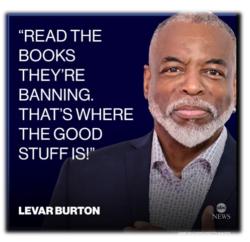


### **Banned Books Week**

October 2, 2023. This is Banned Books Week. Banned books is a growing crisis in America. From January 1 – August 31<sup>st</sup> of this year a total of 3923 total titles were targeted for censorship. And 695 attempts were made to ban or restrict book services.

Actor Levar Burton, "Jordy," from Star Trek and the lead character from the movie "Roots" was recently interviewed by Stephanie Ruhle as he was named the honorary Chair of Banned Books Week.

Burton announced that the number of banned books was up by 20% over the same period last year. He stated, "parents have a right to monitor what their child reads, but I don't believe you have the right to impose your beliefs on other people's kids. Censorship



is just not okay. It is a no nonsense conversation that involves common good and common sense.

Saturday is "Let Freedom Read Day," announced Stephanie Ruhle. What one action would you recommend to take to defend books from censorship? "Support readers, support libraries," replied Burton. People want to protect our rights to read our banned books.

Burton pointed out that some books may not be appropriate for young children. However, young teens who are experiencing growth spurts might benefit reading about characters who are dealing with similar issues and are able to learn ways to address such issues when they see themselves in the characters.

"If people say that there are no books being banned, then they are ill-informed or are willfully ignorant. Age appropriateness is what we have to be mindful of, but every book is not for everyone, but there is a book somebody is destined to read."

Patricia Takayama

# LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS!



The San Fernando JACL Chapter would like to welcome recent new members: **Mike and Yuan Hao**, **Emi Jensen, Elissa Farquhar, and Danny Okazaki**.

Thank you for joining our efforts to fight for civil rights, equal justice, and for Democracy. We want to encourage our past members to remember to renew their membership. Current members can further support the organization by purchasing a Thousand Club membership. To

of the JACL family, our Chapter would like to pay

for their membership for a year. Please submit name, email address, school names, so they can begin to learn about what JACL is doing nationally and locally. Our Chapter continues to plan and support community activities and programs. Please join us for our Chapter's Installation and other cultural and social events.



Kiyo Fukumoto, Membership Chair



# LUNCH - GAMES - CRAFTS PRE-CARVED PUMPKIN & COSTUME CONTESTS PRIZES - HALLOWEEN SCIENCE FUN

# \*\* PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED\*\*

(Deadline: 10.21.23)

Registration can be made by one of the following options: 1. Online using Google form: https://forms.gle/4URWmrRmh4UjHX8e8

2. Scan the QR Code for the Google form:



3. Fill out the form below for <u>each Guest</u> and mail to SFV JACL, 12953 Branford St., Pacoima, CA 91331. **Deadline: 10-21-23** 

### HALLOWEEN PARTY FORM

Guest's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email:

Check One:

- □ Child (5-10)
- □ Child (11–15)
- $\hfill\square$  Adult (parent, grandparent, organization member, etc.)
- □ Adult Volunteer
- □ Student Volunteer (volunteer hours given)

### **Pioneer Spirit Luncheon Honors Outstanding Leaders**



The Pioneer Spirit Luncheon was held during Nisei Week at the Omni Hotel. Family, friends, and supporters gathered to pay tribute to six honorees. Organizations in the community nominated the honorees for their values of service and commitment to the American Community. Nisei Week President David Yamahata and Pioneer Spirit Committee Chairperson Nolan Maehara welcomed the attendees.

This year's honorees are **Dr. Akiko Agishi**, founder of the Japanese Language Scholarship Foundation; **Ron Dyo**, a leader in the Pasadena Japanese-American community; **Akita Fujimoto**, chairman of Tomonokai, president of Okayama Kenjikai; **Joan Kawasaki**, the leader in the Orange County Nikkei community; **Kyoko Nancy Oda**, leader of the Tuna Canyon Detention Station Coalition and vice president of Torrance WWII Camp Wall memorial; **Dr. Kanji Sahara**, leader involved in multiple community organizations to preserve the Japanese American culture and history. Each honoree dedicated their time, leadership, and personal commitment to ensure the legacy of our communities will continue for future generations.

The San Fernando JACL Chapter is exceedingly proud to have a Board Member recognized and honored as having the Pioneer Spirit. Kyoko Nancy Oda was an elementary school principal and served in the LAUSD for

32 years. She received the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays, for her services from the Japanese government. As vice president of the WWII Camp Wall Committee, a wall with 120,000 names of Japanese Americans incarcerated during WWII inscribed on a stone wall in Torrance. Kyoko provided the leadership in having the City of Los Angeles designate the former Tuna Canyon Detention Station as a Historic-Culture Monument. This site



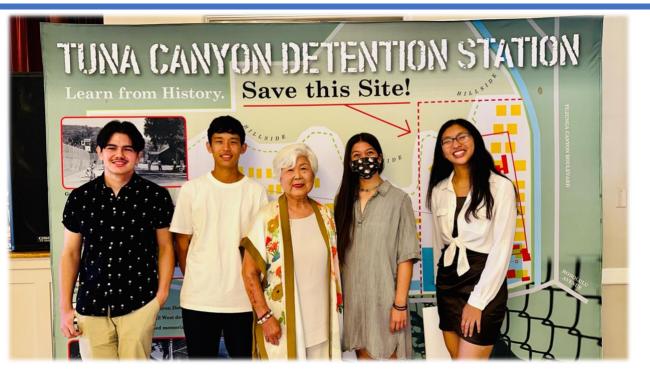
was where 2,000 Japanese, German, and Italian immigrants were detained during WWII.



She also has earned a Kodokan black belt in judo from Senshin Dojo. She and her husband Kay continue to serve the Japanese American community and are working to expand the San Fernando Community Center.

The Nisei Week Foundation also presented Community Service Awards to Anzen Hardware, Toyo Miyatake Studio, Tanaka Farms, and the U.S. Bank. Inspiration Awards were presented to Don Tahara and Kristin Fukushima. The President's Award was posthumously presented to Cathy Tanaka. The desire to help and improve our Japanese-American communities continues.

Kiyo Fukumoto



### TUNA CANYON DETENTION COALITION BIENNIAL LUNCH 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

The TUNA CANYON Luncheon was held on Saturday, September 23, 2023 at the Friendship Auditorium. Only the Oaks Remain Exhibit was on display and the auditorium was filled with supporters.

Tamlyn Tomita, Master of Ceremonies opened the program with a warm and robust welcome to a very informative and entertaining program. Kyoko Oda welcomed everyone and sincerely appreciated the attendance and support. She also thanked everyone and stated this program is presented to remember our ancestors and honor their resilience. Jean-Paul deGuzman conducted the Moment of Silence.

The Marc Stirdivant Scholarship Recipient Winners for 2021 and 2022 were recognized and congratulated.

The entertainment show was provided by Teramura Ki, Classical Japanese Dance group, headed by Nancy Hayata was performed by Mia Takasuka and Carol Takatsuka-Garcia and followed by Duet, Michael and Miko. Yoyoka Soma, known as Yoyoka is a 14 year old Japanese drummer from Ishikari with 3.2 million views for the 2018 Hit Like a Girl contest. The OTONOWA JAZZ BAND played several numbers featuring Akira Hiraha-drummer, Art Hiraha-jazz keyboardist, Masaru Koga-Multi-instrumentalist, and Noriyuki Ken Okada-bassist. The band played "Sukiyaki" and the audience participated by singing along with them. It was fun.

IN MEMORY, Brief Excerpts From the Legacy Interviews video arranged by Nancy Takayama featured remarks from family members whose grandparents or parents were interned at Tuna Canyon. They shared stories of hardships the Japanese, German and Italian families endured.

Special Awards honoring June Berk and Russ Endo were presented by Claudia and Dr. Sigrid B. Toye. They worked on the LEGACY PROJECT, gathering, recording, and preserving Tuna Canyon descendants' memories and personal commentaries.

The program ended with closing remarks from H. Ernie Nishii. Everyone left with a smile and an expression of satisfaction.

Submitted by Linda Tanaka

# 81<sup>st</sup> Nisei Week Festival Continues 2023

The theme for the 2023 Nisei Week Festival was "*Turning the Corner*." After the second hiatus caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the first due to Japanese incarceration during WW II, the Nisei Week



Festival opened its nine-day celebration of Japanese and Japanese American culture, heritage, and community.

A Grand Parade was held through the streets of Little Tokyo with Grand Marshal **Bill Watanabe**, community leader and past director of the Little Tokyo Service Center. The Parade Marshal was **Jamie Hagiya**, a former USC basketball player and CrossFit athlete. The parade included elected

officials, community dignitaries, taiko drummers, youth groups, Ondo performers, classic cars, L. A Nebutal Float, and Nisei Week Queen, **Kaitlyn Chu** and her Court. Also, part of the

parade, I was proud to join fellow veterans from the Buddhahead Breakfast Club and others serving in the armed forces in marching in the parade. We greatly appreciated the applause from the parade watchers and their many shouts of "Thank you for your service."



The Japanese American Community Center held cultural demonstrations which included: tea ceremony, ikebana, ceramics, calligraphy, and doll making and much more. Along with the Nisei Week Queen



Coronation, the Nisei Week Baby Show, Pioneer Spirit Luncheon, *Natsumatsuri* Program at the Japanese American National Museum, there were athletic events, demonstrations, presentations throughout Japanese Town during the Nisei Week celebration. Hopefully you and your family members will join and take part in Nisei Week next year as we continue to keep our traditions alive for our future generations.

Submitted by Kiyo Fukumoto

# L.A. Tanabata Festival Kazari Displays For Nisei Week

Award-winning Kazari from Sendai Japan were on display at the Japanese American National Museum and the Japanese American Community Center during Nisei Week. Five large kazari were hung outside of JANM with kazari created by individuals, Nanka Kenjikai Kyogikai, churches, and other community organizations were on display in the Grand Hall. *Natsumatsuri Family Festival* sponsored by JANM welcomed visitors with free admission and with many fun and creative activities for the entire family.

The making of spectacular 8-foot bamboo kazari was established over 400 years ago by Date Masamune (1567-1636). Mr. and Mrs. Yonezawa, Miyagi



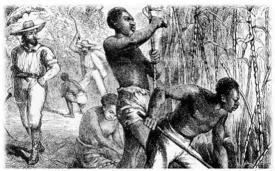
Ken, and support from Mr. Ichiro Shiromatsu from Sendai joined together to establish a Tanabata Festival here in Los Angeles in 2009. Through the years, hundreds of kazari have been designed and created by people in our communities. The gathering of family members, church members, Kenjikai members, youth groups, community organizations, and others created their unique kazari for everyone to enjoy. It provided the opportunity for a group of people to collectively design and create a special group creation. Please plan to join us next year with your creative group effort.

Submitted by Kiyo Fukumoto

### SLAVERY & REPARATIONS Era - Part 2 (continued) JIM CROW Era

Attacks against former slaves continued in an attempt to return to the pre-Civil War social order, when Afro-Americans had no voting rights or ability to accrue property or other wealth. The period of Reconstruction when Blacks were able to elect Congressional leaders and accrue wealth was short lived. Angry whites, jealous of the wealth and power Blacks were able to accrue, attacked, destroyed and massacred Black communities.

After 1920, those attacks continued against various prosperous Black communities.



Copyright: Credit: Lordprice Collection / Alamy Stock Photo

(continued from August-September Newsletter, Slavery in America – Part 2)

C) 1921 in the Greenwood district of Tulsa, OK, also known as the affluent African American community or the Black Wall Street was nearly destroyed by a confrontation with white looters and arsonists with Greenwood defenders. The Governor declared Martial Law and National Guard troops were called in to Tulsa. Guardsmen assisted firemen in putting out fires, removed Blacks from the hands of vigilantes and imprisoned all Black Tulsans, not already interned. Over 6000 people were held at the Convention Hall or Fairgrounds; 35 city blocks was charred and historians claim from 36 to 600 people died.

E) January 1923 the Black town of Rosewood, FL. The massacre was racially motivated, characterized as a race riot that killed 27-150 people. Rosewood was destroyed and abandoned.

F) In 1955, a 14 year old south Chicago boy was visiting family in Money, MS. Emmett Till was said to have made lewd advances at a store clerk, grabbed and wolf-whistled at her. That night Till was dragged from his uncle's home mutilated and killed. His body was thrown into the Tallahatchie River by the two White men who were subsequently tried and acquitted by an all-white jury.

Jim Crow racial tactics did not end in 1954 after Brown v. Board of Education, the desegregation of public schools or after Rosa Parks declined to give up her bus seat on a public bus to a white person on December 1, 1955.

Remnants of institutionalized racism and brutality was demonstrated in 2020, when a choke hold suffocated George Floyd in Minneapolis, MN and forced entry into Breonna Taylor's apartment and indiscriminate shots fired led to her death in Louisville, KY.

Institutionalized racial discrimination under color of law still persists in our modern day legal institutions. Racial discrimination that started hundreds of years ago as a justification for slavery has not, even to this day, been purged from our social and legal customs. Taxing or penalizing misdemeanor offenses to collect fines and creating a captive workforce is still slave labor for those who cannot pay the fines.

# SAVE THE DATES

Saturday, October 7 - Annual Community Clean - up

Saturday, October 28 - Halloween Costume Party from 12:00 (noon) to 2:30pm at the Sakaguchi Hall. See flyer for program schedule. Volunteers needed - for assorted shifts from 9:30am - 2:30pm for decoration set up, crafts, games, food service, clean up etc.

Sunday, January 21, 2024-----Installation 11:30 am -2:00pm at the Sakaguchi Hall

# CHANPON

You know you are Japanese American when you are used to hearing these words and phrases

Growing up in Hawaii with grandparents living close by, these are the many Japanese words and phrases I grew up with. When visiting my grandmother, the grandchildren had to greet her in Japanese before we could play. I'm sure some of you recognize or even still use some of these words and phrases.

See if you remember these words and can match the English meanings.

- 1. \_\_\_\_ Kitanai
- 2. \_\_\_\_ Hayaku
- 3. \_\_\_\_ Yakamashi
- 4. \_\_\_\_ Kawaii
- 5. \_\_\_\_ Katai
- 6. \_\_\_\_ Nigai
- 7. \_\_\_\_ Monku
- 8. \_\_\_\_\_ Nonki
- 9. \_\_\_\_\_ Arigato
- 10. \_\_\_\_\_ Gohan
- 11. \_\_\_\_ Oishi
- 12. \_\_\_\_ Kusai
- 13. \_\_\_\_ Hadashi
- 14. \_\_\_\_ Itai

- a. bitter
- b. easy going, happy go lucky
- c. dirty
- d. hard, difficult
- e. complain
- f. hurry
- g. pretty, cute
- h. too noisy
- i. bare foot
- j. stink, smelly
- k. ouch, hurt
- I. tasty, delicious
- m. rice
- n. thank you

### Phrases

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ Ogochisosama
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_. Tadaima karimashita
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ Oyasuminasai
- 4. \_\_\_\_\_ Itadakimasu
- a. I'm here, I came home
- b. I'm am going to eat this offering of food
- c. I'm going to bed
- d. thank you for this delicious food

I hope this exercise brought fond memories and smiles. Enjoy!!!

ANSWERS on page 10

# Submitted by Linda Tanaka



# SONGS FOR A SANSEI

The Grateful Crane Ensemble's 13<sup>th</sup> annual fundraising dinner was held at Nishi Hongwanji

in Los Angeles on Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. Several members from our SFV JACL attended the event to show their support.

The evening began with a silent auction, followed by a special dinner prepared by Azay Restaurant in Little Tokyo. Chef/Owner Akira Hirose, incorporated French and Japanese elements in the evening's tasty cuisine.

The musical portion of the program began with a clever way of thanking the major sponsors by incorporating each of their names in the lyrics of a separate familiar song.

Grateful Crane Ensemble members Haruye loke, Lisa Joe, Keiko Kawashima and Darrell Kunitomi harmonically entertained us for the remainder of the evening with 14+ song playlist from the Sansei generation.

Thank you to the Grateful Crane for another entertaining evening!

Submitted by Marcia Mahony

#### SFV JACC COORDINATING COUNCIL – NOTES OF INTEREST September 20. 2023

**LAPD Officer Diana Figueroa** reported on the DOWNWARD\_trend for AGGRAVATED ASSAULTS. LAPD continues their efforts to provide services regarding the homeless population. Recently the southbound offramp of the 5 Freeway was cleared of encampments. It becomes a revolving situation as one area is cleared of debris, the homeless take up residence in a neighboring area despite being offered housing and other social services. Upon questioning, Officer Figueroa recommended a GRAFFITI app using an app store. Graffiti removal is usually done on Fridays. LAPD also recommended "situational awareness" as we enter the holiday season.

**SFV JACC SUPER BINGO is November 4, 2023.** \$125. The CC is seeking donations (gift certificates, baskets of goodies, cash, etc. & anything for the silent auction)

Athletics start November 4, 2023. Four Athletic Scholarships will be available this year.

The Future Planning Committee is planning the pledge process for future construction per Margaret Takimoto.

Nikkei Senior Gardens will open for their 15-year anniversary in March 2024. NSG was on the list of U.S. & World Reports FOR SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES according to Danny Okazaki.

The **SFV Buddhist Temple** President Eric Reardon announced that a new priest will be arriving from Japan.

The Japanese Language Institute will have a yard sale in the Fall.

Submitted by May Wood





# SFV JACL holiday greetings fundraiser

### **DEADLINE - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31st**

The 2023 The Pacific Citizen Holiday Ad Fundraiser campaign is right around the corner. Please help the SFV JACL promote our annual Pacific Citizen Fundraiser by renewing or purchasing a personal ad in the Holiday Issue.

With the help of the JACL membership, affiliated businesses, family and friends, we were able to sponsor the following programs and events in **2022**:

- JACL Installation
- "Tule Lake Stockade Diary" book promotion and panel discussion
- Dan Taguchi's Big Band Music
- Awarded scholarships to 3 local students
- Nethercutt Museum guided tour
- 3 free buses to David Ono's "Defining Courage" event at Aratani Theater in Little Tokyo
- Halloween party, in partnership with the SFV Japanese Language Institute

Your ad can be in the form of a personal Holiday greeting, a congratulatory message, a business ad, or an in memoriam. You can also help solicit ads from businesses you frequent. The Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue has a circulation of approximately 30,000.

### THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT YOUR GREETING IS: TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2023

Please contact the following Committee Members for a PC Holiday Issue ad form:

Barbara Okita (818) 784-5128 or barbokt@aol.com Linda Tanaka (805) 304-5745 or lkitai@hotmail.com Marcia Mahony (818) 669-0409 or msmahony2@gmail.com May Wood (818) 399-7221 or may.wood66@yahoo.com

#### For monetary donations, please write a check to SFV JACL and send to:

SFV JACL Attn: Marcia Mahony 12953 Branford St. Pacoima, CA 91331



## 2024 JACL Application will be available DECEMBER 2023

Look online at: jacl.org/youth/scholarship

The National JACL Scholarship Program IS online! All of the application MUST be done on your computer/tablet through the online application form and submitted online. NO MAILING REQUIRED! As such there may be new guidelines and changes to the 2024 Scholarship Guidelines document and to the applications themselves. Also note, the applications will NOT save if you close or reload your window, so please fill them out in one sitting! You must be a JACL Youth Member. You may submit your membership at that time. SFVJACL will reimburse first time Youth Members.

SUBMIT: At the SAME time, Transcripts, Letters of Recommendation, and Photo/Video.

SFV JACL awards local chapter scholarships using the same National JACL APPLICATION. SFV JACL accepts applications after the National JACL deadline has expired in MARCH 2024, can be accessed on our SFV JACL WEBSITE.

JACL Applications are separate from SFV JACC. We welcome all applicants from Athletics, SF Language Institute, Rising Stars, and other organizations who are interested in the historical narratives of Japanese Americans, AAPI and individuals who have suffered from racial injustice and bigotry.

The JACL continues its renewed commitment to educating the public about the World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans and combating anti-Asian hate. Think about the steps you have taken to learn about the Japanese American incarceration experience. How can we use education as a tool to not only correct past historical narratives but to also move forward towards promoting a greater social consciousness within our society to all injustices? We are expanding our worldview with the issue of reparations.

See the Tuna Canyon Detention Center Coalition Website for another point of view for Italian, German, and Japanese immigrants from Peru and other South American countries who were detained because they were leaders in their respective communities.

If you have any questions, contact May Wood: <u>may.wood66@yahoo.com</u> or 818 399-7221.

You know you are Japanese American when you are used to hearing these words and phrases

# **CHANPON ANSWERS**

Kitanai - <u>c</u>
 Hayaku - <u>f</u>
 Yakamashi - <u>h</u>
 Kawaii - <u>g</u>
 Katai - <u>d</u>
 Nigai - <u>a</u>
 Monku - <u>e</u>
 Nonki - <u>b</u>
 Arigato - <u>n</u>
 Gohan - <u>m</u>
 Oishi - <u>l</u>
 Kusai - <u>j</u>
 Hadashi - <u>i</u>
 Itai - <u>k</u>

# PHRASES

Ogochisosama - <u>d</u>
 Tadaima karimashita - <u>a</u>
 Oyasuminasai - <u>c</u>
 Itadakimasu - <u>b</u>

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY JAPANESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY CENTER



Thank You For Supporting the SFVJACC!



Doors open at 1PM - 5PM, Saturday, November 18

Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

Enjoy an afternoon of fierce competition and family fun at Kizuna's beloved fall fundraiser! Team games, bingo, opportunity drawings, costume contests, refreshments, and more will all be available! Help Kizuna reach their \$35,000 fundraising goal! For more information and the amazing highlights from last year, visit gokizuna.org/showdown23.

# San Fernando Valley Japanese American Citizens League



# **Membership Application**

#### Membership Categories

Regular/Individual - \$67

Regular sustaining members of the organization

Couple/Family - \$110

Membership for an individual, their spouse/partner and any children under 25 years of age.

#### Youth/Student - \$30

Members 25 years of age or younger or students currently enrolled in a college, trade school, or university.

#### Thousand Club - \$200

A membership category where members make a larger annual contribution to their chapter and national programs of the organization

#### Century Club - \$350

An exclusive membership category where members make a larger annual contribution to their chapter and national programs of the organization

Thousand Club Spouse or Century Club Spouse – Add \$32

Spouse or partner of a JACL Thousand Club or Century Club member

#### Millennium Club - \$1000, Couple/Family - \$1,036

An exclusive membership category where members make a larger annual contribution to their chapter and National programs of the organization

#### Life Membership Categories

#### Thousand Club Life - \$3000

Members who pay a lump sum to establish a lifetime membership

#### Century Club Life - \$5000

An exclusive membership category where members pay a lump sum to establish a lifetime membership

#### Pacific Citizen Newspaper

The 2016 JACL National Council approved a resolution and budget amendment assessing a \$17 surcharge on memberships receiving the print edition of the Pacific Citizens beginning January 1, 2017. Digital subscriptions do not incur additional fees.

□ Yes, I would like to receive the Pacific Citizen newspaper. Please add \$17 to my purchase.

□ No, I will not pay an additional surcharge and will receive the digital version via email for free

#### New Membership Renewing – Member ID: \_\_\_\_\_

□ Gift Membership

#### SAN FERNANDO VALLEY Member Information

First Name	Last Name		
Street Address			
City	State	Zip Code	
Phone	Email		
Payment Method 🛛 Check er Please charge my Credit Card	•	ayable to " <b>JACL"</b> n Express	eı
Card Number:	Expiratio	on Date:/ Security Code: (Month / Year)	
Name (as it appears on card):			
P.O. Box 45397 Addition		Membership Dues       \$	

Or JOIN or RENEW Online: <u>http://www.jacl.org/member</u> Questions: mbr@jacl.org



10441 Kewen Avenue Pacoima, CA. 91331-3019