

THE RICE PAPER

A newsletter of the Twin Cities Chapter
of the Japanese American Citizens League

e-mail info@tcjacl.org

website: www.tcjacl.org | February 2016



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Scholarship Committee Holds
One Seat

Scholarship Chair: Pam
Dagoberg: 763-557-2946

From the Board.....

Happy New Year! This year the Twin Cities JACL board has 10 members. We welcome returning board members: Matt Farrells, Gloria Kumagai, Zen Matsuda, Dan Motoyoshi, Lisa Shakerin, Karen Tanaka Lucas, and Matt Walters. Three new board members are Susan Burke, Amy Dickerson, and Amy Kuniyoshi.

Susan Burke has served as a state district court judge in Minneapolis since 2015. She is the first and only Japanese American judge in Minnesota history.

Amy Dickerson is a Sansei born in St. Louis, MO where she attended high school, and was very active in the St. Lois Junior JACL.

Amy Kuniyoshi grew up in Southern California and recently moved to the Twin Cities. Her family has a history of active JACL involvement, and she is carrying on that tradition.

Emily Faber-Densley and Carly Miyamoto are no longer on the board due to other commitments. We thank them for their involvement and hope that they will be able to return as board members in the future.

Karen Tanaka Lucas is chairing our annual fundraiser, the bazaar booth at the Festival of Nations. This is a huge job. Please volunteer to help in any way that you can.

The board continues to work on national JACL's initiative on voter registration. Our goal is for all of our members to be registered to vote.

Our Education Committee is already working on Remembrance Day events for 2017, the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066.

The 2016 board will continue to grapple with moving the Twin Cities chapter forward to further engage current members and recruit new members so that the chapter can continue to grow, thrive, and be relevant to Japanese Americans. As always, the board welcomes input and ideas from you, so don't hesitate to call us. A list of board members and their telephone numbers are in this issue.

Gloria Kumagai
Board Member



History of the Twin Cities JACL Scholarship Program

The local scholarship program had modest beginnings. The Twin Cities Chapter of the JACL was formed in 1947. In 1960, the Twin Cities Chapter of the JACL hosted the Eastern District and Midwest District Convention. The convention was very well attended and financially very successful. Kimi Hara had an idea to start a scholarship program with the convention profits because the young Sansei and Yonsei did not qualify for other minority scholarship programs that existed at that time. Many Issei donated money to our Chapter so that the scholarship program would continue.

The scholarship program for graduating seniors began with the goal to recognize the generation of Sansei and Yonsei for their accomplishments and service to their school or community. The original scholarship applicants had the following traits in common: a willingness to learn, a desire to succeed and the ability to demonstrate this through their accomplishments. The first scholarship awards were made in 1962.

In the 1970's the TC JACL Scholarship program received a large sum of money from the Twin Cities Independent Church, a Japanese Christian church in Northeast Minneapolis, after its sale. It was the wish of the church members that the money be used to encourage further education.

Many of the scholarships that followed were established in memory of the loved ones of JACL members. One of the earliest and longest awarded memorial scholarships was the Earl Tanbara Memorial Scholarship, made in memory of Earl Tanbara, who passed away in 1973. The Earl Tanbara Memorial Scholarship has been awarded to over 40 students through the years. Another long-standing memorial scholarship was established in memory of Susan Tsuchiya Matsumoto who passed away at the young age of 26 in 1980 after a 15 year battle with cancer. This scholarship continues to be awarded to a young person who, like Susan, demonstrates outstanding academic accomplishments, excellence in the arts, and community service. Many other memorial scholarships have been made possible through the generous donations of TC JACL members.

Since the first year the TC JACL scholarships were awarded, the young people that have applied for these scholarships shared the same traits as their predecessors: a willingness to learn, a desire to succeed and the ability to demonstrate this through their accomplishments. The criteria for the scholarship have remained the same over the years: scholastic achievement, community service and extra-curricular activities. If you are interested in learning more about these scholarships, please contact scholarship@tcjacl.org. Donations may be sent to TC JACL Scholarship c/o Connie Tsuchiya, 6431 Mere Drive, Eden Prairie, 55346.

Want to recommend a young person for a Twin Cities JACL Scholarship?

We would like to identify current
high school, middle school, elementary school, and pre-school students!

Please send the
name, address, high school graduation year of your

child / niece / nephew / grandchild / friend

to

scholarship@tcjacl.org

Once received, their name will be added to the scholarship database And they will receive an application during their senior year.

2016 High School Graduate Scholarship Applications Available

Scholarship applications for 2016 high school graduates will be available at the end of January. Please contact Pam Dagoberg at 763-557-2946 (scholarship@tcjacl.org) if you are interested in obtaining a local chapter scholarship application or would like to recommend someone for a scholarship.

Applications will be sent to the following students no later than January 31, 2016:

John Akimoto (St. Paul)
Kevin Anderson (Bloomington Jefferson High School)
Brandon Asao (Chanhasen High School)
Theo Honda (Mound Park Academy)
Julie Iijima (Rochester)
Zach Knight (Delano High School)
Graham Mincks (Robbinsdale Armstrong High School)
Nathan Mukai (Savage)
Rod Takata (St. Louis Park High School)
Aaron Tsuchiya (Eden Prairie High School)



Applications are also available on the twincitiesjacl.org website under the Scholarships tab.

In addition to completing the application form and submitting a transcript, students must write a short essay entitled “The Value of Further Education.”

Applications are evaluated based on:

- Scholastic achievement
- Extracurricular activities
- Community Service
- Essay

Scholarship recipients are required to be current TC JACL members (individual student membership or family membership is required). Membership information can be found at www.twincitiesjacl.org.

Completed applications for local scholarships must be mailed by March 31, 2016.

In addition to the local scholarships, **National JACL scholarships** for entering freshmen are also available. Decisions for awards will be made this summer. Applicants are judged on the basis of their scholastic achievement, extra-curricular activities, community involvement, personal statement and letter of recommendation. Information regarding National JACL scholarships can be found at www.jacl.org. Applications must be mailed by March 1, 2016.



*Santa visits the **JACL Holiday Party**. The kids had great fun with Santa and a donation was made to Toy for Tots.*

Submitted by Emily Faber-Densley

Hello!

We are re-launching a nationwide effort first begun in 2005 to put pressure on the Postmaster General to green light the US commemorative postage stamp that would honor the Nisei WWII veterans. The effort has been stalled for several years by the Postal Service. There is a policy blocking this stamp, and we are trying to get the Postmaster General to work with us.

We need your help.

As our beloved Nisei veterans leave us, we sansei, yonsei, gosei, and friends of the veterans are left to carry the torch. Let's help preserve their legacy through a national stamp that would help teach others in the US, and around the world, about the Nisei veterans of WWII.

We appreciate the past assistance of the Midwest Chapter of the JACL when we began this campaign about ten years ago. Please consider helping us again in the following ways:

1. We are launching an effort for a Congressional Letter of Support in February. Tell your Congress members to sign the upcoming "Dear Colleague" letter supporting the US commemorative stamp featuring the Nisei WWII veterans story. The proposed stamp will either show the veterans, or if that is not allowed, it will feature the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism During WWII, located in Washington, DC. Below I've attached a sample template for the Congressional letter that people can use as they draft their own letter to their members of Congress.
2. Leave a personal testimonial on Facebook of your personal connections and stories related to the Nisei veterans and the internment. This project is tentatively called, "StampOurStory: I Remember." Use #StampOurStory in your post. For details, or to post to our Facebook page, go to <https://www.facebook.com/niseistamp/>. These testimonials will be a way to show support for the stamp, and it will be used as an ongoing memorial for the upcoming 75th anniversary remembering the Internment next year, the Day of Remembrance 2017. We plan on collecting these personal recollections over this whole year.
3. Get word out about this campaign through your social media outlets, newsletters, news media outlets, friends and family, and so on. Please follow and like us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/niseistamp/>, Twitter (@StampOurStory) <https://twitter.com/StampOurStory>, , and on our website, www.NiseiStamp.org. We will launch our new URL, www.StampOurStory.org next month as well, but people can still use www.NiseiStamp.org.
4. Tell your friends and family about the campaign, and tell organizations that you might be affiliated with to help.

Thank you for your past support, and let's renew our efforts now to get this done soon! We are pushing for the stamp to be issued next year, the 75th memorial of the WWII internment camps, and the signing of Executive Order 9066.

To read an article on the campaign from December 2015, go to <http://www.rafu.com/2015/12/stamp-campaign-meeting-remembers-ja-wwii-vets/>. The article tells about the alternative that is being promoted if a veterans stamp continues to be blocked. This stamp would feature the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism During WWII, located in Washington, DC.

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you. Best Regards,

Wayne Osako
Co-Chair/Coordinator
Stamp Our Story: Nisei WWII Veterans Stamp Campaign
Cell [714-222-6530](tel:714-222-6530)
Web: www.NiseiStamp.org (Soon to be www.StampOurStory.org)
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/niseistamp/>
Twitter: <https://twitter.com/StampOurStory>
#StampOurStory

Date: _____

Congress Member: _____

Address: _____

Re: Request to Sign the “Dear Colleague” Letter Supporting
U.S. Commemorative Stamp featuring the Japanese American “Nisei” WWII
Veterans Story

Dear Sir or Madam:

Please support the U.S. commemorative postage stamp proposal that tells the inspiring story of the Japanese American World War II veterans. They overcame prejudice at home and adversity abroad to become one of the most decorated veteran groups in our history.

Please sign the Congressional “Dear Colleague” letter of support directed to Postmaster General Megan Brennan. This letter strongly urges Ms. Brennan to honor these veterans of World War II.

This is a matter of national interest and has received favorable press coverage nationwide and on social media.

Please honor these veterans and help make this stamp a reality soon.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Signed: _____

Printed Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Twin Cities JACL Education Committee 2015 Year in Review

The year 2015 was another very busy, productive year for the Education Committee, with many activities, events and speaking engagements.

MIS Photographic Exhibition

One of our main activities was co-sponsoring the photographic exhibit titled, "Japanese Americans in the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) during World War II," produced by the National Japanese American Historical Society and the MIS Association of Northern California in San Francisco. In partnership with the Minnesota Historical Society (MHS), the exhibit was displayed at the Historic Fort Snelling Visitors Center from April 24th to October 31st. Funding was provided by the generous donations from our membership and an on-line silent auction of vintage items donated by Phyllis Jokyll, Louise Platt, Wayne and Jean Takeshita, Steve Ozone, and others.

On May 17, we held a well-attended opening ceremony, emceed by Carolyn Nayematsu, with speakers Stephen Elliott, Executive Director of MHS; Sally Sudo; and exhibit curator Eric Saul. Karen Tanaka-Lucas, Joyce Yoshimura-Rank, and Gail Yanari Wong honored the MIS by speaking about their MIS veteran fathers. Major General Paul Nakasone gave a keynote address, and Tom Pfannenstiel, Site Manager, Fort Snelling Visitors Center gave closing statements. Also participating in the program were four Honor Guard Air Force Junior ROTC from Park High School, Cottage Grove, MN; Kasumi Lucas (great-grandfather was Walter Tanaka, MIS veteran) who led the Pledge of Allegiance; and Sheena Janson, Mu Performing Arts, who sang the National Anthem.

An educational panel discussion featuring MIS veterans Edwin "Bud" Nakasone and Albert Yamamoto, moderated by MHS Historian Steve Osman, was held on September 12. *St. Paul Pioneer Press* published an article by writer Maja Beckstrom on September 11 titled, "Japanese Americans recall World War II Fort Snelling military language operations," which publicized the event and highlighted Bud Nakasone's role in the MIS.

Other publicity about the MIS exhibit included:

- May 10, 2015, *Star Tribune* - "Minnesota history: Secret military language school at Fort Snelling getting recognition," by reporter Curt Brown.
- May 20, 2015: Fox 9 - "Fort Snelling had a secret Japanese language school during WWII," by reporter Jonathan Choe.
- May 22, 2015: MPR News - "Secret Weapons' of WWII: Exhibit spotlights Japanese-American linguists, by reporters Nancy Yang and Britta Greene.
- June 29, 2015: *Pacific Citizen* - "Bridges to the Past: Military Intelligence Service in Minnesota," by Twin Cities JACL Education Committee member Matthew Walters.

According to the exhibit comment book signed by over 900 guests, visitors represented 41 states and Washington, D.C., and 20 foreign countries.



Featured panelists, Edwin (Bud) Nakasone and Albert Yamamoto, sharing their experiences serving as MIS soldiers at Historic Fort Snelling Visitors Center, Sept. 12, 2015.

Teacher Training Workshop

On April 24, we hosted an all-day training session for educators on "Constitutional Vigilance in Times of Crisis" at the Historic Fort Snelling Visitors Center. This workshop was funded by a grant awarded to the National JACL by the National Park Service, Japanese American Confinement Sites program. The Twin Cities was one of five sites selected by the National JACL Education Committee to host a workshop. The facilitators were Greg Marutani, National JACL Education Director, and Sharon Ishii-Jordan, Associate Dean, Creighton University, Omaha, NE.

As part of the workshop, Lucy Kirihaara, Sylvia Farrells, and Bud Nakasone served as panelists, sharing their WWII experiences. In addition, Abdisalam Adam, from the Office of Multicultural Learning at St. Paul Public Schools, and Yusef Ali, Executive Director of Best Academy East, were panelists who talked about their experiences in the Twin Cities as Muslim Americans. Our Twin Cities site had the largest participation of any of the five locations, with 34 educators and others registered.



Greg Marutani speaks to educators at the teacher training workshop on the Japanese American WWII Experience, held at Historic Fort Snelling Visitors Center, April 24, 2015.

Asian Pacific Legal Exhibit and Korematsu Program

Sally Sudo met with members of the Minnesota Asian Pacific American Bar Association to help them prepare a traveling exhibit titled, "Asian Pacific Legal Experience in America." The opening reception was held on May 20 at the U.S. Courthouse Atrium, Minneapolis, MN. Karen Korematsu, daughter of Fred Korematsu, was the keynote speaker. She visited the MIS photographic exhibition, along with Judge Tony Leong and members of the Minnesota chapter of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association.

The Education Committee provided support for the re-enactment of the Fred Korematsu Case, "A Man of Quiet Bravery," performed by Minnesota State and Federal judges and attorneys at the Federal District Court, Minneapolis, MN. Twin Cities JACL former internees were recognized. Karen Korematsu gave remarks about her father after the re-enactment.

During her trip to Minnesota, Karen Korematsu (in plaid red coat) visited the MIS photographic exhibit at Historic Fort Snelling Visitors Center, accompanied by members of the Minnesota chapter of the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (MN-NAPABA) and Twin Cities JACL Education Committee, May 20, 2015. Pictured L-R are: Keiko Sugisaka, Emily Faber-Densley, Magistrate Judge Tony Leong, Karen Korematsu (daughter of civil rights activist, Fred Korematsu), Karen Tanaka Lucas, Carolyn Nayematsu, Janet Carlson, and Sally Sudo.



Speaking Engagements

Although President Roosevelt issued his Executive Order 9066 seventy-four years ago, the topic of the removal of persons of Japanese ancestry from their west coast homes and placement into American prison camps has never been discussed as much as it has been in recent months, primarily due to the rhetoric of candidates campaigning to be the next President of the United States. With recent acts of terrorism, the fear mongering against Muslim and Arab Americans is reminiscent of the atmosphere following Pearl Harbor. That is why it is still relevant to remind Americans of our history, so the same mistake is not repeated. We have been busy filling requests for speakers on the topic of the experience of Japanese Americans during World War II.

Requests for speakers this year were as follows:

- January 15 - Sally Sudo spoke to Miss Branderhorst's English class at Calvin Christian High School, Fridley.
- March 12 - Sylvia Farrells spoke to a DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution) group in Eden Prairie.
- March 16 and 18 - Sally Sudo spoke to 4 classes for Mr. Mark Bray, Eden Prairie High School.
- April 15 - Sally Sudo spoke to three classes of Asian Studies for Amanda Adams at Eagan High School.
- April 20 - Sally Sudo spoke at University of St. Thomas School of Law as part of the "Perspectives" event series, presented by the St. Thomas Asian Pacific Association Law Students Association.
- July 15 - Albert Yamamoto spoke at the Wayzata Rotary Club.
- October 13 - Sally Sudo spoke at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church Senior Group, Bloomington.
- October 23 - Karen Tanaka Lucas spoke to a class at the University of MN and accompanied students to view the MIS exhibit at Fort Snelling.
- November 5 - Sally Sudo spoke at a DAR Luncheon, Richfield American Legion.
- December 2 - Sally Sudo spoke to three classes (3rd-5th grades) at Highlands Elementary School, Edina.
- December 7 - Sylvia Farrells and Sally Sudo participated in "Coffee Talks" at Bloomington Creekside Community Center.

An interview of Sylvia and Sally was filmed by the Bloomington Community TV Channel on December 7, and posted on YouTube. Visit: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XUY5L6l-zb8>



Sally Sudo speaking at Highlands Elementary School in Edina, December 2, 2015.



Speakers Sylvia Farrells and Sally Sudo at Bloomington Creekside Community Center, December 7, 2015.



Networking with other Japanese American associations, December 11, 2015

L to R: Dean Potter (freelance writer), Jo Ann Blatchley (President of the St. Paul-Nagasaki Sister City Committee), Gloria Kumagai, Ben van Lierop (Executive Director, Japan America Society of Minnesota), Sally Sudo, and Janet Carlson.

Materials and Resources

The following resources and materials have been added to the Twin Cities JACL collection:

DVD “Stand Up for Justice: The Ralph Lazo Story” 33 min.

Based on the true story of a 17 yr. old Mexican American boy who leaves his family to enter an American concentration camp with his Japanese American classmates in WWII.

BOOKS

Arrington, Leonard J: *The Price of Prejudice: The Japanese American Relocation Center in Utah during WWII*

Corbett, P. Scott: *Quiet Passages; The Exchange of Civilians between the United States and Japan during the Second World War*

Lee, Erika: *The Making of Asian America: A History*

Maki, Mitchell T., Kitano, Harry H.L., and Berthold, S. Megan: *Achieving the Impossible Dream*

Matsuoka, Jack: *Poston Camp II Block 211*

Moulin, Peter: *American Samurais WWII Camps: From USA Concentration Camps to the Nazi Death*

Moulin, Pierre: *American Samurais WWII in Europe*

Moulin, Pierre: *American Samurais WWII in the Pacific: Military Intelligence Service*

Odo, Franklin, editor: *The Columbia Documentary History of the Asian American Experience*

Reeves, Richard: *Infamy: The Shocking Story of the Japanese American Internment in World War II*

Robinson, Greg: *By Order of the President: FDR and the Internment of Japanese Americans*

Russell, Jan Jarbor: *The Train to Crystal City: FDR’s Secret Prisoner Exchange Program and America’s Only Family Internment Camp During WWII*



Members of the TC JACL Education Committee.

L to R: Lucy Kiriara, Janet Carlson, Cheryl Hirata-Dulas, Joyce Miyamoto, Lillian Grothe, Steve Ozone, Carolyn Nayematsu, Sally Sudo, Sylvia Farrells, Karen Lucas, and Gloria Kumagai. Missing: Bud Nakasone.

Upcoming Events/Plans

The Twin Cities Education Committee is currently in the planning stages for commemorating the 75th anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066, which took place on February 19, 1942. The Minnesota Historical Society and Macalester College will be co-sponsoring some of our events. We will be looking for sources of grant funding for help with expenses.

Our future plans include the following:

- 1) January - March 2017 - Exhibition of Roger Shimomura's lithographs, focusing on camp-themed prints, co-sponsored by Macalester College Art Department.
- 2) February 19, 2017 - Commemoration of the 75th Anniversary of Executive Order 9066, co-sponsored by the Minnesota Historical Society. Rick Shiomi of Full Circle Theater and TC JACL youth will be featured in the presentation, and Kogen Taiko will perform.
- 3) Spring 2017 - We are looking into bringing a one-actor show about Gordon Hirabayashi, "Hold These Truths," and/or a reading about Hirabayashi by Rick Shiomi to a stage in the Twin Cities.
- 4) Spring 2017 - We are exploring another co-sponsorship with the Minnesota Historical Society using space at Historic Fort Snelling Visitors Center for a photographic exhibition. Possibilities include: "Gambatte: Legacy of an Enduring Spirit" by Paul Kitagaki, or "America's Concentration Camps" from the National Japanese American Historical Society in San Francisco.

In addition, we have been asked to collaborate on two other initiatives if they are funded.

- 1) *"Communities of Courage and Compassion"* - National Park Service, Japanese American Confinement Sites Program grant submitted by the Go For Broke (GFB) Educational Foundation, Torrance, CA. Gordon Nakagawa and Cheryl Hirata-Dulas participated in a conference call with Barbara Watanabe and Chris Brusette of GFB, and Gordon wrote a letter of support for the project.
- 2) *"Toward Equal Justice Under the Law: From Confinement Sites to Mass Incarceration"* - National Park Service, Japanese American Confinement Sites Program grant submitted by the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, headquartered in New York, in collaboration with the Fort Snelling Historic Site and Minnesota Historical Society.

Thank you to the following committee members for their time and commitment in 2015: Janet Carlson, Rachel Endo, Sylvia Farrells, Lillian Grothe, Cheryl Hirata-Dulas, Lucy Kirihaara, Gloria Kumagai, Karen Tanaka Lucas, Joyce Miyamoto, Gordon Nakagawa, Carolyn Nayematsu, Sally Sudo, and Matt Walters. Special advisors to our group are Edwin "Bud" Nakasone, and Steve Ozone. We are working tirelessly on behalf of the TC JACL.

After 20 years of chairing this committee, Sally Sudo has passed the duties on to Carolyn Nayematsu and Janet Carlson who will serve as co-chairs. We also welcome aboard new committee members Gordon Nakagawa and Teresa Swartz. Questions or comments can be directed to any of the committee members. Donations (which are tax deductible) are always greatly appreciated. Checks can be made payable to "TC JACL Education Committee," and mailed to the TC JACL treasurer as follows:

Janet Carlson
11270 12th St. N.
Lake Elmo MN 55042

The Minnesota Historical Society is working on a major plan to improve the visitor experience at Historic Fort Snelling in time for the fort's bicentennial in 2020.

The history of this region is not limited to the fort itself. While the construction of the historic fort began in 1820, the history of the site begins much earlier. This place – at the junction of the Minnesota and Mississippi Rivers – has been significant for millennia to many American Indian communities.

The first phase of the larger vision for Historic Fort Snelling consists of upgraded facilities in preserved historic buildings and more diverse use of the site through improved landscaping and connectivity to surrounding destinations such as Fort Snelling State Park and the river confluence. This enhanced use of space will support new exhibits and programming, allowing visitors to experience the site's many stories, making the site more inclusive for all Minnesotans.

Project Goals

1. Create a major destination by integrating the singular importance of the site, diverse experiences, and synergies with the greater Fort Snelling district.
2. Develop inclusive and enduring visitor experiences that connect people to the place, its many stories, and each other.
3. Connect with local communities by co-creating programs and exhibits and share use of space.
4. Attract and engage existing and new audiences.
5. Enhance the guest experience through improved wayfinding within the site and throughout the district, improved site aesthetics, and improved physical accessibility.
6. Create a sustainable operating model.



To achieve these goals, the Minnesota Historical Society is requesting \$34 million from the State of Minnesota and plans to raise an additional \$12 million in private funds from individuals across the state.

It is crucial that the Minnesota Historical Society hear from Minnesota citizens about what would make Historic Fort Snelling more accessible to them and more meaningful in their lives and the lives of their communities. To learn more and share your thoughts, visit <http://www.mnhs.org/rememberfortsnelling>.

In 2020 Historic Fort Snelling will commemorate its bicentennial. The Minnesota Historical Society is embarking on a major initiative to reintroduce this dramatic area to Minnesotans and history lovers worldwide. We need your thoughts and input to help ensure that all the fort's stories and history are told. On Tuesday, February 16th from 6:00 to 7:30 we are holding a focus group meeting in our Visitor Center hear what you have to say. The meeting will be very informal with a series of questions to help with our discussion. It is very important that we hear from many communities and individuals as we plan exhibit and programs. If you are interested in attending or have questions please email me (tom.pfannenstiel@mnhs.org) or call my office 612-725-2430. I look forward to seeing you on the 16th.

Tom Pfannenstiel
Site Manager - Historic Fort Snelling

RICE PAPER

2016 FESTIVAL OF NATIONS

The Festival of Nations will be held, Thursday, May 5 through Sunday, May 8, 2016

Thursday, May 5 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Friday, May 6 from 9:30 am to 10:00 pm

Saturday, May 7 from 10:00 am to 10:00 pm

Sunday, May 8 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm



Due to complications and problems with registration of volunteers last year, we will **not** be using the on line volunteer sign up. If you are interested in volunteering Joyce Miyamoto will sending out an e-mail requesting volunteer signups in March or April.



Dancers Needed:

The Sansei Yonsei Kai is looking for children dancers, ages K - 8th grade, to learn Sakura, a fun and easy dance. Sansei Yonsei Kai will represent the Japanese community and participate in the Festival of Nations in May.

To join, or for more information, please contact Linda Hashimoto Van Dooijeweert at linda@urbantravelertransit.com.

Terry Kiriara's Tennis Team Wins at Nationals

Terry Kiriara was pictured (4th from left) with his teammates on the front cover of the December 2015 issue of *Northern Exposure* (US Tennis Association-Northern League magazine) after his 6.0 55 & over men's team won the 2015 USTA League National Championships in Surprise, Arizona on October 25. The team practiced weekly for several months, and their hard work on strategy, position, and consistency paid off. Congratulations on a championship season!

Submitted by Cheryl Hirata-Dulas





Congratulations to Erik Dagoberg! (son of Pam & Tim Dagoberg.)

Note: The musical's six-show run previously took place in November 2015.

To read the full article in its entirety, please go to the following link-

<http://sailor.mnsun.com/2015/11/09/be-their-guest-wayzata-high-readies-fall-musical-beauty-and-the-beast/>

Be their guest: Wayzata High readies fall musical, 'Beauty and the Beast'

Published November 9, 2015 at 8:00 am by [Jason Jenkins](#)

The Wayzata High School Theatre department is a handful of days away from raising the curtain on its fall musical, "Beauty and the Beast."

The play, based on the 1991 animated Disney film, tells the story of Belle, a young woman who feels out of place in her small village. After her father is imprisoned in a mysterious castle, Belle meets the Beast, a former prince who was transformed into a monster by an enchantress long ago. The only way for the Beast to become human again is if he learns to love and be loved in return.

Playing opposite Belle will be junior Erik Dagoberg as the Beast. An actor since fifth grade, Erik said his interest in performing was sparked by a simple notion.

"It started as something that was just kind of fun to do, but it's turned into something that's not just a pastime,"

Erik said. "It's a way to get rid of anxiety or act those tough days out."

Erik has also been a regular performer in plays in the school district and with Blue Water. This past summer, he also took on the role of Anthony in the two-person play, "I and You," through Minneapolis' Mixed Blood Theatre.

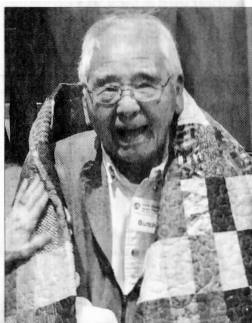
Encouraged by his parents and Blue Water Theater Director and founder Charlie Leonard to audition for the role, Erik said the Beast has been unlike any part he's played before.

"Most people think of the Beast as being a big creature who just hates everything and yells at everybody, but when you get to know the character, there are glimpses of sadness. ... He believes he's never going to become human again, which has caused him to fall far from humanity," Erik said. "There are also little bits of charm. ... So, that's kind of the tough part – to know when I'm supposed to be upset, depressed or trying to be charming."

It's one of the many challenges of live theatre, Erik added, that's as thrilling for him as it is for the other actors, director and crew involved in piecing together the fall musical.

"We're all excited and nervous and super happy at the same time," he said. "It's a lot of emotions, but we'll be ready."

Submitted by Jan Kiriara Monson



Hisashi "Butch" Kumagai served with World War II's famed 442nd Regimental Combat Team.



Glen Naze was a flight engineer on a B-24 bomber and a POW in World War II.



Joseph Noe is a Navy veteran of the Vietnam War, having done duty as a submarine chaser.

A warm salute to Minnesota veterans

The city of Hopkins surprised 54 veterans Thursday at its Salute to Vets luncheon with quilts handmade by volunteers from Quilts of Valor. The group's mission is "to cover service members and veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor." Minnesota's Quilts of Valor volunteers last year bestowed more than 1,000 quilts on veterans — the most of any state. Veterans Day is this Wednesday, Nov. 11.

JOHN REINAN

Submitted by Gloria Kumagai

Rick Shiomi: McKnight's 2015 Distinguished Artist

Hi to my JA community!

The McKnight Foundation has printed a book on my award and are offering free copies to friends and associates, so I wanted to offer you this opportunity to receive a copy. Just go below and hit the pdf to download or request a copy button and they will send a copy.

Thank you again for all your support and hope you enjoy the book.

Rick

THE MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION

Rick Shiomi, McKnight's 2015 Distinguished Artist



Minnesota thrives when its artists thrive! The McKnight Foundation supports working artists to create and contribute to vibrant communities. Each year, the McKnight Distinguished Artist Award recognizes one Minnesota artist whose lifetime of artistic achievement has enriched our state's cultural life.

We are excited to share a recently released [commemorative book](#) celebrating this year's Distinguished Artist, Rick Shiomi — Minnesota playwright, director, producer, theater artist, and musician.

To request a copy e-mail:
seisentrager@mcknight.org

Click here:

[To Download the PDF](#)

Submitted by Chris Noonan

Congratulations to Rick Shiomi, who received the prestigious 2015 McKnight Distinguished Artist Award. He was honored at a reception held at the Minnesota History Center on December 14, 2015. Pictured (l to r): Chris Noonan, Rick Shiomi, Karen Tanaka Lucas, Judy Murakami, George Murakami, Gloria Kumagai, Janet Carlson, Steve Savitt, Carolyn Nayematsu, Cheryl Hirata-Dulas, and Jim Carlson.



Submitted by Cheryl Hirata-Dulas

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