



# PORTLAND JACL NEWSLETTER

Portland JACL · Supporting Civil Rights Since 1928

• OCTOBER 2020 | VOLUME 26 ISSUE 10 •

## Board Member MESSAGE

By Jeff Matsumato

**As of this writing, there have been over 100 days of protest in the streets of Portland, over six months of Covid-19 and a presidential election is just a month and half away. All overshadowed by Oregon forest fires the likes we have never seen before. Their eerie orange sky capturing this moment forever in my mind. A moment which people will write about to put in our history books and mark time with. I believe we have all talked about these events with someone and their impacts to our lives.**

As a board member, I have talked to a few of our members during the "shelter in place orders," to see what needs they may have had and what Portland JACL could do to meet those needs. As a board, we have taken this moment to begin to educate ourselves, create opportunities for dialogue and understanding, and find ways to take action and support the Black Lives Matter movement. I hope you would join me in standing up and speaking out; calling and demanding for an end to the systematic racist institutions that exist in these United States of America. **And now, we as the board are calling upon you to VOTE!**

Oregon has been voting by mail since the early 1990's. We were the first state to conduct an all vote-by-mail election for a

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### Poston Community Alliance

#### Virtual Pilgrimage

October 3-4th

### Portland JACL: Be an Informed Voter

#### Virtual meeting

October 10th

4pm

### Gambarismasho

Order deadline October 11

Pick-up on October 25

1130am - 2 pm

Epworth United Methodist Church

### Last day to register to vote in Oregon

October 13th

### Get out the Vote

#### Virtual Letter Writing Party

Oct 17

130pm

### State of Washington voters can register to vote in person up to election day

#### Election Day

November 3

Editor: Chong Sim (simc0186@gmail.com)

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federal office in 1996 when Ron Wyden was tapped to fill our vacated seat in the Senate. Yet, now is not the time to take our vote for granted. Make a plan for your vote. This moment has shown us the importance of having a plan. The following are important dates to help plan for the 2020 Presidential Election, November 3, 2020.

**October 13:** Last Day to Register to Vote. (register or update your registration by visiting Oregon's Secretary of State website - [sos.oregon.gov](https://sos.oregon.gov))

**October 14 - 20:** County Election Offices last day to mail ballots. If you have not received your ballot by 10/22 contact your county elections office.

**October 27:** This is the suggested date in which you could safely mail your SIGNED ballot. This is one week prior to Election Day, Tuesday's Nov. 3.

**November 3:** Election Day! This is the last day to cast your ballot. **DO NOT mail your ballot.** You Must drop off your ballot into an official elections drop box by 8pm

**The free and fair elections and the power of the vote are the cornerstones of democracy.** Our vote is our voice to bring about the change we seek. And Portland JACL not only wants you to vote, we want you to be an informed voter. We invite you to join us and the Chinese American Citizens Alliance as we co-host a virtual ballot information session through the League of Women Voters, at 4pm, October 10.

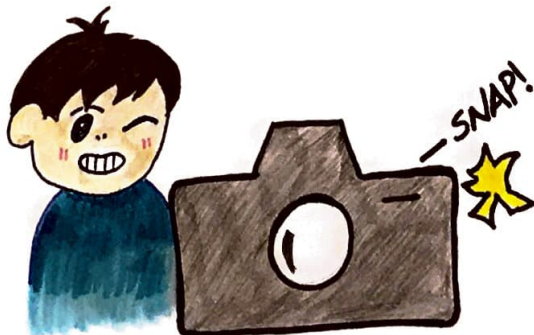
Register here by October 8 ([tinyurl.com/y33g3wkr](https://tinyurl.com/y33g3wkr)).

**I hope you will look for the opportunities to engage others at this moment in our great American Experiment.**

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# PDX JACL

wants to know how you quarantine!



Send in your pictures to  
[Sachi@pdxjacl.org](mailto:Sachi@pdxjacl.org)  
for a chance to be in  
the annual calendar.



# Photo Section



**The Portland JACL presented a virtual Nikkei Conversation About Black Lives Matter on September 19th.**

Pictured are moderator Jeff Selby (upper right) and panelists: Chisao Hata, Rev. Kosho Finch, Vicki Nakashima, Sara Onitsuka and one of our ASL interpreters, Claire.



**Jeff Matsumoto and Amanda Shannahan at the Convention Center standing by the statue of MLK showing solidarity with a worker and a child.** Hidden behind Dr. King is a figure of a woman who represents immigrants. They participated in the March in Portland on the 57th anniversary of the March in Washington, D.C. where Dr. King gave his famous "I Have a Dream," speech.

# Help Our Neighbors!

Now is the time to support our immigrant and refugee neighbors who have been not only adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic but many have lost everything in the fires that have raged in Oregon. As wildfires grow more frequent, so do concerns for field workers who are facing conditions that jeopardize their health, wages and housing.

**Here is a list of some of our local organizations that need your help:**

**Adelante Mujeres**  
[www.adelantemujeres.org](http://www.adelantemujeres.org)

**Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice**  
[imirj.org](http://imirj.org)

**Latino Network**  
[www.latnet.org](http://www.latnet.org)

**PCUN - Oregon Farmworker's Union**  
[pcun.org](http://pcun.org)



## Asian American Voters

**Asian Americans are the fastest-growing segment of eligible voters out of the major racial and ethnic groups in the United States.**

More than 11 million will be able to vote this year, making up nearly 5% of the nation's eligible voters. They are also the only major racial or ethnic group in which naturalized citizens make up a majority of eligible voters. This data has been gathered by the Pew Research Center analysis of Census Bureau data. From 2000 to 2020, the number of Asian American eligible voters more than doubled, growing by 139%.

In Oregon, according to the Oregon State Fact Sheet, 4% of eligible voters identify as Asian. AAPI youth (18 to 29) make up 28% of the AAPI population. Multnomah County has 7% of its residents who are AAPI. Washington

County has the highest percentage in the state with 10%. Washington State has double the Asian American population with 8%.

Our numbers have grown exponentially since 1965 as immigration law changed. The law abolished the National Origins Formula which had been the basis of U.S. immigration policy since the 1920s. The act removed de facto discrimination against Southern and Eastern Europeans, Asians, and other non-Northwestern European ethnic groups. Congress did away with preferential treatment to northern Europeans which has resulted in a dramatic change in our electorate. It is projected that the United States will become "minority white" in 2045 when less than half of the electorate will be caucasian.



# GAMBARIMASHO!

"Together, let's do our best"

**DATE CHANGE!**

Sunday, October 25

11:30 - 2:00

Epworth United Methodist Church

1333 SE 28th Ave., Portland, OR 97214



**BAKED GOODS**

**CARDS**

**PRODUCE**



MASKS REQUIRED, PLEASE.

Online orders and prepayments can be made at [epworthumcpdx.org](http://epworthumcpdx.org) or

Use the following order form, making checks payable to Epworth United Methodist Church at above address.

Order deadline: Sunday, October 11.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Delivery ☐ OR Pick-up ☐

Pick-up Times by last name:

A-G 11:30 - 12:10; H-M 12:10 - 12:50; N-S 12:50 - 1:30; T-Z 1:30 - 2:10

## HOME BAKED GOODS

		Quantity	Cost
6 pack chocolate chip cookies	\$3.00	_____	_____
6 pack cranberry orange oatmeal cookies	\$3.00	_____	_____
6 pack raspberry bars	\$3.00	_____	_____
6 pack butter mochi	\$3.00	_____	_____

## \*CARDS

4 pack general cards	\$5.00	_____	_____
4 pack sympathy cards	\$5.00	_____	_____
4 pack birthday cards	\$5.00	_____	_____
4 pack thinking of you cards	\$5.00	_____	_____

## \*PRODUCE

Kabocha squash	\$5.00	_____	_____
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\* Other cards, produce, and plants available for browsers who park their cars (gloves provided).

TOTAL AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

Donations are welcome.

# 'Get out the Vote' Letter-writing Party

**Join the Portland JACL Advocacy Team on Saturday, October 17th at 1:30 PM for a virtual "Get Out The Vote" letter writing event.**

Portland JACL will be joining the nationwide effort to get more underrepresented voters to cast a ballot in the upcoming election.

You can join the effort by establishing an online account on [vote fwd.org](https://vote fwd.org). Even if you can't join us for the virtual event October 17th, you can still participate by signing up for a 'social campaign' at [vote fwd.org](https://vote fwd.org).

## Questions?

Contact us at [contact@pdxjacl.org](mailto:contact@pdxjacl.org). If you need stamps and to RSVP, please complete the event sign-up form at <https://tinyurl.com/JACLGOTVParty>

## To participate, you will need:

- Online account with [vote fwd.org](https://vote fwd.org)
- Envelopes
- Stamps
- Printed letters from Vote Forward (more instructions will be provided prior to the event)
- A pen

## Optional, but strongly encouraged:

- Snacks!
- Drinks!

## Current Board Members

### Co-President

Chris Lee

### Co-President

Amanda Shannahan

### Vice President

Jeff Matsumoto

### Treasurer

Jillian Toda-Currie

### Secretary

Heidi Tolentino

### Membership Chair

Setsy Larouche

### Board Members:

Sachi Kaneko  
Lynn Fuchigami Park  
Connie Masuoka  
Marleen Wallingford  
Jenny Yamada

If you would like to contact the Board, their email address is **First Name@pdxjacl.org**



**PORTLAND JACL**  
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## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE PORTLAND JACL



We appreciate all of the the contributors who generously donated to help support the programs we provide for our community. Here I am with my mom, Sumi Ikeda 70 years ago.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY MARLEEN