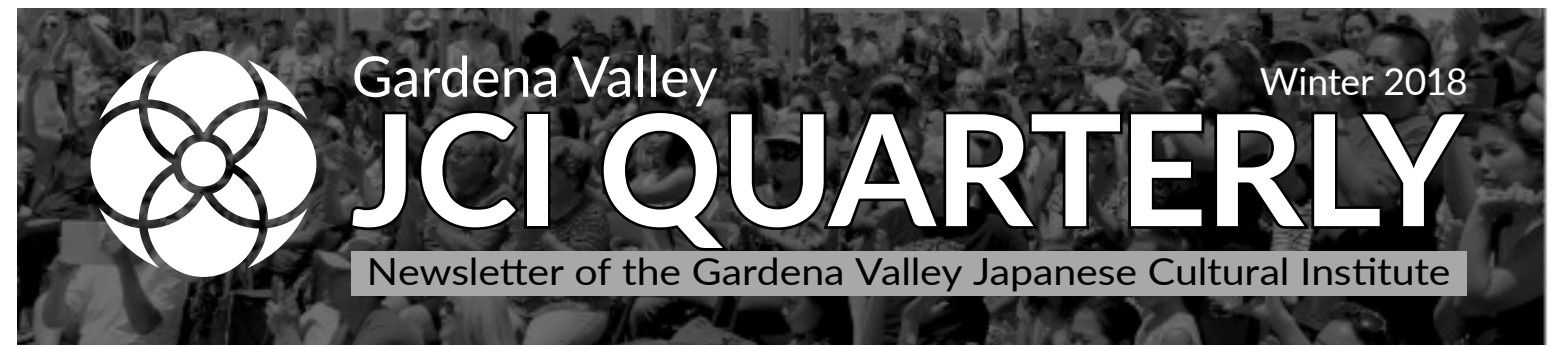




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GARDENA VALLEY JAPANESE CULTURAL INSTITUTE

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.

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HAPPY 2018 YEAR OF THE DOG!

2017 was a busy year for us, filled with a large variety of public programs, as we shared Nikkei history, cultural traditions and their adaptations, as well as people's personal stories, and thought-provoking perspectives. We presented a year-long series of programs for the 75th anniversary of the signing of EO 9066, which included film screenings, art exhibit, a bus to the Manzanar Pilgrimage, panel discussions, readings of writers' works published and unpublished, musical performances, and historical presentations. Our work becomes even more important as we provide the community with a safe space for cultural expression, personal validation, and fellowship.

Building repairs and renovations also began on our long-awaited GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall kitchen! We look forward to its completion so that we can house our senior bento program once again, provide cultural cooking programs, and much more! Thank you for everyone's donations towards this project.

We sincerely thank all of you for the support you give the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute (GVJCI) as participants in our programs and services, as volunteers, as monetary and non-monetary donors, and as community collaborators. We could not do all that we do without you. We hope that you will be a part of us again in 2018. We have a lot of exciting activities in progress!

~Alison Kochiyama, Executive Director

Our deepest gratitude to the following 2017 monetary and non-monetary donors for donations received by December 31, 2017. We apologize if we inadvertently left anyone off this list. Please let us know by contacting the GVJCI Office.

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Narimatsu, Charles
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Nishimura, Ross & Elaine
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Wada, Marge
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Wada.Miyako
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MAPFRE/Commerce West

MAPFRE/Commerce West Insurance Company, formerly Western Pioneer, was formed in 1948 with the help of many Nisei insurance agents to provide Japanese Americans affordable automobile insurance. MAPFRE/Commerce West Insurance Company continues the "Western Pioneer Group Program" today, in which members of Japanese American non-profit organizations can purchase automobile insurance at discounted rates. In addition, annual donations are given to non-profit organizations that have the most members joining this plan. This special discount program benefits the drivers and the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute (GVJCI). Please ask your agent about this program. Below is a partial list of participating agencies.

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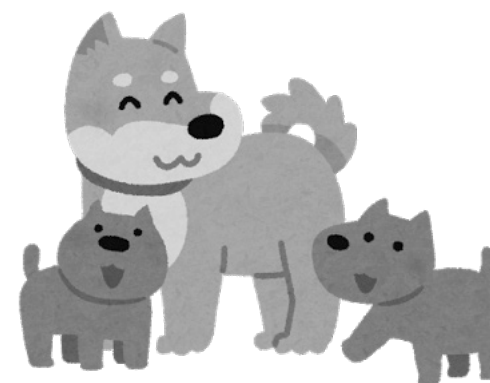
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**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!**



GVJCI Seeking Gifts to Ensure Its Future

Nothing lasts forever...

That's why the GVJCI Board of Directors has decided to embark on an ambitious campaign to ensure that the GVJCI capital assets (buildings and fixtures) last for many, many more years.

The Capital Assets Naming program provides targeted gift opportunities for individuals, organizations, or companies to "name" specific spaces at the GVJCI with major gifts that will pay for future capital repair and replacement costs. Starting with individual classrooms in the JCI Building to the JCI Hall and the JCI Building itself, gifts or pledges can range from \$30,000 to \$550,000. The amounts are determined by the amount of money required to maintain and replace the specific asset. Generous gifts of these amounts can be paid over a period of 3 years as a pledge.

For more information about making such a gift, please contact Alison Kochiyama, GVJCI Executive Director at akochiyama@jci-gardena.org or 310-324-6611.



JCI Hall



Classroom

Board of Directors Updates

At the end of 2017, the GVJCI Board of Directors and staff expressed their deepest gratitude to Helen Nakano who retired from the Board in which she dedicated over 40 years to. Helen was also the first woman to serve as GVJCI's Board President in 1990, and served on numerous Board committees throughout the years. Helen will continue to be an integral part of our community center through her leadership of the Naginata dojo at GVJCI in which she established in 1974. She also remains active as a founding member of the United States Naginata Federation and Southern California Naginata Federation. Thank you, Helen, for the tremendous contributions you've made to GVJCI and the community!



Operations Manager, and is still handling our technology needs. Please direct your needs to these new staff placements. We thank **Megumi Moisen** who helped us out greatly with the Japanese Language School's bookkeeping for an interim period. Megumi is now the Service Coordinator at the JCI Gardens Apartments and is working in the South Bay LTSC Office.

On the Tokonoma...

Go upstairs and see our Tokonoma! Our Tokonoma is maintained wonderfully by our longtime volunteer and our newest Board of Directors, Alvin Takamori. This quarter, our Tokonoma will feature the theme of PAAWW, or the Pacific Asian American Women Writers West. PAAWW began in 1976 as an informal gathering of writers, actresses, and artists, with the goal of providing support to Asian American women writers and other women writers of color.

PAAWW evolved into a dynamic group of writers from a variety of backgrounds and life experiences. Its atmosphere of mutual respect attracted some of the most talented Asian American women writers in the Los Angeles area. PAAWW, in addition to fostering and sustaining the artistic development of women writers of color, sought to promote, perpetuate, and preserve Pacific Asian American literature, history, and arts; and to develop larger audiences for the artistic endeavors of Pacific Asian American women writers.

Staff Updates



Please welcome **Yuko Howes**, our new **Staff Associate**, who joined our staff in November 2017. Formerly our front office volunteer, Yuko, in her new part-time position, lends support to senior programs and provides administrative assistance. With her Japanese bilingual skills, she is able to provide services to our Japanese-speaking members. This position is partially funded through Keiro's generous grant support.



We are happy to announce that **Nicole Sato** who joined GVJCI a little over a year ago as a Program Coordinator is now GVJCI's **Program Manager**. Thank you, Nicole, for your great work in developing and growing our programs and services for the community, and bringing in new energies and ideas!

GVJCI's two longtime staff members have transitioned to new positions. **Debbie Oba** our former Facility Operations Manager is now the **Administrative Manager** handling our bookkeeping and administrative systems. **Dale Inafuku** our former Office Manager and Technology Specialist stepped into the role of **Facility**



GVJCI CAR DONATION PROGRAM



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

Here's the Easy Steps:

1. Call or email us to arrange pickup at (310) 324-6611 or cars@jci-gardena.org.
2. HCDS will arrange towing, always free 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 car is sold, your acknowledgement and tax forms will arrive by mail.
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Congrats, Derek!

This year, we had the honor of nominating Derek Hino for Gardena Evening Optimist's Youth Appreciation Award! For those of you who have children who attended our annual TANOSHII Fun Camp, Derek may be a familiar face. Derek is a senior at Peninsula High School in Palos Verdes and has been a longtime friend of the GVJCI. Derek started as a camper in our annual TANOSHII Fun Camp and spent many summers with us. Once he reached the camper age limit, he still wanted to help out, specifically in the origami area! We were very thankful for young Derek's help running around the classroom assisting all of our confused high school and college student counselors with the intricate crafts. Now, for the past couple of years, Derek has returned as an official TANOSHII counselor! Derek has been a great leader to both his peer counselors as well as the campers, always

being helpful, encouraging, and serving as our origami expert. Derek plans to study engineering in college (his hands-on skills are coming into play!) and we wish him the best of luck. Congrats, Derek!



Derek receives his GEO Youth Appreciation Award. From left to right: Parents Robert Hino & Nina Hino, Awardee Derek Hino, GEO Representative Ron Hom, GVJCI Representatives Nicole Sato & Ray Shibata, GEO President Ron Ikejiri.

Fall Program Highlights

What a quarter for programs! We started off the fall with several workshops including our **Ikebana Workshop** with our guest teacher Sharon Tachibana, where she taught the participants how to practice the Japanese art of Ikebana with flowers they can find in their backyard. We had our **Emergency Preparedness Fair** featuring many community organizations that informed attendees what to do, what to prepare, and how to act in case of an emergency. We held two film screenings within the theme of our 75th anniversary of the signing of EO 9066, **Right of Passage** and **Rebel with a Cause**, both telling important stories of those who worked to change what was wronged in the past. We also hosted **Hold These Truths**, a sold out solo-performance play written by Jeanne Sakata, about civil rights activist Gordon Hirabayashi. We invited Sakata as well as Ryun Yu, who magnificently played the powerful role of Hirabayashi. We ended our October with a **Caregiving Conference** held by Keiro where participants were able to obtain valuable information on caregiving such as tools on how to be a better caregiver and how to handle caregiving stress. We welcomed the end of the year with our long awaited **J-Town/Bronzeville Suite** with talented composer and musician Dave Iwataki and a number of dynamic musicians, and our **Nengajyou Printmaking Workshop** with guest teacher Akemi Ki, who taught our participants how to make a new year's card using a easy to use printmaking method.

Be sure to check out our winter programs in this newsletter so you don't miss out on the fun!

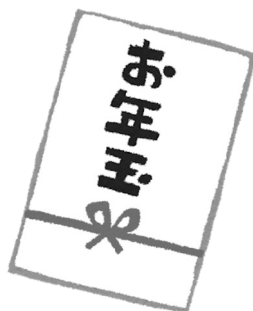
TANOSHII FUN CAMP 2018!

Come join us for our 11th Annual TANOSHII Fun Camp 2018! From July 9th to 13th, have your kids experience and learn about Japanese culture, heritage, and history through fun activities such as taiko, kendo, tsukemono-making, and a fun field trip! This year's theme will be Oshougatsu or New Years, and the camp will focus activities around Oshougatsu traditions. Register early before the limited spaces are filled!

WE'RE LOOKING FOR COUNSELORS!

Calling high school and college students! Come join us for TANOSHII Fun Camp 2018 as a camp counselor. Come have fun and be a great leader and role model to our campers by making a difference in their summer fun!

For more information, camp registration, and counselor application, please go to our website at jci-gardena.org/tanoshii-fun-camp.



Continued from page 3

Masai, Norman & Amy
Matsushima, Paul & Monica
Mayeda, Florence
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Nakakura, Kenneth & Doris
Nakao, Harumi & James
Nakaoki, Emma
Nakatani, David & Lily
Nishimura, Bill
Noda, Alice
Nomura, Jon & Kathy
Oda & Chang, Warren & Juliet
Okazaki, Joyce
Okazaki, Shirley
Oshiro, Masanobu
Oyama, Tom & Chiyoko
Oye, Derek
Russ, Edmond
Sakamoto, Louise
Sasaki, Chuck & Nancy
Shimatsu, Jane
Shiroma, Joseph & Lilly
Suda, Sadao & Yuriko
Sueda, Irene
Sugita, Chris
Taga, Chris & Janet
Tahata, William & Erma
Taniguchi, Ned & Lois
Toyama, Tim
Uemura, Hannah
Urata, Doreen & Sidney
Uwahori, Sadae
Wakinaka, Asa & Bernice
Watanabe, Donald & Sachiko
Watanabe, Haru
Watanabe, Pat
Watanabe, Sue
Yahata, Shirley
Yamane, Dick & Judy
Yamasaki, Robert DDS
Yoshii, Edna
Yoshimura, Midori N.

Tributes

\$1,000 - \$4,999

In Memory of George Ajioka
Ajioka, Masako
In Memory of Tadashi Iura
Iura, Shigeko
In Memory of Kazuo R. Sakamoto
Sakamoto, May & Roger

\$100 - \$999

In Memory of George Ajioka
Agee, Shoko & Keith
Furukawa, Norman & Linda
Hayashi, Yoshiko
Inouye, June K
Kobata, Harold
Kochiyama, Alison & Jimmy
Koda, Kathy & Leonard
Taga, Chris & Janet

In Memory of George Ajioka & Paul Masuzumi
Anonymous
In Memory of Masao & Sharon Awakuni
Awakuni, Dorothy Teruko
In Memory of Janet Chinen
Chinen, Ernest
Chinen, Brad
Tokle, Terry & Cheryl
In Memory of Larry Tamaki
Fukuhara, Gail & Ryan
In Honor of Alvin Takamori
Fukunaga, Atsuko
In Memory of Frank Fukuzawa
Hayashi, Yoshiko
In Memory of Chisato Otani
Hayashi, Yoshiko
In Memory of Sumikichi Nozaki
Hayashi, Yoshiko
In Memory of Bruce Kaji
Hayashi, Yoshiko
In Memory of Kazue Kudo
Hayashi, Yoshiko
In Honor of Shirley Mikami's

Birthday
Inaba, Meiko
Inaba, Douglas & Risa & Family
Oshiro, Gary & Laurie & Family
Frye, Peggy
Matsuura, Julie
Mikami, Richard & Ann
In Honor of Myrna Kawahara's
Birthday
Kaneda, Joyce
In Memory of Myrna Kawahara
Kaneda, Joyce
In Memory of Mitzi Kiyokane
Kato, Dan & Sharon
In Memory of Kazuo & Tomiko
Maeda
Maeda, Akiko
In Memory of Masahiko
Miyakoda
Miyakoda, Michele
In Memory of Mrs Terasaki
Sakita, Kei
In Memory of Michio Takade
Takade, Nancy
In Memory of Toshiko Terao
Terao, DDS, Ernest
In Memory of Alex Nobuo Yorichi
Toyota4Good, Jo Yorichi
In Memory of Frank M. & Sueko
Yonemura
Yonemura, Harry
In Memory of Tom M. Yonemura
Yonemura, Harry

\$10 - \$99
In Memory of Sumi Okuma
Ajioka, Masako
In Memory of Stan Teruya
Awakuni, Dorothy Teruko
In Honor of Shirley Mikami's
Birthday
Champagne Taste

In Memory of George Ajioka
Horii, Nancy
Inouye, Kimiko
In Memory of Ruruko Arai
Demand
Inouye, June K
In Memory of Doris Hashimoto
Williams
Inouye, June K
In Memory of Minoru Mizuba
Inouye, June K
In Memory of Roy Kato
Kato, Jeanne
In Memory of Masahiko
Miyakoda
Kishimoto, Sammy &
Chiyeko
Takeyasu, Elaine
Yamashiro, Tayeko
In Memory of Victoria
Nakamatsu
Nakamatsu, Maria
In Memory of Aileen Arakawa
Yamamoto, Roy & Karin

Vehicle Donations

Bennett, Mori
Berry, Jeffrey
Brookman, Lillian
Ikeda, Tamotsu
Iwamiya, Marc
Kambe, Ed
Kawahara, Myrna
Kiyama, Earl
Lee, Ryan
Mayeda, Florence
Mizuba, Dorothy
Nakamura, Hideko
Nakashima, Theresa
Noda, Gene & Miho
Sayman, Eduardo
Takahashi, Ben
Taniguchi, Takako
Uyema, Ronald
Yamasaki, Rick
Yamasaki, Jenny
Yano, Elaine
Yoshimura, Dan

In-Kind Donations of Items or Services

@Home Kitchen
20th Century Fox Film
Akiyama, Miles
Arlene Yamamoto
Back Home in Lahaina
Benson, Charles & Laura
Brew Yard
Coca Cola Co
Country Touch
Crenshaw Lumber
DSI
Gardena Bowl Coffee Shop
Gardena Buffet & Grill
Gardena Watch Co
Glico
Go For Broke National
Education Center

Thanks to all of the Tomo No Kai (TNK) members who supported ALL of the TNK functions in 2017.

The **TNK Christmas Party** on December 2, 2017 was a success. Tomo No Kai would like to thank Gardena City Councilmember Dan Medina for the cakes he donated for the TNK Christmas party, and also for the Birthday cakes that he has provided throughout the year. Domo arigatou to Sachiko Uchizono and Chika Nagata for emceeding the Christmas party. Domo arigatou, Sachiko, and your Karaoke group for both the songs and dance that you performed---they were well-appreciated. Much aloha to Chika, a "natural emcee" and Harriet, and their groups for providing the island music and hula to everyone. Domo arigatou to the Line Dancers and their instructors for their performance, which is always appreciated. Much Aloha to Island Eats for catering the Christmas bento---it was well-received. ARIGATOU to all who attended the Christmas party, made donations, and bought 50/50 raffle tickets, making the 2017 TNK Christmas party a success!

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, the monthly senior birthday luncheon, and the 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.

NEW CLASSES COMING!

Donation Reiki Clinic

Last Thurs of the Month, 10:30AM-12:30PM
Classroom 207/208
Donation Based

Have you ever wondered what Reiki energy healing is all about? Here is your chance to find out! At the Reiki donation clinic, practitioners will remove blockages which can help you to feel better emotionally, to think in a more uplifting manner and to ease physical problems. Reiki promotes a sense of well-being. Come and experience this wonderful energy for yourself.

Meditation & More

First Thurs of the Month, 10AM-11AM
Classroom 208
Usual TNK Class Fee

Learn the benefits of meditation and much more on relaxation and healthy living!

Japanese Ondo Class

Tues, starting Mar 6th to Jun 12th, 2PM-3PM
Main Hall

Come and get ready for all the ondo dances in the summer!

2018 TNK membership: Membership fee is \$12.00. New memberships and renewals must be paid at the first class attended. Students cannot participate in the classes without a current 2018 membership. Age is 50 years and above.

TNK Fundraisers: The next fundraiser trip (Casino) is scheduled for February 19, 2018.

TNK Bingo is every Monday and Wednesday 12:15-1:15 in the GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall.

Come to the GVJCI Office for all class schedules or visit our website at jci-gardena.org or call (310) 324-6611.



Smartphone/Tablet Class

Feb 8th to Mar 15th, Thurs 10AM to 11AM
\$10 per class or \$50 for the whole series, paid in advance
Our 6 week series is back! Learn how to use your smartphone or tablet from the basics or come drop in on the weeks you want to brush up on! Don't have a smartphone/tablet but still want to learn? No problem! We have rentals, free of charge, both iPads and Android tablets.

Week 1 - February 8, 2018

Components, Symbols
Settings - display, volume/sound, etc.

Week 2 - February 15, 2018

Adding contacts
Phone calls, Text Messages, Email

Using the camera

Week 3 - February 22, 2018

Apps - Already Installed & Adding New Apps

** Please bring your Apple App Store or Google Play passwords

Week 4 - March 1, 2018

Apps - Useful Emergency Apps

Week 5 - March 8, 2018

Wi-Fi / Data Usage / Storage

Week 6 - March 15, 2018

Questions & Answers

Words from our 2017 Next Generation Leadership Fellows

Airi Takashima

If there is one thing I learned from my year with the Gardena Valley JCI board, it is that the concept of fear is unknown to them. But how do they do it? In a time when cities are in disarray, crime rates increase and news of political unrest pollutes our ears, how do they fight fear?

First, they talk. They delve into the minute details and are unafraid of confrontation and late nights. They face the doubt cast upon their opinions because they are standing up for a community and its needs.

Second, they take chances. They take chances on the next generation and have conversations with them. They step over boundaries and sit across from one another, discussing the future of Comic Con and baseball over dinner.

Finally, they celebrate together. They cook food, play bingo, tell stories and laugh together. They laugh through the hard times and laugh with the great times. Years of hard work go into creating a safe space for a community, and the JCI had been doing that for years, with resilience and grace.

As the next generation, I am still searching for how I can help. Sometimes the shoes of those who came before us seem so large, and we feel inclined to turn around and run the other way. But if there is anything I learned this past year, it is not fear. Instead, we are to appreciate and

cherish being a part of something larger than ourselves and working together to write the next chapter of our story.



Bryan Yamada

I was always interested in joining a nonprofit organization and had the opportunity to join Kizuna earlier this year in which they placed me and another member, Airi, at the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute. Kizuna was a great learning experience because they educated and prepared us on several topics about nonprofit organizations like learning about board governance, determining if an organization is financially healthy, and networking skills to communicate to others through fundraising. Once I started attending the board meetings and being involved at GVJCI, this knowledge gave me a better understanding on the correlation and importance of nonprofit organizations and community outreach.

My overall experience exceeded my expectations because GVJCI provided so many different classes, programs, and services to the community. As a board member intern, I was mentored by the VP, Ray Shibata. He took the time to meet with me for dinner on several occasions to explain the board fellowship program and to personally get to know me. GVJCI offered many different committees to join, but unfortunately I was only available to join one which was the strategic planning committee. During my time there, they held regular board meetings once a month which was interesting to be a part

of. I also volunteered at the GVJCI Matsuri fundraiser back in June, and attended their board retreat to discuss and generate different ideas for the future of GVJCI.

Thank you Ray and the rest of the board members for the great experience. I look forward to mentoring the younger generation like you have done for us.



FEBRUARY**SETSUBUN
SAT, FEB 3, 11-12:30 PM
Breezeway**

Setsubun is a Japanese holiday celebrated every February. Setsubun celebrates the welcoming of spring by bringing in good luck for the new year and getting rid of the old year's bad luck! Come join us as we eat yummy Setsubun treats, practice the tradition of mamemaki (bean throwing/scattering), and make a craft! Event is geared towards children but all ages welcome!! Registration is \$5. Please register online or at our office. <https://gvjci.wufoo.com/forms/setsbun-2018/>

**SOUTH BAY SMASH BROS.:
SUPER SMASH BROS. 4 VIDEO
GAME TOURNAMENT
FUNDRAISER
SAT, FEB 3, 12-8PM
GVJCI Main Hall**

Join us at the GVJCI as we host the South Bay Smash Bros. in our first ever video game tournament! Super Smash Bros., the popular Nintendo fighting game, has a large tournament community that spans the globe and SoCal has one of the most active tournament communities.

In an exciting revival of the South Bay Super Smash Bros. Community, we will be hosting the South Bay Smash Bros. for a local Super Smash Bros. for WiiU tournament for ALL AGES and ALL SKILL LEVELS!

We've got multiple events, including Singles (1v1) and Doubles (2v2) tournaments, with prizes for the top players in each category. All events are BYOC (Bring Your Own Controller). We will be also have food, drinks, and snacks for everyone! Registration is \$10 for player entry + \$5 for Singles and/or \$5 per player for doubles. Side Event TBA. Discounts are available! All details including discounts and the pre-registration page can be found at www.smash.gg/SB2_1. For more information, email Ian Dizon at intern@jci-gardena.org. Volunteers needed!

**A DAY OF PERSIMMONS
SUN, FEB 11, 3-5 PM
GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall**

Our oh-so-popular persimmon program is back again! Help us welcome back Tosh Kuratomi from Otow Orchards, the orchard famous for their hoshigaki and for being on Huell Howser's California Gold. Hear him talk about the amazing persimmons they grow and the hard work they put in every year to produce the amazing hoshigaki. Admission is free but donations are greatly appreciated.

**FOR THE SAKE OF THE CHILDREN:
DAY OF REMEMBRANCE EVENT
SAT, FEB 24, 2-4 PM
GVJCI Main Hall**

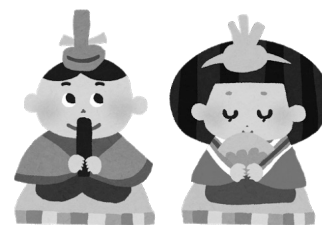
The Gardena Valley JCI would like to invite you to our annual Day of Remembrance (DOR) event to commemorate the anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066, which caused the mass removal and imprisonment of Japanese Americans during World War II. This year's theme will be centered on women of the camps and will feature Marlene Shigekawa's film *For The Sake of the Children*. Afterwards, a panel discussion with Marlene Shigekawa as well as a few other representatives including those featured in the film, a representative from ACLU (American Civil Liberties Union) and the Council on American-Islamic Relations. We hope you can join us to honor and remember the past generations. Free to the public, no registrations required. For more information, please email us at info@jci-gardena.org or call us at (310) 324-6611.

MARCH**EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO
KNOW ABOUT ESTATE PLANNING
BUT WERE AFRAID TO ASK
FRI, MAR 2, 9:30-12:30 PM
GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall**

We all know the importance of getting your legal and financial documents in order, but what will happen to your property and possessions after you are gone? Join LTSC as we welcome Akemi Kondo Dalvi from Kondo Wealth Advisors who will help to explain how Estate Plans will not only direct what will happen to your assets, but also ensure your final wishes are met and maximize the value of your estate. Event is free reservations are required. Please call the LTSC office at (213) 473-3035. Lunch will be provided.

**HINAMATSURI
SAT, MAR 3, 11-12:30PM
GVJCI Classrooms**

Celebrate the health and happiness of girls at our annual Hinamatsuri, Girl's Day! Come join us for fun Hinamatsuri themed crafts and delicious snacks as we celebrate our March holiday with our Japanese Language School students! Registration is \$5. Please register online or at our office. Event is geared towards children but all ages welcome! <https://gvjci.wufoo.com/forms/hinamatsuri-2018/>

**LTSC CAREGIVER TRAINING
SAT, MAR 4, 8:30-1PM
GVJCI Classrooms 207/208**

Interested in becoming a care provider or want to learn more about becoming a care provider? LTSC will provide basic caregiving skills training to those who are interested in becoming a care provider for LTSC's Care Provider Registry. Training is free but reservations are required. Please call Jun or Kiyoko at (213) 473-3035 to reserve a space. Hurry! Only 20 spots!

**WHEN WOMEN RULE THE COURT: A
BOOK EVENT
SAT, MAR 10, 7-9PM
GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall**

Basketball has been an important part of the Japanese American life for a century now. Basketball is not only a sport but also an essential element to the community. Women's basketball holds a special place in the contemporary scene of highly organized and expansive Japanese American leagues in California, in part because these leagues have produced numerous talented female players. Join us as we invite author Nicole Willms to join us in a panel with Jamie Hagiya and Colleen Matsuhara to talk about how JA women's basketball explores the interplay of social forces and community dynamics that have shaped this unique context of female athletic empowerment. Free to the public, but donations are greatly appreciated. No reservations required.

**NORMAL "SENIOR MOMENTS" OR
EARLY STAGE ALZHEIMER'S - IS IT
PREVENTABLE?
SUN, MAR 18, 2-4:30PM
GVJCI Main Hall**

Do you ever find yourself asking this question and want to know what you can do? Come find out if your forgetful moments are just common "senior moments" or if it's an early stage of Alzheimer's. Reservation required please call LTSC at (213) 473-3035 or register online at www.LTSC.org. English with Japanese simultaneous interpretation available.

**FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR
YOUNGER FAMILIES
SAT, MAR 24, 9:30-12:30PM
GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall**

Being a responsible parent includes dealing with the day-to-day but also planning for any eventuality. What happens to your children if you unexpectedly pass away? What if your spouse gets remarried and has more children? When and how will wealth be transferred? Join us as we partner with LTSC, Ryan Onishi CFS, CRPC, and Jason Murai, Esq. to clarify the complicated world of Wills and Trusts, Guardianship, and beyond. Registration is free but reservations are required. Please call the LTSC office at (213) 473-3035 to reserve a spot. Lunch will be provided.

**SENIOR SCAM STOPPER SEMINAR
THURS, MAR 29, 9-11AM
GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall**

Presented by Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi's office, come learn how to protect yourself from fraud. Discuss state legislation relating to scams concerning home improvement, auto repair, insurance, telemarketing, real estate, and more. Event is free but please RSVP to Assemblymember Muratsuchi's office at (310) 375-0691.

APRIL**SHIBORI WORKSHOP
SAT, APR 21, 1-3PM
GVJCI Campus (Please check back for
specific location)**

Our shibori workshop is back! Join us as we welcome back textile artist Setsuko Hayashi for another one of our popular workshops. We will be making a color woodblock shibori 100% silk scarf, from the itajime method. Participants will be able to choose from two colors combinations of dyes as they use the blocks to form a dimensional and dynamic design. Registration is required and the fee is \$35. Register online or at our office. All materials will be provided but please an apron or a shirt you don't mind getting dirty. <https://gvjci.wufoo.com/forms/shibori-dye-workshop-2018/>

**MANZANAR PILGRIMAGE BUS
SAT, APR 28, 6:30AM-8:30PM**

Join us on a bus to the 49th annual community-wide Manzanar Pilgrimage at the Manzanar Historic Site. Manzanar was the site of an American WWII concentration camp that was used to forcibly house people of Japanese descent from 1942-1945. The Pilgrimage Program features speakers, performances, interfaith religious ceremony, and community ondo. The GVJCI Itinerary, however, allows for participants (particularly first-time visitors and families) to visit the Manzanar Interpretive Center (founded in 2004) as an option.

Cost is \$40 for adults, \$25 for students and seniors (65+), and free for former incarcerated. Middle school-aged students and younger must be accompanied by an adult. A signed permission slip is required for high school students under 18 traveling without an adult. If you would like to reserve a seat on our bus, please email info@jci-gardena.org or call 310-324-6611. It will be a first come first serve basis and registration will end once spaces fill up. Payment will guarantee registration.

If you are interested in volunteering at any of our events, please let us know by calling at (310) 324-6611 or emailing us at info@jci-gardena.org. Please note that not all events will need volunteers.

