In the wake of the March 11, 2011 earthquake and tsunami in northern Japan, the JCCNC immediately established the Northern Japan Earthquake Relief Fund to aid the survivors throughout the relief, recovery and rebuilding phases, but most importantly to share the message of hope and let the survivors know that they were not alone.

As we approach the 5th Anniversary, we are reminded that we need to keep them in our hearts and CONTINUE TO REMEMBER.
Message from the Executive Director

Relief, Recovery, Rebuild, Remember

It was one of those moments in time that you remember exactly where you were and what you were doing. Five years ago this coming March 11th was one of them. I awoke earlier than usual that morning and turned on the television to the news as I always do while I get ready, then I heard the words from the newscaster’s voice that stopped me in the moment, devastating, horrific, unbelievable, and Japan.

I turned to look at the TV and watched in horror as houses and cars were floating away and what looked like black sludge rolling like waves over a town. I saw people fleeing for their lives and death toll numbers expected in the thousands.

It took a few seconds before I realized what I was seeing was real and not a commercial or movie. That shocked feeling and those images are indelibly marked in my mind forever…but what I also remember from that day is the overwhelming support, caring, and hundreds of people contacting us wanting to do something to help.

On that same day, the JCCCNC established the Northern Japan Earthquake Relief Fund (NJERF). Our theme was RELIEF, RECOVERY and REBUILD. Over the next several months the community came together like never before and donations totaling over $4 million were raised.

To commemorate the 5th anniversary of 3/11 this year, we have organized several events and activities so that we can come together to REMEMBER the thousands that perished, the thousands that still live in temporary housing and the thousands that are still suffering from having lived through those events.

From the start, the goal of the NJERF was to support the relief, recovery and rebuilding effort for as long as possible. For the past five years we funded programs that have provided relief goods and supplies; support for emergency shelters and temporary housing needs; programs for children, families and the elderly; mental health treatment; and programs to increase community and economic development. This year we will be winding down our official NJERF program. Final funding will go to support two programs in Fukushima prefecture, which address Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and other mental health related issues. Over the past two years, Fukushima Prefecture and mental health needs have been our primary focus.

“When we ask the people of Tohoku what they need or want most, it’s not money or material things, it’s simply to be remembered and to make sure that they are not forgotten.”

The Center will ensure that we do not forget and build upon our relationship and friendship with the people and organizations that we supported these past five years. We will create new programs and bring youth and others to the Tohoku region to learn about 3/11 and their recovery efforts. Most importantly, we will share with them our appreciation for the beauty of the region and its people so they can develop and build lifelong friendships just as we have done with Kobe for the past twenty-one years.

Gratefully Yours,

Paul Osaki
Executive Director

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Mission
The JCCCNC is a non-profit organization which strives to meet the evolving needs of the Japanese American community by offering programs, affordable services and administrative support and facilities for other local organizations. The JCCCNC also provides educational, cultural and recreational programs that meet and address the interests and concerns of the community. Our goals remain rooted in preserving the Japanese American cultural and historical heritage as well as fostering the foundation for future generations of Japanese Americans.
Japanese Pantry Cooking Series

Our popular seasonal cooking workshops of traditional Kaiseki cooking with instructors Larry Tiscornia and Kimika Takechi, as well as our Cooking with Sonoko Sakai workshops are now part of the JCCCNC’s Japanese Pantry Cooking Series!

Sign up for individual workshops that offer unique hands-on and demonstrative cooking lessons that will add a cultural element to your kitchen repertoire. Workshop dates and prices are listed below.

For updated information including workshop menus and registration, be sure to check the JCCCNC website at jcccnc.org or call us at (415) 567-5505.

Kaiseki Cooking Workshops
Traditional multi-course meals featuring fresh seasonal flavors and ingredients
Instructors: Larry Tiscornia and Kimika Takechi
When: Saturdays, noon-3 p.m.
Cost: $40 JCCCNC Members / $50 General Public (per workshop)
Spring – April 23, 2016
Summer – June 11, 2016
Fall – September 10, 2016
Winter – December 10, 2016

Cooking with Sonoko Sakai
Explore different styles and flavors of the Japanese kitchen with food writer Sonoko Sakai
Instructor: Sonoko Sakai
Cost: $70 JCCCNC Members / $90 General Public (per workshop)
February 19, 2016: Homemade Tofu
May 2016 (date TBD): Kimchi and Korean Flavors
August 2016 (date TBD): Seafood Flavors
November 2016 (date TBD): Soba Noodles

Get your JINS daruma eyeglass case and support the JCCCNC!

Cases are $5 each – 100% donated to the JCCCNC.
AVAILabeL NOW at the JINS store, Union Square
151 Powell Street
San Francisco

New Board Member

Hello JCCCNC... It Feels Good to Be Back!

I never thought the day would come where I would become a member of the Board of Directors because having been raised in this community, I always thought of it as a “grown-up” thing to do. It has been a little over 18 months since I left my position with the staff as Director of Programs and Community Affairs and I am happy to be able to return with a new avenue to contribute towards the mission of the Center and greater Japantown community. This is an exciting year to come back with the 110th anniversary of San Francisco’s Japantown and the 5th anniversary of the Tohoku earthquake and tsunami. I am very grateful and excited for this opportunity and look forward to working with my fellow board members as well as the staff to ensure the Center and Japantown community will thrive into the future.

Thank you!
Ryan Kimura
The NJERF Story

This article was reprinted from NJERF Fund Summary Report (2014)

On the morning of March 11, 2011, the staff of ten at the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCN) gathered in the office knowing that, as the JCCCN and the Japanese American community, they had a responsibility and an obligation to actively support the relief efforts in northern Japan just as they did back in 1995 for the Great Hanshin-Awaji (Kobe) Earthquake.

Together they laid out a plan to start a relief campaign and divided up the various tasks: setting up a bank account, assessing volunteer needs, contacting the media, creating a PR plan, determining administrative needs, establishing donation procedures, etc. Immediately following the meeting they went to work—no one questioned what needed to be done, expressed any doubt or hesitation about the extra work—

they all saw the horrific images on the news that morning and knew that they needed to do something to help. Within hours, the JCCCN went from being a local community non-profit to an international relief organization. By the end of the day, the groundwork was laid for what would become one of the largest relief funds in the nation—the Northern Japan Earthquake Relief Fund (NJRFR or Relief Fund).

The following day, one after another, people came to the Center to make donations and countless phone calls and emails were received from individuals, organizations and businesses who wanted to volunteer and help raise funds. Board members came in to assist staff, but still they quickly became overwhelmed by the tremendous outpouring of support and response to the relief campaign from all over the world.

From the start the staff worked tirelessly, some of them 12 to 14 hours a day, seven days a week for the first couple of months. Eventually, volunteers were scheduled daily and temporary staff was hired to assist with the management of administering a relief fund of this scale. Together they processed, verified and acknowledged thousands of donations; answered numerous
emails, phone calls and media requests; greeted people as they delivered donations; set up a calendar of events and coordinated local fundraisers with organizations and businesses; created and managed the NJERF website; provided updates on the situation in Japan; coordinated with partner organizations in Japan; appeared at community events to provide updates; coordinated volunteers; printed leaflets; and conducted mailings as part of their daily tasks. The staff accomplished all of this while still fulfilling their normal job duties, but managing and sustaining the relief campaign would have been impossible without the dozens of volunteers that came to the NJERF office every day.

There were also some key individuals who without their commitment and sacrifice the success of this relief fund would not have been possible—Lori Matoba for overseeing the administration, Jeff Yoshioka for handling the media and PR, Diane Matsuda for her work as the Japan coordinator, Dianne Fukami as the Board President and Yunice Kotake and Kristen Koue for managing the NJERF office.

But the ultimate success of the Relief Fund was because so many people who are listed in this booklet opened their hearts to Japan—all of the volunteers, fundraising organizers, corporate supporters, small businesses, and most of all, the thousands of donors.

Our hope is that one by one we can all make a difference, helping us all realize we are truly citizens of the world.

Everyone’s lives were changed forever by the events of March 11, 2011, and hopefully the memories of the horrific devastation and the sense of loss that was felt will diminish in time. As we continue to look back it will be the images of the survivors we will remember the most for the fortitude and dignity they displayed which gave us hope and resolve when we needed it most.

In reality the NJERF campaign helped the survivors, but it also provided all of us the opportunity to open our hearts and be a part of the international community’s outpouring of care and humanity to help the people of Japan.

The JCCCNc is committed to ensure that the NJERF story is not over, and many of the projects funded by Relief Fund donations are continuing. Many of them are helping the survivors’ better cope with their lives, some are supporting community rebuilding and sustainability for the next generation’s benefit and others will help better prepare them for any future disaster. All of this is possible thanks to every one of you. ☘
Greetings from the JCCCNC Programs Department! We welcome you to peruse the list below of all the fun and enriching cultural and recreational classes that we offer. The first class session is free for any first-time participants (materials costs for select classes still apply). We encourage you to try something new! For more information or to register for a class, please visit our website jcccnc.org or call (415) 567-5505.

**Arts and Culture**

**Basic Drawing**
Join instructor Rich Tokeshi, one of the original instructors at Japantown Art and Media (JAM), which flourished in the '80s and '90s. This eight week course will teach you basic drawing skills and techniques. The class is open to all skill levels. Single date drop in classes available.

*Instructor: Rich Tokeshi*
*When: Saturdays, 10 a.m.-noon*
*Cost: $70 M/$90 NM (8 consecutive weeks) $11 M/$14 NM drop-in*

**Ikebana**
Learn the traditional art of Ikebana flower arrangement. Create a harmony of linear construction, rhythm and color. You will create your very own Ikebana flower arrangement each week. Participants are encouraged to bring a vase but it is not required.

*Instructor: Chizuko Nakamura*
*When: Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m.*
*Cost: $175 M/$225 NM (8 consecutive weeks) $99 M/$126 NM/stamp card (5 classes) $22 M/$28 NM/drop-in*

**Senior Women’s Writing**
Preserve the written stories and memories of the Asian American senior women of our community and preserve Asian American history. This class is open to both new and experienced writers.

*Instructor: Genny Lim*
*When: Mondays, 10 a.m.-noon*
*Cost: $110 M/$125 NM/stamp card (10 classes) $55 M/$62.50 NM/stamp card (5 classes) $14 M/$16 NM/drop-in*

**Watercolor**
Learn the basics of watercolor painting and bring your artwork to life with the help of Instructor Wendy Yoshimura. This class is open to all skill levels.

*Instructor: Wendy Yoshimura*
*When: Mondays, 10 a.m.-noon*
*Cost: $100 M/$120 NM/stamp card (10 classes) $50 M/$60 NM/stamp card (5 classes) $11 M/$14 NM/drop-in*

**Tougei Ceramics**
Learn various ceramics techniques including hand-building, wheel throwing and surface decoration to create unique sculptures and/or functional wares. During this eight week class you will also learn glazing techniques to create personalized pieces.

*Instructor: Tomoko Nakazato*
*When: Tuesdays, 6-9 p.m.*
*Cost: $175 M/$225 NM (8 consecutive weeks)*

**Dance**

**Hula: Beginning**
Learn both Auwana (modern) and Kahiko (ancient hula). You will experience anaerobic (low impact) exercise while learning to dance hula as well as make friends. The first class of each month will be an introduction/review class for beginners. No dance experience required. (Class participants also must join the Halau, Hālau Ka Liko Pua O Kalaniākea for an additional fee.)

*Instructors: Denise Teraoka and Joyce Chen*
*When: Wednesdays, 6-7:30 p.m.*
*Cost: $32 M/$48 NM/monthly $70 M/$100 NM/stamp card (10 classes) $35 M/$50 NM/stamp card (5 classes) $10 M/$15 NM/drop-in*

**Hula: Gracious Ladies (Adults)**
Learn both Auwana (modern) and Kahiko (ancient) hula. You will experience anaerobic (low impact) exercise while learning to dance hula as well as make friends. (Class participants also must join the Halau, Hālau Ka Liko Pua O Kalaniākea for an additional fee.)

*Instructor: Mary Leong*
*When: 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 5:30-7 p.m.*
*Cost: $23 M/$28 NM/monthly (Thursdays) $45 M/$55 NM/monthly (Fridays) $60 M/$75 NM/monthly (Saturday) $126 M/$153 NM/stamp card (10 classes) $14 M/$17 NM/drop-in*

**Washi Ningyo**
Discover the art of Japanese paper doll making and create your own beautiful Japanese washi paper dolls.

Discover the art of Japanese paper doll making and create your own beautiful Japanese washi paper dolls.
Hula: Keiki (Kids)
Give the gift of hula to your child as s/he learns coordination, grace and teamwork through both modern and traditional hula. For children ages 5+.  
**Instructor:** Mary Leong  
**When:** Sat., 10:30-11:30 a.m.  
**Cost:** $23 M/$27 NM/drop-in  
**Stamp Card:** $150 M/$180 NM/stamp card (10 classes)

Hula: Kupuna (Seniors)
Learn ancient and modern hula while keeping your coordination and memory sharp.  
**Instructor:** Mary Leong  
**When:** Sat., 9:30-10:30 a.m.  
**Cost:** $14 M/$17 NM/drop-in  
**Stamp Card:** $85 M/$105 NM/stamp card (5 classes)

Line Dancing
Learn dance steps to smooth R&B and pop music and keep in shape while making new friends. This fun anaerobic (low impact) dance class is open to all skill levels. No dance experience required.  
**Instructor:** Alan Kitashima  
**When:** Tuesdays and Fridays, 1:15-2:45 p.m.  
**Cost:** $5 M/$6 NM/drop-in  
**Stamp Card:** $25 M/$30 NM/stamp card (10 classes)

**Martial Arts and Fitness**

Karate
Karate is an Okinawan martial art meaning “empty hand.” Develop self-defense skills and strengthen yourself mentally and physically. Our class is part of the International Karate League (IKL) which instructs a modified Shorin-Ryu style of karate. This class is open to all skill levels age 6+.  
**Instructor:** Craig Hamakawa  
**When:** Mon. & Wed. 6-8 p.m.  
**Cost:** $30 M/$48 NM/monthly  
$9 M/$14 NM(drop-in)

Senior Chair Aerobics
Designed for seniors who want to build basic physical strength in a low-impact class. Students will use a chair to participate in exercises to increase flexibility, muscle coordination and strength. Classes end with a hands-on massage to relieve any lingering stress.  
**Instructor:** Kaeko Inori  
**When:** Mon. 12:30-1:30 p.m.  
**Cost:** $4 M/$5 NM(drop-in)

Workout Taiko
An exhilarating recreational class to those new to taiko drumming, young, old or just interested in taiko. This is an aerobics exercise class in which students will learn commonly used Taiko techniques and drum patterns in the course of a cardio workout with low to high impact movements.  
**Instructor:** Melody Takata  
**When:** 3 Thursdays every month (please call for exact schedule), 5:30-6:40 p.m.  
**Cost:** $55 M/$65 NM/monthly  
$23 M/$27 NM(drop-in)

Yoga Prema
Tone your body, heal an injury, lose weight, increase flexibility or relieve stress... whatever your purpose, once you start and continue practicing, you’ll feel more energized as your body condition improves and your mind becomes clearer. This class is open to both the beginner and experienced yogi.  
**Instructor:** Ai Tanaka  
**When:** Sat., 10:30 a.m.-noon  
**Cost:** $28 M/$40 NM/monthly  
$80 M/$120 NM/stamp card (10 classes)  
$9 M/$12 NM(drop-in)

Zumba Gold: Beginner
Our low impact fitness class utilizes up-tempo Latin music to create a fun and enjoyable workout.  
**Instructor:** Noriko Rovner  
**When:** Sat., 9:45-10:30 a.m.  
**Cost:** $27 M/$32 NM/monthly  
$70 M/$90 NM/stamp card (10 classes)  
$8 M/$10 NM(drop-in)

Music

Chorale May
Be part of a male chorus group and sing a variety of songs, mainly in Japanese with some English.  
**Instructor:** Ruriko Miura  
**When:** 2nd and 4th Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m.  
**Cost:** $25 M/$31 NM/monthly  
$15 M/$18 NM(drop-in)

Ensemble Shiki
Be part of a mixed chorus group and sing a variety of songs, mainly in Japanese with some English.  
**Instructor:** Ruriko Miura  
**When:** 1st, 3rd, and 5th Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m.  
**Cost:** $25 M/$31 NM/monthly  
$15 M/$18 NM(drop-in)

Minyo/Hauta/Shamisen
Improve your voice, tone, and projection while singing popular contemporary Japanese songs and learn how to play the traditional Japanese stringed Samisen.  
**Instructor:** Hideko Nakajima  
**When:** 2nd and 4th Sundays, individual lessons between 9 a.m.-2 p.m.  
**Cost:** $40 M/$50 NM/monthly

Taiko
Develop rhythm, strength and agility through the matsuri (festival) style of Japanese taiko drumming. A variety of classes are offered for different skill levels and ages (4½ years to adult), so give us a call to find out which class fits your needs.  
**Instructor:** Melody Takata  
**When:** Mon., Thrus., Fri. & Sat. (3 times a month), call or email for class times  
**Cost:** $55 M/$65 NM/monthly  
$23 M/$27 NM(drop-in)

Ukulele: Beginners
Entry level class for beginning ukulele players. No prior experience with music or ukulele is required. Learn basics such as tuning and simple chords, progressing to learning songs and strums.  
**Instructor:** Don Sadler  
**When:** Sat., 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
**Cost:** $60 M/$80 NM/monthly  
$170 M/$220 NM/stamp card (10 classes)  
$21 M/$25 NM(drop-in)

Learn the basics of watercolor painting with Wendy Yoshimura

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**JCCNC | SPRING 2016 7**
The JCCCNC Community: PROGRAMS

Programs & Events

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Ukulele: Advanced
Emphasis of this class will be primarily on Hawaiian song traditions. This class is for those that already have experience playing the ukulele.
Instructor: Don Sadler
When: Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Cost: $60 M/$80 NM/monthly
$170 M/$220 NM/stamp card (10 classes)
$21 M/$25 NM/drop-in

Social
Bambi
Meet with Japanese speaking parents and their children for a morning of play.
When: Tuesdays, 10 a.m.-noon
Cost: Free

Bridge
Keep your mind sharp while playing bridge in a fun, social environment.
Coordinator: Alice Moriguchi
When: Fridays, 12:30-4 p.m.
Cost: $2 M/$3 NM/drop-in

Hanafuda
Learn Hanafuda, flower card, a traditional Japanese game dating back over 350 years, with varying styles similar to Gin Rummy.
Coordinator: Bobby Hirano
When: Wednesdays, 12:30-4 p.m.
Cost: $2 M/$3 NM/drop-in

Mah Jongg
Engage in social activity and develop creative strategy skills by playing this popular Chinese tile game
Coordinator: Yone Higashigawa
When: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30-4 p.m.
Cost: $2 M/$3 NM/drop-in

Sports
Community Volleyball
Create a team for your non-profit/service/interest organization and join us for a league filled with fun, food and volleyball! Each team must consist of either board/staff members or volunteers.
When: Tuesdays, 7-10 p.m.
Cost: $35 M/$45 NM/Season

30 and Over Basketball
Sign up for our Monday Night (draft) League. Participate in games that are competitive, but friendly!
When: Mondays, 6 -10 p.m. (up to 15 weeks per season)
Cost: $90 M/$115 NM/per season

40 and Over Basketball
Get your friends and join the mature, wise and friendly competition in our Wednesday Night (draft) League.
When: Wednesdays, 6-10 p.m. (up to 15 weeks per season)
Cost: $85 M/$110 NM/per season

Do you need a space to host your family gathering, birthday party, meeting, lecture, film screening, conference, workshop or other function?
The JCCCNC is here to meet your needs. For more information, please visit our website at jcccnc.org/about/facility-rental/rentals or email facility@jcccnc.org
The JCCCNC Community: EVENTS

**Shinzen Nikkei Youth Goodwill Program**
The Shinzen Program promotes the values of fair play and competition, while fostering ties between the Japanese and Japanese American communities. Through sports, youth exchanges and homestays, our youth build relationships with the people of Japan while learning about their cultural heritage, traditions and identity. **Applications for the two-year 2016-’17 program are available online (jcccnc.org) and due on April 8.**

**Baachan’s Kitchen**
We are excited to introduce Baachan’s Kitchen, a new bi-monthly cooking class and communal dinner series for young adults and professionals. Our first session was held on Tuesday, February 23 from 6:30-8:30 p.m., and featured Baachan Marjorie Fletcher who shared favorite family recipes. Baachan’s Kitchen is the perfect way for young adults and professionals to enjoy learning Japanese American culture in the kitchen and to network and connect with other folks in the community over an affordable, family-style dinner. A different baachan from the community and Japanese American comfort food dish will be featured at each bi-monthly session. Come out with your friends to cook, eat, connect and enjoy real JA family recipes and real community!

**Date:** Tuesday, April 26  
**Time:** 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
$10 JCCCNC members  
$15 general public

**Ukulele 101 Workshops**
Interested in learning how to play the ukulele? Join us at our Ukulele 101 Workshop Series and learn the basics. This introductory series will introduce you to basic chords and techniques that will get you playing and singing in no time. This **4 week introductory series will begin Thursday, March 10 and end Thursday, March 31.** Classes will be held Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 p.m. To learn more information please visit jcccnc.org.

**2016 Children’s Day Festival**
Mark your calendars for the 2016 Children’s Day Festival that will be held on **Saturday, May 7** in Japantown’s Peace Plaza. Be sure to join us for a day full of fun that will include crafts and carnival games, a bounce house, live entertainment, and more.

**Kase Nikkei Community Scholarship Program**
$5,000 educational scholarships available for youth who participate in an internship in the Japanese American community. Applications available soon. Visit jcccnc.org for details.

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**2015 Mochitsuki Workshops**
Thank you to all of the participants who joined us on December 19 at our annual Mochitsuki Workshops. A special thank you to our mochi master Mr. George Yamada for donating his time to share his craft. We would also like to thank Nomura and Company, Inc. for their donation of rice. To see photos from the workshops please visit bit.ly/mochitsuki2015.

**2016 Shikishi Exhibit**
Thank you to all of the participants who created beautiful shikishi’s around this year’s theme of hope. To see the 86 shikishi board submissions please visit bit.ly/shikishi2016.
Preserving the Cultural Arts of Tohoku

The Tohoku region of Japan is rich with many traditional handcrafted art and cultural icons that have been passed down from generation to generation. However, when the 3/11 Great East Japan Earthquake, Tsunami and Nuclear Disaster occurred, many of the artists residing in the area were affected by the disaster and economic impact caused by the devastation.

The Center’s core mission is to preserve and promote the Japanese cultural heritage. In the “Rebuilding Phase” of the NJERF recovery effort, the JCCNC allocated some funding to help support artists whose small family businesses were impacted by the effects of 3/11. Each of these family businesses have played a key role in their local tourist economy by preserving the handicraft that their area is known for in Japan. The traditional arts created by these families include the Kokeshi Doll, Daruma and Akabeko. These artists although their business has been impacted by 3/11 have also used their craft to help with the recovery effort by bringing awareness to the cause and helping to bring cheer to people lives.

These artists have been invited to visit San Francisco in September to demonstrate their amazing talent, promote their unique craft and share with us their stories.

Here is a brief profile of the guests we will welcome, and hope that you will join with us to learn and experience more of their incredible contributions toward the preservation of Japanese handcrafted art and culture.

**Asakura Kokeshi Do**

Meet Kokeshi Master Koyo Asakura. He is the 8th generation Asakura carrying on his family business of producing the Togatta style kokeshi doll. Talk about history—he can trace his family business back to the Edo Period! (1600-1868) His shop was severely damaged by the 3/11/11 earthquake and tsunami, but he was able to rebuild the studio and has been continuously making his famous style of kokeshi since.

Kokeshi doll enthusiasts know that it is important for kokeshi masters to be a part of each phase of creating a kokeshi doll, including the selection of the tree that serves as the foundation for the finished product.

Master Asakura uses mizuki (birchwood) and has branched out to create more colorful and whimsical kokeshi while still remaining loyal to the historical process and tradition his family has maintained for over 200 years.

**Nozawa Mingei Hin**

Nestled in the deep mountainside of northern Fukushima Prefecture is a region called Nishi Aizu. It is here that the Nozawa Mingei Hin is located where a father and daughter team create the majority of Japan’s traditional paper mache (hariko) folk art as well as modern ‘negai tama’, known as wish balls in English, created and designed by the very cool daughter of Master Hourin, Minako Hayakawa.

Master Hourin is a master hariko creator and is especially known for his production of akabeko, the traditional red painted paper mache cow that is synonymous with the Aizu Region of Fukushima. Each akabeko (aka means red and beko is cow in Tohoku dialect) is made by hand and painted with careful precision so that the owner can enjoy it for many decades. Even the box that the akabeko is packaged and sold in is handmade by a local nongovernmental agency in the area that employs physically and mentally challenged people who rely on Nozawa Mingei Hin’s orders as their main source of income.

Minako Hayakawa, daughter of Master Hourin is a great artist in her own right. Using the basic foundation of a okiagari hariko, she has taken tradition into the 21st century reflecting her brilliant style, color and design.
Master Watanabe

Master Watanabe has been creating the iconic Daruma style of Shirakawa City, located in the Fukushima Prefecture for the past 40 years. While still in high school, he would come home to help out in the family business that has produced this style of daruma for the past 300 years!!!!

As the 13th generation Watanabe to carry on this tradition, Master Watanabe believes that it is important to preserve and protect the traditional style of daruma as well as the venue that it is produced in. Recently, the Watanabe studio was awarded historic preservation status by the Shirakawa City government as the original footprint and many areas of the workshop have remained unchanged since the Edo Period.

The production of a daruma follows a full year long process: the base of the clay structure is created in the spring; it is dried in the summer and then designed in the fall so that it can be sold in the winter.

Master Watanabe’s wife Sachiko is a well respected artist in her own right who produces a more modern style of daruma. She is often requested to make one of a kind daruma for special events, business and occasions. Recently, JCCCNC commissioned Sachiko Watanabe to produce darumas for the SF Giants and other businesses.

Fifth Anniversary Remembrance Activities

Fifth Anniversary Remembrance

Join us at the JCCCNC as the community commemorates the fifth Anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake, Tsunami and Nuclear Disaster with a short program and refreshments. Representatives from Association for Aid Relief, Japan will give an update on life in Fukushima and programs they are working on to support the residents.

March 11, 6 p.m.
Issei Memorial Hall
Free and open to the public.
RSVP by calling (415) 567-5505.

Fifth Anniversary Remembrance Activities

Akabeko for Hope Exhibit

February 16-March 31
200 Plain, white hariko (papier-mache) cow/cattle from Nozawa Mingei Hin Folk Craft Shop in Nishi Aizu, Fukushima, will be decorated by community artists of all levels and ages and displayed throughout the second floor of the JCCCNC.

The theme of “hope” and encouragement will be shared through the design and personal messages of the artists from our community to the residents of Fukushima.

Master Watanabe holding one of his traditional Shirakawa Daruma
Twenty-one years ago, on January 17, 1995, at 5:46 a.m., a 6.9 magnitude earthquake struck Awaji Island, 20m from the city of Kobe in Hyogo Prefecture. The early morning quake lasted approximately 20 seconds and was unlike anything anyone could imagine. There were over 6,400 deaths, 4,600 in Kobe alone, 26,000 injured, 300,000 homeless and 88,000 buildings and homes destroyed.

"...The JCCCNC has been flooded with phone calls from individuals concerned about relatives as well as how they can help by volunteering, by donating money, by donating professional services, food, clothing, etc."

Paul Osaki, Executive Director of The JCCCNC
Within hours, the JCCCNC responded by establishing the Kobe/Osaka Earthquake Relief Fund raising over $600,000 and receiving and sending over one and a half tons of relief goods (clothing and supplies) directly for citizen relief. Donations were distributed to organizations including YMCA branches in Kobe and Osaka who helped coordinate the distribution to those most in need.

The bright light from this tragedy was the lasting friendships created with many people and organizations, particularly in Kobe. One special relationship is with the Kobe YMCA. Mr. Takashi Onoe, Chief Operating Officer of the Kobe YMCA, remembers, “in 1995, I was the Chief Director of the Relief Project and the JCCCNC presented a donation to help our rescue/relief project. That contribution was invaluable and enabled us to provide more efficient emergency support.

“(then) Consul General Ryozo Kato, speaking on behalf of the Japanese government expressed, “sincere appreciation for all of the generous offers of help and assistance from various individuals and volunteer organizations.”

“Your generosity and encouragement helped us restart programs that considered the mental care and welfare of our participants. The training provided after the earthquake influences us even today. We now have a Family Wellness program that focuses on family, relationships and community.” The JCCCNC continues to work collaboratively to create programs, like youth exchanges – the Shinzen Goodwill, Summer Language and Takahashi Fellowship Programs are a few. “The Kobe YMCA always welcomes us as old family friends, even staff like me, who were not here in 1995,” mentions Lori Matoba, Deputy Director. “They are still very appreciative of our past support and it’s the importance and value of these types of relationships that I try to instill in our youth ambassadors who visit Kobe.”

Onoe adds, “I personally appreciate our long friendship, not only as organizations, but personally. I have learned much about the JCCCNC and Japanese American history through discussions with staff and participants. I look forward to continuing and expanding our great friendship in the future.”
Honoring the Special People in our Lives:

2015 Annual Support Drive
Tribute Gifts

Every effort is made to include gifts received towards our Annual Support Drive, both in the Spring and Fall, but if a name has been inadvertently omitted, please let us know at (415) 567-5505 or aino@jcccnc.org. General donations will be recognized in the next newsletter.

We all know of individuals who have made a lasting impact in our lives and the lives of others and we are honored that you have chosen the JCCNC’s Annual Support Drive to recognize them.

We would like to recognize our Annual Support Drive donors who have made contributions to the JCCNC in honor or in memory of someone special during the period February 1, 2015 to January 31, 2016. We thank you for honoring and remembering those who have helped to make our community exceptional.

IN HONOR OF

In Honor of MARJORIE FLETCHER
Mrs. Sumiko Akashi, $100
Mrs. Shirley Murakami, $500

In Honor of DIANNE FUKAMI
Ms. Teresa Ono, $25

In Honor of RUBY HATA
Ms. Lori Matoba and Mr. Jeff Wun, $50

In Honor of NAOKO A. ITO
Ms. Patricia Ito, $500

In Honor of JCCNC STAFF
Ms. Joyce Ashizawa-Yee and Mr. Bradley Yee, $500
Ms. Patricia Ito, $100

In Honor of ALICE AND MASATO KAWAHATSU
Ms. Mikiko Huang and Mr. Marshall Stoller, $500

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Mr. Arthur Kitagawa, $100

In Honor of ALAN KITASHIMA
Mr. Warren Lew, $100

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In Honor of NICHIE BEI FOUNDATION
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Mr. Masaru and Mrs. Marcia Hashimoto, $100
Mr. Colbert and Mrs. Gail Matsumoto, $500

In Honor of MIDORI OTSUKE
Mr. Gary M. Tom and Mr. Leo Joslin, $100

In Honor of DON AND ADA SADLER
Mr. Tom Lakerquist, $500

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In Honor of HENRY AND ADELINE SERATA
Ms. Teresa Serata and Mr. Charley Kagami, $500

In Honor of MIKA SHIMIZU
Mr. Eugene Van Dyk, $5,000

In Honor of CHIYO, CHITO AND MICHI TASHIRO
Mrs. Leslie Tashiro, $50

In Honor of DONALD UMEMOTO
Mrs. Susie and Mr. Tadashi Kagami, $100

IN MEMORY OF

In Memory of ROY ABBEY
Mrs. Ayako and Peter Yee, $2,000

In Memory of ROY Y. ASHIZAWA
Mrs. Fumi Ashizawa, $1,000

In Memory of INAKO SASAKI BARSCH
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In Memory of RON CHINA
Mrs. Mary China, $1,000

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Mrs. Emiko Furuya, $100

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JCCNC Ukulele Class, $200
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Mr. Don and Mrs. Ada Sadler, $100
Mrs. June and Mr. Thomas Sugihara, $250
Ms. Debra Tong, $100
Mrs. Pat N. Yamamura, $50

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Mrs. Christine Morimoto, $500

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Mr. Wayne and
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Mr. Thomas and Mrs. June Sugihara, $250

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Mr. Randal and Mrs. Laura Otsuki, $75

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Mrs. Naoko Ito, $500
Ms. Patricia Ito, $200

In Memory of TOY KIM YUEN
Mr. Benjamin and Mrs. Candace Yee, $100

Every year in our spring newsletter we will have a feature page(s) for our supporters to honor the special people in their lives. We hope you will continue to share with us and others these extraordinary people.
2015 Annual Support Drive Donors

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to our 2015 Annual Support Drive donors who contributed a gift to the JCCCNC during the period February 1, 2015 to January 31, 2016. The Crane Level recognitions represent a cumulative amount from both Annual Support Drives held during spring and fall. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

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Every effort is made to include gifts received toward our Annual Support Drive, both in the Spring and Fall, but if a name has been inadvertently omitted, please let us know at (415) 567-5505 or aino@jcccnc.org. General donations will be recognized in the next newsletter.

2015 Annual Support Drive Donors

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 17

Nikkei Youth Raffle

Grand Prize:

Two Roundtrip Coach tickets

good for travel in the continental United States

Support our youth programs for 2016 and help us provide invaluable opportunities for our youth to build, engage and collaborate with our community.

Drawing will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2016 at the JCCCNC Children’s Day Festival in SF Japantown’s Peace Plaza

Winner need not be present to win

Questions: contact Susie Kagami
skagami@jcccnc.org

Tickets are available March 1st
$6 each or $30 for 6 tickets
Purchase your tickets online,
at the JCCCNC or by calling 415.567.5505

More info: www.jcccnc.org

18 JAPANESE CULTURAL AND COMMUNITY CENTER OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA | SPRING 2016
The Japanese migrated to America in small trickles since 1868. By 1891 there were a thousand Japanese admitted into America. Those who lived in Hawaii also arrived to the mainland as well, boosting the number to about two thousand. Colonies formed in agricultural areas of California.

In San Francisco, the Japanese began their settlement around the South Park area, once a posh area, but an already abandoned section around 3rd Street, as well as in Chinatown. Due to segregation, anti-Japanese sentiment and hostility, the Japanese found security and support by forming communities, which developed into self-contained “villages” with churches, newspapers, family associations and businesses and services which catered mainly to the people within the community.

Earthquake and Fire
The 1906 Earthquake and fire shifted the Japanese into the Western Addition, which had developed in the period following the Civil War. Once an area of substantial homes and large flats, the dwellings were converted into boarding homes and apartments to house those who had been displaced. After the temporary function, the Western Addition neighborhood was deserted. The buildings, already eighty years old and deteriorating, became housing for the Japanese and many other nationalities who established themselves in an area designated a “ghetto” by the City. Between 1910-1914, two hundred and thirty-nine businesses were established in the Western Addition.

World War II
World War II again shifted the Japanese. They were gathered and placed in concentration camps in 1942. Most all businesses were lost. Only a small portion of the pre-war population returned to Nihonjin Machi. The black population increased in the abandoned area so that it was often referred to as the “colored district.”

Western Addition Redevelopment
In 1947 the Western Addition Redevelopment study by the S.F. Department of City Planning created a project plan. 86,000 persons lived in the Western Addition. They called this “sunny and one of the best living areas in San Francisco.” In 1948, the area was officially designated a redevelopment area and scheduled to be demolished. It was decided that it was easier to bulldoze than to rehabilitate or preserve. This eliminated more than 2,000 dwellings, hundreds of rooms in boarding houses, and row dwelling structures. Sixty percent of all the businesses did not survive. A lack of community solidarity and opposition caused the San Francisco Redevelopment Agency to destroy a whole neighborhood.

I was raised in Nihonjin Machi. I listened to the jazz wafting up from Jimbo’s Bop City into our flat above Soko Hardware. The view from my bedroom was a street lit up by colorful neon. I never closed my windows because I loved the sounds from the street and the smell of food from the restaurants that lined Buchanan Street. It was a sad period, as I witnessed the bulldozers flattening my neighborhood and I lived with the clouds of dust and debris that replaced the familiar landscape. I watched as Buchanan Street became a “mall” and I had a bird’s-eye view of the Pagoda being constructed. I began to close my windows.

110th Anniversary
Some have asked, “why a 110th Anniversary Celebration?” The 100th was a milestone for this community. Perhaps a dozen or so of our centenarian still live to remember our past. They, through many hardships, raised families, ran businesses, contributed to our community. They still remember Nihonmachii, Japantown, J-Town as a place of memories, history, and culture. Every decade is meaningful. Every decade is a challenge. Every decade is a celebration of a history and peoples. Happy 110th Anniversary Japantown! ☀
Nisei Appreciation Luncheon Show

Saturday, March 5, 2016 | 11 a.m.

Join us for this special luncheon show as we salute the Nisei generation for their decades of contributions to Japantown’s past, present and future.

Ticket price includes a bento lunch, special program and performance saluting the Nisei generation followed by the play Nihonmachi: The Place To Be.

Tickets:
- $20 Senior (70 and over)
- $35 Guest (limit 2 per senior)

Because we would like to accommodate as many Nisei as possible for this luncheon show, we are limiting guests to 2 tickets per senior.

NIHONMACHI: The Place to Be, A Musical Journey

An Issei grandfather returns from the dead to bring J-Town back to life! A story about family, history and finding one’s roots. A musical play that will take you back through time to the special place where it all began: Nihonmachi.

MATINEE SHOW ONLY

Sunday, March 6, 2016 | 2 p.m.

General Admission $25
Seniors & Students $20
Call for special group rates 15 or more

Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California | 1840 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115

To purchase tickets, inquire about group rates and for more info, call (415) 567-5505 or visit www.jccnc.org

Sponsored by the Henri & Tomoye Takahashi Charitable Foundation