Kintsugi Garden Project
By Russell Joe

Why the Japanese Cultural & Community Center of Washington? Why put so much energy into building and growing a central gathering place for sharing and preserving Japanese and Japanese American culture and heritage?

To quote Walt Whitman:

Oh me! Oh life! Of the questions of these recurring, Of the endless trains of the faithless, of cities fill’d with the foolish, What good amid these, O me, O life? Answer, That you are here— that life exists and identity, That the powerful play goes on, and you may contribute a verse.

Whitman recognized that while medicine, law, business, and engineering are all noble pursuits and necessary, it is dance, music, and poetry that we stay alive for.

Our Kintsugi Garden broke ground in March 2014. This garden not only preserves and shares Japanese and Japanese American culture and heritage it also accentuates beauty in three ways.

2014 Tomodachi Luncheon
By Denise Quach

Thank you to the many supporters who attended the sixth annual Tomodachi Luncheon, JCCCW’s premier fundraiser, held at Seattle University Campion Ballroom last March. Together we raised $45,000 to support JCCCW operations and programs! Thanks to our generous sponsors, the luncheon was free to attend. We thank the Seattle University School of Law Fred T. Korematsu Center for Law and Equality for their outstanding support for the luncheon! Dean of the School of Law, Annette Clark gave a welcoming speech which covered their own Nikkei history and the healing that was necessary after many of their alumni were incarcerated during WWII.

This year, we honored the Kip Tokuda family and The Boeing Company for their contributions to strengthening the relationship between the US and Japan through community involvement, youth development, and collaborative trust in international business. Thank you everyone for coming to the luncheon and for your continued support of JCCCW’s mission to build and grow a central gathering place for sharing and promoting Japanese and Japanese American culture and heritage.

(continued on page 3)
Support JCCCW. Recycle this Newsletter.

By Karen Yoshitomi

Sometimes, a thoughtless mistake can lead to an opportunity for growth. About a month ago, the JCCCW held its signature event, the Tomodachi Luncheon. It was an event that appeared to come together seamlessly. From my arrival to the Seattle University campus, through the catered meal, program and award presentations; the event was a very nice gathering of people in support of the JCCCW. Thanks to our generous supporters and friends, preliminary reports indicate that the event brought in over $45,000 in net revenue.

I realized I had made a terrible mistake immediately after the program had concluded. I wanted to recognize and thank the people who worked so hard to make the event what it was: the staff and volunteers, the luncheon planning committee and its chair, Lori Matsukawa. In terms of “friends,” of JCCCW, the staff and volunteers are the “BFF” kind of friends. I suppose that would make them itsumademo tomodachi. (My limited Japanese vocabulary comes from my grandparents generation, so I think some of the few words I do know are somewhat antiquated. Some would call “Meiji.”) I had the microphone in front of me and a script in my hand, but my brain flat-lined, right after I saw my sister among the attendees. In that split second that I let my mind wander, I thought to myself, “That’s really nice that she’s here, I never thought to ask her to be a “friend of the cultural center.” and then my mind ran into a imaginary wall and I forgot where I was in the script. My personal philosophy is that if you don’t know what to say, “shut up” and get off the stage. So I did.

I deeply regret my mistake and I’d like to introduce the JCCCW staff through this newsletter. Russell Joe: Chief Administrative Officer, an individual who originally came to the JCCCW as a potential volunteer and is now serving as the “mortar” for the organization, holding everything together; Machiko Wada: Head of Japanese Language School and Office Manager, if Russell is the mortar, then Machiko makes up the foundation and framework of the organization, we would be lost without her; Hideko Takahashi: Cultural Arts Program Coordinator, among other projects, she’s the primary organizer extraordinaire of Kodomo no Hi (Children’s Day) and Bunka no Hi (Culture Day) at JCCCW; Denise Quach: Communications & Marketing Coordinator, her enthusiasm, über creativity and organizational skills are a valuable asset to the JCCCW; Jonathan Lin: Library and Technology Manager, knowledgeable, earnest and “resourceful,” Jonathan ensures that the resources of the JCCCW are organized and accessible; George Lauer: Activities Staff, dependable, conscientious and multi-talented, George is the guy you usually see in the evenings at the JCCCW, ready to provide a hand or make sure our visitors, guests, tenants and community groups have everything they need for their event or function; and the newest addition to the JCCCW family, Barbara Talkington: Membership, Intern and Volunteer Coordinator, outgoing, personable and veteran recruiter and “cat herder,” Barbara brings her talent, experience and people skills to the most important support systems of the JCCCW.

The JCCCW is a gathering place for people. The programs and activities are intended as a continuation and enhancement of the century plus history of community service. There are a lot of great things happening at the JCCCW. Stop by and see “what’s going on.” Or read about some of the recent highlights of activities in this newsletter. Then, as tomodachi… please, recycle this newsletter and give it to someone who might become a new friend. Could be your brother or sister. Thank you for your support. Hope to see you, at JCCCW.

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**Enewsletter**

Would you like to learn more about JCCCW on a monthly basis? Subscribe to our monthly Enewsletter and you will receive up to date information about events and activities going on at the JCCCW and around the community! To sign up, please contact admin@jcccw.org.

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**Historic Rental Space Available!**

The JCCCW campus offers unique networking opportunities for both established and start-up programs in a convenient in-city location; offering a rare opportunity to connect with both the Japanese and Japanese American communities in Seattle. For more information on rental space and rates, contact the JCCCW office at 206-568-7114!
First, it will be a beautiful park like setting that will serve as a central gathering place and a peaceful refuge from the hustle and bustle of city life.

Second, it will be a wonderful venue for people to express their own creative talents through performances at our many cultural events throughout the year.

Finally, the garden and its central plaza highlight the art form of pottery mending called Kintsugi. This process of using gold to mend the pottery makes the original piece of art even stronger and more beautiful than before. Our community is represented by the brass inlay running through the plaza. This entire plaza space symbolizes how the Japanese and Japanese American community were once torn asunder by World War II, but have now healed and grown even stronger through the generations.

What will your verse say?

Thank You, 2014 Tomodachi Luncheon Sponsors!

Thank You to our 2014 Tomodachi Luncheon In-Kind Contributors!
All Nippon Airways, Hosekibako, Mayu Inose, Tyler Sipe, Merrily Taniguchi, Eugene Tagawa, and Cathy Takisaki!

JCCCW News

Unsettled-Resettled: Seattle’s Hunt Hotel Project Underway
By Elisa Law

JCCCW is now continuing its work on the Unsettled-Resettled: Seattle’s Hunt Hotel project with a generous grant from the National Park Service. With this funding, we hope to honor the families and individuals who lived here at 1414 South Weller Street when it was converted into a hostel following WWII through a traveling exhibit, a book, and a memorial installed in the building. We feel this resettlement story is an important part of Seattle Japanese American history which is often overlooked when recounting the struggles that the Exclusion Order had on Japanese and Japanese American families.

In 2012, we received funding from a 4Culture grant to build the foundation of this project, which was to establish a list of residents who possibly lived at the Seattle Japanese Language School after the war through local, regional, and national archives research. Through the National Park Service grant, we are now working towards gathering oral histories, photographs and tangible objects that help to tell this story.

I cannot stress enough how invaluable you and your family’s memories, stories, and photographs are to making this project a success. If you, or someone you know, would like to contribute to the Unsettled-Resettled:

Seattle’s Hunt Hotel project, we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Elisa Law, JCCCW History & Heritage Specialist at 206-209-6120 or at elisal@jcccw.org.
**NW Nikkei Museum Receives AKCHO Award**

By Stephanie Ikeda

The Northwest Nikkei Museum was honored at the Association of King County Historical Organizations (AKCHO) Annual Awards ceremony at the Museum of History & Industry on April 22.

The museum’s *Bases as Bridges* exhibition featuring the history of Nikkei baseball in the Pacific Northwest was chosen as this year’s recipient for the AKCHO’s Long Term Project Award.

**Omoide Documentary**

By Ats Kiuchi

The first JCCCW documentary film, *Omoide: Our Stories*, has been completed and will be shown at schools in the Seattle area. The 12-minute documentary features stories by Seattle area Nikkei before, during, and after World War II.

Past JCCCW Board Member, Lori Matsukawa, is the narrator for this film. Featured speakers are Irwin Yoshimura, Suma Kato Yagi, Sumi Suguro Akizuki, Ed Hiroo, Dolly Tokunaga, Shokichi Tokita, and Janet Sakamoto Baba.

The film is designed for classrooms and will be distributed for free to local schools. Public showings by the Omoide Team can be arranged by contacting the JCCCW office.

**Kodomo no Hi**

By Michelle Dvorak

May 5th marked the Japanese national holiday, Kodomo no Hi – Children’s Day. To celebrate, the JCCCW hosted a day-long festival for families to take part in the children’s culture of Japan. Together, children and parents made arts and crafts – hats, bags, origami, and hair pieces – all in the spirit of Japanese culture. Kids played with paper sumo wrestlers, LaQ, colored a giant koinobori carp streamer, made water yo-yo’s and got to try on yoroi. People especially enjoyed demonstrations by local judo, karate, taiko groups, minyo and buyo dancers, as well as Echo Chorus. We hope you’ll join us at next year’s Kodomo no Hi to experience multiculturalism and celebrate the health and growth of children.

**Ganbaru Internships**

How can your talents and skills make a difference? Do you enjoy meeting new people and gaining new experiences? Each quarter, the Cultural Center is busy with interns who provide support to our programs such as Japanese Conversation Club, NW Nikkei Museum, Nikkei Genealogy, Yuji’s Omusubi and other special events. Interns have assisted with research, database work, graphic design and more!

**Internships are available:**
- **Summer:** July-September
- **Autumn:** September-December
- **Winter:** January-March
- **Spring:** April-June

Internship applications may be completed online at jcccw.org or you may reach our Volunteer & Intern Coordinator, at (206)568-7114.
Community Gathering Place
Upcoming Events

June

6/12
JCCCW Kintsugi Garden Grand Opening
5:00 | FREE
Come join JCCCW and the UW Department of Landscape and Architecture for the grand opening of the garden to honor the Issei and Nisei. Come see the garden and listen to guest speakers as we share the meaning and purpose behind the garden. Light refreshments provided.

6/11 or 6/12
JLS Adult Evening Classes Begin
6:30-8:30pm | Register Online
This 9-week session offers Japanese language at the Beginning 1-4 and Advanced levels. Tuition is $135. Please register online at www.JCCCW.org/jls.

July

7/21-25 & 7/28-8/1
JCCCW Summer Camp
9am-3pm | Register Online
JCCCW is offering a fun program for youth this summer! Students will learn basic reading, writing and conversational Japanese language skills, participate in a variety of cultural activities such as calligraphy, origami, martial arts, and much more. This summer camp is for students who are looking for an introduction to the Japanese language and the opportunity to learn more about Japanese culture.

August

8/23
All Things Japanese Sale
ONE DAY ONLY SALE!
11am-4pm
The Hosekibako: Japanese Resale Shop presents: The All Things Japanese Sale! This sale features a wide variety of Japanese items including dolls, furniture, fans, traditional clothing, plush toys, books, and much more! This event is made possible by the community and their support, donating their lightly used goods and the volunteers who help JCCCW collect and appropriately price them for the sale. All of the proceeds raised by the sale will go toward supporting JCCCW programs. Donations for the sale are accepted Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm.
September

9/6
Japanese Language School for Youth 2014-2015 School Year Begins

9-11:30am | Register Online
Youth classes are for students ages 6-18 and are held on Saturdays from 9-11:30am at JCCCW. A variety of skill levels are offered from beginner to advanced. For detailed course descriptions or to register online, please visit www.JCCCW.org/jls.

October

10/25
Second Annual Shakuhachi Matsuri

10am-6pm
JCCCW will again host the Seattle Shakuhachi Matsuri featuring the music and cultural heritage of the Japanese Bamboo flute. The event features one of the top players from Japan, Kaoru Kakizakai, and local professional and JCCCW member, Larry Tyrrell. This one-day event will include a flute and CD fair, opportunities for hands-on experience, workshops, and a concert. For more information contact Larry at shakuhachi@moonbridge.com.

November

11/16
Bunka no Hi

11am-5pm | FREE
Bunka no Hi (Culture Day) is the JCCCW’s premier annual cultural event and is a celebration of Japanese and Japanese American culture and heritage. The event is filled with performances, cultural demonstrations, games, and other activities. We invite community members and organizations to have booths and informational displays at the event in order to promote and celebrate Japanese and Japanese American culture and heritage. For more information, please contact info@jcccw.org.

Become a JCCCW Member!

Why become a member? Because membership allows us to become part of a larger group in the community. Together, we can create a stronger community and contribute to JCCCW’s growth by sharing and promoting both the cultures of Japanese and Japanese Americans. Membership gives us more opportunities to connect and gather with people from all backgrounds to learn Japanese language, traditional arts, history and culture while building intercultural understanding, professional contacts and friendships.

Memberships are available at all levels to accommodate everyone. Base benefits include free membership to Nikkei Bunko (Japanese Language Library) and the Resource Center (English Language Library), 10% discount at the Hosekibako re-sale shop and a 3 month free subscription to the North American Post. Enjoy these and a many more Members-Only benefits.

By adding your membership support, you will join with other community members to enable us to continue to preserve, promote and share Japanese and Japanese American culture and heritage.

Questions? Comments? Contact us!
The JCCCW aims to provide information about community events and programs to its members. If you have any questions or comments regarding our newsletter, programs, events, or would like to tell us about your own community events, please feel free to contact us by email admin@jcccw.org, telephone (206) 568-7114, or by stopping by our main office at 1414 South Weller Street!
Community Gathering Place
Yoisho! Volunteers

Want to become more involved with JCCCW? Then why not sign up to become a Yoisho! volunteer? The goal of the Yoisho! Volunteer Program is to foster volunteerism and leadership in the community by directly involving community members in the Cultural Center. Yoisho! volunteers play an invaluable role at JCCCW donating their time and expertise to provide support for programs and events at the Cultural Center. Our volunteers come from various backgrounds and all are dedicated to the JCCCW mission. Apply today! For more information please contact Membership, Volunteer & Intern Coordination (206) 568-7114.

Donate Your Old Vehicle

Wondering what to do with that old vehicle? Through Volunteers of America of Western Washington, JCCCW accepts vehicle donations. Your gift allows JCCCW to receive 50% of the net proceeds. Volunteers of America accepts cars, trucks, boats and RVs and will make the arrangements to pick up the vehicle. Contact our Volunteer & Intern Coordinator, at (206) 568-7114.

Omoide Project Books

Whether you’re new to Seattle or want to know more about your hometown’s history, consider looking into the Omoide Project. The Omoide: Childhood Memories series is comprised of multiple short-story books. Each book describes personal accounts that Japanese Americans had experienced while incarcerated during World War II. Let your friends and family know about these historical accounts that happened in your very own community.

SPRING 2014 / SUMMER 2014 • ISSUE No. 18 • KAKEHASHI
Thank you very much for your support in helping us build community! We appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity. In addition to these donors we have had hundreds of people give their time and effort to volunteer for our events and help support us with their in-kind donations. Thank you to each of you who have worked with us to preserve, promote and share Japanese and Japanese American culture and heritage.

Thank You to Our Generous Donors from April 1, 2013 – April 1, 2014

General Donations

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Lori Matsukawa & Larry Blackstock

In Honor of

Blackstock
JCCW Summer Camp 2014

Send your kids to a culturally interactive camp where they will learn Japanese language arts, crafts, and more. Register online at www.jccw.org.

Membership:
- $250 - Non-Members
- Free: $200 - JCCW Family

Hours: 9am-3pm
Ages: 8-15 (by July 17)
Session 1: July 21-25
Session 2: July 28-August 1

http://www.jccw.org/summercamp (Connect with JCCW)