

JAPANESE CULTURAL & COMMUNITY CENTER OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

SUMMER 1996

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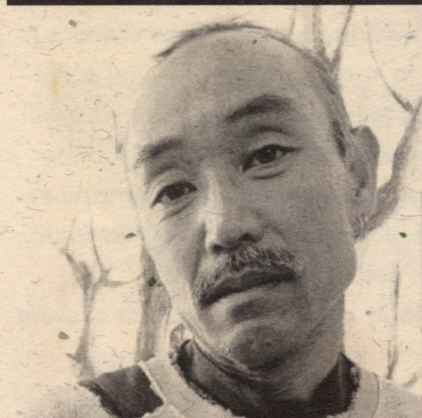


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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



1996 promises to be the most significant year in the history of the JCCCNC. This is saying quite a bit since the Center recently has had so many wonderful experiences such as the visit of the Emperor and Empress of Japan, and the successful relief effort for the Great Hanshin earthquake in Kobe

and Osaka. But this year may be notable as the year that the Center finally pays off the loan for the building of the community hall/gymnasium. It has been a lengthy uphill struggle, but we are finally on the brink of full ownership of our facilities.

I must thank hundreds of our donors, volunteers, and staff who have given their time, money and support in realizing our dream. Out of the many individuals, two exceptional people merit particular mention. It gives me great pleasure to extend special thanks to Henri and Tomoye Takahashi for their generous donation which will enable us to finally retire our mortgage.

To honor all the special people who have contributed to our Ownership Campaign, we will unveil a beautiful Donor Recognition Mural in the Community Hall/Gymnasium at our Center's 10th Anniversary celebration on *Sunday July 21*

I hope you will join us on that day to help celebrate what promises to be a truly momentous anniversary.

Allen M. Okamoto
President

CENTER STAFF

Executive Director

Executive Assistant

Program Director

Program Assistant

Dir. of Community Development

Facility Manager

Accountant

Administrative Assistant

Director of Corporate Relations

Volunteer Coordinator

Office Volunteers

Paul Osaki

Marjorie Fletcher

Jill Shiraki

Gary Omi

Christopher Hirano

Clifford Quon

Wendy Chang

Eiko Aoki

Dean Osaki

Jerry Kika

Karen Nunotani Kern

Kimiko Matsuno

Edith Tanaka

JCCCNC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Executive Vice-President

Carole Hayashino

Second Vice-President

Gail Keikoan

Corporate Secretary

Edith Tanaka

Chief Financial Officer

Neal Taniguchi

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Frank Morino

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Kenji Murase

Nob Fukuda

Robin Nakamura

Yasuko Fukuda

Bob Obana

Diane Takei Gotanda

David Omori

Steve Hirabayashi

Teresa Ono

Yo Hironaka

Teresa Serata

Gaylene Hoshiyama

June Sugihara

Bob Kawamoto

Dick Yamagami

Robert Kent

Linda Yamanoha

Kaz Maniwa

Miwa Matsuno

NIKKEI OPEN

Mark *Thursday, June 20* on your calendars. That'll be the day to reward yourself with a deserving day-off to play in the 2nd Annual Nikkei Open held at the prestigious Lake Merced Golf and Country Club.

The tourney, with a shotgun start, will offer many prizes up for grabs including a Pebble Beach Golf Weekend for four or a 1997 Super Bowl Trip for two to New Orleans to anybody skillful enough to knock in a hole-in-one! A dinner and raffle will follow the tournament. Many prizes will be given away including the Grand Prize of a round-trip for two to Hawaii courtesy of United Airlines. Competition categories tentatively scheduled are Championship Flight, A Flight, Women's Flight, and Calloway Flight.

Considering the popularity of last year's inaugural event at the Presidio Golf Course, this year's Nikkei Open expects to fill-up quickly. Spots are limited to the first 160 paid registrants. To reserve your spot, call the Center at (415) 567-5505. Deadline for reservations is *June 7*. Tournament fee of \$160 includes cart, green fees, tournament gift and dinner.



TAKAHASHI FAMILY DONATION

The Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California Board of Directors expressed their appreciation to Henri and Tomoye Takahashi for the Takahashi's \$500,000 gift to JCCCNC at a special dinner held April 1, 1996, hosted at the private residence of Dick and Jan Yamagami.

"This is a very special evening for JCCCNC," said Allen Okamoto, Board President, "Yet, mere words of thanks and appreciation seem inadequate in expressing our gratitude to Henri and Tomoye Takahashi. Their gift of \$500,000 towards the JCCCNC mortgage take us closer to reaching the dream of owning our own community center."

In introducing the Takahashi Family to the Board, former president Edith Tanaka noted that Henri and Tomoye Takahashi and Martha Suzuki were among JCCCNC's very first donors when the organization was incorporated in 1973. "Each year since then, they have generously donated to our organization and in our 1991-1992 capital campaign, the

TAKAHASHI

Takahashi Family contributed \$100,000. We are extremely grateful and deeply honored to once again, be beneficiaries of the Takahashi's generosity," said Tanaka. The Takahashi's have donated a total of \$669,000 over the past years towards the JCCCNC building fund. Tanaka also acknowledged the support of Martha Suzuki, Tomoye's sister and credited Suzuki for her leadership and assistance.

Allen Okamoto announced that the JCCCNC Community Hall/Gymnasium will be named the "Henry and Tomoye Takahashi Nisei Community Hall" in their honor and recognition of their gift. "1996 marks the 10 year anniversary of the opening of the Community Services Building," stated Okamoto. "I can't think of a better way or better time for the community to celebrate and publicly thank the Takahashi Family." Okamoto added that the Takahashi gift has inspired the JCCCNC Board of Directors to organize a Board Campaign to raise the additional \$77,000 in order to pay off the mortgage this year. "When I assumed the presidency at the beginning of the year, my goal was to reduce the mortgage," said Board President Allen Okamoto. "With the Takahashi gift of \$500,000 my goal and the goal of the JCCCNC Board now is to pay off the mortgage by the 10th Anniversary celebration. I believe we can do it."

To help launch the campaign, Dick and Jan Yamagami donated the proceeds of the Takahashi appreciation dinner to the JCCCNC Board Campaign.

The JCCCNC will celebrate the 10th Anniversary of the opening of the JCCCNC on *Sunday, July 21*. For more information or to contribute to the 1996 JCCCNC campaign, please call (415) 567-5505.



TANOMOSHI TRUST FUND

The JCCCNC Tanomoshi Trust Fund is well on its way. The Founding Members Circle Club has been established with prominent members of the community stepping forward to make their initial contributions to the Fund.

The Founding Members are Hatsuro & Amey Aizawa, Marjorie Imaizumi Fletcher, David T. & Yo Hironaka, William & May Hirose, Chidori Shiotani Hoy, Roy Kumiy Iwao, Raymond & Deo Konagai, Jack & Aya Mizono, Kayo I. Nakamura, Donald & Mary Negi, Takeo Okamoto, Wayne Osaki A.I.A., Katherine Morooka Reyes, Sam Sato, Martha Suzuki, Henri & Tomoye Takahashi, Frank & Edith Tanaka and Himeo & Lumi Tsumori.

This unique pooled income fund allows individuals to give a gift of cash, stock or real estate to the Trust Fund, while receiving lifetime interest income for the gift. Unlimited donor's gifts will be pooled together in the Fund administered by Union Bank, and re-invested into one diversified portfolio of high-quality stocks and bonds. The donor or beneficiary will receive the proportionate share of the total net income earned by the entire fund.

A community wide campaign will be launched inviting participants to join the Tanomoshi Trust Fund. The Fund will ensure that JCCCNC remains a viable community based organization, providing services for further generations to come.

For additional information, please call Dean Osaki or Edith Tanaka at JCCCNC, (415) 567-5505.

IN THE DELTA

In The Delta: mixed media works on paper by Chester Yoshida

"I wanted figures in the orchard, I wanted them ghost-like. This show is a tribute to my parents and family, Japanese descended people and all those who have cared for and worked on this California landscape. The pear orchards, as far as I'm concerned, look exactly the way they looked when I was five. There's been a lot of people who have picked and worked on those trees.

The idea most people have of migrant workers is that they come here to work in the fields, then go back to whatever. You know, when they came here to work, their lives are changed in so many ways. It's not like they come here, make their money, and then go back. Their experiences change them. There's traces of what the land has done to these people. And there's traces of what the people have done to this land, if you look for it."

"In the Delta" a tribute to the immigrant Japanese who lived and worked on the orchards of the Sacramento River Area, is a mixed media works on paper by Hideo Chester Yoshida which was recently displayed in the JCCNC Gallery.

Connected to a farming rural community through his formative years, Yoshida, a native of Northern California, received his education at the San Francisco Art Institute and Art Center College of-Design in Los Angeles. Having designed silkscreened posters and brochures for over two dozen community organizations, his artwork, is quite recognizable throughout the Bay Area. His mixed media works include political posters, book illustrations, set design, float design and public installations and have been exhibited in the greater Bay Area as well as in New York City and Mexico City.

(Photo by: Julie Plasencia)

1995 BINGO VOLUNTEERS

Abantao, Marsha	Kika, Jerry	Ochi, Somao
Akiyama, Judy	Kim, Denis	Ochi, Shun
Akiyama, Miki	Kitagawa, Peter	Oda, Libby
Aoki, Eiko	Kitawaki, Yoshiko	Oda, Linda
Barbaree, Gary	Kitashima, Sox	Oda, Stephen
Chan, Ken	Kitazumi, Betty	Odaka, Hiroko
Chang, Wendy	Kitazumi, Cal	Okamoto, Allen
Dang, Danette	Kiyomura, Robert	Okamoto, Ben
Donahoe, Sean	Kobayashi, Vivian	Okamoto, Noriko
Donahoe, Pam	Kojimoto, Mits	Omi, Gary
Fletcher, Marjorie	Kuroki, Chiyomi	Omori, David
Fong, Hazel	Kusaba, George	Onishi, Kay
Fukuda, Nob	Kusaba, Margaret	Onishi, Ken
Fukuda, Yasuko	Kyono, Bill	Onishi, Keith
Hagimoto, Keiko	Kyono, Mary	Ono, Teresa
Hamada, Florence	Lam, Mitchell	Osaki, Dean
Hirabayashi, Steve	Lee, Kathy	Osaki, Paul
Hirano, Chris	Lindstrom, Sean	Osaki, Sally
Hiroshima, Chris	Maeda, Georgeann	Otsubo, Tosh
Ho, Ken	Maniwa, Kaz	Patterson, Kaye
Ho, Yo	Marukado, Kazumi	Quon, Clifford
Holman, Herb	Matoba, Lori	Shimamoto, Hiko
Holman, Audee	Matsumoto, Alice	Shimamoto,
Honda, Arlene	Matsuno, Kimiko	Susan
Ihara, Kay	Milnes, Donna	Shiraki, Jill
Ihara, Tets	Mizono, Mae	Sugihara, June
Ikeda, James	Mochida, Nancy	Sumida, Tats
Imaizumi, Julie	Moriguchi, Alice	Suzuki, Perry
Ina, Kimi	Morino, Frank	Suzuki, Lorie
Ina, Vicki	Murase, Kenji	Suzuki, Yukiko
Ishida, Helen	Nagai, Kei	Taira, Candace
Ishigaki, Chiyo	Nagano, Johnny	Takeoka, Gary
Ishigaki, Shig	Naito, Mits	Tamura, Nancy
Ito, Caryl	Naito, Nana	Tanaka, Edith
Jio, Kathy	Nanjo, Henry	Tanaka, Frank
Kamiya, Masano	Nihei, Fumi	Tanaka, Min
Kaneko, Eunice	Noguchi, Diane	Tanaka, Vi
Kawakami, Hana	Noguchi, John	Taniguchi, Neal
Kawakami, Tom	Nunotani, Anita	Yamakawa Jr.,
Kawamoto, Robert	Nunotani, Dan	David
Keikoan, Gail	Nunotani, Wallace	Yemoto, Eileen
Keikoan, Mike	Obana, Bob	Yonemoto, Lois
Kern, Karen Nunotani	Ochi, Mickie	Yoshida, Cecelia

Thanks for your hard work!



JAPANESE AMERICAN DAY WITH THE SAN FRANCISCO GIANTS

Join JCCNC at 3COM Park on Saturday, July 20 to honor and pay tribute to the legends of the Northern and Central California Japanese baseball leagues. Pre-game ceremonies will begin at 11:00 a.m. before the San Francisco Giants take on their-rival Los Angeles Dodgers.

The game of baseball has unique and historic perspectives for the Japanese American Community. Beginning in the early 1900's, organized baseball leagues began to spring up in small towns and cities throughout Japanese American communities. They played for the love of the game despite experiencing discrimination and racism of the times. It was on the field that these young men proved that they were equal and thus, helped build civic pride, bonded communities and created fellowship both inside and outside the foul lines.

These players also provided much needed entertainment for Nikkeis before and during the internment period. Through their sportsmanship, talent and dedication to the game, they helped educate others toward our acceptance as Americans. Some were even the first Americans to play professional baseball in Japan, helping to progress the game across the Pacific. They became ambassadors and bridge builders for the game of baseball. Some even played against icons such as Babe Ruth, Lou Gehrig, Joe DiMaggio and Jackie Robinson.

Today, they are our unsung heroes; they are the legends of Japanese American baseball. To join us at the ballpark to pay tribute to these pioneers, call the Center at (415) 567-5505.



IN SPIRIT JAPANESE CULTURE THROUGH ART

"In Spirit: Japanese Culture Through Art", a Noh master workshop and panel, featuring June Watanabe, choreographer/ dancer and Anshin Uchida, Noh Master of the Kita School, and Japan's Intangible Cultural Asset, was recently held at The Center. The evening's program shared a reconnecting of souls, the formation of June Watanabe in Company's

The Noh Project which was presented in May at the Japan American Theater in Los Angeles and the Center for the Arts at Yerba Buena Gardens in San Francisco.

"In Spirit" began with an introduction of Noh, the seven hundred year old Japanese art form integrating theater, music and dance. A Noh master class lead by Sensei Anshin Uchida followed, which required no prior dance or theater experience. Noh incorporates myths, legends and poetry from historical events and religious character as man's quest for and spirituality in the Buddhist tradition. Reflecting on pieces of their

wisdom and spirituality in the Buddhist tradition. Reflecting on pieces of their Japanese heritage and roots, June Watanabe engaged in a panel with other Japanese American Artists Donna Nomura Dobkin, Miya Masaoka and Chester Yoshida. The panelists shared an excerpt of their art work and their journey as artists, studying and incorporating various traditional Japanese art forms.

11th ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER

The Board of Directors recently announced the recipients of its annual recognition awards being presented at the JCCCNC's 11th Annual Awards Dinner on *Friday, August 16th* at the San Francisco Fairmont Hotel. This year, the Center is proud to be honoring the following individuals and organizations for contributions to the Japanese American communities in their respective areas:

Community Leadership Award
Community Volunteerism Award
Cultural Award
US/Japan Relations Award
Corporate Award
Special Recognition Award

Mr. Steven Doi
Mr. Don Tamaki
Japanese Bilingual & Bicultural Program
Mr. Yoshimi Ishikawa
Hitachi, Limited
Mr. Norman Mineta

Dinner tickets are \$85 each and proceeds benefit the Center's operations and programs. To purchase tickets or for more information, please call the Center at (415) 567-5505.

JCCCNC SWEEPSTAKES

Feeling lucky? Then the Center's Sweepstakes 3000 is for you! It's time again for our annual raffle with its incredible prizes. Since we limit the number of tickets sold to 250, your odds of winning one of the four excellent prizes are better than good. Compared to the 14 million-to-one odds of the California Lottery, it wouldn't be far fetched to start planning your shopping sprees now! Prizes offered are:

Grand prize: \$3,000
2nd prize: \$1,500
3rd prize: \$1,000

Last year's Grand Prize winner was Barbara Taniguchi of Fresno. Will you be this year's big winner? All proceeds go directly to the Center's operating budget, helping us offer our many programs and events to you and our membership. Sweepstakes tickets are \$100 each. Winners will be announced at the JCCCNC's 11th Annual Awards Dinner on *Friday, August 16th* at the Fairmont Hotel in San Francisco. Winners need not be present to win. To purchase sweepstakes tickets, or for more information, call us at (415) 567-5505.



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CENTER ATTRACTIONS

**2nd Annual Nikkei Open
at Lake Merced Golf and Country Club**

Thursday, June 20

**Japanese American Day with the
S.F. Giants vs. the Los Angeles Dodgers**

Saturday, July 20

JCCCNC 10th Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, July 21

**JCCCNC 11th Annual Awards Dinner
at the S.F. Fairmont Hotel**

Friday, August 16

Grand Kabuki USA Tour at UC Berkeley

September 14-15

Anne Namba Fashion Show

Saturday, September 21

10TH ANNIVERSARY

The home of the JCCCNC is turning ten years old! On *Sunday, July 21*, join the Board and staff of the Center as we celebrate the 10th anniversary of our building's grand opening.

Incorporated as a nonprofit organization in 1973, it wasn't until 1986 that phase 1 of the Center was finally completed. Doesn't it seem like just yesterday when we asked you to join our Capital Campaign?

So please come share this momentous event with us. We could not have made it without the tremendous generosity and support from you and the rest of the Center's membership. This is your building, and your celebration! There will be food, entertainment, and special guest speakers.

