Japanese Cultural & Community Center of Washington

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The Nikkei Heritage Association of WA (NHAW) d.b.a. the Japanese Cultural & Community Center of Washington (JCCCW) is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, EIN 20-0062363.

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Sharing art and culture at the J!

Picture from top left, clockwise: Okinawan Club of Washington State, Midori Thiel teaching calligraphy, Fumi Groves & Kurt Tokita, Lori Whaley at storytime, Summer Camp Paper Sumo Contest, and Summer Camp kids in yukata.
MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Family and Friends of the “J”

Thank you for your continued support of the JCCCW! Your donations, volunteer hours, and participation here allowed new and established programs to thrive and grow. The Japanese Language School student body continues to grow at a steady rate, Hosekibako is still the place to find hidden treasures, and Omoide continues to create and promote writers who share their experiences and memories.

The newly unveiled Unsettled-Resettled: Seattle Hunt Hostel exhibit is fabulous and well worth a visit. The project documents the residents of the Japanese Language School buildings which served as transitional housing for those returning from the Minidoka Incarceration Camp in Hunt, Idaho. The exhibit is free and open during regular business hours.

A big thanks to Lori Matsukawa and her team of volunteers for another successful fundraising Tomodachi Luncheon on March 24th held at Seattle University’s Campion Ballroom. This year’s awardees were the Honorable Norman Mineta and Mitsubishi Aircraft Corporation America for their involvement in strengthening ties with Japan and the United States.

The “J” is a unique, dynamic and constantly evolving organization — preserving and promoting language, culture, and heritage. We hope you’ll stop by for a visit, attend a class or community event in our historic buildings!

Thank you,
Kurt Tokita

Projects, Programs & Funding

2016 has been an exceptionally good year for grant funded support of the JCCCW.

We have been awarded $32,500 for Facilities Preservation from 4Culture (a King County cultural services agency) through a Cultural Facilities grant and $16,480.00 from the City of Seattle Office of Arts & Culture. Funds will be used to repair and renovate the breezeway connecting the two main buildings. Renovation would include redesigning the overlapping roofline and enclosing the breezeway to prevent damage from rain water penetration.

JCCCW is one of 35 organizations to be included in the Heritage Capital Project (HCP) Prioritized Projects List. This official list has been submitted by the Washington State Historical Society for funding consideration in the 2017 – 2019 Heritage Capital Projects Fund, in the state capital budget. The recommended amount for funding is $20,600. The total amount for the 35 projects listed is $8.95M.

A condition assessment of the facility will be conducted as part of a Long-Term Operations Plan to determine the building improvements necessary for generating additional rental income. $5,000 has been awarded from the Eldridge Campbell Stockton Fund for Washington, administered by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, for fees associated with conducting the assessment.

JCCCW has received funds for new and ongoing Northwest Nikkei Museum projects. New projects include: $7,775 for Interwoven: A Japanese

(see GRANTS on next page)
MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

心から
Ko·ko·ro·ka·ra
From the Heart

Family, Friends and Supporters,

My how time flies! As I look back on the last several months, I’m grateful to the staff and volunteers that have helped the JCCCW achieve so many positive milestones.

In this newsletter we’ll be sharing some highlights of those milestones and the challenges that we’ve faced. You’ll get a glimpse into what’s in store for the future and how we plan to honor and preserve the legacy of the Issei pioneers. We’re refining programs to meet the needs of the current generation and working to ensure the long term sustainability of the “J” for future generations.

Most importantly, through this newsletter we hope to demonstrate the success we’ve enjoyed through our commitment to active volunteerism and community engagement. None of what occurs at the “J” can happen without our many volunteers! It is the spirit of inclusiveness and cooperation that has been the key to our success.

In planning for the upcoming year we’ll try to set realistic and sustainable goals. We’ll also be looking a little further down the road to begin mapping out a way to ensure our long term sustainability. Throughout this process, from planning to implementation, we’ll be relying on friends and supporters to contribute towards the successful attainment of those goals.

As a recipient of this newsletter, you are in some way connected to the JCCCW and therefore a part of a growing community of family, friends and supporters. Whether it’s time, talent or resources, no matter how small or great, we are grateful for your support.

On behalf of the JCCCW staff, please accept my heartfelt thank you for playing an important “supporting role” in the exciting things that are happening at the “J.” Together we’ll honor what was given to us, by passing it along as our gift to the future.

Sincerely,

Karen Yoshitomi

(Grants cont’d)

Community Historical Perspective on Genji Mihara, $5,295 for development of a JCCCW Walking Tour and $5,000 for a Large Capacity Server for the Special Collections. All three of these grants were awarded by 4Culture of King County.

The Japanese Language School received a $1,000 grant from the Japan Foundation – Los Angeles for teaching and classroom materials.

We will be closing out the Japanese American Confinement Sites grant administered by the National Park Service for Unsettled/Resettled: Seattle’s Hunt Hotel project. This project has resulted in a permanent and traveling exhibit featuring original artwork by Aki Sogabe. A commemorative book has also been published about the Hunt Hotel and exhibit. The total amount of the award for this project was $102,810.

Kodomo no Hi, our most popular cultural event, received marketing support from the City of Seattle’s Neighborhood & Community Arts program. The JCCCW was awarded a total of $2,400, half of which is reserved for marketing and outreach for next year’s event and planning has already started.

Our generous grant partners:
ディレクターからのメッセージ

「心から」

みなさま、

ワシントン州日本文化会館（JCCCW）にお寄せ下さったご支援と友情に感謝します。当文化会館は企画や活動の幅を広げつつ成長しておりますが、従来と変わることなくその基本理念を重んじ、すべての活動の指針としております。

ここで、私達がその価値観に忠実であることを確認し、改めてお伝えしたいと思います。

日本と日系アメリカ人の文化や伝統を大切に伝えていくためには、みんなで力を合わせることが重要であると確信しています。

私達は、一世やその他の先達が不屈の精神をもって築いた土台の上に生きており、その遺産を保存するため、彼らの物語を語り継いで行くことを旨としています。それによって、異なる世代間に敬意ある対話が生まれると信じているからです。

文化会館は、文化の多様性を認める環境の中で、だれもが安全に自己のアイデンティティを探ることができる場所であり、なんびとをも受け入れ、結束することによって個々の人間よりも力を発揮することのできる共同体です。そして、それぞれの出自や志向にかかわらず、だれもが仲間意識を持つような場所です。

私達はボランティア活動の意義を認め、互いに助け合っています。ボランティアのみなさんやスタッフ、文化会館を訪れて下さるすべての方々のことをありがたく思っています。そして、このような助け合いの精神は伝統的な日本の文化的、社会的価値観に根ざしたもので、また、コミュニティーへの責任を自覚し、会館の運営には透明主義で臨んでおり、経理の面でも環境の面でも行き届いた管理に努めていきます。

さらに、「がんばる」の精神をもって将来を見据え、より大きなコミュニティーと協同して長く遺産を残せるような文化施設を創って行きたいと考えております。

文化会館の主催するプログラムはすべて文化的に正しく専門的で、高い目標をかかげ、よりよい結果を得られるよう尽力しております。

日本文化会館はこれらのことを大切にしており、理想に向かって進んでいく中でみなさまからいただいたご支援に心から感謝致します。

キャレン・吉富

The section above is a translation of the JCCCW Core Values Statement: The mission, vision and core values were approved by the Board of Directors, December 20, 2009 and can be found on our website at jcccw.org/about-us/mission-vision-core-values.
Ganbaru Partners

By Theo Bickel

The Ganbaru Internship program is a youth leadership development program through which interns learn first-hand about community stewardship, get immersed in JCCCW’s operations and contribute to our mission. Interns also learn about and promote Japanese and Japanese American culture, gaining valuable professional experience by assisting with various programs such as cultural events, administration, museum/library, and marketing. Interns are an integral part of the JCCCW team and learn from the community, staff, and one another. Each intern cohort mixes local and international students, expanding their worldview through cross-cultural exchange.

We collaborate with four organizations to recruit international students: Global Career Service, International Cross-Cultural Committee (ICC), Global Educational Network, and iLEAP. These organizations provide once-in-a-lifetime opportunities for Japanese students to apply themselves professionally and expand their perspectives through living in the United States. Japanese exchange interns are immersed in American life for one to four months and typically live with host families.

Global Career Service and ICC coordinate with us to place interns who often spend 40 hours a week at JCCCW, focusing on developing their professional skills through work experience. iLEAP and Global Education Network base their programs around youth leadership development activities including workshops, mentorships, site visits to local businesses and landmarks.

Our generous internship partners:

Our interns leave with impactful experiences and a better understanding of the local community, nonprofit operations, the role of culture and history in contemporary society, and the complexity of markers such as ‘Japanese’ and ‘American.’ The Ganbaru Internship program goal is to provide opportunities for young people to think critically about the importance of community centers like JCCCW and empowering them to carry the torch of community stewardship around the world. JCCCW recognizes and thanks our partners for their support in fulfilling that goal.

Volunteer!

The JCCCW is in need of volunteers. If you can lend your talents and time, please email Theo to let him know you’re interested in volunteering at the “J” at theob@jcccw.org.

Facilities - Maintain this historic and active facility, check smoke alarms, assist with building improvements, minimum of one day a month.

NW Nikkei Museum Catalog - Assist with cataloging JCCCW’s permanent and special collections of museum artifacts, 3+ months weekly schedule highly desired, must have experience with museum collections.

Kintsugi Garden - Help maintain the landscaped garden. Must have a passion for gardening, flexible schedule.

Hosekibako Store - Provide visitors with a pleasant shopping experience, answer questions regarding a variety of Japanese cultural items, retail experience preferred but not required, 3+ months regular weekly schedule highly desired.

Audio Visual Tech - Assist with set-up of audio, visual, and presentation equipment for events. Experience with microphone and sound boards, weekend availability for annual events desirable.
OUR PROGRAMS

CONNECTING WITH THE COMMUNITY

Summer Camp Was Fun!

In July, the JCCCW held its 4th annual youth summer camp program. The one-week experience aims to immerse participants in Japanese culture and language through a combination of fun daily activities and classroom education. The summer camp was a resounding success due to the enthusiasm of the participants and the hard-work of JCCCW staff members, interns, and especially the volunteers who dedicated their time to teaching different aspects of Japanese culture.

During the week, campers learned to read and write Japanese characters to form words, and how to write basic sentences. As a classroom assistant, I checked the campers’ work and helped the teacher create a fun learning environment. After lunch, coordinators led the participants through cultural activities such as making dango, demonstrations from various martial arts groups, flower arranging, and much more!

As a Ganbaru Intern, I led some of the camp activities. One such event was the paper sumo tournament. I had the pleasure of teaching the campers about sumo and organized a tournament using paper sumotori the students personally designed. The campers had a blast seeing whose sumotori would win the grand prize!

In coordination with other members of the Seattle Shorinji Kempo Association, I also demonstrated Shorinji Kempo techniques to the campers. While they were very attentive during our demonstrations, I think they had the most fun just being able to run around on the dojo mats. Regardless, I hope it was both an exciting and memorable time for them!

(see SUMMER CAMP cont’d on 8)

By Ryan Giannini

Children are game pieces on a giant board game that was made by JCCCW staff.
Hunt Hotel Project Update

By Elisa Law

Over the past decade, the JCCCW has been working to uncover the post-war era of the Japanese Language School history, 1945-1959, when the buildings served as a temporary hostel for Japanese Americans returning to Seattle from U.S. concentration camps. On the weekend of the 74th Day of Remembrance, the Unsettled ~ Resettled: Hunt Hotel exhibit opened, inviting former residents to be the first to see it. An intimate reception for the families of Hunt Hotel residents was held to unveil the site marker installed between the conference rooms on the JCCCW historic campus.

As part of the project, Aki Sogabe created 10 works that will reside around the JCCCW campus. These works are currently part of the traveling exhibition. The Sogabe works depict life at the Hunt Hotel and are accompanied by a collection of quotes from former residents about their resettlement experience.

The traveling exhibit is now on display at University of Washington’s East Asia Library until January 7th, 2017. At time of printing, library hours are Mon-Thu 8am-7pm, Fri 8am-5pm, Sat-Sun 1pm-5pm. We would like to thank the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center for being the first to welcome the traveling exhibition.

The Hunt Hotel commemorative book is now available with a suggested donation at JCCCW. For those who have pre-ordered a copy, please pick up your book during regular business hours.

All Things Japanese Sale

More Donations - Record Sales

2016 was a banner year for the All Things Japanese Sale, held August 20 & 21. Donations for the sale started arriving in April. In the few weeks leading up the sale there were so many items donated for the sale, we had to use four rooms to process and sort everything!

We were amazed not only with the quantity, but the quality and variety of the donations. Some of the pieces were so unique and special, a new twist was added: The Director’s Collection Pre-Event Sale. Held Friday

(see ATJS cont’d on 8)
LaQ Promo Code

Our friends at LaQ have partnered with us to provide a 10-20% discount to the JCCCW community. Please enter the discount code JCC163 at their website www.laqblocks.com when you check out!

These blocks are amazing, allowing for building 3-D creations! Perfect for children aged 5 and older on your holiday gift list!

Added bonus - with every purchase made, 1% of your sale goes back to the JCCCW.

Happy Shopping!

Amazon Smile

You shop. Amazon gives.

Do you shop at Amazon? If you do, Amazon will donate a percentage of your shopping to the JCCCW! Log in as usual and search for the charity you would like to support. Nikkei Heritage Association of Washington dba Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Washington, is one of the charities listed. Once you sign-up, log-in to Amazon through smile.amazon.com to do your online shopping.

SUMMER CAMP cont’d

The JCCCW's summer camp was a labor of love designed to reflect the very best of Japanese culture. It reflects our organization’s mission in bringing together different members of the community to share our love for Japanese and Japanese American culture. I take pride knowing that I was able to contribute and help the participants develop a better understanding of Japan and Japanese culture. I know that next year’s summer camp will be something I will look forward to!

ATJS cont’d

night before the big sale, the pre-event sale featured formal kimonos, two antique lecterns, fine paintings, screens and scrolls, and two 18th century tansu. The event was hosted by five fabulous volunteers: Penny Fukui, Lori Matsukawa, Sachie Nitta, and Leann & Rick Wong, who provided light refreshments, wine and great company for the evening.

Due to the generosity of all of the donors and patrons, our gross income from the sale was $13,478. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this years’ event so successful.

Hosekibako - The Jewel Box

Holiday Sale and Extended Hours

Starting on Small Business Saturday Nov. 26 and continuing until Dec. 23, Hosekibako will have extended hours from 10-5pm on Saturdays. Regular hours, 10-3pm Thursday and Friday. During the holiday sale, browse the clearance area. Until 12/23, JCCCW members will enjoy 25% off the total purchase, and nonmembers receive a 15% discount. Restrictions apply. Come in and discover the numerous gift options this holiday season!

Hosekibako - The Jewel Box is a Japanese Resale Shop | 511 16th Ave S, on S 16th between King and Weller streets.
Thank you to our Yoisho Volunteers and Ganbaru Interns!

VOLUNTEERS
Moeko Agata
Karen Akira
Linda Akiyama
AC Arai
Jerry Arai
Mary Ann Arnone
Alistair Atcheson
Wing Yun Au
Nate Averty
Alyssa Barnett
Jonah Barnett
Perry Barnett
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Sayuri Watanabe
Yuma Watanabe
Momoko Yamatani
Rina Yamazaki
Shoichiro Yanagi
Jenni Yanagihara
Tong Zhu

Ganbaru Interns
Danny Canty
Dot Castro
Taylor Date
Sena Dawes

Japanese Cultural & Community Center of WA

jcccw.org

*We make every effort to recognize each person accurately. For corrections, please contact Theo Bickel at theob@jcccw.org or call 206-586-7114 ext 113.
COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS

GENERAL DONATIONS

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Marilyn Akutsu
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Anthony Brake
Jing Chang
Victoria Doyle
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Force 10 Hoops — Seattle Storm
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David North
Murray & Michi North
Herman Uscategui

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Joan Yoshitomi
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Judy Yu

In Honor of
Shea Aoki — Joann Asato
Theo Bickel — Sarah Baker
Lori Matsukawa — Alice Forman
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Yoneko J. Nakashima — Kazuko Umeda & Mari Nakashima
Shizue Nose — Henry Nose
Seattle Nisei Veterans — Yuzo Tokita

Jim & Mary Shimizu — Debra Shimizu
Misae Uno Takata — Paula Wong
Kip Tokuda — Alan Sugiyama
Kazuko Umeda — Susanne Umeda
Sachi Zullig — Jan Gokami

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James Spahn

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GCS Group USA

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Mark Ryan
Northshore School District #417
Ina Tateuchi
Estate of Akio Yanagihara

Omoi Project
Shokichi & Elsie Tokita

Special Collections
Hideo Makihara

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Karen Yoshitomi — National JACL

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