Please join me in welcoming the following new members:

E. Rui Motoyoshi  
Lakeville, MN

Tom Edwards  
Lakeville, MN

Terry Anderson  
Bloomington, MN

Terri and Patrick Tompkins  
Chaska, MN

Laura Ramstad  
Cannon Falls, MN

Lauren Halberg  
Chaska, MN

For more information about our chapter, membership and upcoming events go to our website at HYPERLINK "http://www.twincitiesjacl.org" www.twincitiesjacl.org

The Rice Paper is going paperless...
A sharp rise in printing and mailing costs have almost doubled the expense of mailing a hard copy of the newsletter to our membership. Consequently, future Rice Paper editions will be available on our website. Please submit your e-mail address on the website at http://www.twincitiesjacl.org. A Rice Paper distribution list will be created, so that members can be notified when a new issue of the newsletter is available each quarter. If you have any questions regarding the new format, please direct your inquiry to info@twincitiesjacl.org or contact a member of the Board.

Volunteers Needed for the Origami and Ribbon Fish Booth

The Origami and Ribbon Fish booth at the Festival of Nations is in need of volunteers, especially for Friday and Saturday evenings, April 30 and May 1. If you can help us out, please contact Rachel Matsumoto at ramat001@gmail.com or at 612-827-5280. The Festival dates are Thursday, April 29, through Sunday, May 2.
We Need Your Help

The Twin Cities JACL needs volunteers to work at its booth at the Festival of Nations, which takes place from April 29 through May 2. Available shifts are:

* Thursday, April 29
  9 a.m. to 12 noon
  12 noon to 3 p.m.

* Friday, April 30
  9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
  2 to 6 p.m.
  6 to 10 p.m.

* Saturday, May 1
  10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
  2 to 6 p.m.

* Sunday, May 2
  10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
  2 to 6 p.m.

To volunteer for a shift, please contact Joanne Kumagai by e-mail, mailto:joannekumagai@comcast.net or call her at (763) 420-6639.

About the Festival of Nations
This annual event is the largest and longest running multi-cultural festival in Minnesota. It celebrates cultural diversity with food, music, demonstrations, exhibits, and dance.

For more information about the Festival, visit their web site -- http://festivalofnations.com/

---

Mark your calendar:

Festival of Nations:
April 29 through May 2

TC JACL Picnic:
Edina Rosland Park Pavilion
Sunday, August 15
Details to come...
UCLA seeks Japanese American students whose education was interrupted during World War II

Claudia Luther, eluther@support.ucla.edu
310-206-8258

UCLA is searching for Japanese American students from the early 1940s who were forced to interrupt their education at UCLA when federal orders sent Japanese Americans to internment camps during World War II. This historic "wrong" will be righted on May 15, when UCLA bestows honorary degrees on these students.

Some of the former students, most now in their 80s and 90s, are expected to attend the ceremony, and family members will receive diplomas on behalf of others who are unable to attend. Still others will receive diplomas by mail. Many former students are deceased.

Approximately 700 University of California students were affected by the World War II directive, more than 200 of whom attended UCLA. The UC Board of Regents voted last July to suspend its moratorium on honorary degrees in order to recognize the students forced from UC classrooms.

"It's never too late to join with others throughout the nation in recognizing that the mass removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II was wrong," said Don Nakanishi, who is chairman of UCLA's honorary degree task force, professor emeritus and director of the UCLA Asian American Studies Center. "More than 700 UC students had to terminate their studies at UCLA and other campuses, and most never received degrees from these institutions."

Nakanishi added that by honoring these former students, "We acknowledge the many diverse contributions they made to campus life in student government, athletics and academics and formally welcome them back to our academic communities."

The keynote speaker at UCLA's honorary degree event will be state Assemblyman Warren Furutani (D-South Los Angeles County), who carried legislation in the Assembly calling on California's higher education institutions to extend honorary degrees to individuals whose college education was disrupted. The ceremony at UCLA, which is the fourth of the UC campuses to bestow these honorary degrees, will take place on the same day as the campus's annual Alumni Day.

UCLA is encouraging family members and others to help identify UCLA students who were unable to graduate because of internment and is asking that information be sent to Patricia Lippert, associate director of special events and protocol at UCLA:
tricial@support.ucla.edu or 310-794-8604

In addition to Nakanishi and Lippert, the members of the UCLA honorary degree task force are Anita Cotter, UCLA registrar; Margaret Leal-Sotelo, assistant provost in the chancellor's office; Gann Matsuda, technology director of the School Management Program at the Graduate School of Education & Information Studies; Valerie Matsumoto, professor of history and Asian American studies; Karen Nakasato, internal vice president of the Nikkei Student Union; Julie Sina, chief of staff for the College of Letters and Science; and Paul Terasaki, professor emeritus of surgery.

For more news, visit the UCLA Newsroom and follow us on Twitter.