LONG BEACH JAPANESE CULTURAL CENTER

December 2022
Volume 24, Issue 1

1 Presidents Message

2 2021 Officers & Directors
Save the Date
LBJCC Mission Statement

3 LBJCC 2023 Membership & Donors List
Senior Lunch Program

4 LBJCC 2022 Membership App

5 Advertising Page

6 Mailing Page

Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center
1766 Seabright Ave
Long Beach, CA 90813
www.lbjcc.org

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

Florence Kojima
President 2022
LBJCC

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!!!!

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

The weather lately has been soooo weird....cold during the early morning hours, then it
gets warm/hot during the afternoon, then back to cold.
Walking Flynn is such a hassle because I'm not sure if I need to dress warmly as it starts out cool but towards the middle/end of the walk, the sun starts shining, so I'm getting warmer but then we go into a shady area and it's like 'I need to put my jacket back on again.'
Thank goodness I'm up to date on my Flu shot.
Hope you are all caught up on all your required boosters/Flu shots, etc.
Never know when we'll end up catching colds. Guess that's why, here in SoCal we just dress in layers no matter the seasons (do we even have seasons???).

It's hard to believe we are almost at the end of the year 2022 - the Year of the TIger.
Yes we still have some days left with several activities around our Center....

The Japanese school will be holding their In-person Christmas program, their first in 2years since Pre-Covid on December 17.
With the Japanese school programs will be the Holiday Pancake Breakfast - from 8am. With pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausages. Coffee, Tea and OJ. Everyone is welcome to join us. And we'll also be having our hand crafted goodies, just in time for your Christmas shopping.

And on December 28, Japanese school will be having a (mini) fundraising event.
They will be selling fresh made mochi (both plain and with azuki (red beans)).
Pre-order required with your payment. Flyers are available in the Center. Also online ordering via LBJLS (LB Japanese School) site, payment also available online.

I have had people ask me about our Shinnen Kai and our Summer Festival .

Although the LBJCC Board have been meeting and it is still in it's planning stages, it has been decided that for this year (2023) Shinnen Kai, we will NOT be having POTLUCK.
Neither Main Dish/Side Dish/Dessert....Not sure where our COVID situation will be so better Safe than Sorry. Place yet to be decided but we will be ordering Bentos to be Pre-ordered.
It will be held on we will be holding it on Feb. 12, 2023.

And YES we do plan on holding our 2023 Summer Festival.
Hopefully, we'll be able to have our full Summer Festival event with food and games and of course Ondo dancing...

We hope that the Covid will lessen up and everything can go back to some semblance of normality. With that said, please be careful while enjoying all the Holiday festivities.

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

Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center
2021-2022 Board of Directors
Executive Committee

President –Florence Kojima (310) 997-4470
1st Vice President – Anthony Tanaka (562) 455-7470
2nd 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

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
3rd 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
Bo*ard Meetings: 2nd Tuesday 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm*
Long Beach Ikenobo Ikebana ……...……*Izumi Minamitani (310) 292-0179
2nd, 3rd & 4th 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 3rd 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:1st 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
Japanese Language School
"Free" Pancake Breakfast & Crafts Sale
8:00-9:30

Kashiwabara Scholarship
Deadline January 31, 2023

LBJCC Annual Shinn Enkai
Sunday, February 12th at Noon
Pre-Sale Bentos!

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.*

LONG BEACH JAPANESE CULTURAL CENTER 2023 MEMBERSHIP AND DONORS LIST

All listed have paid their membership for2023. Donors have the following after their names:
NB (New Building or Construction Donation), BM (Building Maintenance) and/or G (General) as of December 1, 2022

1. Aguinaldo, Donnie
2. Alanso, Ricardo
3. Moye, Buffy & Scott
4. Campos, Sandra
5. Carney, Grace
6. Castaloni, Monica
7. Chin, Angy
8. Crook, Aidan
9. Crownover, Kristy
10. Dang, Kevin
11. Deguchi, Marianne
12. Durham, David & Gisele
13. Farwell, Keith
14. **Ferfecki, Aaron**
15. Fuentes, Diana
16. Fukuhara, Tony & Carol
17. Grijalva, Emily & Morales, Miguel
18. Hernandez, Sandra
19. Higaki, Wanda
20. Hirano, Kim
21. Hora, Mae
22. Inui, Jeffery & Margaret
23. Karle, Pamela & John
24. Kobayashi, Terumi
25. Louder, Jeffery
26. Okubo, Janet
27. Pham, An
28. Quackenbush, Jessica
29. Rapior, Theresa
30. Romeo, Christine
31. Romo, Rudy
32. Ruth, Susan
33. Sasikumar, Alexandra
34. Segotta, Valerie & Timothy
35. Sosa, Jazmin
36. Sue, Yao
37. Thomas, Kelly
38. Trinidad, Renee
39. Washington, Megumi
40. Wells, Frank
41. Wozniak, Ellen & Nick

LONG BEACH SENIOR MEALS PROGRAM

WE'RE BACK!!

The eagerly anticipated reunion of participants and volunteers of the L.B. Senior Meal Program (a joint effort sponsored by the LBJCC and the L.B. Pioneer Project) was held on July 6 at the LBJCC with a delicious Japanese lunch, light exercise and joyful socializing. After 27 months of suspending our in-person gatherings due to the risks of COVID 19 and in compliance with the sheltering-in-place order, we have now returned to the Center on the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

We were not, however, inactive during those 27 months. After seeking and receiving emergency COVID grant funds through the Japanese American Foundation of the JACL, we successfully began and sustained twice weekly -every week- meal delivery to up to 40+ seniors throughout Long Beach -from the Westside as far as Cypress, from April 2020 through July, 2022.

Providing wholesome and tasty Japanese *bento*s were, however, not our only objective: While Senior citizens are often at greatest risk of social isolation, the problem was compounded by the travel and social restrictions of the Pandemic.. In meeting the challenge of strengthening and maintaining social connections between, and with our program participants, our 8 volunteers called the seniors weekly to engage in leisurely conversation and to inquire of their physical and emotional well-being. Our very creative arts/crafts director hand-made birthday and other occasion cards to send to participants at appropriate times. We created and sent out an at-home ("gentle") exercise manual – suited for seniors, in both Japanese and English - based on Keiro's Matter of Balance classes and AARP recommended exercises for the elderly.

In order to raise spirits and provide additional support, we observed special occasions and Holidays (including Grandparents' Day) with special meals and sending/delivering COVID 19 "survival kits" – containing masks, hand sanitizers, hand lotion and nail files.

Several local Japanese restaurants – Bamboo Teri House and Sushi West and one food service company – Healthy Meals for Kids - were utilized and succeeded in providing culturally appropriate and desirable meals - week after week. The benefit was mutual: we provided added business during a particularly difficult time for L.B. food establishments and the *bentos* were enjoyed and appreciated by all.

Throughout the Pandemic, we were in awe of the spirit and resilience of our senior participants: their concern for their families and friends; the needs of others over their own; remaining optimistic, active and never failing to express their gratitude and to provide support to our volunteers.

It was a massive undertaking – not possible without 8 very committed and hard-working volunteers, the funding and support from the Keiro organization and the Japanese American Foundation. Much gratitude to others who have assisted us from our first year of operation in 2017: Angelo Godoy, who unfailingly delivered the meals from door-to-door; Anthony Tanaka and Judo students, who set up our tables and chairs; Osamu Nishimura and his Karate students; Joanne Leivici for her financial guidance; Richard Shimizu, our resident photographer

We thank those who have generously donated to our program: Hiroko Endo & Masako Kotsubo; Tak Kataoka; Melvin Tatsumi; Arlene Yamamoto; Nancy & Dicky Tsuboi, and the late Hisa Yano

As we resume our activities at the Center, the twice monthly half-day program includes a delicious meal, friendly fellowship, easy exercise, arts and crafts projects, Bingo and other games. We are in the process of planning a Drive-Fit inspection, technology workshop (cell phone) and various speakers/presentations re. topics of interest and value to seniors.

Our return to the Center on July 6th was marked by a significant increase in attendees, however, we welcome new members. For inquiries and referrals: please call Carolyn Yano (562) 619-7477 or email: midoriyanoc@aol.com.

For the L.B. Senior Meal Program Carolyn Yano, Flo Kojima, ReneLePage, Donna Matoi, Susan Nomoto, Keiko Shibata, Ann Tanouye, Atsuko Yomogida

Volunteers getting ready

Is it ready yet?

It's all about getting together!

Is this before the meal or after?

PRINT n COPY CENTER

Jay Hosoda
jay@printncopy.net

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Or 1 of this size and 1 of the size of a quarter page (see the ad to the right) for $180 per year – 4 issues.

For information contact Jay Shaheen at 562.305.8982 or email at jayshaheen3@gmail.com.

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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 2023
January 1 through December 31, 2023
MEMBERSHIP FORM & DONATION FORM

Name: _____ _____
(First) (Last)

Spouse: _____ _____
(First) (Last)

Address: _____ _____
(Street) (City, State, Zip Code)

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Yes, I would like to receive the newsletter by email ____

Check enclosed ____
Paid by PayPal ____
Paid in cash ____

Family Membership (Senior & Non-Senior)	$30.00	$_____
Individual Membership	$25.00	$_____
Senior Individual Membership (65+)	$20.00	$_____
New Building/Construction Fund Donation		$_____
General Fund Donation		$_____
Total Amount Enclosed		$_____

Your annual membership and donations enable us to carry out various program throughout the year.
Thank you for your continued support!
The LBJCC is a 501c3 charitable organization and all donations are tax deductible as the law allows.
Federal Tax ID: 95-3416426

(562) 924-7769

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Pres: Carolyn Yano
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LONG BEACH BUDDHIST CHURCH

General Sunday Service at 10:00 AM

2360 Santa Fe Ave. Long Beach, CA
Phone & Fax (562) 426-4014

www.longbeachbuddhistchurch.us

japanese american
COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

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Long Beach Judo Dojo

Advisor:
Wataru Namba
7-DAN

Head Coach:
D. Tsunawaki
6-DAN

Instructor: **Craig Takeshita** 6-DAN
1766 Seabright Avenue Long Beach, California 90813
Phone (562) 421-3976
PRACTICE HOURS: Tuesday & Friday 7:00-9:00

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Dr. Shawn T. Yamamoto

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Long Beach Japanese
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1766 Seabright Ave.
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Membership Matters

JOIN THE
LONG BEACH
JAPANESE CULTURAL CENTER TODAY
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE STARTS NOW
APPLICATION INCLUDED

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LONG BEACH, CA
PERMIT NO. 2246

From the 405 Fwy, take the 710 Fwy south to Long Beach. Exit at Pacific Coast Hwy north towards Wilmington.
2 blocks past Santa Fe Ave. turn left

Keiro

Caregiver Conference

Caregiver Conference
will be back IN PERSON in 2023!

Save the Date:
Saturday, March 18, 2023
Wintersburg Presbyterian Church

Visit keiro.org/caregiver-conference
or scan the QR code for more information.

Registration will open January 2, 2023.

For more information, contact programs@keiro.org

keiro.org

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
Tel: (626) 964-5806
Website: http://www.lbjls.org
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/LBJLS