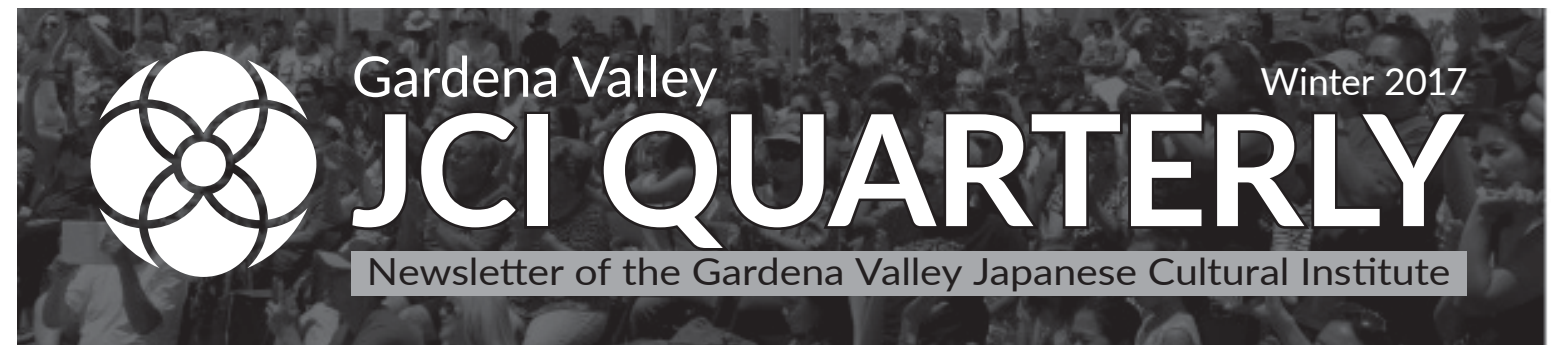




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## HAPPY NEW YEAR OF THE ROOSTER!

On behalf of our GVJCI Board of Directors and Staff, I wish you all the best for the new year, and thank each and every one of you for the support you gave us in 2016. Entering 2017, there are many uncertainties and challenges ahead for all of us. It has reinforced the purpose and existence of our organization to continue to build bridges of awareness, understanding, and compassion for all people despite our differences as a diverse nation.

We hope to continue what the generations before us worked so hard to build. We strive to provide a safe gathering place where people of all ages and backgrounds can come together to learn, cultivate, and celebrate the rich Japanese American cultural heritage that exists today. After 50 years since its formal incorporation, GVJCI Board and Staff went through an in depth process to reflect on our historical roots, our growth and development, and our plans to further enhance our impact in the South Bay community. With this, we decided to update our mission, vision, and logo to reflect what GVJCI is today and will continue to strive for in the future.

Thank you for your support!  
Alison Kochiyama, Executive Director

Our deepest gratitude to the following 2016 monetary and non-monetary donors for donations received by December 31, 2016. We apologize if we inadvertently left anyone off this list. Please let us know by contacting the GVJCI Office.

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## GARDENA VALLEY JAPANESE CULTURAL INSTITUTE

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

The GVJCI's roots date back to 1912, when it was known as the Moneta Gakuen, a Japanese language school. In 1967, it was formally incorporated as the 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.

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

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.

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Continued on next page

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*Continued on Pg. 9*

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MAPFRE/Commerce West Insurance Company, formerly Western Pioneer, was formed in 1948 with the help of many Nisei insurance agents to provide Japanese Americans affordable automobile insurance. MAPFRE/Commerce West Insurance Company continues the "Western Pioneer Group Program" today, in which members of Japanese American non-profit organizations can purchase automobile insurance at discounted rates. In addition, annual donations are given to non-profit organizations that have the most members joining this plan. This special discount program benefits the drivers and the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute (GVJCI). Please ask your agent about this program. Below is a partial list of participating agencies.

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# GVJCI Seeking Gifts to Ensure Its Future

*Nothing lasts forever...*

That's why the GVJCI Board of Directors has decided to embark on an ambitious campaign to ensure that the GVJCI capital assets (buildings and fixtures) last for many, many more years.

The Capital Assets Naming program provides targeted gift opportunities for individuals, organizations, or companies to "name" specific spaces at the GVJCI with major gifts that will pay for future capital repair and replacement costs. Starting with individual classrooms in the JCI Building to the JCI Hall and the JCI Building itself, gifts or pledges can range from \$30,000 to \$550,000. The amounts are determined by the amount of money required to maintain and replace the specific asset. Generous gifts of these amounts can be paid over a period of 3 years as a pledge.

For more information about making such a gift, please contact Alison Kochiyama, GVJCI Executive Director at [akochiyama@jci-gardena.org](mailto:akochiyama@jci-gardena.org) or 310-324-6611.



JCI Hall



Classroom

## Board of Directors Updates

GVJCI Board of Directors and Staff thank **Robert Horii** for dedicating 40 years to the GVJCI Board, in which he was integral to GVJCI's establishment, growth, and leadership. Bob was appointed to a prominent position as City Engineer of the City of Los Angeles in 1985, but Bob still remained active with GVJCI, which included many terms as President, Vice President, served on numerous board committees and projects, and he also served as President of the GVJCI Housing Project Board. Bob has seen the GVJCI through its ups and down, and countless JCI Carnivals-Matsuri. Before each Carnival-Matsuri, you would see him quietly setting up booth structures and equipment, setting up the electrical connections and lighting, and then during the Matsuri weekend, taking care of the accounting. Bob said that he still wants to continue helping with the Matsuri! Bob, we can't express our gratitude enough for all you have given to this organization and the community...thank you!



In November, **Nicole Sato** joined our staff as Program Coordinator. Nicole is not new to GVJCI. She remembers coming to the GVJCI for Saga Art classes from age three, and she was our TANOSHII Fun Camp counselor for 5 years, and later a Senior counselor supervising the counselors and interfacing with our staff. Nicole is fluent in Japanese, so her bilingual skills has already been a great asset.



With Nicole's involvement, we are looking to developing more bilingual programs and services as the needs have increased in the South Bay. Welcome Nicole!

## On the Tokonoma...

If you've ever been up to the Bridge (that's where all the classrooms are!), you'd probably seen our Tokonoma - it's pretty hard to miss, after all. Featuring different Japanese events such as hinamatsuri or tango no sekku or showcasing our programs, every couple of months, the Tokonoma is changing. The man behind it, Alvin Takamori, will be changing up our Tokonoma again, this time



to feature the 75th anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066 and also the theme of our annual Day of Remembrance this year, Tule Lake Segregation Center. He will be showcasing the history of the incarceration camp, and about the loyalty questions that sent thousands to Tule Lake from other incarceration camps. Later, in March, he will be switching out the Tokonoma to feature our upcoming Art Exhibit that's happening on April 15th!

## Staff Updates

After two years, in October, we sadly said goodbye to **Michelle Yamashiro**. She began in 2014 as a part-time Program Assistant, then soon became our full-time Program Manager working on program development, policies and procedures. Michelle was instrumental in expanding our youth program, which included Homework Help, Fuyu Fun Camp, Obake Night, and now our annual Hinamatsuri (Girl's Day) and Kodomo No Hi (Children's Day) family cultural programs. She managed our first night market Yatai Food Festival with Japan Alliance bringing in many new people to the GVJCI. However, her contributions reached beyond programs, greatly contributing to the development of our new mission and vision of GVJCI. Michelle is now Kizuna's Program Director, where we continue to work with her through collaborations, and she also remains a GVJCI volunteer...thank you, Michelle!



## 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).**

### Here's the Easy Steps:

1. Call or email us to arrange pickup at (310) 324-6611 or [cars@jci-gardena.org](mailto:cars@jci-gardena.org).
2. HCDS will arrange towing, always free to you. (Disabled Vehicles, Junk Cars, Scrap Cars and Wrecks also accepted)
3. HCDS handles all DMV paperwork at time of pickup including Release of Liability.
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# Congrats, Derek!

On November 15th 2016, Derek Morimoto was awarded the Gardena Evening Optimist's Youth Appreciation Award. Derek was nominated by the GVJCI for his hard work, dedication, and time that he has given back to the community. Derek has been helping out at a number of our events and has even been a counselor at our annual children's summer camp, Tanoshii Fun Camp. When Derek's not helping us out, he keeps himself busy. Out on the football field, Derek can be found playing the alto saxophone in his school's marching band and wind ensemble and on the tennis courts, he serves as the tennis captain where he himself is a varsity player. Academically, Derek is in the National Honor's Society, being accepted into as one of the few juniors in a sea of senior students, as well as being on Honor Roll every year. Outside of school, Derek is currently the president of the Gardena Buddhist Jr. YBA, an Eagle Scout, and a volunteer at many places such as the National History Museum of Los Angeles. Derek hopes to pursue environmental engineering in the upcoming fall when he attends college. The GVJCI was proud to nominate Derek for his hard work and

dedication, at both here and outside of the GVJCI and wishes him the best in college.



Derek receives his GEO Youth Appreciation Award. From left to right: Nicole Sato, Derek Morimoto, Ron Ikejiri (President of Gardena Evening Optimist)

## Thank you for supporting our 2017 GVJCI Raffle!

Many of you support the GVJCI through our Building Fund, which pays for capital improvements and repairs. Each year, we experience an increase in the amounts of major repairs, replacements, and expenses for our facilities that are over 50 years old. In 2016, we resurfaced our parking lot, tint-coated some of our 2nd floor windows, and we will be installing a new fire alarm system soon. On an early Sunday morning, an electrical fire began in our unoccupied GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall kitchen. Although our new fire alarm system was not installed yet, we were very fortunate to have good neighbors to alert us and the quick response by the Los Angeles County Fire Department which contained the fire to only the kitchen. Since the kitchen will need to be restored, we are now considering taking care of some needed upgrades and improvements. The kitchen is home to our senior bento program,

cooking classes, and other hands-on cultural activities. We hope these upgrades will enhance the community experience and will make the kitchen a welcoming space for everyone to use.

In 2017, our goal is to raise \$100,000. To date, we have raised \$50,522.00 in raffle and donation income! There's still time to make a donation or purchase raffle tickets until January 26, 2017 at 5 pm.

None of this could be made possible without your support and generosity! The GVJCI Board and Staff would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to everyone who continuously supports our cause and vision!

Come join us on Friday, January 27, 2017 at 11:30am for the Raffle Drawing during our Senior Birthday Program. If you would like to enjoy the fun entertainment and order a bento, please call us Monday-Friday 9am to 12pm or come by the GVJCI bento cashier's table by January 23, 2017.

### Introducing GVJCI's New Mission and Vision

#### 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.

\*Nikkei 日系  
The first character 日 comes from the Chinese character for Sun, used to write out the proper kanji for Japan. The pronunciation of this Kanji varies between Nippon or Nihon, but the most commonly used pronunciation is Nihon.

The second character 系 means descendants of or relation to. However, it can have multiple meanings as well. The direct translation commonly used for Nikkei would be anyone of Japanese descent.

Like so many words and phrases in Japan, it can have multiple meanings. This is probably the reason why there is no one true definition for the term Nikkei. However, we think this ambiguity allows for more peoples of Japanese descent (mixed-race, mixed-culture, and multiple generations) to embrace the term and unify the community.

As our community becomes more diverse, we would like to use the term Nikkei to welcome and embrace folks of varied walks of life to participate in our programs, events, and classes. In a similar movement to the Little Tokyo community, we will use the term Nikkei to create a vibrant and thriving community for all in the South Bay.

#### Tributes

##### \$5,000+

In Memory of Doris Takamiya

The Takamiya Family

##### \$1,000 - \$4,999

In Memory of Roy & Eleanor Higa

The Family of Roy & Eleanor Higa

In Memory of Eiji Inouye

Inouye, Tomoko

##### \$100 - \$999

In Honor of Chiyo Fukunaga

Fukunaga, Atsuko

In Memory of Anna Inouye

Inouye, Kimiko

To Honor Myrna Kawahara's

Birthday

Kaneda, Joyce

In Memory of Eddie Motonaga

Motonaga, Dale

Tanamachi, Linda

In Memory of Jim Nakamura

Nakamura, Janet

In Memory of Misao Ross

Ross, Dovard

In Memory of Doris Takamiya

Honma, Chris & Colleen

Matoi, Mike

Nishimura, Gilbert & Dorothy

Ryan, Kim & Robert

In Honor of Tim Toyama

Taga, Chris

In Memory of Red Uemura

Uemura, Hannah

##### \$10 - \$99

In Memory of Katsumi Hoshiko

Hayashi, Yoshiko

In Memory of Anna S. Inouye

Hayashi, Yoshiko

In Memory of Eiji Inouye

Awakuni, Dorothy Teruko

In Memory of Frances Kaji

Ajioka, George & Masako

Kochiyama, Alison & Jimmy

In Memory of Yone Kobata

Hayashi, Yoshiko

In Memory of Ryo Komae

Ajioka, George & Masako

In Memory of Masako Minami

Hayashi, Yoshiko

In Memory of Yasuko Nagai

Hayashi, Yoshiko

In Memory of Don Nakanishi

Hayashi, Yoshiko

In Memory of Tad (Amemiya)

Nanaumi

Hayashi, Yoshiko

In Memory of Ben Shoji Noda

Hayashi, Yoshiko

In Memory of Harunori Harry Oda

Ajioka, George & Masako

In Memory of Chiyo Ogata

Hayashi, Yoshiko

In Memory of Al Pelayo

Ajioka, George & Masako

In Memory of Stanley Hiro Shono

Hayashi, Yoshiko

In Memory of Doris Takamiya

Antoku, Amy

Antoku, Marion

Avila, D Jean

Employees of Raytheon JPSS

VIIRS Program

Hamamoto, Thomas & Akiko

Ichiyama, Lily & Tetsuo

Kashiwagi, Paul & Akiko

Kawano, Mildred

Miyasato, James & Jane

Namimoto, Joyce

Namimoto, Mollie

Olson, Carol

Omoto, Harvey & Rosalind

Rottenberg, Christianne &

Peter

Takamiya, Craig & Joni

Ueda, Barbara

Ward, Edward & Susan

In Memory of Masatsugu Tawa

Hayashi, Yoshiko

In Memory of Kay Umemoto

Hayashi, Yoshiko

In Memory of Yukiko Uyeda

Hayashi, Yoshiko

In Memory of Alma Kazuyo

Watanabe

Hayashi, Yoshiko

In Memory of Masako "Janet"

Yoshioka

Hayashi, Yoshiko

#### Vehicle Donations

Arreola, Oliver

Asamura, Hope

Asato, Kevin

Cababa, Ed

Fujioka, Robert & Tom

Ikefuji, David

Imahori, Brian

Imahori, Marie

Inouye, Tomoko

Iwasaki, Joni

Kaneshiro, Warren

Kato, Shohichi

LeBlanc, Charlotte

Mayewaki, Dick

Miike, Russel

Miya, Kathy

Mizuba, Dorothy

Nakai, Kei

Nishimoto, Aaron & Aya

Rinoie, Ken

Taira, Lorrin

Takahashi, Steven

Yano, Elaine

Yogi, Kimiko

#### In-Kind Donations of Items or Services

Adachi, Helen

Akiyama, Miles

Awakuni, Stevens

Colvin, Mike

Endo-Roberts, Kathryn

Gardena Judo Club

Gee, Anna

Herzig-Yoshinaga, Aiko

Hirano, Helen

Honda, Vivian

Ihori, Dave

Ikeda, Lurline

Inouye, Diane

Inouye, Jean

Jackson, Carolyn

Kachigian, Nattley

Kamiya, Kathy

Kamiya, Rachel

King's Hawaiian

Kochiyama, Jimmy

Koshimizu, Ethel

Kuwahara, Gary

Matsumoto, Ray

Mayeda, Scott

Meiji Co., Ltd.

Mikawa, Florence

Mochidome, Ruby

Murai, Amy

Murakami, Jeff & Christine

Nakamura, Lane

Nakasuji, Rose

New Challenge Ministries

Nishio, Yvonne

Odaka, Hiroshi

Okii, Michi

Otake, Jeanne

The Original Giuliano's

Delicatessen in Gardena

Pener, Masa

Ross, Dovard

Sagawa, Nancy

Sakamoto, Eileen

Sakimoto, Michiko

Sasaki, Sally

Sato, Kerilyn

Shigeta, Ellie

Shimizu, Spencer

Stewart, Elaine

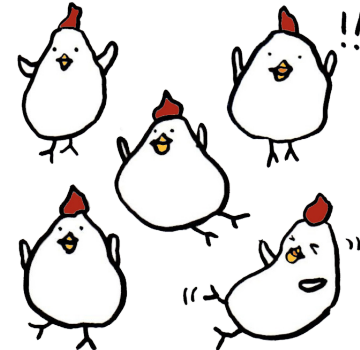
Suzuki, Roy & Terri

Tamura, Tina

Terada, Dennis

Torrance Bakery

Yamabe, N



明けまして  
おめでとう  
おめでとうございます





# Tomo No Kai Corner

Happy New Year from GVJCI Tomo No Kai (TNK)! 2017 Membership dues of \$10 will be collected in either the TNK class in which you attend or in the GVJCI Office.

## Thank yous

A joyous celebration was held with 300 friends, good food, and entertainment at the Tomo No Kai Christmas Party on December 3, 2016. Thank you to our emcees Chika Nagata and Sachiko Uchizono, and to all of the talented TNK classes who performed--karaoke, line dance, hula, and 'ukulele. Thank you to Tomo No Kai and GEO for the donation of the Christmas tree and to King's Hawaiian Bakery for the sweet rolls! Our sincere thank you to all of the volunteers who made this event a success!

## Senior Program Fund

4th Quarter '16: Senior Program Funds to GVJCI \$6,817.05. Total 2016 Senior Program Funds to GVJCI for class fees, membership dues, fundraising income, donations, Carnival presale coupons, Calendar ad: \$49,421.35.



# Gardena Valley JCI NEWS

## Words from our 2016 Next Generation Leadership Fellows

### Kevin Onishi

Growing up in Northern California, my only exposure to this city known as "Gardena" was my annual trip to Southern California for the F.O.R. Basketball Tournament. It always seemed odd to me and my teammates that this city none of us had heard of before, was home to some of the best Japanese food we had ever had. Years later, I think I've solved the mystery. Gardena has some of the best Japanese food because it has one of the best Japanese/Japanese-American communities around, and I like to think it's because of what organizations like Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute do. This past year (thanks to Kizuna's Next Generation Leadership Program) I've had the pleasure of observing, learning and working with the GVJCI Board of Directors. From the monthly late night board meetings, to the countless e-mail correspondences, the GVJCI Board of Director members have shown me what it is like to give back and provide for a community you love. Now the term "giving back" is something I have always associated donating money or donating time with. While that's true, the GVJCI Board also showed me a different way to give back, and that is through passion. You are passionate enough to diligently think through every issue brought to the table. Passionate enough to look at the smallest of details in a very large puzzle. Sometimes issues brought to

the board are not always the most revered, and often times there are issues not everyone wants to address. But it's the passion you have towards the progress of your community that will get you through. Finally it's the passion you have towards preserving our Japanese/Japanese-American culture that will allow you to sacrifice so much of your personal life in order to provide an enriching cultural experience for others, myself included. That is a lesson Board Member Teri Kuwahara often emphasized to me during our time together. Not only was she, and Board Member Ray Shibata, able to take time away from their personal lives to address the needs of GVJCI, but they were also able to take the time to provide me with great counsel on the qualifications and responsibilities of what it takes to be a successful board member. For that, I am forever grateful and I hope to apply the knowledge they, and other Board Members, gave me to my own community.

### Derek Oye

It has been an honor and privilege serving as a Board of Directors Fellow for the Gardena Valley JCI. Growing up in north Torrance and attending activities at the GVJCI such as the Matsuri Carnival, it has been a pleasure being part of such an important community organization. The Board of Directors, mentors, and staff have taught me how to be an effective leader in a non-profit organization and in the community. This experience has equipped me with tools in strategic thinking, finance, board governance and oversight, fundraising, and so much more. These skills have elevated my professionalism, teaching me how to make significant and thoughtful contributions in my nonprofit work.

There are many memorable moments during my tenure as a fellow. Volunteering at the Matsuri Festival was a great experience. It allowed me see how vibrant the South Bay community is, and how GVJCI is such a critical component to bringing people together. I was also able to attend the Board of Directors annual retreat! I learned so much from the workshops and discussions that took place. It was awesome hanging out with the Board and staff for a day, and participating in all the discussions and workshops. I want to thank my mentors Ray Shibata and Teri Kuwahara. They have both been so gracious with their time, always available to answer questions about my

professional life as well as advice on non-work related topics. I refer back to our discussions often, as they continue to guide my decisions on work and in life! I also want to send an appreciation to both Alison Kochiyama and Michelle Yamashiro. Both have been so supportive, providing me a space to volunteer as well as lending me feedback and advice whenever I needed it. The GVJCI is such a wonderful place. I'm very excited for the future of the organization and its growing contributions to the vibrant South Bay community!



## Gardena Valley JCI Fundraiser



### Lau Lau Anyone?

\*Frozen, Pork Lau Lau

**\$8.00/EA**

Established on May 31, 1979, the GVJCI Tomo No Kai or Senior Citizen Friendship Society was formed to promote and support programs at the GVJCI for the senior community, as well as, to provide recreational and social activities, such as, the monthly senior birthday luncheon, and the annual Christmas parties. Your membership dues, class participation fees, and donations support the senior programs and GVJCI facility operations.

## NEW CLASSES COMING TO TOMO NO KAI

### Zumba Gold

Fri, 9AM-10AM

GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall

### Japanese Ukulele

Tues, 12:30-1:30PM

GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall

### Japanese Ondo Dance Class

(Starting March 7th) Tues, 2PM-3PM

GVJCI Main Hall



**Pre-Paid orders only; Orders must be received by Friday, February 17th.**



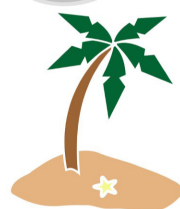
**Pick up: Sunday, February 26th from 12:00PM-2:00PM  
GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall  
1964 W. 162nd Street, Gardena, 90247**



**ORDER FORMS: Visit our website @ [jci-gardena.org](http://jci-gardena.org) to download Order Form, or obtain in front office.**



**Questions?: Sharon Sawai  
(310) 324-6611 or [s\\_sawai@jci-gardena.org](mailto:s_sawai@jci-gardena.org)**





## FEBRUARY

**MOCHITSUKI**  
**SAT, FEB 4, 11-12:30 PM**  
**Outside the GVJCI Main Hall**

Join in on the fun and come pound some mochi! Not only will you learn all about the tradition and history of mochitsuki but you will get to experience the pounding of the rice and molding of it as well. Open to the public and cost of participation will be \$5 and will include all activities. Register online by 1/31 at: <https://gvjci.wufoo.com/forms/mochitsuki-registration/>

**PREPARING FOR DEATH: FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS IN A TIME OF NEED**

**SAT, FEB 4, 2-3:30PM**  
**GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall**

Even when it's expected, handling the details immediately after the death of a loved one can be like navigating uncharted territories. But it doesn't have to be. Come to LTSC's "Coping with Death" workshop and learn about the decisions families have to make, expenses associated with death and who to call for more information when you need it. Attendance is free but donations are appreciated.

**STRESS LESS: RELAXATION NIGHT**  
**WED, FEB 8, 7-9 PM**

**GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall**

Come melt your daily stress away at our relaxation night workshop! We will be offering three workshops: yoga, aromatherapy, and a crystal keychain bar. Always wanted to try yoga but don't know where to start or scared you might not be able to do it? Come try out yoga with a certified yoga instructor, George Nishitani, as he will go through the basics of yoga and will give you tips on how to adjust according to your body needs. Our aromatherapy section will feature a DIY room spray workshop where you can experiment with different oils based on your needs and create a natural room spray. At the keychain bar, talk with crystal enthusiast, Debbie Mochidome, as she guides you on how to make a keychain with crystal beads. You may also bring in jewelry or crystals you may want to know more about. Participation will be \$20 and will cover everything. Light, healthy refreshments will be sold as well. Register by 1/25 at: <https://gvjci.wufoo.com/forms/stress-less-registration/>

**MOTTAINAI DAY**  
**SAT, FEB 11, 8-3 PM**

**GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall**

Got some old CDs laying around? Do you have a pile of toys your kids outgrew? Bring it to the GVJCI on (and ONLY on) Saturday, February 11th anytime between 8AM to 3PM for our very first Mottainai Day Donation Drive and Rummage Sale!

We will be accepting a variety of gently-used items such as clothing, electronics, books, DVDs, small furniture (no bigger than can fit inside a small SUV), and more which can be found on our website. Unfortunately, the GVJCI will NOT be providing any pick-up or drop-off service for larger items, so you will need to transport your own goods. After you drop off your items at the Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall, you are invited to browse through our rummage sale located in the hall as well, starting from 9AM. There you will find bargain prices as low as under \$1! If you do plan to shop during our rummage sale, you can also earn some freebies! If you donate at least 2 large grocery bags full of items, you will receive a voucher (one per customer) for your choice of hot coffee, iced coffee, or hot tea. If you buy at least \$5 worth of items at our sale, you will be given a free GVJCI Bridge reusable bag (while supplies last!). Japanese Language School will also be selling spam musubi! If you would like to volunteer, please call us at (310) 324-6611 or email us at [info@jci-gardena.org](mailto:info@jci-gardena.org).

**RESISTANCE AT TULE LAKE: DAY OF REMEMBRANCE EVENT**  
**SAT, FEB 25, 2-4 PM**  
**GVJCI Main Hall**

The Gardena Valley JCI would like to invite you to our annual Day of Remembrance (DOR) event to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066, which caused the mass removal and imprisonment of Japanese Americans during World War II. This year's theme will be centered around Tule Lake and will have a panel discussion with former Tule Lake internees and we will be showing Konrad Aderer's film, *Resistance at Tule Lake*. We hope you can join us on Feb. 25th to honor and remember the past generations. Free to the public, no registrations required. For more information, please email us at [info@jci-gardena.org](mailto:info@jci-gardena.org).

## MARCH

**GIRL'S DAY CELEBRATION**

**HINAMATSURI**

**SAT, MAR 4, 11-12:30 PM**  
**Breezeway (Outside GVJCI NVMH)**

Celebrate Hinamatsuri and learn more about this spring tradition that celebrates the health and happiness of young girls! Learn about and make your own hinaninryo dolls, eat some delicious mochi, and come listen to the Japanese Language School students sing the hinamatsuri song! Participation is only \$5 and includes all materials! Register by 2/24 at: <https://gvjci.wufoo.com/forms/hinamatsuri-registration/>

**1-ON-1 FINANCIAL WORKSHOP**  
**SAT, MAR 4, 2-4:30 PM**  
**GVJCI Classrooms**

This is a follow-up to the February 4th Financial Planning workshop. LTSC is working with the Financial Planning Association of Los Angeles to offer free one-on-one sessions. Ask any questions you'd like about budgeting, credit & debt, retirement, estate planning, and more. There will be a limited number of 30-minute sessions. Please call 213-473-3035 to register.

ファイナンシャルプランナーとの無料個人相談

3月4日(土) 午後2時から午後4時半(要予約)  
 午後2時から4時半(予約制、1人30分)  
 リトル東京サービスセンター

Financial Planning Association of Los Angeles協力のもと、ファイナンシャルプランナーと30分間の無料個人相談ができます。退職後の財政計画や遺産計画などについて、専門家が質問にお答えします。人数に限りがあるため、必ず事前予約をお願いいたします。予約はLTSCまでお電話ください。

**DISASTER PREPAREDNESS WORKSHOP**

**SAT, MAR 11, 2-4:30 PM**  
**GVJCI Classroom #208**

Are you ready for when the "big one" hits? Are you prepared for other disasters? Come to our popular disaster preparedness workshop and learn how to be prepared for anything. Space is limited so please call the GVJCI office at (310) 324-6611 or email [info@jci-gardena.org](mailto:info@jci-gardena.org) to reserve a spot.

## APRIL

**WRITER'S SALON**  
**SAT, APR 1, 2-4PM**

**GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall**

Writer's Salon is back! Come join author Genie Nakano, graphic designer Alvin Takamori, and author Joyce Nako for a fun literacy-filled afternoon! Each presenter will read an excerpt from their work, share their stories, and have a Q&A with the audience afterwards. Books can be purchased afterwards, upon availability. This will be a pay-what-you-wish event.

**COMPLEMENTARY ALTERNATIVE MEDICINE FORUM: PART II**  
**SUN, APR 2, 1:30-4:30PM**  
**GVJCI Main Hall**

The GVJCI and Iku Kiriya will present the Complementary Alternative Medicine Forum #2 on Sunday, April 2, from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm, in the GVJCI Main Hall. It follows the very successful CAM Forum held last year. CAM #2 will feature three practitioners: Alan Saruwatari, a Certified Shiatsu-Anma Therapist and Certified Massage Therapist; Emmy Akiyama, a licensed Marriage & Family Therapist and a Registered Art Therapist who offers workshops on art therapy and its therapeutic benefits; and Patty Tahara Rassouli, a Reiki master. Reservations are requested. Emails are preferred to [info@jci-gardena.org](mailto:info@jci-gardena.org) and

CC Iku Kiriya at [goiku@sbcglobal.net](mailto:goiku@sbcglobal.net). Those without emails may call the GVJCI office at (310) 324-6611. Please indicate the number attending and their names.

**DAY OF REMEMBRANCE ART EXHIBIT**  
**VISIONS OF THE JAPANESE AMERICAN INCARCERATION 1942-2017**  
**SAT, APR 15, 10-4 PM**  
**GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall**

Join us as we remember the incarceration of the Japanese Americans through art. The GVJCI will have a Day of Remembrance art exhibit, Visions of the Japanese American Incarceration 1942-2017. The all-day art exhibit will feature multiple artists' works as well as an artist demonstration at 11:30AM, artist raffle, and an open mic in the afternoon from 2:30PM.

**MANZANAR PILGRIMAGE GVJCI BUS**  
**SAT, APR 29, 6:30 AM - 8:30 PM**

Join the 48th annual community-wide Manzanar Pilgrimage at the Manzanar Historic Site for the 75th anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066. Manzanar was the site of an American WWII concentration camp that was used to forcibly house Americans of Japanese descent from 1942-1945. The Pilgrimage Program features speakers and performances. It will be followed by an interfaith religious ceremony and community ondo. The GVJCI Itinerary, however, allows for participants (particularly first-time visitors and families) to visit the Manzanar Interpretive Center (founded in 2004) as an option. Cost is \$40 for adults, \$25 for students and seniors (65+), and free for any former internees. Students under the highschool age must be accompanied by an adult and a signed permission slip is required for under 18 traveling without an adult. If you would like to reserve a seat on our bus, please email [info@jci-gardena.org](mailto:info@jci-gardena.org) or call 310-324-6611. It will be a first come first serve basis and registration will end once spaces are filled. Payment will guarantee registration.

If you are interested in volunteering at any of our events, please let us know by calling at (310) 324-6611 or emailing us at [info@jci-gardena.org](mailto:info@jci-gardena.org). Please note that not all events will need volunteers.

### NEW CLASSES!

**Computer Class**  
 7 weeks, Feb 7th to March 28th  
 English Classes: 10AM to 11AM  
 Korean Classes: 11AM to 12PM

**Smartphone/Tablet Class**  
 7 Weeks, Feb 9th to March 30th  
 English Classes: 10AM to 11AM  
 Korean Classes: 11AM to 12PM  
 Individual Classes: \$10 for Non-JCI Gardens Resident, Free for JCI Gardens Residents  
 Payments for each Computer Class must be made by the Friday before and payments for each Smartphone/Tablet Class must be made by the Tues before the class. Payment will guarantee registration. Please pay at the GVJCI Front Office. All classes will be held at the JCI Gardens Computer Lab.

**Sansei Stories**  
 (Starting Feb 15th) Wed, 7PM-9PM  
 GVJCI Classroom 205