



2015

ANNUAL REPORT

OKAESHI
GIVING BACK



EAST SAN GABRIEL VALLEY JAPANESE COMMUNITY CENTER **ESGVJCC**



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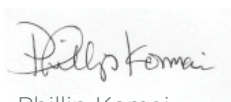
The East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center (ESGVJCC) is a not for profit organization dedicated to foster and preserve the cultural heritage unique to Japanese American ancestry; and to serve the community through social services, artistic, recreational, and educational programs.

WELCOME

2015 was year to remember as we embarked on a new journey, one that would help the ESGVCC become more sustainable while continuing to offer new programs and strengthen existing ones.

We look back on this year with great pride and joy. The many events and programs that continue to serve our community is truly our pride and joy. It is only possible with the dedication and commitment of all our senseis, volunteers, leaders and staff.

Thank you for continuing this journey with us and for supporting our growth and celebrating our success.



Phillip Komai
President, Board of Directors



Pearl Omiya
Executive Director



2015 BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Phillip Komai, President
Aya Kamimura, Vice President
Denise Akune, Secretary
Wesley Nobuta, Treasurer
Barbara Shirota, Parliamentarian

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE

Rob Charles
Nicole Cherry-Yu
Jim Friesen
Sarah Fujimoto
Danny Iwama
Susie Kozono
Lindsay Miyamoto
Iso Nakasato
Joy Kitaura
Grace Richardson
Kay Sakaue
Gary Takamatsu



HIGHLIGHT

ESGVJCC HONORS ITS DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS

The theme of this year's Installation Banquet is Okaeshi meaning to give back. The first recipients of our annual Distinguished Member Award are the best examples of okaeshi. Their unwavering support and generosity has propelled the success of the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center into new heights while allowing us to continue to bridge culture, family, and community. The first three recipients of the ESGVJCC Distinguished Member Award are George & Ruri Sugimoto, Chef Ryo Sato, and Barbara Shiota.

George & Ruri Sugimoto's significant donation to our Social Hall Capital Campaign allowed us to retire our construction loan and relieve the tremendous financial burden on our organization. Their continued dedication and leadership, especially with our annual golf tournament, has helped to support many classes and programs that are at the heart of the ESGVJCC.

Chef Ryo Sato's tireless work in bridging his hometown of Kurobane (now Ohtawara) and West Covina and sharing that magnificent experience with so many students has made our Student Exchange Program one of the most meaningful programs offered here at the ESGVJCC. He has continuously shared his culinary talents with us by doing desserts every year at our festivals and preparing meals at our special events. He has also taken on many fundraising efforts such the Variety Show which raised over \$20,000 for the Social Hall Capital Campaign and the recent Sato's African Safari Dinner, which raised funds for our new outdoor refrigerator.

Barbara Shiota has been making history at the ESGVJCC for many

2015 DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS:

CHEF RYO SATO
BARBARA SHIROTA
GEORGE & RURI
SUGIMOTO

years, including serving as our first female president. She has served on the ESGVJCC Board of Directors for over 35 years and has been at the forefront of many of the programs here at the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, such as founding the San Gabriel Valley Nikkei Singles. Barbara also serves on many of the boards such as the San Gabriel Valley chapter of the JACL and the West Covina Buddhist Temple.

Without members like the George & Ruri, Chef Sato, and Barbara, we would not be celebrating sixty-five years of service to the community.

CITY OF WEST COVINA HOSTED TEAM JAPAN DURING SPECIAL OLYMPICS

The 2015 Special Olympics World Games was held in Los Angeles from July 25 to August 2, 2015. The City of West Covina was the host town for Team Nippon (Japan) from July 21 to 24. The City of West Covina worked with various community groups, organizations and businesses to plan activities that truly embody the spirit and culture of West Covina.

Some of the activities planned for Team Japan included a festival that was held at Big League Dreams to welcome the athletes. This was a community celebration which included a rally, music, activities, and carnival games. South Hills Plaza hosted an event later that day full of music and food trucks for everyone to enjoy. Later that week, the City of West Covina hosted a country-style barbecue and country fair at Hurst Ranch followed by a Summer Concert Series later that night.

The ESGVJCC was actively involved in welcoming the delegation from Japan for this momentous occasion. Executive Director Pearl Omiya, Programs Associate Melissa Kozono, and Events Coordinator Michelle Okawa joined the Special Olympics Committee to help plan the various activities to host Team Nippon. Volunteers Aya Kamimura, Aki Kamimura and Tomoko Kwan volunteered their time as translators during the special events. In addition, Chef Sato created delicious desserts for Team Nippon to enjoy during the concert. Kishin Daiko performed during the Torch Run on July 19 to welcome the Special Olympics to Los Angeles as the torch makes its way through Plaza West Covina. Finally, ESGVJCC members along with the 2014 Nisei Week Court led an ondo that was created especially for the ESGVJCC by Loryce Hashimoto for everyone to participate in during Summer Concert. The ESGVJCC was truly honored to be a part of welcoming Team Nippon to West Covina.





IN ACTION

ARTS ENGAGEMENT

NEW FUNDING FROM NATIONAL ENDOWMENT OF THE ARTS PROVIDES SUPPORT FOR CULTURAL PROGRAMS



The ESGVJCC was granted \$10,000 for the Arts Engagement in American Communities Program sponsored by the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA). The funds from this grant directly supported Japanese arts & culture programming.



Since losing our bonsai and ikebana classes last year, we now had the funds to jumpstart these programs. In addition, these funds went towards supporting our existing programs. We were also able to provide workshops in shamisen and koto.

Lastly, we provided special guest instructors to our Japanese language school. These instructors taught elective courses on shuji, tea ceremony, and origami. The final program that was funded was Camp Chibikko, a weeklong youth camp for children ages 6-12, which exposed them to the beauty, traditions, fables, culture, and food of Japan.



Thank you to the National Endowment of the Arts for inviting us to participate in this grant opportunity. It allowed us to continue fulfilling our mission of preserving the cultural heritage unique to those of Japanese American ancestry.





**YOUTH ENROLLED IN
SUMMER PROGRAMS**



**TOTAL MEMBERSHIP &
ENROLLMENT IN 2015**

64

**NUMBER OF YEARS
THE ESGVJCC HAS
BEEN SERVING THE
COMMUNITY**



**SENIORS ATTENDING
ESGVJCC PROGRAMS**

4

**NEW
PROGRAMS**



Ikebana
Bonsai
Tai Chi
Koto

**13 ANNUAL
EVENTS**

**10
COMMUNITY
PARTNERS**



Nisei Week Foundation
Keiro Institute for Healthy Aging
California Japanese America
Community Leadership Council
San Gabriel Valley Chapter -
Japanese American Citizens League
City of West Covina/Ohtawara
Japanese Sister Cities
Little Tokyo Service Center
State Sen. Dr. Ed Hernandez
Nikkei Federation
Kizuna
JA Living Legacy



**11
CULTURAL
CLASSES**

250



**INDIVIDUALS ENROLLED IN
MARTIAL ARTS PROGRAMS**

**NUMBER OF
ESGVJCC STAFF**

5



PEARL OMIYA
Executive Director
TINA ASANO
Office Manager
MELISSA KOZONO
Programs Associate
MICHELLE OKAWA
Events Coordinator
ARTHUR GUSMAN
Custodian



10 YEARS AND COUNTING....

January 2015 was a milestone for the ESGVJCC and our Executive Director, Pearl Omiya, as it marked Pearl's ten years of service as our Operations Manager and our first and only Executive Director.

When the selection committee was in search for a new Operations Manager for the ESGVJCC, it was our hope to find someone that was resourceful, smart, self motivated, had leadership skills and had a history with the ESGVJCC. With Pearl, we got all of that and much more. We found someone with values very similar to those of our founders; always willing to give back and to do what was best for the ESGVJCC.

Working closely with the Board of Directors, Pearl has and is spearheading many changes at the ESGVJCC and was a vital part of the Capital Campaign and the building of the new Sugimoto Family Social Hall. I look forward to having Pearl here for many years to come.



FINANCE

EAST SAN GABRIEL VALLEY JAPANESE COMMUNITY CENTER, INC. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2015

ASSETS	TOTAL
CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 513,724
Investments (Note C)	127,728
Pledges Receivable (Net - Note D)	-
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	641,452
PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT	
Building	906,266
Improvements	910,939
Land	46,000
Equipment	73,219
Furniture & Fixtures	70,373
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(1,024,307)
NET PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT	982,490
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,623,942
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$ -
LIABILITIES	
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted Net Assets	1,368,953
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets (Note E)	208,989
Permanently Restricted Net Assets (Note F)	46,000
TOTAL NET ASSETS	1,623,942
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$ 1,623,942

EAST SAN GABRIEL VALLEY JAPANESE COMMUNITY CENTER, INC. STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES DECEMBER 31, 2015

	Unrestricted Operating Fund	Temporarily Restricted Fund	Permanently Restricted Fund	TOTAL
REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT				
Program Income	\$ 225,652	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 225,652
Grants	24,500	-	-	24,500
Fundraising	80,230	-	-	80,230
Donations	123,715	-	-	123,715
Dues	37,580	-	-	37,580
Rent Income	29,203	-	-	29,203
Interest Income	492	165	-	657
Miscellaneous Income	1,101	-	-	1,101
Transfers To/From	(61,778)	(61,778)	-	-
TOTAL REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT	460,695	61,778	-	522,638
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Program Expenses	\$ 287,490	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 287,490
General & Administrative	71,228	-	-	71,228
Fundraising Expenses	95,824	-	-	95,824
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 454,542			\$ 454,542
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	6,153	61,943		68,096
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 1,362,800	\$ 147,046	\$ 46,000	\$ 1,555,846
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$ 1,368,953	\$ 208,989	\$ 46,000	\$ 1,623,942

DONORS

\$500-\$999

Cathy Ibaraki
Glenn & Jean Ogura
Jane Winters
Credit Union of Southern California

\$1,000-\$4,999

Mataro Nakamura
Ron Sakamoto
Stephen Trujillo & Rae A. Takai
Tommy Yamashita Family

\$5000-\$9,999

Capital Group Companies
Tim & Sandy Itatani
Phillip Komai
Glenn & Jean Nakatani
Grace Richardson

\$10,000+

Henry & Marvel Miyata Trust
Jon & Barbara Shirota
George & Ruri Sugimoto



SPONSORSHIPS (\$500+)

AGA, Inc..

Dawn Terashita & Christian Gastelum
ESGVJCC Kishin Daiko
ESGVJCC Social Ballroom Dance Club
Foothill Transit
George & Ruri Sugimoto
Glenn Nakatani, A Professional Law Corporation
Takemura & Hashimoto Optometry, Inc.
Hatakeyama Family
LA County Board of Supervisors Hilda Solis
LA County Department of Business Oversight
Kaiser Permanente
Larry Oshima
Longo Toyota Scion
Pacific Commerce Bank
Phillip Komai & Kathy Shibata
Sabers/Saberettes Youth Basketball
Jon & Barbara Shirota
Shirota-Arnheim-Yanase Families
Tokio Marine Management & Insurance Companies
Tokyo Central
TradeCom Foods
Union Bank
Wells Fargo
West Covina Buddhist Temple

GRANTS

AT&T

Edison International
Capital Group Companies
Union Bank



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