The GVJCI envisions a vibrant network and a welcoming space for all persons interested in Japanese heritage and culture where 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.

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019!

2018 seemed to pass so swiftly as previous years filled with loads of activity at the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute (GVJCI). A big accomplishment was the completion of the GVJCI Nisler Veterans Memorial Hall Kitchen renovation—thanks to all of your support that made it happen. This commercial kitchen is now in full operation, and we are looking forward to culinary classes, new cooking classes, and new opportunities! Our Japanese Language School continues to thrive with more youth cultural programs that can also join in. In February, we look forward to another thought-provoking and educational Day of Remembrance event, and many other public programs throughout the year sharing Nikkei history, cultural traditions and their adaptations, personal stories, and diverse perspectives. GVJCI is also the home for our wonderful Member Organizations that provide a wide variety of classes and activities throughout the week, and we encourage you to support their efforts as well.

We sincerely thank all of you for the support you give the 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. Below is the list of our 2018 Donors (if we inadvertently missed any names, please let our office know)....thank you!

~Alison Kochiyama, Executive Director

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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 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 all people of age. We thank you, the community, for your active participation and for your support through donations and volunteerism that enables the GVJCI to continue.

2019 BUILDING FUND DONORS

$1,000 - $5,000

Cambra, May Ikeda
Hamada, Paul & Kathy
Inouye, Tomoko
Kawamoto, Shunsuke

$500 - $999

Agei, Shoko & Keith
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$100 - $499

Anonymous
Eriko, Shunsuke
JCI QUARTERLY

Newsletter of the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute

Winter 2019

In This Newsletter...

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NOMINEES

Agree, Shoko & Keith
Asato, John & Michiko
Asato, Lilly & Charles
Barnycastle, Kimberly
Benson, Charles & Laura
Berken, Andrus & Shimabukuro, Joy
Chikahata, Ray & Evelyn
Colditz, Kimin
Endo, Yoshiko
Fujita, Yoshi
Fujita, Edward
Fujita, Les & Sandra
Fujita, Mitsuru & Marianne
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Hirabayashi, Tsune
Hirai, Erika & Lisa
Iba, Beverly
Iizuka, Melvin & Pearl
Inui, Jane
Inoue, Jan
Iribe, Eunice

Continued on next page
FORE IT IS TIME FOR THE 16TH ANNUAL RISING STARS MINIATURE GOLF TOURNAMENT AT THE CAMELOT GOLF! By: Christopher Guerra

Join us on Saturday, March 9, 2019 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for the annual Rising Stars Youth Leadership Golf Tournament at the Camelot Golf located at 3200 Carpenter Ave, Anaheim CA 92806. Check in begins at 9 a.m. with a 10 a.m. shotgun start. This tournament is packed with all day fun for the entire family and for a great cause: to help keep the Rising Stars program around for future leaders!

Make sure to enter the tournament soon! Fees are $20 for adults and $15 for children 12 and under. In addition, the entry fee includes a delicious continental breakfast, all you can eat pizza lunch, and a golfer goody bag. If you are not golfing, lunch is available for $10. Prizes will also be awarded to the top 3 golfers for both the adult and children. (make sure to keep those scores low!)

On top of an exciting round of golf, there will be a raffle for all golfers to enter. This year’s raffle prizes include a GoPro Hero 7, Fitbit, and a gift card tree! Other items will be raffled off as well. Raffle tickets are $2 and the winner need not present to win.

Building off the ground work paved by the Building Community Through Leadership (BCL) program in 2003, for members of Community Service Organizations, the Rising Stars Youth Leadership program seeks to develop leaders skills in youth and encourage active participation within the Japanese American Community in order to build leaders for the future.

The program continues to grow and starting with RS13, a new workshop and outing activity was added to the program to further enrich the purpose of the Rising Stars experience. The golf tournament is in fact organized and put on by stars in Rising Stars. The tournament serves as a means for the students to apply what was learned during each session and apply those skills low!)

To register and learn more about the tournament, please visit www.risingstarslyp.org or call (213) 254-5722. For additional questions, please contact risingstarslyp@gmail.com.
THE ADVENTURERS CLUB ANNOUNCES TWO TOURS TO HOKKAI DO!
Tour 1: Autumn 2019 (Late October – Early November)
Tour 2: Winter 2020 (February)

Why Hokkaido?
Hokkaido, the northernmost island, is Japan’s great wild frontier. It’s huge, accounting for ¼ of Japan’s landmass, but with only 4% of its population. The are enormous national parks, vast primeval forests, a rugged coastline, rivers, volcanic peaks and lakes, hot springs, pure white snow. Hokkaido is the homeland of the Ainu, Japan’s indigenous people. Hokkaido’s high quality food and drink is unlike anywhere in Japan: there’s Seafood caught in its cold, nutrient-rich waters (Crab, Salmon, Mackerel, Oysters, Scallops, Sea Urchin, Squid). 80% of Japan’s wild salmon is from Hokkaido. Its produce is known throughout Japan: strawberries, apples, pears, grapes, wheat, and the Yubari Melon, known for its intense sweetness. Hokkaido is Japan’s breadbasket. Its dairy products are considered world-class and are highly sought after; the milk is rich and creamy, that results in extraordinary ice cream, butter, cheeses, and yogurt. Many dishes have a pat of butter, e.g., grilled scallops. Hokkaido is crazy for its delicious Ramen: Miso, shoyu, shio (salt), and curry. Beer (Sapporo, of course) and whiskey (world-class Nikka) are popular at bars all over. Hokkaido is Japan’s onsen (hot springs) capital. Its primeval forests, a rugged coastline, rivers, volcanic peaks and lakes, hot springs, pure white snow, Seafood, produce, ice cream, beer, whiskey, and hot springs make it a great place to travel to.

Why Autumn?
Experience Hokkaido’s beautiful and colorful fall foliage, and taste its seasonal produce when it’s freshly harvested.

Why Winter?
Hokkaido in winter is astonishingly beautiful. It is known for Sapporo’s world famous winter snow festival, with its massive snow and ice sculptures. Taste Hokkaido’s tremendous seafood. Hokkaido also has fantastic skiing, snowboarding, and other winter sports.

Tour 1: Autumn 2019 (Late October – Early November)
Tour 2: Winter 2020 (February)

THE ADVENTURERS CLUB
Tour 1: Autumn 2019 (Late October – Early November)
Tour 2: Winter 2020 (February)

GARDENA NISEI MEMORIAL VFW POST 1961
Steve Moriyama, Commander

Our inaugural Veterans Day Dinner/Fundraiser was a huge success! The response was overwhelming, thanks to the participation of our members, their families, extended families, friends, the staff of the Gardena Valley Cultural Institute, and its member organizations. A big mahalo and shout-out to the Higa Ohana. Your support, organizational skills, and execution of this planning was vital and key to our success. The members of Post 1961 are so grateful for your participation. Mere words, but “thanks guys, couldn’t have done it without you!” We exceeded all expectations and are looking forward to our next Veterans Day Dinner / Fundraiser.

The membership of Nisei Post 1961 are involved and active in so many events throughout the year. A few of our on-going projects are:

- The Annual Nisei VFW Reunion in Reno NV, Cemetery clean up and service at Roosevelt Memorial park, for Memorial and Veterans Day, Cemetery clean up at Green Hills Memorial Park, Memorial Day service at the Memorial Wall at JACCC, Memorial Day Service at The Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute, Memorial Day Service at Rose Hills Memorial Park, Memorial Day Service at Westminster in support of Nisei VFW Post 3670, The Annual Homeless Compton Stand Down, Annual Manzanar field trip, the LAUSD JROTC Voice of Democracy Program, the NTHS AJROTC program, the Redondo Union High School MCJROTC program, the Gardena High School AJROTC program, The City of Gardena Veterans Programs such as Veteran’s Day and the Wall that Heals, Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute programs and Matsuiri.

We wish all of you good health, and a new year rich with love and happiness. Together, we will build even greater memories in both our families and community.

Once again, Thank You to the Post 1961 Women’s Club, the Members of Nisei Post 1961, the Staff of GVJC1, and all of our friends and family for your continuing support of our Post as we continue to work towards making our VFW Post an integral part of our community.

Contact information for Post 1961:
Steve Moriyama, 1127 W 213th Street, Torrance, CA 90502
Tel: 213-700-0364
Email: moriyamaohana@bcsglobal.net

Facility Updates
We have a new GVC1 Hall Floor! Well…maybe not new, but it does look good! The GVC1 quieted the sounds of the Christmas Party and New Year’s Day, and it was the perfect time to have a couple maintenance coats of finish put on the floor. We had the floor completely refinished at the end of 2017. Unfortunately, the floor was showing a little wear with the heavy use of the hall. The team from Hardwood Floors LA came in and put the maintenance coats down in a couple days. Thank you to the guys for the effort and speedy work! Please feel free to stop by the hall and take a look at the floor and see how deep the finish looks!

Join us in taking care of the floor when you are in the hall. Please lift tables and chairs when moving them. Wear soft soled shoes when possible. If you see liquid on the floor, wipe it dry with a towel or paper towel. Let’s work together in taking care of this awesome facility that was gifted to us by a great generation of Nikes.

Eagle Scout Project
The GVC1 is very fortunate that Kevin Uyesugi, an Eagle Scout candidate, chose the GVC1 for his Eagle Scout project. Kevin decided to build a storage unit. Storage space has been an issue for us with our growing staff, more programs, a bigger and better Matsuiri to name just a few things. On October 20, 2018 Kevin led Boy Scout Troop 683 to help alleviate this problem. He oversaw the construction of a storage unit that is now on the east side of the GVC1 Building. He worked on the storage unit all day and completed the job after sundown. It is just what we needed to make some much needed storage space within easy access. Thank you for doing a great job, Kevin!

Staff Updates
Please welcome Cathy Lee to our staff as the Development and Events Manager. Cathy Lee comes to us with over 20 years of experience at Toyota Motor North America, and she’s familiar with GVC1 through volunteering at past JCI CARNIVALS/Matsuiri as a basketball parent. She is a marketing professional whose background includes events, experiential marketing, advertising and trade shows. A foodie at heart, Cathy enjoys cooking, baking and spending time with her family and mini schnauzer mix fur baby. She’s excited to join the GVC1 team and for the opportunity to share the rich Japanese culture and history with the community.

GVC1 thanks Sharon Sawai, who dedicated over 5.5 years as the Events and Fundraising Coordinator. Along with her hard work on the Matsuiri, Calendar, and other historical GVC1 fundraisers, Sharon established new ones which became annual events, like Kansha Craft Show, Elemental Funk concert, and others. Although Sharon left the staff at the end of December, she wants to continue as a GVC1 volunteer. Thank you, Sharon!
Congrats, Kevin!
The Gardena Evening Optimist Club holds an annual dinner to recognize and motivate youth that have served the community in an outstanding way. This year the dinner was held on November 13, 2018 at Seafood Port Restaurant. The GVCI was once again honored to be selected to nominate a youth for this impressive award. Our nominee this year was Kevin Uyesugi. Kevin is a scout with Boy Scout Troop 683 and constructed a storage unit for the GVCI as his Eagle Scout project. (See related article on pg 3). It was an honor to work with Kevin, and even more of an honor to be able to nominate him for this award.

Other honorees were Garrett Marzo, nominated by Boy Scout Troop 683; and Ricardo Anguiano nominated by the Gardena Police Department Explorer Post 142. Kevin, Garrett and Ricardo are all fine examples of young men that are taking the time to connect with and serve their community.

Kevin receives his GEO Youth Appreciation Award. From left to right: Garrett Marzo, Ricardo Anguiano, Kevin Uyesugi, Lisa Nakagawa

SUPPORT GVJCI THROUGH AMAZON SMILE! :)
My wife and I buy many things from Amazon.com. A couple of years ago, we designated the GVJCI as our recipient for the Amazon Smile donation program. Every time we buy something from Amazon, a portion of the purchase price goes to the JCI at no cost to us. After registering, there is nothing further for us to do, everything is automatic, Amazon does all the work. So far, Amazon has donated $137.34 to the GVJCI from our purchases. Please join Amazon’s donation program; it’s a simple and painless way to help the JCI.

~Naomi Yoshida and Tim Toyama

GVCI Thanks Naomi and Tim for choosing GVJCI for Amazon Smile purchases. To date, our total donation received from everyone who designated GVJCI as this charity is $1,234.52! Thank you all!

Words from our 2018 Board Fellowship Fellow
Hello! My name is CyVan Yamamoto and I was a 2018 fellow on Gardena Valley JCI’s (GVJCI) board. I was granted this opportunity through taking part in Kizuna’s board fellowship program and I must say that it was very eye opening. I suspect that like myself before this program, there are many people who are unclear of the role of a board and its importance to the success of an organization. Through this board fellowship program and with the help of GVJCI’s board members, I have been able to learn how effective board leadership can set the tone for an organization’s success in regards to long term strategy/mission alignment, fiscal responsibility, and operational efficiency. I would definitely recommend the program to anyone who is interested in non-profit work or aspires to be a future board member of any organization.

Also, being new to the South Bay, working with GVJCI was great in that I learned how close knit of a community the Gardena/Torrance area is and how GVJCI is really the epicenter of so many fond memories and traditions that span generations. This is embodied in our Matsuri event. As the South Bay community continues to evolve and change, it is organizations like GVJCI that safeguard and perpetuate the sense of community that runs throughout all of Gardena and Torrance. In some shape or form, I plan to be a long time member of the South Bay community and really thank the GVJCI board and staff for giving me such a great introduction.

Thank You,
CyVan Yamamoto
Board Fellow 2018
**TRIBUTES**

$500 - $999
In Memory of Aiko Yoshinaga-Herzig
Anonymous

$100 - $499
In Memory of Larry Takami
Fukai, Gal & Phil
In Memory of Stan Kanemoto
Inouye, Tomoko
In Memory of George Ajisaka
Inouye, Wade
In Memory of Yuko Yonekura
Jono, Kathleen
In Memory of Myrna Kawahara
Kaneda, Joyce
In Memory of Sakaye Kawaminami
Kawaminami, Janice
Kumamoto, Don
In Memory of Yaeko Tanamachi
Kishiyama, Linda & Ken
In Memory of Sam Imamoto
Kochiyama, Alison & Jimmy
Kumamoto, Donna
Kawaminami
Jono, Kathleen
Koma, Maria
In Memory of Yaeko Tanamachi
Periklos, Deborah

**VEHICLE DONATIONS**

Ajioka-Yamashiro, Susan
Asato, Les
Berry, Jeffrey
Ajioka, Toshiko
Blackstein, Raul
Hana, Mariko
Hamamoto, Akiko
Hata, Ayude
Hayashi, Thomas
Kawasaki, Ronald
Kochiyama, Jimmly & Alison
Koda, Hiroko
Malicky, Claudia
Momotomo, Doret
Motoyasu, Ken
Nakasa, Hisa
Nagahashi, James
Omori, Howard
Sasaki, Akira & Joan
Sawai, Paul
Takahashi, Ben
Sakuragi, Sharlot
Takamine, Calvin
Udo, Anthony
Urda, Ron

**IN KIND DONATIONS OF ITEMS OR SERVICES**

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ABC Nursery
Aiyia America
Akiyama, Miles
Anonymous
Benson, Charlie & Laura
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Boyt Scout Troop 683
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Crenshaw Lumber
C-Stars Nursery
Cymbidium Club
Dickey's BBQ Pit
Doi, Gail
Dorothy Awakuni & Family
Echigo Law Services
Elwood nursery
Ezaki Glico USA Corp.
F.K. Nursery
Gardena Buffet & Grill
Gekkeillo's Nursery
Gekko, Richard & Teri-Lynn
Goya & Mayeda Optometry
H & H Nursery
Hair Unlimited
Hata, Donald
Hong Kong Bakery & Deli
It's Bbq Time
I.T. Nursery
Javner's Nursery
Jimmy Mak's
Kaji & Associates
Kawahara, Larry
King's Hawaiian Bakery & Restaurant
Kochiyama, Jimmy
Kotshira Restaurant
Kuwae, Kevin
Kuwahara, Teri
L&L Hawaiian BBQ
Lady Bug Asian Grill
Law Office of Steven I. Awakuni
Leimil's Deli
Marie Callender's Gardeners
Martin Containers
Medina, Dan
Meji Pharmacy
Moneta Nursery
Mitsui Trading Co
Nakaoaka, Tracy
Nikkei Credit Union
New Apple & Violet
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Seafood Empress Restaurant
Shibata, Asako
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Shin-Sen-Gumi Foundation, Inc
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Sprouts Farmers Market
Starbucks Albertsons Plaza
Gardena
Storey, Gwodelyn

**TKNC CLASS HIGHLIGHT**

"Gentle Yoga" and "Gentle Yoga with Chairs"
The perfect way to relax your mind and body. These classes are based on poses to work the entire body, creating a strong center with firm arms and legs and a healthy backbone. While you still stretch your muscles and work your joints, you're not pushing yourself outside your comfort zone. Gentle yoga is done for the joy of stretching and stillness of mind. They are perfect for beginners because it works muscles and joints in a way that avoids the risk of injury. This is ideal for anyone suffering from mobility issues, has an injury, or needs to warm up very gradually.

Chair yoga is a gentle form of yoga that is practiced sitting chair with the legs and hips, or standing using a chair for support. Frequent class participation is $4/class.

The classes are taught by Genie Nakano, who was born in East Los Angeles and strengthens personal body awareness. Chair Yoga is one of the gentlest forms of yoga available.

Come and join Tono No Kai in 2019! 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 2019 membership. Age is 50 years and above. Average class fee is $4/class.

“Gentle Yoga” is held on Monday from 11AM to noon, in the Main Hall.

“Gentle Yoga with Chairs” is held on Wednesday and Friday from 11AM to noon, in the Main Hall.

**SMARTPHONE/TABLET CLASS**

Feb 7th to Mar 14th, 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 7**

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

**Week 2 - February 14**

- Adding contacts
- Phone calls, Text Messages, Email
- Using the camera

**Week 3 - February 21**

- Apps – Useful Emergency Apps
- Wi-Fi / Data Usage / Storage

**Week 4 - February 28**

- Organizing Apps
- Files/Photos
- **Please bring your Apple App Store or Google Play passwords

**Week 5 - March 7**

- Apps – Useful Emergency Apps
- Wi-Fi / Data Usage / Storage
- **Please bring your Apple App Store or Google Play passwords

**Week 6 - March 14**

- Questions & Answers

Established on May 31, 1979, the GVCCI Tono No Kai or Senior Citizen Friendship Society was formed to promote and support programs at the GVCCI for the senior community, as well as to provide recreational and social activities, such as, the monthly senior birthday luncheon, and the annual Christmas party. Your membership dues, class participation fees, and donations support the senior programs and GVCCI faculty operations. Thank you very much for your participation and support!
FEBRUARY

SEVEN SAMURAI SECRETS OF SUCCESS: A BOOK EVENT WITH LORI TSUGAWA-WHALEY SAT, FEB 9, 1:30-4:00PM

Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall
Come join us as we welcome author Lori Tsugawa-Whaley and her book “Seven Samurai Secrets of Success”. Who were the samurai and how could a people dedicated to war and violence have such an impact on a culture known for its politeness, manners and aesthetic beauty? The samurai warrior of ancient Japan lived by a moral and ethical code known as bushi; “the way of the warrior.” Come and learn about Chiune Sugihara, the Japanese diplomat (also a modern-day samurai warrior), who courageously saved the lives of over 6,000 Jewish refugees risking his life and career during World War II by “doing the right thing.” The ‘Seven Samurai Secrets of Success’ were applicable in ancient Japan, and especially relevant for the 21st Century. Admission is free but donations are appreciated. Please RSVP online, emailing, or calling us.

ALTERNATIVE FACTS: THE LIES OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066 DAY SAT, FEB 9, 2:00-4:00PM

GVCI Main Hall
We 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 the then vs now, featuring Jon Osaki’s Alternative Facts: The Lies of Executive Order 9066, and we will examine the parallels to the current climate and what happened over 75 years ago. Afterwards, a panel discussion with Jon Osaki and others will take place. Free to the public, no registration required. For more information, please email us at info@jci-gardena.org or call us at (310) 324-6611.

MARCH

HINAMATSURI SAT, MAR 2, 11:00-4:00PM

South Coast Botanic Garden
Come celebrate Girl’s Day with us at the South Coast Botanic Garden! The GVCI will have a booth out at SCBG’s annual Cherry Blossom Festival this year. Come join us for a fun craft activity while exploring the garden to look at the beautiful spring blooms among many other plants, flowers, activities, and performances. Adult admission is $9, children 5-12 yrs old is $4, and under 4 yrs old is free.

JAPANESE MEDICARE WORKSHOP SAT, MAR 9, 2:00-4:00PM

GVCI Classroom Rm 207/208
Are you confused about your Medicare options? Turning 65, and enrolling in Medicare soon? Come join us for this workshop to learn what you need to know in order to make an informed decision on your Medicare coverage. You will learn what Medicare is, what Medicare costs, what choices are available, and how to choose the right plan for you. This workshop will be conducted in Japanese! Free admission but donations are appreciated. RSVP is required. Please call or email the GVCI to reserve a spot.

THE BRIDGE: JCI HERITAGE CENTER REVAMP DAY!

SUN, MAR 24, 9:00-3:00PM

The Bridge JCI Heritage Center
Help us restore beauty back to our library! The Bridge: JCI Heritage Center was started almost 11 years ago by a group of volunteers. With the years of use, it’s in need of a refresher. Come help us build furniture, clean, and help make our library look better than ever before! Need volunteer hours? This is the perfect opportunity to earn some hours and help out the community. Please contact Nicole at nsato@jci-gardena.org for questions or to help volunteer.

APRIL

RIBBON LEI-MAKING WORKSHOP SAT, APR 13, 2:00-4:00PM

GVCI Upstairs Classroom
It’s graduation season again! Do you have your leis ready? Keri Kato returns to GVCI teaching another lei workshop with us! She will be teaching a couple different ribbon lei-making styles just in time for graduation! Come learn how to make simple, yet beautiful ribbon lei. This beginner/intermediate lei-making class will showcase classic styles.

Manzanar Pilgrimage

The 50th annual community-wide Manzanar Pilgrimage at the Manzanar Historic Site will be on April 27th. 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 onlooking. 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.

TANOSHI FUND CAMP

Tanoshi Fun Camp is coming back revamped! Mark your calendars for July 8-12th for a fun week! We’ll be changing things up this year so expect new things with the same educational fun as always. We’re also looking for camp counselors both high school and college-aged! Paid positions available. Please email nsato@jci-gardena.org for more information about the camp or becoming a counselor.

SAVE THE DATE...

MAY 4TH: KODOMO NO HI WORKSHOP

GVCI Upstairs Classroom

Manzanar Pilgrimage

The 50th annual community-wide Manzanar Pilgrimage at the Manzanar Historic Site will be on April 27th. 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 onlooking. 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.

ALZHEIMER’S ASSOCIATION OF LOS ANGELES will present a series of education workshops at GVCI regarding Alzheimer’s disease. The workshops will cover multiple topics and will be held on the following dates:

DEMENTIA FRIENDS

Learn five key messages about dementia and develop action steps to help your community.

Date: Friday, Feb 8th
Time: 10-11AM
Location: GVCI Upstairs Classroom #208

DISEASE RESEARCH UPDATE

Friday, Mar 8th, 10:00-12:00PM
GVCI Upstairs Classroom #208

Get an update on research findings around the symptoms, detection and causes of dementia and Alzheimer’s disease. Learn about the latest treatment available and what research is currently being conducted to find a cure for this disease.

SAVVY CAREGIVER EXPRESS

Weekly Fridays, April 12, 19, 26, 10:00-12:00PM
GVCI Upstairs Classroom #208

A 3-week program based on the Savvy Caregiver. This program develops the basic knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to care for someone with Alzheimer’s disease or another form of dementia.

Alzheimer’s Association of Los Angeles Contact: Kimiko Kelly: kkelly@alzla.org (323) 930-6257. Free admission but donations are appreciated.

For all Alzheimer’s Association classes, please RSVP with us at info@jci-gardena.org or at (310) 324-6611.

“FACES OF CAREGIVING” FILM SCREENING

Sat, Mar 16, 1:30-4:30PM
Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall

The “Faces of Caregiving” video event is an educational program to help raise awareness of Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias by showcasing the personal stories of five unique Japanese American and Japanese caregivers. This amazing event is made possible by the generous support of the Keiro Grants Program and the JA Community Foundation. Care Counselors from Alzheimer’s Association Los Angeles will be available on-site to answer any questions. Please join us for a wonderful time filled with conversation, community, and refreshments.

GVJCI Upstairs Classroom #208

Dealing with a relative’s dementia can be emotionally and physically challenging. Many family caregivers are overwhelmed by the responsibilities of caring for someone with Alzheimer’s disease.

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