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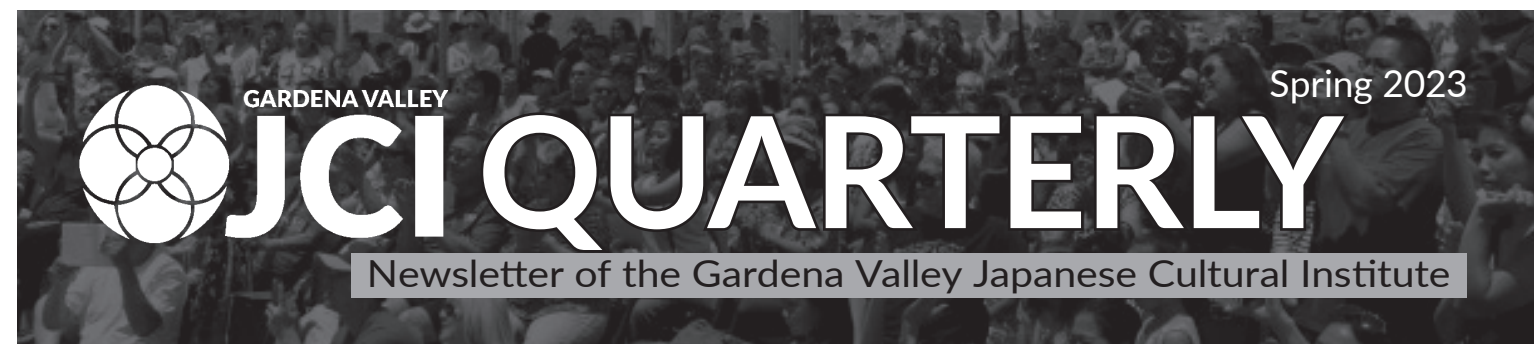
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## GARDENA VALLEY JAPANESE CULTURAL INSTITUTE

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

Richard Ames, *President*  
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Ray Shibata  
Taylor Weik

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Charles Oyagi  
Glenn Tachibana  
Terry Terauchi

### Staff

#### Administration

Alison Kochiyama, *Executive Director*  
Cathy Lee, *Director of Development and Marketing*  
Debbie Oba, *Administrative Manager*  
Sandy Uyesugi, *Administrative Assistant*

#### Programs

Stephanie Mayeda, *Program Manager*  
Yukiko Natori, *Senior & Bilingual Programs Coordinator*

#### Facilities

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Brian Hoshiko, *Maintenance Custodian*  
Bob Seki, *Maintenance Custodian*  
Bryan Tamura, *Maintenance Custodian*  
Gary Fujikawa, *Facility Assistant*  
Alvin Takamori, *Facility Assistant*

### Japanese Language School

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

**THANKFUL FOR COMMUNITY!**

**GARDENA VALLEY JCI**

**2023 GVJCI MATSURI FUNDRAISER**

**SATURDAY**  
**JUNE 24, 2023 • 10AM-7PM**  
at the **GARDENA VALLEY JAPANESE CULTURAL INSTITUTE**  
1964 W 162ND ST, GARDENA, CA 90247

Join us for **FOOD, GAMES, WHITE ELEPHANT, BINGO, BEER GARDEN & MORE!**

**Schedule:**  
10:00AM – ENTERTAINMENT BEGINS  
2:00PM – MARTIAL ARTS DEMOS BEGIN  
4:00PM – BINGO  
6:00PM – RAFFLE DRAWING

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FOR MORE INFO & TO SEE A DETAILED SCHEDULE VISIT:  
**WWW.JCI-GARDENA.ORG**

FACEBOOK.COM/GVJCI | GARDENAVALLEYJCI | #GVJCI MATSURI | SECTION BY MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

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## JCI Car Donation Program

Thinking of donating your car to charity? Now you can, and at the same time, support GVJCI! We have teamed up with Harold's Car Donation Service.

### HOW IT WORKS:

1. Call or email us to arrange pickup at (310) 324-6611 or cars@jci-gardena.org.
2. Harold's Car Donation Service (HCDS) will arrange towing, always free of charge to you. (Disabled Vehicles, Junk Cars, Scrap Cars and Wrecks also accepted.)
3. HCDS handles all DMV paperwork at time of pickup, including Release of Liability.
4. After the car is sold, your acknowledgement and tax forms will arrive by mail.
5. You get rid of an unwanted car and get the satisfaction of helping others. You also get an IRS approved tax deduction. Yay!

## ANNOUNCING THE 2023 GVJCI ANNUAL MATSURI!

Our largest annual fundraiser, is back! It's that time again to kick off the summer with our annual Matsuri. Matsuri has always been a festive time where our member organizations and supporters get together to volunteer, enjoy food, entertainment, games, community and so much more, all while raising funds to support the GVJCI. It is one of the highlights of the year that we look forward to each June and is 100% volunteer run by our fabulous GVJCI Member Organizations with all proceeds benefiting the GVJCI. We hope to see you there!

**Date:** Saturday, June 24, 2023, 10:00am - 7:00pm  
**Location:** GVJCI

- Delicious Food
- Fun Games
- Raffle Drawings
- Plant Sale
- Bingo
- Beer Garden
- Crafts & White Elephant Sale
- Indoor/Outdoor Entertainment
- Martial Arts Demonstrations



We are celebrating over 70 years! The GVJCI Matsuri Fundraiser is a tradition that is enjoyed by many generations of South Bay residents. As the GVJCI's largest annual fundraiser, we invite you, your family and friends, to enjoy this family fun weekend supporting the GVJCI. Everyone is welcome! We thank all of our volunteers, member organizations, sponsors, board members, staff and attendees for the GVJCI Matsuri Fundraiser's continued success! Here's what we have in store this year:

**Food & Game Booths** - Community organizations and classes that are housed at the GVJCI lend their volunteer support to run all of our booths including fun games such as Bingo, or our ever popular Pitch 'Til U Win, or cooking/selling tasty food like chicken teriyaki, hot dogs, chili dogs, spam musubi, udon, Okinawa andagi, chirashi & inari and more! Our community volunteers are the BEST---they help run all of the booths and are the heart of our Matsuri!

**Performances** - Get here early, get some food, grab a seat and be ready to be entertained by the many talented people here at the GVJCI! We showcase many classes and programs that are held at our facility such as taiko, hula, ukulele, singing and line dancing. Come see what these performers learn throughout the year, and maybe you'll be encouraged to join them at their weekly classes and perform next year!

**Martial Arts Demonstrations** - Ever wonder what these various martial art disciplines entail? Now is the time to find out! GVJCI's martial arts classes will be featured: Gardena JCI Kendo, Naginata, Gardena Judo Club, Garden Kendo, and Kyudo Renmei. This is the perfect time to catch a glimpse and see if one of these is for you and/or your family!

**Outdoor Plant Sale** - One of our most popular booths year after year, supporting nurseries and gracious community plant enthusiasts donate beautiful plants from their businesses and backyards for our Matsuri. We also have nursery experts who volunteer their time at the booth to answer all of your most intricate questions on how to grow and maintain your new plants!

**Holding Station** - Are your hands full of food items, white elephant treasures, and crafts...and you REALLY want to purchase a house plant? Well, worry no more. Take all of your belongings to our holding station where we'll keep a watchful eye on your items. Now you are able to roam our Matsuri "hands free". Then drive your car by the loading zone and pick up all of your goodies!

**Bingo** - Try your luck at Bingo! Games begin at 4pm on Saturday with chances to win cash & prizes!

**Beer Garden** - Saturday from opening to closing, take a break and come on over to our Beer Garden! Grab a beer, relax, and catch up with friends by our JCI Garden's Koi Pond.

**The Bridge: GVJCI Heritage Center** - Come upstairs and see what we have to share with you! Visit our Japanese cultural heritage library and our educational Tokonoma Display.

**Mega Matsuri Raffle:** Enter for a chance to win prizes of unspeakable value! Purchase special tickets for the Mega Matsuri Raffle at the Matsuri. Drawings for this special raffle will be held on Saturday near closing.

**Presale-GVJCI Matsuri Fundraiser Coupon Books** - Come by and purchase your coupons! Coupons will be sold by GVJCI member organizations and supporting organizations beginning in late April. You may also visit the GVJCI office to purchase coupon books at \$10 per book prior to the Matsuri. The ten \$1.00 coupons can be used as scrip at all Matsuri booths.

**White Elephant & Craft Booth Donations Needed!**

Also needed are new or like new and clean items for the White Elephant booth and new handcraft items for our Craft Booth. White Elephant donation drop off dates: May 22 - June 9, Weekdays, 9am- 3pm. Last Drop off date is Friday, June 9th to the GVJCI Office. Thank you!

**Information Booth** - GVJCI, Matsuri and other information can be found here. Want to inquire about our Japanese Language School? Come pay a visit and receive information you need to enroll in the upcoming fall session.

Here are some ways you can help support the GVJCI Matsuri!

1. PRE-PURCHASE Matsuri Coupons. Coupon books will be distributed through our Member Organizations in April or visit the GVJCI office. Make an optional ADDITIONAL DONATION (\$50+ donations will be gifted a special 2023 GVJCI Matsuri Fundraiser t-shirt
2. Please visit our website to see the t shirt design, donate online, or complete the form in this newsletter & return it to GVJCI with your donation.
3. Mark your calendar and attend the event!
4. Invite your family, friends & colleagues!



## COMMEMORATIVE MATSURI T-SHIRT FORM

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

Those who donate a minimum of \$50 have the option of receiving a 2023 commemorative t-shirt gift. Each additional \$50 donation qualifies for another t-shirt.

T-shirt gifts available for qualified donations received through June 2, 2023. T-shirt pickup at the Matsuri and at the GVJCI the week of June 26, 2023, Mon-Fri, 9am - 5pm, 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 in one color. 2023 GVJCI Matsuri Fundraiser 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 2023 GVJCI Matsuri, 1964 W. 162nd St., Gardena, CA 90247. You can also donate online by visiting our website on the Matsuri page. 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 matsuri@jci-gardena.org). Thank you for your generous support!

### GVJCI 2023 MATSURI COMMEMORATIVE T-SHIRT ORDER FORM

NAME:

DATE:

PHONE:

CHECK #:

MEN'S					WOMEN'S				YOUTH				TOTAL T-SHIRT GIFTS	TOTAL DONATION AMOUNT
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## 2023 FRIENDS OF THE GVJCI CAMPAIGN

By Taylor Weik, Member of the GVJCI Board of Directors



Is it possible to feel a deep love and nostalgic affinity for a place you've never lived before? Because that's how I feel about Gardena.

While I might never have lived in Gardena or visited the GVJCI growing up, I've always felt at home here. Back in the day, the Marukai in Gardena was the closest Japanese grocery store to us Orange County folk, and some of my earliest memories are of wandering down the aisles, transfixed by all of the furikake variations and abundance of Japanese snacks. Maybe that's where the Gardena love started.

Fast forward to early adulthood, when I was getting my feet wet in community work in Little Tokyo. I was invited to join GVJCI's Day of Remembrance Committee, and though I wasn't totally sure what kind of work it would entail, it was an easy yes for me. When I think of spending evenings at the GVJCI getting to know the other committee members and planning our DOR event, followed by lots of delicious dinners around the area, it almost feels like a childhood memory—there's nothing but warmth and fondness there. I felt refreshed after every meeting because of how easy it was

to work with everyone. There was no ego, no hidden agendas—just a room full of kind people who care about our community.

And now, I find myself honored to be serving on the GVJCI's Board of Directors alongside some of those same committee members. It's been wonderful to meet my fellow board members, staff, volunteers, and program participants and hear about what GVJCI means to them. For some, it's the backdrop of their childhoods; for others, it's a gathering place for much-needed socialization with friends. And for me, of course, it's become a home where this very "online" millennial can work with other generations and fully experience what it's like to be a part of a community.

Throughout my involvement in the Japanese and Asian American community as a journalist, nonprofit worker, and now board member, I've come to value the importance of physical spaces like the GVJCI. There's a lot you can do online these days, sure, but there's nothing that can replicate the energy you get from rubbing shoulders in person. And that's why I'm a Friend of the GVJCI—it's important for each of us to do our part to ensure that these physical spaces remain so that everyone can experience that in-person magic.

Whether it's stopping by the Matsuri every year or taking a Japanese language class, there's a little something for everyone here. And financial support goes a long way in making sure everyone has that chance to find a bit of home.

Become a Friend of the GVJCI today!

## STAFF UPDATE

In March, we sadly said goodbye to our Bilingual Programs Coordinator, Chikako Roper, who retired after over three years at GVJCI. Chikako was instrumental in keeping our senior programs thriving during the most difficult years of the COVID-19 pandemic as well as growing and strengthening our programs as we returned to on-site activities. Words cannot express how grateful we are to her for keeping us connected with our hundreds of senior participants through volunteer phone call check-ins, online Tomo No Kai classes, the monthly Senior Food Box Distribution, Senior Bento Program, and so much more. Moreover, Chikako spearheaded our Japanese bilingual programs during this time, working diligently to expand our programs and services to the Japanese community here in the South Bay. While we're sad to see her go, we know she will be back soon to volunteer and maybe even take some classes! Chikako, 本当にありがとうございました。

We're excited to introduce our new part-time Senior & Bilingual Programs Coordinator, Yukiko Natori. Some of you may recognize Yukiko from the former N Cafe Japanese bento restaurant here in Gardena. With her background in restaurant management, she is a great fit to oversee our busy Senior Bento Program as well as many senior and bilingual program offerings. Welcome, Yukiko! よろしくお願ひします。



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We also welcomed Sandy Uyesugi, our part-time Administrative Assistant in March. Sandy has been assisting callers and visitors to the GVJCI Office in the mornings with friendliness and smiles. Not new to the GVJCI, Sandy's family had been involved with the Boy Scout Troop 683, and her son, Kevin, built a storage shed for GVJCI as his eagle scout project in 2018. Welcome Sandy!

## CONGRATULATIONS 2023 RAFFLE WINNERS!



- 1st Prize: \$1,000.00 Harvey Nakashima**
- 2nd Prize: \$500.00 Mae Yoshida**
- 3rd Prize: \$500.00 Mary Muramoto**
- 4th Prize: \$250.00 Reiko Ikemiya**
- 5th Prize: \$250.00 John Hokoyama**



Pictured: Alison Kochiyama, Executive Director & Richard Ames, Board President drawing the winners!

Thanks to all who participated, we raised over \$50,000 and concluded another successful raffle fundraiser. The Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute (GVJCI) Board and Staff sincerely thank you for all of the support you've given us as our activities, programs, and services in our facility resumed in 2022. We are also thankful to the GVJCI Member Organizations for starting up their activities for the community again as well. Now, we feel the life and energy back in our campus, and our facilities are utilized seven-days-a-week once again.

We asked for your help with our 2023 Year-End Raffle & Donation Appeal and you delivered! Thank you again for your generous support that allows us to continue our important work. We were built by the community, and are truly sustained by the community.



Insurance program for members of Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute.

Our partnership with MAPFRE Insurance offers important auto coverages like comprehensive and collision deductible options and of course a multitude of discounts including multi-policy discounts up to 20%. As part of your MAPFRE Insurance auto policy you also receive a complimentary membership to Road America's Roadside Assistance service.

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# Tomo No Kai Corner

## EXPLORE WHAT YOUR TNK MEMBERSHIP HAS TO OFFER

Did you know there are tons of great benefits that come with an annual Tomo No Kai membership? For \$12 a year, you can participate in:

- **Senior Bento Program** - Members who are 60 years or older can purchase freshly-made Japanese bento lunches for a subsidized cost of \$7.
- **Tomo Cafe** - Members can drop in the GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall Monday through Friday, 9-11am, for hot coffee and free pastries, and get together to chat with friends!
- A variety of different **TNK classes** including, physical fitness, ballroom and hula dance, yoga, oil and watercolor painting, and more! Most classes are only \$6 to participate. To see the full schedule of classes, please visit our website or visit our front office to pick up a flyer!

## BECOME A BENTO BUDDY!

Spring is here! We hope you all have stayed warm during this unusually cold Southern California winter! We cannot thank you all enough for your contributions to GVJCI's programs, but especially to our Senior Bento Program.

Since relaunching our Senior Bento program in May 2022, our bento program now serves approximately 160 bentos every week for seniors 60 years and older. As the need for affordable and healthy meals for seniors increases at GVJCI, we are asking for your help in subsidizing the cost of bento lunches for our senior participants. We hope to continue charging only \$7 per bento to our seniors with GVJCI absorbing the other half.

### 1. DONATE



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



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



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!

Recurring monthly donations help us tremendously with the consistent high demand for affordable senior bento meals. Anything from a single donation to ongoing monthly donations makes a huge difference!

### 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).

Established on May 31, 1979, the GVJCI Tomo No Kai or Senior Citizen Friendship Society was formed to promote and support programs at the GVJCI for the senior community, as well as, to provide recreational and social activities, such as, bus excursions and annual Christmas parties. Your membership dues, class participation fees, and donations support the senior programs and GVJCI facility operations. Thank you very much for your participation and support.

## 2023 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION PARADE

Every year, GVJCI thanks its operational volunteers with an annual luncheon complete with entertainment, lunch, and special gifts. However, as a precaution in order to protect our senior volunteers, we transitioned the event into a parade once again. We gave out special GVJCI insulated water bottles along with snacks from Bourbon Foods, USA and tofu from Morinaga. We also provided a delicious bento lunch from The Loft and mochi from Sakura-ya! Special thanks to Dr. Jason Yamada and Donna Sugimoto for sponsoring this event!



Pictured: GVJCI staff and board greet a volunteer driving through the parade route.



Pictured: Executive Director, Alison Kochiyama, greets volunteer Dorothy. Dorothy helps us with our Tomo Cafe social hours for seniors and our senior bento program!



Pictured:GVJCI board members Taylor Weik, Michelle Hirano, and Kerilyn Sato greet volunteers with colorful balloon pom-poms.



Pictured: The GVJCI staff and board celebrate the 2022 operational volunteers!

## DONATION REQUEST

Wanted: One drivable **Electric Utility Vehicle** donation (if possible with a trailer hitch), similar to the photo. To help the GVJCI move large items throughout our campus. Normally, we rely on volunteers to bring trucks for different events, or we use hand trucks, however, if you have or know someone who has a similar electric utility vehicle to donate, it would be greatly appreciated!

### Our Impact:

- 70+ Years in the South Bay community
- 40+ Annual Programs & Classes: For Seniors, Youth, Young Adults & Japanese Speakers
- 500+ Annual Volunteers

Our staff is small, and our output is large, this type of vehicle would really be a huge help with the work that we do! Please email [info@jci-gardena.org](mailto:info@jci-gardena.org). Thank you in advance!



**MAY**

**KODOMO NO HI**  
SAT, MAY 6, 2-3PM  
GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall

Kodomo No Hi, or Children's Day, is coming up soon! Join us for a Children's Day celebration with arts & crafts, food, and more! To register, please visit our website. Registration is \$5 per person.



**AAPI HERITAGE MONTH SHORT FILM SCREENING & PANEL DISCUSSION**  
SAT, MAY 20, 2-4PM  
GVJCI Main Hall

In celebration of AAPI Heritage Month, please join us for a showing of 5 diverse short films: *40 14 Tango in Torrance, The Fourth March, Here in Manzanar, Honor, Recognition, and Respect, and Kubota to the Chinese Poets Detained on Angel Island*. A panel discussion and Q&A session with the 5 filmmakers: Don Bannai, Teresa Matsushima, Steve Nagano, Robert Shoji, and George Wada will take place after the screening. Pre-registration is required to attend. Entry fee is \$15 per person.



**JUNE**

**SELF DEFENSE WORKSHOPS | セルフ ディフェンス ワークショップ**

Women's - THURS, JUNE 13, 7-9PM  
Seniors (men & women) - TUES, JULY 13, 10AM-12PM  
GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall

The theme of these workshops is Self Defense and Situational Awareness Workshop. The first 30 minutes will

focus on Situational Awareness and general considerations of preparedness. The remaining 90 minutes consists of introduction of practical self defense techniques including striking, kicking, and blocking as methods to minimize any attack and injury and to facilitate escape. Each workshop is taught by 6th degree black belt instructor Art Ishii from the Matsubayashi-Ryu Karate-Do of Little Tokyo; limited to 50 students per workshop. This program is made possible by the Asian Pacific Community Fund COVID-19 Recovery Fund.

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イシイ先生にご教授いただきます。50名限定。無料、ご寄付いただけると幸いです。このプログラム提供はアジアパシフィックコミュニティコロナ19ファンドにより可能になりました。

**SMARTPHONE & TABLET CLASS**  
WED, JUNE 21, MONS, JUNE 26, JULY 3, 10, 17, & 24, 1:30-3:30PM  
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 question and answer session will conclude each class. This is a 6 class series; each class is \$10 or \$50 for the whole series. The second hour of each class will be an informal tutoring hour where students can ask questions and receive help from tech volunteers!

This program is grant funded by Keiro.

**2023 GVJCI MATSURI FUNDRAISER**  
SAT, JUNE 24, 10AM-7PM  
GVJCI Campus

Please see page 1 of this newsletter for all the details! The GVJCI's largest annual fundraiser and a South Bay tradition for over 65 years, returns with food, games, bingo, displays, crafts, plants, performances, and our white elephant sale! It will be cashless, so please purchase your pre-sale coupons today and donate to receive your 2023 Matsuri Commemorative t-shirt! We hope to see you there! Please visit our website for more information, entertainment schedule and to donate and see the 2023 Matsuri commemorative t-shirt design.

**JULY**

**AC·TIV·IST: A PERSONAL MEMOIR BY WARREN FURUTANI BOOK EVENT**  
SAT, JULY 8, 2-4pm  
GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall

In his recently written memoir, "ac-tivist, noun: a person who works to bring about political or social change", Warren T. Furutani writes about his more than 50 years of being a student, community and political activist. The book reflects his perspective from different times in his life and his personal evolution and growth. It covers his role in helping organize the Asian and Pacific Islander American social justice movement, his career in community service, education and politics and a perspective on current issues and lessons learned. This program features a discussion with Warren Furutani and is free to



the public. Books will be available for sale through pre-order when registering. Admission is free but donations are appreciated!



SCAN WITH YOUR PHONE TO REGISTER FOR GVJCI PROGRAMS & EVENTS

**TANOSHII FUN CAMP**  
MON-FRI, JULY 31 - AUG 4, 9AM-3PM

GVJCI Main Hall, Classrooms  
Registration is open for TANOSHII Fun Camp 2023! 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 26th 2023. To register, please visit our website!



**SAVE-THE-DATE**

**CALLING ALL ARTISTS!**

**GVJCI ART SHOW**  
SAT, SEPT 23, 11AM-5PM  
SUN, SEPT 24, 11AM-4PM  
GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall

This year we want to celebrate our local community. So the theme for this year's art show is, "The South Bay." We want to see artists' perspectives about this region of L.A. County. Scenes and landscapes of the area are natural subjects for this theme, but consider other possibilities. Perhaps people, or objects represent the region. Consider events that take place in the South Bay, or historical events. Be creative and interpret this theme broadly.

We plan to have a live in-person exhibit at the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute. The artwork can be in any media: paintings, photos, sculptures, etc. and the show is open to all artists of any age, ethnicity, 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, which is available on the GVJCI website or by request. Email it to smayeda@jci-gardena.org, or deliver or mail it to Stephanie Mayeda c/o Gardena Valley JCI, 1964 W. 162nd St., Gardena, CA 90247 by August 4, 2023. Notification of the acceptance of artwork will be given by August 18, 2023.

The GVJCI does not conduct sales of artwork during the show, however artists are free to share contact information with any-

one interested in their work.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Alvin Takamori  
GVJCI Art Show Curator  
alvintaka@att.net

Stephanie Mayeda  
Program Manager  
smayeda@jci-gardena.org



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