

Berkeley JACL Newsletter

SERVING THE BERKELEY, OAKLAND, AND ALBANY COMMUNITIES

Coming Events

- Dec 14, 28 **Berkeley Nikkei Seniors Group** at the
Jan 11, 25 West Berkeley Senior Center, 1900 Sixth
Feb 8, 22 Street, Berkeley. This group meets every 2nd
Mar 14, 28 and 4th Saturday of each month. For
Apr 11, 25 information contact Howard Fukuda
(howardfukuda@gmail.com)
- Dec 14 **Crane Folding and stringing at JSei**; see
Jan 18 article inside
- Dec 31 **Berkeley JACL Board Ballots due**; see
attached ballot
- Jan 26 **Berkeley JACL Installation Lunch**; see
attached flyer
- Mar 1 **Berkeley JACL Endowment Fund Grant
Applications due**; see article inside
- Mar 2 **JACL Scholarship Applications due**; see
article inside

Making Noise is a means to exercise your right to express your views, humor, concerns, or anything else of interest. We will be happy to print it in our Newsletter. Please write to the JACL Berkeley Chapter newsletter, c/o Berkeley JACL, P.O Box 7609, Berkeley, CA 94707-0609. **MAKE SOME NOISE!!!**

E-mail the Berkeley JACL at: berkeleyjacl@gmail.com
Visit our Website at www.berkeleyjacl.org
www.facebook.com/BerkeleyChapterJACL/



B E R K E L E Y

2020 Berkeley JACL "College Freshman" Scholarship Application

By Ron Tanaka

Applications for the Berkeley Chapter Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) Scholarship Program are available for high school students entering their freshman year in any accredited institution of higher learning in the Fall 2020. Applications can be obtained by contacting the Berkeley JACL by email at berkeleyjacl@gmail.com or on-line at www.JACL.org

Applicants must be planning to attend a college, university, community college, trade school, business school, or any other accredited institution of higher learning in the Fall 2020. Students deferring enrollment will not qualify for the 2020 program.

DUE DATE - March 2, 2020:

Applications mailed to the scholarship chair must be postmarked by **March 2, 2020**. Hand delivered applications are due to the scholarship chair by **March 2, 2020**. Berkeley Chapter anticipates awarding up to **6 local Chapter scholarships**. Each scholarship may be up to **\$2,500**.

Scholarships are awarded on the basis of academic achievement, community involvement, school activities, work history, letter of recommendation, personal statement, Japanese cultural activities, and a group interview. **We give special consideration to applicants who are the first in their family to attend college and/or to those who qualify as low income.**

JACL Membership Required

While JACL involvement is not required to apply for this scholarship, every applicant must be a Berkeley JACL member. A membership application must be completed and returned with your \$35.00 membership fee. A limited number of memberships are available at no cost to the applicant if the \$35.00 fee creates a hardship. Please contact the scholarship chair.

Scholarship Presentation & National JACL Awards Program

All Berkeley Chapter scholarships will be awarded to recipients at a scholarship awards luncheon scheduled for late April 2020. All recipients are expected to attend this awards luncheon (as guests of the Berkeley JACL) to receive their scholarship.

By April 1, 2020, Berkeley will forward "outstanding" applications for further consideration to the JACL's National Scholarship and Awards Program for 8 national scholarships ranging in award amounts from \$1,000 to \$5,000 per scholarship. Recipients of these national scholarships will be announced in the 3rd Quarter 2020.

Endowment Fund Grant Applications

By Vera Kawamura

The Berkeley JACL is currently accepting Endowment Fund Grant applications. Grant Applications are available on the Berkeley JACL website: berkeleyjacl.org. Applications should be submitted by March 1, 2020. Grants up to \$2,000 may be awarded.

The purpose of the Endowment Fund is to support Japanese American community-oriented projects or programs that further the Chapter's goals and purposes. The Chapter's goals include: upholding the human and civil rights of Japanese Americans and all other people; promoting understanding, respect and appreciation of all cultures; and strengthening community ties and fostering coalitions with other groups sharing similar interests as the Chapter.

Oakland Fukuoka Sister City Association (OFSCA), 31st Asian-Pacific Children's Convention (APCC)

By Vera Kawamura

In the Spring of 2019, the Berkeley JACL awarded a \$1,500 Grant to the OFSCA to provide support for six Oakland Public Middle School children to attend the APCC in Fukuoka Japan in July 2019. Luke Sera-Tacorda, one of the six Junior Ambassadors, wrote a letter of appreciation to APCC sponsors which included the following remarks:

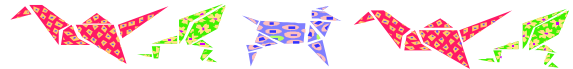
"APCC was amazing! Experiencing a different culture was a great opportunity to learn about the world and to connect to people all over the globe.

The program gave me an opportunity to use my Japanese to communicate lots of people including my very welcoming Fukuoka host family. Whether going to modern museums with ancient artifacts or a nationally recognized ramen shop to just playing around the house on a rainy day. The APCC in Fukuoka is something I will never forget. Thank you so much for your support."

DEAR APCC SPONSORS,

APCC WAS AMAZING! EXPERIENCING A DIFFERENT CULTURE WAS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN ABOUT THE WORLD AND TO CONNECT TO PEOPLE ALL OVER THE GLOBE. THE PROGRAM GAVE ME AN OPPORTUNITY TO USE MY JAPANESE TO COMMUNICATE LOTS OF PEOPLE INCLUDING MY VERY WELCOMING FUKUOKA HOST FAMILY. WHETHER GOING TO MODERN MUSEUMS WITH ANCIENT ARTIFACTS OR A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED RAMEN SHOP TO JUST PLAYING AROUND IN THE HOUSE ON A RAINY DAY. THE APCC IN FUKUOKA IS SOMETHING I WILL NEVER FORGET. THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

LUKE SERA-TACORDA
2019 JA.



Berkeley JACL Service Event at Alameda County Community Food Bank

By Ryan Matsuda

With the success of our last two service events, the Berkeley JACL is planning another service event at the Alameda County Community Food Bank on Saturday, February 1st from 1-4 PM. We will be sorting food and produce at the warehouse located at [7900 Edgewater Drive](http://7900EdgewaterDrive) in Oakland.

Please email berkeleyjacl@gmail.com if you plan on attending so that we can get a headcount or also let him know if you have any questions. Currently, we have 15 spots available.



Fun Night with the Berkeley JACL and Nakayoshi

On November 16th, Berkeley JACL continued its partnership with Nakayoshi with a fun night of udon and board games! About 18 early-to-mid career professionals came together from both the Berkeley JACL and Nakayoshi, a San Francisco-based community development and social group for adults and recent college graduates. We first had dinner at Marugame Udon in downtown Berkeley and then played many rounds of board games at Victory Point Cafe. Thank you to all who attended! We will continue to partner with Nakayoshi for future social events. Please like Berkeley JACL and Nakayoshi on Facebook to keep up with future events or email berkeleyjacl@gmail.com to find out more information.

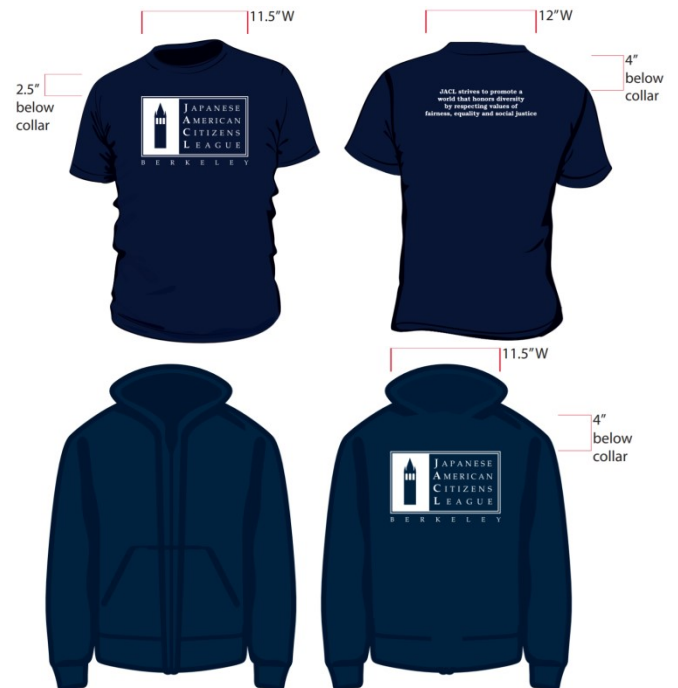


Order your own Berkeley JACL T-Shirt or Hoodie!

Price? \$15 for a t-shirt, \$25 for a zip up hoodie

Send orders by December 21 to berkeleyjacl@gmail.com. Include:

1. Number of T-shirts you'd like to order and sizes for each.
2. Number of Zip Up Hoodies you'd like to order and sizes for each
3. Address for shipping
4. Contact email
5. Contact phone number



Tsuru for Solidarity

By Nancy Ukai

What does a paper crane have to do with immigrant detention in the U.S.?

The humble origami crane (tsuru) has become the symbol of “Tsuru for Solidarity,” an all-volunteer, nonviolent movement to protest inhumane government policies that have separated families, caged children and subjected tens of thousands of asylum seekers to inhumane conditions in mass detention camps. Japanese Americans “stand on the moral authority of our own unjust incarceration to say ‘stop repeating history,’”

said Satsuki Ina, a co-organizer of TFS and member of Florin JACL.

Supported by the JACL, Densho, the Korematsu Institute, Minami Tamaki LLP, the Manzanar Committee and the Tule Lake Committee among others, the group is planning a “National Pilgrimage to Close the Camps” on June 5-7, 2020 in Washington DC,

The main event is a march on June 6 that will feature 100 taiko drummers and Nikkei from across the country who will carry 125,000 folded paper cranes as symbols of solidarity with detained immigrants. The figure represents the number of Japanese Americans and Japanese Latin Americans who were rounded up and put into WWII concentration camps.

Already folded cranes will be strung at J-Sei on Sat. Dec. 14 and Sat. Jan. 18, from 10 AM- 1 PM, with refreshments provided by the Berkeley JACL. For more information, visit www.tsuruforsolidarity.org



June 2019 Demonstration at Fort Sill

The J Box**

By Nancy Ukai

If you walked by The Marsh theater on Allston Way during early November, you may have seen a sidewalk advertisement for “The Jap Box,” a one-man magic performance. When the Berkeley JACL board heard about the use of this ugly racial slur in the program’s title, directors promptly decided to protest its

usage by writing a letter to the theater and the show’s creator, David Hirata, a sansei. Co-president Tiffany Ikeda and board members Karen Kiyo Lowhurst and Nancy Ukai attended the one-hour show and talked with Hirata afterward. They explained the pain of the term and the dangers of normalizing it.

Outrage had been building on social media. “It’s like the ‘N-word’ for us,” wrote Mitchell Matsumura of Los Angeles. Hirata had already spoken with JACL executive director David Inoue about the controversy and said he had decided to change the title, which referred to the racist naming of a magic prop from Japan.

The Berkeley chapter wrote a letter two days later to The Marsh and within two more days, the play’s title was officially changed to “The Box without a Bottom.” Hirata apologized, saying that he had asked his family members, who were incarcerated at Gila River, AZ, and Tule Lake, CA, about the title and “they agreed that the title was provocative, but that the use of the ‘J’ word in reference to a specific object gave it context.” But he added that “I have simply underestimated the raw pain of the ‘J’ word...The pain caused in the Japanese-American community by the title was real and something I regret.”

Read more:

Karen Kiyo Lowhurst’s op-ed in Berkeleyside

<https://www.berkeleyside.com/2019/11/14/opinion-calling-out-an-offensive-word-in-a-play-title-leads-to-changes>

David Hirata’s apology

<https://themarsh.org/blog/a-name-change/>

San Francisco Chronicle

<https://datebook.sfchronicle.com/theater/review-magic-trick-tells-150-years-of-japanese-american-history-in-jap-box>

Nichi Bei

<https://www.nichibei.org/2019/11/controversial-show-title-prompts-reflection-and-change/>



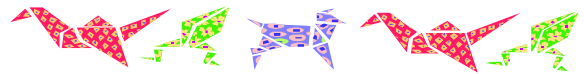
125,000 PAPER CRANES TO DC IN JUNE 2020 FOR TSURU FOR SOLIDARITY'S NATIONAL PILGRIMAGE TO CLOSE THE CAMPS

Japanese Americans from across the country will gather next spring in Washington, D.C. on June 5-7, 2020 for a "National Pilgrimage to Close the Camps." We plan to bring 125,000 paper cranes, or tsuru, as expressions of solidarity with immigrant and refugee communities that are under attack today. The 125,000 cranes represent the members of our community who were rounded up and incarcerated in U.S. concentration camps during World War II, including both Japanese Americans and Japanese Latin Americans.

Apply to be a Census Worker

The U.S. Census Bureau is hiring temporary workers for the 2020 census count, including census takers and office staff. It is important to have representatives from all communities working as census workers to work towards a full and accurate count.

Go to www.2020census.gov/en/jobs.html to find the application and pay rates in our area.



Co-Presidents
Secretary
Treasurer
Directors:

Tiffany Ikeda, Beth Ono
Tara Umemoto
Tak Shirasawa

Carolyn Adams, Jim Duff, Mark Fujikawa, Howard Fukuda, Vera Kawamura, Kana Kobayashi, Maya Kushima, Karen Lowhurst, Ryan Matsuda, Kaz Mori, Estella Nakahara-Hemp, Neal Ouye, Al Satake, David Siap, Ron Tanaka, Marco Torrez, Nancy Ukai, Gordon Yamamoto, Valerie Yasukochi



Kodomo No Tame Ni...

For the sake of the children...



Whether for yourself, your children or grandchildren, supporting the JACL is a family legacy and tradition you can proudly pass on for the future. Founded in 1929, the JACL is the nation's oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization advocating for our community. Beyond the JACL's work in standing against injustice and bigotry for all, JACL has so many more benefits to offer your younger family members with a JACL membership, including:

- Subscription to the Pacific Citizen, with national news, JACL news, and more
- Community and cultural programs and events with your local JACL chapter
- Eligibility for the JACL Credit Union
- Discounts on shipping with UPS
- Eligibility for JACL scholarships, fellowships, and leadership development programs
- Access to regional youth summits and events to connect with other young Japanese Americans
- Opportunities for students and young professionals to travel to Japan through the JACL's partnership with the Kakehashi Project
- Free admission to the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles
- Discounted AARP membership and access to additional AARP benefits (visit www.aarp.org/jacl for details)

Ready to sign your family members up for a JACL membership? Fill out and submit the form on the next page, contact our membership department at (415) 921-5225, or visit www.jacl.org



Newsletter

Editor Neal Ouye

Contributors Vera Kawamura, Ryan Matsuda, Ron Tanaka, Nancy Ukai, Beth Uno

Production and Circulation

Jim Duff, Valerie Yasukochi, Carolyn Adams

Moving and changing your address?
Send us a *Change of Address* card at:

Japanese American Citizens League
Berkeley Chapter
Membership
PO Box 7609
Berkeley, CA 94707-0609

2020 Berkeley JACL Officer and Board Installation Luncheon

When: Sunday, January 26, 2020
11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location: Barney's Gourmet Hamburgers
1600 Shattuck Ave. #112, Berkeley, CA 94709
Phone: 510-849-2827

Buffet Menu Includes:

Mixed French Fries

Spring mix salad or Caesar salad

Choice of black Angus ground beef, chicken breast, ground turkey, or garden burger

Tomatoes, red onions, pickles & BBQ, Chipotle, bacon, salsa, mushrooms

Choice of soda, lemonade, coffee, or iced tea

Cost:

Board Members - \$15.00*

Board Members who are full time students - \$0.00*

Berkeley Chapter Members who are full time students - \$10.00*

Berkeley Chapter Members - \$20.00*

Non Berkeley Chapter Members - \$29.00

*Chapter will subsidize a portion of the cost of the meal

**Please RSVP by Jan. 16 -- send check (payable to "Berkeley JACL") to:
Ron Tanaka, 2960 Windtree Court, Lafayette, CA 94549
Prepayment preferred – payment also accepted at event.**

Questions: call 925.932.7947 or e-mail: ron_tanaka@yahoo.com

____ Yes, we will attend.

____ Enclosed is \$ _____ for _____ (number of lunches)

Attendee Name(s): _____

JACL-Berkeley Chapter

2020 Officers and Directors

Official Ballot

Instructions:

The following individuals have agreed to serve as Officers and/or Directors for the 2020 term. Officers are also Directors. Put an "X" in the space provided. If you wish to nominate another individual, print the person's name in the "Write-in" space. Please return your ballot by December 31, 2019 to:

JACL, Berkeley Chapter
2020 Election
P.O. Box 7609
Berkeley, CA 94707-0609

Co-Presidents: Vote for Two:

Karen Lowhurst ☐ Beth Uno ☐ Write In: _____

Co-Treasurer: Vote for Two:

Mark Fujikawa ☐ Tak Shirasawa (Asst) ☐ Write In: _____

Secretary: Vote for Two:

Kana Kobayashi ☐ Marco Torrez (Asst) ☐ Write In: _____

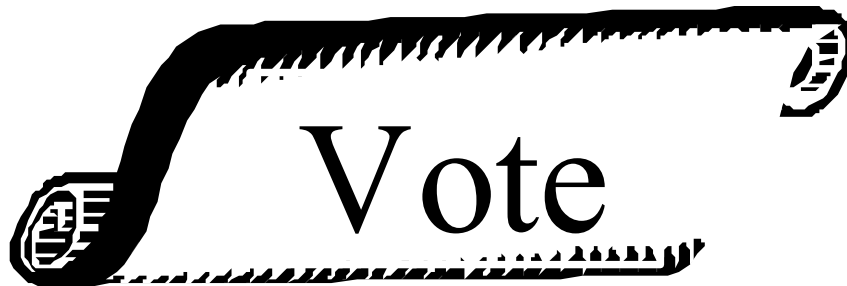
Directors: Vote for Sixteen:

Carolyn Adams ☐
Maya Kashima ☐
Kaz Mori ☐
Al Satake ☐
Tara Umemoto ☐
Valerie Yasukochi ☐
Write In: _____

Jim Duff ☐ Tiffany Ikeda ☐
Vera Kawamura ☐ Ryan Matsuda ☐
Estella Nakamura-Hemp ☐ Neal Ouye ☐
Ron Tanaka ☐ Nancy Ukai ☐
Gordon Yamamoto ☐ Dani Yang ☐

Write In: _____ Write In: _____

We appreciate your show of support by participating in this 2020 Election.



Berkeley JACL Membership Application

Names(s) – primary and spouse/partner _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Phone# and Email _____

<u>Membership Category</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Description</u>
Regular/Individual	\$70.	National dues \$65+\$5 Chapter dues
Couple/Family	\$115.	National dues \$110+\$5 Chapter dues
Student/Youth	\$35.	National dues \$30+\$5 Chapter dues
Thousand Club	\$100.	Annual contribution
Thousand Club Life	\$3,000.	One-time payment for lifetime membership
Century Club	\$175.	Annual contribution
Century Club Life	\$5,000.	One-time payment for lifetime membership
Millenium Club	\$1,000.	Annual contribution

Your tax-deductible check payable to Berkeley JACL can be sent to our PO Box 7609, Berkeley, CA 94707-0609 or JACL National Headquarters, P.O. Box 45397, San Francisco, CA 94145-0397.

Your membership includes a digital subscription to the Pacific Citizen (be sure to include your email address). If you prefer a hard copy, please check the box below and include your check for an **additional** \$17/year.

☐ **MAIL** me the Pacific Citizen – enclosed is my check for an additional \$17.

For more information, contact JACL National Membership in San Francisco at 415-921-5225 x25.

Payment by credit card can be made at <https://jacl.org/member/>. Please specify you want to be a member of the Berkeley Chapter

**Japanese American Citizens League
Berkeley Chapter
P.O Box 7609
Berkeley, CA 94707-0609**

Meet your 2020 Berkeley JACL Board at Installation Lunch on January 26, 2020