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IREICHŌ IS COMING!

For details see page 9

Bright Scholars and Powerful Messages at the 2025 JACL Scholarship Luncheon

by Lisa Sakai

Nelson Mandela once said, “Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.” On Sunday, May 18, at the 2025 JACL Chicago Scholarship Luncheon, we recognized and honored four students who are living up to that ideal: Sanjay Ganesh, Sofia Ozaki, Jake Rohde and Sydney Terada. These four students demonstrate what a bright mind, strong will and compassionate heart can accomplish.

The first scholarship, presented by Gary Shimomura, was the Miyasaki Family Scholarship, established through the Japanese Mutual Aid Society in 1919 by Aki and John Miyasaki. This year’s recipient was Sydney Terada. Sydney will be starting her second year at University of Illinois, pursuing a BS in Psychology and a minor in Chinese. A straight-A student with a pre-med curriculum and a Division 1 golfer, she also found time to study Asian American history. In her application, Sydney wrote, “I strongly believe that understanding our past is the first step in advocating for justice and ensuring history does not repeat itself.”



MAUREEN TATSUKO LOUGHNANE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF FACING HISTORY AND OURSELVES CHICAGO, DELIVERS THE KEYNOTE SPEECH AT THE 2025 JACL CHICAGO SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON.

Continued on page 2

Securing and maintaining the civil rights of Japanese Americans and all others who are victimized by injustice and bigotry.

Article submission deadline for our next issue is November 25, 2025.

The JACLER is published by the JACL Chicago Chapter for its members, supporters, and friends. We welcome your comments, suggestions, and article submissions. (Email jeannie@jaclchicago.org to pitch an article!)

For More Information

For information about the JACL Chicago Chapter, call 773.728.7171, or visit www.jaclchicago.org

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2025 Scholarship Luncheon continued

The second award, the JACL Chicago Scholarship, was presented by Brandon Ishikata to Sanjay Ganesh. Sanjay Ganesh has just graduated from the University of Illinois Chicago, with a Bachelor of Science in biology and computer science. He plans to continue his education at UIC School of Medicine through their Medical Scholars Program, a highly selective 8-year BS/MD program. His numerous academic achievements are supplemented with the time he donates to various non-profit organizations like Global Medical Brigades and Sparkathon. He is also deeply committed to his Tamil culture and started a Sri Lankan Tamil Students Association. As a photographer and jazz musician, Sanjay also believes in the power of art to not only showcase cultural traditions, but as "a powerful tool for advocacy, story-telling and preserving cultural identity."

Ron Yoshino presented the Yoshino Family Scholarship to Sofia Ozaki. The Yoshino Family Scholarship honors Maurice and Misako Yoshino, who believed in the value of education as one of the foundations of their family life. Sofia excelled academically at high school, taking many AP classes and earning many honors and

recognitions. Aside from her numerous academic successes, Sofia has donated much of her time to the community. With a passion for baking, she has donated her products to organizations that help feed the homeless, or to community organizations for their events. She will be starting at Ball State University this fall.

The Tomiyama Scholarship honors the legacies of Tak and Tom Tomiyama and is intended to encourage students to ensure that the Japanese American community's voice will always be heard. This year's scholarship goes to Jake Rohde. Jake will be pursuing his Masters in Social Work at the University of Illinois this fall. Since finishing his undergraduate work in 2012, Jake has spent his time working with young people both as a teacher and a coach. He works with ESL and refugee/immigrant student populations at the North Cook Intermediate Service Center, and with at-risk youth at the Fusion Academy in Evanston. Jake has been active in the Japanese American community and, as a Fellow in the Go For Broke National Torchbearers program, is working to connect young people in the Chicago area.

In keeping with tradition, the Luncheon was held at Maggiano's in Old Orchard. This year's keynote speaker was Maureen Tatsuko Loughane. Maureen is the Executive Director of Facing History and Ourselves Chicago. In partnership with teachers and school districts, Facing History offers professional development, workshops, case studies and lesson plans to show how the choices we made in the past impact our society today. Maureen noted that the Japanese American history of incarceration is important to remember at this pivotal time for democracy. This year's Scholarship winners are our hope that the lessons of the past do not go unheeded. 🌱



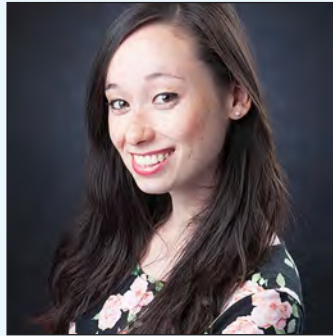
2025 JACL CHICAGO SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS, FROM LEFT: SANJAY GANESH, JAKE ROHDE, SYDNEY TERADA, AND SOFIA OZAKI.

Introducing the 2025 JACL Chicago Executive Board



Ben Nishimura, President

Ben is from the western suburbs of Chicago and currently lives on the north side of the city. His journey with JACL began in 2022 as a participant in the Kansha Project. Since then, he has served on the Kansha Alumni Leadership Board, which plans and facilitates the trip each year, eventually serving as chair of the Communications and Outreach Committee where he draws on his professional experience as an artist to help promote the Kansha Project. "I'm deeply honored to serve as the next chapter president of JACL Chicago. Though my time with JACL has been relatively short, the sense of belonging and purpose I've found here has been truly life-changing. I'm committed to advancing our mission, strengthening coalitions both within and beyond our community, and ensuring that our work promotes equity, solidarity, and positive change for all marginalized communities."



Jennifer Brown, Treasurer

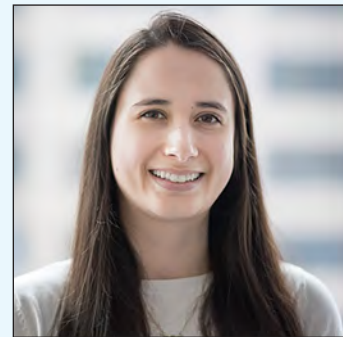
Jennifer is a 1.5-generation Japanese American born in Japan who moved to Illinois at age 15. She earned her degree in political science and has since worked at various PAVE organizations in Chicago, including her current role as Office Manager at Advancing Justice Chicago, where she oversees HR, operations, and administration. Jenn lives in Lakeview and was a 2016 Kansha Project participant, which she says politicized her and sparked a deep commitment to Asian American activism and civil rights. She believes JACL Chicago holds an important legacy that is especially vital to uplift and share in today's climate. "As treasurer, I look forward to setting up sustainable structures that support the chapter's vital work and help advance justice through collective community power. Never again is now!"



**Joe Galligan, Vice President of
External Affairs**

Joe is a Shin-Nisei originally from Madison, Wisconsin. He currently lives in Noble Square and works full-time for the Consulate-General of Japan in Chicago.

Joe first got involved with JACL Chicago when he participated in the 2022 Kansha Project. Since then, he has been a member of the Kansha Alumni Leadership Board. As someone who is from outside the Chicagoland area, the Kansha Project was a great way for him to find community here. "I joined the JACL Chicago board in 2023, and moving forward, I'm excited about helping further our chapter's community outreach initiatives."



**Lauren Cannon, Secretary and Vice President
of Internal Affairs**

Lauren is a 3.5-generation Japanese American born and raised in the north suburbs of Chicago and currently residing in Lakeview. She holds a master's degree in civil and environmental engineering and works building utility-scale solar power plants. Lauren was a 2018 Kansha Project participant, and upon her return became a founding member of Next Generation Nikkei, a young adult-led board which aims to promote young adult and youth engagement within JACL Chicago. "As a member of the executive board, I look forward to furthering our chapter's mission to secure and maintain civil rights of Japanese Americans and all others who are victimized by injustice and bigotry. In today's political climate, solidarity with marginalized communities is more important than ever."

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Despite Challenges, Kansha 2025 Cohort Culmination Celebrates Intersectional Solidarity

by: Amy Do

The JACL Kansha Project's 14th annual Culmination ceremony took place on June 28th at the Midwest Buddhist Temple. The cohort had two weeks to put together their Culmination projects following the trip to Little Tokyo and Manzanar National Historic Site. The projects ranged from written work to visual art, coded maps, posters, walking museums, and physical art pieces.

Kansha 2025 was rife with challenges and obstacles caused directly by actions of the current Trump Administration. At Manzanar, cuts to National Parks Service funding meant the cohort was unable to participate in service projects. Instead, Ranger Sarah and her staff at Manzanar structured an in-depth walking tour centered around incarcerated including Sue Kunitomi Embrey's story.



PHOTO BY KEVIN MOY

KANSHA 2025 PARTICIPANTS AT THE CULMINATION EVENT AT THE MIDWEST BUDDHIST TEMPLE (LEFT TO RIGHT): KENDALL TERASHIMA, EMILY UMEDA, BENJAMIN BARLOW, KATIE SASAMOTO KURISU, JOSHUA KAZU MATSUURA, CHRISTEL MELINGA THOMPSON, SORA SEALS, JACQUELINE FOWLER, DARCY COMBS (NOT SHOWN; KAYLA MOY)

On the final night, illegal ICE raids took place mere blocks from Little Tokyo's Miyako Hotel where the cohort was staying. The next day, local organizers were diverted to detentions that were directly impacting their communities, resulting in the cancellation of planned workshops. Traffic blockades threw a wrench in travel plans, and proceeding through Day 3 programming as usual became impossible. As a result, Kansha facilitators made the difficult choice to cancel the last day of programming to prioritize the safe return of the participants to Chicago. Despite—or in part because of—these challenges, the cohort developed a strong bond which showed in the content of their projects as well as their demeanor.

Sora Seals created an acrylic painting, and said that Kansha “was a key moment in forming [her] own racial identity and alignment with [her] own Japanese American identity.” Her artwork

showcased artifacts throughout history and dialogue with historical ideas about activism and resistance.

Kendall Terashima said, “I am so incredibly grateful to the donors. Without donations I would absolutely have been unable to go on this trip, and without this trip I would have probably lived the rest of my life without exploring this side of my identity.”

Participant Jackie Fowler also shared their commitment to giving back, saying, “It’s a community that I’m going to continue to be involved in in the future. This program is a great way to involve future community members. I think investing back into our community is really the best thing we can do to keep these stories alive.”

Culmination concluded with a live Q&A between the

audience and the participants. Benjamin, Darcy, Jackie, Josh, Kayla, Sora, Katelin, Kendall, Christel, and Emily reflected deeply on how the trip had been a



PHOTO BY REBBECA JOY OZAKI

KANSHA 2025 PARTICIPANTS AND FACILITATORS WITH RANGER SARAH UNDER THE TEA HOUSE AT MERRITT PARK, MANZANAR NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE.



PHOTO BY KEVIN MOY

KANSHA 2025 PARTICIPANT SORA SEALS STANDS NEXT TO HER CULMINATION PROJECT, A PAINTING TITLED, 仕方 (SHIKATA), A CRITIQUE OF THE PHRASE “仕方がない” (SHIKATAGANAI).

Continued on page 5

positive experience. They spoke of growth, joy, and resilience in the face of history repeating itself. Afterwards, the community gathered at Konbini and Kanpai, a Nikkei owned Wrigleyville restaurant, for a reunion celebration.

At the core of the Kansha project and all intersectional activism is solidarity and resistance of institutional oppression. The 2025 cohort and the Kansha community rose to the challenge, and found meaning and connection between the past, the present, and each other.

The Kansha Culmination and reunion was funded in part by the JACL Legacy Fund Grant. The Kansha Alumni Leadership Board is incredibly grateful to JACL, community donors, and this year's cohort for continuing to uplift the Kansha Project. The Kansha Project is a vital program for the Nikkei community in Chicago, and has been an entry point



KANSHA PARTICIPANTS FOLD ORIGAMI CRANES AT THE AIRPORT TO PASS TIME.

for young leaders to become engaged with the local community. Approximately 50% of program alumni continue on to join the Kansha Alumni Leadership Board, the JACL Chicago Board, the National Youth Student Council, or join a program planning committee for local programs such as Intergenerational Conversations: Ripples of the Past, our multigenerational

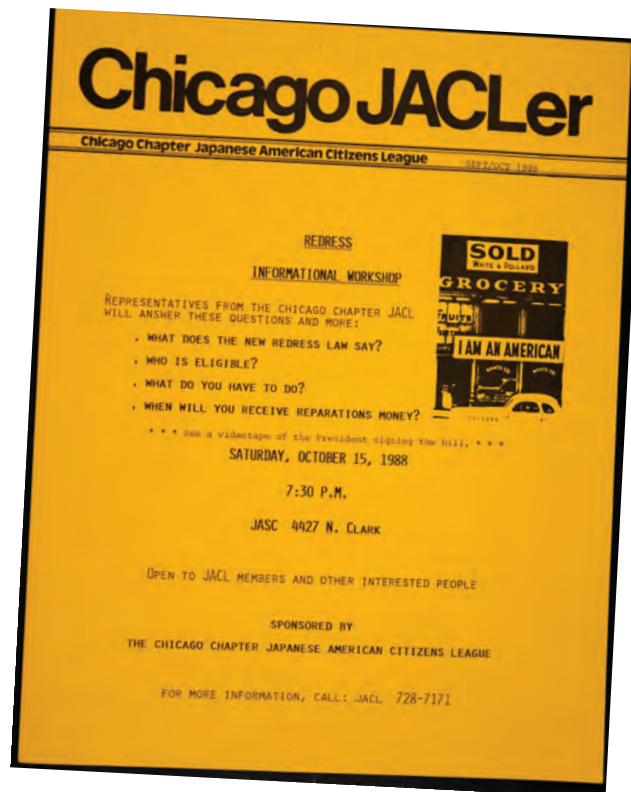
program that brings together Nikkei across Chicagoland to process the impact and traumas of WWII, or Camp Daikon, our social justice youth retreat planned in collaboration with local Nikkei abolitionist collective Nikkei Uprising.

Next year, the Kansha Project will be celebrating its 15th anniversary. Applications for the next Kansha Project will be released in February 2026 for the June 2026 trip. Chicago and Midwestern JACL members ages 18-25 are encouraged to apply. Additionally, Kansha, Too! is currently planned to take place for Nikkei-identifying individuals aged 18+ and their families In October 2026, following the grand re-opening of the Japanese American National Museum. Learn more about the Kansha Project here: <http://jaclchicago.org/kansha-project>.

Densho Works to Digitize Chapter Redress Files

by Eric Langowski

In collaboration between Densho and Full Spectrum Features, the first batch of JACL Chicago archives on redress has been digitized and published on Densho as “Chicago Chapter JACL: Redress Activities” at <https://ddr.densho.org/ddr-chijacl-1/>. These archives document the activism of our chapter leaders as we sought resolutions from cities, churches, civil rights organizations, and federal representatives in support of redress. They also include numerous memos and letters within JACL as JACL strategized to support the creation of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWIRC).



Future documents to be posted relate to the specific CWIRC hearing held in Chicago and other redress activities. This project was supported by a Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program, and ongoing support can be given to Densho at <https://densho.org/give/>.

CHICAGO JACL REDRESS INFORMATIONAL WORKSHOP FLYER, 1988.
COURTESY OF DENSHO DIGITAL REPOSITORY.

Asian American Action Day 2025 Recap: Over 500 Rally for Sanctuary and Justice

by Jennifer Brown

On April 30, 2025, more than 500 community members from across Illinois gathered at the State Capitol in Springfield for the 12th annual Asian American Action Day (AAA Day), hosted by the Pan Asian Voter Empowerment (PAVE) Coalition. This year's theme, "Sanctuary for All," emphasized the urgency of advancing policies that protect immigrant and Asian American communities across the state.

PAVE—a coalition of 19 Asian American advocacy and direct service organizations, including JACL Chicago—launched AAA Day in 2012 to strengthen civic participation and push for policy change through collective action. This year's event was the largest to date, with participants meeting directly with dozens of legislators, including Speaker Emanuel "Chris" Welch and Senate President Don Harmon, to advocate for the 2025 PAVE Legislative Agenda.

AAA Day also commemorated the 50th anniversary of the end of the wars in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos, recognizing the legacy of Southeast Asian refugees who built communities in Illinois. Today, over 886,000 Asian Americans live in the state—yet they continue to be underrepresented in decision-making and underserved by public systems.

This year, JACL Chicago was represented by three participants, including the mother of a chapter member, who joined lobby teams to share personal stories and push for policies that promote inclusion, dignity, and equity.

PAVE's 2025 legislative priorities included:

- \$4 million for inclusive history implementation and educator training
- An inclusive school calendar law recognizing religious and cultural observances
- Increased Immigrant Services Line Item funding to \$40 million
- Increased Access to Justice funding to \$50 million for legal aid
- Full funding for the Faith By Plate Act to support halal, kosher, and plant-based meals
- Adoption of the Wadee Commemoration Resolution, honoring six-year-old hate crime victim Wadee AlFayoumi
- Support for the Let the People Lift the Ban Act to restore local rent stabilization authority
- Continued defense of Illinois' sanctuary city policies

Several of these bills have since advanced. The Inclusive School Calendar bill (SB 1616) passed both chambers and awaits the Governor's signature. The Wadee Commemoration Resolutions were adopted by both the House and Senate. Other bills—such as SB 2642 (Faith By Plate funding) and HB 3687 (rent control reform)—remain active in the legislature.

The day also included a press conference in the Capitol's Blue Room and a powerful rally in the rotunda. Youth and community leaders from PAVE member organizations shared testimonies calling for immigrant justice, language access, and inclusive



PHOTO BY RAY S. RIVERA

education. Deputy Governor Grace Hou honored Tuyet Le, founder of AAA Day, with a heartfelt tribute. Lawmakers including Rep. Theresa Mah, Rep. Hoan Huynh, and Sen. Ram Villivalam also addressed the crowd, voicing support for PAVE's agenda.

AAA Day 2025 was a reminder that Asian Americans in Illinois are organized, vocal, and politically powerful. From the TEAACH Act in 2021 to this year's momentum, our voices are reshaping the state's policies.

Thank you to the participants representing JACL Chicago and everyone who joined us. We look forward to seeing even more of you at Asian American Action Day 2026 as we continue to fight for Sanctuary for All. 🙏

AACCIL Launches TEATALKS: A Culturally Rooted Approach to Mental Health and Wellness

by Chloe Chan

In a significant step towards addressing mental health disparities, the Asian American Chamber of Commerce of Illinois (AACCIL) has collaborated with Dr. Ken Kikuchi, Clinical Director of Kenko Interventions, to introduce **TEATALKS**. This innovative series of interactive workshops aims to destigmatize psychotherapy and mental illness while providing Asian Americans with access to culturally sensitive mental health resources. By blending traditional cultural practices with effective therapeutic tools, **TEATALKS** cultivates an inclusive and supportive space for promoting emotional well-being.

The first session, *Karate & Mental Health*, was held at the Japanese American Service Committee (JASC) and welcomed participants to explore the connection between movement, mindfulness, and mental well-being through the practice of Karate. Led by Erik Matsunaga, founder of Shobu Karatedo, the workshop introduced fundamental movements and forms (Kata) of Okinawan Shorin-ryu karatedo. Matsunaga emphasized how the values of karate—respect, discipline, and personal growth—support emotional strength and clarity. The physical activity was paired with a mental wellness

discussion led by Dr. Kikuchi, a licensed clinical psychologist. Dr. Kikuchi shared strategies for stress management, healthy coping, and mindfulness, highlighting how movement can serve as a tool for mental health.

Each **TEATALKS** session is co-led by licensed Asian American mental health professionals and experts in disciplines like yoga, martial arts, cooking, calligraphy, or forest bathing. The workshops integrate mental health education, mindfulness practices, and peer support in a way that feels accessible, culturally resonant, and community-driven. Sessions are hosted at Asian American-owned businesses and nonprofits throughout the Chicagoland area, offering a welcoming space for participants to explore mental health in a safe and culturally responsive setting.

Looking ahead, AACCIL will host its next **TEATALKS** event, *Kickboxing & Mental Health*, on Saturday, September 14 in collaboration with 9Round Fitness Schaumburg. Led by Asako Hoichi, Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor (LCPC), and Mark Yasuoka, 9Round franchise owner and Kickboxology-certified trainer, participants will

take part in a 30-minute kickboxing circuit designed to build strength, cardio, and confidence. When paired with guided mindfulness techniques, the workout helps relieve stress and build emotional resilience. The session will conclude with Q&A over a Japanese obento meal provided by Sankyu Sushi & Izakaya. Register at bit.ly/TEATALKS-KICKBOXING.

AACCIL **TEATALKS** promote culture, community, and self-care. In addition to **TEATALKS**, AACCIL offers pro bono consulting for Asian American entrepreneurs and those seeking to do business with them. Follow the Asian American Chamber of Commerce of Illinois on LinkedIn to keep apprised of events, resources and opportunities for Asian American-owned businesses. The AACCIL office is conveniently located in the JACL Chicago building at 5415 N Clark Street. To learn more, visit www.AACCIL.org or email Megan Nakano at Megan@AACCIL.org to schedule an appointment. 🍱



A Passage through The Gate of Memory

by Samuel Dunn

On June 14th, 2025, I had the pleasure of attending the *Gate of Memory* Community Gathering at the Haymarket house. My day had started with attending the No Kings Protest in Evanston along with friends Jean Fujii, Rebecca Ozaki, and her adorable son, Kai, and the themes of resistance to state violence, imperialism, and racial violence continued on throughout the day at the community gathering event. The event featured poetry readings from *The Gate of Memory*, an anthology of poetry on Nikkei incarceration written by descendants of the WWII prisons and camps.

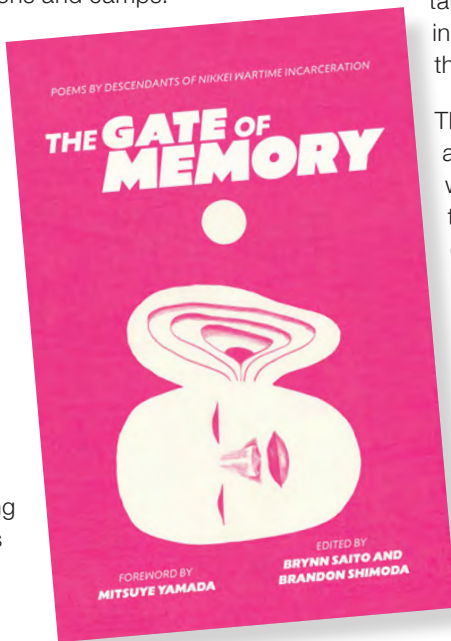
There is a foreword by Mitsuye Yamada, and it is edited by Brynn Saito and Brandon Shimoda. The program, featuring small discussion groups and mini poetry- and art-making sessions, was hosted by Brynn Saito and Anne Watanabe. The event included works presented by local Nikkei artists, including some familiar faces: Brynn Saito, Katherine Terumi Laubscher, Conal Abatangelo, Jami Nakamura Lin, Erica Hiroko Isomura, Mari Yamagiwa, Anne Watanabe, Cori Nakamura Lin, and a musical performance by JJ Ueunten.

The event was a reminder of how poetry and art can be means of resistance. So difficult is it to express our thoughts, culture, and our history. I want to applaud the work the artists have made to bring us “into the gate of memory” of our ancestors. At the event, Cori Nakamura

Lin discussed the concept of the “river of time”: an endless river, almost like a Möbius strip of history that can flow past us, but in some ways flow back into our lives. The river flows through our lives everyday, and it is important for us to take the time to stop and wade in the water sometimes. The different readings allowed us to connect with our families’ and community’s history. I personally have worked on writing haikus as a form of poetry, but the event taught me how transformative the medium of poetry can be. It was beautiful how all of these talented artists could let us flow in the river with them through their work.

The WWII incarcerations are a living history, and we continue to deal with the ramifications to this day. The injustices continue with how immigrants are being ripped from their homes by ICE. Poetry, discussion, and art are examples of how the community can help us process and heal from these injustices. It is imperative that we hold on tight to these intergenerational connections. It is through these bonds that we can protect our community and our

neighbors. I ask anyone interested in dipping their feet in the river of time by checking out *The Gate of Memory* book, available through Haymarket Books. 🌱



COVER FOR *THE GATE OF MEMORY*



TOP: EXCERPT OF A POEM BY CONAL ABATANGELO, ALONG WITH A PHOTOCOPY OF THE INSTRUCTIONS FOR JAPANESE AMERICANS TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES DURING WWII.

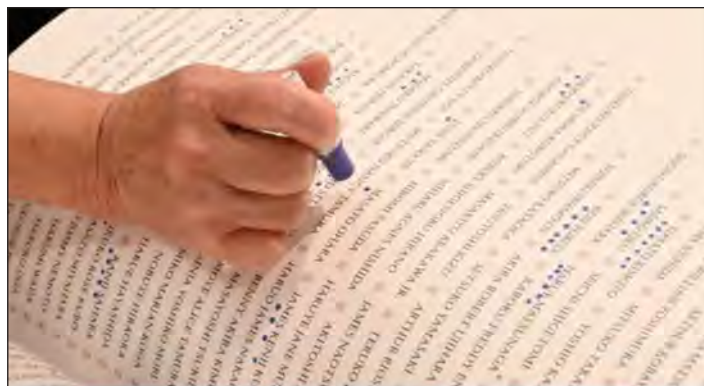
ABOVE: MARI YAMAGIWA READING FOR THE EVENT. BELOW: SAMUEL DUNN, JEAN FUJII, AND REBECCA AND KAI OZAKI AT THE NO KINGS PROTEST IN EVANSTON.



Psychotherapy in Illinois and Consulting Anywhere



by Kenji Kuramitsu, LCSW, M.Div, Certified Group Psychotherapist
kintsugipsychotherapy.org



● Ireichō in Chicago ●

November 6th–9th, 2025

JASC (5700 N. Lincoln Ave, Chicago, IL 60659)
Midwest Buddhist Temple (435 W. Menomonee St, Chicago IL 60614)

The Ireichō ("The Book of Names") began its national tour on the Day of Remembrance in Washington DC and will be on its national tour during 2025 and 2026. The Ireichō is a book monument with the names of the individuals of Japanese ancestry incarcerated during WWII. Named after the Japanese term for "consoling the spirits," the monument honors those who have gone before us as well as those who carry on the memories and legacies of forced removal, unjust incarceration, and family separation. Every visitor to the monument is invited to contribute to the creation of the monument by marking one or more names in the Ireichō with a blue hanko stamp.

JASC and Midwest Buddhist Temple will host the Chicago tour dates in partnership with JACL Chicago, Chicago Japanese American Historical Society, Japanese Mutual Aid Society of Chicago, and historic local Japanese American religious institutions.

For more information, visit ireizo.org/tour

INTERGENERATIONAL CONVERSATIONS: RIPPLES OF THE PAST



"To be able to have these discussions with an intergenerational group was healing in ways that I didn't know I needed."
-2024 participant

USE QR CODE TO SIGN UP



Saturday, August 30, 2025
3:30-6:30pm | Midwest Buddhist Temple
435 W Menomonee St, Chicago, IL 60614

Visit <https://jaclchicago.org/programs/intergenerational-conversations/>

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CELEBRATE JACL CHICAGO'S 80TH
ANNIVERSARY AT OUR 2025
ANNUAL FUNDRAISER
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6TH
5-8PM
SUN WAH BBQ
5039 N BROADWAY
CHICAGO, IL 60640

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- ☐ 1000 Club\$200.00
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- ☐ 1000/Century Spouse\$50.00
- ☐ Millennium\$1,000.00

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Amount: \$ _____

☐ In my name:

☐ Anonymous

☐ In memory ☐ In honor of:

Recipient's address:

Please make check payable to **JACL Chicago** and mail with this form to:

JACL Chicago

Attn: Membership
5415 N. Clark St.
Chicago, IL 60640



SAVE THE DATE!

KANSHA

too!

OCTOBER 8-11, 2026

WHAT IS KANSHA, TOO!?

Kansha, Too! is an adapted version of JACL Chicago's Kansha Project. Kansha, Too! explores the history of the Japanese American WWII incarceration and its continued impact and ongoing legacy in the Japanese American community. The program consists of a trip to Los Angeles' historic Little Tokyo neighborhood and a day-trip to Manzanar National Historic Site. This program is for everyone who's asked, "Can I go on Kansha, too?"

JACL
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MORE INFORMATION AT:
JACLCHICAGO.ORG/PROGRAMS/KANSHA-TOO/ OR SCAN QR CODE

QUESTIONS? EMAIL REBECCA@JACLCHICAGO.ORG



Thank You to Our Generous Donors!

(4.3.25–7.29.25)

Anonymous	Yuko Inoue-Darcy & Alexander Darcy	Denise Reens <i>In Memory of Pauline Nishimura</i>	Anne Shimojima <i>In Memory of Seitaro and Shikiye Shimojima</i>
Conal Abatangelo	Seiji Itahara	Jacob Rohde <i>In Memory of Kuni and Hideko Kato</i>	Gail Shintaku <i>In Memory of Pauline Nishimura</i>
John Adachi	Olivia Jepson	Ron Sakai	Kei Smith
Betsy Appelbaum	Elaine & Darrell Kaneshiro	Diane Sakai-Furuta	Kathy & Douglas Sneath <i>In Memory of Pauline Nishimura</i>
Hannah Arata	Arinah Karim	Lynn Sasamoto <i>In Honor of Elaine Kurisu and Sam Sasamoto</i>	Michael Takada <i>In Honor of Andie Kimura and Anna Takada</i>
Cheryl & Patrick Arnold <i>In Memory of Pauline Nishimura</i>	Gregory Kimura	Andrew & Robyn Sato	Phyllis Tamada-Brown
Nancy & Peter Askin <i>In Memory of Pauline Nishimura</i>	Mari & Peter Langowski	Christine Sato	Benjamin Tani
Maya Berg	Mark Matsuo	Lauren Schechtman	Yoshiko Tischler
Desiree Bote	Stephanie Matsuura	Lary Schectman <i>In Memory of Mitzi Schectman</i>	Lauren Ayako Tischler
Michael Bourdaghs	Ken Mazawa <i>In Memory of Shigemi and Chizuko Mazawa</i>	Lary Schectman <i>In Memory of Chiyoiko Omachi, Carol Miyaki, Jonathan Friedman</i>	Jeannie Tomoda Harrell
Jennifer Brown	Katherine Metzner	Gabi Senno	Sara Weinstein
Christopher Carpenter <i>In Memory of Pauline Nishimura</i>	Jean Mishima	Jon & Tracey Shimabukuro	Jane Yakushiji
Clayton Cerny	Joyce Morimoto	John Shimashita	Mari Yamagiwa
Amy Do <i>In Memory of Steven Do</i>	Kevin Moy	Allen & Fay Shimizu <i>In Memory of Pauline Nishimura</i>	Ron Yoshino
Mary Doi	Cindy Moy <i>In Memory of Steve and Sue Azuma</i>		
Lisa Doi	Andrew Mullins		
Tonko Doi	Christine Munteanu		
Mariko Dowling	James Nagai		
Eugene & Natsuko Dunn	Mary Clare Nagai		
Samuel Dunn	Jinko Naganuma		
Jean Fujii <i>In Memory of Kiyoko Kasai Fujii</i>	Julia Nakashima		
Marilyn Garces	Naomi Negi <i>In Memory of Kiyoko Kasai Fujii</i>		
BreAnna Girdy	William Nelson <i>In Memory of Pauline Nishimura</i>		
Patti & Albert Hara	Bronwyn Newcomb		
Pat Harada	Kenneth Oba		
Michael Harada	Leanne Okazaki		
Russell Heinrichs	Cathy & Steve Onion <i>In Memory of Pauline Nishimura</i>		
Scott Hickstein	James Onoda <i>In Memory of Chieko Onoda</i>		
Asayo Horibe, Philip Goff, and Conrad Bazylewski <i>In Memory of Ruby Izui and Aiko Kojima</i>	Roberta Owens <i>In Memory of Pauline Nishimura</i>		
David Igasaki	Brian Ozaki		
Seiji Ige			

This holiday season and every day...



MEGAN NAKANO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Asian American Chamber of Commerce of Illinois
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Japanese American Citizens League

CHICAGO CHAPTER

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The Japanese American Citizens League is a non-profit human and civil rights organization dedicated to preserving the civil liberties of Japanese Americans and of all Americans.

We welcome your participation.

Go Green! Receive the JACler newsletter (in full color), news and updates via email. See page 2

Calendar of Events

Saturday, August 30, 2025

3:30-6:30pm

Intergenerational Conversations: Ripples of the Past

Midwest Buddhist Temple (435 W Menomonee, Chicago IL 60614)

<https://jaclchicago.org/programs/intergenerational-conversations/>

Sunday, September 7, 2025

2-4pm

Film Screening and Discussion: *Third Act*

Chicago History Museum (1601 N Clark St, Chicago, IL 60614)

September 20 – October 20, 2025

Kansha Alumni Leadership Board applications open

<https://jaclchicago.org/programs/alumni-leadership-board/>

Sunday, October 5, 2025

3-5pm

JACL Chicago Alien Enemies Act workshop

Christ Church of Chicago (6047 N Rockwell St, Chicago, IL 60659)

More information coming soon at jaclchicago.org

November 6–9, 2025

Multiple Dates

Ireicho Tour: Chicago

Opening event on 11/6 at Midwest Buddhist Temple (435 W Menomonee St, Chicago, IL 60614);

Closing event on 11/9 at Japanese American Service Committee (5700 N Lincoln Ave, Chicago, IL 60659)

More information coming soon at jaclchicago.org

Saturday, December 6

5-8pm

JACL Chicago 80th Anniversary Celebration

Sun Wah BBQ (5039 N Broadway, Chicago, IL 60640)

More information coming soon at jaclchicago.org