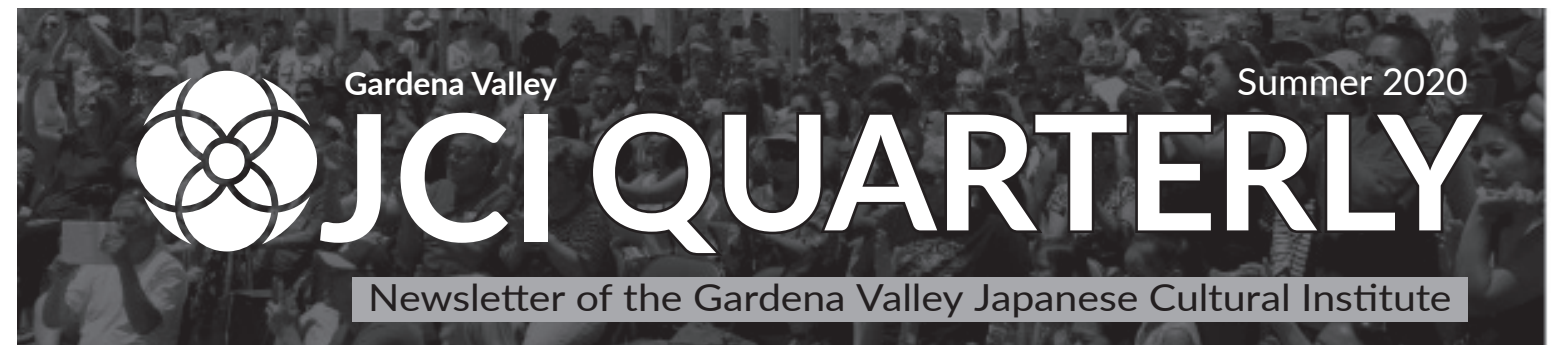




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2020 GVJCI VIRTUAL MATSURI THANK YOU!
 By Cathy Lee, Director of Development and Marketing

This has been a challenging time for everyone, and we want to sincerely thank you for your support during this unprecedented time. Your safety is our priority.

While living through a pandemic is new to us, some things are not: like the support from you, our Member Organizations, donors, volunteers, friends and community! As the GVJCI's largest annual fundraiser, we are pleased to share that this year's 2020 GVJCI Virtual Matsuri Fundraiser was a success and we couldn't have done it without you!

The Annual GVJCI Matsuri Fundraiser has been a South Bay tradition for over 60 years, bringing all ages of the community together, including many generations of families, for a fun-filled, family-friendly weekend celebrating the Nikkei culture. We are pleased that we were able to continue our tradition with our very first Virtual Matsuri!

Who would have thought that we would be experiencing a global pandemic that changed our lives in so many ways? Last year, we made many new changes to our annual matsuri, and I didn't think I would be reporting any additional changes, at least major changes this year. But of course almost everything changed! Pivoting from a physical matsuri to a virtual matsuri was new for all of us! What didn't change was the tremendous support from you, our Member Organizations, donors, friends and supporters of the GVJCI. GVJCI is deeply grateful for the support the community gives each year.

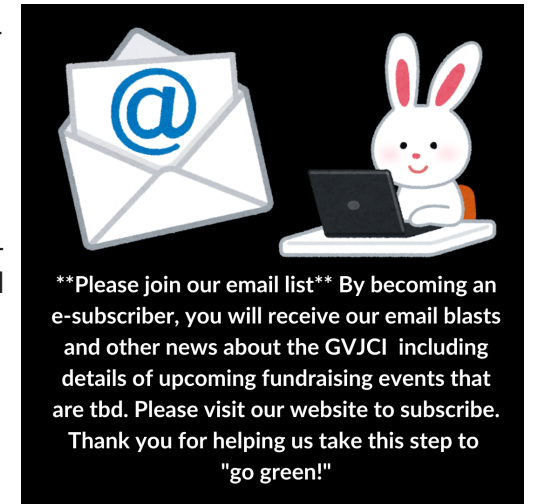
The 2020 GVJCI Virtual Matsuri Fundraiser was held from June 22 - 26, and was completely online. Guests enjoyed virtual matsuri content throughout the week. Each day began with a special welcome from GVJCI Board Members and staff followed by videos and social media posts featuring GVJCI Matsuri favorites like taiko, hula, games, imagawayaki, spam musubi, yakisoba, martial arts and more! We even included a virtual matsuri Art Gallery showcasing work from the GVJCI Tomo No Kai Oil Painting class on our website. The good news is that you can always visit our website, Facebook, Instagram and YouTube channels to enjoy this content again or even for the first time! On Thursday, we announced the 2020 GVJCI Scholarship recipients. We finished off the week with virtual bingo on Thursday and Friday and a special closing message from our GVJCI Executive Director, Alison Kochiyama.

We also introduced a new poster and commemorative t-shirt this year. We hope you enjoyed our poster designed to bring joy through many matsuri memories!

Thank you for your ongoing support and well wishes during this time. It means so much to us! We hope our content inspired you to make and enjoy your favorite GVJCI Matsuri food or at least created anticipation for next year's Annual 2021 GVJCI Matsuri! We are missing you too and look forward to the time when we can all be together again.

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****Please join our email list**** By becoming an e-subscriber, you will receive our email blasts and other news about the GVJCI including details of upcoming fundraising events that are tbd. Please visit our website to subscribe. Thank you for helping us take this step to "go green!"

OR CURRENT OCCUPANT

GARDENA VALLEY JAPANESE CULTURAL INSTITUTE

The Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute (GVJCI) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit community center providing various classes, programs, services, and facilities to the South Bay area. We also provide affordable housing through the JCI Gardens Apartments, the adjacent senior housing property.

The GVJCI's roots date back to 1912, when it was known as the Moneta Gakuen, a Japanese language school. In 1967, it was formally incorporated as the Gardena Valley Japanese Language School. Then, in 1968, the corporation changed its name to the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute to incorporate the broader services and functions the organization offers. In 1971, Compton Gakuen, Gardena Gakuen, and Moneta Gakuen merged, opening its doors officially as the GVJCI's Japanese Language School. The GVJCI has a very proud history spanning over 100 years.

Today, we continue to provide a variety of activities, programs, and services. We are truly fortunate to have an active and well-utilized center serving people of all ages. We thank you, the community, for your active participation and for your support through donations and volunteerism that enables the GVJCI to continue.

MISSION STATEMENT

A space to engage, share, and embrace the Nikkei experience and culture.

VISION STATEMENT

The GVJCI envisions a vibrant network and a welcoming space for all persons interested in Japanese heritage and culture where history and tradition are honored, people are inspired to create action and change, and cultural pride and respect for all humanity are promoted.

Board of Directors

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- Lawrence Hada
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- Paul Koshi
- Helen Nakano
- Glenn Tachibana
- Terry Terauchi

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- Cathy Lee, *Director of Development & Marketing*
- Debbie Oba, *Administrative Manager*
- Stephanie Mayeda, *Program Manager*
- Chikako Roper, *Bilingual Programs Coordinator*

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- Brian Hoshiko, *Maintenance Custodian*
- Bob Seki, *Maintenance Custodian*
- Gerald Mayewaki, *Facility Assistant*

Japanese Language School

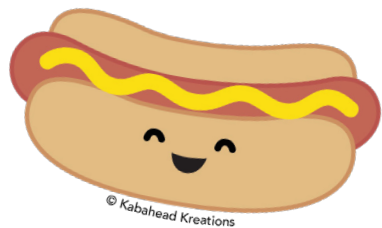
- Lawrence Hada, *Principal*
- Masumi Sasaki, *Vice Principal & Teacher*
- Mayumi Fuchino, *Teacher*
- Shizuka Marinakis, *Teacher*
- Asaka Morita, *Teacher*
- Chiaki Suzuki, *Teacher*
- Naoko Tran, *Teacher*
- Eriko Yamamoto, *Adult Class & Conversation Class Teacher*



A special thank you to our GVJCI Board President, Ray Shibata and GVJCI Executive Director, Alison Kochiyama for their continued leadership, insight and support. Thank you to our Matsuri Committee members for your input, suggestions and hard work. Your combined effort and support made the Virtual Matsuri a huge success!

We are committed to carrying out our mission: "A space to engage, share, and embrace the Nikkei experience and culture" even if it is in new and unexpected ways! We invite you to follow us on Facebook and Instagram, and to sign up for our emails through www.jci-gardena.org/ to stay up to date with the latest information from us.

As a nonprofit community organization, this annual fundraising event is essential in order to support the operational, programming, overhead, and maintenance expenses of the GVJCI. Funding also supports our various cultural, educational, and social programs and services especially during this challenging time. On behalf of the GVJCI, we sincerely thank you all!



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MONETARY DONATIONS

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ENTERTAINMENT VIDEOS

Boy Scout Troop 719
Randy Fujimoto
Derek Hino
Brian Hoshiko
Barbara Kagawa Shore
Kanani Kalama Hula Studio
JCI Kendo Club
LA Men's Glee Club
Harriet Nagata Hula
Kevin Shore

Tim Toyama/Genie Nakano
Yuujuu Taiko

FOOD VIDEOS

Alan Hino
JCI Kendo Club
Alan Kita
Dayton Lee
Stephanie Mayeda
Debbie Oba
Airi Oye
Chikako Roper
Kailee Sawai

MARTIAL ARTS VIDEOS

Gardena Kendo Club
JCI Kendo Club
Kaizen Dojo

ART GALLERY ARTISTS

Pat Athan
Margie Ban
Mercedes Guzman
Lurline Ikeda
MaryAnn
Naomi Matsuura
Eileen Mayeda
Eileen Stewart
Jennifer Truscott
Joy Urada
Emiko Walton

WELCOME & INTRO VIDEOS

Larry Hada
Bryce Ikemura
Alison Kochiyama
Cathy Lee
Airi Oye
Ray Shibata

GVJCI VIRTUAL MATSURI COMMITTEE

VIRTUAL BINGO COMMITTEE

GVJCI INTERN

Audrey Kono

VIRTUAL MATSURI VIDEO EDITORS

GVJCI VIRTUAL MATSURI AMBASSADORS

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Website



Rei Takeshi Shindo



こんにちは！ぼくの名まえは、シンドウ・レイです。三年がたち、はじめてとしたしごとのことふくめて、よるこんでそつぎようします。このプログラムをとて早くおえることができたことを、ほごりに思います、そして、まなんだスキルをいかしたいと思っています。この学校は、ぼくたちに、きおくするのにとてよいすべてのおしえをあたえて、そのつかいかたのがいねんをおしえてくれました。うまくいけば、ぼくは、たぶんボランティアとしてJCIにもどることができるとおもいます。ほんとにアツというまででしたが、とてまたのしかつたです。これまで、ここのスタッフがぼくにしてくれたように、JCIがさいこうであることをねがっています。ありがとうございました！

Hello! My name is Rei Shindo. I, after 3 years, including the entirety of my first job, am happily graduating. I am proud that I was able to finish this program so quickly, and I hope to use the skills I learned. This school has given us all very good memories to keep and has taught us concepts to use. Hopefully, I will be able to return to JCI, perhaps as a volunteer. Although I will be quickly gone, it was still fun. I wish JCI the best as the staff here has done for me in the past. Thank you!



こんにちは！わたしの名まえは、きくです。わたしは、JCI日本語学校に7年間かよいました。まいしゅう、友だちにあつて、たのしくすごすのをたのしみにしていました。わたしのすきな思ひでは、うんどつかいやもちつきなどです。長年にわたつて、わたしは「かぼちゃのおもさをよそくする」ゲームが、とてとくいなことがわかりました。わたしは、ここJCIのすばらしい先生がた、ボランティアのかたがた、そして、せいとのみなさんにこころからかんしゃしています！ありがとうございました！

Hello! My name is Kiku. I have gone to JCI Japanese Language School for 7 years. Every week, I look forward to seeing my friends and having fun. Some of my favorite memories include Undokai and Mochitsuki. Over the years, I have found that I am very good at the "guess the pumpkin" game. I am so grateful for all of the amazing teachers, volunteers, and students here at JCI! Thank you!

Miki Uchida



こんにちは。わたしの名まえは、内田みきです。わたしは、四年いじょうJCIにかよいました。わたしは、まい年、Kikuといっしょにとてたのしく、二人三きやくレースをしたことをいつもおもいだすと思ひます。JCIでおせわになった、すばらしい思ひやりのあるすべての先生がたにかんしゃしています。ありがとうございました。

Hello. My name is Miki Uchida. I have been going to JCI for over four years. I will always remember having so much fun doing the three-legged race with Kiku every year. I am grateful for all of the amazing and caring teachers I have had at JCI. Thank you.

Molly Kiku Trotter



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ADVENTURERS CLUB

By Tim Toyama

With much regret, I've decided to cancel the November Okinawa tour; a difficult decision, but the uncertainty caused by the coronavirus (quarantines, travel restrictions, and the possibility of a worldwide surge in the fall and winter) make a November tour untenable, or at the very least, not enjoyable.

Also, and again with much regret, I've put the Spring 2021 Okinawa Tour on hold. Like the November Okinawa tour, there are too many uncertainties to confirm a spring tour. As for the next Japan tour, I can't provide any information other than we're in a wait-and-see mode. As soon as international travel opens up, I'll send out announcements. I'm looking at fall 2021 as a possibility for Okinawa, also spring 2022.

Please look for updates in the next newsletter, or you can contact me at timtoyama@gmail.com or 310-848-9890 phone and text.

Please stay safe and healthy!



GVJCI 2021 Calendar: Ad Space Available for Purchase

Support the GVJCI by placing an ad in the 2021 GVJCI Calendar! Your ad will promote your company/business or celebrate special people and milestones (graduations, birthdays, anniversaries, weddings etc.) with a personal ad. Please visit our website for details. The calendar will be distributed to over 1,800 people and businesses and is enjoyed throughout the year.

Donations are also welcome!
All GVJCI Fundraiser proceeds benefit the GVJCI

Contact: Cathy Lee at clee@jci-gardena.org or 310-324-6611



BOARD UPDATE

GVJCI pays tribute to Helen Sadako Kawagoe who passed away on April 6, 2020 at age 92. Helen Kawagoe was recognized for her long career as an elected official, but was also a longtime board of director of the GVJCI and became a GVJCI Board Emeritus in 2013. Helen was elected City Clerk of the City of Carson in 1974 and was reelected in 2011 to that office for an unprecedented tenth term. She was the second person to hold the position since Carson's incorporation as a municipality in 1968, and believed to be the first woman of Japanese American descent elected to local office in the United States. Due to medical reasons, Helen retired in December 2011, after 37 years of charismatic leadership, outstanding achievements, and steadfast commitment to the City of Carson and its residents. We were honored to have had Helen Kawagoe as a part of GVJCI's leadership for over 50 years, and appreciate her dedication and support.



STAFF UPDATE



In April, the GVJCI Staff had to say our goodbyes remotely to our **Program Coordinator Pam Momoko Yan** during our online staff meeting. Unfortunately, Pam departed from her position due to familial commitments. We thank Pam for her hard work and nonstop energy working with our senior programs and Tomo No Kai (TNK). We will miss her!

Chikako Roper, our **Bilingual Programs Coordinator** has now expanded her role to work with all of our senior programs and TNK, which has transitioned online, and will continue supporting the senior onsite programs once it reopens. Thank you, Chikako!



BECOME A 2020 FRIEND OF THE GVJCI!

There are many ways you can support the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute (GVJCI). One important way is through our annual Friends of the GVJCI Campaign. This campaign began in 2016 and our hope is to continue to grow our Friends each year! We invite you to join the 2020 Friends of the GVJCI. Making an automated online monthly pledge/donation is an easy way to support the Annual GVJCI Friends campaign! Your annual contribution will support the continued growth of the GVJCI and its programs, serving the increasingly diverse and dynamic Nikkei communities in the South Bay. Your pledge will help ensure the continued success of the GVJCI. During this unprecedented time, our Friends' support is needed now more than ever.

Please enjoy the following interview with our longtime GVJCI supporter and Friend, Hazel Shimabuku!

Interview with Hazel Shimabuku

By Derek Oye, GVJCI Development Committee Member

How did you get involved with the GVJCI?

I have been a South Bay resident for 35 years, but I've lived in many different places - Oregon, Texas, and many parts of California before finding Gardena. I am originally from the Big Island (Hawaii) and could never get away from my Hawaiian accent. I think, however, that helped me make a friend at work who introduced me to the GVJCI. She started giving me various crafts as gifts as we got to know one another. I really wanted to learn how to make those crafts, so when I retired in 1999 my friend brought me to the GVJCI.

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What programs and services are you involved with at the GVJCI?

When I first started attending the GVJCI, I loved doing crafts and spending time with the other ladies: knitting, crocheting, plastic canvas, and layering art projects. I also loved volunteering for the senior meals program, serving hot meals to others.

Currently, Erma Tahata and I are co-coordinators for Tomo No Kai, the senior club at the GVJCI. Through Tomo No Kai, we make sure all the classes have volunteers to help the teachers. I enjoy volunteering, Bingo on Monday and Wednesday, exercise, and participating or even watching classes.

What do you like most about GVJCI? What is your favorite program?

I just love getting up in the morning and going to GVJCI. During winter I feel like staying at home, but I'm glad GVJCI gives me a reason to get out of the house. You know, I appreciate all the people at GVJCI - I had a stroke while at GVJCI and wouldn't have survived if it were not for them. Fellow seniors and staff recognized my symptoms and made sure I quickly received help before it was too late!



Pictured: Hazel seated at her favorite spot in the Nisei Vets Memorial Hall

GVJCI gives me a purpose and place to go. It gives me motivation. Being able to talk to others helps me realize my problems are not that bad. Seeing others in different situations, but not giving up - that is inspiring. My motto is don't give up, there is always hope! I am 84 years old and GVJCI has helped me a lot!

In light of COVID-19, how are you remaining involved and connected to GVJCI?

Once a month, GVJCI staff and volunteers distribute LA Food Bank food boxes from the GVJCI parking lot. I take about 30 of the boxes and drive them out to seniors who cannot drive. I also volunteer to call seniors in Tomo No Kai. I call about 42 people each week.

For quite a few they like to hear someone else's voice and are very thankful for my phone call.

What would you like to let friends and supporters know about the GVJCI? Why is it important to support the GVJCI?

The GVJCI gives many of us a reason to get up and be somewhere. The GVJCI tends to many different people and is very inclusive. Recently, they started Tomo Cafe for Japanese speaking seniors on Monday and Wednesday. Many Japanese speaking seniors look forward to Tomo Cafe and from there, realize they can participate in other programs. The programs and activities are important to keep our minds and bodies strong.

Being older now, I just love coming here and watching people. I think other seniors are the same. Being able to talk to people, join in an activity, or just being around others. GVJCI is a nice place where you can feel comfortable. You don't have to do anything you don't want to do. Everyone is welcome, no matter what religion or race. I will feel very fortunate when I can come back again!

We had a great time interviewing Hazel! She is kind and spirited, and during the interview she shared with us all her worldly travels, including one of her favorite adventures - walking 250 steps to see the world largest Buddha! If you can, please join Hazel and support the GVJCI by becoming a 2020 Friend of the GVJCI!

2020 GVJCI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Congratulations to our five scholarship recipients who have achieved greatly academically, as well as, provided extensive volunteer hours to the community. We are very proud of all of you and wish you success in your college education!

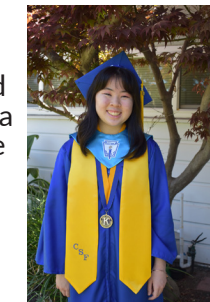
GVJCI Gary Hori Memorial Scholarship

Melanie Oda, Torrance High School graduate, will be attending University of California San Diego

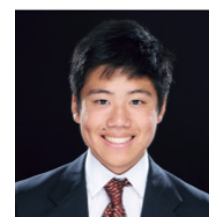


Melanie says: "Receiving this scholarship from the JCI has left me filled with extreme gratitude and thankfulness. This community has been apart of my life through various aspects; Judo, Kizuna, and Matsuris, and has always left me with a sense of comfort and support. Receiving this scholarship means that my community supports me in my educational pursuits at UCSD as a Chemical Engineering major. I am so thankful to have been the beneficiary of this community and the recipient of this scholarship."

Jennifer says: "I am grateful to have received this scholarship from the GVJCI. It is meaningful to not only me but to my grandparents as well because they have always encouraged me to embrace my culture. I would like to thank Wallace and Marion Shirota and Jean Shimizu for their constant love and support. Thank you also to the JCI for giving me the opportunity to learn more about my Japanese heritage and I hope to continue my affiliation with the JCI."



To make a donation to the GVJCI Scholarship Fund or for more information, please contact the GVJCI Office or visit our website (jci-gardena.org). The GVJCI awards annual scholarships to high school seniors, and GVJCI Japanese Language School graduates. Applicants must have been directly involved with the GVJCI or its member organizations that hold regular activity at the GVJCI. Emphasis is placed upon GVJCI and other community involvement, volunteerism and future goals. High school students must have a minimum of a 2.5 GPA and have post-secondary educational plans.



Gardena Valley Japanese American Citizens League Scholarship

Alexander Ito, West Torrance High School, will be attending El Camino College

Alex says: "I am so honored to receive a scholarship from the GVJCI. I am looking forward to college, and I know this scholarship will help propel me to success. The GVJCI has been an integral part of my life since I started studying shotokan karate at the age of seven. Receiving my black belt was one of the highlights of my life, and I was proud to give back to the GVJCI through my Boy Scout Eagle Project. I am truly grateful for all the services, culture, and opportunities that the GVJCI provides to our community."

Carina Sakimura, Palos Verdes Peninsula High School, will be attending University of Southern California

Carina says: "Receiving this scholarship means the world to me and I am incredibly honored and grateful. I am so thankful for everything the JCI has done for me! I plan to use the money to help pay for my continuing education."



Gardena Valley Gardeners Association Legacy Scholarship

Kristin Akioka, North High School, will be attending El Camino College

Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute Scholarship
Jennifer Shimizu, North High School, will be attending University of California Santa Barbara

GVJCI CAR DONATION PROGRAM



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

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THANK YOU, DOROTHY



Pictured: Dorothy (bottom center) with TNK friends L-R: Hannah Uemura, the late Myrna Kawahara, Hazel Shimabuku

On April 14, 2020, GVJCI and TNK lost a dear friend Teruko Dorothy Awakuni. Dorothy came to the GVJCI as a charter volunteer in 1975 and was an instrumental part of the GVJCI's beginnings of our senior programs, which later formed Tomo No Kai in 1979. Dorothy contributed significantly to the development and expansion of TNK's programs and services, and was in the core of its operations as an Executive Board member overseeing all the classes, activities, birthday and holiday parties until her retirement in December 2015. Since then, she continued to lend support to TNK's activities, as well as GVJCI's, and loved attending her TNK Creative Stitchery class led by Pat Caras. All who had known Dorothy will miss her warmth, compassion, integrity, dedication, strength, leadership, great advice, and friendship she extended to so many people fortunate to have had her in their lives. We will miss you, Dorothy!

ONLINE TOMO NO KAI CLASS SCHEDULE

You must be a Tomo No Kai (TNK) member in order to enroll in TNK online classes. Please note that due to COVID-19, all TNK classes will be online until further notice. All classes take place using Zoom. To register, please visit <https://www.jci-gardena.org/tnk-online-classes.html>.

MONDAY

9:45-10:45AM Physical Fitness for Seniors (w/ bands) with Nathan Jack Read
11:15AM-12:15PM Chair Yoga with Genie Nakano
12:45-1:45PM Strength, Stretching & Balance with Regan Read
3:30-4:30PM Chair Aerobics with Tim Toyama

TUESDAY

9:30-10:30AM Hau'oli Hula O kamakani Hula Class for Seniors with Harriet Nagata
11:00AM-12:00PM Move & Groove with Tim Toyama
12:45-1:45PM Strength, Stretching & Balance with Regan Read
2:15-4:15PM Oil Painting with Steve Jones

WEDNESDAY

9:45-10:45AM Physical Fitness for Seniors (w/weights) with Nathan Jack Read
11:15AM-12:15PM Zumba with Genie Nakano
12:45-1:45PM Strength, Stretching & Balance with Regan Read
2:15-3:15PM Zumba with Tim Toyama

THURSDAY

9:45-10:45AM Physical Fitness for Seniors (w/bands) with Nathan Jack Read
11:15AM-12:15PM Health & Fitness for Brain Memory with Nathan Jack Read
12:45-1:45PM Strength, Stretching & Balance with Regan Read
2:15-3:15PM **Meditation & More with Patty Rassouli
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FRIDAY

9:45-10:45AM Physical Fitness for Seniors (w/weights) with Nathan Jack Read
12:45-1:45PM Strength, Stretching & Balance with Regan Read
2:15-3:15PM Chair Aerobics with Tim Toyama

JAPANESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL

Though we are ending the Japanese Language School year in a nonconventional format, the students continued to persevere with their studies in an online format. I thank all the students and parents for their continued support for the Japanese Language School and all the Sensei, Naoko Tran, Shizuka Marinakas, Asaka Morita, Masumi Sasaki, Chiaki Suzuki, Mayumi Fuchino, and Eriko Yamamoto, for their commitment and dedication to the school and the students. I am always humbly grateful to the GVJCI for allowing me the opportunity to serve as Principal and providing me with all the wonderful experiences I've had while serving.

This year we have five graduate students, Erica Sakura Chau, Sophie Hana Hasegawa, Rei Takeshi Shindo, Molly Kiku Trotter, and Miki Uchida. With the help of their Graduation Class Sensei, Mayumi Fuchino, they were able to successfully complete their final course studies. I am proud of all of them and offer my deepest congratulations to the Class of 2019-2020.

いつも一緒に頑張りましょう

Lawrence Hada
Principal, GVJCI Japanese Language School

SPEECHES FROM THE JLS GRADUATES

Erika Chau

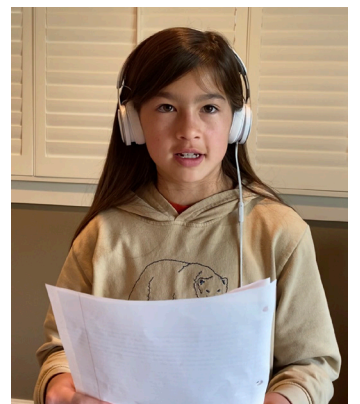


こんにちは、私の名前はエリカです。私はじゅうにさいです。私は7年間JCIにかよいました。JCIでは、たくさんの日本のことばや、ぶんかをまなび、たいへんなこともありましたが、とてもたのしかったです。日本語は、かんじ、ひらがな、かたかな、とおぼえることがたくさんあり、たいへんでした。でも日本語のテレビを、わかるようになりまして。日本のぎょうじをまなんだなかで、もちつきがいちばんたのしかったです。なぜなら日本の食べものがとてもおいしくて好きだからです。クラスメートと行ったえんそくも、いいおもいでとなりました。とくに、たなかファームのいちごつみとてもたのしかったです。JCIでまなんだ日本語を、しょうらい、日本でつかうことをたのしみにしています。

Hello, my name is Erika. I am 12 years old. I have been learning at JCI for 7 years. At JCI, I have learned not only Japanese language, but also Japanese culture. It was very fun even though learning Japanese was hard. There are so many things to memorize in Japanese language such as, Hiragana, Katakana and Kanji. However, I got to understand Japanese easier by watching TV programs now because of learning at JCI. What I enjoyed the most about the Japanese culture was mochitsuki because I love to eat Japanese food. My favorite memory was when I went to the Tanaka Farm with my classmates to pick strawberries. I am looking forward to using Japanese language that I learned at JCI in Japan in the future.



Sophie Hana Hasegawa



こんにちは！わたしの名まえは、花です。十二さいです。わたしは、日本語学校に七年間しょそくしていました。日本語学校にかよっている間に、たくさんのたのしいかつどうをけいけんしました。わたしが、まいとしたのしみにしていた二つのイヴェントは、クリスマスパーティーと うんどうかいです。とくに、わたしのチームがかつとときに、きょうそうするのがすきでした、そして、友だちにプレゼントをあげるのもすきでした。JCIにいたすべてのしゅんかんと、ぶんかてきなすべてのたいけんがすきでした。わたしがであったすばらしい人々と、そして、その人たちとのすばらしい思い出をわすれません！みなさん、ありがとうございました！

Hello! My name is Hana. I am 12 years old. I have been part of Japanese Language School for 7 years. During the time I have experienced many fun activities. Two of the events I look forward to each year are Christmas Party and Undokai. I love to compete especially when my team wins, and I love to give gifts to my friends. I have loved every moment of being at JCI and all of the cultural experiences. I will never forget the amazing people I met and the amazing memories that were made! Thank you, everyone!



Gardena Valley JCI CALENDAR

AUG

ONLINE FINDING YOUR ROOTS WORKSHOP SERIES

SAT, AUG 1, 8, & 15, 10-11:30AM
Online

This class is for Japanese Americans to connect with their Japanese heritage and learn about their immigrant ancestors and beyond. We will provide resources for you if you want to discover your roots. The class is co-sponsored by Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute and Nanka Yamaguchi Kenjinkai (NYK) with NYK instructor, Chester Hashizume, who has 30 years experience, will be conducting the class. You should know the prefecture and town your Issei ancestors came from as it would be helpful to you.

Fee is \$25 per person for entire series. Please visit the "Upcoming Events" page on our website to register.

SENIOR FOOD BOX DISTRIBUTION

WED, AUG 5 & SEPT 2, 9-10AM
GVJCI Parking Lot

Free food box distribution for seniors! Gates open at 9AM. Do NOT line up prior to this time. All cars must enter coming east on 162nd St and turn right into the parking lot. Please drive SLOWLY through the lot.

1 BOX PER CAR. NO RSVPs. First come, first served. Drive-thru ONLY. Box contains shelf-stable, non-perishable food items.



ONLINE KOKORO POETRY CLASS

WED, AUG 5-SEPT 23, 6:30-8:30PM
Online

Poems are your thoughts, feelings, and observations written from the heart. In this class, students will learn how to form their words into poetry. This workshop series is taught by award-winning Haiku and Tanka writer, and journalist for the *Rafu Shimpō*, Genie Nakano. Participants will receive zoom link and other information a few days before first class start date. Individual classes or the entire series can be purchased. Online payment and registration only. No mail-in payments will be accepted. Fee is \$8 per student.

To register, please visit the "Upcoming Events" page on our website.



ONLINE SMARTPHONE CLASS

THURS, AUG 6-SEPT 10, 9:30-10:30AM

ZOOM

Android and iPhone. Each class is a mix of prerecorded video and live instruction via Zoom. Students will be given videos to watch on their own each week and then attend a weekly Zoom class with the instructor to ask questions. Each class is \$10 or \$50 for the entire series.

Class Schedule:

Week 1 – August 6 - Components, Symbols, Glossary
This lesson will cover the components of the smartphone, the different symbols used, as well as a glossary of terms to become familiar with when using your smartphone.

Week 2 – August 13 - Screens, Settings, Control Panels

This lesson will cover what is seen on

the different screens of the smartphone as well as how to maneuver within the smartphone settings and control panel.

Week 3 – August 20 – Basic Functions
This lesson will cover basic functions of the smartphone such as adding contacts, making phone calls, sending text messages and using the camera.

Week 4 – August 27 - Apps – Already Installed & Adding New Apps
This lesson will explain what apps are and where to get apps for the smartphone as well as learning how to use a few built-in apps (calendar, maps, alarms, and memo)

Week 5 – September 3 – Apps – Useful Apps
This lesson will explain how to download apps as well as demonstrate some apps that may be useful.

Week 6 – September 10 - Data Storage/Wi-Fi/Storage and Zoom
This lesson will discuss cell phone data usage, wi-fi connections and storage. We will also cover tips for using Zoom.

To register, please visit the "Upcoming Events" page on our website.

日本語による癒しヒーリングと瞑想メディテーションのウォークショップ

MON, AUG 10, SEPT 14, OCT 12, 3:30-4:10PM

Online

上沢ユキ先生による日本語で初級呼吸法から心を癒すヒーリングと瞑想のウォークショップ。Zoomを使いご自宅でリラックスした状態で心のお手入れをしてください。クラススケジュールは8/10, 9/14, 10/12(月)午後3時30分から40分間。1回\$8です。ご質問はチカコ宛Eメールchatamoto@jci-gardena.orgまたは電話310-324-6611をお願いします。



ALZHEIMER'S LA KEEPING YOUR BRAIN HEALTHY

FRI, AUG 14, 10-11:30AM
Online/Phone

Brain health is connected to nutrition, health issues such as diabetes and hypertension, and physical and mental activity. Learn what you can do to improve the health of your brain. This session includes several interactive brain games.

To register, please email chatamoto@jci-gardena.org or call (310) 324-6611. Admission is FREE but donations are welcome and appreciated!

GVJCI SUMMER DRIVE THRU RESTAURANT FUNDRAISER SERIES

SAT, AUG 22

GVJCI Parking Lot

We're partnering with community restaurants! You'll pre-order online, schedule a drive through pick-up at the GVJCI and enjoy a tasty meal while supporting the GVJCI! Our first Drive Thru partnership is with Azay Restaurant from Little Tokyo and features a special Obon Matsuri Menu: Fujiya's Chinese Chicken Salad, Mago's Chashu Avocado Burger, Bryson's Chili Rice, Roy's Spam Musubi & Obachan Kuni's Andagi!

Please visit our website for details and to sign up.

ONLINE BILINGUAL FACIAL MUSCLE EXERCISE WORKSHOPS

顔の表情筋体操、顔ダンスクラス

SAT, AUG 22, SEPT 12, & OCT 17, 11-11:40AM

Online

Japanese/English available. \$30/student for one 40 minute workshop, max 3 students per workshop. Learn how to exercise muscles around your eyes, mouth and cheeks to make your facial expressions younger and brighter. アケミハーヴィー先生による顔の筋肉エクササイズクラス。目や口のまわり、頬の表情筋体操運動で表情も気持ちも若返りしましょう。このクラスは日英両語で行われます。クラススケジュールは8/22, 9/12, 10/17(土)午前 11:00から40分間。1回\$30です。人数制限がありますので、お申し込みはお早めにご質問はチカコ宛Eメール

chatamoto@jci-gardena.orgまたは電話310-324-6611をお願いします。

ONLINE CONVERSATION ESL CLASS

THURS, AUG 27-OCT 1, 11:30AM-12:30PM

Online

Sign up for our online Conversation ESL Class! This class is perfect for intermediate English speakers who want to practice their conversation skills (learn new vocabulary, how to speak casually, and more!). Fee is \$5 for students and \$7 for non-students. Registration and payment is online only. No mail-in payments accepted.

To register, please visit the "Upcoming Events" page on our website.

SEPT

ALZHEIMER'S LA LA FOUND

FRI, SEPT 11, 10-11:30AM

Online/Phone

LA County offers a system of trackable bracelets to help locate individuals who get lost. Learn how this program works and about the application process.

To register, please email chatamoto@jci-gardena.org or call (310) 324-6611. Admission is FREE but donations are welcome and appreciated!

ONLINE GVJCI ART SHOW

SAT, SEPT 19 - WED, SEPT 30
GVJCI Website
Join us for our annual art show online via our website! This year's theme is Social Isolation Art, or "Show Us What You Created During Quarantine." Art show will be held virtually on the GVJCI website this year and will feature many local artists. Applications for art submissions are available on the GVJCI website under the "Upcoming Events" page.

For more info, please contact Alvin Takamori (alvintaka@att.net) or Stephanie Mayeda (smayeda@jci-gardena.org).

OCT

ALZHEIMER'S LA-SAVVY CAREGIVER EXPRESS

WORKSHOP SERIES

FRI, OCT 2, 9, & 16, 10-11:30AM
Online/Phone
This workshop provides caregivers the basic knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to care for a family member who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or another dementia. This is an evidence-based caregiver intervention.

To register, please email chatamoto@jci-gardena.org or call (310) 324-6611. Admission is FREE but donations are welcome and appreciated!

SAVE THE DATE

NEW!! GVJCI 1st ANNUAL VIRTUAL 5K FUNDRAISER

SEPT 2020
Online
Details Coming Soon. Please check our website for details. All GVJCI Fundraiser proceeds benefit the GVJCI. Contact: Cathy Lee at cleee@jci-gardena.org or 310-324-6611

7th ANNUAL GVJCI ELEMENTAL FUNK VIRTUAL CONCERT FUNDRAISER

FALL 2020
Online
Details to be shared at a later date, please visit our website for updates. Join us for a night of music, dancing and more from the comfort of your own home! All GVJCI Fundraiser proceeds benefit the GVJCI. Contact: Cathy Lee at cleee@jci-gardena.org or 310-324-6611



2nd ANNUAL GVJCI VIRTUAL SIGNATURE EVENT FUNDRAISER

FALL 2020
Online
We are going Virtual this year! Stay tuned for details! Please visit our website for updates. Contact: Cathy Lee at cleee@jci-gardena.org or 310-324-6611