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**Congressional Gold Medal heroes.**



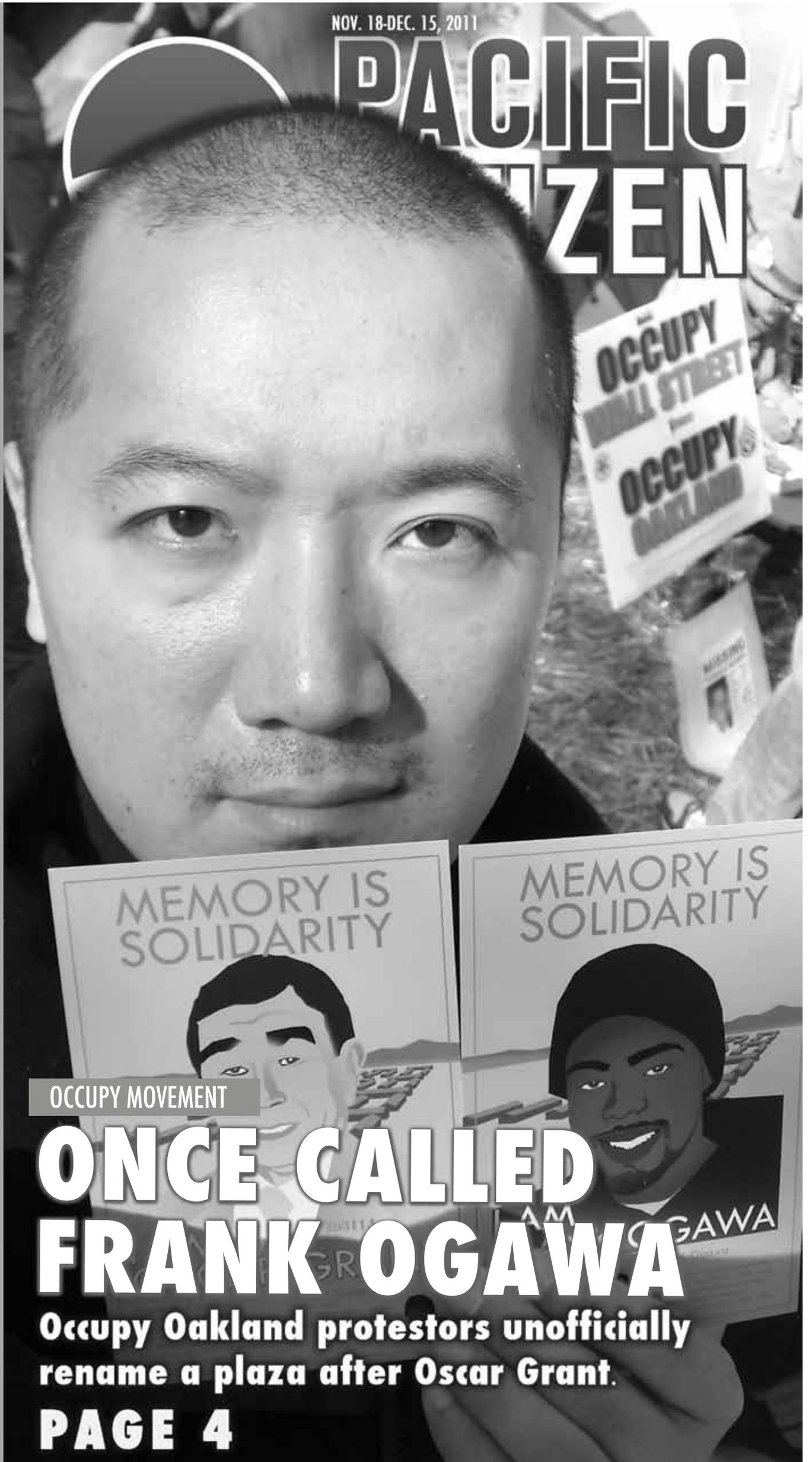
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OCCUPY MOVEMENT

# ONCE CALLED FRANK OGAWA

**Occupy Oakland protestors unofficially rename a plaza after Oscar Grant.**

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## NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

## A Salute to JA Veterans



By Floyd Mori

The JACL was very much involved with the Congressional Gold Medal events which took place recently in Washington, D.C. As a member of the National Veterans Network (NVN), the JACL has played a big role in the planning and execution of the celebration. This much deserved and long overdue recognition honored the Japanese American veterans of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the 100th Battalion, and the Military Intelligence Service of the U.S. Army during World War II.

JAs were considered non-citizens after the bombing of Pearl Harbor by Japan on Dec. 7, 1941. The long held prejudices they endured came to the forefront as 120,000 people of Japanese ancestry were uprooted from their homes on the West Coast in a forced evacuation and incarcerated in hastily constructed illegal detention camps in desolate areas of the U.S. where they were surrounded by barbed wire and

armed guards facing inward. Although there were young JAs who wanted to serve in the military and tried to enlist, they found that all JAs had been reclassified and were ineligible to join the U.S. armed forces.

Mike Masaoka, an early leader in the JACL, was sent by the organization to D.C. to work for the abolition of the camps and to mitigate the effects of the relocation. He suggested that the JA community should cooperate with the government, and they actually had no other choice. He worked for the reinstatement of JAs into the U.S. military, and the result was the creation of a segregated unit which combined with the 100th Infantry Battalion of Hawaii and became the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Mike was one of the first to sign up to join the Army, and he went off to war after being married to his bride, Etsu Mineta Masaoka in Salt Lake City. Three of his brothers also served with one losing his life in the war.

At a time when they and their families faced extreme prejudice and discrimination, these brave and patriotic young men served their country in the armed forces. They showed unusual dedication and sacrificed greatly, some paying the ultimate sacrifice to prove their loyalty and serve where needed.

On May 13, 2009, U.S.



Mori received the Congressional Gold Medal for his brother Shigeru.

Congressman Adam Schiff from California introduced Congressional Gold Medal Bill HR 347 to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the 100th and 442nd. It unanimously passed the House of Representatives on May 14 with 411 votes. U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer also of California introduced S 1055 in the Senate.

NVN established a grassroots push to lobby support from the senators who had not signed on to the bill. The JACL supported this effort with JACL fellows in the D.C. office, Phillip Ozaki and Jean Shiraki, visiting Senate offices along with Terry Shima and Grant Ichikawa, WWII veterans from the JA Veterans Association (JAVA). The Senate passed S 1055 on Aug. 1, 2010, which included an amendment to include the MIS. The House passed an amendment to include the MIS on Sept. 23,

2010. President Obama signed the bill into law on Oct. 4, 2010, awarding the Congressional Gold Medal collectively to the 100th, 442nd and the MIS.

The Congressional Gold Medal events which took place in D.C. were held to honor the JA veterans of WWII and were attended by over 2,500 people. There were more than 300 JA veterans in attendance. The festivities were planned and executed by NVN, led by Christine Sato-Yamazaki.

Representing my family as a next of kin for my brother, Shigeru Mori, whose name is inscribed on the wall of the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism as a killed in action soldier, I was honored to receive the replica medal in memory of my oldest brother who was in the MIS.

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## COMMENTARY

## Update on National Director Search



By Gail Sueki

As we approach the end of the year, many of us take time to review and reflect upon personal and professional successes and take stock of areas that we can improve upon. In that same spirit, we, on the national JACL board, have committed ourselves to reviewing and evaluating where we have been and determining what we want to accomplish going forward.

At the last national board meeting at the end of October, the board approved my report which includes the task of completing reviews for all staff by the end of

2011. This is a huge undertaking, but I'd like to applaud both Floyd Mori and Caroline Aoyagi-Stom for their commitment to completing the reviews for their respective staff. National JACL President David Kawamoto and I have also committed to completing evaluations for both the national director and executive editor by the end of the year.

As for recruiting candidates to fill the position of national director, I'd like to thank the many individuals who have given me encouragement and offered their assistance this past month. I was pleased to see and talk to many of you at the JACL gala in Washington, D.C., the national board meeting in Los Angeles, PSW district dinner and the Congressional Gold Medal ceremony held in our nation's capital. Your feedback has been appreciated.

To keep you abreast of the latest events, I want to highlight that the national board made two major

decisions — one that changes the requirements and the other which changes the process — affecting the national director position. The first of these decisions is that

**'The first of these decisions is that the next national director shall be located in Washington, D.C.'**

the next national director shall be located in Washington, D.C.

To be forthright, I voted against this motion because I believe that we should focus on finding the best candidates for the position without

imposing location restrictions that could severely narrow the possible pool of talented leaders. However, I respect this decision and together with the personnel committee and national board continue to work hard to find suitable candidates. However, with this recent change, the application deadline has been extended until Jan. 16, 2012. Please refer to the website, [www.jacl.org](http://www.jacl.org), for additional information.

The second major decision was to allow for the national board to talk with the top candidates after an initial review by the personnel committee. In the past, the interviewing committee typically narrowed the pool of applicants and made a recommendation to the national board. In this case, I think this step will allow the national board greater insight into the top candidates. Again, the national board hires the national director who ultimately reports to the president of the board of directors.

The personnel committee discussed the idea of a search

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# Congress Honors Japanese American WWII Soldiers

More than 300 of the aging WWII soldiers are able to receive their Gold Medals in person as the nation honors their unselfish heroes.

By Associated Press and P.C. Staff

WASHINGTON—Thousands of Japanese Americans who fought in the fiercest battles of World War II and became some of the most decorated soldiers in the nation's history were given an overdue thank-you from their country Nov. 2 when Congress awarded them its highest civilian honor.

Nearly seven decades after the war's beginning, Congress awarded three units the Congressional Gold Medal. In all, about 19,000 JAs served in the units honored at the ceremony: the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and the Military Intelligence Service.

"This has been a long journey, but a glorious one," said Sen. Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii., who lost his right arm fighting with the 442nd and was one of the honorees Nov. 2.

About 1,250 people attended the award ceremony at the Capitol. About a quarter of those present were former soldiers, now in their 80s and 90s. Hiroshi Kaku, originally from Hawaii, served in the 442nd and his older brother, Haruo, served in the 100th. He said he volunteered for the Army because he had something to prove.

"We wanted to show American citizens that we loved our country," Kaku said. "We were born and raised here."

After Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, JAs were viewed with suspicion. Nearly 110,000 were sent to internment camps. Lawson Sakai learned how much the world had changed when he drove with some of his buddies to the local Navy recruiting station and tried to enlist. While his white friends were quickly accepted, Sakai was considered an "enemy alien" and could not join.

Sakai then watched as the FBI rounded up JA leaders in Los Angeles. When the federal government authorized the relocation of people with Japanese ancestry, a sister and some of his friends were sent to internment camps.

"We were blackballed," Sakai said. "Basically, they took away our citizenship."

Sakai's story is similar to thousands of other Nisei. Even as they fought in Europe, many JA troops had family members who would spend much of the war in U.S. internment camps. American officials, citing concerns that those of Japanese ancestry could be security risks, sent men, women and children to camps around the country.

Sakai served in the 442nd, which consisted of volunteers, about two-thirds from Hawaii and the rest from the mainland. The 442nd experienced some of the most horrific



fighting in Europe and became the most decorated unit in U.S. military history for its size and length of service. In just 10 months of combat, more than 700 were killed or listed as missing in action.

Sakai, 88, was wounded four times and received a Bronze Star and Purple Heart. He said the years following the war were difficult and that he often drank to deal with his memories. Now, he said, he's able to take pride in his peers' accomplishments and the subsequent congressional recognition.

"We certainly deserved the record that we produced. It was done by shedding a lot of blood. As far as I know, we didn't give up an inch of ground. We were always attacking and the Germans were always on the higher ground," he said.

While undergoing training, Susumu Ito would visit his parents and two sisters 200 miles away at the Rohwer Internment Camp in Arkansas. Despite the injustice of being forced to relocate from Stockton, Calif., Ito said, his parents took great pride in their son fighting for the U.S. military. However, he ignored his mother's request in her weekly letters to avoid hazardous duty. He said he wanted to be on the front lines, as did his peers. The motto of the 442nd was "go for broke."

Ito said that mentality reflected the mindset of JAs in general.

"This spirit of overcoming any objection was ingrained in my mind," Ito said.

About 6,000 JAs served in the Military Intelligence Service, on the front lines and behind the scenes, translating cables and



PHOTO: BRIAN YAMAMOTO

**WWII HEROES:** JA World War II soldiers (top) take part in the recent Congressional Gold Medal ceremony in Washington, D.C. (Left) Capt. Frank Yoshio Masuoka, an MIS veteran, was among the veterans who attended the festivities.

**'We certainly deserved the record that we produced. It was done by shedding a lot of blood.'**

**— Lawson Sakai, 442nd RCT veterans**

interviewing prisoners of war. Many also served during the postwar occupation of Japan, providing a bridge between Japanese and American officials.

Rep. Mike Honda, D-Calif., accepted the medal on behalf of his father, Byron. Honda said his father was recruited from an internment camp in Colorado and worked stateside as a language instructor for the MIS. He said his father, who was a civilian member of the intelligent unit, taught him how to go about proving doubters wrong.

"He doubled down. He said, 'Oh yeah, watch this,'" Honda said. "I think that was the prevailing attitude of a lot of the veterans."

"We revere the Japanese American veterans of the 442nd, 100th, and MIS who served courageously during World War II and to whom we owe a great deal," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director. "They made the world a better place for all Japanese Americans in subsequent years. We will be forever grateful for their sacrifice and dedication to life and liberty."

George Washington was the first recipient of the Congressional Gold Medal, in 1776. In recent years, Congress has honored athletes, astronauts and civil rights trailblazers. Lawmakers have also granted the

award to the Tuskegee Airmen and to Native American code talkers who transmitted secret messages sent during World War II. The House also voted last month to give the first black Marines the Congressional Gold Medal.

Sen. Barbara Boxer and Rep. Adam Schiff, both Democratic lawmakers from California, were the original co-sponsors of the legislation honoring the JA soldiers. The legislation was signed into law last year.

"You served our country despite being subjected to hurtful slurs and deep suspicions from many of your fellow citizens," Boxer said. "While we can never repay the debt we owe you, we can and we must recognize your valor and your patriotism."

Inouye was the final speaker. He already received the nation's highest medal for valor, the Medal of Honor. He described the latest honor as heartwarming.

"More importantly, I'm certain those who are resting in cemeteries are pleased with this day," he said. ■

**For additional coverage, please see the *Pacific Citizen's* special Veteran's Day Issue published Nov. 4-17, 2011.**

# Occupy Oakland Unofficially Renames Frank Ogawa Plaza

The City of Oakland cleared the Occupy Oakland encampment Nov. 14 where, according to a Nov. 8 press release, an estimated 180 tents were set up at Frank Ogawa Plaza.

By Nalea J. Ko  
Reporter

Occupy Oakland protestors say they started seeing homemade signs marking the unofficial renaming of Frank Ogawa Plaza to honor Oscar Grant when the first tents in the encampment sprouted up.

The unofficial renaming of Frank Ogawa Plaza was a symbolic gesture, some protestors say, to highlight Grant who was killed by a BART police officer.

But some Asian Americans in Oakland, Calif. say renaming the plaza erases the history of Ogawa, a Japanese American and a long-time city councilman.

"I could understand the reasons because there's been so much emotion understandably around the killing of Oscar Grant and at the same time it surprised me. I felt actually this kind of deep physical stabbing sensation in my heart," said Patricia Mushim Ikeda, a JA who resides in Oakland. "But just speaking for myself it just felt like a loss to me, surprisingly, to hear it being called Oscar Grant Plaza."

It was New Year's Day in 2009 when Grant, a 22-year-old African American, was killed. Grant and other men were detained at the Fruitvale BART station after a report of a fight on a train. Trying to restrain Grant, BART police officer Johannes Mehserle shot him in the back at an Oakland platform while passengers watched. The incident was recorded by multiple passengers' video cameras.

Mehserle, who said he had meant to use his Taser, was sentenced to two years in prison for involuntary manslaughter. He was released June 1 after serving about 11 months in prison.

The incident incited violent and peaceful protests in the city.

Identifying with Grant's story, some protestors at Occupy Oakland adopted the name Oscar Grant Plaza for their campsite.

"By renaming the plaza we meant no disrespect to Frank Ogawa," said 27-year-old William, a member of the Occupy Oakland media team, who agreed to speak only on partial anonymity. "Certainly we want to preserve his legacy and we just were trying to draw attention to those names that are typically ignored or seen in a negative light because of police brutality and the

history of ignoring communities that have been disenfranchised."

Ogawa, born in 1917, was unjustly interned in Topaz during World War II. After the war, he returned to Oakland operating a nursery business. Later Ogawa became involved in politics and was elected to the city council in 1966. He served until his death in 1994. Ogawa was said to be the first JA to serve in that capacity. The Oakland City Hall Plaza was named in his honor after his death.

Unofficially renaming the Frank Ogawa Plaza in honor of Grant was not meant, some protestors say, to detract from Ogawa's contributions to the city.

"People have chosen to call the plaza Oscar Grant Plaza in honor of yet another person murdered by police in the Bay Area," said Stephanie Demos, 54, who adds that her views do not necessarily represent the entire Occupy Oakland movement. "This was done with no disrespect to Frank Ogawa. In fact, there are images that were made honoring both."

To bring attention to the renaming of the plaza, a fundraiser is being held to raise \$740 for the printing of posters and postcards, which will later be distributed at Occupy Oakland for free. About \$670 was raised as of Nov. 14.

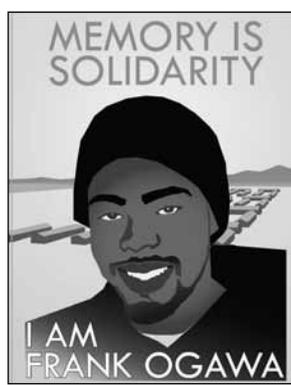
"At first I hardly noticed the renaming of Frank H. Ogawa Plaza because in general I agree that keeping Oscar Grant's memory alive is important," said Kenji C. Liu, a Japanese-Taiwanese American who designed the materials. "However, after hearing several people (not just Asian Americans) expressing discontent with the renaming, I realized I didn't know much about Ogawa and educated myself about him."

Liu said he wanted to raise awareness about Ogawa through visual art. His postcards and posters feature images of both men with additional biographical information.

But instead of Liu's postcards, protestors carried a different message over the Veteran's Day weekend.

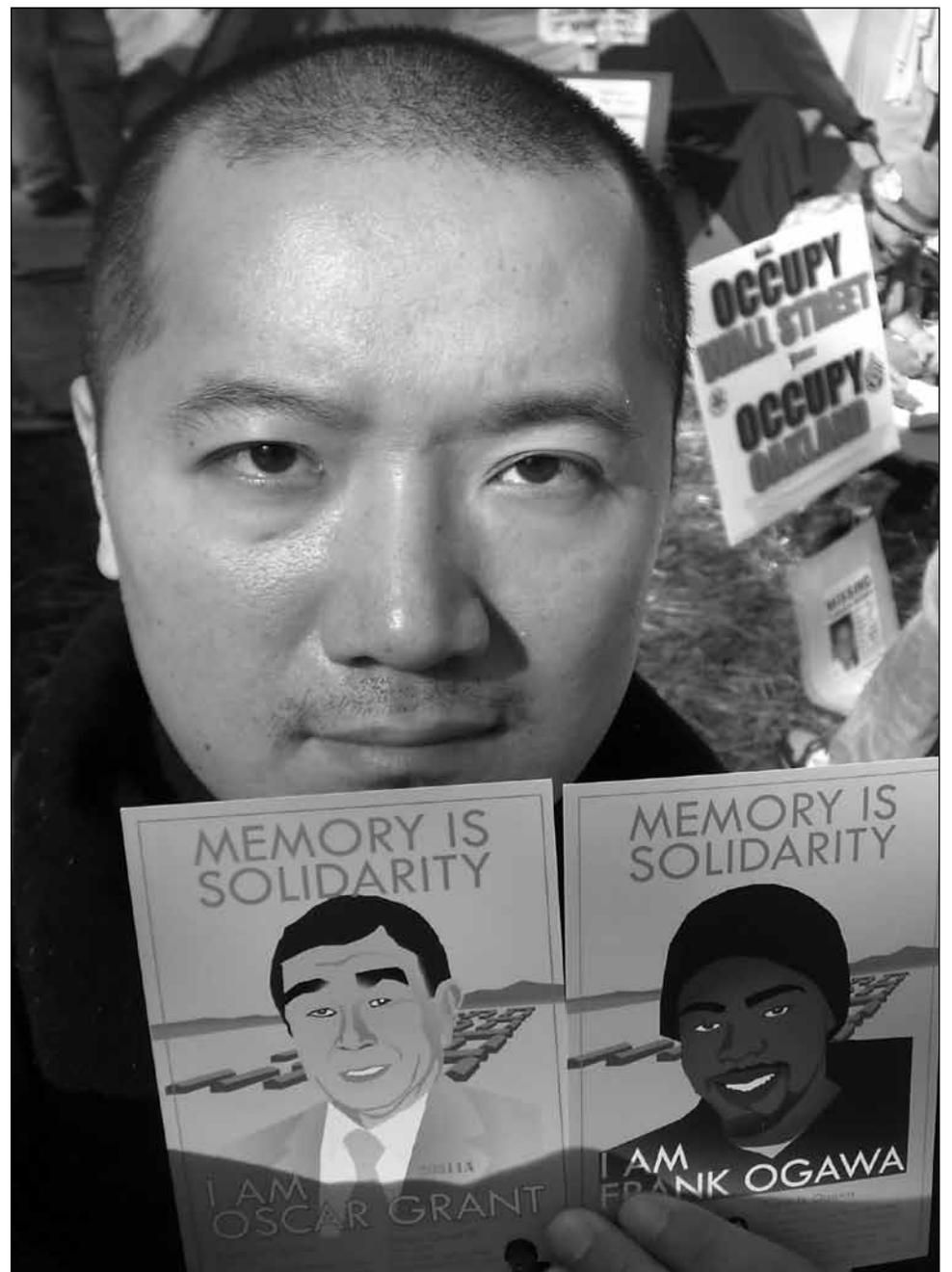
Toting signs that read "stop police brutality" and other slogans, protestors gathered in the plaza on Nov. 11. Three days later, police officers raided the campsite before dawn. A total of 33 people were arrested, according to the city.

The clearing of the encampment came



**'I felt actually this kind of deep physical stabbing sensation in my heart.'**

— Patricia Mushim Ikeda, about Frank Ogawa Plaza being called Oscar Grant Plaza.



Kenji C. Liu is fundraising to distribute posters and postcards he designed about Frank Ogawa and Oscar Grant to bring awareness to Frank Ogawa Plaza where Occupy Oakland had set up an encampment.

after the city issued a Nov. 13 cease and desist notice for camping. The notice, which was said to be the fourth, notified demonstrators that they would be arrested if they did not comply.

The action came after a man identified by police as Kayode Ola Foster, 25, was fatally shot on Nov. 10 near the campsite. City officials also say the occupation has a mounting price tag.

Over a month since Occupy Oakland began on Oct. 10, the campsite expanded to about 180 tents at Frank Ogawa Plaza, according to a Nov. 8 press release.

Occupy Oakland, according to preliminary estimates, has cost the city about \$2.4 million. That figure includes over \$1 million in personnel costs. Another \$1.3 million in miscellaneous costs, with \$100,000 going to "information technology security enhancements to the police department's website."

Mayor Jean Quan's handling of Occupy Oakland has been met with criticism. In response to the recent raid, the mayor's legal adviser Dan Siegel resigned, voicing his support for the occupation via Twitter. He had also criticized the Oct. 25 raid. The Police Officer's Association also lambasted the mayor's handling of the protests.

Occupy Oakland had planned to occupy

the Oakland Main Public Library, according to a previous posting on its website.

"I plan to continue distributing the postcards and posters at any site Occupy Oakland is in, because it is still important to have discussions about alliance-building between communities," Liu said. "It will always be important regardless of whether Occupy Oakland exists or not."

The efforts to raise awareness about the history of Frank Ogawa Plaza may have already taken root within the occupy community.

An Occupy Oakland Nov. 13 posting on its website referred to the plaza as Frank Ogawa/Oscar Grant Plaza. The usage of both men's names signals to those like Ikeda that the movement to "keep the memory of Frank Ogawa alive and included has been successful."

But Ikeda says she realizes in the end the people of Oakland will make the ultimate decision.

"I think we're kind of hitting bottom in some ways and personally it wouldn't be my idea for the highest thing on the city council's list to be having to discuss changing the name of the plaza," Ikeda said. "That having been said what it's referred to by the people in Oakland is going to be up to the people in Oakland." ■

# 'Passing Down the Legacy' Film Spotlights Cross-Cultural Connection

The new short documentary, produced by JACL PSW, is made by youth to empower youth in the Japanese and Muslim American communities.

By Christine McFadden  
Correspondent

Shehzaib Rahim, a Muslim American freshman at El Camino Community College was living in Chicago on Sept. 11, 2001. About to turn nine, he still remembers how his family members reacted around him.

"Many people were moving out of the city," said Rahim. "The fear was that exactly what happened back then would happen today," he said of the mass incarceration of Japanese Americans after the Dec. 7, 1941, attack on Pearl Harbor.

Two years ago, Rahim applied and was accepted to the "Bridging Communities" cross-cultural learning program in Los Angeles. The JACL program takes high school students from both the Muslim American community and JA community (as well as other communities) and engages them in interactive, educational sessions with topics ranging from identity to civil rights. Students also make a pilgrimage to the site of a former World War II JA incarceration camp.

Rahim enjoyed the program so much that he returned for a second year as an adviser, learning in depth about the ties between the Muslim American experience post-9/11 and the JAs post-Pearl Harbor.

"I'm honestly so grateful that the JAs came to our aid," he said. "They knew exactly what it was like. I know a lot of different JA organizations were trying to support Muslim Americans and back us up. I'm so grateful for people like that."

This December, a short documentary on the program will be released. Titled "Passing Down the Legacy," it follows the Bridging Communities program in its three different cities of operation — Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles — and documents the experiences of students like Rahim.

Directed and produced by Alex Margolin, former JACL Pacific Southwest District program associate of education and interpretation programs, and Marissa Kitazawa, program associate for PSW JACL's cultural and community programs, the documentary fulfills a historical component requirement of the National Park Service grant that previously funded the program.

However, both describe the film as accomplishing much more.

"I think the main goal for Marissa and myself was to give voice to the students who went through the program," said Margolin, a San Fernando Valley native who is half Korean American and Russian. "We're making the film, but it's not about us. It's their voice and their story."

## 'Passing Down the Legacy'

According to Kitazawa, a Yonsei or fourth generation JA from Los Angeles,



Both Japanese American and Muslim American students say hearing the firsthand stories from the internees had the most impact.

the Bridging Communities story had great documentary potential.

"We just kept talking about how this program and this story would make a great film," said Kitazawa. "How two seemingly different communities can come together and bridge ... We thought that if we were able to create a film, we'd be able to share that with the rest of the world."

Kitazawa and Margolin met while attending Pitzer College in Southern California. Kitazawa who studied media studies and documentary filmmaking, graduated in 2010. Margolin studied history and graduated in 2009. The two co-founded

and the Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress (NCRR). This year, Bridging Communities also received sponsorship from the Tule Lake Pilgrimage Committee.

Kitazawa calls the pilgrimages the "turning point" for the students.

"That's kind of when the hammer hits the nail on the head — this is exactly where injustice took place," she said.

Zawar Jafri, who participated in Bridging Communities Los Angeles in 2010 and came back in 2011 as an alumnus, cites his interactions with former JA internees as among his most significant lessons learned.

"It's one thing to read of their experiences

weakened pride in my ethnicity and religion after 9/11."

Kitazawa and Margolin hope the program's youth empowerment is captured on film.

"These students are able to gain the toolkit and the skills needed to become activists and to be able to speak out on issues that they feel passionate about," said Kitazawa.

Following a protest in Yorba Linda, Calif. earlier this year, one JA Bridging Communities student spoke in defense of Muslim Americans at a fundraising event for the Islamic Circle of North America Relief USA.

"For me, that's kind of the purpose of the program — for the youth to understand that they have a voice and be able to apply it in real life," said Kathy Masaoka, co-chair of NCRR and co-founder of Bridging Communities Los Angeles.

Masaoka hopes the documentary will also be a recruitment tool and potentially generate new ideas for similar programs in other cities.

"If any of that came out of this film, it would be more than we'd ever expected," said Margolin.

Because Bridging Communities did not receive the National Park Service grant this year, program officials are hopeful the documentary will become a successful fundraiser.

"I think now more than ever Bridging Communities is really trying to find the funding in order to sustain the program ... that's one part of what we're hoping that this documentary will do," said Kitazawa.

Jafri is looking to the documentary to share with others about the life-changing experience he had with Bridging Communities.

"My experience with the program was very profound, and the fact that this documentary could provide a glimpse of the lessons learned to the many people that view it is something I am very happy about," he said. ■



Alex Margolin (left) and Marissa Kitazawa helped direct and produce the documentary "Passing Down the Legacy" about the Bridging Communities program.

the Asian Pacific American Coalition at Pitzer in 2009.

The documentary follows the three different programs in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle, as they make pilgrimages to Manzanar, Tule Lake and Minidoka respectively. It also focuses on the history of the program and what the youth have gained from it.

"It can also be a kind of example for other communities of color to build coalitions and work together," said Kitazawa.

Bridging Communities began as a collaboration between three different community groups: PSW JACL, the Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR),

in history books and another to hear of their hardships and difficulties firsthand," Jafri said. "I did not expect their words to penetrate me or touch my heart as much as they did."

## Empowering the Youth

Program participants were not only impacted by the pilgrimages, but were also influenced on a grander scale.

Rahim's interest in civil rights grew. He now wants to go to law school — an interest he says was mainly based from his participation in Bridging Communities.

Jafri says that the program changed his life path "by helping instill or augment the

## National Board Reports Budget Deficit, Emphasizes Corporate Sponsors



National director Floyd Mori (*second from left*), who announced his resignation in April, emphasized the importance of his successor maintaining a relationship with corporate sponsors.

sors.

**At its Oct. 29 meeting, the JACL national board votes to keep the national director's position in Washington, D.C.**

By Pacific Citizen Staff

FOUNTAIN VALLEY, Calif.—The JACL national board members emphasized continuing its relationships with corporate sponsors as the organization faces a budget deficit and works to reduce its reliance on

membership revenues.

At the JACL national board meeting on Oct. 29 board members discussed a budget deficit of about \$190,000 as of Sept. 30, but expected revenues from large fundraisers are projected to reduce the budget deficit.

“The budget is sort of like your plan, the actual costs may or may not hit the budget that’s why when I give you the report. It tells you what it’s actually doing right now. And currently Sept. 30 we were in the red about \$190,000,” said Clyde Izumi, JACL business manager, addressing the national

board members. “If this continues, we will continue to be in the red. But some things that happen in the third and the fourth quarter could bring this around.”

Revenues from the 2011 JACL National Convention, the Gala Dinner, Annual Giving campaign, and *Pacific Citizen's* Holiday Issue are some of the fundraising efforts expected to reduce the budget deficit.

Larry Oda, JACL secretary/treasurer, said revisions in the budget also reduce the organization’s reliance on membership dues for the 2011 fiscal year from \$758,686 to \$666,216.

Other board members said additional funds could be secured to offset the \$190,000 deficit.

JACL National Director Floyd Mori said, “there could be some generous corporate donations between now and then that are not foreseen that would help the bottom line.”

To cover the budget deficit in 2010, \$100,000 was borrowed from the organization’s National Endowment Fund in early 2011. But Oda said the board would likely be unable to repay the national endowment this year. Chip Larouche, Pacific Northwest District governor, made a motion to indefinitely defer payment of the national endowment loan. David Lin, vice president of membership, seconded the motion.

Some board members raised concerns about leaving the loan repayment open-ended. Gail Sueki, vice president of general

operations, asked to amend the motion to stipulate the repayment of the loan by the end of Dec. 31, 2012. Brian Morishita, Intermountain District governor, seconded the motion.

The revisions to the 2011 budget were approved with Larouche making a motion to accept the budget revisions. Toshi Abe, Eastern District governor, seconded the motion.

With a projected budget deficit, some board members also emphasized the need to secure corporate sponsorship, indicating the new national director needs to maintain current relationships previously forged with corporate sponsors. Mori announced his resignation in April, but has now said he will remain in his position until a new national director is hired.

“So that is my willingness, to be here until a new director is found because particularly our corporate folks are concerned that there is no transition, that the old director has to ... get the new person acquainted with what’s going on in raising money particularly because that’s where they come in,” Mori said. “As our membership is declining, we’re going to depend more and more on that corporate sector.”

Lin echoed Mori’s sentiments, saying the hiring of a new national director needs to be

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## JACL PSW Annual Award Recipients Reflect on Past, Present and Future

**The JACL PSW district honors 15 community leaders at its 15th Annual Awards Dinner.**

More than 200 people packed into the Rose Center Theater in Westminster, Calif. to honor leaders in the Asian American community at the JACL Pacific Southwest District’s 15th Annual Awards Dinner.

The Oct. 29 event, themed “Looking to the Future: Partnerships Across Communities and Generations,” honored those in the community who support JACL’s mission of advancing and protecting the civil rights of Japanese Americans and others.

The chapter honorees included Harold and Ellen Kameya of San Fernando Valley, Frank Kawase of SELANOCO, Sharon Kumagai of Venice-Culver, Dr. Richard Matsuishi of Arizona, Rodney Nakada of Downtown L.A., Joyce Okazaki of Greater L.A. Singles, Miyo Reff of San Diego, Clyde Wilson of Riverside and Shig Yabu of Ventura.

Recipients of the Community Honoree Award were California Assemblyman Warren Furutani, Madeline Ong-Sakata, Bill Watanabe, Orange County Supervisor Bill Campbell and Mary Anne Foo.

Watanabe, the founder and executive director of the Little Tokyo Service Center, received the award after recently announcing his plans to retire next year in June.

“I suppose I should grab all the awards I can get, huh?” Watanabe said laughingly before the ceremony at the event’s silent auction, where attendees bid on various



The JACL PSW awardees include (*backrow from l to r*) Clyde Wilson, Shig Yabu, Frank Kawase, Harold Kameya, Rodney Nakada and Dr. Richard Matsuishi. (*Front row*) Joyce Okazaki, Miyo Reff, Ellen Kameya and Sharon Kumagai

items.

But not all of the honorees accepted their award without first addressing their opinions about past issues endorsed by the JACL.

“I’m deeply disappointed in JACL and the Power of Words handbook draft and the committee that was selected to rewrite the handbook after the emergency resolution was passed at the national convention,” said Joyce Okazaki, a member of the JACL Greater L.A. Singles chapter.

A draft Power of Words handbook was created, following the passage of the Power of Words resolution at the JACL national convention in 2010.

To implement the resolution, an ad-hoc committee and draft handbook were created. But some JAs like Okazaki said the terms recommended in the handbook were diluted. She prefers using the terms “American concentration camp” or “concentration camp” to describe her firsthand experience being unjustly incarcerated in Manzanar with her family.

“I was very down on JACL. I had heard some very discouraging information on how they always backtrack on any controversial issue such as the use of the terminology,” Okazaki said after the dinner in a phone call. “I felt a great sense of joy of being able to

give my message to all those people that were there.”

Furutani echoed Okazaki’s sentiments in his acceptance speech at the awards dinner, speaking of his experience attending the first Manzanar pilgrimage and a discussion surrounding the terminology to be used on a bronze plaque marking the site.

“I’m proud to say that on that bronze plaque — the oldest one designating Japanese Americans being put in camps — is the term concentration camp,” Furutani said. “If you are on the outside looking in, maybe you could live with the term internment camp, relocation center or other sanitized terminology. But we perceived — the younger generation — that if you were on the inside looking out that you could then define it as a concentration camp.”

Other award recipients used their time at the podium to speak of the personal connections they have made through JACL.

“I just want to thank JACL for the opportunities that they have given to me and also for introducing my wife Joan to me,” said Frank Kawase, from the SELANOCO chapter.

Overall, organizers said the event was a success despite technical problems such as when presenters tried to play a Bridging Communities program trailer titled “Passing Down the Legacy.” Those who missed the trailer at the awards dinner, can now watch the online link on the JACL website ([www.jacl.org](http://www.jacl.org)).

SEE PSW/PAGE 16

# NPS Recommends Poston Elementary School to Become National Historical Landmark

The National Park System Advisory Board Landmarks Committee voted unanimously Nov. 9 to recommend the Poston Elementary School, Unit 1, as a National Historic Landmark.

Poston was one of the largest of the ten World War II concentration camps for Japanese Americans and at the time was the third largest population center in Arizona.

"These National Historic Landmarks now serve as lessons to all of America of the delicate nature of our guaranteed freedoms in times of national stress," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director. "These landmarks are there as a lesson learned that we should never again repeat the admitted mistakes of

1942. The JACL and others use these sites and grandparents. Shigekawa spoke of the uniting force the camp has been in bringing diverse communities together for better understanding and tolerance.

Mori and former Poston internees testified before the NPS committee. Marlene Shigekawa, who was born at the Poston camp, testified about the heartache and hardship experienced by her parents

**'These landmarks are there as a lesson learned that we should never again repeat the admitted mistakes of 1942.'**

and grandparents. Shigekawa spoke of the uniting force the camp has been in bringing diverse communities together for better understanding and tolerance.

Attorney Warren Maruyama told the story of his family being uprooted and taken to an assembly center and then to two different camps. Maruyama has been an ardent supporter of Historic Landmark designation for all of the camps and has testified at numerous hearings. ■



The Poston Elementary School, Unit 1.

## WHY I'M A JACLER

# Seabrook JACler Keeps Local Japanese American History Alive

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** "Why I'm a JACler" celebrates members who make a difference in the organization and the community. In addition to highlighting remarkable JACLers, "Why I'm a JACler" aims to encourage activism and raise the visibility of the JACL and its mission.



In September, John Fuyuumé (third from left) received the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays. (L-r) James Crilley, mayor of Upper Deerfield Township, New Jersey, Counsel Takashi Kamada, Fuyuumé, Ambassador Shigeyuki Hiroki and Bruce Peterson.

John Fuyuumé's passion to tell the Japanese American story helped to build a museum in a village called Seabrook.

During World War II, many Japanese Americans left their barbed wire internment camps for Seabrook in Upper Deerfield Township, New Jersey for employment opportunities. Their settlement left an indelible mark on the area.

To make sure this part of history didn't slip into obscurity, Fuyuumé and the Seabrook JACL helped establish the Seabrook Educational and Cultural Center (SECC) in 1994. Through displays and videos, the two-room museum tells the story of Seabrook Farms and the people who worked and lived there.

For Fuyuumé, 86, preserving the history of JAs at Seabrook Farms is personal. His own family left Gila River during WWII to work there. The longtime Seabrook JACL member also built an enduring career at the farm.

"There's no question that John is the SECC," said Lenore Wurtzel, Seabrook JACL co-president. "He's an eloquent speaker and an excellent storyteller of the Japanese experience. He's the face of the SECC."

The SECC and the Seabrook JACL share leadership, said Wurtzel. Board members of one group are most likely involved in the other. In the middle of it all is Fuyuumé with all his energy.

"I was always a member of JACL," said Fuyuumé.

In a climate of declining membership in the JACL, the Seabrook chapter is an exception. Its membership is not decreasing, he said.

"I'm the oldest person there. I'm 86, a generation older than them," said Fuyuumé about the chapter board. "We have to be proud of Seabrook."

The chapter focuses primarily on local interests and community activities.

Fuyuumé has been a JACler for over 50 years. Aside from the times when work took him to different parts of the world, he's been with the Seabrook JACL. In 1953, he served as chapter president and as his first official duty he helped organize a naturalization ceremony for over 100 Issei along with the American Legion Shoemaker Post 95 of Bridgeton.

"I was a young guy out of college and the Seabrook chapter was known for civic and community activities," said Fuyuumé about

getting involved in the chapter.

He had just graduated with his master's degree in music from the University of Rochester Eastman School of Music, when Vernon Ichisaka and Charles Nagao, the pioneers of the Seabrook JACL, got Fuyuumé involved.

"My father saw the leadership quality in John," said Irene Kaneshiki, a Seabrook JACL member and daughter of Charles Nagao. "He's a real take charge kind of person."

His involvement with JACL has created many fond memories. He met and married his wife Setsuko, also a Seabrook JACler. And at a JACL national convention in 1950s New York, Fuyuumé performed the JACL anthem with Bill Wakatsuki, a baritone.

The most memorable convention, said Fuyuumé, was the 1992 election of Lillian Kimura as the JACL's first female national president.

"I still have the T-shirt that says, 'Elect Kimura,'" said Fuyuumé with a laugh.

He has also earned many accolades. In 2000, he earned national JACL's Sapphire Pin award for his long-time service to the organization, according to Kaneshiki. In September he received the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays, a prestigious decoration bestowed by the Consulate General of Japan in New York in the name of the emperor of Japan for his contributions to preserving and promoting the history and culture of the JA community.

For Fuyuumé, preserving and promoting the history of JAs in Seabrook comes from a personal place. During WWII, his parents Junji and Chise went from their desert prison in Gila River to work at Seabrook Farms, a major supplier of food to the military at the time.

Before the war, Fuyuumé's parents owned a produce store in Pasadena, Calif. where one day a music teacher bartered piano lessons for their son in exchange for groceries. It touched off a lifelong appreciation of music, but not a career.

Instead Fuyuumé had a varied career in business. He was a computer expert in the 1950s and developed the computer department at Seabrook Farms.

Over the years, Fuyuumé has traveled throughout the region to speak about Seabrook's history. Because of his dedication, the SECC received the New Jersey Governor's Award for Tourism and a 2010 Foreign Minister of Japan award.

"He's a dedicated kind of guy," said Kaneshiki. "My dad would be very proud of him and would endorse all the accolades he has received." ■

**'I was always a member of JACL.'**

### NOMINATE A JACLER

To nominate a JACler to highlight, send the nominee's contact information, chapter affiliation and a brief explanation of why he/she is a noteworthy JACler to:

pc@pacificcitizen.org.

## Join the movement. BECOME A JACLER

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(The P.C. will forward this request to National JACL. Membership fees will be assessed by National JACL)



## for the RECORD

BY JOHN TATEISHI

### National Board

Throughout my 35- plus years' association with the JACL, I've served in various capacities at various levels of the organization. I was a founding member of the Marin County chapter, served as its vice president and president and attended three conventions as a delegate; served on the NCWNP district board as a v.p. twice and was the chairman of the district redress committee; was co-founder of the Golden Gate chapter; chaired the National Committee for Redress; served in a staff capacity as the JACL's Redress director as a lobbyist in DC; and finally, served as the national director from 1999 until my departure at the end of 2006.

I give my bona fides because this is an opinion piece and I want you to understand that I speak from a lot of experience in the JACL at all levels and in different capacities. Having done this doesn't necessarily make me right in what I'm going to say, but I do have some basis for my concerns.

I'm talking about the national board.

I was asked several times to run for the national board, but I never did. At first because I felt I hadn't had enough experience in the JACL and hadn't paid my dues at the chapter and district levels; and then later because I was involved in the JACL redress program as a volunteer chair and then as a staff member.

My reluctance came from feeling that I hadn't earned the privilege of being a national board member. One ought to prove one's self at the chapter and district levels before running for the board. Maybe, like some other organizations, we ought to have an election committee to screen candidates to ensure they have the qualifications to run for office.

I know. The counter-argument to this is that if this kind of prerequisite were required, it would discourage many from seeking national office. Fine. As a former employee of the JACL, I think that's better instead of having board members who don't really know the organization or what their purpose is on the board.

One thing ought to be absolutely clear: national board members are responsible for fiduciary and policy matters of the organization. And nothing more.

I say this so emphatically because my experience as a former national chair, as an

employee hired to lobby redress, and as the national director, has been board members who meddle, who think their job is to run the organization, who dictate what the staff can or cannot do. If that's what board members want to do or think they should do, they need to learn what it means to be a board member, and if they still want to, they need to apply for the job.

That's universal, whether corporate, public or nonprofit boards. Board members need to read the book on serving on boards. In California, nonprofit boards can get involved in personnel matters, but only as a board-as-a-whole and in executive session.

When I was the Redress director, a staff position where I lobbied Congress, some board members tried to tell me how I should do my job when they knew little about the issue and nothing about

Washington. And there are always those who try to run the organization by micro-managing, always counter-productive because all it does is frustrate the staff.

When we ran into serious fiscal problems in the 2000 market crash and our reserve funds disappeared, I put a freeze on hiring and travel. It was *my* responsibility to approve staff travel, but a couple of board members tried to intervene, without success, because carrying out the policy was my responsibility, not theirs.

In fact, I once rejected a board member's reimbursement request because she didn't get permission to travel on the JACL's dime. You want to play a game of arrogance? I'm pretty good at it if I want to be.

The most irritating thing board members can do (and I speak from experience about this) is to meddle with the day-to-day operations of the organization. From a staff director's point of view, that's just a huge ego trip. And it's not a board member's responsibility, nor is it a board member's job to dictate who to hire or fire (which I had to deal with with one board member when I had an individual on staff sniping behind my back).

Trust me, board members and staff would be much happier if both just stuck to what they're supposed to do, and the organization would benefit hugely from that. ■

*John Tateishi is the immediate past JACL national director.*



## the right PLACE

BY JAMES KUMPEL

### The Tea Party vs. HERD Mentality

The extended economic stagnation is depressing to everybody, but particularly young people whose college degrees are not automatically translating into lucrative job offers. With college tuitions up ten-fold in the last 33 years and student debt now topping \$1 trillion, the structural unemployment and under-employment in the economy is particularly distressing.

Professor Laurence J. Kotlikoff of Boston University estimates that unfunded or under-funded liabilities for Medicare, Social Security, and public employee pensions and healthcare benefits total a whopping \$211 trillion (14 times our GDP). With the partisans in Washington unwilling to make tough trade-offs or reform entitlement programs for longterm viability, the tab is being left with the young and unborn to pay off those bills.

Against that backdrop, it is depressing to witness the mainstream media denigrate the Tea Party, while straining to embrace the anti-capitalists who claim to represent the 99%, whom we refer to as the "desocupados". Columnists from the *New York Times*, Democratic politicians, and talking heads from MSNBC have labeled Tea Partiers as "terrorists", "hostage takers" and "racists". The Tea Party was deemed irresponsible for holding firm to its core principle that the government should live within its means and stop adding trillions in deficits to our high national debt.

This distortion of terminology to denigrate principled opposition to profligate spending stands in marked contrast to the media's political correctness in avoiding characterizing actual extremists in such terms (including the radical shooter at Fort Hood) for fear of exacerbating cultural sensitivities. At one point, Democratic Party leaders tried to tar Sarah Palin and the Tea Party with blame for the tragic Tucson shootings in January for stirring up anger at government institutions.

Of course, it was later revealed that the psychologically troubled shooter was an anti-American atheist anarchist (with left wing leanings) whose favorite books included the Communist Manifesto. Perhaps liberal pundits should consider how "Worst Person in the World" or "Psycho Talk" segments demonize certain members of our society. Japanese Americans ought to be acutely aware of the dangers of such indulgences.

On the other hand, the media has treated the desocupados with kid gloves, often comparing this group of protesters to the civil rights movement and anti-war throngs of the 1960s. Rather than highlighting the vandalism, overtime costs, thousands of arrests, and negative impacts to local businesses, much of the media has portrayed these class warriors as activists for economic justice against greedy profiteers. Meanwhile, we have yet to see a single Tea Party arrest.

Small business owners have had to lay off workers because shoppers have been scared away by tent city demonstrators. Trade processors, bank tellers and customer service representatives have seen their work environments turned upside down by unruly protesters. Local residents and commuters have had to endure the noise, filth, and inaccessibility of parks and roads.

It is apparent that the Democratic Party and its special interest groups hope to fuel a movement that acts as a counter-weight to the Tea Party. The intellectual foundation for those "Preoccupied with Wall Street" is a HERD mentality, based on Hostility, Entitlement, Redistribution and Dependency.

Hostility blames others for their lot in life and aims for class warfare. Protesters clearly feel entitled to transfer individual obligations to taxpayers through student loan debt forgiveness, mortgage debt forgiveness,

extended unemployment benefits and other such "stimulus" programs. Redistribution is a clear goal of Democrats who want to soak the rich. It is claimed that 1 percent of the population paying 37 percent of the individual income taxes is not their "fair share".

Solving our fiscal crisis should rely on economic growth, broadening our revenue base, and promoting long-term fiscal solvency rather than "stimulus" programs that merely transfer payments to favored political cronies. Young people should also remember that today's low interest rates grossly understates the back-breaking burdens that will befall them should trillion dollar deficits continue to mount and interest rates return to much higher levels.

Upon reflection, they may realize that the Tea Party better represents their long-term interests than the desocupados. ■

*James Kumpel is a JACL New York chapter board member and former JACL scholarship winner.*

*'... national board members are responsible for fiduciary and policy matters of the organization. And nothing more.'*

*'It is apparent that the Democratic Party and its special interest groups hope to fuel a movement that acts as a counter-weight to the Tea Party.'*

# Joy Osmanski Lends Her Voice to Fox's Animated Series 'Allen Gregory'

**Performing plays in college and taking a mime class — minus the black unitard and white makeup — piqued the Korean American actress' interest in acting.**

By Nalea J. Ko  
Reporter

Actress Joy Osmanski shares some similarities with her animated character on the new Fox show "Allen Gregory," but the cartoon's oversized forehead is not one of them.

Osmanski was adopted from South Korea when she was seven months old by her Caucasian adoptive parents, much like her character on the show.

The animated character Julie Neung was — as we learned in the Oct. 30 premiere — adopted via an online agency from Cambodia by same-sex couple Jeremy (Nat Faxon) and Richard (French Stewart) De Longpre. But Julie's arch nemesis and brother, Allen Gregory, hopes to ship her back to Cambodia.

Keeping with Julie's sullen personality, Osmanski uses a monotone voice to portray the 11-year-old character. Working on an animated series is a stray for Osmanski who landed her first TV appearance on Fox's "The Loop." In addition to her voiceover work and TV roles, Osmanski also has numerous film credits. She appears in this year's "Surrogate Valentine," and "Wedding Palace."

Growing up in Olympia, Wash., Osmanski showed an interest in writing and the arts at a young age. At Illinois' Pricipia College she majored in creative writing and studio art. Osmanski opened a graphic design business after college. She later was accepted to the University of San Diego's graduate acting program.

Osmanski talked to the *Pacific Citizen* about how she went from graphic designer to a working actress.

## How did you become the voice of Julie on "Allen Gregory"?

Well, like all the projects I've been a part of — for the most part — I auditioned just like any other normal acting gig. The difference for me with this was that it was just a microphone. Of course everyone still gets [laughs] all dressed up, which is hilarious.

## What is it like when you're doing the voiceover work for the show?

Every week we have a table read with the whole cast, the creators and writers and a ton of executives — there's a lot of people in one room. And so we all get to hear the show out loud and bounce off each other, which is vital and so much fun. And then after that the recording process is, we're each completely on our own.

And that was an adjustment for me because you're basically acting by yourself. It's an interesting creative challenge.

## What was your reaction when you saw the show air?

Oh, my God. I was nervous of course because I don't have any experience with this. The idea of seeing my voice attached to an animated body was completely awesome and freaky to me at the

same time [laughs]. When I saw the first episode I think I didn't breathe through the whole thing.

## Did you know your character would have a massive forehead?

I'll never forget when I first saw her because I think it was at one



PHOTO: WILLIAM & HIRAKAWA/FOX

Joy Osmanski's "fed up" voice is the one she uses for her "Allen Gregory" character.

of the call back auditions and they asked me if I've seen her and I said, 'no.'

But when they showed me how she was rendered that's also when it really clicked for me because I saw this dour little person with this enormous billboard of a forehead [laughs].

It felt very much like when you're doing a stage production

and you see your wardrobe and you put that on for the first time. Like, 'Yeah! This is my character!'

## You're definitely more upbeat than Julie. How are you similar to her, if at all?

One of the roles that I played before which was actually a Fox show called 'The Loop,' my character they adjusted to fit more of who I was. In doing that they made her adopted. But that is the only other time I've played a character who was adopted and ... Julie was adopted before I came along and I never said anything. I didn't want to be like, 'Well, because I'm also adopted [laughs], hire me.'

## Tell me about your adoption story. Were you adopted from South Korea?

I was! I was a baby. I can't remember ever not knowing. I've been back to Korea now twice as an adult. Both times I've had just *amazing* experiences there. I would love to go back much much more and take my husband and my stepdaughter.

## Was it difficult for your parents to incorporate elements of Korean culture?

No, not at all. Looking back on it it was funny because I just totally took for granted what they did. And bless their hearts, my mom — I remember in preschool I went to show-and-tell dressed in a

little hanbok and she would make Korean food for me at home. She would always put me to bed with a Korean saying and so there were all these really deliberate lovely things my parents did to integrate Korean culture. Now, of course, what happened inevitability is I became a teenager who was like, 'Whatever! I don't even care about that stuff! I just want to go to the

mall.'

And for me it was only as an adult that I got really intensely curious about Korea and have luckily been able to pursue that curiosity.

## How did you go from graphic designer to actress?

Oh, you get really tired of just sitting on your ass all day [laughs]. I'll level with you, that's kind of what it came to.

I was so static! I just sat in my chair in front of the computer, and because I had my own business I was working with clients remotely. I didn't see a soul during the day. I mean I actually love being by myself. But when you're only by yourself you go a little crazy.

I love being on stage with other people and [laughs] then I did a community theater production of 'Our Town' and that was when I was like, 'Oh, god! I think I like this!'

## Is your schedule for 'Allen Gregory' really hectic?

We recorded all the episodes just week after week for, I guess, about seven straight weeks. At the time I mean it's almost embarrassing just because it's so relatively easy. I mean if you work on a hour-long or a half-hour [show] those days can be *so* long because there's so many technical things: all the cameras and the lighting and everything.

But with voiceover [work] you just put on your clothes, and you get in your car, and you go there, and you go in, and then you do your thing and then you go.

## Do your friends make you do the Julie voice?

Very few people have asked me to do the Julie voice, probably least of all my husband who actually gets to hear it in life more often than he would like to because it's generally my voice when I'm just really fed up [laughs].

## Do you have any advice for Asian American actors?

What I always say to them — and I believe this to be true no matter what — is just think of yourself as an actor first. I have never ever thought of myself as an Asian American actor. I'm an actor. Everyone else can waste time trying to pigeonhole you, but let them burn that energy. But for you as an artist, your only job is to do the work, be inspired, show up and kick ass. ■



PHOTO COURTESY OF FOX

## High Hopes for 1st Elected Chinese American SF Mayor



Newly-elected San Francisco Mayor Ed Lee is the first Chinese American to run the city.

### By Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO—Bowing deeply and shaking hands with shopkeepers along the streets of Chinatown, San Francisco's newly elected mayor understands the significance: These are the people who put him in office, the people for whom he fought when he was an activist attorney, and the people who expect more of him than any other mayor who came before.

"The community has been waiting for this kind of historic opportunity for many, many decades," Mayor Ed Lee said Nov. 10 as he performed his first duty as the city's first elected Chinese American head of City Hall. "There have been a lot of sacrifices."

Those sacrifices are steeped in San Francisco history. Chinese and Japanese American families have reared generations of assimilated and successful children, but many of their grandparents and great grandparents were once outcast or interned.

Though Asians comprise a third of the city's population, they have traditionally been underrepresented in politics and economics. Beyond the kitsch and chaos of touristy Chinatown, look deeper down the alleys of one of the nation's mostly densely populated neighborhoods and you'll find tenement housing, elderly poor and struggling family businesses.

Lee, who as interim mayor closed a \$380 million deficit to balance the city budget this year, pledged during his campaign to invest \$5 million in the coming

year to help small businesses like those scattered across Chinatown and other distressed neighborhoods. He's also vowed to keep on track the first subway line through the heart of congested Chinatown.

Sandy Tan, owner of An An Hair Salon on Stockton Street, is one of those counting on Lee to keep his promises.

"We think he's the one to revitalize the entire city," she said. "Business is very slow; we are putting all our hopes on him."

"It's a milestone; as significant as Obama's election was for African Americans," said David Lee, director of the Chinese American Voters Education Committee. "The only difference is that Chinese Americans in San Francisco put Ed Lee into office with their votes and their money."

Lee, 59, came from humble beginnings. Both parents emigrated from southern China; his father was a cook and restaurant manager and his mother a waitress and seamstress. A law graduate from UC Berkeley, he went to work for the S.F. Asian Law Caucus.

He would then go to City Hall, working for four mayors for 22 years. He was the city administrator when appointed interim mayor in January when then-Mayor Gavin Newsom became California's lieutenant governor.

He dropped his pledge not to run for the office in August, after a string of accomplishments and encouragement from powerbrokers and former Democratic mayors Newsom and Willie Brown. ■

## Report: Asian Americans Grow Beyond Coastal Hubs

### By Associated Press

LOS ANGELES—Asian Americans have seen their ranks swell over the past decade not only in coastal immigrant enclaves but also in new places such as the southwestern states of Texas and Nevada, according to a report released recently by a coalition of Asian American organizations.

The report shows the largest AA populations have remained in California and New York, but traditionally smaller communities shot up between 2000 and 2010, more than doubling in Nevada and growing 95 percent in Arizona.

Over the decade, AAs grew 72 percent to more than 1.1 million in Texas, giving the state more AAs than Hawaii, according to a report released by the AA Center for Advancing Justice, a coalition of four AA advocacy groups.

William H. Frey, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, said much of the growth was spurred by the draw of the suburbs during the middle of the decade and a rising number of South Asians, including many highly-educated workers who took jobs in technology

hubs such as Austin, Texas, or followed relatives who had success here.

"My guess is this dispersion will continue to snowball," Frey said. "Asians are still a tiny part of the U.S. population. ... This is the beginning of a trend, I guess, in much of the rest of the country."

Over the past decade, AAs aren't the only group to make a push to the suburbs. Census data shows Hispanics moved beyond traditional enclaves to destinations in Alabama, Louisiana and North Carolina during the housing boom, and African Americans left big cities such as Detroit, Chicago and New York.

The report, which was largely based on Census data, shows AA numbers grew 46 percent over the decade. The figure includes people who identified as Asian along with other race categories on their census forms, said Dan Ichinose, director of the APA Legal Center's demographic research project.

The report also shows large increases in the number of South Asians. The Indian population grew by 68 percent to nearly 3.2 million and Indians now account for 18 percent of AAs, up from 16 percent a decade ago, the report shows. ■

# National Newsbytes

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

### Asian Immigrants Less Worried About Alabama Law

BAYOU LA BATRE, Ala.—Alabama's tough new law targeting undocumented immigrants does not have too many of the region's Southeast Asian residents scared.

Since most are naturalized American citizens or legal permanent residents, Alabama's new law targeting illegal immigration shouldn't affect them.

Some parts of the law have been blocked by courts, but a section that allows police to check a person's immigration status during traffic stops still stands. Some immigrants, even those in the country legally, worry that this could lead to improper detentions or racial profiling — concerns that police and supporters of the law dismiss.

### Pa. Casinos Increase Hiring of APA Workers

HARRISBURG, Pa.—Officials say the advent of table games at Pennsylvania casinos — and marketing to the APA populations — has spurred a hiring boom of workers of Asian descent for jobs at gambling establishments in the commonwealth.

Asians now account for more than seven percent of casino workers statewide, overtaking the Hispanic category that maintained a five percent share of the employment.

### Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker Committee Holds Successful Fundraiser

VENICE, Calif.—At its Oct. 29 benefit, the Venice Japanese American Memorial Marker Committee raised over \$10,000 towards the dedication of a marker on the northwest corner of Venice and Lincoln Boulevards in Los Angeles to commemorate the location where some 1,000 JAs reported for mandatory evacuation to Manzanar during World War II.

A model of the memorial marker designed by Emily Winters was on display at the event.

### JACL National Youth/Student Council Holds Third Youth Leadership Summit

CHICAGO—The JACL National Youth/Student Council (NY/SC) held its third Youth Leadership Summit in Chicago to help build a network of JACL youth leaders.

The Chicago summit focused on connecting youth in the JACL Midwest district to each other and to the JACL on a national level.

Several informative workshops on personal identity, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer issues and civil rights were held.

State Farm and Southwest Airlines sponsored the summit.

Two additional summits are being planned for 2012.

### Hawaii Sovereignty Group Protests at Iolani Palace



HONOLULU—About two-dozen people from a group that has advocated for Hawaii sovereignty locked themselves on the grounds of the palace that was once home to Hawaiian royalty, but then unchained the gates early Nov. 7 after a request from state officials.

Protesters from the self-proclaimed Hawaiian Kingdom Government group gathered at Iolani Palace Nov. 6. The group has said it wants to reclaim land belonging to the Hawaiian monarchy that was stolen during the overthrow of the kingdom more than 100 years ago.

The ornate palace was built by King Kalakaua in 1882. It later served as the residence for his sister and successor, Queen Liliuokalani, the islands' last ruling monarch. The palace was restored in the 1970s as a National Historic Landmark. ■

# APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

## Portland JACLER Receives Consul General Award



**Alice Sumida**, a Portland JACL lifetime member and former president of the Nikkei Fujin Kai, has received the Foreign Minister's Commendation Award at a ceremony at Consul General Takamichi Okabe's residence.

The commendation is awarded once a year to individuals or groups that help increase mutual understanding of Japan.

## New England JACLER to be Recognized at Community Change, Inc. Event

Community Change, Inc., a Boston, Mass.-based non-profit organization that works to promote racial justice and equity, is dedicating its Community Change Leadership Awards to the life and work of **May Takayanagi**.

Takayanagi is a New England JACL board member. The Nov. 29 awards presentation will be held at Simmons College.

## Sashihara to Lead New Jersey's Division on Civil Rights

**Craig Sashihara**, a veteran litigator with experience in discrimination and equal employment opportunity matters, has been appointed as New Jersey's director of the division on civil rights.

Sashihara, 47, has directed the Department of Law and Public Safety's Office of Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO), has more than 19 years experience in the public and private sectors handling a broad array of legal issues.

## Kuroki Book Wins Award

A young reader's biography of **Ben Kuroki**, a Nebraska-born Japanese American aerial gunner and a hero during World War II, has been honored with a bronze medal in the Moonbeam Children's Book Awards.

"Lucky Ears" won in the category of multicultural nonfiction for young adults. In May, the book also won an "IPPY" Bronze Medal.

Dr. Jean A. Lukesh is also writing Kuroki's adult biography entitled, "I Had to Fight Like Hell for my Country."

## San Mateo JACLER is Elected to City Council



JACLER **Steve Okamoto** has beat out six other candidates for a seat on Foster City's City Council.

Foster City, which is located 25 miles south of San Francisco, is home to over 30,000 residents.

Okamoto is a longtime Foster City resident. He was a member of the Parks and Recreation Committee and was inducted into the Sports Wall of Fame for his 22 years as a Little League manager and umpire. He is also past president of the San

Mateo JACL chapter.

Okamoto begins his four-year term Dec. 3.

## Ujifusa to Receive Order of Rising Sun Award

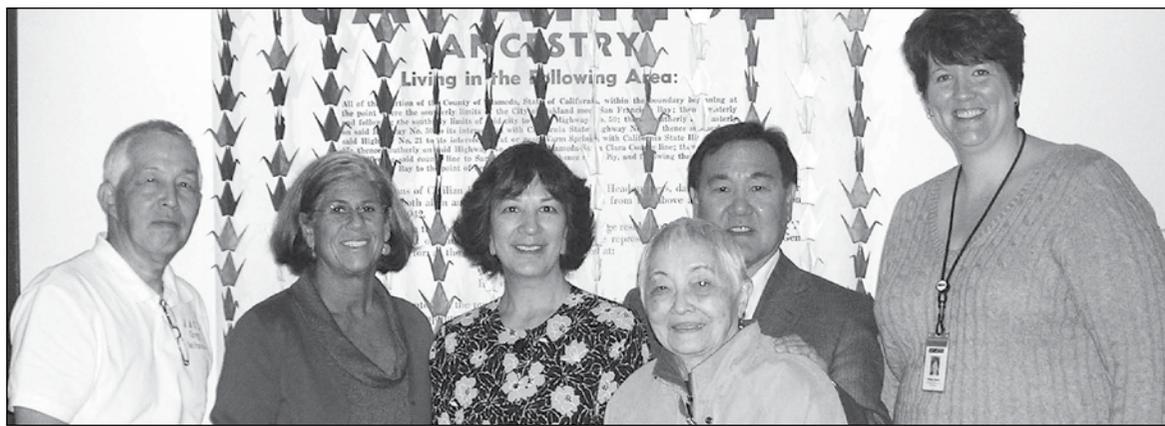
**Grant Ujifusa**, a key player in securing the passage of the historic Civil Liberties Act of 1988 and a former senior editor at Random House, will be honored with the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays Jan. 26 for his contribution to the preservation and promotion of Japanese American history.

Ujifusa, who was co-author of the "Almanac of American Politics," worked closely with JA members of Congress to devise a justification for redress in the 1980s.

## Takiguchi Awarded Local Leadership Award

**Masako Takiguchi**, an Arizona JACL member and past president, has received a civic leadership award from Cupertino, Calif. Mayor Gilbert Wong.

Takiguchi was awarded the "Outstanding Local Leadership Award" on Nov. 11 at the Downtown Sheraton. ■



(L-R): Greg Marutani, Noreen Brand, Sharon Ishii-Jordan, Chiye Tomihiro, Bill Yoshino and Kelley Szany.

## Illinois Holocaust Museum Sponsors Exhibit, Teacher Training on WWII Incarceration of JAs

More than 75 teachers took part in a training workshop about the Japanese American World War II incarceration experience at the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center (IHMEC) in Skokie, Illinois. The museum is also hosting the traveling "Art of Gaman" exhibit through Jan. 12, 2012.

"When we learned that there would be over 70-plus teachers we were both excited but also a bit nervous," said Greg Marutani of San Francisco JACL. "It would be one of the largest gathering of teachers for a workshop and it also meant we might not be able to take and respond to the questions that the teachers may have had, but I believe, from their feedback at the end of the workshop, we covered nearly all of their questions."

Marutani and Sharon Ishii-Jordan of Omaha JACL facilitated the "Life Interrupted: The Japanese American Experience" workshop. The event was coordinated by Bill Yoshino, Midwest regional

director, along with Noreen Brand and Kelley Szany from IHMEC's education department. Former incarcerated Chiye Tomihiro and Kiyoko Yoshimura spoke about their personal experiences in Minidoka and Topaz respectively, answering questions from the teachers. In addition, "Japanese Relocation" narrated by Milton Eisenhower, was shown.

On Nov. 13, IHMEC also sponsored "A Conversation with Japanese American WWII Veterans" featuring Enoch Kanaya, who served in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and Allen Meyer, who served alongside the JA soldiers of the Military Intelligence Service.

Also featured was Michio Iwao who demonstrated the craft of carving wood bird pins that he learned in the Gila River internment camp and renewed this hobby after his retirement. ■

FOR MORE INFO: 847/967-4889 or [www.ilholocaustmuseum.org](http://www.ilholocaustmuseum.org)



## 4th Placer County Nikkei Reunion Takes Place

The fourth Placer County Nikkei Reunion took place Oct. 23-24 at the Thunder Valley Hotel and Casino in Lincoln, Calif.

In addition to a reunion dinner that included 150 people, there was a slideshow from past reunions presented by reunion photographer Frank Hirota.

The reunion was a chance for old friends, former classmates and neighbors to catch up and rekindle old memories.

Attending the reunion were Congressional Gold Medal awardees Asa Hanamoto and Marvin Uratsu. MC of the reunion program was David Unruhe, NCWNP district governor. ■

## Arizona Historic Society Presents Teacher Training on JA WWII Experience



The Arizona Historic Society recently presented a teacher training workshop on the Japanese American World War II experience.

Megan Gately, education director of the historic society, took 35 junior high school teachers on a tour of the Gila River Internment Camp where a former internee spoke of their childhood memories there. Bill Staples, author of "Kenichi Zenimura, Japanese American Baseball Pioneer," spoke about the history of JA baseball and the young players who helped establish a 32-team league at the Gila River camp during WWII.

In addition, there was a panel discussion where former internees Terri Ishihara, Dr. Richard Matsuishi, Tom Koseki and Joyce Saka spoke about their WWII experiences. ■

# Award Winning Documentary on Resisters of Conscience Expands Content, Now on DVD

Former *P.C.* assistant editor Martha Nakagawa sits down with “Conscience and the Constitution” creator Frank Abe.

By Martha Nakagawa  
Special to the *Pacific Citizen*

The award-winning “Conscience and the Constitution” documentary has been released as a two-disc collector’s edition DVD with two hours of additional features that is a must-have for anyone wanting to learn how national JACL’s World War II policies affect the organization to this day.

The extended footage allows those from both sides of the issue to elaborate and reflect upon the reasons they had for taking the stand they did during the war. Prominent JACLers featured include an interview with John Tateishi, who was national JACL director during the apology ceremony, to extended coverage of Mike Masaoka, wartime JACL’s field secretary who opposed the stand of the draft resisters.

An extended fair and balanced analyses by renowned scholars Dr. Roger Daniels and Dr. Art Hansen give an added credibility to the DVD set.

This new release is an important educational tool for not only understanding the history of JACL but also how being in a state of war affects our interpretation of the Constitution.

“Conscience and the Constitution” came out in 2000, the same year the national JACL passed a resolution to apologize to the Nisei draft resisters. Do you feel the documentary had



The first day of the trial of the Heart Mountain draft resisters in Federal District Court, Wyoming in 1944.

## some influence over how JACL members voted at the national convention?

For the sake of the resisters I was pleased to see movement by JACL on the apology resolution, and some distance placed between them and the JACL of 1944. At the same time it presented a distressing technical problem — the film had already been “locked” for PBS broadcast in November 2000, but I knew we had to update the ending to acknowledge the JACL apology. We settled on a screen title that highlights the convention vote, but it required going back into the studio to squeeze in the new text and slide over the end credits, which may sound simple but it cost several thousand dollars that PBS wasn’t about to give us.

When you were working on “Conscience,” were you planning to come out later with an expanded version or did this idea come up after the national JACL passed the resolution to

## apologize to the draft resisters?

“Conscience” is still the same film as was broadcast. Shooting a bonus feature on the JACL’s public apology ceremony in 2002 seemed an appropriate way to tie up the story for the DVD. Andy Noguchi did such a thoughtful job hosting that event that we used his voice to connect all the shots, and Floyd Mori and John Tateishi were so gracious in making that event happen and speaking to us on camera.

## The Nisei draft resisters took on the U.S. government and went against wartime national JACL policy of collaboration with the government. Aren’t these Nisei draft resisters just a bunch of lawbreakers? Why is it important to learn about their actions?

Yes, they broke the law — to prove a point. Theirs was an act of civil disobedience. As Yosh said, after the Nisei submitted to the camps, this was their last chance

to take a stand on the legality of mass incarceration. The Nisei soldiers fought bravely on the battlefield. For the Heart Mountain resisters, their battle took place in a Wyoming courtroom. We need both.

## Ben Kuroki’s expanded interview includes a sensitive, reflective man who voices some regrets. How difficult was it to get an interview with Kuroki and why weren’t his comments included in the original film?

We wrote to Mr. Kuroki and said we wanted to get his side of the story. As he says on the DVD he was reluctant at first, but he later told us the promise to tell both sides helped convince him. Maybe he recognized me as a fellow journalist who would treat him with respect. He clearly had something he wanted to get off his chest and I’m glad we could provide the avenue for that. He sat for 90-minutes and it wasn’t until

the very end of the interview, when he could sense we were wrapping up, that he gave us the sound bite that appears in the film where he acts out the feeling of being shelled by anti-aircraft fire. After the film aired he sent a nice note to say we were welcome to his home anytime, which struck me as a gentlemanly thing to say.

## Mike Masaoka’s recollection on JACL’s treatment of the Tule Lake renunciants is the most problematic portion of the DVD because what Masaoka says is unsubstantiated and contradictory to what had occurred. Why did you include this in the DVD?

It’s raw material for the benefit of students and teachers for generations to come. It’s not an endorsement. I trust in viewers to understand that. Aside from our outtakes, the bonus material on Disc Two is what scholars call “primary material,” not editorial content that is shaped by the filmmaker. How Mike characterized JACL’s treatment of wartime dissent is revealing in and of itself. This was the only point that he directly addressed the subject of the Heart Mountain resisters, and presenting him unfiltered, in his own voice, gives viewers a unique window onto our shared history, and a chance to judge for themselves.

To help provide context, immediately following Mike’s comments on DVD we invite viewers to our website at [www.resisters.com/jacl](http://www.resisters.com/jacl) to learn more, and once there they will find more documentation, including material on Wayne Collins and the Tule Lake renunciants. ■

For more info: [Resisters.com](http://Resisters.com)

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## JACL and AAST Partner to Produce ‘Demographic Overview of Japanese Americans’

By Pacific Citizen Staff

The JACL recently announced a partnership with the Asian American Studies Program at the University of Maryland (AAST) to reveal a new report on the Japanese American community.

“A Demographic Overview of Japanese Americans” provides the latest demographic information of the JA population as well as perspectives from members of local JACL chapters. It serves as a comprehensive report about the current and changing experiences of JAs and their communities.

The report is broken up into three sections. The first section presents



A Demographic Overview of Japanese Americans

a timeline of JA history. From the arrival of Issei to the experiences of Nisei and Sansei during and after World War II, this chapter not only provides a chronology of JA history, but also delineates the challenges and barriers JAs have had to face.

The following section provides a

nuanced description of the changing dynamics of the JA community and their demographic, social, and economic characteristics such as educational attainment, income, labor market participation, poverty, intermarriage, language and naturalization.

The last section includes the top 10 communities of JA population. JACL chapter members were interviewed to highlight the demographic characteristics of each metropolitan area. ■

To download a PDF copy of the “Overview,” visit: [http://www.aast.umd.edu/japanese\\_american.php](http://www.aast.umd.edu/japanese_american.php)

## COMMENTARY

# FAIR Education Act Needs Protection

By Lori Kido Lopez



I don't remember exactly how old I was when I learned about the Japanese American internment in school. But it must have been a clear lesson, because I always knew it was an important part of our country's history, as well as my own family history. It was the reason my Nisei grandparents lived in Nyssa, Oregon and became farmers, and it was the reason my grandpa was never able to finish his college degree or fulfill his dream of becoming an engineer.

I also grew up knowing that there was a reason Americans valued personal freedom no matter what your racial heritage might be — because we had made a terrible, shameful mistake in locking up over 100,000 innocent JAs, and it had taken us a long time to finally acknowledge and make amends for our mistake.

I tell this story because we can never underestimate the importance of growing up feeling that your own stories are being woven into the fabric of our education system. I was always so excited on the days when we got to learn about the histories of Asian Americans, rare though those lessons might have been. But more importantly, all of my non-Asian classmates got to hear those stories too.

Together we learned that Asians could be as American as anyone, and that they did not deserve to be treated differently than any other group. It was a simple lesson that any grade school child could grasp, and I'm so thankful that this message was passed on to every student.

This is the basic idea behind California's Fair, Accurate, Inclusive and Respectful (FAIR) Education Act, which Gov. Jerry Brown signed into law last April. The law amends the education code so that teachers must include the contributions of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people in instructional materials, and prohibits the adoption of discriminatory content.

This means that the accomplishments of LGBT activists like Harvey Milk and the history of the LGBT civil rights movement can now be taught in a factual, age-appropriate way, just as teachers already must include discussions of the contributions of both men and women, AAs and people of color, and other historically underrepresented groups.

California's students can also learn about LGBT JAs like Tak Yamamoto and Lia

Shigemura, who helped attain same sex benefits at the JACL. Or Dean Goishi, who was born in an internment camp himself, and fought for funding to help gay Asian men living with AIDS.

Anyone who has seen an "It Gets Better" video on YouTube or heard a terrible news story about an LGBT teenager who committed suicide knows that school environments can be incredibly traumatizing and stressful. LGBT and gender non-conforming students are routinely bullied and harassed, and often have no support system to turn to.

Think how powerful it would be to hear a discussion in class about the achievements that LGBT people have made, and to know that the histories of LGBT people are just as important as any other group. Such a small addition to the curriculum might not seem like it makes a huge difference, but it is simply another step toward creating a world where LGBT students are not constantly living in fear for their personal safety.

Although the law will officially go into effect on Jan. 1, 2012,

*'Think how powerful it would be to hear a discussion in class about the achievements that LGBT people have made, and to know that the histories of LGBT people are just as important as any other group.'*

there is no guarantee that students will learn about the history of LGBT people right away. Under the California education code, school districts are given much flexibility to implement the law as they see fit and the state has few resources to enforce the new law.

In addition to obstacles in the school districts, ultra right-wing organizations have already tried to put the FAIR Education Act on a

referendum ballot. Even though they failed to gain enough signatures for the June 2012 ballot, they have vowed to try again.

So what can we do to make sure that California students will have the opportunity to learn a complete and honest account of history that includes LGBT people? Parents of school-aged children can call the district office to make sure that these changes are being implemented. And we can all tell our friends and colleagues that FAIR Education Act is simply about schools integrating age-appropriate LGBT history into existing social science lessons.

Our histories, our role models, and the accomplishments of people from all backgrounds deserve to be taught to our students so that we can all have the chance to learn where our communities came from, and just how far we have to go. ■

*Lori Kido Lopez is a graduate student at the University of Southern California in Communication and a volunteer at API Equality Los Angeles. For more information about API Equality-LA, visit [www.apiequalityla.org](http://www.apiequalityla.org).*

## COMMENTARY

# Why All the Fuss Over Language?

By Barbara Takei



"At what point are we, as Americans of Japanese ancestry, going to resist having our history written for us by others?" asked Aiko Herzig-Yoshinaga, a Nisei survivor of the World War II incarceration. Herzig-Yoshinaga is revered as the researcher who found the document that proved the government's claim of "military necessity" as the reason for the forced wartime removal and incarceration was a lie.

"Is our empowerment so weak that we must capitulate and surrender our right to state our own history in our own words?"

Herzig-Yoshinaga's frustration came from the exhibit on the wartime incarceration of persons of Japanese ancestry, "America's Concentration Camps," held in 1998 at the National Park Service's Ellis Island Immigration Museum. There, critics forced the Japanese American National Museum to defend its reasoning and right to use the term "concentration camps."

Her in-depth research into the incarceration's documents and language led Herzig-Yoshinaga to begin a list of "words that lie" — words the government used to cover up and minimize the unjust wartime incarceration of Japanese Americans. This list, gathered over several decades, developed into her 2010 paper, "Words Can Lie or Clarify," a personal biography and discussion of terminology, found at: [www.nps.gov/tule/forteachers/suggestedreading.htm](http://www.nps.gov/tule/forteachers/suggestedreading.htm).

Herzig-Yoshinaga's views on terminology parallel those of the JA activists in the 1970s, who recognized and spoke out about the wartime incarceration as a shocking violation of the civil and human rights of an unpopular racial minority. Their views remain, cast in bronze on California State Historic Landmark plaques that describe Manzanar and Tule Lake as "concentration camps." Yet, in the new millennium, the National Park Service, the federal agency tasked with preserving the JA incarceration story, remains hesitant to call the War Relocation Authority sites "concentration

camps," citing the need for greater public consensus.

Working toward such consensus, delegates to the 2010 National JACL Convention passed overwhelmingly (80 votes for, two against) a resolution that urged accurate and non-euphemistic terminology when describing the JA wartime experience. After this victory, however, the JACL wrote an implementation guide that advised using the euphemisms — in quotation marks. Grassroots members and delegates protested the distortion of the original resolution which discouraged the use of euphemisms. The response of the JACL leadership was to invite Jewish organizational lobbyists to pressure convention delegates over the term "concentration camps."

It was a tactic that was not persuasive. In the final vote, the majority of delegates voted (55 for, 17 against and three split) to block adoption of the flawed implementation guide. A revised guide will be prepared for review and approval at the JACL national convention in Seattle in 2012. At that time, JACL's leaders will then choose whether to align with its grassroots members who overwhelmingly supported the resolution to use accurate and non-euphemistic terminology, or with those aligned with other organizational interests.

*'Is our empowerment so weak that we must capitulate and surrender our right to state our own history in our own words?'*

Aiko Herzig-Yoshinaga

Lamentably, after decades of community advocacy over what to call the places where 120,000 persons of Japanese descent — most of whom were American citizens — were stripped of their rights and their freedom, this issue of self-definition remains unsettled.

Some survivors say that terms such as "prisoner" or "concentration camp" seem uncomfortably harsh, raising images of pain and victimization. Yet, what good would come of minimizing the public's understanding of the traumatic violation of rights and human dignity suffered by persons of Japanese descent during World War II?

If the goal is to ensure, "Never again!" — the truth is the best place to start. ■

*Barbara Takei, a writer and researcher based in Sacramento, Calif., is a board member of the Tule Lake Committee and an organizer of the October 22 symposium in San Francisco's Japantown, "Cast in Bronze: Terminology and Memory of the Japanese American WWII Incarceration Experience."*

# GO·SEE·DO

A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS



PHOTO COURTESY OF PATRICK NAGATANI

Patrick Nagatani's "Marcus — Instant Cultural Vision" was part of his Chromatherapy series.

**EXHIBIT: 'Desire For Magic: Patrick Nagatani'**  
**LOS ANGELES, CA**  
**Nov. 19-Jan. 15**  
**Japanese American National Museum**  
**369 E. First Street**

The exhibition "Desire for Magic: Patrick Nagatani" opens presenting 30 years of varied work by artist Patrick Nagatani, including his collaborations, staged

photographs, collages and multimedia pieces. This exhibit brings together seven major series of Nagatani's work, including the Japanese American Concentration Camps, Nuclear Enchantment, Nagatani/Tracey Polaroid Collaborations, Ryoichi/Nogatani Excavations, Novellas, Chromatherapy, and Tape-estries.

**Info:**  
**www.janm.org or 213/625-0414**

## EDC

**The 6th Annual We Are Boston Gala**  
**BOSTON, MA**

**Dec. 14, 5:45-8:30 p.m.**

**Boston Convention & Exhibition Center**  
**415 Summer St.**

This annual event is presented by the mayor's office to celebrate diversity, immigrant contributions and heritage. There will be a buffet and dessert, community awards performances by Wheelock Family Theatre, Boston Children's Chorus and Larry Watson.  
**Info: 617/635-2980 or**  
**www.wearebostongala.info**

**Asian Community Development Corporation's Annual Meeting & Dinner**  
**BOSTON, MA**

**Nov. 29, 6-8 p.m.**

**Hei La Moon**  
**88 Beach St.**

**Cost: \$20/general admission**

The Asian Community Development Corporation, ACDC, annual meeting and dinner will include reports on the opening of its 34-unit affordable rental housing in Quincy and funding for the development of Boston's Parcel 24 into 345-units of new housing. Admission includes ACDC annual membership.

**Info: Iris Tan at 617/482-2380, ext. 216 or iris.tan@asiancdc.org**

**Asian American Resource Workshop Holiday Bazaar**  
**BOSTON, MA**

**Dec. 10, 10 a.m.-3:30 p.m.**

**Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center**  
**38 Ash Street**

The Asian American Resource Workshop is looking for participants for its holiday bazaar. Vendors of interest include those that can provide unique items and gifts, local Asian Pacific Islander American groups looking to fundraise and vendors with handmade goods. If interested, register by Nov. 23.

**Info: jenny@aarw.org**

## NCWNP

**Stories and Recipes of Tule Lake:**

**Recipes of Resistance**

**SACRAMENTO, CA**

**Jan. 29, 3-5 p.m.**

**Buddhist Church of Sacramento**

**2401 Riverside Blvd.**

Community members are invited to this event where attendees will share stories about Tule Lake. The event is organized by the Tule Lake Community Cookbook Project, which is collecting stories and recipes from families incarcerated at Tule Lake.

**RSVP: tulelakecommunitycookbook@gmail.com**

**The Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii's 'Obama no Obama' Exhibit**  
**HONOLULU, HI**

**Nov. 10-Dec. 2**

**Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii**

**2454 S. Beretania St.**

This exhibit explores the international ties between politics and celebrity, focused specifically on President Barack Obama and the town of Obama in Japan. Items on display in the exhibit include commercial

products and art inspired by President Obama.

**Info: 808/945-7633 or www.jcch.com**

## PNW

**Spokane JACL Santa Breakfast**

**SPOKANE, WA**

**Dec. 10, 9 a.m.**

**Highland Park United Methodist Church**  
**611 S. Garfield St.**

**Cost: \$2/JACL members; \$5/non-member adults; \$2/non-member children**

Free admission for anyone that pays JACL annual dues at the breakfast. At-the-door ticket prices vary.

**RSVP: Christy Kondo at 509/624-5892 or www.spokanejacl.org**

**The JACL Turkey Bingo**

**SPOKANE, WA**

**Nov. 19, 6 p.m.**

**Spokane Buddhist Temple**

**927 S. Perry St.**

**Cost: \$2/for cards**

Everyone will have a chance to win a gift card to purchase a turkey. Light refreshments and beverages will be served. Cards are \$2 each and attendees can play the same card all night.

**Info: www.spokanejacl.org**

**Seattle Buddhist Church**

**Obutsdan Workshop**

**SEATTLE, WA**

**Nov. 20, 11 a.m.**

**Seattle Buddhist Church**

**1427 S. Main St.**

Join the Seattle Buddhist Church for its workshop, "The Home Obutsdan," which will be conducted during the English Dharma exchange.

**Info: 206/329-0800**

## PSW

**Japan Business Association of**

**Arizona's Rummage Sale**

**PHOENIX, AZ**

**Feb. 25-26, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.**

**Arizona Matsuri at Heritage and Science Park**

**115 N. Sixth St.**

The Japan Business Association of Arizona will have a Japanese rummage sale booth at the Arizona Matsuri. Donate any old or new Japanese items. Tax deductible receipts are available.

**Info: Beverly Washichek at b\_washichek@msn.com or 480/998-4724**

**Workshop: Beginners Wagashi**

**LOS ANGELES, CA**

**Nov. 19, 3 p.m.**

**Japanese American National Museum**  
**369 E. First Street**

**Cost: \$75/members; \$80/non-members**  
 This is a hands-on wagashi making class. Chikara Mizukami will demonstrate Nerikiri and Kuzukiri, two classical recipes of wagashi, or Japanese confections.

**Info: www.janm.org or 213/625-0414**

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### PROPOSED TOURS FOR 2012

Feb. 22 - Mar.1 (new dates)	<b>Discover Panama: The Land Between the Seas with Collette Vacations</b> - 9 Days/7 Nights visiting Panama City, Monkey Island, Galeta Marine Lab, Panama Canal Railway, Gamboa, Panama Canal Cruise, Embera Indigenous Village, and Playa Bonita.	Sharon Seto
April 4-18	<b>Yamato Deluxe Spring Tour to Japan</b> - 15 days/13 nights visiting Tokyo, Hakone, Nagoya, Takayama, Kanazawa, Hiroshima, Miyajima and Kyoto. <i>Ask about partial tour participation.</i>	Peggy Mikuni
May 7-17	<b>Yamato Netherland, Belgium &amp; Paris tour with Collette Vacations</b> - 11 days / 9 nights visiting Amsterdam for the Floriade horticultural exhibition held once every 10 years, Brussels, Bruges, Paris, Giverny. Hotel stay in 3 cities, 3 nights each: Amsterdam, Brussels & Paris.	Sharon Seto
May 16 - 28	<b>Yamato RCL 9-day Cruise</b> on the "Enchantment of the Seas," starting from Baltimore and cruising to Bermuda, Boston, Newport (Rhode Island) and back to Baltimore.	Peggy Mikuni
June 17-28	<b>Yamato Hokkaido Tour</b> - 12 days/10 nights visiting Sapporo, Sounkyo, Kawayu Spa, Kushiro, Ikeda, Obihiro, Lake Toya and Hakodate.	Peggy Mikuni
June 23-31	<b>Trains of the Colorado Rockies with Collette Vacations</b> - 9 days/8 nights visiting Denver, Boulder, Georgetown Loop Railroad to Grand Junction, Silverton to Durango by narrow gauge railroad, Mesa Verde National Park, Canon City's Royal George Railroad to Colorado Springs.	Sharon Seto
October 3-12	<b>Cruise the Bays &amp; Railways of New England with Collette Vacations</b> - 10 days / 9 nights visiting Boston (Massachusetts), Portland (Maine), North Conway (New Hampshire), Mount Washington & Stratton (Vermont), Ledyard (Connecticut), Newport (Rhode Island).	Sharon Seto
October 15-29	<b>Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan</b> - 15 days/13 nights visiting Fukuoka, Nagasaki, Kumamoto, Kagoshima, Hiroshima, Miyajima Kyoto and Tokyo. <i>Ask about partial tours.</i>	Peggy Mikuni
November 7-16	<b>Relections of Italy with Collette Vacations</b> - 10 days / 8 nights visiting Rome, Assisi, Perugia, Siena, Florence, Venice, Murano Island, Lugano (Switzerland), Como, Milan.	Sharon Seto

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# IN MEMORIAM

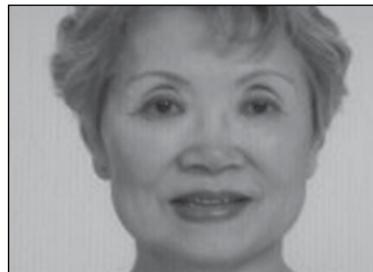
**Akiyoshi, Shika, 88**, Montebello, CA; Nov. 2; predeceased by her husband Tick; survived by her sons Michael (Danice), David (Ann), Mark (Stella Jo); daughter Donna (Dean Regier); sister Hisa (Tek Takasugi); 3 gc.

**Inatomi-Kozai, Lillian, 79**



Los Angeles, CA; Nov. 1; survived by her children Peggy Paddock, Eric and Kurt Okamoto; companion, Tadanori Kozai; cousin, Bob (Lucy) Ito; also survived by other relatives; 4 gc.

**Kumasaka, Esther Fumiko, 82**



Huntington Beach, CA; Nov. 5; survived by her husband, Robert; children, Dean (Mercedes), Eltheia (Gerry) Shiozaki, and Sara Mikiko; siblings Shoichi (Masako) Matsuda, Michiko (Eisuke) Fukushima, Misao Yanagihara, Midori (Naohide) Kohdate, and Koji (Matsue) Matsuda; sister-in-law, Yaeko Kasahara; also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; 2 gc.

**Morinaka, Donald Tadaichi, 74**, Santa Monica, CA; an Army veteran; survived by his wife, Teruko; mother, Marian Evertowski; children, Andrew (Santos), Julius (Colleen), Alicia (Tim) Endo, Albert, Allen (Kelly) Sakoi, and Sharon Iida; also

survived by many other relatives; 9 gc; 4 ggc.

**Shimazaki, Jean Hisako, 85**



Mission Viejo, CA; Nov. 1; survived by her children, Lori (John) Nagano and Dean (Barbra) Kawamura; brother, Nobu Noma; also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; 2 gc.

**Takasugi, Patrick A., 62**, Wilder, ID; Nov. 6; he grew up on his father's farm in Wilder; he volunteered in the U.S. Army after college; he was elected state representative of the 10th district in 2008; survived by his wife Suzanne; his children Taylor, Cole, and Paige; parents Michio and Ayako; and his younger sister, Colleen Iwano; brother-in-law, Andy Iwano; nephew David Iwano; sisters-in-law, Laurie Backes and Kathy Backes; and brother-in-law Alan Backes.

**Ueda, Akio, 80**, Torrance, CA; Oct. 26; he is survived by his wife Barbara; sons Michael (Debbie) and Russell (Ruth); siblings Hiroshi (Patsy), Doris Furukawa, Nobuo (Mitzi); brother-in-law Gilbert and Patrick (Pamela) Miike; sister-in-law Frances Miike; also survived by nieces and nephews; 4 gc.

**Ueda, Patricia F., 77**, Claremont, NH; May 15; predeceased by her daughter Robin; survived by her husband Herbert; children Bruce (Nancy), Holly, Herbert Jr., (Nancy); sisters Eleanor Cristobal and Roberta O'Donnell; 5 gc; 3 ggc.

**Uyeda, Joseph Yoji, 95**, Los

Angeles, CA; Oct. 24; survived by his daughters Genevieve Hatsumi (Gene) Lew, Fusa Susan Kaino and Masa Irene (David) Ozaki; sisters Yoneko Amimoto, Okuni Yamamoto and Shikako Sogabe; brothers, Saburo and Shiro (Shitone "Toni"); sister-in-law Catherine; also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; 9 gc; 8 ggc.

**Watanabe, Masakatsu Mas, 59**, Gardena, CA; Oct. 30; predeceased by mother Yasuko; survived by father Masato; brothers, Tadashi Ted (Jeannie) and Alan Toshio (Janice); nieces, Tawny and Taylor; also survived by other relatives.

**Yanagita, Kenjiro K., 77**



Torrance, CA; Nov. 8; he is survived by his wife, Chieko; children Richard, Mas and Janet (Bob) Suda; mother Fude; siblings Shoichiro and brothers and sisters in Japan; brother-in-law Makoto Fujishige and many brothers-in-law and sisters-in-law; and nieces, nephews, and other relatives; 2 gc. ■

## HONOR YOUR LOVED ONES

'In Memoriam' is a free listing that appears on a limited, space-available basis. Tributes, which honor the memory of your loved ones with original copy and photos, appear in a timely manner at the rate of \$20/column inch. For more information: [pc@pacificcitizen.org](mailto:pc@pacificcitizen.org) or (800) 966-6157

## Family Donates Post-war Collection to Portland Museum

The family of Frank C. Hirahara has donated a post-World War II era collection to Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center.

Patti Hirahara, of Anaheim, Calif., donated her family's materials including a photo collection, artifacts, and a baseball uniform from 1948-1954 when her father Frank, played with the Oregon Nisei veterans team.

Frank was active in the Portland community after he graduated from Washington State University in 1948 and started to work for the Bonneville Power Administration in Portland,

Oregon.

Although he had a fulltime job, he loved taking pictures in his spare time.

He won first prize in the Oregon Camera Club's Fall Quarterly Salon 1951 Salon B "People" category when he was 24 years old and his work was also displayed at the Maryhill Museum of Fine Arts that same year.

Being active in community activities allowed Frank to photograph local Japanese American groups and programs in the Portland area.

Patti Hirahara donated a small portion of his photographs during her first visit to the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center in Portland in September.

She will donate the remainder of her father's photo collection as well as his work with the Oregon Camera Club and the Portland Photographic Society to the Oregon Nikkei Endowment in early 2012.

The Oregon Nikkei Endowment is planning an exhibit in 2012 addressing the post-war period and asking: What did it mean to be JA during this time? ■

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**SUEKI**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

team, but given the current budget deficit, decided instead to rely on the contacts of the organization and its members at this time as well as seeking pro bono assistance. At the national board meeting, David Lin, v.p. of membership, offered to look into other options.

I'd like to take a moment to give kudos to those whose work has helped our organization during the search for the new national director. Thank you to Milo Yoshino for developing the National Director Ranking Survey which was distributed to the national board; Betsy Sato for

modifying the job announcement; Chip Larouche, PNW governor, for condensing the job description; Caroline Aoyagi-Stom for distributing the announcements to the media; and Floyd Mori for working with the President's Council and their network to seek out candidates.

Finally, thanks to the membership for your support. I continue to encourage you to be engaged with us until we find a new national director for our organization. ■

*Gail Sueki is the national JACL vice president for general operations*

**MORI**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 2

Although I was a small child when he left for the war, I have fond memories of Shig as a kind and generous individual. He paid the ultimate price for the country he loved as did 812 others whose names are on the wall. Our hearts are filled with gratitude for them and for all the JA vets who gave so much to make a better world for all of us.

The JACL has honored JA veterans many times over the years at conventions and other

events. At its 2009 JACL Gala held in D.C., the JACL paid tribute to all veterans. It presented awards to some of the organizations which have served the veterans and which are keeping alive this important part of U.S. history. Everyone present who had ever served in the military was honored and presented with a small gift from the JACL.

The JA veterans of WWII helped provide a better life for those who came after them. They are deserving of every honor, and we owe them a great deal. ■

**PSW**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

jacl.org).

The event grossed \$43,000, said Andrew Yick, JACL PSW development coordinator.

"In light of a challenging economic environment, the PSW dinner was successful," Yick said. "These funds will enable the Pacific Southwest District to continue important programs, such as Bridging Communities, which joins JA and Asian Muslim youth together to learn about each other's histories and experiences."

The dinner sponsors included: Toyota Motor Sales USA (\$5,000 Gold Sponsor); \$2,500 Bronze



Miyako Kadogawa pins a corsage on JACL chapter honoree Shig Yabu, of the Ventura chapter.

Sponsors Aratani Foundation, Greater LA Singles Chapter, IW Group, San Fernando Valley Chapter, SELANOCO Chapter and Union Bank; and Table Sponsors \$1,250 Arizona Chapter, Asian

Chamber of Commerce (Phoenix, Arizona)/Madeline Ong-Sakata, Diana Nishiura, Downtown L.A. Chapter, Japanese American Bar Association, Kenneth Inouye and the Venice-Culver JACL. ■

**NATIONAL**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

a "seamless transition."

"Corporate sponsorship is a relationship business," Lin said. "We don't just make over \$100,000 at the gala. You look at the sponsors list, especially the top ones, it's all relationship driven."

But some board members expressed concerns about JACL's relationships with corporate sponsors.

"While we want someone who can interface well with the

corporate world, they don't set our agenda and they don't pay us to do their work," said Judith Aono, P.C. editorial board chair and JACL personnel committee member. "We choose our identity. We choose our destiny and we get someone who plays well with the corporate people."

Board members also voted to have the new national director work from the Washington, D.C. office. The published announcement for the position had stipulated that the new hire could work in any of the offices located in San Francisco,

Los Angeles, Chicago, Seattle or Washington, D.C.

"Now the trend has been for many national organizations in health and civil rights and other ethnic organizations if not being in Washington, D.C. to aspire to have that presence," said Ron Katsuyama, vice president of public affairs. "There's a tremendous advantage by being upfront and saying, 'we want to continue to have that national presence in particular in D.C.'"

The deadline for national director applications is Jan. 16. ■



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