

KOKORO

the heart and soul of our community
Japanese American Citizens League – San Mateo Chapter
July 2011
www.sanmateojacl.org
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San Mateo JACL is dedicated to promoting the historical and cultural understanding of the Japanese American experience and to protecting and advancing the human and civil rights of our multi-ethnic society through educational and community programs.

Articles must be submitted before the first Friday (one month prior to publication) steveokamoto1@gmail.com

Community Center

The Community Center Raffle and Potluck will be held at the Gardener's Hall on Saturday, August 20, from 5PM to 7PM. Call the Center at 650-343-2793 to make your reservations. Call early as this event is very popular and could be sold out.

National News

42nd JACL National Convention in Hollywood

The **Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)** held a successful 42nd National JACL Convention at the Renaissance Hotel in Hollywood, California, July 7-10. The **Pacific Southwest District (PSW)**, under the guidance of Convention Chair **Gary Mayeda**, hosted this year's inaugural annual convention. The following are some of the highlights from this year's convention.

Welcome Reception

Delegates, sponsors, exhibitors, board members, and staff enjoyed the start to the 42nd JACL National Convention at a **welcome reception at Madame Tussauds in Hollywood**. Friends, old and new, mingled on the rooftop of the famous wax museum and had the opportunity to take pictures with "Hollywood A-listers," including Lady Gaga, Audrey Hepburn, James Dean, and President Obama.



L to R: Megan Ikeda, Stephanie Nitahara, Christine Munteanu, Tiffany Ikeda, Leslie Toy, and Kyle Ijichi pose for a picture with "Will Smith" at the Convention Welcome Reception.

Awards Luncheon

This year's Awards Luncheon honored three local community heroes: **Alan Nishio**, **Traci Kato-Kiriyama**, and **Paul Osaki** with the Community Impact Award. **Assemblyman Warren Furutani** delivered a lively performance as Master of Ceremonies for the luncheon, and welcome remarks were made by JACL National President **David Kawamoto**, the Honorable **Norman Y. Mineta**, Executive Director of External Affairs of Comcast Corp. & Vice President of External Affairs for Comcast Cable, **Johnnie Giles**, Director of Public Affairs for Lilly USA, **Dan Howle**, and President and CEO of the National JACL Credit Union, **Dean Hirabayashi**. Artist and activist **Nobuko Miyamoto**, gave an entertaining and educational performance titled "[Mottainai](#)."



L to R: JACL National Executive Director Floyd Mori, Community Impact Award Honorees: Paul Osaki, Traci Kato-Kiriyama, Alan Nishio, and JACL National President David Kawamoto at the Awards Luncheon.

Business Session



Delegates vote on a resolution during the Business Session.

On Friday, the convention delegates participated in an all day business session to discuss the JACL Constitution and By-Laws and to vote on resolutions brought forward. One of the major resolutions passed at the 2010 convention and revisited at this year's convention was the "Power of Words" resolution; the goal of this resolution is ""to truthfully explain the Japanese American community's mistreatment (during World War II) while discouraging use of misleading euphemisms created by the U.S. government"(rafu.com) and ultimately give the community a sense of ownership over the camp experience. To read more about the "Power of Words" resolution click [here](#).



JACL
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