Philadelphia Convention: Redress, Resistance, and Reconciliation
By Lane Mita, Youth Co-Chair

The Philadelphia convention was my fourth convention since joining the JACL Chicago board 5 years ago. I always have a different experience every time, which is why I love going. Overall, there is so much passion for this organization and I always enjoy connecting with all generations that have maintained JACL since its inception.

I’d have to say, though, that this year was one of my favorites, the Philadelphia chapter did a great job organizing this year’s convention. On the first night, which is normally a youth mixer, they invited members of all ages to come and play a game of inter-generational trivia night. We were split up evenly among generations and answered questions that all could answer, it was really so much fun collaborating with different generations like that! On another night, they had an “Artist Bash” at a local venue called the Barnes Foundation. This included varying artists of varying like tap dancing, flamenco, and capoeira. The highlight of the night though was music from National Poetry Slam champion, G Yamazawa. G is known for being both a spoken word artist and rapper. During another session, there was also a panel discussion on “Japanese American Contributions to the Asian American Cinema Movement.” The main takeaway from this panel was that when artists release content for our marginalized community we need to make sure we fully support those that are...
2018 Convention continued

in that position. For example, when I came back to Chicago I was determined to host a screening for the movie Crazy Rich Asians when the film released opening week. (By the way, I encourage all to see this movie as it was released August 15th!) Movies like this definitely provide our community representation. The last event I wanted to share was the “open mic” on the last night of the convention. This event was very special for me to see because my friends that I have made over the past couple of years going to these conventions showed a very different side that I have never seen before. For example, my friend Kota Mizutani, from the District of Colombia Chapter, rented a saxophone and played a song that my Dad has always loved, *Take Five* by The Dave Brubeck Quartet. It was just amazing to see the artistic side to people that I’ve grown very close too!

Overall, this convention was a lot of fun and I’m definitely inspired by the work that is going on from all chapters across the country! I truly appreciate the opportunity for being able to go to this year’s convention, and I can’t wait to use that energy to help the Chicago community thrive!

Happy Birthday, Shigemi!

*By Tonko Doi, Development Co-Chair*

The amazing Shigemi Hasegawa celebrated her 105th birthday on August 8th, 2018. Even after moving to Lynnwood WA, she kept up her JACL Chicago Chapter membership!! The chapter honored her long life with flowers and candy on her special day.

Shigemi Hasegawa was born in Wapato, WA and resettled in Chicago from Heart Mountain incarceration camp site. She and her husband, Ken Hasegawa, were members of Ravenswood Fellowship United Methodist Church (RFUMC). She was the leader of the RFUMC Go Go Club for many years. You had to be 55 years old to join, thus the name “Go Go”. The club went on many trips and outings throughout the years. Shigemi was also active in the *Nisei* bowling leagues until age 92!!

She is now in the Memory Care Unit of Chateau Pacific where she has lived independently since she moved from Chicago 13 years ago. She is still “the hostess” and introduces guests to everyone over and over again! Her niece, Donna Rae is grateful that she is content and happy. Her best friends are Peter and Cliff. They eat together and they think Shigemi is funny and charming. The three of them laugh and really enjoy each other’s company.

We wish Shigemi a very happy birthday and celebrate this milestone with her!
Calling All Young Adult Japanese Americans in the Chicagoland Area!

There are two great opportunities to participate in the JACL Chicago community!

Kansha Project is a JACL Chicago program that connects self-identified Japanese Americans, ages 18-25, to the continuing legacy of the Japanese American community’s incarceration during World War II. The program centers around an educational trip to Los Angeles’ Little Tokyo neighborhood and the Manzanar National Historic Site. This year’s contingent of the Kansha Project has already gone on the trip to Los Angeles but we do encourage all to apply for the program when applications are released early 2019!

The alumni of the Kansha Project have an opportunity to also take ownership and ensure the sustainability of the Kansha Project by joining the Alumni Leadership Board (ALB).

Members of the ALB receive skills and content training and participate in a strategic planning process for the Kansha Project in order to shape and implement their vision of the program’s future. The Kansha ALB will be comprised of alumni with a high commitment level who can attend monthly planning meetings at the JACL Chicago office.

Even if you cannot participate in the Kansha Project or ALB, you can support the program by liking and sharing our posts on social media! You can Kansha Project on Facebook (www.facebook.com/KanshaProject) and on Instagram (www.instagram.com/KanshaProject).

Next Generation Nikkei is a JACL Chicago program to engage young adults to become a part of the greater Chicago Japanese American community. To stay up-to-date with the Next Generation Nikkei events and gatherings, you may join our Facebook group (search Next Generation Nikkei) or contact us at info@jacichicago.org to join the email list.

This year, we are creating a board that will be comprised of two co-chairs from the JACL Chicago Chapter Board and eight elected board members that are driven to developing events that support the Japanese American Citizens League’s mission. Next Generation Nikkei Board will be comprised of self-identifying “young adult” community members with a moderate commitment level that can participate in monthly meetings.

More information on both opportunities, including links to applications, can be found on the JACL Chicago website: www.jacichicago.org/get-involved-young-adult-programs/.

Rightlessness: Testimony and the Redress of Japanese American “Internment”

Sunday, September 16
6:00pm - 8:00pm

Japanese American Service Committee
4427 N Clark St
Chicago, IL 60640

*Event is free. Parking will be available in the JASC lot.

Like Us on Facebook! www.facebook.com/JACLChicago
On July 26th, the annual JACL Golf Outing was held at the Glenview Park Golf Club, in Glenview, IL. It was a great day for golf as 46 participants came out to play. This event is open to all level of golfers, young or old, and anyone can take home a prize. The only requirement is that you have fun.

Lunch and the award presentations were held at the Café restaurant at the conclusion of play. The top 2 gross scores were turned in by Tom Kurowski with a 71 and Jason Yang with an 85. Prizes for the top 2 handicap scores for men went to Jeff Sher with a 51 and Len Joy with a 58. The top handicap score for women went to Lisa Sloan with a 60. The hole event winners were Vic Miyata for closest to the pin, Danny Liu for the longest putt, Jason Yang for the men's longest drive, and Lisa Sloan for the women's longest drive.

I would like to thank this year's event hole sponsors: Alan Endo of Endo Communications Inc., Al Shimizu of Nal's Auto Repair, Jeff Sher of Surefire Protection Inc., and Alan Rosenfield. I would also like to acknowledge the staff at the golf course and the Café restaurant; they were very accommodating and helpful in meeting our needs.

Some of the prizes awarded this year were donated by Cary Wong, Aiko Kojima, and Glenn Inouye. Cash donations from the McCallister Law Group LLC ($500), Glenn Inouye ($200), John McCaffrey ($90), and Robert

Bush ($25) will support JACL Chicago’s ongoing mission to secure and maintain the civil rights of Japanese Americans and all others who are victimized by injustice and bigotry. Your donations are greatly appreciated.

As chairperson for this outing, I would like to give a special thank you to Carol Yoshino, Carol Miyake, and Laura Maeda. Their help with checking in golfers and recording everyone’s score was appreciated.

Thank you to all who participated in this year’s JACL Chicago golf outing. This annual event is open to members, non-members, people who know how to golf, and even those who don't. It has been an enjoyable way for our members and the community to join together to bring awareness and show support for our Chicago Chapter. I am looking forward to next year's outing and hope to see you all again.
Join or Donate to the JACL Today!

The JACL is a community organization that ensures the protection of your rights. Help us continue to be a strong voice for you and your family by supporting us with your membership or a donation.

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For years, the Annual Nikkei Community Picnic has been a space for Nikkei families across the Chicagoland community to come together for a day of fun, food, and relationship building. It is one of the few times a year that families and individuals affiliated with Nikkei churches, organizations, and other groups are all in one place. Since I was little, my grandparents would bring my family to the picnic and for me, it was one of the few times a year I felt a part of the Nikkei community. I have fond memories of winning geta races with my brothers, witnessing an auntie win a trip to Japan from the jellybean guessing game, and above all, spending time with my grandparents and other community members that have played a significant role in my life.

As I have gotten older, I now make an effort to attend the picnic every year in memory of my grandparents and their traditions rooted in community building. This is important to me also because I believe the annual picnic is testament to the resilience of the Nikkei community. Despite the fact that the number of physical spaces in the Nikkei community have declined over the years and the community is no longer concentrated in the way that it was before, the picnic continues to be a strong beacon and a space that Nikkei folks of all generations gather to share tradition in many ways including through sharing family recipes and food at the potluck, intergenerational conversations, and even tradition through the songs chosen each year for karaoke.

Each year, it is evident that the picnic is changing just as the Nikkei community is changing. I believe it is important to continue to be a part of this tradition and to invite others to take part in order continue the legacy of the Nikkei community. Through uplifting this shared space, we are upholding tradition while also embracing what is next for our community. This year, the Annual Nikkei Community Picnic took place on Saturday August 5 at Bunker Hill. Several members of JACL Next Generation Nikkei attended the picnic.

Ginza Holiday
By Lisa Doi, Vice President

In early August, JACL Chicago participated in the Midwest Buddhist Temple’s Ginza Holiday. JACL Chicago had a booth at the front of the festival to reach out to community members and visitors. As a member of MBT and a longtime volunteer at Ginza, I have always enjoyed watching the sausage get made. I see the weeks of work that lead up to Ginza, including stringing lanterns, setting up booths and chairs, and ordering and prepping all of the food, as a collective expression of love—for the temple and for the broader Japanese American community. When I caught glimpses of Ben Chikaraishi, who arrives each day at 6am, in the nearly 100-degree garage lifting tons of hot chicken teriyaki, I also saw his father and grandfather working so hard to build and pass on MBT.

Beyond the legacy of MBT for temple members and the Japanese American community in Chicago, Ginza provides an opportunity to interact with members of the broader Chicago and Midwest communities. I spent most my time this weekend at the front gate—an opportunity that really lets me connect with people, but also lets me see the diversity of the thousands of guests who stop by. As a member of the temple, this fills me with a sense of gratitude, that our friends and neighbors are willing to show up for us, and a sense of obligation, that I hope that I (and we) show up for all of you in the same way.
Thank You to Our Donors and Advertisers!
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## Calendar of Events

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 7-8</td>
<td>Midwest District Council Meeting</td>
<td>Minneapolis, MN</td>
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<td>Wednesday, September 12</td>
<td>JACL Chicago Board Meeting</td>
<td>JACL Chicago Office, 5415 N Clark St, Chicago</td>
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<td>Sunday, September 16</td>
<td>Rightlessness: Testimony and the Redress of Japanese American “Internment”</td>
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<td>Wednesday, October 10</td>
<td>JACL Chicago Board Meeting</td>
<td>JACL Chicago Office, 5415 N Clark St, Chicago</td>
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<td>November</td>
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