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**APPLY FOR A JACL
CHICAGO SCHOLARSHIP**

See page 10 for details

Toro Nagashi: Remembering the Past, Illuminating the Future

by Ben Nishimura

My name is Ben Nishimura, president of the Japanese American Citizens League Chicago Chapter. We are a civil rights organization in the Chicagoland area dedicated to securing and maintaining the civil rights of Japanese Americans and all others who are affected by injustice and bigotry. On behalf of us all from JACL, thank you for joining us for tonight's Toro Nagashi ceremony.

This is actually my first time participating at Toro Nagashi. As someone who grew up



A CROWD GATHERS AT THE TORO NAGASHI CEREMONY, JACKSON PARK, AUGUST 6, 2025.

PHOTO BY REBECCA OZAKI

hearing about this tradition, I knew it was a beautiful one, but being here, standing alongside all of you, I can feel the importance of this tradition in a way that words can't quite capture. It's an honor to experience this together with all of you.

Toro Nagashi invites us into a space of quiet reflection: to honor those we've lost, to carry their memory, and to acknowledge how much the world is

shaped by those who came before us. Each lantern we release into the water holds a prayer, a name, a story. Some are deeply personal. Others speak to the broader history we share as a community: the stories of war, immigration, of injustice and resilience, and of love and loss.

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 February 23rd, 2026.

The JACLER is published by the JACL Chicago Chapter for its members, supporters, and friends. We welcome your comments, suggestions, and article submissions.

For More Information

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

Contact Us

JACL Chicago Chapter
5415 North Clark Street
Chicago, Illinois 60640-1294

Phone: 773.728.7171

Fax: 773.728.7231

Email: info@jaclchicago.org

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Toro Nagashi continued

For Japanese Americans, this ceremony resonates across generations. It reminds us not only of our individual ancestors, but also of our collective past, including those lost in the wartime incarceration, those whose lives ended abruptly 80 years ago to the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, those who rebuilt their lives here in Chicago in the face of discrimination, and those who worked tirelessly for civil rights, not just for us, but for others too.

At JACL Chicago, our mission is to carry forward that legacy. To remember is not only to honor, but to also take action. Remembrance for us, becomes a commitment: to fight for justice, to uplift marginalized communities worldwide, and to ensure that future generations can live with greater dignity and peace.

Tonight, as we send these lanterns out into the water, we are commemorating those who have passed and much more. We are making a promise to never forget, and to continue the work. The lessons learned from the hardships of our own ancestors are more pertinent now than ever. Just as the lanterns shine bright tonight, let us fight to ensure that the next generation has a light to follow.

Thank you for allowing me to not only speak, but to also participate in this tradition for the first time. I'm grateful to be here with all of you, and to help carry these lights, and the stories they hold—the lessons they hold, forward.

May they float gently, and guide us all toward peace. Listen to the JACL Chicago WBEZ Toro Nagashi Interview at <https://www.wbez.org/reset-with-sasha-ann-simons/2025/08/06/hiroshima-bombing-80-years-ago-continues-to-impact-chicagos-japanese-americans>

My Time With Kansha

by Benjamin Barlow

I participated in the Kansha Project over the summer of 2025. The experience enriched my life and helped me find renewed purpose and belonging. At the time of the Project I was pensive and unsure about going on the trip. I had never been around peers of similar heritage in my life, and that left me with unease about connecting with others and being able to relate to anyone.

My parents were both adopted; my dad is my connection to being Japanese American, though it's not obvious. I struggled with this, having been the son who reflected the most Japanese features out of all of my brothers. My perspective on being Japanese American was very much clouded by the idea that looks and perception defined



RANGER SARAH JOINS KANSHA PROJECT 2025 PARTICIPANTS FOR LUNCH IN LONE PINE, CA.

PHOTO BY REBECCA OZAKI



KANSHA PROJECT 2025 PARTICIPANTS POSE WITH RANGER SARAH AT THE MANZANAR HISTORIC SITE.

Still, I stayed in touch, feeling that this connection would help us both someday. It was that night that I decided to reach out again with a question: Do you know where our Grandma is?

The next day was quiet. I anticipated their answer, which finally came when we were set to return to Los Angeles. We had been on the bus an hour already when I received the email. It contained no words, just an attachment. An image of my Grandma and her name. For the next two and half hours of that bus ride, I began to piece together the fragments of my family's history from a single image.

Since the trip, I have contributed more to the community and to help others who may find themselves in similar circumstances. I wouldn't trade my experience for anything, and if given the chance I would do it all again. Thank you to everyone in the Kansa 2025 cohort. 🌱

the experience. This notion was challenged when I met my cohort for the first time. I was introduced to many people from varied backgrounds and identities, all united under the identifier "Japanese American". My mindset shifted to a question that I needed to answer on the trip: how do I define my identity?

My time with the cohort taught me many things. I learned a lot about their families. I stayed quiet as the group discussed their family histories, feeling like I had nothing to contribute. Eventually, however, I worked up the courage to share my story with the group. My fear of rejection was quickly replaced with a flood of acceptance and encouragement. I felt truly welcomed in that moment.

There wasn't much said on the journey from Little Tokyo to Manzanar. There was a quiet understanding that nothing could prepare us for the experience ahead. I avoided any thought of family the whole ride, afraid to allow myself to think about it. I watched as the green hills of Los Angeles turned to rocky mountains that went on for miles. When the bus finally arrived, I got off last, and inside, we all stood before a drapery that was divided into three parts. The drapery went from the ceiling to the floor containing an endless list of names; names I could not bear to look at. I kept my eyes to the floor. I was overwhelmed with the thought that one of those names could be my family, or they might not, and both thoughts were equally hard to sit with.

For the rest of the day I debated seeking out my grandmother. A year before the trip, I received a message from someone through my Ancestry account. They mentioned a possible family connection and shared history of adoption. I didn't know enough at the time to help them find the answers they were looking for.

Psychotherapy in Illinois and Consulting Anywhere



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



MEGAN NAKANO
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

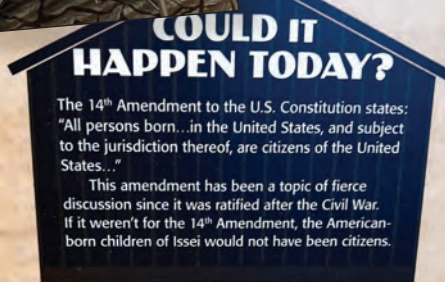
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Our Heart Mountain Pilgrimage

by Carol Yoshino

Joyce, Ron, Bill, and I met up with cousins from northern California, Seattle, and Honolulu for a mini family reunion. Photos include actual Heart Mountain; the root cellar which is undergoing a total redo; the famous smokestack near the barracks which housed the hospital wards; a barrack showing what incarceratedees encountered upon arrival, and what it looked like as they settled into their "new homes." JANM had the Ireicho book on site; Joyce & I stamped names that had no acknowledgments. The last photo is our family table at the final night's Sayonara banquet. 🍱

Note: Corresponding with Carol's photo descriptions, begin with the top photo of Heart Mountain and go clockwise



What do you think about the 14th Amendment and birthright citizenship?

Minidoka Pilgrimage, as a Descendant of a Survivor

by Lauren Hara Cannon

I attended the Minidoka Pilgrimage this year with my mother. Her late father, Robert Hiroshi Hara, was interned at Minidoka. The Minidoka Pilgrimage Planning Committee is an organization based in Seattle that runs the Minidoka Pilgrimage every July. This year, we celebrated the 20th Pilgrimage, with the first having taken place 4 years after the site was designated as a national historic site in 2001. The events of this year's pilgrimage took place July 10-13th, 2025 in Twin Falls and Jerome, Idaho.



THE ENTRANCE TO THE SITE IS LOCATED BY ONE OF THE OLD GUARD TOWERS WHERE HUNT ROAD CROSSES OVER CLOVER CREEK. AS YOU CAN SEE IN THE BACKGROUND, THE GUARD TOWER HAS BEEN MAINTAINED OVER THE YEARS.

It started Thursday night with dinner at Koto Brewing, a Japanese-American-owned brewery in Twin Falls. Participants may travel on a group bus from Seattle or arrange their own transportation to Twin Falls. We chose to fly directly from Chicago to Boise then rent a car for the two-hour drive. The program really kicked off Friday morning at the College of Southern Idaho. A keynote address was delivered by Mike Ishii, a co-founder of Tsuru for Solidarity, based on the theme for this year's pilgrimage: The Labor of Liberation. The rest of the day was filled with sessions that participants could choose from, with titles like "Art of Descen-

dents" to "Exploring Minidoka's Complex History through Primary Sources".

The following day, participants boarded buses that took us to the site. A variety of tour options were offered at the time of registration, ranging from mostly bus-based, to a 1.6-mile walk around various points of interest. Some features of the tour I chose included the baseball diamond, the firehouse, and the visitor's center. The site itself consists of 292 acres in the high desert, around 4,000 ft of elevation. The area surrounding the site is still actively farmed and gets irrigated using water from Clover Creek which runs along the southern edge of the site. It was hot and sunny that weekend with highs near the 90s, but it was dry, and the breeze off the river made it tolerable spending most of the day outside.

The weekend concluded with a celebratory dinner Saturday night at the Jerome County Fairgrounds. Activities included games, a ukulele performance, and a raffle with prizes ranging from stuffed animals to two round trip plane tickets.

The most memorable part of the weekend for me was hearing from survivors. While they were only children when their families were incarcerated, they told stories of their memories and the effects the experience had on their families for the rest of their lives.

My grandfather was living in Seattle at the age of 15 when his family was forced to relocate to Minidoka in 1943. My great grandparents were tailors who had to give up their home and their business. My grandfather, his parents, his three sisters (aged 21, 19, and 12), and his brother (aged 17) spent months in the camp all sharing one room before his parents were



THE IREICHO PROJECT INTERSECTED WITH THIS YEAR'S PILGRIMAGE, SO MY MOTHER WAS ABLE TO STAMP THE NAMES OF OUR FAMILY MEMBERS BETWEEN SESSIONS AT THE COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN IDAHO ON JULY 11TH.

granted a work release with support of the Catholic Church to relocate to St. Louis, Missouri on October 12th, 1943.

I've been to one other Japanese incarceration camp before, Manzanar, as a Kansha Project participant, and what stood out to me most there was the remoteness of the site. It's in the interior of California, not far from Death Valley, and a 3.5-hour drive from Los Angeles. The site is incredibly flat, but mountains are visible on all sides though they are miles away. By contrast, Minidoka is surrounded by active farms and is 30 minutes from Twin Falls. My grandpa and many incarcerated got jobs doing farmwork outside of camp.

If you are a descendant of Minidoka or any of the camps, I would recommend attending the Minidoka Pilgrimage if you are able. If you have any questions about the logistics of the trip check out <https://www.minidokapilgrimage.org/>, or if you would like to hear more about the experience, feel free to email me (secretary@jacchicago.org) and I would be happy to share. 🌸

Origami Letter: Jerome Rohwer Pilgrimage

by Rebecca Ozaki

I got off the two row plane in Little Rock Arkansas not knowing what to expect. It was my first pilgrimage outside of the Kansha Project and Kansha, Too!. Though I was mainly the organizing force behind the events rather than a participant. I was especially grateful to have the opportunity to immerse myself in the Jerome Rohwer pilgrimage alongside my younger brother, James.

My grandfather and his family were incarcerated in Jerome, Arkansas, following my great grandfather being taken away by the FBI and the rest of the family's forced removal from outside of Los Angeles to Santa Anita assembly center. My grandfather was incarcerated in Jerome until he enlisted to join the 442, an all Japanese American infantry fighting for the United States. He eventually returned to Jerome in uniform to visit his parents who were locked up behind the barbed wire fence with no freedom in sight.

At the welcome dinner, we sat at a table of folks that would become our community throughout the pilgrimage. The ones we would eat with, share stories with, and reflect deeply with; always circling back to each other. That night my brother and I stamped our ancestors' names in the Ireicho (Book of Names) to honor them. Harue Kawano. Sam Ozaki. And many more including our grandfather's best friend "Babe" who died in combat, who my grandfather named one of his sons after.



REBECCA & JAMES OZAKI WITH THE IRECHO, BOOK OF NAMES.

On the second day of the pilgrimage, we took a bus through the swamps of Arkansas to Rohwer and Jerome. It was on our way to the sites that all my grief struck me as I wrote a letter to my ancestors on a piece of crumbled origami paper, tears streaming down my face as I wrote. In barely legible script, I wrote to the great grandparents I never knew but could picture clearly from the photo my family kept of them standing next to my teenage grandfather in uniform. "Dear ancestors, I'm sorry for what you had to endure. I promise that my son will know your story. We will remember who you are." As I wrote, I felt them with me. I folded it up into a tiny crane that I later placed beneath the single monument at Jerome. The monument held the names of the 8000 incarcerated people

etched in stone, now private farm land with no trace of my family or the the 8000 incarcerated save for a dilapidated smokestack and this Irei that us pilgrims crowded around in the stifling sun.

After a visit to the McGehee World War II Japanese American Internment Museum and after dancing my very first Obon in their town square, we filed back onto the bus. As we traveled back to Little Rock, we watched a documentary about the Arkansas camps on the tiny bus screen. I heard my grandfather's voice as a fellow Chicagoan elder nudged me and my brother from the row behind and pointed to the screen; announcing proudly to others that that was our grandfather. His trusting face and calm but resounding voice echoed through the bus. The final line of the documentary belonged to him. "I'm glad to finally be in a place where I can say that I'm proud to be Japanese American." As the emotion of the pilgrimage overtook me, he showed up exactly when I needed him. It felt like he was responding to my letter and I knew that he was delivering a message to my child, the great great grandson that he never got to meet, whose middle name is "Justice" in honor of the values grandpa instilled in me. We spent the next few days and nights immersed in sessions that highlighted the Japanese American Arkansas story and pushed me to understand my grandfather's incarceration experience in new ways.

I was fortunate to be connected to my ancestors on this pilgrimage by hearing stories of those that knew my grandparents in Chicago and visiting the land that they inhabited against their will and built lives on from the pieces they cobbled together. I felt lucky to share this experience with my brother and make new friends that sat in the tough moments with me. Beyond the pilgrimage, I've stayed in touch with many people and have had phone calls with a few of them across the country. Some of them even visited Chicago! I plan to help the planning committee in the future and hope to one day take my son to see the place where our family was incarcerated so that he not only knows his story but can walk the land that they walked. Special thanks to the Rohwer Jerome planning committee for planning this pilgrimage and to JACL Chicago for sponsoring this life changing pilgrimage for me. 🍀



REBECCA & JAMES OZAKI STANDING NEXT TO THE JEROME MONUMENT.

In Memory of Chiyoko Omachi

by Bill Yoshino

Chiyoko Omachi, who actively educated the public about the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II, passed away on April 16, 2025 at the age of 98.

Chiyoko was born on Terminal Island in Los Angeles in 1926. Her father built ships for many of the Japanese fishermen who populated the island.

Following December 7, 1941, Japanese American leaders and men were forcibly removed from Terminal Island with 48 hours' notice under the pretense they posed a security risk. Many of these individuals and their families hastily moved to the greater Los Angeles area, which was the case with Chiyoko. Following the issuance of Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066, Chiyoko and her family members were sent to the Poston camp near Parker, Arizona.

In an oral history interview, Chiyoko recalled arriving at Poston where she and family members stuffed the hay to make their own mattresses. She also recalled living in a block at Poston that also housed former restaurant owners from Los Angeles who tried to make the food as palatable as possible given the meager ingredients they were able to work with.

Chiyoko was able to leave Poston early and traveled to Bird-in-Hand, Pennsylvania where she graduated from high school. Following the war, she joined her family in Chicago where she graduated from Roosevelt University. In Chicago, Chiyoko met and married Dr. Akira Omachi who became a professor at the University of Illinois, College of Medicine. Chiyoko worked as a textbook editor at Scott Foresman Company. She and Akira raised their family in Wilmette.

As former JACL Midwest Director, I recall frequently asking Chiyoko to accompany me to speak at schools and events, where she would relate her personal experiences during World War II. These presentations took place at schools such as Loyola and DePaul and at events such as Korematsu Day commemorations in Chicago.

Chiyoko also provided assistance to national JACL in 2011 by editing JACL's curriculum guide, *A Lesson in American History: The Japanese American Experience*. At the time, the curriculum guide was being overhauled to revise existing content and to add significant new content that related to the Japanese American historical experience. Chiyoko's editing skills played a major role in improving the curriculum guide, which was distributed to hundreds of teachers throughout the United States. 🇺🇸

Intergenerational Conversations: Reflections from a Shin-Nikkei participant

by Greg Kimura

Earlier this year, JACL Chicago and Nikkei Uprising co-hosted Intergenerational Conversations: Ripples of the Past, a program designed to bring Chicago-area Nikkei (people of Japanese ancestry) together to share stories, listen, and reflect on the ongoing impacts of World War II incarceration.

The series was created in response to a need within our community for spaces to process the generational effects of forced displacement and incarceration. Its goals include deepening understanding of that history, fostering open dialogue about difficult emotions, and encouraging connection and healing across generations.

As a Shin-Nikkei, I attended with curiosity about how this legacy continues to live within the Japanese American community. During small-group conversations, I had the opportunity to listen to both first-hand accounts from those who were incarcerated and second-hand stories of how families carried that experience forward. Hearing how different generations processed the same history was deeply moving.

Each person's story reflected a unique way of navigating inherited trauma and resilience. Some spoke of silence, others of rebuilding, but all shared a common thread of endurance and community care.



PARTICIPANTS JOIN SMALL GROUP DISCUSSIONS AT INTERGENERATIONAL CONVERSATIONS: RIPPLES OF THE PAST.



JJ UEENTEN PERFORMS THEIR SONG "DERU KUGI" FOR INTERGENERATIONAL CONVERSATIONS.

These conversations highlighted how the effects of incarceration are still felt today—and how dialogue can help transform pain into understanding.

Intergenerational Conversations provides an essential space for reflection, learning, and connection within our community. Future sessions are being planned, and we encourage JACL Chicago members and friends to attend, participate, or support this meaningful work through involvement or donations to JACL Chicago. Together, we can continue to bridge generations and strengthen our collective sense of identity and healing. 🇺🇸

Detention Then & Now: Parallels to the Past and Actions for the Future

by Lisa Doi

In October, JACL Chicago and Nikkei Uprising co-hosted the Detention Then & Now workshop at Tri-C. About 35 people gathered for the event. The program began with Madeline Honda and Emiko Tahara sharing a presentation on the past and present of immigration detention. Participants shared in small groups about narratives of immigration they were familiar with and also how those narratives changed over time. After the discussions, Madeline shared historic and contemporary narratives related to the economics of immigration and the criminalization of immigrants. For the second half of the presentation, Emiko looked at repetition in cycles around immigration policy and immigration detention. This part of the program closed with small group conversations asking: what does your family history or Japanese American community history call you to do in this moment?

This question helped segue into the second half of the program, which focused on ways that community members can take action today. Brandon Lee, former JACL Chicago board member and Communications Director for the Illinois Coalition on Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR), talked about ICIRR's rapid response networks. These are regional networks in Chicago and the suburbs that document ICE activities and try to support people who are being rounded up by ICE agents. For those interested in learning more about ICIRR's work, you can sign up for their email alerts here: <https://icirr.quorum.us/> or follow them on social media @icirr_il.

After Brandon, I provided an update on JACL National's work around the Alien Enemy Act related amicus brief in *W.M.M. v. Trump*. This case challenged the use of the Alien Enemy Act, last used to round up Issei during World War II, to deport a group of Venezuelan immigrants. JACL has been seeking descendants of those who were imprisoned under the Alien Enemy Act during World War II to sign on to an amicus brief as the court case makes its way to the Supreme Court. If you think you had a direct family member who was subject to the Alien Enemy Act, please sign up here: <https://bit.ly/JADescendantsAmicus>. Finally, Emiko shared a volunteer opportunity to provide administrative support at a South Side immigration law clinic.

As Rebecca Ozaki shared in her welcome remarks, the escalation of both violence and chaos in this moment can feel overwhelming. It was grounding to gather together to be better informed about what is happening around immigration detention and deportation at this moment, learn about tangible ways that we can show up for our neighbors in Chicago, and remember that there is tremendous strength and resilience in being in community together. In spite of the increased presence of federal agents in our city and threat of militarized National Guard in our streets, we do have the power to fight back together. Read JACL Chicago's Chicago Tribune article to hear more about our participation in the October 18th No Kings Rally. 🌱

Community and Connection at Camp Daikon 2025

by Isabella Senno

This summer, I participated in Camp Daikon 2025, a two-day retreat hosted by Nikkei Uprising and JACL Chicago at the Japanese American Service Committee on July 12th and 13th. Bringing together an array of Nikkei and Japanese American youth from across Chicagoland and the midwest, the program focused on activism, identity, and social justice.

Throughout the weekend, we dove into historical and contemporary issues alike, including systems of incarceration/reparations, imperialism, and our existence at the crux between "Japanese" and "American".

Having recently moved back to the Chicago area after years spent abroad, Camp Daikon was a welcoming reintroduction to the local Japanese American community. I ended the retreat with new connections and deepened knowledge, especially regarding the extensive spectrum of Japanese American experience. Even though we often had overlapping reflections, no two individuals had the exact same perspective, contributing to thoughtful discussions linking community issues across time and space. This diversity was further illustrated by our (re)telling of the legend of Momotarō, nicknamed Daikontarō for the weekend.

On Day 1, we explored the original folk tale, adding our own spin Mad Libs-style, ending with a communal decoration of various story panels for display over Camp Daikon weekend. Circulating the room, we traded supplies and smiles, making intentional space for joy among a web of complex legacies. Momotarō is originally the story of one supernaturally strong individual;



A GROUP PHOTO FROM DAY ONE OF CAMP DAIKON.

PHOTO BY TY YAMAMOTO



LILY NG GIVES A PRESENTATION AT CAMP DAIKON DAY 1, JOINED BY THE CAMP DAIKON MASCOT.

however, in Daikontarō, our strength came from acting together to create something larger than the sum of its parts. By the end, we had crafted a colorful tapestry filled with ink, pencil, and glue, weaving a new narrative both uniquely our own and thoroughly grounded in its roots.

This emphasis on intentional collaboration continued into Day 2 as we examined intergenerational “wedges” or “bridges” extended by the Japanese American and Nikkei communities towards other marginalized groups. I learned from, and alongside, fellow participants as we brainstormed tangible methods to demonstrate cross-movement solidarity and support sustainable coalitions. Later that afternoon, these discussions translated to opportunities for direct involvement via tabling by organizations such as Advancing Justice-Chicago, Chicago 2 Okinawa, Malaya, the Philippine-U.S. Solidarity Organization (PUSO), and the Chicago Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression (CAARPR).

From these conversations, we again emphasized that fighting systemic oppression requires community strategy and that there are multiple methods of embodying solidarity. This message was woven into Camp Daikon’s structure, with workshops, art, writing, and games all providing accessible entry points into action.



CAMP DAIKON PARTICIPANTS ILLUSTRATED THIS “GAY AND VIVACIOUS” DAIKONTARŌ, A RETELLING OF MOMOTARŌ.

The retreat’s success can be encapsulated by the Day 1 Closing Activity. We joined in a large circle and passed around the retreat mascot, a sizable daikon someone had drawn a little face onto, as we shared our one word takeaways. Answers included “inspired”, “encouraged”, and “empowered”, revealing the bonds we had formed through vulnerability, laughter, and communal knowledge-building.

Created in collaboration by JACL Chicago’s Next Gen Nikkei and Nikkei Uprisi ng, Camp Daikon will return in 2027 for its third iteration. Applications will be available online. 🍷

SAVE THE DATE!

JOIN JACL CHICAGO FOR OUR

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Saturday, Dec 6th 2025

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—

2026 SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON
MAGGIANO'S OLD ORCHARD



2026 JACL Chicago Scholarship Program

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Scholarships range from \$2,000 to \$5,000+ and are open to **undergraduate** and **graduate** students who have demonstrated a **commitment to JACL's mission**. Scholarships are open to all, regardless of race or ethnicity.

Previous JACL Chicago scholarship winners applying for a second award should demonstrate sustained engagement with JACL.

Deadline: Sunday, March 1, 2026

Scholarships will be awarded at the JACL Chicago Scholarship Luncheon, which will be held on Sunday, May 17 2026.

For more information, visit www.jaclchicago.org/programs/scholarship-program or contact Christine Munteanu, JACL Chicago Scholarship Committee chair, at scholarships@jaclchicago.org.

JACL CHICAGO CHAPTER
Japanese American Citizens League

5415 North Clark Street Chicago Illinois 60640
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(7.30.2025 – 11.6.2025)

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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
Japanese American Citizens League
CHICAGO CHAPTER

MORE INFORMATION AT:
[JACLCHICAGO.ORG/PROGRAMS/KANSHA-TOO/](https://jaclchicago.org/programs/kansha-too/) OR SCAN QR CODE

QUESTIONS? EMAIL REBECCA@JACLCHICAGO.ORG



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f: 773.728.7231
e: info@jaclchicago.org
w: jaclchicago.org



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

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| Tuesday, November 18, 2025 6-8pm | Whistle & Know Your Rights Zine Packing Night JACL Chicago (5415 N Clark St, Chicago IL 60640) Learn more at jaclchicago.org |
| Saturday, November 22, 2025 10am-4pm | Holiday Delight & Kodomo Matsuri JASC (5700 N Lincoln Ave, Chicago IL 60659) |
| Saturday, December 6, 2025 5-8:30pm | JACL Chicago 80th Anniversary Celebration New Furama Restaurant (2828 S Wentworth, Chicago IL 60616) Get your tickets today! https://bit.ly/JACLChicago80th |
| Sunday, February 22, 2026 | Day of Remembrance Chicago History Museum (1601 N Clark St, Chicago, IL 60614) More information coming soon at https://chicagodor.wordpress.com/ |
| Sunday, March 1, 2026 | Scholarship applications due Learn more at https://jaclchicago.org/programs/scholarship-program/ |
| Sunday, March 1, 2026 | Kansha applications due Learn more at https://jaclchicago.org/programs/kansha-project/ |
| Saturday, March 14, 2026 | Intergenerational Conversations: Ripples of the Past Location TBA |