

# Notes from the Chapter Board

OMAHA JACL



## President's Message from Kai:

Greetings and Happy New Year to all!

We welcome the start of 2021 and the Year of the Ox.

The Ox signifies strength and determination, and I can say that we all can use this for the next few months. I hope you and your families are staying safe and healthy. It's been a tough few months and I'm hopeful that with the vaccine, we will be able to begin to see more family and friends later this year. In the meantime, we miss getting together with you all. Our Day of Remembrance and our annual Spring picnic/Easter egg hunt will once again be postponed. Creighton cannot hold public events yet, but watch for a 2022 date at Joslyn Art Museum for our co-hosted DoR event with Creighton and Joslyn. We will keep you posted once we can start planning for social events, and we remain hopeful that we can have gatherings like the annual holiday party. For the broader organization, JACL is also planning for virtual events and meetings at the National and District levels; any information regarding attendance will be passed on to our members. On behalf of the Board, I want to express my gratitude for your ongoing support of JACL. Without the support of our members, we would not have a chapter here in Omaha. Please stay safe and healthy. If you need anything, please don't hesitate to reach out and contact me.

## DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

JACL Chicago, Japanese American Service Committee, Chicago Japanese American Historical Society, and Japanese Mutual Aid Society are co-hosting a virtual program on **February 21 at 2pm CST** featuring John Tateishi in conversation with [Alderman Robin Rue Simmons](#), moderated by [Josina Morita](#) discussing Japanese American redress along with contemporary movements for reparations. The event will be streamed on YouTube.

<https://chicagodor.wordpress.com>

## JAPANESE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF SAN JOSE

**"Setsuko's Secret: Post-WWII Community Advocacy and Political Leadership."**

Featuring Shirley Ann Higuchi's book, *Setsuko's Secret and the Legacy of the Japanese American Incarceration* and Japanese American political and legal trailblazers at the state and national levels

[Facebook event page](#) and [registration link](#)

## DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

San Francisco Bay Area  
February 19 at 6 pm - 7:30 pm  
Theme: Abolition!  
Reparations! Carrying the Light for Justice  
Keynote Speaker: Rev. Arnold Townsend, Associate Minister, Church without Walls, Vice President, San. Francisco NAACP

[Event Link](#)

## SURVEY OPPORTUNITIES

1. Shannon Cheng, Ph.D. candidate in organizational psychology at Rice University. Dissertation: a study on Asian American workplace experiences. Participants need to be 18+, Asian, and working full-or part-time in the U.S. The study involves two anonymous, 10-minute surveys, and participants will be compensated for their time (\$1 for the first survey, \$5 for the second survey which are taken about 1-3 days apart). First survey link: [tinyurl.com/AsiansAtWork](https://tinyurl.com/AsiansAtWork)
2. Harli Parker, Honors undergraduate at University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Thesis: explores Japanese American identity and culture approximately 75-years after World War II Japanese internment. Interested in how and why Japanese Americans today try to maintain Japanese cultural traditions through language, food, and other cultural practices (e.g., taiko drumming, art, etc.). Please contact directly at [parkeh2@unlv.nevada.edu](mailto:parkeh2@unlv.nevada.edu) if willing to complete a brief survey; can remain anonymous if preferred.

## About Our Organization

Founded in 1929, the Japanese American Citizens League is the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization in the United States. The JACL is a national organization whose ongoing mission is to secure and maintain the civil rights of Japanese Americans and all others who are victimized by injustice and bigotry. The leaders and members of the JACL also work to promote cultural, educational and social values and preserve the heritage and legacy of the Japanese American community.

There are 113 JACL chapters nationwide.

Founded in June 1946, Omaha was the 51st chapter in the JACL.

## Contact Us

### Email:

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### Website:

<http://www.omahajacl.org>

### Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/omahaJACL>

## BOARD MEMBER LIST AND EMAILS:

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Halloween Party Chair: JillMarie Fleming [schotzyrs@cox.net](mailto:schotzyrs@cox.net)



## IN MEMORIAM

This past November and December, Omaha JACL was saddened to learn of the loss of two octogenarian and flagstone members of our chapter. Our deepest condolences to all family and friends of [Doris Matsunami](#) (February 11, 1934 - November 22, 2020) and Miyeko Kostszewa (March 15, 1938 - December 4, 2020). Both women contributed greatly to our chapter and JACL's mission and will be missed.

