



GENERATIONS: A Japanese American Community Portrait

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The Generations: A Japanese American Community Portrait book project began in 1998 to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the incorporation of the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCNC). Since then the project burgeoned into a community effort involving over thirty writers, designers, photographers, researcher, and support staff.

This beautiful photographic memorandum unveils the dreams of the Japantown community through snapshots of families, homes, businesses, and the changes that were made in Japantown over the last 100 years. This record is meant to give the photos a voice, so that even a child who could not yet read, and generations not yet born, could go through the book and understand what makes Japantown so special. Many people shared family stories that illustrate what it took to make San Francisco's Japantown – the first in the nation – and to foster its growth in the light of great challenges such as racism, war, redevelopment, demographic changes and geographic dispersion.

This limited, first edition photographic journal of the Japanese American community reflects a century of history in San Francisco through various archival and private family photo collections and the stories are told through the voices of the people who lived them. Contributing photographers and writers include Wendy Tokuda (KRON-TV), Dianne Fukami, Robert Handa (KTVU-TV), Ken Kashiwahara, Donna Kato (San Jose Mercury News), Annie Nakao, Paul Sakuma (Associated Press), Lea Suzuki (San Francisco Chronicle), Dean Takahashi (The Wall Street Journal), John Tateishi (JAACL), and Jan Yanehiro. This valuable recollection of Japanese American stories includes a commemorative hard cover, 136 pages, with color and black and white photos.