



# PORTLAND JACL NEWSLETTER

Portland JACL - Supporting Civil Rights Since 1928



• NOVEMBER 2021 | VOLUME 27 ISSUE 10 •

## Board Member MESSAGE

By: Marleen Wallingford

Thanksgiving is just around the corner and it's that time of year to think about all of the things we are thankful for. With the beginning of the COVID 19 restrictions our community lunch program at Ikoi No Kai was completely shut down. Ikoi No Kai facilities were not able to be used to make the monthly bento for our homebound seniors. We are thankful that with the help of a generous donation by the Mary Yamaguchi Fund from the Community Foundation of Southwest Washington and that with organizational help from volunteers like Janet Kakishita, Jere Okada and Don Matsuda, we were able to purchase bento from local food and restaurant vendors and volunteers were able to drop off the familiar, comfort food to the elders in our community. Many live in senior or assisted living homes which usually do not serve our beloved gohan and tsukemono.

We are grateful to the many volunteers who made handmade treats for our seniors and all of the volunteers who donated their time and energy to the project. It is so fulfilling to help make someone's day a little brighter.

We are thankful to the community volunteers who have come out on a regular basis to weed, plant flowers, and bark dust at the Japanese American Cemetery which has been surrounded by Rose City Cemetery. Through the generous donation of the Sam and Mary Naito Fund, a beautiful new iron fence had been

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**November 2  
Election Day**

**November 11  
Veteran's Day**

**November 25  
Thanksgiving Day**

Edited by Chong Sim (simc0186@gmail.com)

**Continued on Pg. 2**

**Continued from Pg. 1**

purchased to surround the property. Thanks to the volunteer efforts of retired landscape designer, Roger Iwasaki visitors are greeted with a new paved entry. Thank you also for the volunteer efforts of Rich and Roger Iwasaki to map the entire cemetery. Another potential project would be to collect information about all of the people who are buried so we could learn a bit about their history.

Thank you to the many volunteers who have worked tirelessly on our annual Japanese American Graduation banquet. This event has been an annual celebration of our graduating high school seniors and was only interrupted when we were no longer able to safely gather these past two years. Our Scholarship Committee was still able to get the applications and we were able to award over \$20,000 in scholarships to 11 graduating high school seniors from the Portland Metro area. This is thanks to the generous donations of community organizations and members.

We were not able to have an in person Mochitsuki this past year but the committee was able to pivot and provided daily videos for the month of January 2021 to celebrate our 25th year. Thank you to all of the volunteers for the time and energy it took to be able to post these to share.

We are grateful that Oregon still continues to be a sanctuary state and that the Portland JACL joined with a coalition of community groups to support immigrants and refugees. Many of us folded tsuru and had planned to go to

Washington, D.C. to protest the separation of migrant children from their families.

With these past few year's of greater social unrest brought on by the videoed interaction with law enforcement with George Floyd, we are grateful that the Portland JACL responded with our articles in the newsletter and webinar about supporting the civil rights efforts of Black Americans and explored anti-Blackness in our own community. How can we respond as a community to the unfair treatment of our Black brothers and sisters? We know what it means to be targeted because of our race. We cannot stand by but need to demand equitable treatment and opportunity. We continue to work with Tsuru for Solidarity to support H.R. 40 which would create a commission to study reparations for Black Americans. This is similar to the commission which studied the effects of the wartime incarceration of Japanese Americans. Those commission hearings broke the longtime silence of the Issei and Nisei and opened the door for communication and healing with the younger generation. It is critical that we educate ourselves about the everyday struggles and injustices that Black Americans have had to face to truly understand the income and education gap. It is our responsibility as Americans to not accept the status quo but to actively work at dismantling barriers to equal opportunity for all Americans.

**Primarily we are grateful for our Japanese American community who has been so willing to help each other during this pandemic and support each other with the rise in anti-Asian hate bias and hate crimes.**

thank you!



"A moving, eye-opening depiction of life after Manzanar. Naomi Hirahara has infused her mystery with a deep humanity, unearthing a piece of buried American history."—George Takei

Naomi Hirahara, an award winning murder mystery writer has taken her favorite topic, the history of Japanese Americans to Chicago in 1944. She makes use of her extensive knowledge of the Japanese American experience to infuse her story with authentic details. She formerly was a writer for the Rafu Shimpo. Her most famous fiction character is Mas Arai a Japanese American gardener who is a survivor of the bombing of Hiroshima.

Clark and Division is her latest mystery novel. Aki and her parents have just been released from Manzanar to join older sister Rose. They are resettling miles away from their former home in California. Many Japanese Americans were encouraged to do by the government. They were also admonished not to gather in groups of more than three.

Rose lives in the Chicago neighborhood of Clark and Division which become the home of many resettled Japanese Americans. Tragedy strikes. Just as the family is going to be reunited with Rose, she unexpectedly dies in a train accident. Aki is not buying the story that her sister committed suicide. She decides that she is going to get to the bottom of this tragedy. She has her sister's diary and her friends to guide her in solving the mystery of her sister's untimely death.

# CLARK AND DIVISION

A NOVEL

NAOMI HIRAHARA



## Unite People's Holiday Wreath Sale

Beat the Pandemic Blues by pre-ordering winter greenery to decorate your home and virtual spaces.

Let us help you decorate by ordering from our lovely selection of wreaths and holiday decorations made by Iwasaki Bros. Nursery. The proceeds help Unite People fund projects for the community,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Your Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone number

<b>Mixed wreaths with berries</b>	<b>Qty</b>	<b>Price</b>	<b>Total</b>
12 inch		\$20.00	
16 inch		\$26.00	
20 inch		\$32.00	
24 inch		\$38.00	
<b>Door Swag</b>		\$15.00	
<b>Candy Cane Style</b>		\$20.00	
<b>15 foot Garland</b>		\$20.00	
<b>Poinsettas 6inch pots</b>		\$10.00	

**Total** \_\_\_\_\_

**Deadline to order is November 17, 2021**

Pick-up date:  
Sunday, December 5, 2021  
from 11-2pm  
at Epworth United Methodist

Mail this form to:  
Unite People  
6305 E Burnside  
Portland, OR 97215  
or  
Order on line at  
[pdxjacl.org](http://pdxjacl.org)

**Please make checks payable to UNITE PEOPLE**

OREGON BUDDHIST TEMPLE PRESENTS



**S.O.S.**  
**SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS**

## COMMUNITY FOOD DRIVE TO FIGHT HUNGER AT PSU

NOVEMBER 13 & 21, 2021

INCREASINGLY, COLLEGE STUDENTS ARE ENDURING MULTIPLE HARDSHIPS, INCLUDING ACCESS TO ADEQUATE AND HEALTHY FOOD.

HELP US RESTOCK THE PSU FOOD PANTRY, AND TOGETHER WE CAN SEEK TO ALLEVIATE FOOD INSECURITY IN OUR GREATER COMMUNITY.

“KODOMO NO TAME NI” IS A JAPANESE TERM TO INSPIRE US TO PLANT SEEDS FOR A KINDER AND BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR ALL OUR CHILDREN.

### SEEKING

Canned soups/meals  
Cereal, boxed/ bars  
Single serving juice  
Canned fruit  
Box mac and cheese  
Crackers/snacks  
Dry rice, beans (small bags)

Gluten free, vegetarian and vegan items are also in demand.

We cannot accept perishable, fresh/refrigerated, damaged, or expired food, or bulk food items.

Check donations for the food drive may be made to Oregon Buddhist Temple (“SOS” in comment) and mailed to 3720 SE 34<sup>th</sup> Ave., Portland, OR 97202.

### DROP OFF

Oregon Buddhist Temple  
3720 SE 34<sup>th</sup>, Portland, OR

Nov. 13 (Sat), 10 -11 AM and  
4 -5 PM

Nov. 21 (Sun), 4 -5 PM only

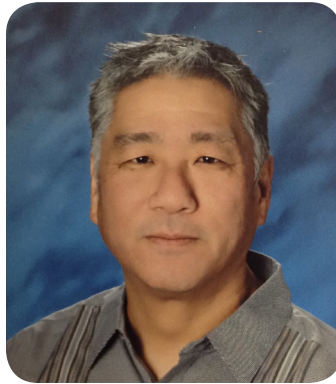
### QUESTIONS?

Email [Jayneichi@gmail.com](mailto:Jayneichi@gmail.com)

## ❖ Candidates for the Portland JACL Board ❖

### **President**

Jeff Matsumoto



Jeff Matsumoto is a Yonsei born and raised in Lodi, CA. He has worked as an elementary teacher since moving to Oregon in 2000. He looks forward to continuing the work started by the Portland JACL since joining the board a little over 2 years ago with a focus of greater membership engagement and strengthening our ties in the AAPI Community.

### **Vice President**

Chris Lee



I'm a fifth-generation, multiracial Asian American. Currently I am serving as Co-President for Portland JACL and am seeking a 5th term on the board to continue ongoing work with the finance committee and Mochitsuki. My academic background includes a Bachelor's degree in Asian Studies, a Master's degree in International Management, and I have over ten years of experience in the energy industry.



### **Secretary**

Heidi Tolentino

Heidi Tolentino has been on the Portland JACL board for 11 years and is the current secretary of the chapter. She works as a high school counselor at Cleveland High School in Portland and was a high school English teacher prior to becoming a counselor. Heidi has a 12-year-old daughter, Malia, who is part of the Portland Public School Japanese Immersion Program and has been married to her husband, Patrick, for 23 years.



### **Treasurer**

Jillian Toda-Currie

Jillian Toda-Currie is a fourth-generation Japanese American who grew up in The Dalles, near where her grandparents had a farm and cherry orchard. Jillian currently does marketing research in the healthcare industry. She has volunteered with various organizations in the Portland area including APANO, Minoru Yasui Student Contest, and Impact NW. She is the current Treasurer for the Portland JACL board.



**Board Member**  
Sachi Kaneko

I am a fourth-generation, mixed-race Japanese American and Jewish American. I have been passionate about social justice since I was in high school and have found various ways to stay involved with our community over the years. I have served for four years on the Portland JACL board. If reelected, I hope to keep serving our community as well as continue advocacy work for BLM, LGBTQIA+ communities, indigenous communities, and other minority groups.



**Board Member**  
Weston Koyama

Descended from Japanese immigrants, Weston Koyama is a fourth-generation Japanese American. Weston maintains a passion for Japanese culture, speaks Japanese fluently, and strives to foster connections with Japan. He seeks to help the JACL continue its tradition of social justice advocacy as a voice for the Japanese American community. Weston is an Oregon lawyer and a graduate of the U.O. Law School. His hobbies include languages, piano, and currently studies Cantonese.



**Board Member**  
Spencer Uemura

I am a Yonsei/Shin-Nisei from the Los Angeles area, but I've been in Portland for four years. By profession, I'm a mental health therapist, drawn into this work by a passion for stories and connection. Lately, I have been enjoying documenting my family's history and requesting and translating koseki (family registry documents) from Japan. I've been eager for an opportunity to give back to the Nikkei community, so I'm honored to be considered for the JACL board.



**Board Member**  
Setsy  
Sadamoto Larouche

I would be honored to be your Membership Chair again as Portland has continued to be the largest Chapter in the Nation to include the one Chapter in Tokyo. I'm a product of Nisei Kibei parents from Hiroshima, Japan and we moved back to PDX when I was a child. My bachelor's degree is in education and my master's is in logistics. As a retired US Army Quartermaster Officer, I would like to continue my volunteer service to our community.





**Board Member**  
Connie Masuoka

I am a Portland born sansei with over 40 years invested in the Portland JACL. You might say I was born in to JACL, as my parents were both active JACL members. My avocation is being the Oregon group leader to the annual Minidoka Pilgrimage and my regular job is being a general dentist in Portland.



**Board Member**  
Amanda Shannahan

Amanda Shannahan is a mixed-race yonsei. She currently serves as Portland JACL co-president and leads our chapter's Advocacy Committee. She is passionate about community organizing and working with other marginalized communities to achieve social justice. Amanda is a strong advocate for equity in our education systems and has a background in supporting schools to be anti-racist and anti-oppressive. She currently works at the Oregon Health Authority promoting access to sex education across the state.



**Board Member**  
Marleen Wallingford

I am a Sansei who was born and raised in Portland, Oregon. My first job was working as a clerk in my father's bakery in Hillsdale. I graduated from the University of Oregon with a master's degree in speech and language pathology and worked for almost 30 years for Portland Public Schools. As a retired educator, I became active with the Portland JACL, volunteer at the Japanese American Museum of Oregon and am a court appointed advocate for children in the foster care system.



**Board Member**  
Jenny Yamada

As a fourth-generation Japanese American who grew up in Corvallis, I wasn't able to be part of the JA community outside of family gatherings. Inspired to make more connections, I joined the Portland JACL Board in 2020. During my first term, I updated the website, helped implement the email newsletter and participated in the Newsletter and Advocacy Committees. Besides serving on the board, I volunteer at JAMO as a docent and work at a local marketing agency.



# BOARD MEMBER VOTING BALLOT

Here is the slate for new Board Members for the 2022-23 term. The following have been submitted for consideration by the Portland JACL Nominating Committee:

- ☐ Jeff Matsumto- President
- ☐ Christopher Lee - Vice President
- ☐ Heidi Tolentino - Secretary
- ☐ Jillian Toda-Currie- Treasurer
- ☐ Setsy Larouche - Membership

## Board Members at Large:

- ☐ Maki Doolittle
  - ☐ Sachi Kaneko
  - ☐ Weston Koyama
  - ☐ Connie Masuoka
  - ☐ Amanda Shannahan
  - ☐ Spencer Uemura
  - ☐ Marleen Ikeda Wallingford
  - ☐ Jenny Yamada
  - ☐
- 

Please vote for the slate as presented, or write-in suggested officers and Board Members. Please send your completed ballot choices to [jacl@pdxjacl.org](mailto:jacl@pdxjacl.org) or to PO Box 86310 Portland, OR 97286 - no later than 12/30/2021. You may also vote online at: <https://www.pdxjacl.org/election-2021>.



MINORU YASUI LEGACY PROJECT

# 2022 Minoru Yasui Student Contest

**Prompt:** What are the duties, responsibilities, and/or obligations of an individual or group in US society in taking a stand against racism and discrimination?

---

OPEN TO MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

**OVER \$2000 IN PRIZES!**

[www.minoruyasuilegacy.org/student-contest](http://www.minoruyasuilegacy.org/student-contest)

Sponsored by the Minoru Yasui Legacy Project and the Japanese American Museum of Oregon



## Ikoi no Kai - NOVEMBER 2021

1333 SE 28th Ave / 503-238-0775

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
<b>1</b> <b>Kara Age</b> Fried Chicken	<b>2</b> <b>Shrimp &amp; Tofu</b> w/ sweet chili sauce	<b>3</b> <b>X</b>	<b>4</b> <b>Ika Furai</b> Calamari	<b>5</b> <b>Meatballs</b> Pork & Beef in Sukiyaki Sauce
<b>8</b> <b>Tonjiru Udon</b> Pork Soup	<b>9</b> <b>Spring Rolls</b>	<b>10</b> <b>X</b>	<b>11</b> <i>Veteran's Day Lunch</i> <b>Beef Stew</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Salmon Miso Soup</b> w/ Takikomi Gohan (Mixed Rice)
<b>15</b> <b>Ebi Fry</b> Panko Fried Shrimp	<b>16</b> <b>Pork Ramen</b>	<b>17</b> <b>X</b>	<b>18</b> <b>Tori Nanban</b> Chicken w/ Sweet & Sour Sauce	<b>19</b> <b>Rolled Pork Katsu</b> w/ Miso Sauce
<b>22</b> <b>Loco Moco</b> Beef	<b>23</b> <b>Pumpkin Croquette</b>	<b>24</b> <b>X</b>	<b>25</b> <b>CLOSED</b>	<b>26</b> <b>CLOSED</b>
<b>29</b> <b>Agedashi Tofu</b> w/ Mushroom Sauce	<b>30</b> <b>Birthday Sushi</b>			

Cooks: Naomi Molstrom-M Kyoko Adcock-Tu Rieko Shimada-Th/F

New Lunch Prices: \$8 for seniors 65+ / \$9 for under 65 / \$ 5 kids

**Reservations preferred / Walk-ins welcome! / Indoor Dining Limited to 30 guests**

\* For reservations please call and leave a message or email:

(ph) 503-238-0775

(email) ikoinokai7@gmail.com

**\*\* vaccination card and signed COVID waiver will be required in order to dine indoors**





**PORTLAND JACL**  
PO BOX 86310  
PORTLAND, OR 97286

NON PROFIT  
ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PORTLAND, OR  
PERMIT #579

## Time to Renew the Paper Edition of the Newsletter

It has been a year since the Portland JACL newsletter has been sent primarily through an email link. There are still many members who enjoy getting the paper copy of the newsletter instead of reading the issue on-line. We are asking for a suggested donation of \$25 for those that can afford it for 2022. Please fill out the form below if you do not already receive the newsletter by postal mail and would like to. There are a few of you who have already donated money when you renewed your Portland JACL membership. Those funds will be applied to next year's issues. By changing to mostly on-line newsletters, we have been able to save a significant amount of our costs. We still feel it is valuable service for our community to continue to have a regular newsletter and we hope you agree.

<b>Name of JACL Member</b>		<b>Preferred Phone</b>	
		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	

Please return this form to Portland Chapter JACL, PO Box 86310, Portland, OR 97286  
A suggested donation of \$25 per year will help us cover costs.