calloway on Arbor Day.

Valerie Otani, Matthew Kertesz, Megumi Uehara and Kelsey Furuta enjoying intermission at Japanorama, a Fear No Music production on May 6. This was a celebration of the ongoing influence of Japanese culture with classical musicians and Portland Taiko.

Sachi Kaneko, Toa Suruki, Connie Masuoka, Jean Yamamoto, Marleen Wallingford, Chong Sim, Nicole Kendrick, and Ryan Nakano attended APANO’s Voices of Change banquet.
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<td>Chair Exercises: 11:30am; SHO YAKISOBA w/ UMI ORGANIC NOODLES, Harafuda &amp; Bridge: 12:30pm-2pm</td>
<td>Chair Exercises: 11:30am; POKE MEATBALL in SWEET &amp; SOUR SAUCE</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td>Qi Gong: 11:30am; MAIBO TOFU; Mahjong: 12:30pm-2pm</td>
<td>Chair Exercises: 11:30am; LEMON CHICKEN</td>
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<td>Chair Exercises: 11:30am; SEAFOOD SURPRISE; RESERVATIONS ONLY; Harafuda &amp; Bridge: 12:30pm-2pm</td>
<td>Fujinoki Board: 10:30am; Blood Pressure: 11:15am; Chair Exercises: 11:30am; BLACK BEAN CHICKEN</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td>Qi Gong: 11:30am; POKE DON (Sashimi on rice, Hawaiian style); Mahjong: 12:30pm-2pm</td>
<td>Chair Exercises: 11:30am; PORK SHIYOKI</td>
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<td>Chair Exercises: 11:30am; Ohana Lunch Bunch; KARA-AGE (Japanese Fried Chicken); Harafuda &amp; Bridge: 12:30pm-2pm</td>
<td>Sage Circle: 10am; Chair Exercises: 11:30am; WON TON SOUP</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td>Qi Gong: 11:30am; BBQ PORK; Mahjong: 12:30pm-2pm</td>
<td>Chair Exercises: 11:30am; Hiru Gohan Gurupu: 11:45am and after lunch; EBI &amp; IKA FRY (Shrimp &amp; Calamari)</td>
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<td>Blood Pressure: 11:15am; Chair Exercises: 11:30am; CHUKA BIRTHDAY SUSHI</td>
<td>CLOSED</td>
<td>Qi Gong: 11am; Sing Along: 11:30am; HIYASHI CHUKA (Cold Ramen); Mahjong: 12:30pm-2pm</td>
<td>Nisei Day: Chair Exercises: 11:30am; LOCO MOCO DON (Hamburger egg &amp; gravy on rice, Hawaiian Style)</td>
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**Cooks:** Naomi Molstrom – Mon & Kyoko Adcock – Tue; Rieko Shimada – Th/Fri

**May 14:** Fujinoki Board Meeting: 10:30am

**May 16:** Annual Magic Show by Skip**: 11:30am — Reservations Required; Regular Price

**May 17:** Hiru Gohan Gurupu (Rick March, Mary & John Crull): noon and after lunch

**May 20:** Ohana Lunch Bunch: sansei gathering: 11:30am

**May 21:** Sage Circle: 10:00am; Dwight Orchi – Ki Development for Life: 11:3000am

**May 23:** Sing Along with Reiko Isomo & Jerry Baystoner: 11:30am

**May 24:** Nisei Day: Nisei gathering to re-connect, meet

**May 31:** Kathryn Work on piano: noon

**Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays:** Chair exercises with Nobuko Kaji: 11:30am

**Thursdays:** Qi Gong with Kathleen Kuba: 11:30am, except on May 23: 11:00am

**Blood Pressure:** May 14 - Jane Kawashima; May 28 – Ellen Iwasaki: 11:15am
Your Portland JACL Newsletter comes to you thanks to DocuMart on SW Main in Portland, who prints it at a greatly reduced cost. Please consider them for your printing needs: (503) 228-6253.

A big thank you to Chris Onchi, as well, Chris has been printing our labels, making data entry changes, and assisting with the annual calendar for many years. Her business is Chris’ Mailing Service: (503) 452-6864.