

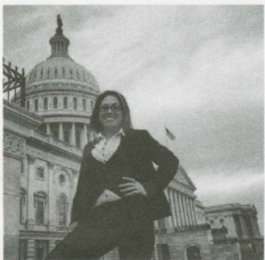


# SEATTLE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Spring 2014

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SEATTLE CHAPTER OF THE JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

## President's column



By Toshiko Hasegawa

Welcome back to the JACL quarterly newsletter! I am extremely proud of the success we've witnessed over the past few months, and I hope that this newsletter serves the purpose of highlighting some of our most noteworthy

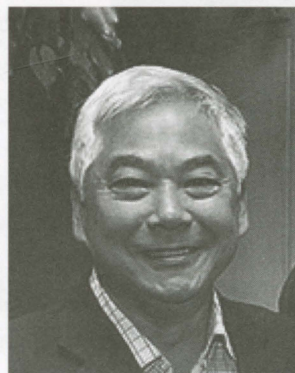
activities. I'm excited by this publication, as all articles are authored by our Board of Directors.

Last March, I attended the JACL PNW District council meeting where I learned that Seattle Chapter has the largest growing membership out of all the chapters in the PNW district and the second-fastest growing membership in the nation! Our neighborhoods and economy have been developing at an extremely rapid pace. There are a number of developments by local government that impact our communities in important ways. JACL Seattle is proud of our work monitoring and responding to attention items that pertain to civil rights. Pertinent to this role is our effort to raise awareness around local current events as well as creating avenues for the community to get involved.

As we move into a warmer season, we will continue to build upon some of our newer projects, such as the development of API PFLAG. JACL Seattle has partnered with PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) in an effort to provide culturally relevant support services to API LGBTQ and their families struggling with identity and acceptance. If you or someone you know might benefit from attending one of our Safe-Circle Teas, or on June 29 would like to march with us in the PRIDE parade, shoot us an email at [info@jaclseattle.org](mailto:info@jaclseattle.org).

Not all of our activities get articles in the newsletter, but if you would like to keep up with current events and chapter activities, follow us on Facebook and Twitter by searching "JACL Seattle."

## HB 2776 honoring the late Kip Tokuda signed into law by Governor Inslee



Tokuda.

Longtime JACL board member Rep. Sharon Tomiko-Santos sponsored a bill last February honoring her late former seatmate, Seattle Chapter past President Kip

Tokuda. Kip is a respected former member of the state legislature and a beloved member of the community. The former President of the JACL Seattle chapter passed away on July 13, 2013, while enjoying his favorite pastime, fishing on Deer Lake near his vacation home on South Whidbey Island. The news sent shock waves throughout the Asian Pacific Islander community which has benefited greatly from his leadership on social justice issues.

### INSIDE

Introducing new Seattle JACL president

JACL notebook

Annual Day of Remembrance

What our members are up to

Upcoming Events

... and Much More!

### RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

Renew your membership online by going to [www.jaclseattle.org](http://www.jaclseattle.org)

Kip served in the State House of Representatives from 1994 to 2002 providing strong leadership on services for developmentally-disabled persons; disadvantaged children, youth and families; and race and social justice issues. Because he felt it was important to keep the experience of Japanese Americans who were unjustly incarcerated during World War II alive, he sponsored the Washington Civil Liberties Education Act. That legislation provided grants for educational projects about the legal and human challenges experienced by Japanese Americans during this period. It was his hope that such actions would never again be experienced by others who might be perceived as enemy aliens by the United States government.

HB 2776, changes the name of the Washington Civil Liberties Public Education Program to the Kip Tokuda Memorial Washington Civil Liberties Public Education Program. Rep. Sharon Tomiko-Santos, who pioneered the bill, budgeted \$100,000 for the Memorial fund saying, "What is the memorial for, if there's no money funding the program?" The engrossed striker for the sup. operating budget (ESSB 6002) was adopted on Tuesday.

It was heard on the floor of the House of Representatives on February 18 where it passed unanimously with vote of 98-0 to the Senate. On February 26, it received a public hearing, at which Kip's family was present and his teenage daughter, Pei-Ming Tokuda, testified in its favor. It swiftly moved out of committee to the floor where it passed unanimously with a vote of 49-0.



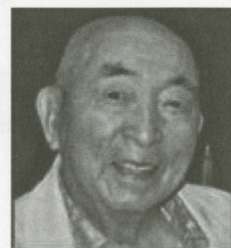
From left to right: JACL Regional Director Karen Yoshitomi and her daughter, Joanna Yoshitomi, in front, Kip's daughter Pei-Ming Tokuda, State Rep. Sharon Tomiko-Santos, Governor Jay Inslee, State Sen. Bob Hasegawa, Kip's wife Barbara Tokuda, his daughter Molly Tokuda and JACL Seattle President Toshiko Hasegawa.

On Wednesday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, members of the JACL attended a formal bill signing of HB 2766 alongside the Tokuda family, Rep. Tomiko-Santos who pioneered the bill and Senator Hasegawa, who spoke movingly spoke to the bill's passage.

"He died doing what he loved," his wife says. "We appreciate the honor of this recognition."

May his legacy live on. *Okage sama de.*

## Seattle JACL mourns the loss of past chapter president and community hero, James Matsuoka



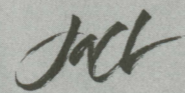
Japanese-American community leader and long-time International District realtor,

James "Jim" Masao Matsuoka, died peacefully on April 24. Jim, a Nisei, achieved one of his last lifelong goals when he turned 100 years old, last All Saint's Day.

Born November 1, 1913, in Barneston (WA), Jim attended grade school in O'Brien, where he chose "James" as his English name off the schoolroom chalkboard. Growing-up, he helped his father farm berries and vegetables. He was responsible for running the family's roadside produce stand. At Kent High School, he was a three-year football letterman. In his senior year, Jim had to take over the farm, when his father was tragically kicked in the head by a horse. After graduating, he worked the farm, supporting his mother and large family until WWII.

Marrying Amy Natori, in 1936, Jim started his family: Janice (1937) and Richard (1943).

In 1941, as a community leader, Jim was one of the first Japanese Americans picked-up and held by the US government. In 1942, he and his family were initially incarcerated at the Pinedale (CA) Assembly Center, then sent to Tule Lake Internment Camp. Volunteering for the first opportunity to work outside of the internment



### 2014 Seattle Chapter Board

- President,  
Toshiko Hasegawa
- 1st VP  
Ken Kurata
- 2nd VP  
Arlene Oki
- 3rd VP  
Ann Fujii Lindwall
- 4th VP  
Mary Ann Midori Goto
- Recording Secretary,  
Paul Tashima
- Corresponding Secretary,  
May Namba
- Treasurer,  
BiHua Caldwell
- Historian,  
Ryan Catabay
- Board Delegate,  
Bill Tashima
- BOARD
- Marcine Anderson
- Shea Aoki
- Sheldon Arakaki
- Hugh Burseson
- Katie Cunningham
- Bob Hasegawa
- Jeffrey Hattori
- Kiku Hayashi
- Keilene Kubota
- Naomi Mittet
- Umeko Motoyoshi
- Gabrielle Nomura
- Patrick Oishi
- Cara Peterson
- Sharon Tomiko Santos
- June Sekiguchi
- Elsie Taniguchi

camp, Jim was shipped to Townsend (MT) to harvest sugar beets. Eventually, his family was able to join him in Helena. Towards the end of the war, a loyal O'Brien produce stand customer, Sam Emmanuel, invited Jim to come to Seattle to become a real estate broker. Beginning in 1946, Jim ran his real estate business, International Realty, on Jackson Street in the Seattle International District. After relocating to Seattle, Jim took up golfing (one of his passions) and resumed fishing (winning a car in the Seattle Times Fishing derby).

With a new sense of home, Jim established roots in the community: helping create the Jackson Street Community Council (1946); starting the First Hills Lions Club (1954 Charter President); and serving as Seattle Chapter JACL president (1956). In 1966, Jim helped drive the repeal of the Washington State Asian Alien Land Laws, which prevented Asian nationals from owning land. For this endeavor, Jim was awarded "The Order of the Sacred Treasure" by the Emperor of Japan in 1997.

After his first wife Amy passed away in 1988, Jim married Amy Beppu in 1990 - "second Grandma Amy."

Jim, a life-long Episcopalian, was a long-time member of St. Peter's Episcopal Church (Seattle), helping resurrect the church after the war. He sat on three Diocesan committees.

Jim is survived by his wife, Amy, of 23 years; daughter, Janice Kumasaka (Henry); sister Dolly Ogata; grandchildren Kyle Kumasaka (Deby), Kerri Kumasaka, Koby Kumasaka (Nancy), James Matsuoka (Lemei), and Kory Kumasaka (Therese); and 10 great-grandchildren.

A Memorial Service was held at St. Peter's Episcopal Church on May 10.

Memorials are suggested to St. Peter's Episcopal Church; Seattle, WA, or a charity of your choice.

Published in *The Seattle Times* on May 4, 2014.

## Sen. Hasegawa's bill ensuring civil liberties for religious minorities signed into law

On March 31 Governor Jay Inslee signed into law SB 5173. This piece of legislation entitles students and state employees to two unpaid holidays per calendar year for a reason of faith or conscience, without penalty. It requires institutions to develop policies to accommodate these absences, and further requires the institution's director of the office of financial management to establish a definition of "undue hardship" for the purposes of the act.

The law was pioneered by longtime JACL Board member, Senator Bob Hasegawa, who represents the 11th legislative district. The primary sponsors behind the bill were Seattle's very own Sen. Adam Kline (37<sup>th</sup>), Sen. David Frockt (48<sup>th</sup>) and Sen. Marilyn Chase (32<sup>nd</sup>).

"The bill was originally drafted in response to a plea from the Muslim community, who weren't allowed the opportunity to observe their own important holidays," described Sen. Hasegawa. "The beauty behind the bill was the widespread community mobilization that resulted, and really gave the bill legs."

At committee hearings, people from throughout Washington and diverse religious faiths arrived in Olympia to testify in favor of the bill's passage. On February 18, it passed unanimously out of the Senate with a vote of 47-0, and on March 6<sup>th</sup> it was passed by the House with a 2/3's vote, 64-32, to the Governor's desk.

There will be a community celebration open to the public at the Rainier Community Center on Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup> from 1-4pm, with an estimated 1000 people in attendance.



Gov. Jay Inslee signing SB 5173 into law accompanied by Sen. Hasegawa and members of the community from across the state.

## WWII incarceration story told through opera, dance, theater

Gabrielle Nomura's dance/taiko piece: Farewell Shikata ga nai



Gabrielle Nomura, a JACL board member and dancer/choreographer, performing in her own work, "Farewell Shikata ga nai" at the Seattle Cherry Blossom Festival in the Seattle Center Armory. The work was also presented at API Heritage Month, and will be presented for a final time at Wing Luke Asian American Museum on Saturday, June 7 at 3 p.m. Wayne Buck photo.

**T**he World War II Japanese American story of forced removal and imprisonment is not just a chapter for the history books.

Recently, everyone from individual dance choreographers and playwrights, to large organizations such as ACT Theatre and Seattle Opera, have taken an interest in telling this story of the Japanese American community through the arts.

Thanks to generous support from the Japanese American Citizens League and Seattle's Office of Arts & Culture, choreographer Gabrielle Nomura has been able to present her work, "Farewell Shikata ga nai," at multiple venues in Seattle from March to June, 2014. The 20-minute performance combines poignant monologues, fresh choreography and live taiko drumming by Seattle Kokon Taiko. Attendees of the 92nd Annual Banquet got a sneak peak of this work, which included a guest appearance of half-Japanese former Pacific Northwest Ballet Principal, Vivian Little, in March. Then, in April, Gabrielle presented the piece as part of her company's 2014 season performance—Relay Dance Collective's "Beginnings."

Seattle Dances reviewed "Beginnings," and had this to say: "Another highlight was Gabrielle Nomura's 'Farewell Shikata ga nai,' a heartfelt piece about the historical experience of Japanese Americans. Through vignettes of dramatic scenes and balletic dance sequences, Nomura told a story of struggles: families being torn apart and sent to internment camps, Japanese Americans facing prosecution during the Pearl Harbor bombings, and all Asian Americans experiencing discrimination. The monologues and dialogues performed by Anna White and Truong Nguyen exposed the old wounds of many disenfranchised voices, which are so often conveniently ignored by those with power to oppress.

Nomura, herself a classically trained dancer, also played on her dancers' strong ballet technique with sprightly jumps and smooth, emotional adagio sequences. The strength of the piece, however, came from the music. The Japanese drum ensemble in the background created a rich, rhythmic structure that created an aura of unrest throughout the work. At the same time, the dancers' intricate formations and effortless balletic movements provided an effective contrast."

Gabrielle's piece has also been featured in Northwest Asian Weekly, the National Japanese American Citizens League newsletter, and, most recently, Rafu Shimpo—the daily Japanese newspaper in Los Angeles. Gabrielle was also thrilled to get a mention on Twitter from Bruce Shepard, president of Western Washington University (her alma mater), congratulating her on her work.

The next and final opportunity to see Gabrielle's piece will be at 3 p.m., Saturday, June 7th at Wing Luke museum (The cost is free for members, and \$5 for non-members). Please come out and see this amazing piece if you have not done so already!

#### Seattle Opera developing a new production based on Mary Matsuda Gruenewald

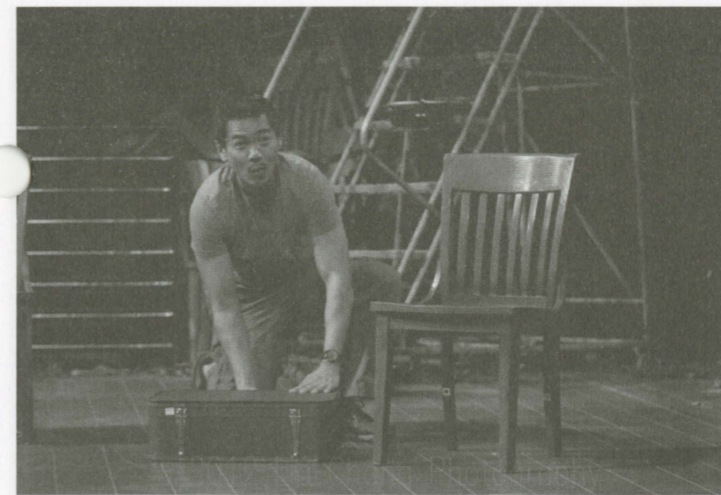


Mary Matsuda Gruenewald, 87, holds an old pickle jar in which she collected more than 100,000 tiny shells during her internment at Tule Lake. ERIKA SCHULTZ / THE SEATTLE TIMES

Seattle Opera is currently developing a new opera partially based on the experience of former World War II incarcerated and book author, Mary Matsuda Gruenewald. The performance date for this work-in-progress is yet to be announced. This opera is being developed through Seattle Opera's BELONGING(S) PROJECT – which, in 2010, offered Seattle community members a chance to talk about their most precious belongings. These were combined in an online repository of videos – a digital quilt. Participants were asked to think about this question: "If you had to leave your home today, and couldn't return, what would you want to take with you? Why is that object, that memory, or that connection to your past or present so important?" Gruenewald, who was asked to participate by librettist, Jessica Murphy Moo, participated in the project and talked about her one-gallon jar of shells that she gathered on the grounds of Tule Lake Camp. Gruenewald's was one of the stories selected by the team at Seattle Opera, led by Education director Sue Elliott and Jessica. JACL board member Gabrielle Nomura, who works at Seattle Opera, has been happy to help provide a bridge between the nikkei community and the opera company. Gabrielle and Sue will be attending the June 5th Nikkei Community Network meeting, which starts at 5:30 p.m. at the Japanese Community and Cultural Center of Washington. All are encouraged to attend to learn more about the opera and provide feedback for Sue. More information will be available in the coming weeks at [seattleopera.org](http://seattleopera.org).

#### "We Hold These Truths" at ACT Theatre

Seattle JACL President Toshiko Hasegawa and Board Member Gabrielle Nomura recently met with Naomi Minegishi, Board Member of ACT Theatre to discuss ways in which JACL might support a summer run of Jeanne Sakata's "Hold These Truths"



(based on Gordon Hirabayashi) at ACT. While the meeting was only preliminary, more information and tickets will be available in the coming weeks at [www.acttheatre.org](http://www.acttheatre.org). The play is scheduled to run from July 28-August 3. Seattle JACL is looking forward to continuing its conversations with ACT to support this effort.

## An inspiring experience at the JACL/OCA Leadership Summit



Leadership Summit JACL Attendees: Back – Emi Kamemoto, Matthew Walters, Dr. Robert Irie. Middle – Janet Komoto, Justin Valas, Stephen Sharp. Front – Toshiko Hasegawa, Jessica Asai, Rosemary Uyeda, Yasuo Tokita, Not pictured – Kenneth Sogabe

By Portland JACL Board Member Jessica Asai

Life includes many surreal moments — snapshots in time when you're not quite sure if something is actually happening because it is so unfathomable. As I sat in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, I had one of those moments. I was listening to a briefing from the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (WHIAAPI) while looking at enlarged photos of President Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama exercising. (The Eisenhower Building also houses the Office of the First Lady's "Let's Move" campaign to fight childhood obesity.) It then occurred to me that I had not imagined my life would include such a powerful moment. Somehow attending Mid-Columbia JACL summer picnics

and Christmas parties in my childhood and dreams of becoming an attorney led me to this very moment.

I was raised in Hood River, the yonsei daughter of farmers who taught me to value family and take pride in my Japanese heritage. Like many families, mine was interned during World War II and their deprivation of civil liberties has made me passionate about civil rights, civic engagement, and Asian Pacific Islander (API) issues. Though an attorney, I now work as a Civil Rights Investigator ensuring compliance with state and federal nondiscrimination laws. Because civil rights are the focus of my career, I feel extremely fortunate to have been chosen to attend the 2014 JACL/OCA Washington, DC Leadership Summit where we learned lobbying and advocacy skills so we could both advocate for civil rights issues on Capitol Hill and bring those skills back to our home chapters.

The Summit launched the evening of Saturday, March 8, with a welcome reception and keynote address by Stuart Ishimaru, Director of the Office of Minority and Women Inclusion at the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. Ishimaru's trailblazing career has focused on civil rights; in addition to his current position, he has held positions with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (Commissioner and Acting Chairman) and the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice (Deputy Assistant Attorney General and Counsel to the Assistant Attorney General). JACL Executive Director Priscilla Ouchida and OCA (formerly the Organization of Chinese Americans, now rebranded as OCA – Asian Pacific American Advocates) Executive Director Tom Hayashi also welcomed attendees.

Sunday, March 9, was our first full day of activities and provided an opportunity to work with other JACL and OCA attendees, who ranged in age from late teens to 70s and hailed from both coasts and parts in between. Other JACL attendees included Toshiko Grace Hasegawa, Seattle Chapter President; and Janet Dere Komoto, Snake River (Ontario, OR) Chapter President. The connections developed amongst Summit attendees will undoubtedly be one of the best takeaways from the Summit.

Sunday's agenda included "Star Power," a game that illustrated how resource allocation stratifies society with limited opportunity for upward mobility; a panel discussion on the Voting Rights Act with Terry Ao Minnis (Director of Census and Voting Programs, Asian Americans Advancing Justice) and Bree Romero (Field Manager, The Leadership Conference Education Fund); a Social Media Training workshop conducted by Vincent Paolo Villano (Director of Communications for the National Center for Transgender Equality); a lunchtime discussion of pan-Asian advocacy as defined by our personal histories and historical events for our communities; and an Advocacy Communication and Story Framing workshop led by our Summit organization leaders, Kham Moua (OCA) and Rhianna Taniguchi (JACL). Whew! Our day was capped off by a walk to Chinatown for a spirited karaoke session at

Wok and Roll.

Monday, March 10, we met for breakfast at 6:50 AM (!) then proceeded to the Eisenhower Building for a White House Briefing with WHIAAPI that included an introduction from the White House Office of Public Engagement. The White House Advisors provided insight into their work addressing immigration reform, the Affordable Care Act, and AANAPSI (Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions) colleges. We also engaged in small group discussions with each Advisor to share our thoughts and comments. The opportunity to sit down with White House Advisors was truly a memorable experience!

After the briefing, we had an Advocacy 101 panel discussion with Stephanie Ueng (Legislative Director for Congresswoman Tammy Duckworth) and Ben Chou (Outreach Fellow for Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi); an immigration reform panel discussion with Dong Yoon Kim (Program Associate, National Korean American Service & Education Consortium), Lia Parada (Legislative Director, Alliance for Citizenship), and Erin Oshiro (Senior Staff Attorney, Immigration and Immigrant Rights, Asian Americans Advancing Justice); a presentation by State Farm regarding grants and programs offered nationwide to strengthen communities; and a visit to the Japanese American Memorial with author Franklin Oda. Our day culminated with a dinner presentation by Chris Lu. Lu's impressive resume includes Assistant to the President, White House Cabinet Secretary, and co-chair of WHIAAPI. Lu spoke passionately about current civil rights issues and the need for more APIs to run for office and work in civil service. He also discussed having attended Harvard Law School with President Obama. During a Q&A session, I was able to ask Lu what he saw as the most pressing civil rights issue of our time, to which he responded – voting rights. His response emphasized that the Summit's focus was truly relevant to ensure civil rights for all citizens.

The Summit concluded on Tuesday, March 11, with a chance to use our newly honed advocacy skills by lobbying Capitol Hill for immigration reform and a stronger Voting Rights Act. The day began in the Cannon House Office Building for a "Meet and Greet" with Congresswoman Colleen Hanabusa (Hawaii) and Congressman Mark Takano (California). I introduced myself to Hanabusa because she had been a state legislator during the time I worked for Hawaii lobbyists after college. Summit attendees then divided into pre-assigned lobbying teams before heading to appointments with Congressional offices. I was assigned to visit Congressman Greg Walden's office to discuss immigration reform. Walden is also a Hood River native and, though I no longer reside in his district, I am keenly familiar with issues impacting his constituents. Our group leader was Komoto, who does reside in his district. Though we did not meet with Congressman Walden directly, his staffer was receptive to our comments and we left feeling empowered.

I enthusiastically recommend the Leadership Summit to any JACL member interested in policy, civil rights, and advocacy. In just three jam packed days, I built connections across civil rights organizations, strengthened my advocacy skills, and broadened my knowledge of API issues. The opportunity to learn from the Summit's speakers and lobby in DC was an invaluable experience; and I am truly thankful to Summit sponsors, Southwest Airlines and State Farm, for making this opportunity a reality.

## Upcoming Events

### Camp Harmony

The museum at the Washington State Fair announces a major event during the 2017 show 75th year acknowledgement of the Puyallup Assembly Center known as Camp Harmony. The museum at the Washington State Fairgrounds in Puyallup, Washington, will showcase the incarceration of over 7000 local Japanese and Japanese Americans on the fairgrounds following Executive Order 9066. Puyallup Valley JACL (Japanese American Citizens League) through the Fife Historical Society and Museum will assist on the exhibit demonstrating the incarceration of the Japanese and Japanese Americans during World War II. Displays, videos and events will be included depicting the actual experiences of those incarcerated. The Camp Harmony Committee welcomes stories, artifacts, documents, photographs, and other relevant materials related to the incarceration of the Seattle, Tacoma, and the surrounding Pierce County communities of Japanese and Japanese American families during their detention at Camp Harmony. The Camp Harmony Committee requests anyone who has any articles or artifacts to donate to our display or for further information, please contact: Cho Shimizu or Elsie Taniguchi at [redacted] or [redacted]

## Seattle JACL bids a fond farewell to Heidi Park

### Past-President selected as a 2015 National Urban Fellow

Heidi Park, our beloved 2013 JACL president, was recently selected to participate in the National Urban Fellows' Academic & Leadership Development Fellowship Program. This rigorous, 14-month, full-time graduate degree program includes four semesters of academic coursework and a nine-month mentorship assignment. During this time, National Urban Fellows complete coursework via distance learning. Heidi will receive a \$25,000 stipend, health insurance, a book allowance, relocation and travel reimbursement, full tuition covered, and professional leadership development.



Heidi Park (center) with Bob Santos (left) and Cherry Cayabyab (right) after receiving the International Examiner's Tatsuo Nakata Youth Award.

Dear Heidi,

We knew this would happen when we learned that you submitted an application to join the National Urban Fellows Program in New York City. And it is no surprise that yours was one of 20 of over 300 applications to be approved. Your long list of accomplishments at such a young age are truly impressive. Last year, you not only served our Seattle Chapter president, you took a most challenging position as a policy analyst for Mayor Mike McGinn. When you worked for Congressman Jim McDermott, you worked on a bill to seek restitution for Wards Cove workers and then wrote a resolution supporting the effort which passed unanimously at the National Convention in 2013. As a staff member of the Win/Win Network you led the Washington State API Civic Engagement Initiative to address hidden opportunity gaps for API students in public schools.

In recognition of your service, the International Examiner selected you as the recipient of the Tatsuo Nakata Community Voice Award in 2013. The Seattle Chapter JACL, and many individuals in the API community, appreciate your strong leadership on social justice issues and wish you the best in your new endeavor. You are a remarkable young leader.

Yes, we will miss you but look forward to seeing you again in the future.

- Arlene Oki, on behalf of the entire Seattle JACL Chapter

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**SATURDAY, AUGUST 16TH, 2014 9:00AM - 1:00PM**  
**ANNUAL AKI KUROSE MIDDLE SCHOOL CLEAN UP DAY**

## JACL notebook: where we've been this winter and spring

Raising \$20,000 for JACL programs at the Annual Banquet



From left to right: Princess Izumi Hansen, First Princess Kristi Nakata, Miss Seattle Kimball Gainor, Puyallup JACL President Elsie Taniguchi, Miss Seattle's Outstanding Teen Haylie Sturgill, Washington Queen Christine Ito and Princess Aspasea McKenna. Photo by Dave Barksdale

The Seattle JACL raised more than \$20,000 during the 92nd Annual Banquet, an evening of recognition, inspiration and community-building, on March 21 at Seattle University's Campion Hall. The funds raised included the efforts of a dessert dash that brought in more than \$11,000 for our scholarships, and a "raise the paddle" that brought in more than \$5,000 to send youth delegates to our National JACL Convention in San Jose this July.

President Toshiko Hasegawa welcomed more than 270 guests in attendance, including corporate supporters, elected officials (Congressman Jim McDermott, King County Executive Dow Constantine, Seattle Mayor Ed Murray and husband Michael Shiosaki) and distinguished community leaders. The Seattle chapter was grateful that the National JACL Executive Director, Priscilla Ouchida, traveled to Seattle to join us for the evening.

The annual banquet was also an opportunity to publicly recognize individuals and organizations who, through their work and advocacy efforts, exemplified the mission of the JACL. We were proud to present the Sam Shoji Unsung Hero Award to Aki Sogabe for her contributions as both an artist and as member of the community. The Seattle JACL Community Engagement Award was presented to longtime activist, Francisco "Frankie" Irigon. His passion for social justice over these many decades have been inspirational. The Seattle JACL Special Achievement in Civil Rights Award was presented to Marsha Aizumi, who flew in from California with her family to accept the award. Marsha has done exemplary work with PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) and her acceptance speech moved everyone to tears. There



Senator Bob Hasegawa, Eileen Lamphere, Toshiko Hasegawa, Elsie Taniguchi and JoAnna Yoshitomi enjoying the Seattle JACL Banquet together. Senator Hasegawa was the MC for the evening and Toshiko is the current President of the Seattle JACL. Eileen, Elsie and JoAnna represent the Puyallup Valley JACL.

was also a surprise recognition of JACL past president Jeffrey Hattori for his many years of contributing his leadership and time to Seattle JACL, as well as special recognition to the late Kip Tokuda.

The Seattle Chapter would like to thank all who attended and gave so generously, as well as our wonderful volunteers! Additionally, thank you to our wonderful donating artists, Stewart Wong, Etsuko Ichikawa, Liz Jameson, Aki Sogabe, Naomi Mittet, and Barry Wong. Bravo to M.C. Bob Hasegawa and auctioneer Harold Taniguchi for contributing their talents to the program.

We look forward to seeing you in 2015!

Special thanks to the following corporate sponsors for making the banquet possible:

**Benefactor Level Sponsor (\$5,000)**

Muckleshoot Indian Tribe

**Diamond Level Sponsors (\$2,000)**

Microsoft  
Wells Fargo Bank

**Gold Level Sponsors (\$1,000)**

Garbooshian Family  
The Elaine Akagi Fan Club  
Evergreen Washelli  
Nikkei Concerns  
Union Bank

**Supporting our community partner: OneAmerica**

Members of Seattle JACL were pleased to attend the OneAmerica 2014 Annual Celebration on Friday, April 4th at The Westin Seattle. Artist Hollis Wong-Wear (nominated for a Grammy for her work

on Macklemore & Ryan Lewis' album "The Heist") performed a powerful spoken word piece honoring the sacrifices her mother made for her. The night also included a keynote speech from Gara LaMarche, president of the Democracy Alliance, who reminded attendees about the need for comprehensive immigration reform and the value of fighting for social justice.



**Providing scholarships to our nikkei youth**

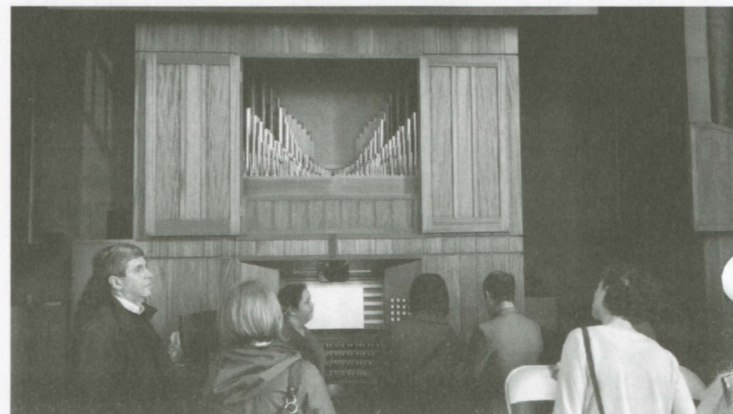
Congratulations to the five outstanding winners of Seattle JACL's scholarships! We are so proud of these wonderful youth. They include:

- Megan Kimiko Ingram, (Tazuma Scholarship)
- Christine Ito, (Tamesa Scholarship)
- Christine Lu, (Aki Kurose Scholarship)
- Anna Kimura, (Cherry and Mas Kinoshita Scholarship);
- Rica Mackert, (Shimokon Scholarship).

Members of the scholarship committee are Ann Fujii Lindwall, Kyle Kinoshita, Paul Kurose, Katelin Kobuke, Rica Mackert, Ali Myers, May Namba, Mari Sugiyama, Emi Suzuki, Elsie Leilani Taniguchi and Bill Tashima.

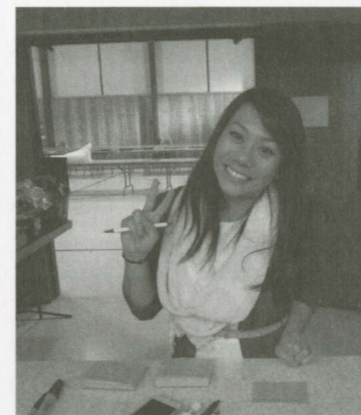
**What our members are up to**

**Cara Peterson Masters Recital**



Cara Peterson, JACL board member, presented her Graduate Recital at St. Mark's Cathedral on Sunday March 30, 2014. Cara played selections by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, Robert Schumann, Johann Sebastian Bach and Cesar Franck. Her hands and feet were very busy for over an hour. Cara received her Bachelors of Music degree from the Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey, and is a candidate for a Masters of Music in Organ Performance from the University of Washington this spring. Well done, Cara!

**Seattle welcomes new member Ngoc Dinh from Mile High JACL**



Hi everyone! My name is Ngoc Dinh and I am a new JACL Seattle member! Here's some information about me so you can get to know me a little better!

I recently moved from Denver to the Seattle area. In Denver, I was involved with Mile High JACL (Board Member and Media Team),

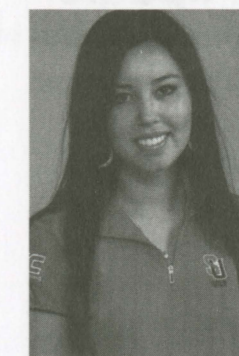
Taiko with Toni (Student and Performer), Colorado Dragon Boat Festival (Volunteer Chair) and Denver Public Schools Asian Education Advisory Council (Board Member). I was also an active participant in many JA and API community events. I made many wonderful lifelong friends in Denver, but had to follow my heart back to the West Coast.

I was born in Saigon, Vietnam, but grew up in the Bay Area. After living in Denver for 6 years, I realized how much I missed the water. I'm thrilled to call The Evergreen State my new home! In the little time I've been here, I've connected with JACL Seattle, Seattle Kokon Taiko and am looking to become involved with other JA and API community organizations.

I love, love, love food! I love all types of foods and trying new and exciting things! If there's food involved, I'm there ;) I'm artistic and have multiple outlets for my creativity, including taiko, graphic design and singing loudly in the car. I graduated with a MA in Music Performance from San Francisco State University, am classically trained in many Western instruments and can play other instruments such as steel drums and kulintang. I have a 3 year old border collie named, Ichi. He's still in Colorado, but will be here in May completing my transition back to the West Coast!

The next time you're at a JA or other API community event and you see a new friendly face, that's probably me. Come by and introduce yourself, I'd love to meet you!

**District Rep Nicole Gaddie featured in The Seattle Times**



Pacific Northwest District representative to JACL's National Youth/Student Council wrote an editorial piece reflecting on 12 years of golfing and what the last four years have meant as her collegiate career at Seattle University. You can read the piece on the Take 2 sports blog of The Seattle Times at: <http://bit.ly/1oH9A5Y>.

**Chapter President Toshiko Hasegawa headed to Japan!**

Toshiko Hasegawa was selected to participate in the Kakehashi Project: the Bridge for Tomorrow. This program is sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and aims to continue building cooperation between Japan and America in the future. In late May she traveled to Japan with a group of students to improve Japanese American understanding of Japan in the fields of politics, economy and culture.

**Gabrielle Nomura interviewed for API Buddhist study**

Board member Gabrielle Nomura was recently interviewed by Chenxing Han, a Buddhist Chaplain and recent graduate from the University of California, Berkeley's Institute of Buddhist Studies. Chenxing recently submitted and defended her MA thesis on young adult Asian American Buddhists, and is now focusing on expanding the thesis into a book. Gabrielle, who attends Seattle Betsuin and Tacoma Buddhist temples, as well as sitting zazen with her grandfather at Seattle Soto Zen, said it was an extremely rewarding opportunity to connect with a like-minded individual and discuss the particular challenges of API Buddhists. Gabrielle encourages other Asian American Buddhists to learn more about Chenxing's work at: <http://chenxinghan.org/>.

**Board member June Sekiguchi art show**

Seattle chapter board member June Sekiguchi's art work will be



featured in a show called "A Cut Above." This exhibition explores hand cut work in paper, wood, prints, and sculpture. Continuing the yearlong focus of Asian inspired art at The Lakeshore, A Cut Above, presents unique contemporary works in a variety of mediums and perspectives inspired by traditional art practices. The artists reception was Saturday,

May 17, 1:30-3:30 with a 2:30 artist introduction and informal talk; the art will be displayed until September 14.

The full list of artists include: Betsy Best Spadaro, Mia Yoshihara-Bradshaw, Julia Harrison, Lauren Iida, Naoko Morisawa and June Sekiguchi.



## Membership committee update



Hello Seattle JACLers! My name is Sylvie and I am happy to introduce myself as a new board member and this year's membership chair. After joining JACL four years ago, I was excited to join the board this February and become a more active member. There is an exciting year ahead of us on the membership committee. As always I hope to gain new membership, especially among youth in the community

and at local universities. Along with recruitment, we are also planning on celebrating new members with welcome events. Part of this process has included creating new membership materials and putting together a display table to promote JACL membership at community events. With a full year ahead of us, we have plenty of work to do and will hold our first membership meeting shortly. All are welcome to volunteer, no experience necessary. I look forward to meeting you! Feel free to contact me via email at [redacted]

## Proposed Bylaw Changes for Seattle JACL

The Chapter Board convened an ad hoc committee to review the Chapter's current Bylaws. The committee is composed of Marcine Anderson, BiHoa Caldwell, Ann Fujii Lindwall, Toshiko Hasegawa, Ken Kurata, Heidi Park, Bill Tashima, Paul Tashima. The committee has suggested to the Board several proposals. In accordance with the current Bylaws, the initial four Bylaw changes are itemized below. The purpose of the four changes is to align current Board procedures with current business procedures in advantaging the Board of current electronic communication methods should the Board choose.

Another major change is permitting proxy voting in recognition of Board members growing time constraints and time conflicts. The Bylaw changes will be voted on at the August Board meeting, August 13th, Seattle Keiro Nursing Home. Members are invited to this meeting and will be given an opportunity to speak to any of the changes. If you have an opinion and cannot make this meeting, please feel free to email your thoughts to Bill Tashima, interim Bylaw Committee Chair, at [redacted]

### Adding three new sections to Article IV-Board of Directors

**Add: Section 9-** A director unable to attend a meeting may give his/her proxy to another director. The absent director must notify the presiding officer by mail or email prior to a meeting of the proxy assignment. The presiding officer may not hold a proxy vote. Proxy votes will be noted for roll call and when a division of the house is requested.

**Rationale:** Will permit proxy votes. Provides for a method of notification of a proxy vote. The presiding officer should not hold a proxy since the presiding officer does not vote. Proxy votes are intended for purpose of a quorum and when a vote count is necessary.

**Add: Section 10-** The Board of Directors' meetings may be in-person or virtual, e.g., conference call, teleconference, or via the internet.

**Rationale:** Updates meeting format to current business meeting alternatives to an in-person meeting.

**Add: Section 11-** When necessary to timely act, the Board may utilize an e-mail vote. If three or more directors object, the vote will be taken at the next Board of Directors meeting. In the case of an email vote, a simple majority of all Directors is required for passage.

**Rationale:** Provides for email votes. The presumption is that email votes would be used for issues of expected consensus. Since email votes allow little discussion or amendments, provides for a mechanism to force formal discussion.

### Amend Section 1 of Article XIII-Amendments

*Section 1*-Currently reads:

Amendments to these Bylaws may be proposed by any officer, board member, or active member of the Chapter at any regular meeting of the Board. The proposed amendment shall be in writing. The proposed amendment shall after introduction lie over until the next meeting. Notice of the amendment and the date that the same will be voted on shall be given in the Chapter's publication or by special mailing as provided for herein to all members of the Chapter. The proposed amendment must be approved by a majority vote of the directors present at stated meeting in order to be adopted.

### Section 1-Proposed Amendment

**Amendments to these Bylaws may be proposed by any officer, board member, or active member of the Chapter at any regular meeting of the Board. The proposed amendment shall be in writing. The proposed amendment shall after introduction lie over until the next meeting. Notice of the amendment and the date that the same will be voted on shall be given in the Chapter's publication or by special mailing as provided for herein to all members of the Chapter. A complete wording of any amendments will be provided in the Chapter's publication, special mailing/ email, Chapter website, or other Chapter maintained electronic repository accessible to Chapter members. The proposed amendment must be approved by a majority vote of the directors present at stated meeting in order to be adopted.**

**Rationale:** Permits notice of amendments without having to publish the entire wording in the newsletter. At this point, a feasible alternative would be to publish full wording of proposed changes on the Chapter's website.

## Donations

"Thank you to our generous sponsors, The Muckleshoot Indian Tribe

### 2013 Annual Appeal

Ruthann Kurose and Nathan Rothman  
Janice Nakamura  
Cara Peterson  
Ken Sato

### General Donations

Anonymous (Give with Liberty Employee Match)  
Dean Hirata (Give with Liberty Employee Match)  
Robert Komoto (Give with Liberty Employee Match)  
Taryn Imamura (Microsoft Matching Gifts)  
Karen and Larry Matsuda (In Honor of Mary Matsuda Grunewald's 89<sup>th</sup> Birthday)  
Bill Tashima and Chris Bentley (Seattle JACL Scholarship Luncheon)

Bradley Yamauchi (Microsoft Matching Gifts)

### 2014 Day of Remembrance Bus Donations

Dale Kaku  
Shiz Kaku  
Debbie Kashino  
Lousie Kashino  
Tom Kometani  
Don Maekawa  
Sam Mitsue  
Nancy Nobuyama  
Sunkie Oiye  
Kats Okamoto  
John Painter  
May Sasaki  
Frank Shinoda  
Suma Yagi

### 2014 92<sup>nd</sup> Annual Banquet Donations

#### Banquet Donations

Bellevue Westin  
Debadutta Dash  
Momoko Kido  
Ken Kurata  
Lori Matsukawa  
Charlene and Jerry Lee  
Hisami Yoshida and Richard Sinclair  
Kyle Kinoshita

Peter Yang, Overnight Printing & Graphics

#### Banquet Dessert Dash-Dessert Items (In-kind)

Ballard Market  
Bennett's  
Carmelette Bentley  
BiHoa Caldwell  
Central Market  
Betty Chandler  
Cheesecake Factory - Seattle  
Costco-Shoreline  
Karen Cunningham  
Daniel's Broiler - Bellevue  
Mary Beth Emert  
Rae Hanashiro  
Toshiko Hasegawa  
Kiku Hayashi  
Lillian Hayashi



Kyle Kinoshita  
Ali Myers and June Shkurhan  
Assunta Ng  
Gail Nomura  
Arlene Oki  
Debbie Shimizu  
Alysa Sugiyama  
Mari Sugiyama  
Darcia Tanabe  
Gail Tanaka  
Bill Tashima and Chris Bentley  
Paul Tashima  
Trophy Cupcakes  
Umai-Do Japanese Sweet Shop  
Joan Yoshitomi  
Karen Yoshitomi  
**Banquet Raise the Paddle Donations**  
Akemi Matsumoto  
Jeffrey Hattori  
Penny Fukui  
Sheldon Arakaki  
Tad Aizumi  
Byron Tokunaga  
Gary Matsudaira  
Harold Taniguchi  
Shiz Kaku  
Dave Cunningham  
Bill Tashima  
Lily Eng  
Sharon T. Santos  
Laura Humiston  
Christine Laye  
Chris Grabowski  
Rae Hanashiro  
Tetsuden Kashima  
Allen Nakamoto  
Jule Ann Oiye  
Mark Okazaki  
Dawn Rego-Yee  
Stan Shikuma  
Bob Shimabukuro  
Herb Tsuchiya  
Dale Watanabe  
Suma Yagi  
Josh Foley  
Jun Hata  
Patty Hiroo Matsude  
Frank Irigon  
Wendy Kimball  
Paul Kurose  
Sharon Maeda  
Kats Okamoto  
Mali Olson  
Priscilla Ouchida  
Debbie Shimizu  
Paul Tashima



JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE  
 SEATTLE CHAPTER  
 PO BOX 18558  
 SEATTLE, WA 98118-0558

NON-PROFIT ORG  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 SEATTLE WA  
 PERMIT NO. 9180

WWW.JACLSEATTLE.ORG



1\*58



WILLIAM TASHIMA



**JACL2014**  
 NATIONAL CONVENTION ~ SAN JOSE

**Connect with JACL on social media!**

"Like" us on Facebook and tweet us at @JACLSeattle

Seattle Chapter:

P.O. Box 18558, Seattle, WA 98118-0558 | jaclseattle.org

Newsletter editor:

Gabrielle Kazuko Nomura ( )



**LIKE US**  
 - JACL Seattle on Facebook