



Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California

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Press Announcement For Immediate Release

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JCCCNC 40th Anniversary Event to Recognize Marjorie Fletcher

San Francisco (September 6, 2013) – The Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCNC) will celebrate their 40th anniversary on September 21, 2013 at their Annual Fundraising Event. But equally important, they will also recognize two longtime staff members who many believe can be largely attributed to sustaining continual growth for the organization over the past 25 years.

"We've been fortunate to have talented and dedicated people at all levels of the organization," said Paul Osaki, Executive Director of the JCCCNC. "But there is one person who has stood by me through all the good and difficult times for the past 24 years, and I believe she has been the backbone of this organization.

Paul Osaki, who is also celebrating his own anniversary of 25 years of unwavering dedication to the JCCCNC and the community, is referring to his "boss," Executive Assistant Marjorie Fletcher, who has an equally impressive 24 years at the JCCCNC.

Marjorie Fletcher was first introduced to the JCCCNC in 1988 by a friend who brought her to a Board meeting. She had recently retired from 40 years of service in the military and federal government and had very little knowledge about the Center or the Japanese American community, but was looking to get involved in the community she now called home.

"The thing I enjoy most about working at the JCCCNC is the people. In the front office, I have the opportunity to see people who come through the door and I am happy to be able to say hello and chat with them," Marjorie mentioned when asked why she has stayed at the JCCCNC for all of these years.

Marjorie joined the JCCCNC staff in 1989 and quickly became known as "Grandma Marj," particularly to the staff, because of her warm, genuine and caring demeanor. During her tenure with the JCCCNC, besides managing the front office, she was a fixture volunteering for and what she especially loved such as the annual trips to Vegas, Reno, and more recently, Indian Casinos. She has also been extremely active in the community organizing San Francisco / Bay Area Nikkei Singles (SF/BANS) activities, and being involved with the Buddhist Church of SF-Buddhist Women's Association. Marjorie was recognized by the San Francisco JAACL as an outstanding



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community volunteer. Osaki also credits Marjorie for many of the JCCCNC's major accomplishments.

"We believe it is important that the community recognize Marjorie Fletcher's outstanding contributions," said Osaki. "She is the reason that so many continue to come in, donate, and feel so welcome. She is the one who has made this a second home in the community for so many. She's also the reason that I am probably still working here today."

At the September 21st event, the JCCCNC will celebrate these three very momentous anniversaries with its usual flair. Popular San Francisco restaurants, such as Bridges, La Mar, Pa'ina and Roy's, will line the Center's beautifully decorated gymnasium serving Hors d'oeuvres. Hawaii's renowned Pagoda Floating Restaurant, which is widely known for the tranquil Japanese koi pond surrounding the restaurant, will make their first appearance in the Bay Area to present the guests with main entrees that represents the flavorful history of Hawai'i's present and past.

The event will also feature a silent and live auction featuring a trip to Japan for two with airfare donated by Japan Airlines and five-night accommodations provided by Kintetsu Travel.

Supporting the event are Annual Sponsors, AT&T, Capcom, Comcast, Japan Airlines, Union Bank of California, and The Henri and Tomoye Takahashi Charitable Foundation.

Registration opens at 3:00 p.m. with the dinner program commencing at 4:00 p.m. Cost is \$175 per person for reserved table seating and \$50 for children 6-12 years. Sponsorship and advertising opportunities for this premier Japanese American event are still available.

Call (415) 567-5505 for information on sponsorships, ads, tickets, and additional details. Event information is also available on their website at www.jcccnc.org. The JCCCNC is located at 1840 Sutter Street, San Francisco, CA 94115.

Proceeds from the event will go towards the development of dynamic cultural, educational, social, and outreach programs that serve the 185,000 visitors the Center welcomes each year. These programs open doors to the Japanese and Japanese American culture, history and heritage, to build community with people of all ages through the shared experience of culture.

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