

September / October 2017

Berkeley JACL Newsletter

SERVING THE BERKELEY, OAKLAND, AND ALBANY COMMUNITIES

Coming Events

- Sep 23 **Berkeley Nikkei Seniors Group** at the
Oct 14, 28 North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901
Nov 11, 25 Hearst Ave., Berkeley. This group meets
Dec 9, 23 every 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month.
For information contact Howard Fukuda
(howardfukuda@gmail.com)
- Sep 27- **Miyoko Ito Exhibit at the Berkeley Art**
Jan 28, 2018 **Museum**; see article inside
- Oct 1 **Otsukimi/ Moon Viewing Festival**; see
article inside
- Oct 21-22 **Growing Up Sansei**; see flyer attached
- Nov 15 **Deadline for Holiday Ads for the**
Pacific Citizen; see Article

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/



Meet the New Berkeley JACL Chapter Co-President Tiffany Ikeda



Tiffany Ikeda is very excited to be serving as your new Berkeley JACL co-president. Tiffany is a lifelong JACL member who has attended national conventions since she was an infant. Tiffany has been involved with the JACL since high school as the president of the Junior JACL Fresno chapter, the NCWNP National Youth Student Council Representative in 2010 and 2011, and on multiple national convention committees. Tiffany attended law school at the University of Iowa before moving to Oakland in the fall of 2015 to work as an attorney at a federal agency. She joined the Berkeley JACL Board of Directors in January 2017 and served as the Civil Rights Committee chair. She is saddened by the departure of the immediate past president, Beth Uno, and eagerly awaits her return from her adventures in Japan. Tiffany is pleased to be part of such a vibrant organization during these defining times in our nation's history.

November Deadline for Holiday Ads in the Pacific Citizen!

Please support the Berkeley JACL by submitting a "Season's Greeting" or advertisement in this year's Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue. This is our chapter's largest (and only) fundraiser for the year. Your support last year helped us present several major community events: "Talk-story and Treasures - Artifacts Tell Tales We Must Not Forget" and "Art Then & Now - A Thread that Connect Us."

This year our Civil Rights Committee organized a well-received panel discussion, "Conversations for Action: Strategies to Connect Us" which brought together diverse representation from various minority organizations for coalition building. On the scholarship side, our chapter is very proud to

have awarded 12 scholarships to local graduating high school seniors, three of whom also received National JACL Scholarships, along with two of our members who received graduate scholarships! We awarded a grant to JCCCNC (Japanese Community Cultural and Community Center of Northern California) to help sponsor interns at various JA community organizations for the summer.

With your help, we can continue providing grants and scholarships, supporting activities for our seniors, sponsorship of youth involvement in the Nikkei community, hosting relevant and culturally sensitive events, maintaining civil rights and hate crime awareness, and printing our wonderful newsletter. We are counting on your generosity to assist us in these endeavors by placing a holiday ad as we continue our valuable work.

The ad rate remains unchanged at \$25 per column inch. A 2 column x 2 inch (business card size) ad costs \$100. There are a variety of ad sizes to choose from. We encourage you to increase the size of your ad – the additional income for the chapter is appreciated! Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions.

The deadline for the holiday greetings is November 15. However, if you need additional time, please give one of us a call and we'll work with you to ensure your submission appears in the Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue.

Renewals with no changes are as simple as (1) sending us an email OR (2) calling by phone to give us "the go ahead" OR (3) return the upper portion of your ad to Lindsey at the address noted below. New ad copies can be emailed to us and if you want to add a graphic to your greeting, just let us know. Your check should be made payable to Berkeley JACL and mailed to PC Holiday Ads – Berkeley JACL, c/o Lindsey Kawahara, 2 Panoramic Way #305, Berkeley, CA 94704. Changes to ad copy and all new ads can be accepted electronically or via mail. Sorry, but we are unable to accept credit card payments.

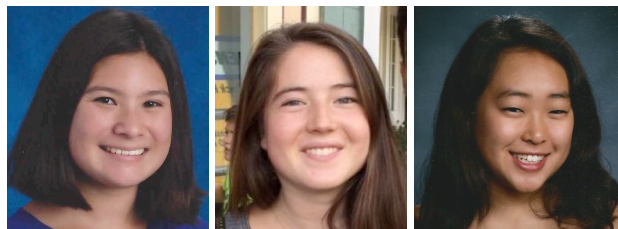
Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our holiday ad coordinators: Lindsey Kawahara: 213-400-0972 (text/call); lskawahara@gmail.com or Valerie Yasukochi: 510-336-3371 (preferred), 510-387-8335 (text/call); vyasukochi@gmail.com. We deeply appreciate your generous support. Thank you very much!

National JACL Awards Scholarships to 5 Chapter Members

By Ron Tanaka

The Berkeley Chapter is proud to announce that five (5) of its members were awarded National JACL scholarships for 2017. Three (3) were awarded entering freshman scholarships and 2 were awarded graduate study scholarships.

Freshman Scholarships



Martha Castro Amelia Huster Junko Tanaguchi

Martha Castro (College Prep HS) was awarded the \$2,000 Mr. & Mrs. Takashi Moriuchi Memorial Scholarship. Martha will attend Pomona College as a molecular biology major. **Amelia Huster** (Berkeley HS) was also awarded a \$2,000 Mr. & Mrs. Takashi Moriuchi Memorial Scholarship. Amelia will attend UC Santa Cruz as an undeclared major. Established in 1975 by Takashi and Yuriko Moriuchi, Mr. Moriuchi, a successful fruit farmer, is the past New Jersey State Director of the United States Department of Agriculture Farmers Home Administration. Mrs. Moriuchi, a professor of Ikebana, is president of the American Guild of Flower Arrangers. Originally from California, Yuriko Moriuchi currently resides in Medford, New Jersey.

Junko Taniguchi (Lowell HS) was awarded the \$1,000 CW04 Mitsugi Murakami Kansai Memorial Scholarship. Junko will attend Smith College as an undeclared major. The Mitsugi Murakami Kansai Memorial Scholarship was established by the estate of Mitsugi Murakami Kasai, aka "Casey", who was a dedicated and loyal soldier. An army veteran, he graduated from the MIS language school and later underwent counter intelligence training. He served as a Special Agent in Japan, Okinawa, Vietnam, Korea, and the US. As his parents aged, Mr. Kasai retired to tenderly care for them until their passing. He was a passionate crusader for the military, veterans, and the Nikkei community.

Graduate Scholarships*Tara Umemoto**Jessica Kawamura*

Jessica Kawamura was awarded the \$5,000 Henry & Chiyo Kuwahara Memorial Scholarship.

The Henry and Chiyo Kuwahara Memorial Scholarship was established by the estate of Henry and Chiyo Kuwahara. Mr. Kuwahara, a resident of Los Angeles, was a well-known investment and securities broker in Little Tokyo. Due to the Kuwahara's strong belief in youth and the value of education, their estate funds a number of JACL scholarships.

Tara Umemoto was awarded the \$1,000 Minoru Yasui Memorial Scholarship. A UC Berkeley graduate with a degree in Social Welfare/Education, Tara is pursuing a Master's degree in Social Work at Berkeley. The Minoru Yasui Memorial Scholarship was established by Minoru Yasui, a civil rights advocate and attorney. Minoru was one of the four Nisei who challenged the imprisonment of Japanese Americans during WWII. After the war, Mr. Yasui practiced law and served as legal counsel for dozens of community organizations and activities. In 1979, Mr. Yasui was appointed chair of the JACL Committee on Redress, in which he traveled extensively around the country advocating for redress and reparations.

JACL National Convention Reports***By Beth Uno***

From July 6th to 9th, a cohort of five Berkeley chapter board members, including myself, attended the 2017 JACL National Convention in Washington, D.C. The theme of this year's convention was "Our Story: Resilience, Remembrance, Resolve," in honor of the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066.

The most important business of this convention was the passing of eight resolutions. Highlights included a resolution condemning religious prejudice in asylum policies of America and another resolution in solidarity with the Native American peoples of the Standing Rock Sioux tribal land being negatively affected by the building of the Dakota Access Pipeline.

I am proud to be a member of an organization that stands for the civil rights of immigrants and native peoples. During such a polarizing time in our country, it is of the utmost importance that the JACL stands strong against hatred and prejudice. Other notable resolutions passed ensured the presence of the JACL as a national organization through the maintenance of a Midwest regional director and support to continue facilitating American concentration camp education programs.

During the business sessions of the convention, the strategic planning committee presented their report which included a summary of chapters throughout the country on their accomplishments and challenges. There were many notable findings that we see in our own chapter, including a remarkable generation gap. Younger people of my generation mostly want the JACL to strongly support current civil rights movements such as Black Lives Matter in order to stay relevant. However, some members of older generations are more hesitant for the JACL to speak openly in support of such movements. Our national organization must decide on a progressive direction in order to survive, as membership continues to decline and our national budget continues to shrink. The National JACL board must come up with a plan or else JACL will disappear.

Co-president Jim Duff and board members Amelia Huster, Tiffany Ikeda, Valerie Yasukochi, and I enjoyed a reception at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History where we viewed the "Righting a Wrong: Japanese Americans and World War II" exhibit for the first time. It was a thrill to see Berkeley JACL's name listed at the exhibit as a sponsor. The exhibit featured the original full document of Executive Order 9066 and an overview of several aspects of the concentration camps, including the 442nd Regional Combat Team and the redress movement. We also enjoyed a second reception at the Ambassador of Japan's residence.

Thank you to the Berkeley chapter for allowing me the opportunity to attend convention again. Although I am stepping down as co-president to move to Tokyo temporarily for a job opportunity, I hope to continue to be involved with JACL in the Japan chapter. The Berkeley chapter has really become my community as a transplant to the East Bay Area. I am grateful for the many board members who have welcomed and supported me during my time on the board and I look forward to reuniting with you all in the future.



By Amelia Huster

When I attended the 2017 National Convention in Washington DC, I thought it would be a good learning experience and a chance for me to become more involved with the JACL on a national level. I had no idea the impact it would have on me at the time. Attending convention was a life changing experience for many reasons, and I'll talk about a few of them.

Attending convention was the first time I had really traveled alone without a parent or relative so I was pretty nervous. I was caught off guard by how at home I immediately felt when I arrived at the hotel and connected with my Berkeley Board members and other chapter members. I realized that I had never really been around so many Japanese Americans, for so long in one space, and it made me feel comfortable in a previously unknown setting. Everyone I met made an effort to talk with me and make me feel like I belonged there.

I was also struck by the array of activities on the agenda for those three days. On the first night, we attended a reception at the Smithsonian Museum of American History. The museum was reserved for the convention participants, and we all got to see the relatively new exhibit on the Incarceration. It was a unique and moving experience to walk through that exhibit with other Japanese Americans. When I talk about the Incarceration with friends, I usually feel like I have to educate them about it. That night, we all shared similar stories of which relatives were incarcerated, where, and what their unique experience was like. Even though the Incarceration is a dark part of our past, it brought us together that night in a nuanced way. We were also able to attend other incredible events like a dinner at the Ambassador of Japan's residence, and workshops on building coalitions.

Another aspect of convention that made my experience so incredible was the youth involvement. I got to meet so many other youth who were involved in their local chapters like me, something I hadn't been

able to do in the past. I had the chance to spend a great deal of time with members of the NYSC, National Youth Student Council, a group of youth representatives from different districts. I was so inspired by these young people and their level of civil engagement and involvement in issues affecting our community. Getting to watch these young people lead, even lead adults, made me hopeful for my own future and the future of the JACL.

I also got to learn a lot by attending the National Council meetings and observing how those meetings are run. I learned about Robert's Rules Of Order, the procedure in which the meeting were run. I got to sit next to and talk with representatives from other districts. I got to watch people argue passionately, respectfully and effectively to pass amendments that they felt strongly about. I even got to see how politics can sometimes cross paths with our mission statement, and how that was handled.

Overall, I cannot express enough how glad and thankful I am that I was able to attend convention this year. I came out with such a better understanding of what it means and looks like to really be involved in your Japanese Community and make change. It was hard to leave, but I plan on attending again next year in Philadelphia. I strongly encourage anyone who is on the fence about going, wants to get more involved but doesn't know how, feels badly about our political climate or just wants to have a really fun time and learn a lot to attend next year as well. I hope to see you there!

Miyoko Ito at the Berkeley Art Museum

The enigmatic abstract oil paintings of Berkeley Nisei Miyoko Ito (1918-1983) will be exhibited at the Berkeley Art Museum from September 27 until January 28, 2018. A special curator's talk by Jordan Stein will be given at on Wednesday, September 27, at 6 p.m. on the exhibition's opening day. Attendance to the lecture is free with admission to the museum.

Ito was born in Berkeley in 1918 to immigrant parents. She graduated from Berkeley High School and UC Berkeley, where she studied art before being removed to Tanforan and Topaz after Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, paving the way for the removal of all American Japanese from the West Coast. She was able to receive a scholarship to Smith College and leave Topaz, albeit without her husband, who was unable to receive leave clearance until years later. After a period

at Smith, she transferred to the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

The Berkeley Art Museum's exhibition marks the first solo presentation of Ito's work in Berkeley. According to the museum, "Ito's geometrically inspired abstraction primarily involves the construction and exploration of interior and exterior space. Her singular vision reminds us not only of our inseparability from the natural world, but that human interiors are just as vast and unknowable as any vista". Ito said in a 1978 interview that "Every time I have a problem, I go deeper and deeper into painting, I have no place to take myself except painting."

DACA Rescinded- Message from Representative Barbara Lee

As an advocate for justice, dignity and equality, I am outraged by President Trump's decision to end the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) Program that has shielded undocumented young people from arbitrary deportations and allowed them to go to school, start careers, and live full lives here in America. These DREAMers – who were brought to the United States as children – are Americans in every way except on paper. They love this country and contribute to our communities. Deporting them from the only country they've ever known would be a betrayal of our values.

I was inspired to join public service to fix problems and to bring comfort and aid to the suffering. Sadly, President Trump has used his position of power to tear apart families and spread fear. It's time for Congress to draw a line in the sand. DREAMers, who have done everything right, deserve better than the cruelty and heartlessness on display from this administration.

In the coming days, we will have the opportunity to be a voice for these young people, to show them that they are not alone. It will take people of conscience on both sides of aisle to defend DREAMers and fix our broken immigration system by passing comprehensive immigration reform.

And while we work on a legislative fix, I promise that I will do everything in my power to protect these young people. If you or someone you know has questions about the impact of the DACA rescission, please reach out to my office at (510) 763-0370 or [through my website](#). Once again, it's an honor to serve California's 13th District – the most vibrant and

enlightened congressional district in the country – and fight for you.

Barbara Lee

51st Anniversary – Otsukimi/Moon Viewing Festival

Sponsored by Union Bank

Please join the Oakland Fukuoka Sister City Association for an evening of Japanese food, entertainment and moon viewing. We will be honoring the 100th birthday of the late Frank Ogawa.

Sunday, October 1, 2017 from 5:30pm - 8:30pm

Lakeside Park Garden Center,
666 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland, CA
(across from Children's Fairyland)

\$5.00 weekend parking

5:30 pm – Bonsai garden open house (garden closes at 6:30pm)

6:30 pm – Tatsumaki Taiko (Japanese drums) and performances by the student delegates of the High School Summer Exchange.

7:30 pm – Moon Viewing by Eastbay Astronomical Society

Japanese Bento box dinners are available only on a pre-paid basis by sending your check for \$15 to OFSCA, P.O. Box 13022, Oakland CA 94661-3022. Check must be received by September 25, 2017 or pay online on the website.

www.oakland-fukuoka.org
ofscal962@gmail.com

Liane Scott
Oakland Fukuoka Sister City Association
510.325.3729

Rally Against Hate

By Cole Huster

On Sunday, August 27, two weeks after Neo-Nazi violence in Charlottesville, VA left two law enforcement officers and one civilian woman dead, thousands gathered in the streets of Oxford and Addison and filled the Crescent Lawn at UC Berkeley for the Bay Area Rally Against Hate. The rally, planned by an organization called "Unite for Freedom from Right Wing Violence in the Bay Area" was a response to the "Say no to Marxism" rally in Civic Center park planned for the same day.

Leaving the house with my family on Sunday morning, we encountered few on our walk through North Berkeley. Carrying our "Berkeley Stands United Against Hate" signs, we wondered if people were really going to this rally at all. As we walked through the Gourmet Ghetto, however, the number of people walking with us began to grow. Block by block, the walkers turned into a crowd, and it thickened as we approached the site of the rally.

As a Junior and a member of the Berkeley High School Community, I have been a proud participant of rallies and walkouts organized and attended by students at my school. This, however, was very different for me. I had never been in a situation like this with adults. I was surprised to see so many parents, teachers, and other adult supporters at an event to protest and stand together against hate. In my past experiences, protest and discourse have been reserved for the youth. On Sunday, however, looking at the adults coming together and voicing their opinions, I felt proud to be a member of the Berkeley city community as well.

As I made my way through the crowd I saw many people showing off their homemade signs with sayings such as "RESIST" and "Our fathers fought the Nazis so that we would not have to!". At the heart of the demonstration stood a group of people who sang songs of resistance with the crowd and gave inspirational speeches on issues with which they were concerned. This group included Kathryn Lybarger, the MC of the event. Lybarger is the international vice president of AFSCME, (American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees), the largest public services and employees union in the country, and represents 21,000 employees as the president of local 3299. Lybarger gave powerful speeches on the issues in our nation and community.

The overall mood of the rally was one that reflected the frustration and fear circulating our community and country in the past year, but from beginning to end, I never felt the slightest bit unsafe. It seemed apparent that law enforcement was there to protect those peacefully exercising their first amendment rights to both welcome and unwelcome speech. They did a great job. There was no violence at our rally, and I was surprised to see the media disproportionately cover the isolated incidents located at the Civic Center Park, where some people decided to use violence later in the day.

I wear my Japanese heritage on my sleeve whenever possible. This is an element of my culture

that I believe strengthens and influences my world views towards civil rights and equality. It has always given me a certain level of reluctance to have blind faith in the government, due to the way that they have treated my relatives in the past. The rally was an example of one way that people who are, like myself, relatively privileged, can support more marginalized groups.



Amelia and Cole Huster at Rally



President	Jim Duff, Tiffany Ikeda
Secretary	Vance Oishi
Treasurer	Tak Shirasawa
Directors:	
	Carolyn Adams, Mark Fujikawa, Howard Fukuda, Monique Gomes, Cole Huster, Lindsey Kawahara, Vera Kawamura, Paul Nakao, Kaz Mori, Neal Ouye, Nancy Ukai Russell, Al Satake, Ron Tanaka, Tara Umemoto, Gordon Yamamoto, Valerie Yasukochi

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