



2016 **ESGVJCC** ANNUAL REPORT
THE NEXT STEP

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Pearl Omiya
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Michelle Okawa
Programs Associate

LEADERSHIP WELCOME



Looking forward to having another successful year at the ESGVJCC. Our success is due to our volunteers, staff, and dedicated members. We are truly grateful to everyone who supports for the ESGVJCC.

Support comes in so many different forms. We see our members support with their time and energy, whether it is answering the call for help at our many events and programs or giving donations to our various campaigns. These are just a few of the ways that we see our members in action.

There are those dedicated volunteers who commit to being one of our many senseis and coaches. Our basketball teams have over 32 head and assistant coaches while our martial arts courses have a dedicated team of senseis. These teachers help students not only learn a new sport but also the values of discipline, hard work, and team work.

It is these values and many more that we strive to instill in our youth. Values that were passed down to us by our elders and all those who have come before us.

Thank you and please continue to support the ESGVJCC and to help preserve our Japanese American heritage for the future.

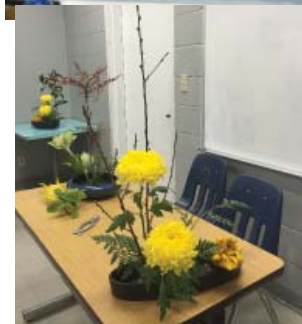


Phillip Komai
President, Board of Directors



Pearl Omiya
Executive Director

ABOUT US



The mission of the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, Inc. is to foster and preserve the cultural heritage unique to those of Japanese American ancestry and to serve the community through social services, artistic, recreational and educational programs.

Established in 1936 and incorporated in 1951, we serve over 500 seniors and roughly 1,200 youth weekly who participate in the following classes and programs.

Cultural Classes

bonsai (pine tree trimming), ikebana (flower arranging), kime komi ningyo (doll making class), taiko (Japanese drumming), odori (classical dancing), koto (Japanese harp), visual arts

Martial Arts Courses

aikido, judo, karate, kendo (Japanese fencing), shinkendo (Japanese swordsmanship), taichi

Recreational Classes

line dancing, ballroom dancing, hula dancing, yoga, fitness classes

Youth Programs

basketball program, Japanese language school, youth leadership organization, Camp Chibikko youth cultural camp, Student Exchange Program, Child Development Programs

Young Adult Programs

Community Mentor Program, Camp Chibikko camp counselors, Queens Program

Senior Programs

Senior computer literacy courses and workshops, Senior Wellness Program, Keepers of the Flame Oral History Project

The history of the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center began on January 17, 1936 when Eijiro Machida donated one of his 40 acres of prime farmland in the eastern San Gabriel Valley to the Japanese community of West Covina. Prior to World War II and the subsequent relocation of Japanese and Japanese-American citizens to internment camps, the property served as a Japanese social and cultural community center. After World War II ended and the internment camps were closed, Japanese Americans were able to return to West Covina. Our founders Yosh Sogioka, Kimio Hatakeyama, and Frank Konno revived our cultural activities and created a central location for the growing post-war Japanese American community. In 1964, the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center faced a crisis due to the phenomenal growth of the City of West Covina. The Japanese Community Center was asked to move in order to create roads and a shopping center. Despite all these changes, the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center has stood strong as an institution integral to the community. Today, the Japanese Community Center focuses on preserving the Japanese culture and exposing its beauty with the surrounding community. As a result, our membership base is becoming more diverse with an increase in interethnic, interracial, Latino, Anglo, and African-Americans.



845

**TOTAL MEMBERSHIP AND
ENROLLMENT IN 2013**

4

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Nikkei Youth Org.
Student Exchange Prog.
Youth Basketball
Community Mentor Prog.



5

**MARTIAL ARTS
COURSES**

Aikido, Judo,
Karate, Kendo,
Shinkendo

2

**NUMBER OF
INTERNS**

Kelly Sera
NCI Intern
Tony Tang
LIA Intern

5

ESGVJCC STAFF

Pearl Omiya
Executive Director
Tina Asano
Office Manager
Melissa Kozono
Programs Director
Michelle Okawa
Programs Associate
Arthur Gusman
Custodian

4

**RECREATIONAL
CLASSES**

Line Dancing
Ballroom Dancing
Yoga
Zumba



7

CULTURAL CLASSES

Visual Arts
Bonsai (Pine Tree Trimming)
Ikebana (Flower Arranging)
Karaoke (Japanese Singing)
Kime Komi Ningyo (Doll Making Class)
Taiko (Japanese Drumming)
Odori (Classical Dancing)



2

**EDUCATIONAL
PROGRAMS**

Japanese Language
School
Computer Literacy
Courses

10

PARTNERS

Nisei Week Foundation
Keiro Senior HealthCare
Kizuna
California Japanese
American Community
Leadership Council
San Gabriel Valley Japanese
American Citizens League
City of West Covina/ Ohtawara
Sister Cities
Little Tokyo Service Center
State Senator Dr. Ed Hernandez
Nikkei Federation
JA Living Legacy



23

**NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS
SERVING THE ESGVJCC BOARD**





KOKORO NO SATO INFANT CARE CENTER HOST OPEN HOUSE & BABY SHOWER

On Sunday, November 13th the ESGVJCC hosted an Open House & Baby Shower to preview the the Kokoro no Sato Infant Care Center. The ESGVJCC is currently going through the licensing process and will be open soon once it has been approved.

The open house event included a tour of the facility, meet and greet with the new staff, and baby shower. Many interested families and ESGVJCC members attending to for an exciting preview of what was soon to come.

In Japanese, Kokoro means heart and Sato means village. Kokoro no Sato is a Japanese-based child care program for children 3 months to 24 months old, that provides learning opportunities meant to stimulate children's minds to their full potential. Through guidance and individual attention it is our goal to provide each child with a secure foundation of values that will instill a strong sense of self-worth and purpose. We strive to nurture your child's ideas and imagination, recognize their individuality, and respect each personality.

A popular proverb states, "It takes a village to raise a child." At Kokoro no Sato it is our belief that a child's upbringing is a communal effort between family, community, and school. Each child that enters Kokoro no Sato brings with them life experiences and personal cultural heritage. The development of partnerships with families is fundamental to the growth of the individual child. We strive to create and promote these partnerships with families in order to create a strong sense of community.

We are grateful for the support we have received so far and look forward to this new opportunity to serve the community.

***"It takes a village to
raise a child."***

-African Proverb

HIGHLIGHT

KOKORO NO SATO CHILD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM START TWO NEW CLASSES

The Kokoro no Sato Child Development Program includes a variety of workshops, classes and presentations to support families and the healthy development of young children. During the summer, the Kokoro no Sato Child Development Program started offering two new classes: Art & Science Activity and Parent & Me.

The Preschool Activity classes contained an emphasis on Art and Science for children ages 3-5 years old and invited parents to participate as well. These classes included activities such as painting, cutting, gluing, coloring, sculpting, taping, exploration, experimentation and discovery. Performing these activities helped children to develop critical thinking, physical skills, creativity, and imagination!

In addition the Kokoro no Sato Child Development Program started offering Parent & Me classes for infants ages 3 months to 12 months. The Parent & Me class included music, finger plays, story-time, sensory development and quality time for parent and baby.





STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM TRAVELS TO OHTAWARA, JAPAN

This summer between August 2 - 10 the ESGVJCC sent 8 students and 2 chaperones to the City of Ohtawara, Japan as part of the Student Exchange Program. The purpose of the Student Exchange Program is to provide youth with the opportunity to learn about Japanese culture first-hand through cultural workshops, activities, historical site visits, and a homestay opportunity. This year the delegation was joined by members of the West Covina City Council that met with Ohtawara Mayor Tsukui to strengthen the sister city relationship between Ohtawara and West Covina. The West Covina City delegation included: Mayor James Toma, Mayor Pro Tem Corey Warshaw, Councilman Tony Wu, City Manager Chris Freeland, and Community Services Director Nikole Bresciani. The City of West Covina was guided by ESGVJCC board member Gary Takamatsu and his wife Irene Takamatsu. Throughout the trip Assistant Language Teachers Yuhki Fukushima and Aaron Shorb also helped by providing English translation during the many outings.

The Student Exchange Program delegation had an amazing time getting to visit the beautiful city of Ohtawara! They traveled to many local attractions and took day trips to nearby cities including: Nasu Town and the city of Nikko. While at Nikko the delegation visited UNESCO World Heritage Sites: Rinno-ji temple and Toshogu shrine. This year students even got to participate in Ohtawara's big summer festival called the Yoichi Festival. The host families generously bought all the students colorful yukata to wear. While at the festival the students got to dance in the parade with the West Covina City delegation including Mayor Tsukui. Throughout the trip the students raved about how delicious the food was in Ohtawara.

The City of Ohtawara and the host families were wonderful hosts that went above and beyond to make everyone feel welcomed. The students had such an incredible time bonding with their families that they were in tears when they had to say goodbye. The delegation really appreciated the generosity that Ohtawara has shown everyone.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

***"The Exchange Program
opened my eyes and
showed me a new culture.
Because of this experience
I wish to go again someday
soon."***

- Tallulah Strollo (15)

***"This trip has forever
changed my outlook and
how I see life."***

- Kevyn Camarena (17)

***"While it was a short time, I
feel like we all had bonded
with our host families and
enjoyed Japan
so much, it was really hard
to say goodbye."***

- Krystal Beltran (17)



HIGHLIGHT

THE ESGVJCC CELEBRATES 65 YEARS

The theme of this year's Installation Banquet was The Next Step. The Next Step honored our founders, the significant legacy they have left behind, and focused on moving the ESGVJCC into the future. In 2012, the ESGVJCC Board of Directors implemented a 10-year Strategic Plan to meet the growing needs of the ESGVJCC. Some of these needs included starting a social enterprise to help reduce membership fees, usage fees, create affordable cultural programs and offer new services to members while not having to rely on traditional means of income to run operations. The plan included a 3, 5, and 10 year plan to address the current and future needs of the ESGVJCC.

2015 marked the end of the 3 year plan and 2016 marked the ESGVJCC's 65th anniversary. Throughout the evening, the ESGVJCC shared some of the exciting plans for the upcoming year and reflected on the many accomplishments of 2015. With this next step in the ESGVJCC's journey, it is important to reflect back and also pay tribute to three extraordinary families who laid the foundation for our organization: Kimio & Mary Hatakeyama, Frank & Hisato Konno, and Yoshimaro & Katsuko Sogioka. These three families created the ESGVJCC you see today and were honored as the 2016 Distinguished Member Award. All recipients have provided unconditional support and guidance that is truly exemplary of the title, Distinguished Member. Their dedication to the ESGVJCC has continuously allowed this organization to thrive and offer services to the community. Although sadly, they are no longer with us, their families accepted the award on their behalf.

The Installation Banquet program highlighted the ESGVJCC's accomplishments of 2015 as well as our future goals including the upcoming Kokoro no Sato Infant Care Center. This year's program also included a surprise presentation to retiring Board Member Aya Kamimura in celebration of her 19 years of service to the ESGVJCC.

We look forward to a great and successful 2016 with you all!

YOUTH PROGRAMS

CAMP CHIBIKKO EXPANDS TO TWO WEEKS

Due to popular demand, Camp Chibikko was extended to two weeks! With 35 campers signed up for week 1 and 40 campers for week 2, this was our biggest Camp Chibikko yet. Following the overarching camp theme of “Shi-zen wo taisetsu ni” or protecting the environment the curriculum focused on nature and environmental conservation. For both weeks our campers got to enjoy exciting field trips to Bonelli Recreational Park, Eaton Canyon Nature Center, and Bike SGV in El Monte. This year Camp Chibikko partnered with many organizations and programs including: Bike SGV, Eibu Kan Goju Ryu Karate Do, Keiro, Kishin Daiko, Suiyu Kovacs, Reverend Nobuko Miyoshi, and San Gabriel Mountains Forever. Every summer we always look forward to seeing the smiling faces of our Camp Chibikko campers as they participate in the various activities, workshops, and field trips. We are looking forward to the exciting adventures our campers will experience next year.



FINANCE

EAST SAN GABRIEL VALLEY JAPANESE COMMUNITY CENTER, INC.
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2016

ASSETS	TOTAL
CURRENT ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 578,584
Short Term Investments - Other	34,711
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	641,452
LONG TERM ASSETS	
Long Term Investments - Other	59,759
TOTAL LONG TERM ASSETS	59,759
PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT	
Building	906,266
Improvements	990,761
Land	46,000
Equipment	73,219
Furniture & Fixtures	80,544
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	(1,069,735)
NET PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT	1,027,055
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 1,700,109
LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$ -
LIABILITIES	
NET ASSETS	
Unrestricted Net Assets	1,486,983
Temporarily Restricted Net Assets (Note D)	167,126
Permanently Restricted Net Assets (Note E)	46,000
TOTAL NET ASSETS	1,700,109
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$ 1,700,109

SPONSORSHIPS (\$500+)

Californians Allied for Patient Protection	Keiro	Takemura & Hashimoto Optometry, Inc.
ESGVJCC Kishin Daiko	Larry Oshima	Tokio Marine Management & Ins. Co.
Foothill Transit	Longo Toyota Lexus	Tokyo Central
George & Ruri Sugimoto	Pacific Commerce Bank	TradeCom Foods
Glenn Nakatani, A Professional Law Corp.	Phillip Komai & Kathy Shibata	Union Bank
Gold Coast Ingredients, Inc.	Robert & Cora Amano	Wells Fargo
Hatakeyama Family	Sabers/Saberettes Youth Basketball	West Covina Buddhist Temple
Kaiser Permanente	Jon & Barbara Shiota	West Covina Judo Dojo
Keiro	Shiota-Arnheim-Yanase Families	

GRANTS

AT&T | Edison International | Capital Group Companies Charitable Foundation
JA Community Foundation | LA County Board of Supervisors Hilda Solis
National Endowment for the Arts | Union Bank

EAST SAN GABRIEL VALLEY JAPANESE COMMUNITY CENTER, INC.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

DECEMBER 31, 2016

FINANCE

	Unrestricted Operating Fund	Temporarily Restricted Fund	Permanently Restricted Fund	TOTAL
REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT				
Program Income	\$ 220,598	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 220,598
Grants	55,000	-	-	55,000
Fundraising	115,445	-	-	115,445
Donations	80,094	-	-	80,094
Dues	34,245	-	-	34,245
Rent Income	37,299	-	-	37,299
Interest Income	904	250	-	1,154
Miscellaneous Income	1,365	-	-	1,365
Transfers To/From	42,113	(42,113)	-	-
TOTAL REVENUES, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT	587,063	(41,863)	-	545,200
OPERATING EXPENSES				
Program Expenses	\$ 287,570	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 287,570
General & Administrative	83,724	-	-	83,724
Fundraising Expenses	97,739	-	-	97,739
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 449,033			\$ 469,033
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	118,030	(41,863)		76,167
NET ASSETS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 1,368,953	\$ 208,989	\$ 46,000	\$ 1,623,942
NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR	\$ 1,486,983	\$ 167,126	\$ 46,000	\$ 1,700,109

DONORS

\$500-\$999

Steve & Denise Akune

Credit Union of Southern California

Russell & Nancy Hombo

Kenji & Dorothy Kinoshita

Rod & Edie Kubomoto

Mariko Machida & Ray Motoyama

Wesley & Karen Nobuta

ESGVJCC Nikkei Boomers

June Ogawa

ESGVJCC Social Ballroom Dance Club

Marie Takahashi

\$1000-\$4999

Capital Group Companies Charitable
Foundation

Richard & Claudia Haraguchi

Roy & Nancee Iketani

Kay Kanayama

Stanley & Shirley Kubota

Paige Leemhuis & Yoshi Saikawa

Edward Moreno

ESGVJCC Leisure Club

Mataro Nakamura

Japanese Chamber of Commerce of So. Calif.

Ron Sakamoto

Glenn & Jean Ogura

Tommy Yamashita Family

\$5000-\$9999

Jon & Barbara
Shirota

Glenn & Jean Nakatani

Grace Richardson

Phillip Komai

\$10,000+

George & Ruri
Sugimoto



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

esgvjcc.org

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