

**PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT
For Immediate Release**

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**Japanese Cemetery Clean-up Day:
Honoring Our Past, Remembering Those Who Have Passed On**

San Francisco (April 9, 2014) – The Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCNC) is organizing a youth, family and community Clean-Up Day at the Japanese Cemetery in Colma.



Often times we find ourselves too busy in our daily lives to honor our past and remember those who have passed on. The Japanese Cemetery in Colma is a unique cultural treasure that deserves our attention, our respect, OUR TIME. The place represents our history, our loved ones, friends and family. For many of us, it is the place where our grandparents, great grandparents, parents, family and friends are laid to rest. For all of us, the loved ones that rest there represent our history.

When: Saturday, May 17th

Time: 10:00am – 2:00pm

Where: 1300 Hillside Blvd., Colma, CA 94014

The JCCCNC will supply garbage bags, tools, cleaning supplies, watering buckets, drinking water, rags, bento and flowers (please bring your own gloves).

Visit the JCCCNC website at www.jcccnc.org or call (415) 567-5505 for more information and to RSVP. RSVP is required as a light lunch will be provided.

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About the Japanese Cemetery in Colma

The Japanese Cemetery is located in the quiet town of Colma on the San Francisco Peninsula. It takes about 20 minutes from San Francisco by car. The 3-acre cemetery is the final resting place for more than 5,000 people, and the tower commemorating three crewmen from the famous ship Kanrin-Marui is there as well. In 1901, the Japanese Benevolent Society of California was established with a grant from the Meiji Emperor of Japan to provide "for the relief of sick, disabled or destitute persons of the Japanese race" in

California and to provide "a suitable burial ground for deceased Japanese."

The Society performed its historic mandate over the years, assisting those in need and acquiring land in Colma, California, for a Japanese cemetery. It also served as a unifying force in the Japanese American community by bringing together the Buddhist, Shinto and Christian religious organizations, and by participating in local historical, cultural, and memorial events that honor the Japanese heritage in the United States.

About the JCCCNC

The Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCNC) was established as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization in California in 1973. The JCCCNC serves over 185,000 individuals a year and conducts numerous exchange programs between the United States and Japan.