

# SEATTLE JACL CHAPTER

NEWSLETTER

March 1996

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*Yasuko Takezawa*

## Author of study of Seattle JA in town to discuss her book

*by Chizu Omori*

Former Seattle resident and University of Washington graduate student Yasuko Takezawa will be here in Seattle the last week of March to promote her book, *Breaking the Silence: Redress and Japanese American Elderly* (Cornell University Press, 1995) which was her doctoral thesis for her degree in Anthropology. Ms. Takezawa studied the Japanese American community in Seattle particularly light of the redress movement in the 1980s. Her research involved interviews with many Seattlelites, and she became a familiar figure within the community.



Yasuko Takezawa

She is now Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Tsukuba in Japan.

The Japanese version of *Breaking the Silence* won the 1995 Shibuzawa Award of the Japanese Association of Ethnography. *The American Anthropologist* said about her book, "Takezawa's historical narrative traces the relocation

of Seattle's Japanese Americans to Minidoka, Idaho, the subsequent recruitment of Nisei men to serve in the American armed forces, the postcamp social and economic adjustment of those interned, their silence on the camp experience, and the changed times and social activism through which the silence was shattered."

Ms. Takezawa will be reading and discussing her work at the Elliott Bay Book Company on Tuesday, March 26, at 7:30 p.m. This appearance will be free of charge. In order for Ms. Takezawa to greet old friends and meet new ones, a social will be held for her on Friday, March 29, at 7:30 p.m. at the JACL offices at 316 Maynard Avenue South, Rm. 111. This will be open to all who wish to visit with her. Coffee and dessert will be served.

*Featuring designs by Anne Namba*

## Coming soon — chapter luncheon-fashion show

*by Ann Fujii-Lindwall*

The Seattle Chapter of the JACL will be sponsoring a fundraiser featuring designs by Hawaii's Anne Namba. The event will be a luncheon-fashion show to be held on Saturday, May 4, 1996 at the Bellevue Conference Center. The show will begin at 12:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person, including lunch.

Anne has only been in business since 1989, but her impact has been enormous. Some of Anne's clients include the nation's First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, Hawaii's former First Lady Lynne Waihee, the band Hiroshima and Olympic Ice Skating Gold Medalist Kristi Yamaguchi. She uses vintage Japanese kimonos and obis to create her one-of-a-kind garments.

Tickets will be available by the next board meeting (Wednesday, March 20). If you are interested in buying or selling tickets, volunteering the day of the event or with pre-event work, please call: Ann Fujii-Lindwall, 367-8749 or May Namba, 784-3824.

## JAYS to hold forum on WW II vets

*by Jonathan Matsui*

Nisei veterans of WW II will be the topic of a Japanese American Youth of Seattle (JAYS) sponsored forum, April 11, 7 p.m., at Kane Hall (200 level), University of Washington. Speakers from the 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Military Intelligence Service and the 522nd Artillery Unit which liberated the Nazi death camp at Dachau will be on hand. The event is free, but donations will be gladly accepted. Questions should be directed to Geoffrey Goebel at 524-7782. (More "Youth Notes" on page 4)

## Membership contests starts anew as PNWD chapters vie for prize

*by May Namba*

Although the membership drive is officially over, we are still trying to enlist new members. The Pacific Northwest District has decided to launch a District membership drive. The chapter with the greatest increase between July 1995 and June 1996 will win the contest. The prize has not been announced.

The Seattle chapter has had a very good start and we have an advantage over other chapters. The membership drive will continue for four more months with the goal of winning the contest. To date, we have a grand total of 120 new members and former members who have rejoined the Seattle chapter. However, this to-

Continued on page two



## President's Report

### Building bridges—making gains on all of our goals

by Elaine Akagi

At the beginning of the year, I reported that our goals for this year were threefold: to build bridges with other API organizations, to build bridges with the other JACL chapters in the Puget Sound area, and to support our youth. We are making some gains on all three of these goals.

The National Board endorsed the co-sponsorship of the Asian Pacific American voter Registration Campaign with the Organization of Chinese Americans (OCA). We have met with the OCA on several occasions and will pursue this alliance. We will also be working with the Filipino American Political Action Group of Washington (FAPAGOW) on this voter registration project. I have been in touch with both groups and will continue to do so. Making sure that as many Asians as possible are going to the polls to vote to make our voices heard is an important aspect of our Democratic system.

The Asian Jewish Alliance continues to be strong. Together with other organizations we are working with the Wing Luke Asian Museum (WLAM) in planning programs to coincide with the "Out of Focus" exhibit currently at the WLAM. Other Asian Jewish gatherings are in the planning stages.

We have been meeting with other Japanese American groups as well. Although we have not set any plans in motion, we have met with representatives of several JA groups, including the Japanese Community Service, Cherry Blossom Festival, JA Chamber of Commerce, Japan America Society and others to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the arrival of the first passenger ship from Japan in August. We will report on the activities surrounding the celebration as the time approaches.

We have been working with our youth and leadership develop-

ment also. The Seattle chapter was represented at the recent National Youth conference in San Francisco by Jonathan Matsui, Geoff Goebel and Owen Kikuta. They will report on their experiences in the near future. We are also supporting their plans to hold a similar conference in the Northwest sometime later this year or early next year.

With a National Convention coming up this summer, we are hoping to work more with the other Puget Sound chapters in preparing for the convention. This year's convention is important in that goals and a program for action will be formulated to guide us through the coming biennium. The Pacific Northwest will have a voice in these planning sessions and our goal is to go to the convention prepared and unified in our thinking. More information on the National Convention will follow in future newsletters.

I've heard comments from our members and others that the term of the Seattle chapter president should be two years instead of one, the theory being that it is impossible to accomplish anything in one year. This is true. However, I feel grateful that our president-elect, Jeffrey Hattori, is working so closely with me this year. His long range goals are similar to mine and whatever begin this year will be carried through in the next administration. It will be like having a two-year term, without being draining on one person.

Last, but not least, I'd like to urge those citizens of Seattle to go to the polls on March 26 and vote for the Seattle school levy. Although I have a personal interest in the levy passing, it is also important that the schools do not lose any further ground. I am told that the schools never fully recovered from the last levy failure, and it would be a shame to see our children suffer any further. The children are counting on you.

We would like to welcome the following new and former members who have rejoined the Seattle chapter JACL:

Anne Arakaki-Locke  
Jill Yamada Cooke  
Shirley Hamasaki  
William T. Kawahara  
Aiko Okamoto  
Toshiko Okamoto  
Janice Horike  
Hillary Tamaye Lange

Whitney Lange  
Mike Segawa  
Sandie Leistiko  
Colin Fisher  
Tamae Moriyasu  
Victoria Yuki  
Michelle Ota  
Bob Akimoto

### Membership Drive, continued from front page

tal includes booster members, who are members of the Seattle chapter, but not national, and therefore, will not be counted in the District membership contest.

Booster membership dues are due the first month of each quarter. A notice has been sent out to all booster members. Please remit your membership dues at your earliest convenience. Boosters wishing to become full members are most welcome to change, especially since we would then be able to count your membership towards the district membership drive contest.

## There's still time to apply for chapter scholarships

by Vicky Yuki

The Seattle chapter JACL sponsors two local scholarships for students attending or planning to attend college, trade schools, or any institution of higher learning. Any Americans of Japanese ancestry may apply. Funding for the scholarships is provided by the following sponsors:

- The Minoru Tamesa Scholarship Fund was established to benefit persons in need of financial assistance for college. While interned at Heart Mountain, Tamesa was ordered to report for the draft. He refused to do so, believing that as long as he was behind barbed wire, his first priority was to win freedom for himself and his people. For standing up for his constitutional rights, Tamesa was sentenced to three years in prison. Minoru Tamesa died at a young age; after his death, his father, Uhachi Tamesa, established the scholarship in memory of his son.

- The Bunshiro Tazuma Scholarship Fund was bequeathed by

the Tazuma family. Tazuma immigrated to Seattle in 1910 and operated the Jackson Cafe. After the war, he rebuilt his life and managed the Tazuma Ten Cent Store until he retired in 1970. Throughout his life, Tazuma made significant contributions to the Japanese American community, including founding the Seattle Buddhist Church in 1942 just before evacuation. Tazuma was also recognized by the Japanese government for his dedication to community service.

The Seattle chapter thanks the Tamesa and Tazuma families for their generous contributions to the scholarship fund.

It is not too late to apply for the Seattle chapter scholarships. The deadline is April 15, 1996. Applications can be obtained by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Janice Yee, Scholarship Committee, 4818 S. Graham, Seattle, WA 98118. Please specify if you are a high school student, college student, graduate student, or other. For more information, please call Vicky Yuki, Scholarship Chair at (206) 746-5197.

## Okinawan artists, performers to highlight Cherry Blossom Festival

Japanese arts, crafts, dances, music, taiko drummers, tea ceremonies, ikebana, calligraphy, videos, foods for sale, martial arts and a children's corner will be supplemented this year with the highlighting of the arts, crafts and performers of Okinawa at the 21st Annual Cherry Blossom Festival, April 26-28 at the Seattle Center.

A new competition in building and racing solar powered model racing cars is being introduced this year in the 1st Cherry Blossom Sci-Tech Fair held at the Pacific Science Center at Seattle Center. Individuals (under 18) and teams can qualify for prizes (U.S. Sav-

ings Bonds and trophies).

Volunteers for the festival are needed for the festival and for the JACL food booth at the festival. This year, the booth will be shared with The February Club.

JACL also committed to hosting a hospitality salmon dinner for the Okinawan guests on April 24th.

Anyone interested in volunteering for the festival should call Sue at 762-6378. She is the hospitality coordinator of the festival.

For information, call Festival hotline 993-3999.

## Performance artist uses stage to instruct about HIV/AIDS

by Bob Shimabukuro

Performance artist Dan Kwong will be performing at the Theatre Off Jackson "with a new creation on the subject of HIV/AIDS and Asian Americans, an installation/performance battling the infections of ignorance, fear, homophobia, compulsion, and disease.

"With hundreds of balloons, a thousand Ping Pong balls, 100 lbs of rock salt and a wall of mesh netting, *The Dodo Vaccine* transforms the theater into a cellular galaxy, taking us from deep space macrocosm to a Kwong microview of the paradoxical inner workings of mind, heart and body when it comes to Asian Americans

(and heterosexuals) dealing with HIV/AIDS."

That's what the press release said. Sound interesting? Well, the play runs from March 27 to April 6, but if you can, go to the Saturday, March 30, 8 p.m. performance. That's a benefit for Asian Pacific AIDS Council. \$12 — or more if you're willing. It's a benefit, remember. Call APAC at 467-0884 for tickets. Sounds like a fun evening.

(See Calendar, page 7 for ticket information and times of other performances.)



## Youth Report

# Opportunities abound for Asian American youth

by Jonathan Matsui

### Seattle JAYS attend National Youth Conference in San Francisco

About 100 high school and university students and recent graduates attended the JACL National Youth/Student Council Conference, "Faces of the Future," February 23. Representatives from the JACL Pacific Northwest District (PNWD) included: Geoff Goebel, JAYS president; Owen Kikuta, JAYS advisor; and Jonathan Matsui and Kelly Wicker, PNWD Co-National Youth/Student Council Representatives.

JACL National President Denny Yasuhara kicked off the event and was followed by keynote speaker Francey Lim Youngberg, executive director of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus Institute. Conference workshops ranged from race relations and Hapa issues to affirmative action and redress. Local AIDS activist Bob Shimabukuro participated in a panel discussing the benefits of working in non-profit and government agencies.

The Asian American acting troupe Here and Now performed a series of skits and vignettes to heighten awareness of the Asian American perspective. The group started in 1989 and consists of young Asian Americans of Chinese, Indian, Japanese, Korean, Laotian, Filipino, Thai and Vietnamese ancestry.

During the Vision Award Luncheon, awards were given to individuals who have significantly impacted students' lives: Judge Lance Ito, news anchor Tritia Toyota, the late Challenger astronaut Lt. Col. Ellison Onizuka and his widow Lorna. This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Challenger explosion, in which Lt. Col. Onizuka died. Lorna Onizuka spoke about her husband's legacy, a symbol of what Asian Americans can accomplish.

### Entrants sought in Oratorical Competition

Reminder: The PNWD is still looking for high school students interested in entering the 1996 Minoru Yasui Oratorical Competition. Winners at the PNWD contest May 18 will receive travel expenses and one-night hotel accommodation to represent their District at the national competition. The first place winner of the national competition will receive \$500 and an award plaque.

For information, contact Jonathan Matsui at (206) 632-4293 no later than April 15, 1996.

### University Students' Club Scholarships available for Nikkei UW students

The University Students' Club provides University of Washing-

ton (UW) scholarships to high school seniors and current UW students of Nikkei descent. The University Students' Club, previously known as "Synkoa house," used to be a home for out-of-town Nikkei students and was located on 15th Ave NE, where the School of Social Work is currently located. Eventually, the UW purchased the house and the endowed funds are now used to provide UW scholarships. This year, the University Students' Club awarded six \$1200 scholarships.

The deadline for applying for the next school year is April 10, 1996. Please telephone Don Maekawa, 746-3398 for additional details.

### APISU Conference to be held at UW

The Asian Pacific Islander Student Union will hold an API leadership conference May 4-5 at the UW. This year's theme is "Uniting Our Communities Through Leadership." On Saturday evening there will be a cultural program, followed by the dance group Bane-ful Brew. Registration: UW students \$17, Non-UW Student \$21, Non-student \$25. Registration deadline: March 25. After that, there is a \$5 late fee until April 12. No registrations will be accepted after April 12. If you need housing, please call Gensho Yukawa (206) 547-1588.

### The Seattle Chapter JACL Newsletter

The Seattle Chapter JACL Newsletter is published on the second Wednesday of the month by the Seattle Chapter Japanese American Citizens League.

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# Volunteers sought for diabetes prevention study

by Pam Asberry

More than 750 Nikkei have participated in the Japanese American Community Diabetes Study, now in its 12th year. Like many other ethnic minorities, Nikkei have rates for diabetes that are twice as high as that of U.S. whites. Research based at the University of Washington and under the direction of Wilfred Fujimoto, M.D., Professor of Medicine and Principal Investigator, has yielded results that have encouraged the research team to begin a new study, DEFEND—Diet and Exercise For Eliminating Nikkei Diabetes.

The type of diabetes to which Nikkei are susceptible is called "Type 2 diabetes", also known as "non-insulin-dependent diabetes" or "adult-onset diabetes". Over 1 out of 5 Nikkei above 50-year-old have Type 2 diabetes. Diabetes is a serious disease because of the morbidity and mortality caused by complications such as heart attack, stroke, amputation, high blood pressure, kidney failure, and blindness. The National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, an institute of the National Institutes of Health, has funded research studies to find out ways to prevent diabetes among ethnic minorities. DEFEND is one of these recently funded studies and the only one to be studying an Asian population.

Perhaps the most thought-provoking finding of the researchers is that consumption of a western diet that is high in saturated animal fat and reduction of physical activity are related to the development of diabetes among Nikkei. This type of lifestyle leads to weight gain that is very likely to be distributed on and in the abdomen, the dangerous "apple" pattern of fat distribution. This "apple" pattern has been shown

to be associated with a condition in which insulin does not work as effectively, a condition known as "insulin resistance". When the body is unable to produce enough insulin to counteract this condition of insulin resistance, glucose levels in the blood rise and diabetes develops. The ability of Japanese to tolerate insulin resistance may be less than of whites, thus accounting for the more frequent appearance of diabetes in Nikkei.

Most new cases of Type 2 diabetes develop in persons who have a prior condition that is known as impaired glucose tolerance. Nikkei who are at higher risk of having impaired glucose tolerance are persons with a family history of diabetes, women who have had gestational diabetes (diabetes during pregnancy), and persons who are overweight. As many as 4 out of 10 Nisei and 2 out of 10 Sansei have impaired glucose tolerance and are unaware of this.

DEFEND tests whether a person has impaired glucose tolerance. Those found to have impaired glucose tolerance will be invited to participate further in studies examining the effects of dietary modification and exercise to reduce risk of developing Type 2 diabetes.

Information about the cause, treatment, and complications of diabetes, diabetes research, and why Nikkei seem to have a high risk of developing diabetes have been summarized in *A Primer on Diabetes for Nikkei*, published by the Japanese American Community Diabetes Study. A complimentary copy of this Primer may be obtained by calling Pam Asberry, Research Nurse Coordinator for DEFEND, at 616-3020. At the same time, learn more about DEFEND and whether you can participate in research on the prevention of Type 2 diabetes in Nikkei.

# ORA seeks information on 'lost' internees

The Office of Redress Administration (ORA) has compiled six lists containing names and other details of individuals who were interned, relocated, or evacuated during World War II and who are potentially eligible for redress, but who have not been located by ORA after numerous attempts.

The information consists of: the name of the individual as it was in camp, the year of birth, and the first WRA camp the person was interned in.

We will be publishing the Minidoka list over the next few issues (about 50 an issue). If you are on the list, or you know someone on the list, call the ORA helpline at 202-219-6900.

Kathlyn S. Arai	B0021	1922	Melody D. Haugen	B0172	1942	Toshiyuk Okamoto	B0872	1906
Owen K. Arai	B0022	1937	Joe H. Hayashida	B0180	1931	Mary T. Okano	B0875	1922
Thomas F. Arai	B0023	1902	Toshiko Heyamoto	W0107	1927	Kaichi J. Okimoto	B0882	1902
Kunikich Asaba	B0030	1903	Mitsuro Hirata	B0205	1923	Tamo Omoto	B0899	1912
Misao Asakura	B0037	1906	Virginia K. Hiratsuka	B0210	1942	Harry Oqasawara	W0640	1926
Shoichi Ebira	B0062	1929	Mike E. Hiratsuka	B0211	1940	Seigo Otani	B0933	1915
Tsutaye Egashira	B0063	1921	Masayo Horinchi	W0138	1925	Ruth S. Sakai	B0959	1919
Wataru W. Endo	B0066	1925	Etmuko Horita	W0139	1927	Etsuko Seki	W0708	1925
Nobu M. Fujino	B0087	1923	Arthur W. Horiuchi	B0140	1926	Sadako Shibata	W0106	1920
Kinichi Fujita	B0091	1903	Hitoshi J. Ibiguchi	B0236	1906	Kazuo J. Shibuya	B1018	1923
John E. Fujiwara	B0094	1920	Haruye Ida	W0146	1923	Dean T. Shigehara	B1022	1940
Terumasa Furuta	B0110	1913	Masao M. Iga	B0240	1923	Masao F. Shigemura	B1024	1922
Chiyo Y. Hagiya	B0126	1910	Shinichi B. Imoto	B0265	1915	Toshi Shimizu	B1035	1914
Hisashi Hagiya	B0127	1907	Nancy N. Inouye	B0278	1923	Hitoshi Shimohira	B1036	1922
Namiko Hashimoto	B0155	1926	Ayano Ito	B0305	1902	Vernon S. Shimotakah	B1045	1918
Tomichi B. Hashimoto	B0158	1916	Noboru Jinka	B0327	1916	Yukio Shimotakah	B1046	1922



## Calendar of Events

Compiled by Ed Suguro

### MEETINGS

**Seattle JAACL Board Meeting**, March 20, 7 p.m., chapter office, 316 Maynard Ave. S., Rm. 111, everyone invited.

Doshi Kai meeting, April 3, 7 p.m. Call Wayne Kimura for location, 827-0460, 869-5174 evening and weekend.

### COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL EVENTS

**Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community Teriyaki Dinner and Program**, March 17, two seatings: 4 p.m. and 6 p.m., Woodward Middle School, 9125 Sportsman Club Rd. Tickets: \$8.50 adults, \$6.50 children/seniors available from Bainbridge Nikkei or at the door. Seattle Kokon Taiko and the Bremerton Women's Club Folk Dancers will entertain, and the prize-winning exhibit Kodomo No Tame Ni (For the sake of the children) will be on display. Directions: From the Winslow ferry, go straight past two traffic lights and a flashing light. At the third traffic light, turn left onto Sportsmen Club Rd. and proceed to 9125 Sportsman Club Rd. and Brooklyn Rd. School will be on the right side. Info: Dr. Frank Kitamoto, 842-4772, 842-4774 or Michi Tsukada, 842-2054.

**Seattle Betsuin Spring Bazaar**, March 24, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., 1427 S. Main St. Info: 329-0800.

**Nikkei Concerns and the Kame Project Health Seminar**, April 13, April 13, 9 a.m.-noon, Blaine Memorial Methodist Church,

3001 24th Ave. S. Subjects: "Reducing Disability and Improving the Qualities of Life." Speakers: Dr. Geraldine Hashisaki, "Depression"; Dr. Dean Ishiki, "Simple Steps to Fitness at Any Age." Info: Greta Hoshibata, 326-2409.

**Nikkei Community Dance**, April 13, 8-11:30 p.m., Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St., BYOB, live band, \$3 per person.

The Seattle Nichiren Buddhist Church (1042 S. Weller St.) Annual Bazaar, Sunday, April 21, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Chow mein, sushi, udon, curry rice, apple cobbler among the items offered for sale. Tickets sold by members, or can be obtained at the church.

**White River Buddhist Church Sukiyaki Dinner**, April 21, 11 a.m.-5:30 p.m., 3625 Auburn Way N., \$7 donation. Chicken teriyaki dinners and baked goods will also be available. Info: 833-1442.

"Meeting the Challenge: Empowering Asian Pacific Islanders Now," the **first annual Asian Pacific Leadership Conference**, May 11, 8 a.m.-7:30 p.m., South Seattle Community College, 6000 16th Ave. SW. Speakers, discussion workshops and a dinner and awards ceremony will be featured. Cost: \$70 if registered before April 19, \$80 after April 19, \$30 students (limited scholarships available), \$75 exhibitor's booth. Info: Commission on Asian Pacific Affairs, 501 S. Jackson St., Seattle, 98104, phone: 464-5820.

**Weekly ballroom dance class**, every Wednesday, 1-3 p.m., Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St.

### ARTS AND CULTURAL EVENTS

Local Access Presents "Unvanquished, staged reading of a play by Holly Yasui based on the life of Min Yasui, who defied the evacuation order, March 21, 2 p.m., and March 22-23, 7 p.m., Theatre Off Jackson, 409 7th Ave. S. Post-play discussions to follow performances. Tickets: \$5. Reservations: 329-4883.

**Japanese Packaging Concepts with John Marshall**, hands-on demonstrations of Japanese gift wrapping as well as learning the Japanese concept of gift-giving and its cultural significance, sponsored by the Hyogo Cultural Center, March 22, 4:30-8:30 p.m., downtown Seattle Art Museum, 100 University St., \$20 fee (includes materials and dinner), registration deadline: March 20. Info: 728-0610.

Repertory Actors Workshop (ReAct) Presents, "The Importance of Being Earnest," by Oscar Wilde, adapted and directed by David Hsieh, March 22, 9:30 p.m.; March 24, 6:30 p.m.; March 28, 8 p.m.; March 30, 10 p.m., Odd Fellows West Hall, 915 E. Pine St., 2nd floor. Included in the cast are Colleen Tomoyasu-Parker, Lisa Nakamura and Alisa Cray. Tickets and info: 325-5446. A special benefit performance for Seattle Arts & Lectures will be held on March 25, 7 p.m., at the Elliott Bay Book Company, 101 S. Main St. Tickets and reservations: 364-3283.

Performance by Lester Iwana Quartet, March 23, 8-11 p.m., Mecca International,

## Calendar, continued from previous page

50 23rd Ave. Info: Joe Joseph, 789-4979. **Tea Ceremony Demonstration** Presented by the Urasenke School, March 24, 2:30 p.m., Teahouse in the Japanese Art Gallery, third floor, Seattle Art Museum, 100 University St. Tickets: \$4 members, \$10 non-members. Info: 654-3121.

"From the Floating World to the Street," woodblock prints by Ando Hiroshige and street photography by contemporary Northwest photographers, through March 24, Seattle Art Museum Photo and Print Gallery, 100 University St., Tuesday-Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Thursday till 9 p.m. Admission: \$6 adults, \$4 seniors/students, children under 12 free. Info: 654-3100.

Northwest Asian American Theatre presents "The Dodo Vaccine," a multimedia performance dealing with Asian Americans and HIV/AIDS, written and performed by Alan Kwong, March 27-April 6, Theatre Off Jackson, 409 7th Ave. S., Wednesday-Saturday 8 p.m., Sunday 4 p.m. Tickets: \$12 general, \$9 seniors/students (\$6 on Thursdays), \$6 performers/artists, pay what you can on Thursday, March 28, 8 p.m. Reservations: 340-1049.

Performance by Lester Iwana Duo, with Iwana accompanied by Paula Maya on keyboards and vocals, March 28, 7-11 p.m., University Plaza Hotel, 400 NE 45th St. Info: Bess Cosgrove, 634-0100.

**Photographs by Japanese and American Photographers** of Photonica, a Japanese stock photography agency, through March 30, Benham Studio Gallery, 1216 1st Ave., Monday-Friday 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m.-3 p.m. Info: 622-2480.

"Netsuke: A Legacy in Miniature," over 250 pieces of 18th-20th century examples from private collections, through March 31, Ming's Asian Gallery, 10217 Main St., Bellevue, Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Info: 462-4008.

"Form, Structure and Nature," works by Shane Shibayama, through March 31, Take 2, 460 N. 36th St., Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Info: 632-1194.

Seattle Japanese Bonsai Club presents its annual exhibit Saturday, April 20, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Nisei Vets Hall, 1212 S. King St. Admission is free. Info: 525-3242.

"Masks," a collection of rare masks from Japan, Indonesia, India and Nepal, through April 27, Honeychurch Antiques, 1008 James St., Monday-Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Info: 622-1225.

"Out of Focus: Media Stereotypes of Asian Pacific Americans," through May 12, Wing Luke Asian Museum, 407 7th Ave. S., Tuesday-Friday 11 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Saturday-Sunday noon-4 p.m., \$2.50 adults, \$1.50 seniors/students, 75¢ children 5-12. Info: 623-5124.

**Ikebana Demonstrations**, Saturdays 11 a.m., Thursdays 7 p.m., followed by an introductory course, fee: \$12 at the door, all materials provided, Seattle Asian Art Museum Kado Tea Garden at Volunteer Park, 1400 E. Prospect St. Info: 344-5265.

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