



# PORTLAND JACL NEWSLETTER

Portland JACL - Supporting Civil Rights Since 1928



• DECEMBER 2022 | VOLUME 28 ISSUE 12 •

## Board Member MESSAGE

by Erika Jennings

Happy December, is it just me or does it seem like this year went by more quickly than expected? I can't believe we are already talking about turning the calendar page to 2023. And speaking of the calendar, wait until you see the beautiful cover artwork, it's absolutely stunning! This is my first year as a member of the Portland JACL board and it's been such an inspiring way to meet new people in the JA community and do a little to make a difference in the Portland area at the same time. As I was thinking about how I could use my time to volunteer and where I could be of the most use, JACL came to mind because I knew of some of the events they were involved with such as the high school senior scholarship luncheon and Mochitsuki. Now that I'm involved as a board member myself, I see that there is so much going on in support of these events, and they are so central to what the JACL is about and how they make the most impact in and around Portland.

As we head into the busy holiday season I'm reflecting on all the events JACL members were able to participate in this past year, both those done virtually and some we actually got to attend in person for the first time in a couple years. For so many in our community, these events are some of the most important social events they attend

*Continued on Pg. 2*

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**December 3**

**Portland JACL Holiday Party**

Oregon Buddhist Temple | 5pm

**December 4**

**Holiday greenery pick-up orders at Epworth**

Methodist Church | 11am-2 pm

**December 6**

**13th Amendment Ratified**

Made slavery illegal in the United States  
except as a punishment for a crime

**December 7, 1941**

**Japan attacks Pearl Harbor**

**December 10**

**Portland Taiko Bonenkai - 7pm**

**Human Rights Day**

**December 15, 1791**

**US Bill of Rights ratified**

**December 18**

**International Migrant's Day**

**December 21**

**Winter Solstice**

**December 25**

**Christmas Day**

**December 26**

**Kwanzaa**

**Continued from Pg. 1**

and are a big part of their lives. Whether that's long-standing exercise classes and lunch at Iko No Kai with friends each week or new events bringing together diverse Asian communities like Tiger Tiger held for the first time this summer. Here is a recap of some of our favorite in-person events from this past year.

In the spring, we hosted a film screening of *Manzanar, Diverted: When Water Becomes Dust* at the NW Film Center. Not only was this a powerful film discussing the issues related to water in the Los Angeles area and how Manzanar is controlled and contributes to that, but we were honored to be joined by a panel of experts to help us engage in a discussion about the film and the issues it revealed. Our panel included the Director and Producer of the film, Ann Kaneko, filmmaker and member of the Bishop-Paiute Tribe, Sky Vasquez, and Director of Environmental and Special Projects Joel Moffett from Native Americans in Philanthropy.

In May we were able to gather together in person to celebrate this year's group of graduating high school seniors who were awarded scholarships. This scholarship banquet is a community favorite and included members of the community who cheered on the students as well as the students themselves along with their families. This is a personal favorite event of mine as my youngest daughter received a scholarship when she started her college journey a few years ago and is graduating from PSU next year! Also in the spring, we had a great turnout of folks to help with the cleaning and refreshing of the Japanese Historical Plaza

downtown. That area is used and visited by so many locals and tourists alike and always looks so welcoming after the hard work of volunteers with shovels and hoses.

A newcomer this year was Tiger Tiger which was a community celebration of AAPI joy, the brainchild of local musician Joe Kye. There were performances by local musicians and artists as well as delicious food and drinks provided by local restaurateurs. Several local community groups were also there to share their mission and resources with attendees. This was a unique event that we hope to see return year after year and become a place for AAPI to enjoy the diversity of our larger community.

August was a busy month for in-person events! We started with another historical plaza clean-up to get the area in tip top shape for the annual Hiroshima and Nagasaki memorial event. As in past years, Oregon Physicians for Social Responsibility organizes this event to honor those whose lives were impacted by the atomic bombings and to make sure we are aware of how nuclear threats are alive today. After missing for two years, we were able to hold our community picnic at Oaks Park this year! There were rides for the kids, old friends and new ones connecting for the first time in years and great food and drink enjoyed by all.

We hope to see you this month at the membership meeting on December 3rd, but if not there, please join us at one of the many community events we have scheduled for 2023. There is truly something for everyone no matter your interest and we look forward to connecting with you.

✕ Happy  December ✕

## Calendar Cover Designed by Local Artist



The Portland JACL is honored to introduce Kanani Miyamoto who was selected to design our calendar cover for 2023. She was really excited and honored to work on the project. For the New Year's design, she wanted to include symbols that would bring luck and positivity for the new year. Much of her personal art work includes many hidden symbols, meaning and connections.

In the calendar design, she included the rabbit for 2023 is the year of the rabbit. The majestic crane, a powerful and loved symbol. Used as a symbol of luck, loyalty and longevity and often called the bird of happiness. The crane was included as a symbol of hope and good fortune in the year 2023. The peony, an elegant flower often viewed as a symbol of luck, bravery and

honor was included as well to give wishes of good luck. She has been interested in traditional textile patterns and their meanings too. In this design she included the seigaiha, blue ocean wave pattern for peace and good fortune. The kikko pattern used represents the tortoise shell and is a symbol of longevity. This was included to hope for long lived peace and prosperity in this new year.

Currently Kanani has been working hard on an installation for Weiden and Kennedy's Caldera offices and hopes to land a couple of solo shows and maybe another public project this coming year. She is an adjunct instructor at Pacific University, Portland Community College, and Pacific Northwest College of Art.

## Sign up to get a Paper Newsletter for 2023

|                         |       |                             |  |
|-------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|--|
| Name of JACL Member     |       | Preferred Phone             |  |
|                         |       | Circle One: ( Home / Cell ) |  |
| Current Address         |       |                             |  |
| 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.

## ❖ Thank You from Portland JACL! ❖

Portland JACL would like to thank everyone listed below for their generous donations during the past year (November 8, 2021 to November 8, 2022) to our programs which include Day of Remembrance, the Nikkei Community Picnic, our ongoing programs for civil rights advocacy, our youth program and scholarships, monthly newsletters, annual calendar, the Minidoka Swing Band, and the Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue advertising. Domo Arigato Gozaimashita! Please note that all donations of \$100 dollars or more are acknowledged by receipt. All others are acknowledged here in our newsletter, in alphabetical order.

- Amazon Smile Program
- Anonymous
- Byron Akita
- Alan Aoki
- Karen Asai
- James & Mary Barnhart
- Maki Doolittle
- Robert Dozono
- Sherry Dudley
- Susan Endecott
- Kay Endo
- Lynn Fuchigami Parks
- Frank & Janet Fujitani
- Tamie Goranson
- Linda Guerber
- Janet Hamada
- Etsuko Harvey
- Wendy Hasuike
- Dan Hinatsu
- Mae Hirata
- Bruce Hori
- Alina Hyde
- Robert & Racheal Inouye
- Grace & Shoun Ishikawa
- Rich & Yoko Iwasaki
- Erika Jennings
- Fude Kagawa
- Yoshie Kagawa
- Dana Kakishita
- Janet & Mark Kakishita
- Heidi & Kirby Kanada
- Robert Kaneko
- Sachi Kaneko
- Curtis Kato
- Michael Kawata
- Ken & Katie Kawazoe
- Alice Kida
- Joni Kimoto
- Nami Koida
- Peter Koida
- Tami Koida
- Michiko Kornhauser
- Richard & Edna Koyama
- Weston Koyama
- Eileen & Mark Lamphere
- Chip & Setsy Larouche
- Chris Lee
- Mariko Locke
- Connie Masuoka
- Christine & Jerry Matsui
- Jean Matsumoto
- Jeff Matsumoto
- Jeff Matsumoto
- Janie Matsushima
- Yoji Matsushima
- Dale and Sandra Mori
- Minami
- Taro Miura
- Richard Miyahira
- Malli Moran
- Matthew Mroczek
- James Nagae
- Lynn Nakamoto & Dr. Jocelyn White
- Peter Nakamura
- Richard Nishimoto
- Ken Nitta
- Kenji Nobori
- Ken Ogawa
- Mari Ohara
- Jere Okada
- Susan Okada
- Janice Okamoto
- Ryoko Okamoto
- Cherie Okano Yokota
- Ken & Tomoko Ono
- Etsuko Osaki
- Frances Palk
- Hatsumi Park
- Jon Payne
- Larry Richardson
- Carolyn Saiget
- Bea & Ken Saito
- Robert & Linda Saito
- June & John Schumann
- Amanda Shannahan
- Richard Shiraishi
- Janet Smith
- State Farm
- Sarah Stevenson
- Bill & Ida Sugahiro
- Michelle Sugahiro
- Frances & Keith Sumida
- Palk
- Robert Suzuki
- SW WA Community Foundation
- Jean Takasumi
- Kirk Tambara
- Katie Tamiyasu
- Linda Tamura
- Takao Taniguchi
- Sandra Tashima
- Gary Terusaki
- Jillian Toda-Currie
- Julia & Yoshiro Tokiwa
- Heidi Tolentino
- Lewis Tomita
- Sue Tomita
- True World Foods
- Amy & James Tsugawa
- Spencer Uemura
- Henry Ueno
- Uwajimaya
- Marleen Wallingford
- Chris Wang
- Del & Beti Ann Wantroba
- Washington County UniServ
- Alice Watanabe
- Dale Watanabe
- May Watari
- Russell Yamada
- Sylvia Yamada
- Jenny Yamada
- Dean Yamamoto
- Jean Yamamoto
- Homer Yasui
- Sharon Yasui Carrell
- Jenna Yokoyama
- Todd & Elaine Yuzuriha
- Robert Zimmerman

*Thank you*



## Yumibe Scholarship Awarded to Sachi Kaneko



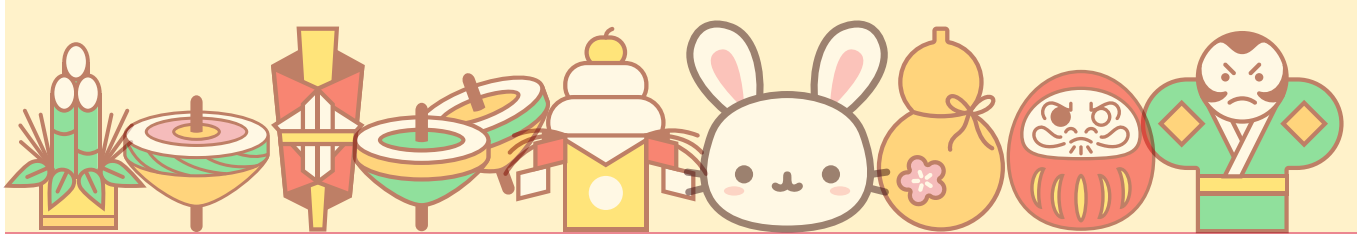
First of all, thank you to the JACL Board and community- it's an incredible honor to be considered for a scholarship of this kind. The financial support is much appreciated, but the gift of validation and emotional support from my community eclipses it.

I am almost halfway through my first year of medical school, and while I can't say that I wake everyday with gratitude (some days are long and some nights way too short), I have never questioned my decision to be here. The first months of school have been filled with firsts: first donning of the short white coat, the first time introducing myself as "student doctor Kaneko" in a simulated patient encounter, the first time cutting a donor patient (i.e. cadaver), and the first time using a stethoscope. These firsts have

often felt like a little kid trying on shoes too big for them and the thought "I'm not ready" has flashed through my brain more than once. However, whenever my own courage falters, I am able to draw on the belief in me that is expressed by my community, my family, my significant other, and all the faculty and staff at Western University of Health Sciences.

Currently, I am searching for research opportunities and trying to figure out what balance looks like in school. I have an interest in psychiatry or neurology, but am waiting for rotations to learn more. However, I would ultimately love to serve minority and other underserved communities. Thank you again for the scholarship!

# OTOSHIDAMA (お年玉) CAMPAIGN



- Give the Gift of a JACL Membership Today! -

Join us in celebrating and honoring the long-standing Japanese tradition of *Otoshidama* by **gifting or renewing** a membership for someone you cherish dearly today.

**Every** new member will receive:



- 1 Power of Words Educational Handbook
- 3 Graphic Stickers
- **1 Free New Year's Issue of the *Pacific Citizen* - Print Edition**
- **ALL** other JACL Membership Benefits



We encourage you to take advantage of this **AMAZING** deal that we are offering at this time:



- \$5 rebate when you gift a 2-year membership
- \$10 rebate when you gift a 3-year membership
- \$150 rebate when you gift a Thousand Club Life membership
- \$250 rebate when you gift a Century Club Life membership

**To gift someone you love, follow the instructions below!**

**Order Online / Learn More:** [jacl.org/otoshidama](http://jacl.org/otoshidama)

**Order by Mail / Questions:** [mbr@jacl.org](mailto:mbr@jacl.org) or (415) 921-JACL (5225) ext. 25



## Ikoi no Kai - DECEMBER 2022

1333 SE 28th Ave / 503-238-0775

| MON  | TUES   |          | THURS   | FRI  |
|--|--|----------|---|--|
|  |  |          | <b>1</b><br><br><b>Sweet &amp; Sour Pork</b><br><i>10:45am Move On Class<br/>12:30pm Bridge/ Hanafuda</i>                 | <b>2</b><br><br><b>Mapo Tofu</b><br>Tofu w/ Ground Pork<br><i>12:45 pm Wreath Making</i> |
| <b>5</b><br><br><b>Ebi Fry</b><br>Fried Shrimp<br><i>Knife Sharpening<br/>11:15am Chair Yoga<br/>12:30pm Mahjong</i> | <b>6</b><br><br><b>Pork Ramen</b><br><br><i>11am Blood Pressure<br/>12:45pm Sing a Long</i>      | <b>X</b> | <b>8</b><br><br><b>Salmon Miso Soup</b><br><i>11am Blood Pressure<br/>11:15am Aikido Stress<br/>Ceramic Bell Workshop</i> | <b>9</b><br><br><b>Chicken Nanban</b><br>Fried Chicken w/ Sauce<br><br><i>Bingo</i>      |
| <b>12</b><br><br><b>Holiday Meal</b><br><i>reservations required<br/>(+\$2)<br/>12:30pm Mahjong</i>                  | <b>13</b><br><br><b>Clam Chowder</b><br><br><i>12:45pm Sing a Long</i>                           | <b>X</b> | <b>15</b><br><br><b>Boiled Dumplings</b><br><i>10:45am Move On Class<br/>12:30pm Bridge/ Hanafuda</i>                     | <b>16</b><br><br><b>Katsu Roll</b><br>Pork<br><br><i>Ohana Lunch</i>                     |
| <b>19</b><br><br><b>Pork Gyoza</b><br><br><i>12:30pm Mahjong</i>   | <b>20</b><br><br><b>Birthday Sushi</b><br><br><i>11am Blood Pressure<br/>12:45pm Sing a Long</i> | <b>X</b> | <b>22</b><br><br><b>CLOSED</b>  | <b>23</b><br><br><b>CLOSED</b>   |
| <b>26</b><br><br><b>CLOSED</b>   | <b>27</b><br><br><b>CLOSED</b>   | <b>X</b> | <b>29</b><br><br><b>CLOSED</b>  | <b>30</b><br><br><b>CLOSED</b>   |

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

**New Lunch Prices: \$8 for seniors 65+ / \$10 for adults under 65 / \$ 5 kids**

**Reservations preferred / Indoor Dining Limited**

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

**(ph) 503-238-0775 (email) ikoinokai7@gmail.com**

**Seating at 11:30 am with lunch served promptly at noon**

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





**PORTLAND JACL**  
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## ❖ Photo Corner ❖



The Hood River American Legion apologized for their racist actions in the aftermath of WWII on Veteran's Day this year. Returning to our homes after the war was challenging. Gary Akiyama shared the story of how his father, George was treated. George went to get a haircut in downtown Hood River wearing his full dress uniform including the medals he earned for bravery in battle but was chased out by the barber saying, "I ought to slit your throat." Hood River became infamous for its treatment of Japanese Americans. The Legion was responsible for vandalizing the monument erected to honor WWII soldiers by crossing out the names of soldiers with a Nikkei or Nikkei sounding name. This received national attention and condemnation.

*Photos by Rich Iwasaki*