



# PACIFIC CITIZEN

July 4-17, 2014



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## ***A DRIVING FORCE***

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**Farewell to a  
JAACL Legend.**

PHOTO: COURTESY OF MARISSA CHOW

# Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

Grayce Uyehara passed away on June 22, 2014. She was 94 and a longtime resident of the Philadelphia area. One of her major contributions was her role in making JACL's redress initiative a legislative success story.

In 1984, when JACL's efforts to seek passage of its redress legislation were stalled and in complete disarray, Grayce was asked to lead the effort as the executive director of JACL's Legislative Education Committee (LEC), working out of JACL's Washington, D.C., office.

She, together with a team of volunteers, resuscitated the stalled redress initiative. Her team consisted of Grant Ujifusa, Min Yasui, Cherry Kinoshita, Denny Yasuhara, Shig Wakamatsu, Mae Takahashi, Peggy Liggett, Molly Fujioka, Harry Kajihara,

Tom Kometani, Rudy Tokiwa, Mary Tsukamoto, Art Morimitsu, Judy Niizawa, Meriko Mori and Ruth Hashimoto.

They worked tirelessly to overcome obstacles in Congress, garnered support from key legislative leaders and persuaded President Ronald Reagan to change his initial opposition to the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which he signed on Aug. 10, 1988.

Grayce is depicted in "Crossing," artist Alfred J. Smith's large acrylic painting (1986), which is hung in the Washington, D.C. Convention Center lobby area. The painting includes then-prominent community leaders crossing the street at the corner of Connecticut Avenue and M Street NW, Washington, D.C.

Grayce was a kind and quiet person. When she did speak, she was always insightful, direct,



PHOTO: GERALD YAMADA

Grayce Uyehara is depicted in "Crossing," a painting by artist Alfred J. Smith.

and fearless in "telling it like it is." I always listened and learned. I will miss her.

Gerald Yamada  
Washington, D.C.

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# Letter to the Editor

Dear Mr. Tateishi,

Although I agree with some of your article "Still My Hero," I respectfully disagree with most, and I would appreciate the opportunity to present my opinion as an opposing view.

"The problems at the VA were not of Shinseki's making. He inherited them."

I agree. Shinseki did not create the problems, BUT he was appointed to correct them, and he did not. And more disturbing is the abuse and mismanagement continued UNDER HIS WATCH. This is just another excuse to try to deflect blame for the on-going dysfunction and abuse within the VA and this Administration.

"... increasing demands as thousands of veterans returning from Iraq and Afghanistan have sought care." This is true. However, the veterans who have not received adequate care also include older ones, veterans from other combats.

"[Shinseki] was blind-sided." Where was Shinseki since being appointed? Wasn't he appointed to get to the bottom of these problems and begin to correct them? Sadly, it appears the abuse and mismanagement continued, and more occurred under his watch. And had it not been for the whistle-blowers, this abuse would not have been reported nor acknowledged (by Shinseki or Obama), and it would have continued.

"[Shinseki was] willing to fall on his sword." In my opinion, he should be held accountable for his lack of leadership and management. But this doesn't constitute falling on his sword, being used as the fall guy, a scapegoat or a witch hunt. What it boils down to is being held accountable and responsible. Period!

>> See LETTER on page 12



This Letter to the Editor was submitted in response to John Tateishi's commentary titled "Still My Hero" (*Pacific Citizen*, June 6-19, 2014).



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## NIKKEI VOICE

# ASIAN AMERICANS HAVE ALWAYS EMBRACED TECHNOLOGY EARLY, AND SO SHOULD YOU

By Gil Asakawa

**I** make a living using technology, so maybe it's not fair for me to say it, but I will anyway: We all should have computers and smartphones, and we should embrace technology, not be scared of it.

This is a mantra I've said for years, going back to the start of my career in the early 1980s. Back then, I was a journalist who typed on an IBM Selectric typewriter — anyone who's a baby boomer or older remembers those — and I thought I was going to get my butt fired when the weekly newspaper I worked for went to a computer system. I didn't think I could adapt. Or evolve. I thought the newfangled stuff would be too complicated, and I couldn't learn it.

You know what? I did learn it. Not just because my job depended on it, but because I found I *liked* it!

The fact is, I've always been a gadget geek, since my childhood. It's a stereotype, but maybe there's some sociological reason for it: Asians (certainly Japanese) seem to have an affinity for high-tech stuff. Even today Japan leads the world in robotics, and one museum in that country just introduced robot docents who explain the exhibits and

look eerily like human beings. Another Japanese robot senses, and displays, emotions. The sci-fi era of androids among us is not far off.

But that's today. Back when I was a kid in Tokyo, I loved watching "Astro Boy" (*Tetsuwan Atomu* in Nihongo) and "Eighth Man" and "Gigantor," all futuristic cartoons several decades ahead of anime's popularity in the U.S. And as I grew older, I loved cameras, and radios, and hi-fi sound systems.

I survived the transition to computers. By the time the Internet became a consumer phenomenon in the mid-1990s, I was completely hooked, and every job I've had since then has been for an Internet company, or somehow related to digital media.

I've had a slew of computers, laptops, digital cameras, portable hard drives (I'm seriously addicted to hard drives of all sizes) and external batteries. I had an early "smart" phone that was sort of dumb, a Palm Treo. I've had half a dozen smartphones since then, and my wife can't understand why I'm always dying to upgrade my phones.

*Mottainai*, I know, to toss aside a perfectly good phone

just because a new model is available.

All of which brings me to my current gig as the Asian American Journalists Assn.'s first-ever AARP Social Media Fellow. I post to AARP's Facebook and Twitter accounts and write articles for AARP's website to reach out to Asian Americans who are over 50 years old, because AARP is involved in so many issues that are related to this age group — not just elder care, health care and traditional Asian family issues, but for Asian American baby boomers who grew up in the 1950s, '60s and '70s, AARP is a veritable celebration of the coolness of our generation, because the last boomers are turning 50 this year.

So, I moderated a panel that AARP sponsored at the recent V3 conference of Asian American digital media in L.A. (*see article this issue*), and my panelists and I had a rousing and entertaining but hopefully thought-provoking conversation about having your Asian parents move in with you (and writing about it online), sharing stories about depression and suicide online and using social media and a documentary film to get the evangelical church to accept LGBT members.

>> See **TECHNOLOGY** on page 12



## FOR THE RECORD

# IT'S THAT GUY

By John Tateishi

**I** told him he was nuts, that they would chew him up and spit him out in little pieces.

I was talking with Guy Aoki, founding member and at the time of our conversation, the president of MANAA, Media Action Network for Asian Americans, the Los Angeles-based watchdog organization dedicated to ensuring sensitive and balanced portrayals of Asian Americans in the entertainment media.

The year was 2001, and Aoki was preparing for a confrontation with comedienne Sarah Silverman on Bill Maher's popular show "Politically Incorrect," which aired on ABC television before it got abruptly canceled for crossing what were certain media standard and practices lines.

The backstory that led to Aoki's appearance on "Politically Incorrect" began when Silverman appeared on Conan O'Brien's late-night talk show and told a "chink" joke, a word she used not just once but twice.

Aoki got on her case, and as we would learn when they were both on "Politically Incorrect," she apparently read Guy's comments in whatever media outlets printed his response to her use of the slur.

So in August, enter Guy Aoki and Sarah Silverman on

Bill Maher's program, with Silverman clearly having the advantage because, well, let's face it, she's a popular comedienne who that fall was about to get her own TV program, while Guy Aoki was, to the audience and to Maher, little more than someone with a beef. Forget that he was president of MANAA because that part of the introduction went virtually unnoticed.

Without belaboring the point, suffice it to say, there was not one instance where Guy let either Silverman or Maher intimidate him (as you may know, Maher also has this thing about Asians as well), and judging by the audience response, which at first seemed to support Silverman but sided with Aoki by the end, Guy more than held his own.

It was a commanding performance, and I for one admired how Guy controlled so much of the conversation. That's not easy to do if you're not regularly on the air, and I also know from experience that some hosts can be difficult and even brutal, and in his case, Guy was being ganged up on but never faltered.

It was an important moment for us because those on the set with Aoki, those in the live audience, and those watching this very popular program on television learned that you can't screw with an Asian American, that we're

not going to let those who would abuse our sensibilities get away with it, and to those who would abuse us publicly, beware.

That was an important message, and honestly, as often as I used to be on the air and on those nasty talk shows during the redress days and for at least a couple of years after 9/11, I'm not sure I could have driven the same message home as effectively as Guy did that evening on national television. We have very different styles, and for that moment on Maher's program, his was perfect.

While recognizing Guy for his gutsy performance, his example is part of the broader message we send when we deal with media, which has enormous influence over how others perceive us. That's why MANAA and other watchdog groups like them (I'm sure there must be others but I'm just not aware of them) are so important.

It's straight forward enough working with news media, whether print or electronic, but I found that it's quite a different matter working with the entertainment side of the business because there, it's all about big money and big names. And in that world, it's clear that the focus is on what attracts audiences.

>> See **GUY** on page 12

# NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION NAMES HISTORIC WINTERSBURG TO ITS 2014 LIST OF AMERICA'S 11 MOST-ENDANGERED HISTORIC PLACES

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Trust for Historic Preservation named Historic Wintersburg in Huntington Beach, Calif., to its 2014 list of America's Most Endangered Historic Places on June 24.

This annual list spotlights important examples of the nation's architectural, cultural and natural heritage that are at risk of destruction or irreparable damage. More than 250 sites have been on the list over its 27-year history, and in that time, only a handful of listed sites have been lost.

Historic Wintersburg documents three generations of the Japanese American experience in the United States, from immigration in the late 19th century to the return from incarceration in internment camps following World War II.

The site contains six extant pioneer structures and open farmland and is one of the only surviving Japanese-owned properties acquired prior to California's anti-Japanese "alien" land laws of 1913 and 1920.

In contrast to Japanese American confinement sites from the WWII era, Historic Wintersburg captures the daily community life and spiritual institutions of Japanese settlers as they established a new life in America.

"Historic Wintersburg is a unique cultural site that tells the important story of early Japanese American immigrants as they sought to make a new life and build a community in Southern California," said Stephanie Meeks, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. "We strongly support a collaborative effort that preserves Wintersburg's historic landscape while building upon its longstanding role as an educational and supportive space for the Huntington Beach community."

The site also chronicles the multigenerational story of the Furuta family, Japanese pioneers who cultivated a farm for close to a century, helped establish Japanese civic and business development organizations and are a largely unrecognized part of Orange County's history.

The property is currently owned by Rainbow Environmental Services, a waste transfer company. In November 2013, the Huntington Beach City Council voted 4-3 to certify an Environmental Impact Report, which rezones the property from residential to commercial/industrial. The Council also approved a Statement of Overriding Consideration — the action that allows demolition of all six structures.

Although Rainbow agreed to provide preservationists until mid-2015 to find solutions to save the historic property, demolition of the site remains a possibility.

America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places has identified more than 250 threatened historic treasures since 1988. Whether

these sites are urban districts or rural landscapes, Native American landmarks or 20th century sports arenas, entire communities or single buildings, the list spotlights historic places across America that are threatened by neglect, insufficient funds, inappropriate development or insensitive public policy. The designation has been a powerful tool for raising awareness and rallying resources to save endangered sites from every region of the country.

*Members of the public are invited to learn more about what they can do to support these 11 historic places and hundreds of other endangered sites at [www.preservationnation.org/places](http://www.preservationnation.org/places).*



Yukiko and Charles Furuta at the bungalow, circa 1913

## THE 2014 LIST OF AMERICA'S MOST ENDANGERED HISTORIC PLACES

- Battle Mountain Sanitarium (Hot Springs, S.D.)
- Bay Harbor's East Island (Miami-Dade County, Fla.)
- Chattanooga State Office Building (Chattanooga, Tenn.)
- Frank Lloyd Wright's Spring House (Tallahassee, Fla.)
- **Historic Wintersburg (Huntington Beach, Calif.)**
- Mokuaiakaua Church (Kailua Village, Kona, Hawaii)
- Music Hall (Cincinnati, Ohio)
- The Palisades (Englewood Cliffs, N.J.)
- Palladium Building (St. Louis, Mo.)
- Shockoe Bottom (Richmond, Va.)
- Union Terminal (Cincinnati, Ohio)

## APAs in the News/NewsBytes

### Esther Puakela Kia'aina Confirmed to Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular Areas

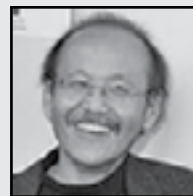


WASHINGTON, D.C. — Hawaii's Esther Puakela Kia'aina was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on June 26 as Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Insular Areas at the Department of the Interior.

Born in Guam to Native Hawaiian parents, Kia'aina currently serves as the First Deputy Director of the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, appointed by Gov. Neil Abercrombie to oversee the management of 1.3 million acres of public lands and near-shore ocean resources in Hawaii.

Kia'aina is a graduate of the Kamehameha Schools in Honolulu and received a J.D. from George Washington University Law School in 1998 and a B.A. in political science and international relations from the University of Southern California in 1985.

### UCLA Prof. Paul M. Ong Honored with Don T. Nakanishi Award



LOS ANGELES — Prof. Paul M. Ong was recently awarded the Don T. Nakanishi Award for Outstanding Engaged Scholarship in Asian American Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles.

A longtime member of the Center's faculty, Ong has taught at the university for the past 29 years and has dedicated his career to putting research at the service of the community and engaging the public sector and policymakers in making significant social change.

Ong has authored or edited nine books and published more than 70 journal articles and papers, and his innovative courses have helped students pursue research that is relevant to key issues in the API community.

The Don T. Nakanishi award includes a \$5,000 award and is rotated annually between faculty and students.

### Nisei Veteran Don Miyada Receives Diploma From Newport Harbor H.S.



NEWPORT BEACH, CALIF. — Don Miyada, 89, joined Newport Harbor High School's 2014 graduating class on June 19, more than seven decades after he was taken out of school and interned in Poston, Ariz., during World War II.

Miyada was 17 when he was sent with his family and more than 17,000 other detainees to Poston. After two years in camp, Miyada moved to Michigan, where he was drafted. He went on to serve in the U.S. Army and then earned a doctorate in chemistry from

Michigan State University. He later became a professor at the University of California, Irvine.

In May, Miyada was invited by school principal Sean Boulton to walk with this year's graduating seniors, an honor long overdue but not forgotten.

### JACL Supports Senate Hearing on Voting Rights Amendment Act

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The JACL joined other civil rights organizations on June 25 on Capitol Hill to urge Congress to support the passage of the Voting Rights Amendment Act (VRAA). Staff from JACL National attended a crowded Senate Judiciary Committee hearing and the following rally outside the Capitol.

JACL submitted a letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee, noting the importance of the vote for minorities.

The passage of the VRAA would reinstate and strengthen provisions to the 1965 Voting Rights Act that were struck down through the Supreme Court's decision in *Shelby County v. Holder* one year ago. The Supreme Court's ruling deemed the formulas for mandatory preclearance of certain regions outdated. Section 5 of the VRAA would restore the preclearance protections removed by the Supreme Court. These protections demanded that jurisdictions (states or counties) with histories of voting discrimination be required to prove to the U.S. Department of Justice that any changes in voting laws or practices would not have a discriminatory impact on minorities.

### Honolulu Pitched for Barack Obama Presidential Library

HONOLULU — Hawaii officials hoping for their state to be selected as the site of the Barack Obama Presidential Library say getting picked would mean added jobs and visitors to the state.

The University of Hawaii, state and city of Honolulu submitted a joint proposal on June 16 to the Barack Obama Foundation seeking to host the Barack Obama Presidential Center in Honolulu. The proposal says the facility would create 2,130 new jobs during construction and \$556 million in economic activity.

The complex, proposed to be built on eight acres of land in Kakaako, would include an interactive museum, visitor center, presidential archive, a convening institute and a global youth leadership academy.

The Hawaii site is one of at least six proposed in three different states.

— P.C. Staff and JACL National Staff



# RISE OF THE POKE-MONSTERS



Chef Shawn Gole of the North Shore Poke Company preps his Pipeline Poke and Spicy Teriyaki Poke samples.



Hapa J's sample serving of Spicy Sesame Aioli Poke by Chef Justin Shea



Guests at the festival inside Pokeland's island-style tents sample different poke dishes.

The third annual 'I Love Poke' Festival proves mainlanders have an appetite for poke.

By Tiffany Ujüye  
Assistant Editor

Poke might've made landfall here in the states some time ago, but not until recently has the indigenous cubed ahi dish become very popular with mainlanders. In fact, this Hawaiian bowl of deliciousness is on the foodie fad rise now.

The annual sold-out "I Love Poke" Festival celebrated this remixed sashimi with 500 guests and volunteers June 30 at the Hilton Waterfront Beach Resort in Huntington Beach, Calif. Although tickets were a hefty \$65 to sample 19 food stations, it was the closest substitute to booking a flight to Hawaii and eating some darn good poke.

"I always knew poke was a hot item, but people just weren't getting good poke," festival founder Nino Camilo explained. "We're not in Hawaii, but I love the fact that food brings people together, and I wanted an event where we could pretend we're in Hawaii for a night."

Camilo started his food blog [www.ilovemusubi.com](http://www.ilovemusubi.com) in 2009 while working in surf marketing as his day job before hosting the first "I Love Poke" Festival in San Diego that same year.

Growing up in San Diego, Camilo was heavily influenced by the Hawaiian culture — from participating in hula competitions to surfing along the California coast. His love of eating and surfing married together for Camilo into festivals like "I Love Poke" and Mabuhay San Diego, a fundraiser for the victims of Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines.

"It's just such a simple dish, but it's just so good," Chef Justin Shea, owner of Hapa J's in San Clemente, Calif., and a vendor at this year's festival. "There's that subtle crunch with the onion and seaweed and the softness of the ahi. I just instantly think of Hawaii and my memories from the islands because it has that salty beach kick to it."

Hapa J's is named after Shea's son, Jaedon, who is half-Irish and half-Hawaiian. While "hapa" is traditionally a Japanese term to describe individuals who are half-white and half-Japanese, the restaurant's name is more of a play-on of mixing everything. For Shea, fusion was everywhere in Hawaii, but he found a large disconnect between fine dining at Roy's and a run down local shack. Both offered fantastic food, but

what was in the middle? Poke.

At Hapa J's, ocean eaters can take a bite into Shea's Spicy Sesame Aioli Poke with ginger, red Hawaiian sea salt, green onions and cubes of higher-grade ahi atop a seaweed salad. Other dishes at the restaurant include its kalua pig nachos and a new chili menu, with chili moco fries as a favorite.

"We try to do a lot of different things," Shea said. "We did a poke spam because my son loves spam musubi. It had seared spam in a poke style with ground spam macadamia nuts. It won second place, actually, at a competition."

The festival also hosted its annual poke competition, offering up vendors' latest and greatest poke dishes.

Chef Shawn Gole of the North Shore Poke Company in Huntington Beach took first place with his Pipeline "traditional shoyu" Poke made with soy sauce, sesame oil, chili pepper and goo (secret sauce) alongside his Spicy Teriyaki Poke made with spicy mayo, house teriyaki sauce, house hot sauce and masago.

Other winners included Chef Ben La Fleche in second place from Shades Restaurant in Huntington Beach with his Chili Maple Poke mixed with Korean chili paste, maple soy sauce, sesame oil, green and red onion, sesame seeds and taro chips. In third place was Chef James Harris of 370 Common/Primo Beer with his tuna poke with toasted macadamia nuts, green onion, sesame seeds, yuzu, chili paste, gluten-free shoyu, sesame oil, lime and taro chips.

"We don't change our menu too much," explained Gole, whose win came at his first competition. "The Pipeline and Waimae are our popular dishes and originals." Plans to expand the North Shore Poke Company are set for this September in Cerritos, Calif. "It worked out," Gole said. "Cerritos had a busy shopping plaza with other shops, and it was a great fit for us. We just fell in love with it." The new location will include the same menu, including the Pipeline and Waimae bowls.

But the festival wasn't all about the poke. Other foods such as doughy malasadas, classic musubis and a variety of other island goodies also visited the festival.

Although this summer's Poke tour is at an end, stay tuned for next year, as the festival is planning on more dates and new cities, including Las Vegas, Los Angeles, New York, Portland, San Francisco, Seattle and, of course, the motherland of poke, Hawaii. ■



PHOTOS: TIFFANY UJÜYE

A small collection of poke served at the festival



## KOKUSAI-PACIFICA 2014 TOURS

On behalf of Willy Kai, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the many friends and families who have traveled with Kokusai over the years. We hope to provide you with the same level of quality and service that you enjoyed with Willy, as he passes the torch over to his daughter, Stephanie.

- Aug 31** Alaska Cruise "NCL Pearl" 7 Days – Window \$1810 - Balcony New Lower Price \$2220! Seattle - Inside Passage – Juneau – Skagway - Glacier Bay - Ketchikan - Victoria. **Subject to availability.**
- Sep 12** New England/Canada Cruise "NCL Gem"—7 Days—Window \$1795 Balcony \$2345 Halifax – St. John – Bar Harbor – Boston – Newport.
- Sep 28** East Coast Islands – 6 Days - \$2050 Mohegan Sun Resort & Casino - Mystic Seaport – Block Island – New York City - The Hamptons.
- Oct 21** Autumn in Hokkaido – 10 Days - \$4395 – Sapporo -Sounkyo Gorge - Lake Akan-Lake Masshu-Kushiro–Sahoro-Shiraoi-Lake Toya-Hakodate.
- Nov 04** Date Change – Uranihon "Otherside of Japan" – 10 Days - \$4295 Tokyo Bay – Niigata - Sado Island – Kanazawa - Amanohashidate - Miyazu Hot Springs - Tottori Sand Dunes - Yonago - Matsue - Osaka.
- Nov 12** Okinawa & Kyushu - 10 Days - \$4395 - 4 days Okinawa -Naha & beaches–Fukuoka–Karatsu–Nagasaki–Kumamoto–Beppu Hot Springs.
- Jan 19** Australia & Fiji - 13 Days - \$4449 - 4 nts Cairns - World Heritage Site: Great Barrier Reef, Tjapukai Aboriginal Cultural Park, 'Croc Farm-3 nts Sydney - Kings Cross, Botanic Gardens, Sydney Opera House, Koala Park - 3nt Fiji - beach resort & spa. **Hurry! Book by 08/07/14 Save \$500!**
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# V3CON HARNESSSES THE POWER OF THE INTERNET

The two-day digital media conference offers Asian American journalists the opportunity to showcase their work on digital media platforms.

By **Connie K. Ho**  
Contributor

If one looks at video site YouTube or photo-sharing platform Instagram, some of the top users are Asian American. Asian Americans are known to be savvy online, and according to a 2012 U.S. Census “Facts for Features” article, 80 percent of Asians live in a household with Internet use; this percentage is the highest among racial and ethnic groups.

A digital media conference by the Asian American Journalists Assn., Los Angeles chapter harnessed the power of Asian Americans in the online space. Vision, Visibility, Voice (V3con), held June 20-21 at the Japanese American National Museum in Little Tokyo, was an opportunity to showcase the work of minorities on digital media platforms.

Now in its third year, V3con brings together Asian American Pacific Islander online journalists, social media communicators, bloggers and those interested in learning more about digital platforms.

The event kicked off with an opening-night reception catered by artisan noodle house Tsujita L.A., as well as desserts by Spazio Caffé and beer provided by Kirin.

The night included celebrity award recipients, particularly those who are influential online in connecting diverse communities. This year, Ann Curry, Emmy-winning NBC news correspondent and anchor at large, received the Vision Award.

“It was difficult for me to find my voice as an Asian American because there were so few role models,” said Curry, who attended the event with Irene Hirano Inouye, president of the U.S.-Japan Council. “Being seen as different still hurts us. Diversity is more than checking off a box and setting up diversity committees. Diversity fuels America’s greatness, diversity strengthens business, diversity makes journalism more truthful. Asian Americans are more than just smart people, driven people and tenacious people — we are everything it means to be human. As a community, we can make sure, especially at this conference, to look at ways to use the Internet to report and connect with people, not just throughout America but throughout the world. We can make sure the next generation of Asian Americans won’t have to fight to find a voice.”

Singer-songwriter Judith Hill received the Voice Award.

“Thank you so much for this beautiful, beautiful award — just so heartwarming. I am deeply honored to be part of this community and represent Asian Americans. This is very special for me to be in Little Tokyo — these are my old stomping grounds,” said Hill, who was a contestant last year on NBC’s singing competition “The Voice.”

Food writer Jonathan Gold received the Visibility Award for his work in bringing wide recognition to Asian restaurants and cuisine; he also participated in “A Conversation With,” an intimate public interview with *Los Angeles Times* editor Davan Maharaj on his experience as a food writer for esteemed publications such as the *Los Angeles Times* and *LA Weekly*.



Drum troupe Kokoro Taiko Kai performs at the V3con opening-night reception.

“It’s been an extraordinary privilege to write about this food and these communities and to communicate my enthusiasm to the readers of the *Los Angeles Times* and beyond,” said Gold, who has covered regions like the San Gabriel Valley, at the Friday night reception.

Other activities in the program included hands-on workshops and panels with experts. One popular panel was moderated by *Pacific Citizen* columnist Gil Asakawa on secrets and online topics that are taboo in real life; he was joined by Evergreen Baptist Church of L.A. pastor Ken Fong, *Los Angeles Times* reporter Frank Shyong and performance artist Kristina Wong.

Another panel addressed funding for projects and featured Phil Yu of “Angry Asian Man,” filmmaker Masami Kawai, musician Dan Matthews and entrepreneur Eric Nakagawa. And one workshop focused on improving writing skills, led by Henry Fuhrmann and Steve Padilla, both of the *Los Angeles Times*.

The theme of diverse voices was highlighted in the “Diversity in Media” panel, with speakers from both the business and content side of journalism. Some highlighted challenges faced in the industry.

“All journalists hit a wall where you can grow,” said Erika Hayasaki, an assistant professor in the Literary Journalism Program at the University of California, Irvine, and the Los Angeles editor for *Narratively*, a digital publication focused on long-form feature stories.

Others offered ways to find opportunities to work in the media.



(From left) Phil Yu, Dan Matthews, Masami Kawai and Eric Nakagawa discuss funding for projects at V3con.



Ann Curry receives the Vision Award at V3con’s opening-night reception.



Richard Lui, news anchor for MSNBC and NBC News, speaks about social media for nonprofits.

“There are people that are hiring — be persistent, don’t be afraid to tweet or email somebody,” said Marcello Sawyer, who partners with the regional HR manager to lead and support human resource efforts for American Public Radio’s West Coast offices. “Don’t hesitate in asking questions; tweet people, and they will tweet you back.”

The two-day gathering ended with the announcement of the winner of the Social Media Bingo game. With Social Media Bingo, participants were tasked to take photos and post updates on various social media sites, including selfies with program volunteers and videos on Vine about the conference. The winner was UCLA student Margaux Moores-Tanvier, who was chosen for her creative posts; she went home with an Apple iPad.

“Thank you to everyone who attended the conference and made it a success — we hope to see you at next year’s event,” said Naomi Hayase, AAJA-LA co-president.

**The 2015 conference is slated to take place at JANM on June 27. To learn more about the conference, visit [V3con.com](http://V3con.com).**

*Additional reporting by Amy Lieu.*



# A DRIVING FORCE

Pepperdine University golfer Marissa Chow gains confidence in the U.S. Women's Open.

By Alysha Tsuji  
Contributor

Study abroad plans were canceled on short notice. Marissa Chow traded a month in Pepperdine University's Lausanne, Switzerland, house for a week in Pinehurst, N.C., to compete recently in the U.S. Women's Open. Chow won the sectional qualifier by three strokes at the Oak Valley Golf Course in Beaumont, Calif., on May 14. "I was shocked," said the Iolani High School graduate.

Although her Pepperdine golf coach, Laurie Gibbs, wasn't surprised at all: "She definitely has a game that could qualify . . . Her game has matured — she's an excellent ball striker."

The U.S. Women's Open is one of the major championships in professional golf. Competing in the tournament pitted Chow up against the best in the world — the likes of No. 1 Stacy Lewis and the eventual 2014 champ, fellow Honolulu native Michelle Wie.

Chow described stepping into the hospitality tent upon arrival as "surreal" and "humbling," as the pros, collegiate players and younger qualifiers mingled.

"It shows you they're just like you. It's not like they're on a pedestal or like a god," said Chow. "They're just like you and me."

## TOPPING THE LEADERBOARD

Rather than bow down to the initial pressure, Chow stepped up and swung for the fences. Playing at arguably the most challenging professional golf course, Pinehurst No. 2, she birdied the first hole of Round 1.

And Chow didn't stop there. She birdied the second, fifth and sixth holes. Then, at the seventh, she marked 1-under on a par-3 to steal the lead from Lewis.

Chow's high school coach and longtime family friend, Bo Hunter, traveled from Honolulu to Pinehurst along with Chow's father and aunt. Hunter said his favorite moments of the Open include watching Chow gain confidence.

"When she tied for the lead and went ahead, I think that really strengthened her self belief . . . I had tears in my eyes," said Hunter. He added that "seeing her smile" in that moment "was just heartwarming. I'll never forget that."

Meanwhile, out on the course, Chow's aunt, U.S. Open caddy and former LPGA player of 22 years Lenore Rittenhouse, tried to calm her niece's nerves.

Their group rounded out the last tee time, so without taking a glance at the leaderboard, Chow knew the score to beat: 3-under. "I hit every shot as if it was my last," said Chow.

Chow's mother (Rittenhouse's sister) died of breast cancer before Chow started high school. Rittenhouse said that on the course, to keep things light, she made comments like, "Thanks, mom," and, "Mom must have been watching on that hole."

Despite the calming tactics, nerves inevitably got a hold of Chow in her first crack at the U.S. Open.

"I used to look at the leaderboard, and I would fall off because your heart beats a little faster, and you try to protect something you don't have," said Rittenhouse. "I know the process that can happen and did happen. It's something you can't teach."

On top of the leaderboard pressure, Chow also faced another type of distraction she had never encountered before: media frenzy.

Anyone threatening the lead of the No. 1 golfer in the world — be it an amateur Pepperdine junior — is going to garner attention. Rittenhouse said at about the sixth hole, the cameras

began to flock around their group.

Chow said she could feel herself tensing up as the ESPN2 cameras and high shutter speed DSLRs began following her every move.

Her lead slipped with a double bogey on the eighth hole. "That course was so hard," said Rittenhouse. "The second double bogey was nerves, in my opinion. The third double bogey was her not trusting herself."

Then, the cameras cleared, and, as Rittenhouse puts it, Chow "got back to herself." She finished the first round 6-over, the second round 10-over and missed the cut.

However, Chow left the course undaunted. Rittenhouse said that once they were back at home, settled on the couch, the first thing Chow asked was, "What do I need to work on?"

"I never walk away from a tournament not learning something," said Chow. She said that overall she felt the U.S. Open gave her a new perspective. Holding the lead for that moment in time opened her eyes to the fact that she has the skills to compete with the best in her sport.

## UNDER THE RADAR

At around 8 years old, Chow started playing golf thanks to Rittenhouse, who introduced Chow's mom to the game. The two became members at the Oahu Country Club. Hunter works at the club and said Chow and her mother enjoyed going out on the course together.

Additionally, Chow was involved in gymnastics, volleyball and basketball, but chose to focus on golf.

A few years later, Chow began entering youth tournaments.

Physically, Rittenhouse recalls being amazed at how coordinated Chow was and how she had incredible upper body strength combined with a lengthy stature.

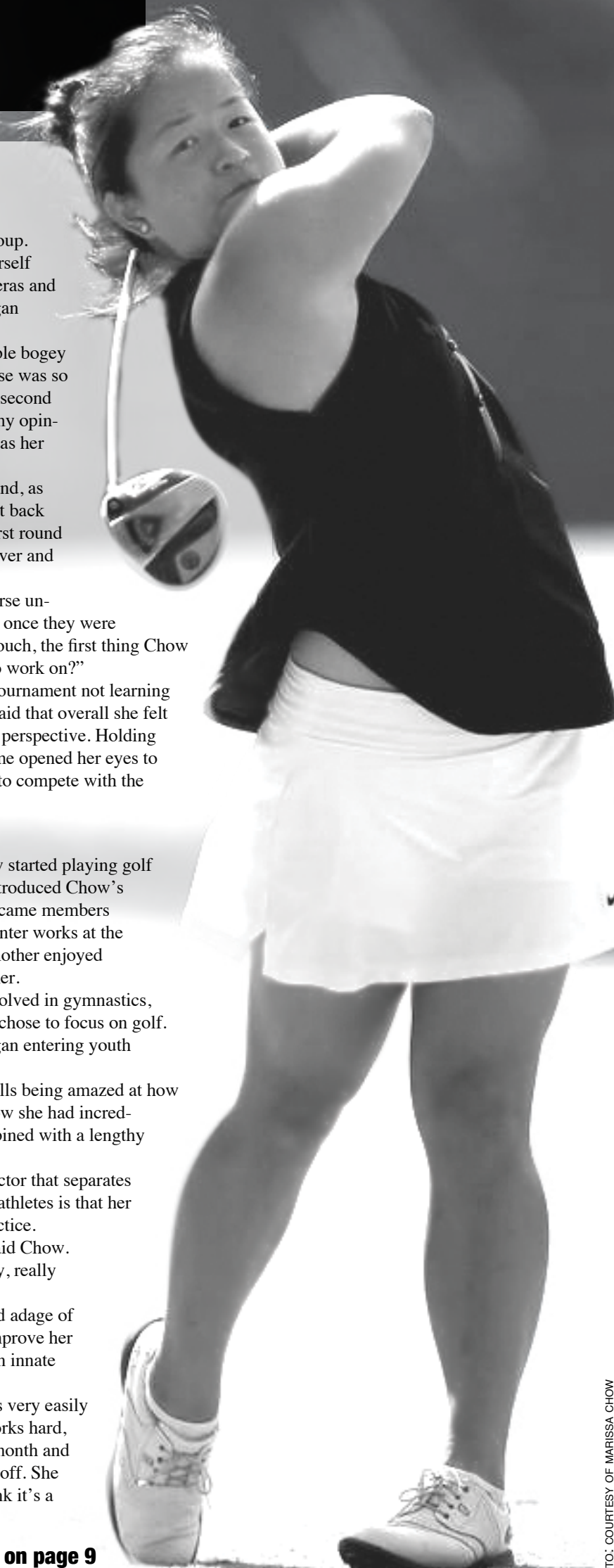
One major differentiating factor that separates Chow from the bulk of youth athletes is that her parents didn't force her to practice.

"It's always been on me," said Chow. "I think that's why I still really, really thoroughly enjoy it."

Aside from following the old adage of "practice makes perfect" to improve her game, Hunter notes she has an innate talent.

"She's a natural. Golf comes very easily for her," said Hunter. "She works hard, but she can take a break of a month and come back just where she left off. She can maintain that tempo. I think it's a gift — her ability to focus."

>> See DRIVING FORCE on page 9





# WEST L.A. JACL ANNOUNCES SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The West Los Angeles chapter of the JACL announced its scholarship winners recently.

Edward Kobayashi, a first-year medical student, was awarded the \$2,500 Chiyo M. Hattori Scholarship, which is designated to an outstanding student pursuing an education in medicine. Grant Nagai, Jason Oyakawa and Lily Sloan were recipients of the Jack Nomura High School Scholarship.

Kobayashi, 25, completed his first year at Quinnipiac University School of Medicine in Hamden, Conn. The son of Yumie and Makoto Kobayashi of Burlingame, Calif., graduated from the University of California, Los Angeles, in 2010 with a degree in psychobiology and a minor in Japanese.

Nagai graduated from Pacifica Christian High School in Santa Monica, Calif., where he excelled academically and participated in basketball and baseball. The son of Linda and Mike Nagai of Los Angeles was also involved with the Venice Youth Council and



Scholarship winners (from left) Jason Oyakawa, Lily Sloan, Cami Nagai (representing her brother, Grant) and Edward Kobayashi with chapter president John Saito Jr.

Boy Scout Troop 764. He will attend Loyola Marymount University in the fall.

Oyakawa graduated from Santa Monica High School and played competitive tennis

for his school and the United States Tennis Assn. He was the managing editor of the school yearbook and a member of the wind ensemble band and the Japanese National Honor Society. The son of Miriam and Denis Oyakawa of Santa Monica will attend Reed College in Portland, Ore.

Sloan, the daughter of Midori Tashiro and Blake Sloan of Los Angeles, graduated from Venice High School and will attend the University of California, Irvine, this fall. She is president of the West Los Angeles United Methodist Church's youth group and received several scholastic honors, including an AP Scholar Award, Biliteracy Award and Jacket of Excellence Award for overall academic achievement.

Each high school awardee received \$750. The scholarship is named in honor of Jack Nomura, a longtime chapter board member, who passed away last year.

For more information, contact the WLA JACL at [westlajacl@yahoo.com](mailto:westlajacl@yahoo.com).

# VENTURA COUNTY JACL AWARDS 2014 SCHOLARSHIPS

The Ventura County Chapter of the JACL held a small reception at the Best Western Camarillo in Camarillo, Calif., on June 19 for the recipients of its 2014 scholarship program.

Honored this year were Austin Takeda, a recent graduate of Foothill Technology High School in Ventura, Calif., who will be attending the University of California, San Diego, in the fall as a sports medicine major; Trent Golden, a recent graduate of Newbury Park High School in Newbury Park, Calif., who will be attending San Diego State University as an international business major; John Kikuchi, a recent graduate of Newbury Park High School who will be attending Northeastern University as a pharmacy major; Chris-

topher Garvin, a recent graduate of Thousand Oaks High School in Thousand Oaks, Calif., who will be attending California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo, as a biology major; Erika Koder, also of Thousand Oaks High School, who will be attending the University of California, Berkeley, as an international relations major; and Tiffany Strong, another recent graduate of Newbury Park High School who will be attending California State University, Northridge, in the fall, where she will be studying to become a math teacher.

The chapter would like to acknowledge the generous donations from the Hiji brothers and the late Dr. Tom Taketa. ■



Sequoia JACL scholarship recipients are (from left) Elina Tanaka, Daisy Valenzuela, Erin Nishimura, Haley Sawamura, Ryan Wong and Trini Inouye.

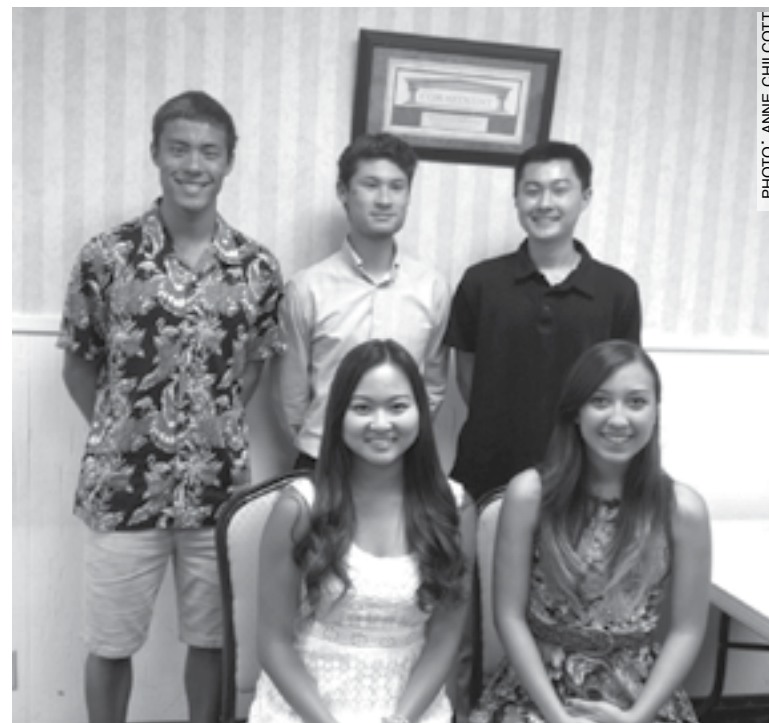


PHOTO: ANNE CHILCOTT

The 2014 JACL Ventura County scholarship recipients are (standing, from left) Austin Takeda, Trent Golden, John Kikuchi, (sitting, from left) Erika Koder and Tiffany Strong. Missing: Christopher Garvin.

# Sequoia JACL Honors Students

My parents and Japanese maternal grandparents are particularly proud. I will put the scholarship money to good use as I enter UC Davis in the fall and start a new chapter in my life," said 2014 Sequoia JACL High School Scholarship recipient Ryan Wong, a Claremont High School graduate, in a statement.

The Sequoia JACL honored Wong and five other students at its annual Scholarship Reception on May 13 in the Issei Hall at the Palo Alto Buddhist Temple in Palo Alto, Calif.

Erin Nishimura from Wilcox High School and

Haley Sawamura from Mountain View High School were also selected for the \$1,000 Sequoia JACL High School Scholarship. Daisy Valenzuela from Foothill College and Elina Tanaka from De Anza College received the \$1,000 Sequoia JACL College Scholarships.

The special \$500 Harry and Elsie Yoshida Memorial Award was given to Trini Inouye from Los Altos High School.

This year's recipients were selected for their outstanding academic records and their commitment to school and community involvement. ■

## Polaris Tours 2014 Schedule

Sep. 07 ~ Sep. 18	<b>Tohoku &amp; Hokkaido:</b> "Simplistic & Natural Beauty"
Sep. 07 ~ Sep. 21	Highlights of Spain: "Barcelona, Valencia, Granada, Seville, Madrid"
Oct. 04 ~ Oct. 11	Andean Lake Crossing & Chilean Wine Country: "Bariloche, Santiago"
Oct. 09 ~ Oct. 18	Treasures of France: "Paris, Avignon, Arles, St. Remy, Nice, Monaco"
Oct. 15 ~ Oct. 27	Dynamic Taiwan: "Taipei, Taroko Gorge, Tainan, Kaohsiung"
Oct. 17 ~ Oct. 31	South Africa & Victoria Falls: "Cape Town, Johannesburg & Safari"
Oct. 19 ~ Oct. 28	Autumn Japan: "Hiroshima, Kyoto, Kanazawa, Takayama, Tokyo"

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# JACL Mourns the Passing of Activist Grayce Uyehara

By P.C. and JACL National Staff

Grace lived JACL through most of her life. Her ongoing commitment and dedication set an example for all of us through the years. It was impossible to refuse her knowing all that she did. . . . Grayce's influence and contribution to JACL has been well documented. Here in Philadelphia, we knew we had a rare giant in our midst. . . . Yes, we will never forget Grayce, her influence and commitment to JACL," said Dr. Herbert Horikawa, former Philadelphia chapter president and co-chair of the 1998 National Convention in Philadelphia on the passing of Grayce Uyehara.

Uyehara, who as a retired Philadelphia-area social worker helped lead the national redress movement for Japanese Americans forcibly interned during World War II, passed away at the age of 94 on June 22 following a brief illness at Virtua Memorial Hospital in Mount Holly, N.J.

During her tenure as the executive director of the JACL Legislative Education Committee, Uyehara was known for her "Action Alerts" sent to JACL chapters and others, which provided updates on the status of the redress campaign and, more importantly, imparted upbeat inspiration to continuously motivate all who participated in the effort to successfully seek remedies for the injustice of the incarceration.

Uyehara was born Grace Kaneda on July 4, 1919, in Stockton, Calif., the second of seven children of immigrant parents. Her family's life was changed forever following the bombing of Pearl Harbor in December 1941 and the subsequent signing

of Executive Order 9066 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1942.

Uyehara and her family were incarcerated at the Stockton Assembly Center and then Rohwer concentration camp. At the time of her incarceration, Uyehara was a music major at the University of the Pacific in Stockton.

After WWII, she settled in Philadelphia. She married Hiroshi Uyehara, an engineer who also had been at Rohwer, and together they helped form the city chapter of the JACL.

In 1978, the JACL established a National Redress Committee. Uyehara, then a retired social worker, volunteered as the national director of the JACL's Legislative Education Committee. Upon her appointment, she said, "You have my commitment to redress and willingness to do the best I can."

During the final phase of the redress campaign, Uyehara devised a plan to mobilize grassroots support by issuing her Action Alerts to inundate the White House in a letter writing campaign.

Following the success of redress, Uyehara became the chairperson of the JACL Legacy Fund campaign, which raised more than \$5 million to be used to support JACL programs.

"When redress was approved, I didn't think I qualified. Grayce urged me to apply anyway (she was strong minded), and I was approved. Her contributions to JACL were enormous," said 97-year-old Dr. H. Tom Tamaki, former chapter president.

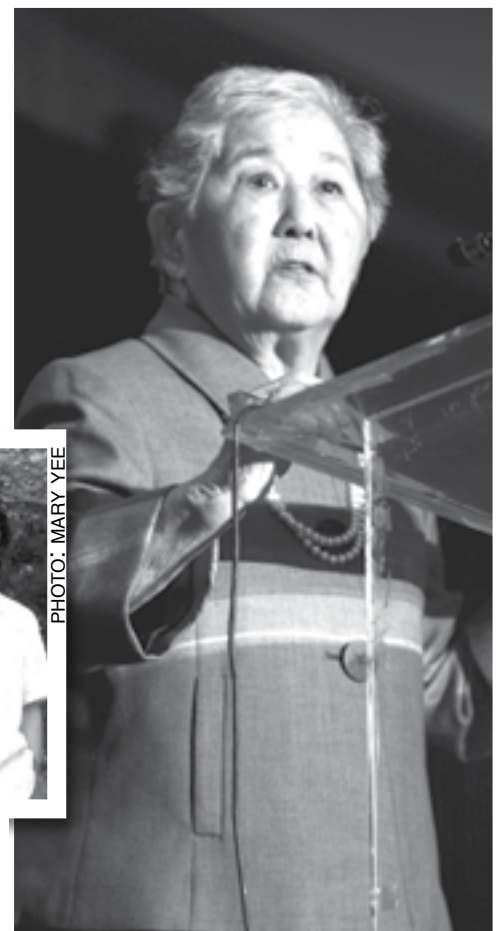
Said Floyd Mori, president and CEO of the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies: "The energy and

enthusiasm Grayce Uyehara had for the mission of the JACL has always been an inspiration and motivation for me to do more. She approached her job with a smile on her face and in her heart, and she was a formidable advocate as she was able to stand toe to toe with anybody on the issue of redress."

Added JACL National President David Lin: "I am deeply saddened upon hearing the passing of Grayce Uyehara, as JACL lost a giant from the redress campaign. . . . Grayce's leadership as the



Three generations of the Uyehara family include (from left) Hiroshi, Grayce, son Paul and grandson Kaz.



Grace Uyehara was a pivotal figure in the decadelong redress campaign.

executive director of the JACL-LEC was instrumental and essential in the passing and signing of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. We will be forever grateful for all she did for our community."

Uyehara is survived by her husband, Hiroshi, sons Paul, Christopher and Lawrence, daughter Lisa, a brother, a sister, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Internment will be private. The family is planning a memorial service that is tentatively scheduled for Sept. 20 in Medford, N.J. Donations to the Uyehara Internship Program, c/o JACL, are suggested in lieu of flowers or koden. ■

## DRIVING FORCE >> continued from page 7



(Top) Marissa Chow with her aunt, U.S. Open caddy and former LPGA player Lenore Rittenhouse



In high school, she hit the ground running, winning the Interscholastic League of Honolulu (ILH) title as a freshman. As a senior, she led the girls' golf team to the league championship, and she was named ILH's Player of the Year.

Riding on that success, Chow chose to attend Pepperdine University in Malibu, Calif. Her reasoning was that she wanted to be in the Southern California area, she liked the school's values and enjoyed the university's coach.

She entered the collegiate level with a splash, earning All-West Coast Conference First Team honors in her first two years. This year, she was also selected as an All-American, and along with that, the Pepperdine women's golf team claimed its 13th consecutive WCC league title.

Considering the undeniable success, Hunter said he doesn't believe Chow has been given the media recognition she deserves. "She has always been under the radar, even in Hawaii," said Hunter. He explained how stars such as Michelle Wie and UCLA All-American Stephanie Kono often leave Chow overlooked. "I always

thought she was best in the group. I bet one day people are going to see that. This is just the beginning."

### GAINING MOMENTUM

Perhaps part of the reason why Chow doesn't typically dominate the headlines is her coy personality and her tendency to underestimate her own talents.

"She is very humble," said Hunter. "She will not talk about herself or what she's accomplished."

For instance, when Rittenhouse got the call from Chow asking her to caddy, Rittenhouse said she was excited but totally caught off guard. She said Chow had never mentioned trying to qualify for the U.S. Open.

Rittenhouse said she had told Chow earlier in the season that she "has all the tools necessary to compete" at the pro level.

"My coaches would tell me, 'You're really good, you have so much talent. You can be one of the great players,'" said Chow. "I never really believed them. I thought they were just saying that to make me feel good."

As Chow has advanced and accomplished increasingly greater feats, she admits that she has a heightened sense of confidence. She says she wants to try qualifying for the U.S. Open again, and that she'll work toward going pro after graduation as well, depending on how her next two years playing at the collegiate level work out.

According to Gibbs, her future at Pepperdine looks extremely bright on the course: "Each year she believes more in herself. . . . Marissa is someone that we will look to to be one of our top players."

And off the course. "She's very warm and loves to laugh and doesn't take things too seriously," added Gibbs. "She has a wonderful way of looking at life."

Chow said that after missing out on studying abroad this summer, she hopes to apply again to go to Switzerland next year. But with all the success that keeps meeting her, traveling the world might have to wait for now.

"Marissa definitely has a game that can qualify and go back there and compete," said Gibbs. "She has many U.S. Opens in her future." ■



## A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

PHOTO: VALOR WITH HONOR



## CALENDAR

**'Valor with Honor' Screening**  
**Oakland, CA**  
**July 27, 1-3 p.m.**  
**Oakland Asian Cultural Center**  
**388 9th St.**  
**Cost: Free with RSVP**

The documentary film screening of the Japanese American 442nd Regimental Combat Team visits the Oakland Asian Cultural Center this summer. The story of these heroic men in a segregated U.S. Army unit led by white officers visits a piece of American history. The film includes over 20 interviews with Nisei vets, who share their bittersweet return home to America and stories during WWII. An open Q & A with filmmaker Burt Takeuchi follows the screening and DVD copies will be sold.  
**Info: To RSVP, call (510) 637-0455.**

## &gt;&gt;EDC

**37th Annual Asian American International Film Festival**  
**New York, NY**

**July 4-Aug. 2**

**Locations vary**

**Cost: Ticket prices vary**

Asian CineVision will host this year's Asian American International Film Festival with a full film lineup. The festival will explore a diverse range of themes relevant to the Asian and Asian American experience. The event aims to raise lively dialogues and celebrate the cinematic innovation and compelling storytelling of the community. A total of 18 features and 33 shorts compiled into five short programs are set for this year's screenings, covering more than 21 countries and regions across the globe.

**Info: Visit [www.aaiff.org](http://www.aaiff.org).**

**The Creative Process in Modern Japanese Printmaking**

**Boston, MA**

**Aug. 17**

**Boston Museum of Fine Arts**  
**465 Huntington Ave.**

**Cost: Adults \$25**

No longer constrained by the requirements of commercial publishing, artists were able to exploit the color wood-block process as far as their imaginations could take them, experimenting with new Western media. Featured artists Takei Takeo and Yoshida Hiroshi will be on view with their prints up for display.

**Info: Visit [www.mfa.org](http://www.mfa.org).**

## &gt;&gt;MDC

**Utamaro: Aspects of Beauty**  
**Chicago, IL**

**July 13**

**The Art Institute of Chicago**  
**111 S. Michigan Ave.**

**Cost: Adults \$23, Students and Seniors \$17**

Chosen from among approximately 300 works by Kitagawa Utamaro (c. 1753-1806) in the Art Institute's collection, this exhibition highlights some of the his most-celebrated prints. Utamaro gave the world close-up portraits of beauties with pensive expressions, scenes of women engaged in everyday activities in every age against brilliant and luminescent mica backgrounds.

**Info: Visit [www.artic.edu](http://www.artic.edu).**

**Just Dance Summer Sizzle**  
**Dallas, Texas**

**July 12, 7 p.m.-1 a.m.**

**Park Inn by Radisson**

**1241 W. Mockingbird Lane**  
**Cost: Dinner \$45, Overnight room rate \$85**

Put on your dancing shoes with the North Texas Asian American Cultural Assn. as it hosts its Just Dance Summer Sizzle. Dinner includes a choice of steak or grilled chicken and an evening of fun and dancing to a spectrum of musical genres such as hip-hop, Latin, country and ballroom.

**Info: Visit [www.ntaaca.org](http://www.ntaaca.org).**

## &gt;&gt;PNW

**Korean Traditional Hanji Paper Fashion Show**  
**Seattle, WA**

**July 30 and Aug. 3**

**Asia Pacific Cultural Center and Seattle Asian Art Museum**

**Check dates for specific locations**

**Cost: General admission \$49**

Hanji is an ancient Korean tradition of papermaking and the highlight of this summer's two fashion shows. Directed by renowned Korean Hanji Fashion Designer Jeon Yang-Bae from Gunsan, Korea, the designer works to demonstrate the suppleness and strength of this unique Korean paper as wearable art. Both shows will highlight this quality paper material in a runway-style event.

**Info: Visit [www.seattleartmuseum.org](http://www.seattleartmuseum.org) or [www.asiapacific-culturalcenter.org](http://www.asiapacific-culturalcenter.org).**

**Chen Shaoxiong: Ink. History.**  
**Media.**

**Seattle, WA**

**July 19-Dec. 7**

**Asian Art Museum**  
**1400 E. Prospect St.**

**Cost: General Admission \$7**

As part of the Asian artist collective "Project Without Space," Chen Shaoxiong explores cross-medium platforms, including painting, photography, collage and conceptual art. This powerful modern digital but painted art premieres in July in the Foster Galleries.

**Info: Visit [www.seattleartmuseum.org](http://www.seattleartmuseum.org) or call (206) 654-3100.**

## &gt;&gt;NCWNP

**The Carved Brush**  
**San Francisco, CA**

**July 13**

**Asian Art Museum**  
**200 Larkin St.**

**Cost: Adults \$15**

The Carved Brush exhibit features 24 pieces of Qi Baishi's calligraphy, painting and seal artworks (1863-1957). His paintings feature rugged, expressive brushwork based on his practice of the related arts of brush-writing calligraphy and seal carving. Baishi simplifies his rendering of subjects to a minimum number of brush touches, integrating elements with abstraction as he captures the spiritual essence of his subjects.

**Info: Visit [www.asianart.org](http://www.asianart.org).**

**JA Filmmakers Part III: Non-Documentary Filmmakers**

**San Jose, CA**

**July 26, 1 p.m.**

**Japanese American Museum of San Jose**  
**535 N. 5th St.**

**Cost: General admission \$5**

The museum's film series brings its third event, featuring contemporary filmmakers Koji Steven Sakai, Kerwin Berk and Kerry Yo Nakagawa. The panel will discuss their involvement with feature films, production, writing and experience in the

industry. All three individuals are known for films outside of documentaries.

**Info: Contact [publicprograms@jamsj.org](mailto:publicprograms@jamsj.org) or call (408) 294-3138.**

## &gt;&gt;PSW

**Sake Express**  
**Los Angeles, CA**

**July 25, 7-9:30 p.m.**

**Los Angeles Union Station**  
**800 N. Alameda St.**

**Cost: Must be 21 and Over, Presale \$75 or at the door \$100**

Come enjoy a unique evening of sake, food and entertainment at the eighth annual "Sake Express" benefiting the Little Tokyo Service Center. Sample dishes from a variety of L.A. restaurants and try a wide array of sake, shochu and beer provided by Mutual Trading Company. The evening will also have a special recognition during the sponsor reception for Eugene Eng and Ansho Uchima.  
**Info: Visit [www.sake.ltsc.org](http://www.sake.ltsc.org) or email [eweaver@ltsc.org](mailto:eweaver@ltsc.org).** ■

## ADVERTISE HERE

Events in the calendar section are listed based on space availability. Place a 'Spotlight' ad with photos of your event for maximum exposure.

**FOR MORE INFO:**  
[tiffany@pacificcitizen.org](mailto:tiffany@pacificcitizen.org)  
 (213) 620-1767



# In Memoriam

**Kakahara, Hiroshi Richard, 84,**



Anaheim, CA; May 22; he is survived by his wife, Kiyoko Kakahara; brothers, Satoru (Julia), Teruo and Tom (Paddy) Kakahara; sister, Patsy (Paul) Hasegawa; he is also survived by his children, grandchildren, many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

**Kaneko, Aiko, 100,** Los Angeles, CA; June 3; she is survived by her children, Russell (Donna) Kaneko, Cathy (Glenn) Yoshimoto, Janet (Warren) Loo; sister, Mary Hidekawa; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 5; ggc: 4.

**Kataoka, John Shoji, 87,**



Boyle Heights, CA; June 17; he is a former incarcerated of Heart Mountain Camp; he is predeceased by his wife, Mutsuko; he is survived by his son, Russell; he is also survived by many cousins, nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 2.

**Takako Nishio, Betty, 95,** Roseville, CA; June 5; she is predeceased by her husband, Fred; survived by her children, Ron (Hue) Nishio, Ed (Fran) Nishio, Margaret (Mike) Ong, Joyce (Henry) Wong and Dorothy (Cory) Lindholm; sister, Rose Nishio; also survived by many nieces and nephews; gc: 6.

**Masukawa, Fred Yutaka, 94,**



Gardena, CA; May 27; he is predeceased by his wife, Misao; he is survived by his loving children, Alan (Cheryl) Masukawa, Linda (Mark) Nakashima, Steven (Coco) Masukawa and Lisa (Daryl) Takata; siblings, Mitzi (George) Naohara and Bob Masukawa; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 8.

**Mita, Shizuko, 89,**



Spokane, WA; June 5; she is predeceased by her husband, Kay; brother, Harry Emoto; sister, Jeannie Emoto; she is survived by her son, Floyd; sisters, Hisako Akiyama and Jean Okazaki.

**Nonoshita, Michiyo, 89,**



Long Beach, CA; June 2; she is predeceased by her husband, Keiichi Nonoshita; sister, Tomiyo Shoji; she is survived by her son, Roger, daughter, Shirley (Dave) Bear; brothers, Yoshikazu (Peggy) and Susumu (Jie) Kinoshita; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 3.

**Omatsu, Amy, 90,** Whittier, CA; June 11; she is predeceased by her husband, Oliver George Omatsu; she is survived by her children, Elaine (John) Nishikawa and Robert (Cathy) Omatsu; sister, Patsi Tanagi; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 4.

**Sadamoto, Takeko, 93,** Los Angeles, CA; June 4; she is survived by her sons, Theodore Kanji (Eiko), James Hidemichi

(Katherine) and Howard Yasuo Sadamoto; daughter, Arline Etsuko (Edwin) Shiotsuka; also survived by grandchildren, many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

**Sakato, Yasuyo, 91,** Alhambra, CA; June 9; she is survived by her daughters, Lucy Tomoko (Steve) Sakata and Yumiko (Ron Grobeck) Sakata; brother, Nobuyasu Yano; she is also survived by many nephews and nieces; gc: 4.

**Shiozaki, Roberta Fumi, 95,**



Pasadena, CA; June 1; she is predeceased by her husband, Jack Kiyoshi Shiozaki; she is survived by her children, Andrew (Karen), Richard (Karen), Gary (Maria), Leilani (Ronald) and Darlene (Neal); she is also survived by many nieces, nephews, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**Sugita, Toru, 89,** Midway City,



CA; May 31; he is survived by his wife, Seiko Sugita; son, Robert Tadashi Sugita; sisters, Chizuko Judy Sugita (Richard) DeQueiroz and Frankie Mariko (Hiroshi) Fukuda; sisters-in-law, Yasuko and Mary Sugita; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

**Sumida, Tsuyako Ruby, 98,** Los Angeles, CA; June 3; she is a former incarcerated of Heart Mountain Camp; she is predeceased by her husband, Roy Teruo Sumida; survived by her children, Colleen (Rodney) Sakoda and Gary (Irene)

Sumida; sister, Marian Yasuda; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other family members both here and in Hawaii; gc: 8; ggc: 11.

**Yada, Miye, 89,** Chicago, IL; June 38; she is predeceased by her husband, Masato "George"; also predeceased by her siblings, Toshio Shima, Mas (Jeanne) Kawako, Hideaki (Hinako) Kawako, Hank Kawako and Esther (Barrie) Kato; survived by her children, David Yada, Dianne (Tom) Honda and Eileen (Mark) Martina; also survived by many nieces and nephews; gc: 7.

**Yamane, Roy Yoshio, 75,** Denver, CO; May 12; he is survived by his wife, Nancy; stepchildren, Tony, Nick, Joe, Vinnie, Dean and Debbie; siblings, Grace, Paul (Nancy) and Don (Marilyn); also survived by many relatives and friends.

**Yoshida, Toshiko, 79,** Los Angeles, CA; May 1; she is survived by her children, Perry and Yumi (Eric) Saiki; siblings, Koichi (Michiko) Maruyama and Kazuko (Nagatoshi) Shimazaki; brother-in-law, Mas Yoshida; sister-in-law, Toshiko Loaiza, Fujino (Toshikazu) Miyata and Suzume; gc: 3.

## TRIBUTE

### DAVID S. HARA



David S Hara, born July 10, 1914, died June 11, 2014. David was born in the Hood Canal area of Washington State. During World War II, he was in the 442nd, serving in Italy and France. After the war, he went to Chicago and married Virginia. They lived in San Diego, Calif., and retired to Sequim, Wash. He is survived by his wife, Virginia; daughter, Diane; and son, Gerard. Private memorial.

## PLACE A TRIBUTE

'In Memoriam' is a free listing that appears on a limited, space-available basis. Tributes honor your loved ones with text and photos and appear in a timely manner at the rate of \$20/column inch. **Contact:** [tiffany@pacificcitizen.org](mailto:tiffany@pacificcitizen.org) or call (213) 620-1767

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President

## ATTENTION!

Help the Nisei Week Foundation find missing Commemorative Booklets. Donations for missing issues are welcomed but digital copies will also be greatly appreciated. The following years are missing as well as the contact information for two former Nisei Week queens. If you have contact information for **Ms. Clare Nonoshita-Graef** or **Ms. Elisa Cuthbert-Nixon**, or have a booklet from one of the following years, please contact the Nisei Week Foundation office (213) 687-7193 or info: [niseiweek.org](http://niseiweek.org).

### DATES

1935-1941  
1949-1957  
1960  
1967  
1993  
1994

### QUEENS

Clare Nonoshita-Graef  
Elisa Cuthbert-Nixon





## TECHNOLOGY >> continued from page 3

These are serious issues, and because they concern Asian Americans, they're too often missing from mainstream media. But within the Asian American blogosphere, they're discussed far and wide, and they resonate among an admittedly young demographic of computer-savvy web surfers.

It doesn't have to be so. I think even older Asian Americans, including many JACLers, have the capacity — and dare I say duty — to log on and get the hang of using computers. It's the way the world now communicates, after all.

At the JACL convention, which is in a week as I write this, I'm moderating another panel sponsored by AARP's AAPI Community team, this time featuring people like Jeff Yang, the *Wall Street Journal* columnist whose son is starring in the new ABC sitcom "Fresh Off the Boat." Our community has kept up with news of this show for almost a year thanks to social media, and Yang's savvy use of it. My other panelists include a diversity officer from CBS; a spokesperson for 18 Million Rising, a powerful Asian American Pacific Islander social activism website; and a former YouTube VP who was in charge of channel strategy during a time when Asian Americans became some of the most successful video producers online.

My goal is not to host a hands-on training program (something that AARP's TEK group does very well for older folks, by the way). I want to show how much is going on in online media and how you can tap into the energy of the future — today.

You can't stop the march of technology. Just keep up the best you can, and you'll be introduced to a whole new



PHOTO: GIL ASAKAWA

A sampling of Gil Asakawa's old computers that are in his basement at home.

world of knowledge and action. Remember, I thought I'd be fired when my newspaper switched to computers. But I'm still here!

*Gil Asakawa is a member of the Pacific Citizen Editorial Board and the author of "Being Japanese American." He blogs about Japanese and Asian American issues on his blog at [www.nikkeiview.com](http://www.nikkeiview.com), and he's on Facebook, Twitter and lots of other social media. He was recently named the 2014 Asian American Journalists Assn. AARP Social Media Fellow.*

## GUY >> continued from page 3

In 2001, I was invited to join a coalition of APAs in meetings with some of the network executives to discuss programming issues. The APA Media Coalition, of which the JACL is a participant along with MANAA and other APA organizations, was established to monitor and rate the major television networks in their employment of APA actors, their roles and the networks' sensitivity to the treatment of Asian characters.

Each year, the APAMC issues an annual report card, rating each network for the previous season, noting in detail a variety of issues and concerns about the way in which each network deals with the concerns of the APAMC.

I'm not sure at this point if the Coalition is still active since there is no report card for 2013 on the MANAA site, where the report card normally appears. If it is inactive, that would be unfortunate because the report card puts the networks on notice that they're being watched and evaluated and gives MANAA the platform for confronting those who think nothing of offending us.

The JACL is an advocacy organization, so we all know that nothing is as effective as face-to-face confrontation in dealing with those who would mock or belittle us as a community. That's why someone like Guy Aoki on "Politically Incorrect" or MANAA or APAMC are important to us.

And we know that in dealing with comedians like Maher or Silverman or the hosts of any of the networks evening talk shows, you can only be effective if you don't let them dominate the conversation.

Otherwise, it's just a pointless conversation: They win, and you come out the fool.

*John Tateishi is a former JACL National Director.*

## LETTER >> continued from page 2

*"Forty-one Republican senators filibusted . . . to kill a bill that would have provided landmark funding for badly needed resources at VA facilities around the country."*

What happened to all the money the VA was given prior to this filibusted bill? Let me answer this question. The Phoenix VA awarded \$10 million in bonuses in the past three years. And the VA Nationwide Access Audit reported 65 percent of senior executives received bonuses while our veterans received inept or no care at all.

In addition, Deroy Murdock wrote an Op-Ed uncovering the stomach-churning bonuses VA staff received. Just a few examples include:

- In Fayetteville, N.C., Elizabeth Goolsby received a performance bonus in 2012 of \$7,604.
- In Dayton, Ohio, medical center director Guy Richardson won a promotion and an \$11,874 bonus despite reports of unsanitary conditions for 18 years.
- In 2011 at the Pittsburgh, Penn., VA hospital, chief Terry Gerigk Wolf earned a bonus of \$12,924 and regional director Michael Moreland received a bonus of \$15,619 even though there was an outbreak of Legionnaire's disease (at that facility) that sickened 20 veterans and killed six others.
- Between 2009 and 2013, Rima Ann Nelson, hospital director at the St. Louis, Mo., VA hospital, received bonuses totaling \$23,000.

This article can be found at <http://www.indystar.com/story/opinion/2014/05/29/despite-inept-care-bonuses-va-hospital-staff/9736279/>.

*"[Shinseki] wasn't given the opportunity to deal with the corruption and malsfeasance reported at VA facilities around the country."* I ask again, "Where was Shinseki since being appointed?" "And what was he doing?" (Because we know now what he wasn't doing.)

No one disagrees with Shinseki's distinguished military career. I, for one, truly appreciate what he has done for this country. His military career and his sacrifices are and will always be honorable. What was questioned and scrutinized and ultimately his resignation was due to his competence (or lack of) to lead and manage a Federal agency.

Sincerely,

Jayne Nielsen  
Acampo, Calif.



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