

• SEPTEMBER 2024 VOLUME 30 ISSUE 09 •



#### National JACL Convention Reflection

By Lincoln Hirata

This July I had the privilege of attending the JACL National Convention in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. This experience was truly eyeopening for me. As the youngest delegate, I was uncertain about how I would be received, but I was welcomed with kindness, curiosity, and warmth by everyone. A true testament to the JACL community.

For those unfamiliar with the national convention (a situation I was in for many years), it is centered around two main focuses that make it special. First, the JACL National Council convenes for two days, during which delegates from each chapter vote on resolutions and other significant topics. This year, for instance, we voted on a statement regarding the ongoing conflict in Gaza and Israel, highlighting the JACL's commitment not only to its members but also to other communities that have supported us. The second key aspect of the convention is strengthening our connections across different AANHPI communities. This year, the mission statement for the convention was, "Looking into the future together," which meant mixing with the OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates and APIAVote for countless events. Throughout each event, I was able to engage with members from other chapters and organizations which allowed me to gather valuable ideas for our chapter. I also had the opportunity to meet young JACL members

#### **COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

Sept 1 Free Museum Day Japanese American Museum of Oregon

> Sept 2 Labor Day

Sept 7 Taiko Farm Festival Triskelee Farm | 4-7pm

Sept 1-13 Hanobi Japanese Film Festival Clinton Street Theater

Sept 13 Kishi Bashi Wonder Ballroom | 9pm

Sept 28 Rank Choice Voting and Portland's New City Government Epworth United Methodist Church | 3pm

> Sept 30 Taikoproject: Benzaiten The Reser | 7pm

Oct 6 Fall Sukiyaki Bazaar Oregon Buddhist Temple | 12-330pm

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# PORTLAND JACL



Left to Right: Kelly Asao (Salt Lake City President), Lincoln Hirata, Sheldon Arakaki (PNW District Governor), Lisa Shiosaki-Olson (IDC District Governor), and Brian Tsukimura (CCDC District Governor) wait to hear Kamala Harris speak in Philadelphia while attending the national convention.

#### Continued from Pg. 1

who were working on Capitol Hill, the JACL NYSC (National Youth Student Council), as well as those who are entrepreneurs, lawyers, and activists. During my off time, I was able to explore the city with them, and enjoyed the delicious food in Philadelphia's historic Chinatown. Being able to meet with such accomplished youth members makes me hopeful for our youth group, Unite People.

Throughout the convention, I was fortunate to participate in numerous discussions about the future of the JACL and how we can improve it. My highlight, however, was listening to Vice President Kamala Harris speak at an APIAVote event. It was an incredibly moving experience and a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

Ultimately, despite the long days, meetings, and

dinners, I came to an important realization. At the Sayonara Banquet, held on the final night of the convention, I took a moment to look around the room. Surrounded by faces that had become familiar, I recognized that I was among so many outstanding individuals—people who have devoted their lives to the JACL, not for personal gain but for the benefit of the organization and its youth. The convention serves as a gathering place for members who genuinely care about the JACL, to make it the best it can be.

I am incredibly grateful for this experience, which has inspired me to consider working at the national level at some point after college. On a final note, I would like to recognize that we are the largest chapter in the JACL. After meeting with various delegates, many expressed their admiration for our size and achievements. **So**, **Portland, keep up the great work you're doing—it does not go unnoticed!** 





Vice President Kamala Harris spoke at the Presidential Town Hall held at the Philadelphia Convention Center on July 13, 2024. Photo by: Brian Tsukimura



The Hiru Gohan Group from Ikoi No Kai played a song at the annual Hiroshima/Nagasaki Day ceremony on Aug 6, 2024 at the JA Historical Plaza. *Photo by: Chip Larouche* 



Members of the Tsubaki Buyo Doukou Kai Dancers performed at the JA Historical Plaza for the annual Hiroshima/Nagasaki Day ceremony on Aug 6, 2024. Photo by: Chip Larouche



For immediate release: August 19, 2024 Email: liz@ohcreativepdx.com Web: vanportmosaic.org Media Contact: Liz Bacon Brownson

#### Vanport Mosaic Leads National Cultural Initiative with a Week of Memory Activism in Portland's Historic Old Town

One of 14 Organizations Chosen by Race Forward and Americans for the Arts

Vanport Mosaic is honored to be selected as one of only 14 organizations nationwide invited to anchor the inaugural Cultural Week of Action on Race and Democracy, a groundbreaking initiative launched by Race Forward and Americans for the Arts (AFTA). As part of this initiative, Vanport Mosaic will shine a national spotlight on Portland's rich and complex history through *COMING HOME: Memory Activism in Old Town*, a week-long series of events dedicated to honoring and reconnecting communities with deep ties to Old Town. Known as one of the city's oldest and most culturally significant neighborhoods, Old Town has been profoundly shaped by historic racism and cultural erasure.

"This project aims to honor and reconnect anyone with cultural and historical ties to Portland's Old Town, one of our city's oldest neighborhoods," says Chisao Hata, Community Weaver and visionary behind *COMING HOME*. "We look forward to welcoming everyone for a transformative week of reflection, celebration, and community building as we pay tribute to the rich history and cultural legacy of this special place."

*COMING HOME* will begin on Saturday, September 28th, with an intergenerational, multicultural Legacy Circle, and conclude on Saturday, October 5th, with a Unity Circle for Humanity. Throughout the week, participants can explore exhibitions, experience the "History is Now" museum without walls, and engage in community-building activities. *Events are free and open to the public.* 

A key event of the week will be a roundtable discussion "Re-imagining Old Town" which includes a presentation by Erica Naito-Campbell, the granddaughter of visionary Bill Naito, the Portland-born son of Japanese immigrants who became one of the city's most significant business and civic leaders. The timely discussion will provide a historic overview and feature voices from the Old Town Community.

Vanport Mosaic has partnered with several esteemed organizations to enrich this initiative, including the Oregon Historical Society, Oregon Black Pioneers, Japanese American Museum of Oregon, Hellenic-American Cultural Center and Museum, Lan Su Chinese Garden, Oregon Jewish Museum And Center For Holocaust Education (OJMCHE), and Portland Chinatown Museum. Together, these partnerships will offer a diverse array of exhibitions, presentations, and activities that illuminate the history and importance of Old Town. Each organization has histories rooted in historic Old Town and will provide information, stories, and resources.

# VANPORT MOSAIC PRESENTS HOME FREE Memory Activism in Historic Old Town Sept. 28 – Oct. 5

National Cultural Week of Action on Race and Democracy '24





FOR MORE INFORMATION: Vanportmosaic.org Project Director: Chisao@Vanportmosaic.org





# Be an informed Voter Learn about the upcoming election

September 28, 2024, 3 p.m. Epworth United Methodist Church, 1333 S.E. 28th





### Rank Choice Voting

A process that allows voters to rank candidates for a particular office in order of preference. Join CACA and the Portland JACL for an afternoon of non-partisan discussion on the new form of Portland City government and rank choice voting. Please let us know if you are coming. We will be serving a light meal. RSVP by September 23 to Marleen Wallingford at <u>marleen@pdxjacl.org</u> or 503-927-2766.





# PORTLAND JACL NEWSLETTER

## Oregon Buddhist Temple Fall Sukiyaki Bazaar



## Sunday, October 6, 2024

noon - 3:30pm

BACK for DINE-IN or To-Go

(NO Sunday Service on this day)

Orders for Sukiyaki and Chow mein must be received by **Friday, September 27th.** 



Scan to order or to volunteer or see oregonbuddhisttemple.com/fallbazaar

3720 SE 34th Ave, Portland, OR 97202

Oregon Buddhist Temple's famous

## SUKIYAKI BAZAAR

Sunday, 6 October 2024 Noon—3:30 pm



Scan to order or to volunteer, or see oregonbuddhisttemple.com/fallbazaar

#### Orders must be received by Friday, September 27th

Please return this order form with your check to the Oregon Buddhist Temple or place your order online

Dine-in or pick-up orders Sunday, October 6, 2024 noon to 3:00 pm at the Oregon Buddhist Temple 3720 SE 34th Ave., Portland 97202

Thank you for your order

NAME

Sukiyaki, beef

Sukiyaki, vegetarian

Chow Mein, vegetarian

Chow Mein, pork

PHONE

\$ Amount

Number

Orderd

\$24

\$24

\$12

\$12

TOTAL \$ AMOUNT

Order is for **DINE-IN** or **TO GO** (circle one)

EMAIL



Ikoi no Kai - SEPTEMBER 2024

1333 SE 28th Ave / 503-238-0775

MON	TUES		THURS	FRI
2	3		5	6
	Chicken w/		*Yakisoba	Saba Shioyaki
CLOSED	Black Bean Sauce	Х	焼きそば	鯖の塩焼き
	鶏の豆鼓醤炒め			
	12:45pm Sing-along		11:30am Japanese Conv.	11:30am Tai Chi
9	10		12 Pork & Shrimp	13
Fried Chicken	Age Dashi Tofu		Lettuce Wrap	Pork Adobo
w/ Green Onion Sauce	揚げ出し豆腐		海老と豚のレタス巻き	豚肉のアドボ
ねぎダレ唐揚げ		х	9:30 Beginner Ukulele	
			10:30am Ukulele/ Chair Hula	
11:30am Chair Yoga	11am Blood Pressure		11am Blood Pressure	
12:30pm Mahjong	12:45pm Sing-along		11:30am Aikido Stress Relief	12:30pm Bingo
16	17		19	20
Chicken Tofu	Lu Rou Han		Ebi Fry	Loco Moco
Meatloaf	Taiwanese Braised Pork	Х	海老フライ	ロコモコ
鶏挽肉と豆腐の	魯肉飯			
ミートローフ			10:45am Move On	
12:30pm Mahjong	12:45pm Sing-along		11:30am Japanese Conv.	
23	24		26	27
Shiokoji Salmon	Stuffed Eggplant		* Orange Chicken	Gyudon
塩麹サーモン	なすの挟み揚げ	X	オレンジチキン	牛丼
			9:30 Beginner Ukulele	
	11am Blood Pressure		10:30am Ukulele/ Chair Hula	
	11:30am Aikido Stress Relief		11am Blood Pressure	
12:30pm Mahjong	12:45pm Sing-along		11:30am Japanese Conv.	
30				
Birthday Sushi				
お誕生日寿司		X		
(suggested donation \$12)				
*Reservations required				
12:30pm Mahjong				

Chefs:

Naomi Molstrom-M Kyoko Adcock-Tu Justin Sato/ Andrea Hoyt/ Lola Millholland -Th/F

Suggested Lunch Donation: \$9 for seniors 65+ / \$11 for adults under 65 / \$ 6 kids

**Reservations preferred / Indoor Dining Limited** 

For reservations please call and leave a message or email:

(ph) 503-238-0775 (email) ikoinokai7@gmail.com

Seating at 11:30 am with lunch served promptly at noon

\* vegetarian option available on that day - please reserve two days in advance



PORTLAND JACL PO BOX 86310 PORTLAND, OR 97286



## **Current Board Members**

Jeff Matsumoto President

Heidi Tolentino Secretary Jillian Toda-Currie **Treasurer** 

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If you would like to contact the Board, their email address is First Name@pdxjacl.org