



Long Beach JAPANESE CULTURAL CENTER NEWSLETTER



President's Message

Flo Kojima, President 2025

Hello Everyone,

Hope you're all doing well...keeping yourselves healthy and safe.

Hopefully the weather will eventually decide it's fall/winter and stay cool throughout the day. Rather than cool during the early to mid-day, then warm until the sun sets, then cold with blustery winds during the evening hours. So until this crazy, weird weather disappears, please stay healthy and safe. Don't catch colds.

With the excitement of the Summer Obon festival 'over', it's now time to start prepping for the Holiday seasons. Thanksgiving...Christmas...Hanukkah...Shinnen Kai (2025 Year of the Snake).

With Thanksgiving comes the Gobble Gobble turkey (for most) with all the sides, plus desserts. As we (I) get older, we're reminded to take thing moderately. Meaning not to much of stuffing ourselves with all the Side dishes and desserts at the Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners/parties/gatherings. All the things I love about the Holiday gatherings. Of course besides enjoy being with family and friends.

But guess we (I) should take heed so I don't gain too much weight so that I can continue to enjoy the Osetchi ryori (traditional Japanese New Years dishes) before having to make a New Years resolution to lose weight again, as I've been saying for the past several decades....

Japanese school will be having their annual Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, Dec 14th. (Continued Page 3)

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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: 95-3416426

Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center 2024 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) 994-0553
Secretary – Atsuko Yomogida (562) 425-6554

Organization	Contact	Phone	Meeting Time/Other Info
Beikoku Shodo Kenkyukai	Hiroko Ishiguro	(562)431-0820	Classes: Mondays 10am-1pm
Grace First Presbyterian Church:	*Victor Fukuhara	(562)424-0211	Services: Sundays 9am & 11am
Kimekomi Doll-Yukari Kai	*Atsuko Yomogida	(562)425-6554	Classes: 3rd Sat of the month, 9:30am-12pm at LB Buddhist Church Instructor: Mrs. Yukari Kanesaka
Kokoro Taiko Kai of Long Beach	*Joann Matsunaga	(310)387-8163	Practices: Saturdays 1-3pm
Long Beach Buddhist Church	*Keiko Shibata	(562)630-3258	Services: Sundays 10am at 2360 Santa Fe Ave Long Beach
Long Beach Ikenobo Ikebana	*Izumi Minamitani	(310)292-0179	Classes: 2nd, 3rd & 4th Saturdays 1:30pm (call to confirm)
Long Beach Japanese Language School	*Ole Nervik	(562)533-2994	Classes: Saturday 8:45-12:30pm
LBJLS Alumni & Friends Association	*Nancy Kobata	(562)896-9537	
Long Beach Ondo Group	June Donovan	(562)708-3633	Practices May-June Mondays & Wednesdays 7:30-8:30pm
Long Beach Judo Dojo	*Anthony Tanaka	(562)455-7470	Practices: Tuesdays & Fridays 7pm-9pm
Long Beach Kendo Dojo	*Hayato Okawa		Practices: Mondays & Thursdays 7:30-9:30pm
Long Beach Landscape Gardeners Association	Frank Harada	(714)821-3528	
Long Beach Shotokan Karate	Osamu Nishimura		Contact James Watkins: (562)417-0584 Practices: Wednesdays 7-8:30pm
Sumie Group	Ann Igarashi	(714)540-8948	
UEKI Tree Trimming	*Wanda Higaki	(310)892-6526	Classes: 2nd Sundays 10am-12pm (Various locations)
			*Denotes voting member organization
Off Board Chairpeople			
Website/Newsletter	Jay Shaheen	(562)305-8986	
Membership	Joanne Leivici	(310)994-0553	
Building Superintendent	Osamu Nishimura	(562)644-1443	
Scholarship Committee	Jeffery Inui	(562)666-1004	

SAVE THE DATE
LB Japanese
Language School
December 14th "Free"
Pancake Breakfast
8:00 am to 9:30 am

LB Japanese
Language School
Mochitsuki fundraiser
presale
Pickup December 28th
More info to follow

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.



Crafts from prior years' Pancake Breakfast

President's Message continued from page 1

They'll have their Crafts table with Handmade Crafts items for sale - great opportunity for you to maybe find some very unique, one of a kind items to purchase as birthday gifts, Christmas gifts or just because gifts (for yourself). Maybe have the kids bring their allowances so they can buy some gifts for family and friends. So come enjoy the Pancake breakfast and browse the Craft tables. Have a relaxing Saturday with family and friends before the frenzy of holiday shopping starts (if you haven't started, or finished as some people).

Also, on the day of the Breakfast, will be the last day you would be able to place an Order for the Mochi Sales event on Dec. 28. That's when the Japanese school will be cranking out fresh mochi (by machine) for all those who have pre-ordered. You'll have a choice of ordering - Plain or An filled mochi - with pick up on the Sat. - 12/28.

That will be the last event happening at the Center for the year 2024.

Come February 2025 - our Annual Shinnen Kai will be happening. The Board is working diligently to finalize our plan for the Shinnen Kai event. More information to come in the upcoming months. So please keep Feb. 9, 2025 available.

So now for some sad/happy news. The Nichiren Sanga group, who have been with the Long Beach Community Center for the past 40+ years have informed the LBJCC Board that their Reverend will be retiring, so the group will be relocating to a new meeting place. Therefore the Groups last meeting will be held in December. I personally didn't realize the number of years the Nichiren Sanga group had been with the Center. Thank you for your years of service and dedication.

Happy, baby news...I quite sure most of you have heard, so I guess it's okay for me to mention (in the newsletter). If not please come to my funeral... Our own June (Donovan) is now a grandma to her granddaughter, Rhea. So Amanda is now an auntie...

There's not much I can do to out do June, but this one I've upped her....my own daughter has made me a grandma/obaachan also. Except my Alyssa was born in July, whereas Rhea was born in Sept. Not much to be boosting about but I've been a grandma couple months earlier than June....

Anyways, hope to see you all around the Center. Stay healthy and safe.



Welcome table at the Pancake Breakfast



Mood Swings providing awesome entertainment at last year's Pancake Breakfast.



LBJCC



New Year's Celebration



Save the date!
February 9th, 2025!

SHINNENKAI 2025

Bring a savory side dish or salad to share!
Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center
1766 Seabright Ave. Long Beach, CA 90813

Save the date! We look forward to seeing you!

Long Beach Japanese Language School



Holiday pancake

Free breakfast **Free**
&

Program

December 14, 2024

8:00 – 9:30



Shop and Buy

Hand-made crafts and Goodies
Open during pancake breakfast and

Holiday program

All Donations support the LBJLS



NEW YEAR'S MOCHI



Do you like....no, love fresh mochi but don't want to make it!

Pre-order your **fresh** mochi for New Year's **today!**

LBJLS will again be making fresh mochi on December 28th!

Plain mochi - **\$10 per dozen**

An (Red Bean) mochi - **\$12 for 6 pieces per package**

Orders Due By: December 14th

Pick up on, December 28th between 2 – 4pm

at

Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center
1766 Seabright Ave, Long Beach

Mail order forms to:

Jay Shaheen
3939 Linden Ave
Long Beach, CA 90807



Fundraiser supports
Long Beach Japanese
Language School

For Info: 562-305-8982 or lbjlsshaheen@gmail.com

Include payment with your order form. Checks made out to LBJLS or use LBJLS' Donation PayPal for payment at lbjls.org.

Name: _____

Cell Phone # and/or Email:

(You will receive a confirmation email or text for your order)

Plain # doz. _____ An Mochi. # pkgs _____

Thank You for your support

Order Total: \$ _____

Check if paid through PayPal (email or mail completed form, so we know what you ordered)

Pick Up Location:

Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center on Sat, December 28th Between 2-4 pm

PRINT n COPY
CENTER



Jay Hosoda
jay@printncopy.net

4446 Cerritos Avenue
Los Alamitos, CA 90720
TEL: (562) 594-6577
(714) 995-3522
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This ad space and 2 others of the same size are currently available.

4 issues per years for \$100. Color or Black and White for the same price.

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 2025

January 1 through December 31, 2025

MEMBERSHIP FORM & DONATION FORM

Name (First and Last): _____

Spouse (First and Last): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Check enclosed _____

Paid by PayPal _____

Paid in cash _____

____ Check here if you would like to receive newsletter by email

Family Membership (Senior & Non-Senior)	\$30.00	\$ _____
Individual Membership	\$25.00	\$ _____
Senior Individual Membership (65+)	\$20.00	\$ _____
New Building/Construction Fund Donation		\$ _____
Building Maintenance 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

LONG BEACH JAPANESE CULTURAL CENTER 2025 MEMBERSHIP AND DONORS LIST

All listed have paid their membership for 2025. Donors have the following after their names:
NB (New Building or Construction Donation), BM (Building Maintenance) and/or G (General) as December 1,
2024

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Adrian Cotta | 26. Jeff Louder | 49. Noji, Audry & Gene-BM |
| 2. Alejandra & Marvin Delgado | 27. Jeffery Mirosovick | 50. Patricia Valenzuela |
| 3. Alicia Richlin | 28. Jenny Lopez | 51. Paul Meripol |
| 4. Angy Chin | 29. Jess Baker | 52. Richard Alonso |
| 5. Anna Sanchez | 30. Jessica Hernandez | 53. Richard Shieds |
| 6. Ashley Pontell | 31. Jessica Quackenbush | 54. Rudy Romo |
| 7. Benjamin Ancheta | 32. Jonathan San Agustin | 55. Sarah Guan |
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| 9. Buffy & Scott Moye | 34. Joseph Pititt | 57. Shannon Tasby |
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| 15. Davis Nolasco | 40. Leila Kuwahara Williams | 63. Therese Fogarty-Smith |
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Johnson-Ushijima |
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| 19. Frank Wells | 44. Megan Murphy | 67. Virginia Lopez |
| 20. Fransuhasi Rodriguez | 45. Megumi Washington | 68. Wanda Higaki |
| 21. Gabriel Pahang | 46. Melina & Anthony Morris | 69. William Kim |
| 22. Gabrielle Corros | 47. Michelle Thomas | 70. Yao Sue |
| 23. Gisella Alcazar | 48. Michi Tuener | |
| 24. Ibett Campos | | |
| 25. James Chares | | |




Long Beach Ondo Group performing at the Autumn Festival at the
Aquarium of the Pacific on November 17th.
Led by June Miyamoto Donovan and accompanied by Ryujin Taiko..



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japanese american
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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
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Office: 562-420-3393
office.gracefirst@gmail.com

GRACEFIRST
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Caregiver Conference



SAN GABRIEL VALLEY

Join us for a dynamic Caregiver Conference focused on *Building a Strong Care Foundation* through advance planning!

Saturday, March 15, 2025

East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center 10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Registration Opens: Monday, January 6, 2025 For more information, visit keiro.org/CC25

Caregiver Conference South Bay - Coming Fall 2025

Keiro.

Long Beach Japanese Language School



This is your invitation to join our community!

Saturday class hours

8:45 AM to 12:30 PM

TEACHERS

TEACHER ASSISTANTS

PARENTS



VOLUNTEERS

ALUMNI

FRIENDS

For more information, please contact:
Mihoko Tanabe, Principal
email: info@lbjls.org
phone: (562) 285-3816

Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center

Seeking Teachers

Visit us at www.LBJLS.org

Facebook.com/LBJLS



Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center
1766 Seabright Ave.
Long Beach, CA 90813
www.lblcc.org
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Membership Matters
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JAPANESE CULTURAL CENTER
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