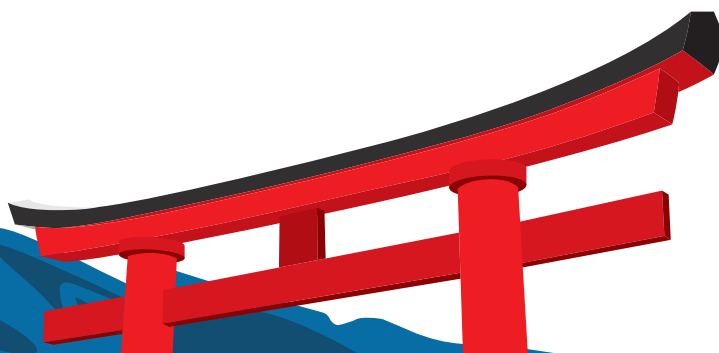




# PORTLAND JACL NEWSLETTER

Portland JACL - Supporting Civil Rights Since 1928



• JANUARY 2021 | VOLUME 27 ISSUE 1 •

## Board Member MESSAGE

Happy New Year! While it's hard to predict what the coming year has in store, there are many reasons to be optimistic. As we write this message, communities across the country are preparing for their first delivery of COVID-19 vaccines; and later this month, we will see the first Black woman and South Asian vice-president sworn into office when Kamala Harris joins Joe Biden on inauguration day. We are hopeful that soon, we will be able to come together as a community and connect in-person. We are even holding onto the possibility that we can safely gather in time for our annual Nikkei Community Summer Picnic in August!

At the same time, the past months have highlighted and exacerbated inequities across every sector, from health to education to public safety. These inequalities existed long before the pandemic, are rooted in historical and persisting racism, and have been felt the hardest by Black, Indigenous, and other people of color. Our hearts also go out to those who have lost family members, friends, neighbors, and coworkers to COVID-19.

As we embark on a new year, we maintain our commitment to using lessons learned from our unique history to speak out and advocate for human and civil rights. We will also work hard to continue creating

**Continued on Pg. 2**

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### New Years

January 1

### Seattle JACL - Digital Workshop Weaponization of the "model minority" myth

January 9  
2pm

### Mochitsuki

Virtual activities

Throughout the month of January.  
(Everyday for the month of January, the activity scheduled for the day will be available on the Mochitsuki website at [mochipdx.org](http://mochipdx.org). You can access the video anytime after it is posted. Our only live program will be the music and panel discussion with Elena Moon Park on January 31st at noon.)

### Martin Luther King's Birthday

January 18

### Elena Moon Park

Virtual performance and panel discussion  
January 31  
1pm

### Day of Remembrance

February 19

### Portland JACL partners with the Vancouver NAACP

Virtual discussion of redress and reparations  
February 20  
2 p.m.

**Continued from Pg. 1**

spaces for our community to connect and to celebrate our Japanese and Japanese American culture.

In January, we will unveil the first-ever virtual Mochitsuki! This year will be the 25th anniversary of this beloved Portland community tradition, and the planning committee has been working tirelessly to create an entire month of virtual programming for children and adults to enjoy. From cooking demonstrations to fun family activities, and a special headliner performance from New York-based musician, Elena Moon Park, on January 31 - this will definitely be a Mochitsuki to remember!

In addition, on February 20, we will commemorate the individuals and families impacted by the signing of Executive Order 9066 with our annual Day of Remembrance event. This year, we will be partnering with

the Vancouver NAACP to center stories and perspectives on redress and reparations for Japanese and Black Americans through a historical and present-day lens. Naturally, to keep everyone safe, we will also be holding this event virtually.

While 2020 was difficult, to say the least, we also hope it was a reminder to everyone of your resilience and strength - your ability to gaman in the face of unpredictable and unprecedented times. As board co-presidents, we look forward to another year serving you and continuing our community's legacy of promoting equity and justice for all. Thank you for joining us in this journey!

**Again, happy new year! Wishing you all the best in 2021.**

Sincerely,  
**Amanda Shannahan and Christopher Lee**  
Portland JACL Co-Presidents

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Connie Masuoka  
Marleen Wallingford  
Jenny Yamada

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

## ❖ Remembering George Tsugawa ❖

George Tsugawa, 99, of Woodland, Washington, passed away peacefully on November 27, 2020. He was born in Everett, Washington, on June 20, 1921, son of Masaichiro and Kazuno Tsugawa, immigrants from Japan.

George spent much of his childhood working at the family's produce stand and taking care of his family since his father died at a very young age.

During WWII, George was incarcerated at Minidoka WRA Center in Idaho with his family. On April 1, 1950, George married the love of his life, Mable Taniguchi. In 1955, George and Mable moved to Woodland, Washington, to establish the Tsugawa Brothers Farm with his brother, Akira.

In 1981, Mable opened Tsugawa Nursery. Mable and George spent the rest of their lives transforming a small business into a destination garden center in Woodland, Washington.

George lived a life that spanned the depths of the Great Depression, incarceration



at Minidoka and the advent of the tech revolution. It was a challenge to establish a farm and business in Woodland as one of the only Japanese American families in the area but they persevered.

George is predeceased by his wife Mable of 61 years; sons, Martin Tsugawa and Dan Tsugawa; brothers Henry Tsugawa, Akira Tsugawa, sisters Toshiko Ogura, and Sachi Osumi; he is survived by his children, Mary Lynn Archer, Lori Whaley, Karen Tsugawa, and Brian Tsugawa; brother, Dr. James Tsugawa, and sister Helen Fujishin; 12 grandchildren, and 19 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

A service will be held at a later date. Donations may be made in his memory to JACL.





## High School Student Starts Virtual Exchange Program



One of the most effective programs for fostering international engagement is the high school foreign exchange program. The more engaged we become beyond our immediate environment, the more empathetic we become of other perspectives. This is true at the individual level and it's true at the national and global level.

I started the Japan-Oregon Culture Exchange program in the Summer of 2020 in response to Covid-19. When the US closed all air travel on March 13th, high school foreign exchange programs across Oregon came to an end. Exchange programs are life changing. They give participants perspectives and experiences they could never possibly get in their own country. I, myself, benefitted from living in Japan for 5 years. I returned to the US both bilingual and bicultural.

When I saw what was happening with the cancelation of exchange programs and the start of remote learning, I wanted to do something. As masks and online classes became the new reality, I found myself gazing through pictures from my time in Japan. One, in particular, stood out - a picture with friends wearing yukatas at a matsuri with cherry blossoms in the air and everyone eating yakisoba. I thought about all the students who were losing their opportunity to live abroad because of the pandemic. I realized at that moment, rather than feel bad about it, I could use my own connections and experiences to do something incredible for others. I decided to develop a program to help close the gap in opportunity that so many exchange students lost. The program would be a way to expose

Oregonian and Japanese high students to foreign cultures and get them engaged beyond the confines of their stay at home quarantines.

Over the Summer of 2020, after weeks of research and preparation, I founded the Japan - Oregon Cultural Exchange Program. It is an online forum that connects high school students from Oregon and Japan virtually for 30-60 minute conversation sessions twice a month. It started out primarily as a way to make friends, practice conversation skills, and learn other cultures. My initial scope was the 3 high schools in Beaverton School District offering Japanese – Beaverton, Sunset, and Westview (my own high school didn't). Though schools agreed to give community service credit for students participating, the program is independent of the Beaverton School District, and students from anywhere were welcome to join, provided we can pair appropriately. There is no cost to join, as the program has a staff of one.....me. The only ask is participants be actively engaged. Ms. Miwa, the Japanese teacher from Beaverton HS, graciously became my advisor and helped get the word out. Between the two of us, we leveraged our contacts in Japan to sign up high school students from Ikeda High School, in Gifu Prefecture, and Ouyuu Gakuen Women's High School in Tokyo.

Within a month, there were 30 participants. My email inbox continued to fill with sign up requests and we added students from Portland and Tigard. That's then I knew I was making a difference. By October, participants stopped talking about the weather. They were sharing experiences about their culture, stories from daily life,

and even politics. Seeing these students exchange Instagram usernames and phone numbers on their own, while continuing to attend sessions and share, has been extremely gratifying for me.

In the Fall of 2021, I will be heading off to college and handing over the mantle to a new leader. While I have no idea what's in store for foreign exchange students next year, it is my sincere hope that those unable to travel abroad can leverage this program to get involved and make a difference in their lives. I know it has made a difference in mine.

### Sayuri Payne



Sayuri Payne is a Japanese-American and a Senior at Mountainside High School in Beaverton. Born in CA, she went to elementary school in Chofu, Japan for 5 years before relocating to Oregon in 2015. She is a member of the National Honor Society, a varsity tennis player and snowboarder, and musician. In the Summer of 2020, she founded the Japan-Oregon Cultural Exchange program. She will graduate in June, 2021 and is looking forward to studying international business in college.

## 2021 Newsletter Changes

Dear Readers,  
Portland JACL will no longer be mailing paper copies of our newsletter beginning next month. Please return the following form if you would like to continue receiving this monthly publication in the mail. Please make checks payable to the Portland JACL.

**Portland Chapter JACL**  
PO Box 86310  
Portland, OR 97286

1.877.843.6914  
Toll Free Number (voice mail)

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		Circle One: ( Home / Cell )	
<b>Current Address</b>			
Street Address			
Street Address (Line 2)			
City	State	Zip Code	
<b>New Address (if changing)</b>			
Street Address			
Street Address (Line 2)			
City	State	Zip Code	



# ✿ Women's Fight to ✓ vote ✿

By Marleen Wallingford

One hundred years ago on August 18, 1920, the United States Congress ratified the 19th Amendment, the women's right to vote. This milestone has not received the recognition and celebration it deserves since the news cycle has been dominated by the presidential election and the pandemic.

The campaign for women's vote began in the early part of the 19th century. This was met with stiff resistance since many believed that women's realm was centered on the family and home and they were not biologically capable of dealing with such difficult issues such as politics. Nor should they since they were supposed to be models of piety, domesticity and submissiveness. Some of the arguments against women having the vote appear laughable now: women lacked the expertise or mental capacity to offer a useful opinion about political issues. Women's votes would simply double the electorate; voting would cost more without adding any new value. Sadly most of the women who started the movement did not live to see the fruits of their efforts.

The term "suffragettes" was coined to mock women fighting for the right to vote. Some women embraced the term as a way of appropriating it from its pejorative use.

It is hard to believe that women needed to use tactics such as marches, silent vigils, and hunger strikes to demand their right to vote. Often supporters met fierce resistance. Opponents heckled, jailed, and sometimes physically abused women. Suffragists who went on hunger strikes in jail were force fed.

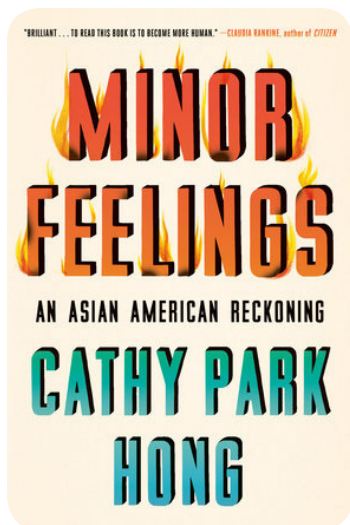
Rubber tubes were inserted through the mouth or nose and food poured down. The suffragettes were held down by force. One woman described how the warders held her down and forced her mouth open with a steel gag. Her gums bled, and she vomited most of the liquid up afterwards.

The history of women's struggle is relevant in today's world. The vote was not given to women willingly. It was a hard fought battle that caused deep divisions between women and other groups seeking justice including African American women.

Even after women were given the vote, first-generation women (and men) who migrated from Asia were prohibited from becoming naturalized citizens until 1952 and could not cast a ballot. Native American women, except those married to white men, were also ineligible for U.S. citizenship until federal legislation in 1924. Racial and ethnic barriers to citizenship and voting persisted for years afterward. We see it today in voter suppression tactics and recent voter ID requirements.

The little known story of how women had to fight to be able to vote is an example of how marginalized people have to struggle in order to be given equal opportunity and access. Despite that achievement, women have still not achieved parity with men. That is what the 19th Amendment was about and that is what the Black Lives Matter movement is demanding today.

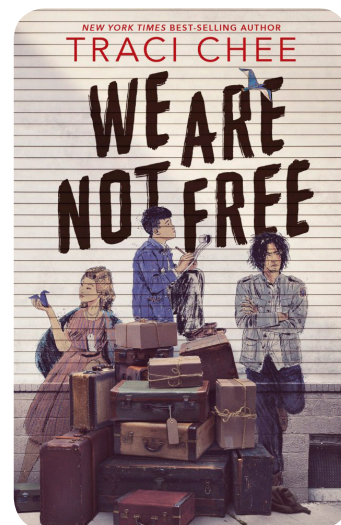
## ❖ Books for the New Year ❖



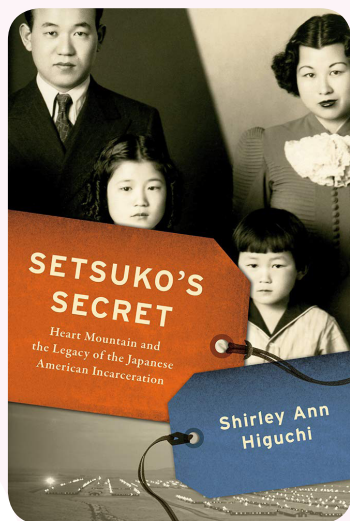
**Minor Feelings** by poet and author Cathy Hong Park is a series of essays and reflections about what it means to be Asian American in America.



**Displacement** by Kiku Hughes is a graphic novel where Kiku is transported back in time to her grandmother's youth.



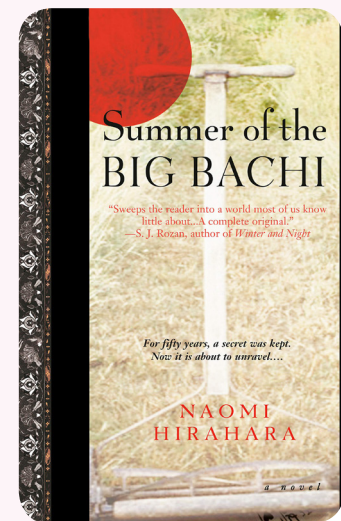
**We Are Not Free** is a young adult book for older readers by Traci Chee. It tells the story that the Nisei would not talk about. The story follows 14 Nisei who have very different but similar wartime experiences.



**Setsuko's Secret** by Shirley Ann Higuchi discusses the journey she went on when she found out her mother had a dream she never told her children about. Shirley grew up in the midwest isolated from other Japanese Americans. She really knew little about parent's experiences and was able to gain insight about how that impacted her own growing up experiences.



**Southland** by Nina Revoyr tells the story of a Japanese-American woman her last semester of law school when her grandfather, Frank Sakai, dies. Frank had owned a store in the Crenshaw District, one of the first racially mixed neighborhoods in the city and now the heart of L.A.'s black community. While trying to fulfill a request from his will, Jackie discovers an unsolved mystery that four black teenagers were killed in the store during the Watts Riots of 1965.



**Summer of the Big Bachi** by Naomi Hirahara is the first of a series of mysteries about Mas Arai a Japanese American gardener who works in Pasadena. He was a kibbei meaning he had been sent to Japan as a boy to be educated. He is not a defective but trouble always seems to find him.



## Meet our Mochitsuki Headliner

**Elena Moon Park** is a classical trained musician, educator, and producer. She is co-Artistic Director of the Brooklyn-based arts organization Found Sound Nation, which uses collaborative music creation to connect people. She has found that working collaboratively is an effective way to tap the hidden potential of our communities and supports social justice.

Elena was born East Tennessee but both of her parents immigrated to the United States from South Korea in their mid-twenties. As a Korean American, she had a limited connection to her cultural background since she lived in a small southern town with few Asian Americans. She felt disconnected from her Korean roots and has used folk music to explore her own story and ancestral heritage.

In 2012, Elena released her debut all-ages album called *Rabbit Days and Dumplings*, featuring reimagined folk and children's music from East Asia.

Elena will present special New Year's and Japanese songs for this year's Mochitsuki event on January 31.



Meet our Mochitsuki headliner, Elena Park Moon. She will perform and participate in a panel discussion about the creative process.



***Rabbit Days and Dumplings* is a soulful, playful, and unique assortment of songs from China, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, and Tibet arranged and updated in the collaborative and personal style of Park and Friends. Native languages are mixed with English, as traditional Asian and western folk and rock instruments.**

## DisOrient Film Festival

DisOrient is Oregon's only festival that features independent Asian American and Pacific Islander films in Eugene, Oregon. The festival will go virtual this year so save the dates March 19-28, 2021 to see newly released films. In 2019, the Portland JACL was honored to show Lynn Hamrick's film of Hiroshi Obayashi's immigrant experience in *Hiro's Table* which had been featured at the 2018 DisOrient Film Festival.

To see trailers of last year's submissions go to: [disorientfilm.org/2020-awards](https://disorientfilm.org/2020-awards)



**DISORIENT**  
ASIAN AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL  
of OREGON



## ❖ Mochitsuki Event Calendar ❖

SUNDAY 日	MONDAY 月	TUESDAY 火	WEDNESDAY 水	THURSDAY 木	FRIDAY 金	SATURDAY 土
Family Activities	Food & Fun	Crafts & Games	Educational	Cultural Demos	Traditional Demos	Performances
					1 Hatsumode Shrine/Temple Visit by Konko Church & Henjyoji Temple	2 Koto Performance by Oregon Koto Kai
3 New Year's Card Making by Japanese Women Portland	4 Organic New Onion and Pota to Miso Soup from Scratch by Chef Naoko	5 How to Play Go by Portland Go Club	6 Trivia Game: OSHOGATSU - Japanese New Year by PSU - Institute for Asian Studies	7 Ikebana Flower Arrangement by Ikebana International - Portland Chapter	8 How to Celebrate New Year in Japan by Portland Kimono Club	9 Storytelling by Robert Kikuchi-Yngojo
10 Why MOCHI for New Year? by Takohachi	11 How to Make 5-Minute Microwave Mochi by Cooking with Mazzy	12 Hariko: Japanese Head-Bobber Toys by Lynn Geis	13 Trivia Game: OSECHI - Japanese New Year's Food by PSU - Institute for Asian Studies	14 Way of the Staff by Rose City Shindokai	15 Tea Ceremony by Nikkei Fujinkai	16 Story Reading: "Thank You Very Mochi" by Paul Matsushima
17 Kids' Practice Calligraphy by SORAshodo	18 Ways to Eat Mochi by Konko Church	19 Origami: How to Fold a Kagami Mochi by Lunarcats Studios	20 Trivia Game: MOCHI by PSU - Institute for Asian Studies	21 Oshushishushishushi & Okinawa Eisa Folk Dance by The International School	22 How to Choose and Cook Tasty Rice by Consular Office of Japan in Portland	23 Taiko Performance by Portland Taiko
24 Children's Flower Arranging by Wild Chiharu's Flowers	25 Gyoza (Dumplings) by Cooking with Mazzy	26 Sapporo Snow Festival by Portland - Sapporo Sister City Association	27 Trivia Game: What is Mochitsuki? by PSU - Institute for Asian Studies	28 Mochi & Art by Japanese American Museum of Oregon	29 Large Brush Calligraphy by SORAshodo	30 Mochi Pounding by Utsukikai
31 History of Portland Mochitsuki  Elena Moon Park						

**\*Please note: activities and performances are listed as expected though are subject to change.**

Updated 12/15/2020

Celebrating the 25th Annual  
**MOCHITSUKI**  
2021 Japanese American New Year



# ❖ Mochitsuki Exhibitors ❖

Make sure to tune in for these events!

## **Chef Naoko**

Organic New Onion and Potato  
Miso Soup from Scratch  
[chefnaoko.com](http://chefnaoko.com)

## **Consular Office of Japan in Portland**

Message from  
Consul General Shiga &  
About Rice!  
[portland.us.emb-japan.go.jp](http://portland.us.emb-japan.go.jp)

## **Cooking with Mazzy**

How to Make 5-Minute  
Microwave Mochi  
[youtube.com/themazzyshow](https://youtube.com/themazzyshow)

## **Elena Moon Park**

Musical Performance  
[elenamoonpark.com](http://elenamoonpark.com)

## **Henjyoji Shingon Buddhist Temple**

Hatsumode Shrine &  
Temple Visit  
[sites.google.com/view/shingon-pdx/home](https://sites.google.com/view/shingon-pdx/home)

## **Ikebana International Portland Chapter**

Ikebana Flower Arrangement  
[iiportlandchapter47.com](http://iiportlandchapter47.com)

## **Japanese American Museum of Oregon**

Mochi & Art  
[oregonnikkei.org](http://oregonnikkei.org)

## **Japanese Women Portland**

New Year Card Making  
[japanesewomenpdx.wixsite.com](http://japanesewomenpdx.wixsite.com)

## **Kollodiworks**

Fukuro bags for lunch, makeup...  
[etsy.com/shop/kollodiworks](https://etsy.com/shop/kollodiworks)

## **Konko Church of Portland**

Hatsumode Shrine &  
Temple Visit  
Ways to Eat Mochi  
[konkospirit.org](http://konkospirit.org)

## **Live Your Colour Inc.**

Japanese socks  
[liveyourcolour.com](http://liveyourcolour.com)

## **Lunarcats Studios**

Origami Folding  
[lunarcats.com](http://lunarcats.com)

## **Lynn Geis**

Hariko:  
Japanese Head Bobber Toys

## **Mizuba Tea**

[mizubatea.com](http://mizubatea.com)

## **Nikkei Fujinkai**

Tea Ceremony

## **Obon Shokudo**

[obonpdx.com](http://obonpdx.com)

## **Oregon Koto Kai**

Koto Performance  
[oregonkotokai.org](http://oregonkotokai.org)

## **Paul Matsushima**

Story Reading:  
"Thank You Very Mochi"  
[paulmatsushima.com](http://paulmatsushima.com)

## **Portland Go Club**

How to play Go  
[oregongo.org](http://oregongo.org)

## **Portland Kimono Club**

How to Celebrate  
New Year in Japan  
[portlandkimonoclub.wixsite.com](http://portlandkimonoclub.wixsite.com)

## **Portland Sapporo Sister City Association**

Sapporo Snow Festival  
[portland-sapporo.org](http://portland-sapporo.org)

## **Portland Taiko**

Taiko Performance  
[portlandtaiko.org](http://portlandtaiko.org)

## **PSU – Institute for Asian Studies**

Trivia Games:  
Japanese New Year Celebration  
Japanese New Year's Food  
Mochi Recipes  
What is Mochitsuki?  
[pdx.edu/asian-studies](http://pdx.edu/asian-studies)

## **Robert Kikuchi-Yngojo**

Storytelling  
[ethnohtec.org](http://ethnohtec.org)

## **Rose City Shindoka**

Way of the Staff  
[shindomusoryu.org](http://shindomusoryu.org)

## **SORA shoda**

Kids' Practice Calligraphy;  
Large Brush Calligraphy

## **Takohachi**

Why MOCHI for New Year?  
[takohachi.org](http://takohachi.org)

## **The International School**

Okinawa Eisa Dance;  
OSUSHISUSHISUSHI  
[intlschool.org](http://intlschool.org)

## **Utsukikai**

Mochi Pounding

## **Wild Chiharu's Flowers**

Children's Flower Arranging  
[floristwild.com](http://floristwild.com)

## Thank you from Portland JACL

Portland JACL would like to thank all of our donors below for their generous donations during an especially difficult year. We are looking forward to when we will be able to host programs in person again. **Domo arigato gozaimashita!**

Please note that all donations of \$100 dollars or more are acknowledged by return mail. All others are acknowledged in our newsletter unless the donor requests a mailed acknowledgement which we are very pleased to provide.

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## ❖ Message from Ikoi No Kai ❖

Wishing you all a safe and healthy holiday season and new year! Although our lives have been upturned this past year, we are looking to the future and a return to a more normal life in the new year. We miss seeing and serving our friends and community. We will let you know of our plans as soon as it is safe to get together again. In the meantime stay healthy and find rays of happiness in every day. We miss you and are looking forward to seeing you in the new year!

Ikoi No Kai is looking for a new site manager for our senior lunch program. If you are interested contact **Tracey Yotsuuye at 503-522-2295**



Edited by Chong Sim (simc0186@gmail.com)