Seattle Cherry Blossom and Japanese Cultural Festival

The Festival begins its two-year celebration of 30th’s: 30th annual in 2005, a look back at our cultural roots including immigration and settlement of Nihonmachi (Japantown); and 30th anniversary in 2006, with beginnings of the Festival, contemporary art and culture and regional Japan theme “Hokkaido.” The Festival is planning a number of exciting events:

Highlights
- Seattle Nihonmachi nostalgia and legacy
- Top Spinning Wizards, the Biwa’s from Hyogo, Japan to amaze children and adults
- Martial Arts Expo
- Mini-Film Festival with lecture by Keith Takechi, SAAM

Continued on page 3

GARDENING ADVICE FROM SUNSET MAGAZINE’S STEVE LORTON BENEFITS JCCCW

Steve Lorton, Northwest Bureau Chief of Sunset Magazine is offering a 2-hour garden consultation to the first six households who donate $300 to NHAW. These donations qualify for the Challenge Grant match. Steve will come to your garden and suggest ways to improve and get the most out of your garden from creating areas for outdoor living to plant choices to adding color, shade or visual interest. Include a note requesting a consultation with your check. Appointments made at mutually agreeable time. Many thanks to Steve Lorton and Akira Takeda for this generous offer! Be sure to see the other creative community fundraising efforts on Page 5!

CAPITAL BUDGET REQUEST

A capital request of $300,000 for the JCCCW was in former Governor Gary Locke’s 2005-2007 budget. During Asian Pacific Islander Legislative Day (February 17), the request was brought to the attention of Governor Christine Gregoire by ACRS Executive Director Diane Narasaki during a meeting with the governor. The Japanese Cultural Center, ACRS’ new building and Wing Luke Asian Museum’s new building were the three capital requests presented to the Governor and legislators’ staffs that day. Thank you, Diane!

Entering Final Stage of Challenge Grant

The community is responding enthusiastically to our Challenge Grant! Contributions are at $66,000 ... two thirds of the way to our goal! “This is an important way for the community to show funders we are serious about building the Japanese Cultural and Community Center,” said Fundraising Chair Lori Matsukawa. Contributions are coming from individuals and groups, many of whom are holding fundraisers to take advantage of the Challenge Grant put forward by Tomio Moruguchi and Jerry and Charlene Lee. NHAW Treasurer Dee Goto reminds folks that memorial or celebration donations are also welcome!

It’s not too late to add your support and double the impact you can have!! Send in the pledge form on Page 7 TODAY!
OUR MISSION

The mission of the Nikkei Heritage Association of Washington is to provide one place in Seattle that celebrates Japanese and Japanese American culture and heritage through educational, cultural, business and social programs, adding to the richness and diversity of the region. Our goal is to build a self-supporting facility to preserve and celebrate Japanese and Japanese American culture for all generations and residents of Washington State and strengthen ties between Washington State and Japan through cultural exchanges and performances.

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SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church
Budo (Martial Arts) Association of Washington
Densho
Eastside Nihon Matsuri
First Hill Lions
Hyogo Business and Cultural Center
Japanese American Citizens League (Seattle, Lake WA, Puyallup)
Japan America Society
Japanese Business Association
Japanese Community Queen Committee
Japanese Consul General’s Office
Kisaragikai
Nikkei Concerns
Nisei Veterans Committee
Pacific NW Kendo Federation
Regional Taiko Gathering (taiko drumming consortium)
Seattle Buddhist Church
Seattle Cherry Blossom Festival
Seattle Japanese Language School

COMMUNITY SUPPORTERS

Bif Brigman
Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church
Budo (Martial Arts) Association of Washington
Tom and Katsuko Brooke
Densho
Eastside Nihon Matsuri
First Hill Lions
Hyogo Business and Cultural Center
Japan American Society
Japanese American Citizens League
Japanese Business Association
Japanese Community Queen Committee
Consulate-General of Japan
Kisaragikai
Ken Kurata
Curtis and Vicki Marsten
Jane Nakagawa
Nihon Culture Club - South Seattle Comm. College
Nisei Veterans Committee
Nikkei Concerns
Regional Taiko Gathering
Pacific NW Kendo Federation
Seattle Buddhist Church
Seattle Cherry Blossom Festival
Seattle Japanese Language School
Bobbie Stern
Prof. Hiro Tamura
Dale H. Watanabe

SEEKING STOCK BROKER

NHAW is seeking a stock broker willing to offer pro bono services selling stock donated to the organization. Contact Dee Goto (DeeGoto@aol.com)
Judo: Discipline in Sport and Life

Rows of neat white uniforms (gi), bare feet moving in unison. It’s another night of lessons at Seattle Budokan Dojo at 1414 S. Weller Street. On any given day, you can hear five languages. Students hail from Japan, New Zealand, Germany, Russia, Uzbekistan, France, Hungary and the UK. They range in age from four on up. Calvin Terada, who teaches at Budokan, says his grandfather, Minoru, started teaching judo in the White River Valley back in 1927. Calvin’s dad, Alvin and uncles eventually started Budokan Dojo in 1968. Calvin’s dad met his mother, Mitsuko, when she came to Seattle from Japan — one of only a handful of female judo instructors picked to teach women’s judo in the United States.

“Millions of individuals in over 185 countries practice judo,” said Calvin. “For more than 100 years, judo has provided kids and adults from throughout the community an outlet to condition their bodies, compete in a safe environment, and improve themselves for the betterment of the community.” The oldest judo dojo in the U.S. was founded in Seattle in 1906. As for the Cultural Center, Calvin is enthusiastic. “It is time for a central organization and building where everyone can come together to learn, teach, enjoy, and share the richness of the Japanese and Japanese American culture.” Budokan Dojo’s website at www.geocities.com/budokanjudo

Cherry Blossom Continued from page 1

- Cherry Blossom Heirloom Day - identification of family heirloom by former museum curators and other experts
- Taiko sounds by seven groups
- Soroban (Abacus) challenge
- Origami Plane Contest - build and fly folded planes off Fisher Pavilion roof
- Pleasers - Culinary demonstrations by popular chefs of the Japanese Restaurant Association and special “then and now” meals introduced by culinary educator/author of Quick and Easy cook books, Yukiko Moriyama.

The 30th annual admission free visual and performing arts Festival will be held April 22-24, 2005, at Seattle Center Fisher Pavilion, Seattle Center Pavilion, and Center House.

Times: Fri/Sat/Sun 10-6 with Opening Ceremony on Friday at 6 PM.
Many people are sharing in the vision of a Japanese Cultural and Community Center and are coming together to make it a reality.

Thanks to all who have so generously given time and funds to help build on this dream.

Won’t you join us?

** Correction and Apology**

In the first issue of our newsletter, the name of Kisaragi-kai is missing on the list of “Supporting Organization” as well as that of original contributors. We apologize for these omissions.

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**Up to $99**

- Sumie Akizuki
- S. Earl & Janet Aoki
- A.C. Arai
- Myra Chin
- Aiko Fujii
- Lillian Hayashi
- Henry & Minnie Itoi
- Japan Culture Seminar
- Kisaragi-kai
- Mitsuyu Kunitsugu
- Atsuko Lindley
- Yukiko Moriymama
- Lorry and Keiko Nakatsu
- O’Dea
- Puget Sound Sumi Artists
- Connie Saito
- Toru & Kiyoko Sakahara
- Ned & Sandra Sato
- Shigiharas
- Samuel & Haruko Shoji
- Geraldine Shu
- Maiko Takenaka - Nihon Culture Club, SSCC
- Taeko Taniguchi
- Bill Tashima
- Tomo no Kai
- Town & Country
- Yukiko M. Trunnell
- A. Iky Yamada
- Barbara Yasui
- William & Shiz Watanabe

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**In Kind Gifts**

- Shea Aoki
- Arai Jackson Ellison Murakami (Steve Arai, Jerry Arai, Bruce Ellison, Rich Murakami, Jeff Hamlett, Yoko Kunugi)
- Andy Bloom
- Bif Bigman
- Frank Fujii
- Tiffany Furuta
- Goto Dental Laboratory Inc.
- Lorig Associates
- My Green Tea
- Matt Mamiya
- Lori Matsukawa
- Jane Nakagawa
- Sharon Nakamura and Page Tanagi
- Val Ross
- Sharon Sakamoto
- Brie Simmons
- Emi Sumida
- Irene Tanabe
- Kyoshi Tom Tanaka
- Dale H. Watanabe
- Prof. Susan Weihrich, Seattle University

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Thank You To All Of Our Generous Supporters!
Nhaw Benefits from Creative Fundraisers

Here’s a glance at some of the unique ways the community and Nhaw are raising awareness of and money for the Japanese Cultural Center.

Student Kabuki Tickets
Megumi Kobayashi, Fundraising Committee member and her employer, Merrill Lynch, will hold a drawing for Kabuki tickets open to students who participate in the Annual Speech & Skit Contest for WA State high school students sponsored by the Hyogo Business & Cultural Center April 1, 2005. Other students eligible for the drawing are those who attend the Seattle Japanese Language School, Seattle Japanese School (Shunju) and Lake Washington Girls Middle School. Those who wish to enter the drawing are asked to submit a card with answers to specific questions about Nhaw and the proposed Japanese Cultural and Community Center! Thank you Megumi, William Lampe and Merrill Lynch!

Movie Night at the Dojo
Kyoshi Tom Tanaka and the Pacific Northwest Budo Association held a charity showing of “Master and Commander” on February 28, 2005 raising $903.00! This included a PNBA match of $250. The organization provided the popcorn and soda. The donation will qualify for Challenge Grant matching funds. Thank you Tom, Nhaw Board Member and PNBA!

Grand Kabuki Tickets
Thanks to the Paramount and OneReel Productions, Nhaw was able to buy a block of tickets to the Grand Kabuki and re-sell them as a fundraiser. The proceeds will qualify for Challenge Grant matching funds. Ticket holders will enjoy a pre-show reception and benefit the Cultural Center, as well as view the mastery of Nakamura Ganjiro III and the Chikamatsu-za troupe June 12.

Refreshments at Judo Tournament
Nhaw volunteers will sell goodie bags and soft drinks at the Budokan Dojo’s Annual tournament, Saturday May 28, 2005 at Shorewood High School in Shoreline. This is an excellent way to publicize the Cultural Center and participate in an event that may one day be held at the Cultural Center! Up to 200 competitors from age 5 years on up are expected to participate! Thank you Calvin Terada, Nhaw Board Member and Budokan Dojo!

Seattle Cherry Blossom Festival
Nhaw Board Members and Festival Directors Yutaka and Tazue Sasaki are again offering a free booth for Nhaw at the Cherry Blossom Festival April 22-24, 2005 at Seattle Center. We will be able to bring the community up to date on our accomplishments and encourage more fundraising for our capital campaign. Thank you Yutaka and Tazue!

Nihon Culture Club
The Nihon Culture Club at South Seattle Community College sold postcards and other crafts to make a donation to the Challenge Grant. Thank you to Maiko Takenaka and all the students who contributed!

Kisaragikai
The Seattle Japanese women’s group Kisaragikai raised $2,000 at its annual luncheon February 27th, bringing to $5,000 its total contribution to the Cultural Center. Kisaragikai is a founding member of Nhaw and has a representative on the Nhaw Board. Thank you Kisaragikai and a special arigato to Yuki Tanaka, who will be publicizing the Center at similar women’s groups in Oak Harbor and Tacoma.

Memorials
An excellent and meaningful way to show your respect to special people in your life!

In Memory of Cal Takagi
Anonymous
Lori Matsukawa
Eliese Taniguchi

In Memory of Leatrice Nomura
Lori Matsukawa

Birthdays and Anniversaries
Some people are giving gifts to honor and celebrate special people on a special day.

Toru Sakahara’s 88th Birthday
Shea Aoki
Corrine Toda

Shea Aoki’s 90th Birthday
Janet, Russell & Kerry Aoki
Shizuto Asato & Family
Linda Dong
Sam & Dee Goto
Amy Hara
Betty Komura
Mitsuye Kunitsugu
Mitsuye Mihara
Toru Sakahara
Yutaka and Tazue Sasaki
Eliese Taniguchi
Bill Tushima
Corrine Toda
Ky Yamada
Margaret Yanagimachi

Tak Matsui’s 88th Birthday
Eliese Taniguchi

Dee Goto’s Birthday
Shea Aoki
Eliese Taniguchi

These are just some of the great ideas that will help build our center. Here’s a little math. If someone donated $20 during Movie Night at the Dojo, the PNW Budo Assoc matched it with another $20. Then the Challenge grant will match the $40 for a total of $80. It was a perfect and not too hard event - kind of a social hour for the students on a Monday night. It doesn’t have to be a big deal. Good leveraging!!!!
March 20 - Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple Annual Bazaar 1427 S. Main -- 11a.m. - 3p.m. Take out and dine in, baked goods and wonderful handcrafts. The annual bazaar is one of the Temple’s major fundraisers to help fund operations and maintenance of the facility.

April 2 - Cherry Blossom Walk - 10 a.m. Gather at the Parks Dept. Office at the entrance to Seward Park. Contact: Akira Takeda, Office of the Consul General, takeda@cgjapansea.org

April 30 - Sukiyaki Dinner, Japanese Baptist Church 160 Broadway -- Takeout starting at 11:00am. Sit down dinner 4:30 - 7:00 and Cultural Program 7:00pm

May 7 - “The Big Take Out” - St. Peter’s Episcopal Church --1610 S. King

May 8 - Spring Arts and Craft Fair and Silent Auction - Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church, 3001 24th Ave S. 10:00 - 4:00

May 21 - Ayame Kai Rummage Sale -- Seattle Betsuin Buddhist Temple, 1427 S. Main, 9:30 - 3:00 For more information contact Fusako Kamihara at (206) 762-9139 or Shizue Kaku at (425) 232-8164

May 28 - Budokan Judo Tournament - Saturday 10 a.m. Shorewood High School, 17300 Fremont Ave. N. Shoreline 98133 Contact: John Schaedler jschaedler@comcast.net

June 18 - ACRS Walk for Rice -- Seaward Park, The 15th Annual walk-a-thon and fun run benefits the ACRS foodbank. 206-695-7551 or events@acrs.org

Densho Online Auction!
During the month of April, Densho: The Japanese American Legacy Project will have its first online auction. Funds raised help preserve rarely heard perspectives of WWII and fund teacher workshops. Bid on fine art, jewelry, golf and more!

Bidding Opens: April 1, 2005
Bidding Closes: May 2, 2005, 5:00pm
Website: http://densho.cmarket.com

For additional information, please contact Leslie Arai at 206-320-0095, Leslie.Arai@densho.org.
Our Logo - Meaningful Message to Aid Our Mission

Five Generations of Japanese Americans
Issei
Nisei
Sansei
Yonsei
Gosei

The Core
The Cultural Center

The Sun
New beginnings; a symbolic and important design in Japanese culture

The Horizon
Representing the past, present and future

J for Japanese
A celebration of heritage and cultural awareness

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Yes, I want to help meet the $100,000 Challenge Grant!

I want to join Jerry and Charlene Lee and Tomio Moriguchi in supporting the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Washington ... and double the value of my contribution at the same time! The Cultural Center will receive a dollar match for each dollar I send before April 15, 2005 up to $100,000!

Here is my contribution of:

____ $1,000  ____$500  ____$100  ____$50  ____Other

____ Check  _____ Visa  _____ MC  Card # ____________________________

Expiration Date ______  Signature ____________________________

Name ____________________________________________________________

Address __________________________________________________________

Phone _________________  Email ____________________________

Please make checks payable to:
Questions? Call Dee Goto, NHA Treasurer (206) 232-7487

* I can organize a fundraiser through my work or organization (Name of Group) ____________________________

Another passion is sports. As one of the first Japanese American high school basketball coaches in the area, Frank led his team to victory as 1972 All City champs, and worked hard to be a good role model, stressing the importance of a good education. He challenged his students to be the best that they could be on all levels.

Along with his coaching, Frank taught art and graphic design for at Franklin HS and SCC for many years.

Frank has seen the community overcome many obstacles and achieve many great things. And Frank has used his talents to help out often. Some of his other designs include Benihana Tokyo, ACRS Drop In program, Bon Odori, Buddhist Church, Blaine, Seattle Keiro and many, many others!

A HUGE Domo Arigato! to Frank for this thoughtful and meaningful contribution to the Cultural Center!

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Frank Fujii: The Artist Behind the Logo

Frank Fujii is a man of great passion. Passion for family. Passion for art and design. Passion for sports. Passion for teaching. And maybe most of all - a passion for community. Frank was born in Seattle in 1930, the youngest of nine children and the only one to go to college. He and his family saw their lives interrupted like many others during WW II when they lost their successful tavern and were forced into internment in Tule Lake CA.

A life long love of art goes back to the 4th grade. After receiving respect and admiration from fellow students because of his artistic gifts, Frank knew art would always be in his life. After graduating Garfield High School, he received a degree in art from the UW. He fondly recalls professors Glen Alps, Fred Anderson and Bill Holms as nurturing instructors who helped expand his love of graphic design and art.

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GRAND KABUKI TICKET SALES TO BENEFIT NHAW

Enjoy the Grand Kabuki direct from Tokyo and support the Japanese Cultural and Community Center at the same time!

Beginning March 7th, purchase tickets to the Sunday June 12 matinee from any NHAW Board Member for $95 and enjoy the performance at the Paramount Theatre, a pre-performance snack and kabuki backgrounder and take a $40 tax write-off. (These are normally $60 seats!)

Proceeds from this benefit qualify for the Challenge Grant, so your donation is worth “twice as much”! Seats are limited, so act now!

The Chikamatsu-za troupe of Japan’s revered Grand Kabuki Theatre presents the refined kamigata style of Kabuki theatre traditional to the Kansai area, a style with traditions going back three centuries.

The company of 75 members, named for Japan’s greatest classical playwright, Chikamatsu Monzaemon, will present one of his best-loved masterpieces, Sonezaku Shinju (“Love Suicides at Sonezaki”). Featuring full Grand Kabuki sets (including a specially constructed traditional hanamichi runway) and lavish costumes, the production stars Nakamura Ganjiro III in his signature role of Ohatsu. The program also includes “Tied to a Pole”, a comic dance piece with a grand musical accompaniment. This is the beginning of the troupe’s American West Coast Tour, presented at the Paramount by One Reel and Seattle Theatre Group.

Nakamura Ganjiro III in the signature role of Ohatsu in the Grand Kabuki Theatre of Japan’s production of Sonezaki Shinju (“Love Suicides at Sonezaki”). Photo by Shinoyama Kishin

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