



# LONG BEACH JAPANESE CULTURAL CENTER



**Florence Kojima**  
**President 2022**  
**LBJCC**

While June Donovan, the head Ondo instructor, was unable to attend she watched it from home as Thomas Amiya "streamed" it to her.

Hopefully, next year, we'll be able to have our full Summer Festival event with food and games and of course Ondo dancing...

The Long Beach Buddhist Church also had a very successful Ondo event in August.

With the Covid-19 restrictions easing up a bit, the Center has started to come back with In-person activities.

The Center group are back to actively enjoying In-person activities.

The Japanese school has successfully ended their summer session (In-person). They were doing Hybrid lessons (some In person, others-virtual) during the lock down.

The Fall session will be going fully In-person...so those who are interested in learning Japanese, contact the LBJLS. They will be more than happy to answer your questions.

The Senior Luncheon Group. For the past 2 years, during Covid, the group has continuously provided lunches for our seniors by having them delivered to their place of residence. But have come back to the Center for In-person lunch and activities. Yes, sadly, we did lose some of the Senior members during the absence. But most are back with us, enjoying themselves with friends they hadn't seen for some time. It's just heartwarming to see our Seniors happy, smiling faces...

We hope that the Covid will lessen up and everything can go back to some semblance of normality. With that said, please be careful when you do start going back to school, college activities - football/basketball game gatherings, parties, etc. You never know who or where you will contact the virus, be it Covid or even the Flu...

Take care of yourselves. Stay healthy and safe. And hope to see you around the Center.

**September 2022**  
**Volume 23, Issue 4**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 | <b>Presidents Message</b>  |
| 2 | <b>2021 Officers &amp; Directors</b><br><b>Save the Date</b><br><b>LBJCC Mission Statement</b> |
| 3 | <b>Cultural Center Holds Ondo Event</b><br><b>Buddhist Church Hold Obon Odori</b>              |
| 4 | <b>LBJCC 2022 Membership &amp; Donors List</b>   |
| 5 | <b>LBJCC 2022 Membership App</b>   |
| 6 | <b>Advertising Page</b>  |
| 7 | <b>Mailing Page</b>  |

HI! Everyone...hope you are all doing well, staying nice and cool.

The weather has been so hot and humid, I, personally, don't feel at all like going out of the house. Except I have to walk my Flynn, so I go out at least 3 times a day. But Flynn has a mind of his own...it's hot so I say "Flynn, let go home and get some cold water." Sometimes he complies. Other times, we'll end up walking for about 30 - 45 minutes, all the while he's panting and dragging his little, short legs. What we do for our little fur babies....

Talking about our fur babies...thank you for the fur babies who were at our Obon event, enjoying all the music and dancing with their human families.

For all those who came and joined us for the Obon event, and there were quite a number, a great big THANK YOU...MAHALO....ARIGATO gozaimashita....

Jay (Shaheen) and I did a sort of head count of the dancers. I gave up after going around the dancers several times and loosing count after 150. So Jay and I guesstimated 200+ dancers and can't tell you how many sitting on the sideline watching, enjoying themselves with friends and family. And the volunteers...

Thank you to Wanda and her crew for distributing the Chasu Bao orders.

To the Judo gang...Anthony, Jessica, Tracie, Nadine ++, you know who you are - who provided the shaved ice and cold water to the dancers.

And thank you to the Ondo group who provided free hot dogs

Yes, it was not our usual Summer Festival with the Foods and Games. But to have so many of you come out and just to dance for 2+ hours with DJ (?) Thomas Amiya and the Ryojin Taiko and dances lead by Buffy and Morgan (Shaheen) and the TI (Terminal Islander) group. Can't believe they danced almost non-stop. I was making like I was dancing on the sideline. So, I can say I participated....

**Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center**  
**1766 Seabright Ave**  
**Long Beach, CA 90813**  
[www.lbjcc.org](http://www.lbjcc.org)

**LBJCC is a 501c3 organization and your donations are tax deductible as the law allows.**  
**Fed Tax ID: 95-3416456**

# Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center

## 2021-2022 Board of Directors

### Executive Committee

President – Florence Kojima (310) 997-4470  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Anthony Tanaka (562) 455-7470  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Ole Nervik (562) 533-2994  
Treasurer – Joanne Leivici (310) 214-6689  
Secretary – Atsuko Yomogida (562) 425-6554

1766 Seabright Ave., Long Beach, CA 90813  
Website: [www.lbjcc.org](http://www.lbjcc.org)

### Member Organization Representatives

Beikoku Shodo Kenkyukai ..... Hiroko Ishiguro (562) 431-0820  
Mondays – 10:00 am to 1:00 pm  
Grace First Presbyterian Church.....\*Victor Fukuhara (562) 424-0211  
Services: Sundays 9:00 am & 11:00 am  
Kimekomi Doll-Yukari Kai.....Atsuko Yomogida (562) 425-6554  
3<sup>rd</sup> Sat of the month, 930 am to 12 pm at the LB Buddhist Church  
Instructor: Mrs. Yukari Kanesaka  
Kokoro Taiko Kai of Long Beach.....\*Joann Matsunaga (310) 387-8163  
Practices: Saturdays 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm  
Long Beach Buddhist Church.....\*Keiko Shibata (562) 630-3258  
Services: Sunday 10 am  
Long Beach Harbor Pioneer Project.....\*Joanne Leivici (310) 994-0553  
Board Meetings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm  
Long Beach Ikenobo Ikebana .....\*Izumi Minamitani (310) 292-0179  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays: 1:30 pm (Call to confirm)  
Long Beach Japanese Language School .....\*Ole Nervik (562) 533-2994  
Classes: Saturday 8:45 am – 12:30 pm  
LBJLS Alumni & Friends Association.....\*Wanda Higaki 310-538-3020  
LBJL Booster Association.....\*Florence Kojima (310) 977-4470  
Long Beach Japanese Ondo Group.....\*Jay Shaheen (562) 305-8982  
Practices: M/W Beginning June 3<sup>rd</sup> 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm  
Long Beach Judo Dojo.....\*Anthony Tanaka (562) 455-7470  
Practices: T/F 7 pm – 9 pm  
Long Beach Kendo Dojo.....\*Yusuke Sakuma  
Practices: M/Th 7:30 pm – 9:30 pm  
Long Beach Landscape Gardeners Association.....\*Frank Harada (714) 821-3528  
Nichiren Sangha Association.....Lane Hayakawa (951) 315-1443  
Services: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday 11 am – 2:30 pm  
Shodo Kai Shigin .....\*Michiko Honda (562) 426-6756  
Mon. 7:00pm – 9:00pm  
Long Beach Shotokan Karate.....Osamu Nishimura (562) 644-1443  
Contact Person: James Watkins (562) 417-0584  
Practice: W/7:00 pm to 8:30 pm  
Sumie Group.....Ann Igarashi (714) 540-8948

\*Denotes non-voting member organization

### Off Board Chairpeople

Publicity & Web Page.....Jay Shaheen (562) 305-8982  
Newsletter & Membership.....Jay Shaheen (562) 924-2202  
Building Superintendent.....Osamu Nishimura (562) 644-1443  
Scholarship Committee.....Jeffery Inui (562) 592-0581 Ext 5196

## Save the Date (Maybe)

### December Japanese School Pancake Breakfast???

### Cultural Center February

### Shinen enkai???

(Maybe)



### The Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center Mission Statement

The Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center has served as the primary facility in the Long Beach Harbor area in furthering an understanding and appreciation of the Japanese culture and the Japanese American experience through its offerings of cultural and visual arts instruction, as well as Japanese language classes, events and activities for the benefit of citizens of all ages, ethnicity and religious affiliations.

#### **Our Mission is:**

- ☐ To enhance the lives of the citizens of the Long Beach/South Bay area through accessible, quality instruction in the various Japanese cultural, visual, language and martial arts.
- ☐ To serve as a cultural resource of civic and community events, thus adding to the already rich cultural diversity of the area.
- ☐ To preserve and further the timeless cultural traditions which are our legacy by generations past.
- ☐ To collect, document and establish an archives library of historical artifacts, data, visual images and an oral history of the Japanese American experience in the Long Beach and surrounding areas to serve as a unique educational resource.





***Large group in attendance for the Buddhist Church  
Bon Odori***



***Cultural Center's Ondo Event Big Success!***



***Lots of people having fun at the Buddhist Church!***



***People came from all of Southern California!***



***All smiles!***

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**3**

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*All listed have paid their membership for 2022. Donors have the following after their names:*

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John S. Torii is certified by the Board of Legal Specialization of the State Bar of California as a specialist in Probate, Estate Planning & Trust Law.



## Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center, Inc.

1766 Seabright Ave  
Long Beach, CA 90813

**ANNUAL 2022**

**January 1 through December 31, 2022**



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Thank you for your continued support!

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### LONG BEACH

#### JAPANESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL

Invites you to join our school community!

\*TEACHERS \*TEACHER ASSISTANTS \*PARENTS

\*VOLUNTEERS \*ALUMNI \*FRIENDS

*Established in 1949, LBJLS will be 70 years old next year and is still going strong with nearly 100 students and 9 classrooms! We thrive on community support and involvement and are always seeking individuals to become a part of our school. Come join us as we fulfill our academic, cultural & social mission.*

Saturday Class Hours 8:45 am to 12:30 pm  
Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center  
1766 Seabright Ave, Long Beach 90813

For information, please contact:

Mihoko Tanabe, Principal

Email: [info@lbjls.org](mailto:info@lbjls.org)

Tel: (626) 964-5806

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