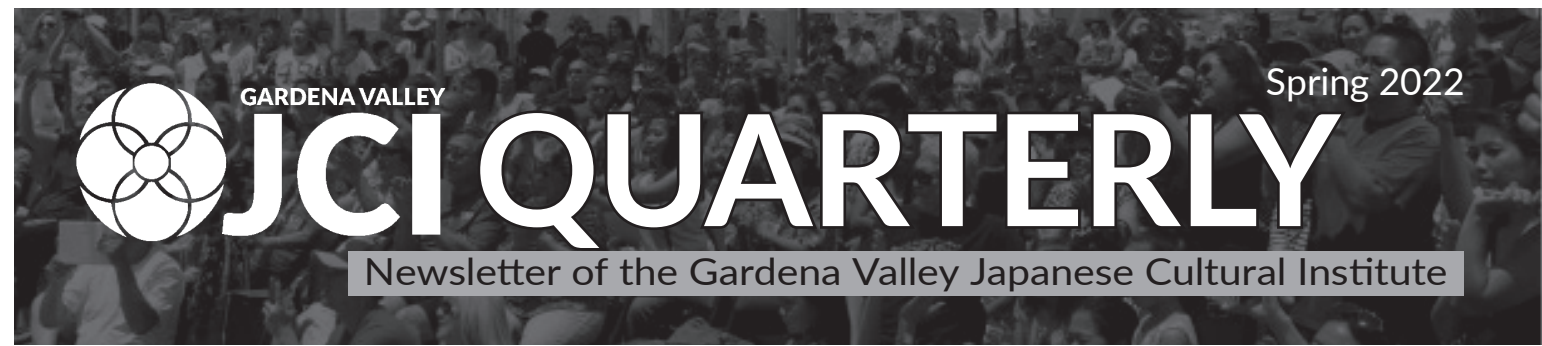




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Gardena, CA 90247  
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Fax: 310-324-3223  
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## 2022 GVJCI MATSURI BENTO-TO-GO FUNDRAISER



The Annual GVJCI Matsuri Fundraiser is one of our yearly highlights that we look forward to each June. Due to the pandemic, we held our Matsuri virtually the last two years. While we would have loved to bring our full Matsuri back this year, the health and safety of our community continues to be our priority so we decided to hold a hybrid Matsuri bento fundraiser.

The 2022 GVJCI Matsuri Bento-To-Go Fundraiser is a way that the GVJCI can continue to raise funds that would normally be raised at our annual matsuri, our largest fundraiser each year, beginning from now through the end of June.

**Date:** Saturday, June 25, 2022

**Location:** GVJCI

**Bento Includes:** Matsuri Grilled Teriyaki Chicken & Rice, Yakisoba, Ono Spam Mushi & Green Salad with Rascal's Famous Dressing

**Cost:** 2 Bento for \$40 or 4 Bento for \$80

We will also be featuring an onsite Plant Sale during the bento pick up.

### How it Works:

Pre-order bento online\* on our website, select a pick up time & pay online, then pick up your bento at the GVJCI on Saturday, June 25. Bento will be handmade by our Matsuri volunteers at GVJCI on June 25th, just like the past Matsuri. 100% of the proceeds will go to GVJCI. \*Or pre-order using the form in this newsletter.

### There are two ways you can help!

- PRE-PURCHASE BENTO** (For pickup @ GVJCI 6/25): 2 Bento for \$40 or 4 Bento for \$80. If you are able, please visit our website to pre-order online, or you can complete the Bento form in this newsletter & return it to GVJCI with your payment.
- Make an optional **ADDITIONAL DONATION** (\$50+ donations will be gifted a special 2022 GVJCI Matsuri Bento-To-Go Fundraiser t-shirt) Please visit our website to donate online, or complete the form in this newsletter & return it to GVJCI with your donation.

The GVJCI would also like to thank our sponsors—Gold: King's Hawaiian, Silver: Union Bank, Hirano Homes, Bronze: FIA Insurance, AHTKY, The Key/Millennia  
Product: Rascals

Thank you in advance to our volunteers, supporters, member organizations, staff & board for helping us bring this year's 2022 GVJCI Matsuri Bento-To-Go Fundraiser to life! We couldn't do it without you!

Your support helps the GVJCI manage through these challenging times and allows us to continue to support our community. Our goal is to exceed what we raised last year and we can only do that with support from our GVJCI family and friends.

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OR CURRENT OCCUPANT

## GARDENA VALLEY JAPANESE CULTURAL INSTITUTE

The Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute (GVJCI) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit community center providing various classes, programs, services, and facilities to the South Bay area. We also provide affordable housing through the JCI Gardens Apartments, the adjacent senior housing property.

The GVJCI's roots date back to 1912, when it was known as the Moneta Gakuen, a Japanese language school. In 1967, it was formally incorporated as the Gardena Valley Japanese Language School. Then, in 1968, the corporation changed its name to the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute to incorporate the broader services and functions the organization offers. In 1971, Compton Gakuen, Gardena Gakuen, and Moneta Gakuen merged, opening its doors officially as the GVJCI's Japanese Language School. The GVJCI has a very proud history spanning over 100 years.

Today, we continue to provide a variety of activities, programs, and services. We are truly fortunate to have an active and well-utilized center serving people of all ages. We thank you, the community, for your active participation and for your support through donations and volunteerism that enables the GVJCI to continue.

### MISSION STATEMENT

A space to engage, share, and embrace the Nikkei experience and culture.

### VISION STATEMENT

The GVJCI envisions a vibrant network and a welcoming space for all persons interested in Japanese heritage and culture where history and tradition are honored, people are inspired to create action and change, and cultural pride and respect for all humanity are promoted.

### Board of Directors

Alan Kita, *President*  
Richard Ames, *Vice President*  
Ray Shibata, *Treasurer*  
Juan Hernandez, *Secretary*  
Miles Akiyama  
Gail Doi  
Lawrence Hada  
Michelle Hirano  
Bryce Ikemura  
Grant Nakaoka  
Kerilyn Sato  
Alvin Takamori  
Marilyn Tsuge

### Emeritus Board of Directors

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Paul Koshi  
Helen Nakano  
Charles Oyagi  
Glenn Tachibana  
Terry Terauchi

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Cathy Lee, *Director of Development and Marketing*  
Debbie Oba, *Administrative Manager*

#### Programs

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Chikako Roper, *Bilingual Programs Coordinator*

#### Facilities

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Brian Hoshiko, *Maintenance Custodian*  
Bob Seki, *Maintenance Custodian*  
Gerald Mayewaki, *Facility Assistant*  
Alvin Takamori, *Facility Assistant*

#### Japanese Language School

Lawrence Hada, *Principal*  
Masumi Sasaki, *Vice Principal & Teacher*  
Mayumi Fuchino, *Teacher*  
Shizuka Marinakis, *Teacher*  
Asaka Morita, *Teacher*  
Chiaki Suzuki, *Teacher*  
Naoko Tran, *Teacher*  
Aki Izumi, *Adult Class & Conversation Class Teacher*

# GVJCI MATSURI BENTO-TO-GO FUNDRAISER ORDER FORMS

Please visit our website Matsuri page and click the donate button to donate today! Or you can complete & return the form(s) below.

Those who donate a minimum of \$50 have the option of receiving a 2022 commemorative t-shirt gift. Each additional \$50 donation qualifies for another t-shirt.

T-shirt gifts available for qualified donations received through June 30, 2022. T-shirt pickup at the GVJCI is scheduled for the week of July 18, 2022 and is subject to change. Please be sure to check our website for updates.

T-shirts are available in Men's, Women's and Youth sizes and are only available in black. 2022 GVJCI Matsuri Bento-To-Go graphic is printed on the back of the t-shirt. The GVJCI logo will be on the front, left chest. T-shirt is 100% cotton.

Please make checks payable to GVJCI, note Matsuri on your check, complete the form below and return your completed form to 2022 GVJCI Matsuri, 1964 W. 162nd St., Gardena, CA 90247. You can also donate online by visiting our website on the Matsuri tab. As a 501(c)(3) your donation is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Have any questions about your order? Call our office at (310) 324-6611 or email Cathy Lee (clee@jci-gardena.org). Thank you for your generous support!



**GVJCI 2022 BENTO ORDER FORM\*\***

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

	Pack Quantity	Total Amount Due	Check #
2 Bento Pack- \$40			
4 Bento Pack - \$80			

\*\*If ordering via this form, once payment is received, we will contact you to schedule your pick up time on Sat, June 25.

**GVJCI 2022 COMMEMORATIVE T-SHIRT ORDER FORM**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

MEN'S				WOMEN'S				YOUTH				TOTAL T-SHIRT GIFTS	TOTAL DONATION AMOUNT
S	M	L	XL	S	M	L	XL	S	M	L	XL		\$

We will be following the current LA County Department of Public Health COVID guidelines at the Bento & T-shirt pick ups.

# BECOME A BENTO BUDDY!

The GVJCI SENIOR BENTO PROGRAM is coming back, and we need your help! As the cost of goods and services continues to rise, we're looking for ways to help subsidize the cost of bento lunches for our senior participants.

By donating to our Bento Buddies program, you can help lower the cost of a senior's bento by 50%. That means a \$14 bento will only cost a senior \$7. Plus, your support will also help local small businesses!

Historically, our bento program has served approximately 30-45 bentos each weekday for seniors 60 years and older. As our Tomo No Kai senior weekday classes continue to grow, we need ongoing financial support to help provide low cost bento lunches.

## HOW TO DONATE:

To donate to the GVJCI Bento Buddies Program, please visit [www.jci-gardena.org/bento-program](http://www.jci-gardena.org/bento-program) and click on the donate button.

For more information or if you have any questions, please call our office at (310) 324-6611 or email [info@jci-gardena.org](mailto:info@jci-gardena.org).

## 1. DONATE



## 2. GVJCI BUYS BENTO FROM A LOCAL SMALL BUSINESS



## 3. SENIORS PAY FOR BENTO AT A 50% SUBSIDIZED PRICE



# SEEKING A CUSTODIAN (PART-TIME)

GVJCI is looking for an individual to perform custodial responsibilities to support activities, events and business operations. Weekend hours are required. Send resume to [dlee@jci-gardena.org](mailto:dlee@jci-gardena.org) or call (310) 324-6611 ext. 105.

Responsibilities include, but not limited to performing routine custodial duties such as regularly emptying trash receptacles, sweeping & mopping floors, vacuuming carpet, cleaning glass doors/windows as needed, cleaning bathrooms; provide custodial support at events; some heavy-lifting may be required with moving tables, chairs and stage set-up/tear down; and ability to perform minor maintenance tasks a plus.

# JCCSC AWARD

GVJCI received the 2022 Community Organization Recognition Award on Sunday March 27, 2022 from the Japanese Chamber of Commerce of Southern California at their 2022 Installation of Officers and Awards Luncheon, "For your outstanding service and commitment to preserve and promote service to the Japanese community". Thank you to JCCSC and the support that you give to the business development and welfare of the Japanese American community!



Pictured (l-r): Haruo Takehana, JCCSC President, The Honorable Akira Muto, Consul General, Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles, Alison Kochiyama, GVJCI Executive Director, Joanne and Alan Kumamoto, Nikkei Spirit Awardees, The Honorable Ai Muratsuchi, Assemblymember, District 66

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## ADVENTURERS CLUB NEWS

Announces a series of unique trips to Japan providing an in depth look at a particular region(s) and highlighting the diversity of the landscape, arts & crafts, history and food, each trip is flavored by the element of the Seasons.

**\*\*Please note that the Adventurer's Club is a non-GVJCI sponsored activity.\*\***

**FALL, 2022 (Nov 1 -11) Beautiful Fall Foliage Walks:** Leisurely strolls to enjoy the countryside of (A) The historic Nakasendo from Magome to Tsumago (B) The Kumano Kodo at Kumano Nachi Taisha and (C) UNESCO designated Mt. Fuji reflected around Lake Kawaguchi.

**WINTER, 2023 (Jan 31-Feb 9) The Elusive Plum Blossom:** To include Setsubun and the Fukuoka Ume Matsuri, Nagahama Ume Bonsai and more.

**SPRING, 2023 (Apr 30-May 10) The Spectacular Gardens & Late Sakura:** To include the beauty spots of Tohoku: Matsushima, Hiro-saki & Kitakami Sakura and more.

**SUMMER, 2023 (July 14-25) The Famous Festivals & Obon:** Including Kyoto's Gion Matsuri, Gujo Hachiman Obon & Indigo dyeing, Fushimi Inari Matsuri, Kanazawa & UNESCO Shirakawa-go, Noto Peninsula Kiriko Matsuri, Osaka's Tenjin Matsuri.

Each of the trips will be limited to a maximum of 12 participants. Contact Roxana Lewis at [Roxana.lewis@protravelinc.com](mailto:Roxana.lewis@protravelinc.com) or Tim Toyama at [timtoyama@gmail.com](mailto:timtoyama@gmail.com) for further details.



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## 2022 FRIENDS OF THE GVJCI CAMPAIGN

By Alvin Takamori, Member of the GVJCI Board of Directors



Napkin holders, Kleenex box covers, and plastic flowers made by recycling the straps that hold six packs of aluminum cans together were just a few of the things my mother made in the Tomo No Kai crafts class at the GVJCI. She went regularly for many years. I was happy she had something she enjoyed, but to be honest, I thought of it as her thing and the GVJCI as a place for seniors like her.

That changed about 18 years ago, when I began to forge my own relationship with the GVJCI. The Bridge: JCI Heritage Center was being planned with books about Japan and Japanese Americans, and my wife Debbie, an English professor and avid reader of books, had a natural interest in volunteering. I went along for support but soon found that my skills as a craftsman and designer were useful for planning the space.

Having the Heritage Center birthed new activities to volunteer for. Debbie formed a book club and I created educational displays in the "Tokonoma." But, most notable for

myself and the GVJCI was a new committee to conceive of and organize public programs. It assisted the GVJCI staff to create book signings with authors and educational programs. My abilities as a graphic designer allowed me to contribute designs for flyers, posters, ads, program pamphlets, signs, t-shirts and more.

There was satisfaction in having the community attend and enjoy the programs. Comments from participants who were grateful to share their projects or knowledge with an audience and comments from attendees who enjoyed, were moved by, or learned something from the programs, made the effort worthwhile. I've also built some wonderful friendships with the people I've worked with to plan these events.

With additional funding the GVJCI was able to hire program staff, and now there are more programs at the GVJCI than I can keep track of. These programs are opportunities for people to learn and to meet others who share their interests. During the pandemic, the absence of these gatherings taught me how important the GVJCI is. Thankfully in the digital age, the GVJCI staff used their creativity to create classes and programs online, but there really is something special about having a place where you can go and meet old friends or make new ones. The GVJCI is a place that brings people together and helps to build a community.

Financial support helps the GVJCI continue their important work. Friends of the GVJCI help support GVJCI staffing, property and equipment maintenance, utilities, supplies, marketing, etc. That's why I'm a Friend of the GVJCI and I continue to volunteer. Every little bit helps. I hope others will consider becoming a Friend of the GVJCI too. The GVJCI was an important part of my mother's life, it's an important part of my life and with everyone's support it can continue to be an important part of many people's lives in the future.

## CONGRATULATIONS 2022 RAFFLE WINNERS!

- 1st Prize: \$1,000.00 R. NAKAIYE
- 2nd Prize: \$500.00 T. KOCHIYAMA
- 3rd Prize: \$500.00 B. MATSUSHIMA
- 4th Prize: \$250.00 J. SATO
- 5th Prize: \$250.00 J. MATSUNAGA

from facility usage and outside event reservations. In addition, our online programs had a significant decrease in participation compared to pre-pandemic onsite ones. We depend on both of these areas to help defray some of our daily operational expenses, which still continued even with empty buildings. To recover some of this loss, we increased our fundraising efforts and grant-writing, and received generous donations from many of you.

Thanks to all who participated, we raised over \$52,000 and concluded another successful raffle fundraiser. Temporarily closing our doors in March 2020 severely diminished income

We asked for your help with our 2022 Year-End Raffle & Donation Appeal and you delivered! Thank you again for your generous support that allows us to continue our important work.

## 2021 DONATION CORRECTIONS

Please accept our sincere apologies for inadvertently not acknowledging the following generous gifts in our winter issue.

- \$1,000 - \$4,999  
Melvin Iizuka
- \$20 - \$99  
Hirokatsu Kato

- Friends of GVJCI  
Silver \$250 - \$499  
Edna Yoshii



Presented by Keiro & Alzheimer's Los Angeles

**Saturday, June 11, 2022**  
10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. PDT  
Zoom Webinar

This FREE event will bring together a panel of expert speakers to educate the community on Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.

This event will be offered in English & Japanese.

Registration closes Friday, June 10th.

Visit [keiro.org/alzheimers-conference](http://keiro.org/alzheimers-conference)

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# Gardena Valley JCI CALENDAR

## MAY

### セルフ ディフェンス ワークショップ

女性クラス - 5月3日火曜日 午後7時から9時まで  
シニアクラス (男性/女性) - 5月17日火曜日 午前10時から午後12時まで

ガーデナ平原日本文化会館 二世ベテランズメモリアルホール  
このワークショップのテーマは自己防衛と状況把握意識です。前半30分はどのような状況かを認識する事と日常の備えにフォーカスします。後半90分は攻撃を最小限にとどめ脱出を容易にするために実践的なあらゆる手段の自己防衛テクニック方法を紹介します。各ワークショップはリトル東京松林流空手道黒帯六段のアーティスト先生にご教授いただきます。30名限定。無料、ご寄付いただけると幸いです。参加登録はホームページの“EVENTS/PROGRAMS/CLASSES”からお願いします!

### SENIOR FOOD BOX DISTRIBUTION フードバンクによるシニア 無料フードボックス配布サービス

WEDS, MAY 4, JUNE 1, JULY 6, AUG 3, 9-10AM  
GVJCI Parking Lot  
Food distribution takes place regularly on the first Wednesday of the month. 10-12 lb boxes of shelf stable items for seniors 60 years and older. 1st come, 1st served. 1 box per car. NO RSVPs. To maintain social distancing, this distribution is drive-thru only; no walk-ins please. As a courtesy to our staff and volunteers, please put on a face mask before you enter the lot. Please do NOT line up your cars prior to 9AM. All cars must enter coming east through the W 162nd Street entrance. 恒例の無料食品配布は毎月第一水曜日です。60歳以上のシニアの方々に10-12ポンドの常温保存食品を順番に1台につき1箱、お配りします。予約不可。社会的距離を保つためにドライブスルーのみ、歩いて立ち寄ることはできません。ボランティアやスタッフの安全確保のため、駐車場に入る際はマスク使用をお願いします。また、9時前に並ばないようお願いいたします。162番街を東から並んで入場してください。

### KODOMO NO HI SAT, MAY 7, 2-3PM

Online  
Kodomo No Hi, or Children's Day, is coming up soon! Join us as we make a kabuto helmet craft, a combat helmet worn by the samurai class back in feudal Japan and a koinobori paper banner. Registration is \$5 per child. Sign-up on our website!

### API HERITAGE MONTH: SOUTH BAY STORIES (SHORT FILM SCREENING & PANEL DISCUSSION)

SAT, MAY 21, 2-4PM  
GVJCI Main Hall  
In celebration of API Heritage Month, please join us for a showing of 5 diverse short films: *Do You Love Me?*, *Fran, I'm Still Here*, *Kaeru*, and *Paper Son*. A panel discussion and Q&A session moderated by Joel Quizon from Visual Communications will feature the 5 South Bay filmmakers Don Bannai, Patty Fong, Teresa Matsushima, Robert Shoji, and George Wada. Pre-registration is REQUIRED; walk-ins will NOT be allowed entry. Entry fee is \$15 per person. To register and for more information on the event, please visit our Upcoming Events page on our website.

### SENIOR TOMODACHI PROGRAM STARTING MAY 24, TUES & FRIS, 10AM-12PM GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall

Are you new in town? Looking for a welcoming space to meet new people and have some fun? We invite you to join us for our brand new Tomodachi Program series! Every week on Tuesdays and Fridays, a fun, interactive activity will take place from 10-12PM (some afternoon times as well). As a group, people will be able to participate in gardening workshops, game days, arts and crafts workshops, movie discussions, and more! All activities are FREE to participate. Each week features something new, so come down to our office to register or call (310) 324-6611! この街は初めてですか? 新しい出会い、楽しい時間を過ごせる居心地の良い場所をお探しでしょうか? 私たちの新しいともだちプログラムシリーズにご招待します。毎週火曜日と金曜日、午前10時から12時まで(午後の時もあります)皆さんで楽しむアクティビティを開催します。グループになってガーデニング、

ゲーム、アートとクラフト、映画鑑賞などに参加してください。これらのアクティビティはすべて無料です。ほかにも毎週、新しいアイデアのアクティビティがあります。参加希望はオフィスで登録をお願いします。または310-324-6611に日本語でメッセージを残してください。

## JUNE

### 2022 GVJCI MATSURI BENTO-TO-GO FUNDRAISER

SAT, JUNE 25, 11AM-6PM  
GVJCI Parking Lot  
GVJCI Website  
Be sure to check out our Matsuri festivities on our website! See page 1 of this newsletter for more details.

## JULY

### MEDITATION FOR SLEEPLESSNESS 睡眠誘導瞑想 ワークショップ

THURS, JUNE 7, 7-7:40PM  
Online  
This online meditation workshop taught by certified massage therapist and Kundalini yoga teacher Yuki Uwasawa focuses on breathing techniques that promote a restful night's sleep. This workshop is conducted in English and Japanese. Fee is \$5 per participant. To register, visit the Events/Programs/Classes section on the GVJCI website. このオンラインワークショップは日英両語で行われます。ユキ先生が呼吸法を使って良い睡眠を促す瞑想に導きます。たくさんの方の未経験な事に直面し心身ともに健康が第一だと実感している方、ぜひ質の良い睡眠でストレスを解消しましょう。受講料はおひとり\$5です。参加登録はホームページからお願いします。

### SMARTPHONE CLASS MONS, JULY 11, 18, 25, AUG 8, 15, 22, 1-2PM

GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall  
Do you need help using apps on your smartphone? Not sure how to edit the settings on your iPhone or Android? Register for our smartphone/tablet class to learn the basic functions of your device! A



# Gardena Valley JCI CALENDAR

question and answer session will conclude each class. This is a 6 class series; each class is \$10 or \$50 for the whole series. To register, please visit the Upcoming Events page on the GVJCI website.

## AUGUST

### TANOSHII FUN CAMP MON-FRI, AUG 1-5, 9AM-3PM GVJCI Main Hall, Classrooms

We're excited to welcome everyone back for an in-person TANOSHII Fun Camp this year! Children ages 7-10 will enjoy a fun-filled week of team-building games, interactive cultural activities, a field trip, and more, all while learning about Japanese and Japanese American cultural heritage. Registration ends on May 27th 2022. To register, please visit our website!



## TNK CLASSES

With our reopening in late February, we are excited that many of our TNK classes have started up again! If you have not renewed your membership or would like to become a Tomo No Kai member, please visit our front office to pick up a form and get the latest schedule of classes. We look forward to seeing you all soon! 2月末に再開し、友の会(TNK)クラスが始まったことをご報告します! まだメンバーシップ更新をされていない方、また初めてメンバー登録をされる方はフロントオフィスにメンバーシップフォームや最新のクラススケジュールを取りにいらしてください。お会いできるのを楽しみにお待ちしております。

### TNK CLASS SCHEDULE:

**MONDAY**  
9:45 - 10:45 Physical Fitness for Seniors with weights (\$6)  
11:00-12:00 Chair Yoga (\$6) w/ Tim Toyama  
12:45 -2:15 Beginner/Improver/Intermediate Line Dance (\$6) w/ Chris Mori

**TUESDAY**  
9:00 - 2:00 Knitters Workshop (No fee) (No teacher)  
9:30 - 11:00 Beginning/Intermediate Hula (\$6) w/ Harriet Nagata  
10:00 - 2:00 Oil Painting (\$8) w/ Steve Jones  
11:00-1:00 Basic Beginner Hula (\$6) w/ Harriet Nagata  
11:00-1:00 Basic Beginner Hula (\$6) w/ Harriet Nagata  
11:30-1:00 Basic Beginner Hula (\$6) w/ Harriet Nagata  
1:30 - 2:30 Move & Groove (\$6) w/ Tim Toyama

**WEDNESDAY**  
9:45 - 10:45 Physical Fitness for Seniors with weights (\$6) (No class on first Wednesday of the month)  
10:00- 12:00 Watercolor Painting (\$6) w/ Masa Lee  
11:00- 12:00 Gentle Yoga (\$6) w/ Genie Nakano  
12:15- 1:15 Salsa Aerobics (\$6) w/ Genie Nakano

**THURSDAY**  
9:00 - 2:00 Knitters Workshop (No fee) (No teacher)  
9:45 - 10:45 Physical Fitness for Seniors with Bands (\$6)  
11:00-12:00 Move & Groove (\$6) w/ Tim Toyama  
12:15 - 1:15 Basic Line Dance (\$6) w/ Jean Inouye  
1:30 - 2:30 Beginner Line Dance (\$6) w/ Jean Inouye

**FRIDAY**  
9:00 - 11:00 Friday Craft Workshop (No fee) (No teacher)  
9:45 - 10:45 Physical Fitness for Seniors with weights (\$6)  
11:00-12:00 Chair Yoga (\$6) w/ Genie Nakano  
12:15- 1:15 Salsa Aerobics (\$6) w/ Genie Nakano  
1:30 - 2:30 Ballroom Dancing (\$6) w/ David Shinjo

## SAVE THE DATE...

### GVJCI ONLINE ART SHOW SAT, SEPT 17, 11AM-5PM SUN, SEPT 18, 11AM-4PM GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall

After over two years of social upheaval created by a pandemic, there seems to be increasing levels of frustration, anger, and fear. We have increasing violence in America against anyone of Asian ancestry, polarized political discourse, and a war in Ukraine that threatens peace on the entire planet. We all need to pause and take a breath.

To help us, we are calling for artists and their art to find calmness in overwhelming times. What brings you calmness, peace, and transports you to a place of tranquility? It doesn't have to be a physical place. It could be an object or a beloved pet that takes our worries away. It could be an imaginary place or an abstract image that creates a mood to soothe the soul. This is the theme of the 2022 Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute Art Show: "Peace and Tranquility." Be creative and interpret this theme broadly.

We plan to have an in-person exhibit Saturday, September 17, and Sunday, September 18, 2022 at the GVJCI. However, this is subject to change pending outbreaks of new strains of Coronavirus, civil unrest, war, natural disasters!...stop and think peaceful thoughts...

The artwork can be in any media: paintings, photos, sculptures, etc. and the show is open to all artists of any age and skill level. There is no fee to enter. However, artwork submitted needs to be approved. Acceptance into the show is at the discretion of the GVJCI. Please send one photo of each artwork (preferably in PNG format) and a submission form. Email it to smayed@jci-gardena.org, or deliver or mail it to GVJCI, attn: Stephanie Mayeda by August 15, 2022. Notification of the acceptance of artwork will be given by August 22, 2022. The GVJCI does not conduct sales of artwork during the show, however artists are free to share contact information with anyone interested in their work.