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# The Rice Paper

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

email: [info@tcjacl.org](mailto:info@tcjacl.org)

website: [www.tcjacl.org](http://www.tcjacl.org) | @TwinCitiesJACL

## January 2022

## PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

明けましておめでとうございます！今年もよろしくおねがいします。

Happy New Year! I look forward to continuing to work with you this year.

It is my honor to welcome you into the year 2022. It's still too early to say what kind of a year it will be, but I hope you will join me in some cautious optimism that it will be better than the last two. Please continue masking, social distancing, and testing so we finish getting through this together and pursuing justice for all.

With the new year, we are welcoming four new members to the TCJACL Executive Board: Sylvia Farrells is your esteemed Rice Paper editor and a long-time member of our Scholarship and Education Committees. Ryan Sudo is an Operations & Events Coordinator with the Coalition of Asian American Leaders (CAAL), an active member of our Social Justice Committee, and the grandson of the revered Sally Sudo. Jonathan Kent is a longtime political & community organizer and an active member of our Social Justice Committee. Ammanda Nietz got involved with TCJACL through the Education Committee's Next Generations workshop series on exploring and sharing our family histories.

Please also join me in bidding a fond farewell to those board members who have decided to move on from the board and thanking them for their years of service to our community: Matthew Farrells, Phillip Nomura, and Teresa Schwartz have been a part of the TCJACL family for many years and generously shared their time, experience, and passion with us on the Executive Board. We would not be where we are today without each of their contributions, and I want to thank them each for helping me navigate my first year as chapter president. Going forward, I know they all plan to remain involved with our chapter, and I am looking forward to seeing them at our upcoming events.

You'll find more information about some of the great things we have planned for this year in the following pages. As always, stay tuned for our exciting Day of Remembrance programming in February. And then around Memorial day, look out for the grand opening of the highly-anticipated new Historic Fort Snelling Visitor Center, which will include several events in partnership with the Minnesota Historical Society and high-profile speakers including Dale Minami, who headed the legal team that overturned the conviction of Fred Korematsu. Throughout the year, we will have various events, activities, and opportunities to get involved in your chapter and its various committees, so make sure you're on our email list! And of course, please look out for our new fundraising campaigns in an effort to make the chapter more financially sustainable. You can find more information at [www.tcjacl.org/donate](http://www.tcjacl.org/donate). And as always, please do not hesitate to contact us if there is anything we can do to better serve you and our community.

お陰様で。

We are what we are thanks to you.

In solidarity,



## POSTPONED AGAIN

I know that you just couldn't wait for a serving of Kimi Hara's delicious sukiyaki! Unfortunately, you will have to wait a little while longer. The original plan was for the Sukiyaiki Lunch to be held in November 2021, but COVID-19 appeared, so the lunch was postponed to February 2022, in conjunction with a Day of Remembrance event. Again, the COVID variants appeared, so the lunch was again postponed with no new date yet decided.

The Sukiyaiki Lunch Committee wants to ensure that everyone who attends can enjoy this fine meal, as well as company and conversations, will be able to do so safely. You will be invited when it is safe to do

## CONDOLENCES TO THE TAKEKAWA FAMILY

John (Dimpy) Akira Takekawa



John (Dimpy) Takekawa, a long-time member of the Twin Cities JACL, passed away on November 5, 2021, at the age of 98 years. He was preceded in death by his wife of over 70 years, Phyllis, and their daughter, Joyce. He is survived by his daughters, Carol (Dick) Dean and Susan (Curt) Nelson, and son, Scott (Sue) Takekawa, 7 grandchildren, and 13 great grandchildren.

John split his time between family functions (baseball games, dance, concerts and dinners) and serving the church in different capacities with wife, Phyllis, to enhance the Japanese Nikkei lives with a variety of outings, along with his long-time passion for playing golf. He started the "putting golf circuit" at Friendship Village to share with his fellow residents. Right down to the end of his life, he was both a doer and a consummate gentleman, concerned about others. He will be missed by his whole family!

*Takekawa cont.*

A memorial service was held on December 18, 2021, at the Cremation Society led by the Reverend Laurie Pound Feille, minister of First Christian Church where John was a member for over 70 years. Interment will be at Fort Snelling National Cemetery, located in Minneapolis, MN, in the spring of 2022.

*Submitted by Carol Takekawa Dean*

## **The Twin Cities JACL Scholarship Program**

### **2022 High School Graduate Scholarship Applications Available**

Twin Cities JACL scholarship applications for 2022 high school graduates are available on the [tcjacl.org](https://tcjacl.org) website under the Scholarships tab and will be mailed by the end of January. Please contact Pam Dagoberg at 763-557-2946 ([scholarship@tcjacl.org](mailto:scholarship@tcjacl.org)) if you are interested in receiving 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, 2022:

Maximillian Bly (Irondale High School)	Seijin Klepp
Lillian Ewoldt (Burnsville High School)	Kenji Scales (Eastview High School)
Austin Ryoto Finney (Eden Prairie High School)	Zack Sinnink (Hopkins High School)
Madalyn Hintermeister (Richfield High School)	Ryder MakEdinato Sitcawich (East Ridge High School)
Melanie Hirabayashi	Kai Taft (Edina High School)

In addition to completing the application form and submitting a transcript, students must write a short essay entitled "The Relevance of JACL Today."

Applications are evaluated based on:

- Scholastic achievement
- Extracurricular activities
- Community Service
- Essay

In addition to other available scholarships, students may apply for the Twin Cities JACL Service Scholarship. This scholarship will be awarded to a student who has demonstrated outstanding JACL volunteerism. Students may choose to apply for this specific scholarship. If applicants are not selected for this scholarship, they will be considered for other awards.

Scholarship recipients must be current Twin Cities JACL members (individual student membership or family membership is required). Membership information can be found at [www.tcjacl.org](https://www.tcjacl.org). Completed applications for Twin Cities JACL scholarships must be postmarked by April 1, 2022.

## **2021 Undergraduate/Graduate Scholarship Awards**

Undergraduate and Graduate level scholarships were recently awarded to two Twin Cities JACL members currently pursuing Bachelors, Masters and/or PhD programs.

**Haruka Yukioka** (they, them) was awarded the **2021 Japanese America Citizens League Twin Cities Chapter Undergraduate Scholarship**. Haruka is pursuing their Instrumental Music Education degree from the University of Minnesota, with minors in Asian American Studies and Racial Justice in Urban Schools. Haruka has been studying violin since they were 3 years old and has enjoyed being able to use the opportunities that their family and community had that allowed them to provide access to music for others, which led them to pursue music education as a degree. They are passionate about identifying ways to ‘share music and everything it has the power to do to children who might not be able to access it otherwise.’ They believe that we all got to where we were because a teacher believed in us, and they hope to be that teacher for someone else.

**Joseph Pedtke** (he, him) was awarded the **2021 Japanese America Citizens League Twin Cities Chapter Tom and Reiko Ohno Memorial Graduate Scholarship**. Joseph is pursuing his Economics PhD from the University of Minnesota after receiving his Math/Statistics and Economics degree from Carleton College in 2014. Joseph has found the last few years illuminating, not only for what he has learned in his graduate program, but because of the heightened attention placed on issues plaguing our social and economic systems. For him, economics provides a set of tools to assess real-world issues with the capacity to improve decision making and public policy. He would like to better understand what causes and propagates economic inequalities and policies that can improve welfare and diminish inefficiencies. As such, his research studies incorporate interactions of the following trends in the economy – rising inequality, changing household composition, technological change, and the reallocation of economic activity across sectors.

If you are interested in learning more about available scholarships, please contact [scholarship@tcjacl.org](mailto:scholarship@tcjacl.org). Donations may be sent to TC JACL Scholarship c/o Fred Tsuchiya, 5311 Scenic Heights Drive, Minnetonka, MN, 55345.

## **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 essentially 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](mailto:scholarship@tcjacl.org). Donations may be sent to TC JACL Scholarship c/o Red Tsuchiya, 5311 Scenic Heights Drive, Minnetonka, MN 55435.

*Submitted by Pam Ohno Dagoberg, TCJACL Scholarship Chair*

## **2022 National JACL Scholarship Program Guidelines**

*Please note: The National JACL Scholarships are not the same as the Twin Cities JACL scholarships. Each program has its own application form with different requirements.*

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) announced that the 2022 National Scholarship and Awards Program is now underway. The JACL annually offers approximately 30 college scholarships for students who are incoming college freshmen, undergraduates and graduates, and those specializing in law and the creative/performing arts. There are also financial aid scholarships for those demonstrating a need for financial assistance.

Scholarship Program guidelines, instructions, and applications have been posted on the JACL website, [www.jacl.org](http://www.jacl.org), and can be accessed by clicking the "Programs" tab on the menu bar. You may also click the button below "To Learn More or Apply Click Here."

Continuing from the 2021 program, the application forms for the scholarship program will be completely online. Freshman applications must be submitted directly by the applicant to National JACL through the online form no later than March 4, 2022, 11:59 p.m. Hawaiian Standard Time (HST).

These freshman applications will then be disseminated to their respective chapters for review. Chapters will have one month to evaluate their applications and forward the names of the most outstanding applicants to National JACL. It is these applications that shall be forwarded to the National Freshman Scholarship Committee for final selection.

Applications for the non-freshman scholarship categories (undergraduate, graduate, law, creative/performing arts, and financial aid) are also to be sent directly by the applicant to National JACL through the online form no later than April 1, 2022, 11:59 p.m. Hawaiian Standard Time (HST).

All those applying to the National JACL Scholarship Program must be a youth/student or individual member of the JACL; a couple/family membership held by a parent does NOT meet this requirement. Applicants must be enrolled in school in Fall 2022 in order to be eligible for a scholarship. If a student has received two National scholarship awards previously, they are no longer eligible to apply as the limit is two national awards per person.

For more information on the National JACL Scholarship Program, contact Scholarship Program Manager, Matthew Weisbly at [scholarships@jacl.org](mailto:scholarships@jacl.org) or [Click for more info.](#)



## Stories from the Sunday Tribune Minnesota History Page

Articles by Curt Brown

From the Star Tribune, Sunday, May 16, 2021 – Hannah Hayano Semba, 95, received her high school diploma at her alma mater, Mount Vernon High in Washington. She had asked her son, Charles, that she wanted to visit the state of Washington, where as the fifth of seven children, she lived with her family 60 miles north of Seattle.

After the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941, she and her family were sent to Heart Mountain concentration camp in Wyoming. There she attended school taught by Quaker volunteers, but was not able to graduate with her Class of 1944 from Mount Vernon High.

While visiting in May 2021, her son, along with Mount Vernon High school officials, secretly planned a surprise for her. Instead of just “picking up her diploma” at the school, she was presented with a green cap and gown, two floral bouquets and her diploma. Try going to [tinyurl.com/Sembagrad](https://tinyurl.com/Sembagrad) to see a 17-minute video of the event.

From the Star Tribune, October 31, 2021 – Edward “Ed” Yamazaki, a U.S. Navy veteran, owned Ed’s Sandwich Shop in north Minneapolis which was closed after the Pearl Harbor bombing in December 1941. Although he was born in Japan in 1881, he had served as a Navy steward’s mate from 1906-1908, but the Treasury Department considered him a foreign national. Fortunately his business neighbors urged the government to let Ed open his shop under certain contingencies.

After emigrating to the U.S. as an 18 year old in 1900, he survived the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, managed a YMCA in Brooklyn, NY while studying violin, and then served a 2-year stint as a steward serving officers by cooking and cleaning. He finally became a U.S. citizen in 1954.

According to Krista Hanson, who has collaborated with TCJACL’s Education Committee, Ed “might be the only person born in Japan buried at any national military cemetery.” Ed and his wife are buried at Fort Snelling National Cemetery. His son, who became a major in the Air Force, is also buried at Fort Snelling, a few sections away from his parents.

## Save the Dates – Local Events

### REMEMBERING THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE: February 19, 2022

**TCJACL and East Side Freedom Library 1:00 CST VIRTUAL Program\***

**On this 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of E.O. 9066**, which led to the forced removal and incarceration of all Americans of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast, we will hold our Day of Remembrance.

Japanese Americans volunteered for the Military Intelligence Service (M.I.S) in Minnesota, serving as interpreters, translators and interrogators. Some joined from Hawaii and others joined from U.S. concentration camps where they and their families were imprisoned.

*“Who will remember us when we’re gone?” asks 90-year-old Seiki Oshiro, who helped put together a registry,*

the  
the only comprehensive list of members of the secret Japanese American U.S. Army unit that fought in the Pacific during World War II.

**The Registry** is a documentary by Midwest filmmakers Bill Kubota and Steve Ozone. It profiles some of the veterans who served in the M.I.S., headquartered in Minnesota.



Seiki Oshiro (shown being filmed by Kubota) of Burnsville, MN and Grant Ichikawa of Vienna, VA, both featured in the film, mined government files and databases to create a massive spread-sheet because the U.S. Army had never done it. Oshiro volunteered for the M.I.S. from a Hawaiian sugar plantation. The G.I. bill brought him to the mainland after the war, where he'd become a computer programmer. Ichikawa grew up in California. Already a University of California Berkeley

graduate before the war, he was sent to a concentration camp in Arizona. Ichikawa volunteered for the M.I.S., serving in Australia, the Philippines and Japan after the war.

**The Registry** was directed by Bill Kubota and Steve Ozone. Kubota is from Michigan and directed the award-winning PBS/ITVS production **Most Honorable Son**. Ozone is from Minnesota and is a well-known photographer.

Our participants will have an opportunity to view "The Registry" several days before the panel presentation which will be held on Feb. 19. Panelists Ozone, Kubota and Oshiro will be joined by Karen Tanaka Lucas whose father trained with the first MIS Language School class in 1942 at Camp Savage. This program is being supported by the generous donations of the Murakami Fund and the Suzukamo Fund.

\*Registration details will be available in late January and registrants will have the opportunity to view the documentary, "The Registry" in February. For more information, contact [katalucas49@gmail.com](mailto:katalucas49@gmail.com).

Submitted by Karen Tanaka Lucas

## OPENING SOON: HISTORIC FORT SNELLING REVITALIZATION PROJECT



This fall, Tom Kurihara and Judy and George Murakami toured the new Center and grounds.

The Historic Fort Snelling Revitalization Project work began in June 2020. This has involved the demolition of the old 1970's underground visitor center, and the development of new landscaping, trails and vistas which augment the historical significance of the site as well as the spectacular bluff scenery. Renovation of the old cavalry barracks building, which once housed Japanese American Military Intelligence Service Language School (MISLS) students, is being carefully supervised to ensure archaeological preservation. This building will house new visitor center facilities with a robust array of exhibits and interactive learning stations. Members of the TCJACL Education Committee have been serving as Exhibit Advisors to help shepherd the

permanent exhibit which includes the history of the MISLS and Nisei WACS. The opening is targeted for Memorial Day weekend, but the actual launch has not been announced.



Greg Nakanishi (left) and Matt Abe (right) hold pictures of their parents, Terry Nakanishi and Toshio Abe. Terry served in the MISLS Women's Army Corps and Toshio Abe served as an MISLS interpreter in Southeast Asia.

*Submitted by Carolyn Nayematsu, Education Chair*

## SAVE THE DATE

### GUEST SPEAKER, EXHIBIT VIEWING AND RECEPTION

**“Righting A Wrong: Japanese Americans and World War II,”** a Smithsonian Institution traveling exhibition, will be on display at the Minnesota History Center from **April 23 – July 3, 2022.**



A special program, with exhibit viewing and reception, is being planned in partnership with the Minnesota Historical Society, and features guest speaker, **Dale Minami**. Details to follow.

**Saturday, May 21, 2022**  
**Time TBD**

**Minnesota History Center, 345 W. Kellogg Blvd, St. Paul**



*Smithsonian exhibition, cont.*

**Dale Minami** is a Senior Counsel with Minami Tamaki LLC in San Francisco. His cases have often involved the civil rights of Asian Pacific Americans and other minorities. One of his best known cases involves heading a pro bono legal team that successfully overturned the conviction of Fred Korematsu, whose defiance of the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II led to *Korematsu v. United States*, widely considered one of the worst and most racist Supreme Court decisions in American history.

Minami, whose parents were incarcerated at Rohwer concentration camp, was born in Los Angeles and raised in Gardena. He graduated magna cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa in 1968 from the University of Southern California and received his Juris Doctor degree in 1971 from UC Berkeley School of Law.

In the early 1970's, Minami joined the San Francisco JACL chapter, and recommended a legislative rather than a judicial route for redress. He was an active member of Bay Area Attorneys for Redress (BAAR), which submitted a brief to the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians on the constitutional rights violated by the incarceration of Japanese Americans.

Minami is a co-founder of the Asian Law Caucus, the Asian-American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area, the Asian Pacific Bar of California and the Coalition of Asian Pacific Americans. He was appointed by President Bill Clinton to chair the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund in 1996.

Minami has received numerous awards including the American Bar Association's 2003 Thurgood Marshall Award, the 2003 ACLU Civil Liberties Award, and the 2019 American Bar Association Medal, the association's highest honor. In recognition of his tireless work in breaking down stereotypes and advocating for the AAPI community, the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies honored Minami with the Inaugural Norman Y. Mineta Lifetime Achievement Award in 2019.

Other events are being planned in conjunction with the Smithsonian Exhibit. These include:

- March 31, 4-6 p.m. via Zoom - A teacher workshop will include information on the MIS, as well as concentration camp experiences. Kimmy Tanaka, Sally Sudo, and Krista Hanson will participate. The MHS staff will handle registration, technology, and resources follow up.
- April 23 - The exhibit will open with the documentary, And Then They Came for Us.

Another Education Committee plan is for a panel discussion titled Minnesota Connections, to be held in June. Another June even is for the showing of the documentary, Manzanar Diverted; planning is being facilitated by the TCJACL Social Justice Committee.

*Submitted by Cheryl Hirata Dulas*

## On the National Level

The latest of what the National JACL is announcing, advocating, and acting on, can be found on the website, [jacl.org](http://jacl.org). Clicking on the word "News" (2<sup>nd</sup> from the left) will give you 3 choices-announcements, official statements, and Weekly Digests. Many events are taking place all over the U.S. which you may find of interest. The following is a summary of what the Rice Paper editor considers of considerable interest. Details can be found in one of the 3 choices given above.

All who are concerned with voting rights for all Americans should be writing to their U.S. Senators immediately

*On the National Level, cont.*

to pass the already approved House voting rights and election reform package. On Friday, January 14, JACL called for immediate action on this matter.

On January 5, JACL and OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates released a joint statement on the anniversary of the January 6, insurrection.



In December 2021, President Biden announced judicial nominees which included Judge Kenly Kiya Kato to the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California. The daughter of former incarcerateds, Judge Kato's parents and grandparents were imprisoned during World War II alongside 120,000 other persons of Japanese ancestry. Her focus on constitutional protections and equal opportunity to justice was influenced by her family's incarceration experience.

Since 2014, Judge Kato has served as a U.S. Magistrate Judge for the Central District of California. After receiving her J.D. from Harvard Law, she served as a law clerk for Judge Robert M. Takasugi who was formerly appointed to the U.S. District Court for the Central District of California.

JACL applauds the diversity of President Biden's nominees to the court including the recent Senate confirmations of Judges Lucy H. Koh and Jennifer Sung to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

## From Densho

In the latest webinar in Densho's Family History series, held on January 20, 2022, genealogist Linda Harms Okazaki provided strategies in "Organizing Your Family History Research". Remember that the TCJACL conducted its own "Next Generations" workshop in 2021!

Densho's Artist-in-Residence, Lauren Iida, will be showing her latest series of intricate paper cutaways, *Citizen's Indefinite Leave*, at the ArtXchange Gallery in Seattle's Pioneer Square, from January 4 through February 26. The "Pictures of Executive Order 9066" is an interactive exhibit designed filmmaker J.J. Gerber and singer/instrumentalist/songwriter Kishi Bashi. It was inspired by the photo documentation by photographer Dorothea Lange, of the Japanese American incarceration. Showings will be held on January 27 and 29, and February 19.

To recognize the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Executive Order 9066, Densho is launching a community art initiative called the Memory Net Remembrance Project. Lauren Iida will select objects that reflect incarceration. The objects will be incorporated into a 30-foot-long cut paper net to be displayed in Densho's community room. The objects should symbolize the hope, strength, and/or resistance during the incarceration.

Tom Ikeda, Executive Director of Densho, and art historian Barbara Johns will have a conversation about artist, Kenjiro Nomura. Johns is the author of Kenjiro Nomura, An American Modernist an Issei Artist's Journey. This is her fourth book about immigrant-generation Japanese American artists in Seattle. The discussion will include Nomura's World War II experience and its impact on his life and art. The conversation will occur February 13, 10-11 a.m. at the Cascadia art Museum in Edmonds, WA.

## From Go for Broke

Two traveling national exhibits, *“Courage & Compassion”* and *“Portraits of Courage”*, combined to form *“Courage & Compassion: The Japanese American WWII Experience”*, will be on display at the Dallas Holocaust & Human right Museum from January 20 through June 12, 2022.

Lisa Ling, award-winning journalist, has her own HBO Series called “Take Out with Lisa Ling”. On it, she explores the most beloved foods in the U.S., especially the contribution that Asian Americans have made. The series will begin streaming January 27 on HBO Max and will feature Doreen Nakama, owner of East Los Musubi. Lisa discusses the contributions of the Nisei WWII soldiers (her grandfather served in the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT) and visits the Go for Broke Monument.

Veterans George Mukai of the 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry/442<sup>nd</sup> RCT and Hiroshi Arisumi of the 442<sup>nd</sup> RCT are featured in the HEROES AMONG US film clips.

The National Park Service is updating the replica Honor roll located at the front entrance of Minidoka National Historic Site. If you are a WWII veteran (man or women) who was incarcerated at Minidoka or if you are a friend or relative of a veteran, the Park Service want you to contact them. Also to be corrected are misspellings or other changes to an existing name.

## From JACL

The San Diego chapter is hosting the National Conflict Resolution Center’s 2-part free virtual training workshop on the bystander’s role in decreasing inappropriate communication and behavior in the community or workplace skills learned. The skills learned can be applied in a variety of setting. The dates are February 16, 6-7:30 pm (Part 1) and February 23, 6-7:30 pm (Part 2). Space is limited. Contact JACL at [sandiegojacl@gmail.com](mailto:sandiegojacl@gmail.com) or Dania Brett [dbrett@ncrconline.com](mailto:dbrett@ncrconline.com).

JACL and the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) are inviting seventy-two educators to explore the historical significance and enduring legacy of the World War II Japanese American incarceration experience and the reparations movement workshop called NEH Landmarks of American History and Culture. The workshop will be offered twice – June 19-25 and July 10-15. The majority of programming will occur at the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles. This will be one of the last times that living camp survivors of the WWII generation will be able to participate.

As part of the Minoru Yasui Legacy Project, the 2022 Minoru Yasui Student Contest is open to middle and high school students. The prompt for this essay is “What are the duties, responsibilities, and/or obligations of an individual or group in US society in taking a stand again racism and discrimination?” There is over \$2000 in prizes. For more information, go to [www.minoruyasuilegacy.org/student-contest](http://www.minoruyasuilegacy.org/student-contest).

The Library of Congress has finished scanning and cataloging the remaining War Relocation Authority photographs in its collection. Yet many of the people depicted in the images are unidentified. Thirty WRA photographs are now being shared through an album in the [Library of Congress Flickr Project](#).

Survivors and descendants of the World War II incarceration are encouraged to look at the photographs and to provide names of unidentified persons. More photos can be found by searching the [Prints and Photographs Online Catalog](#).

## From JANM (Japanese American National Museum)

JANM is 30 years old. To celebrate this anniversary, the museum will recognize 30 young people who exemplify JANM's mission and are making extraordinary contributions in the arts, business, culture, education, politics, sports, technology, and more. The nomination process is open to the public – deadline for nominations is January 31, 2022. Nominate someone you know or nominate yourself! For more information, go to <https://www.janm.org/events/special/30th-benefit> or email [30changemakers@janm.org](mailto:30changemakers@janm.org).

Do you receive the JANM store catalog? Your editor does and she finds it fascinating. For those of you who are born in the Year of the Tiger, there are some cute tiger items for sale (maybe for a child or grandchild!) There also are books, DVDs, jewelry, household items, clothing, games, accessories, and more. If you do not get their catalog by mail, go to the JANM website and look for “store”. And JANM members get a discount!

## Recent Board Happenings

### November 16, 2021

- The following motion passed. The address of the TCJACL be changed to the Chapter's mailing address. The board did NOT add on additional voting committee representation at this time (Social Justice and Young Professionals).
- There was discussion regarding finances as our largest source of funding, the Festival of Nations, has been cancelled for 2 years.
- Also discussed was the possibility of a targeted fund drive to cover costs of an MISLS plaque of recognition at Fort Snelling.
- Membership is at 153.
- Our Webmaster, Clara Imon Pedtke, has created an interactive graphic for donations – very polished and professional looking.

### December 7, 2021 – Annual Board Meeting

- The new board was introduced and were sworn in by Matthew Farrells.
- Treasurer Elaine Koyama announced the existence of a Japanese American informal writing group which meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of the month. Contact her at [Elaine@elainekoyama.com](mailto:Elaine@elainekoyama.com) if interested.
- The following board members have taken on new responsibilities: Mary Kojima-Membership; Jonathan Kent-Social Justice; Vini Taguchi-District/National News and Community Action; Ammanda Nietz-Nominations; Karen Lucas Tanaka-Obon ordering and inventory; Ryan Sudo with Teresa Swartz-Obon booth.

### January 18th, 2021

- Finances discussion included twice-yearly fund-raising drives, recognizing donors.
- The 2022 budget was passed.
- Committee reports: Social Justice is working on “Manzanar Diverted” with the MN Historical Society; Summer Picnic is a go if the COVID situation makes it possible. The Sukiyaki Lunch has again been postponed due to healthy/safety concerns
- National is soliciting testimony from members to showcase in Member Highlights. Ryan Sudo, our chapter's vice-president and new board member has already been featured. He shared what significance the JACL holds for him.
- Scholarship chair Pam Dagoberg announced that ten seniors have been identified. If you know of anyone who should be recognized and is not on the list on page 3 of this newsletter, please let Pam know.
- Gloria Kumagai reported that there will no longer be a fall festival event at Normandale Community College. There has not been any indication as to whether the Obon Festival will be held or not.



*Board Happenings Cont.*

- Denali Moore, a former Heart Mountain site worker, is soliciting Asian or Pacific Islander art representing experiences related to Heart Mountain for the next Pilgrimage, “Connections: Heart Mountain Art Project.”
- The Chicago Kansha Project, which connects young people to the legacy of incarceration is restarting. In June, 2 cohorts will travel to Little Tokyo in Los Angeles and to Manzanar. This summer’s project is for young adults, ages 18-28. There is the possibility that there will be a cohort or two next year, but with no age restriction. To apply, go to <https://jaclchicago.org/programs/kansha-project/>
- January 29, 4 p.m. is the date for the book club meeting, via Zoom where Daughters of the Samurai will be discussed. Call Amy Dickerson if you have an interest in joining the group.

**YOUR NEWSLETTER STAFF**

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