



Nanka Yamaguchi Kenjinkai Newsletter



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3rd Quarter 2017

Hawaii Yamaguchi Heritage Club Visits LA

Did you know about the Honouliuli Internment Camp on the island of Oahu? Nanka Yamaguchi Kenjinkai (NYK) Board members learned of this when they met with 21 delegates from the Hawaii Yamaguchi Heritage Club (HYHC) on September 12, 2017. The HYHC is from the Island of Oahu that gets together to explore their heritage. Although the initial focus is a common family origin in Yamaguchi Prefecture, many members have other or mixed family home places.

The delegation asked to meet with the NYK Board members to hear about their Yamaguchi family stories. Los Angeles was their first stop on an itinerary that included tours of the Japanese American National Museum (JANM), Go For Broke National Education Center and Monument, Japanese American Cultural and Community Center (JACCC), Manzanar, Tule Lake, and Bainbridge Island, Washington.

NYK Board members thoroughly enjoyed meeting the HYHC members and promised to keep in touch.

NYK Board members who were able to attend the meeting were: **Victor & Masako Fukuhara, Florence Ochi, Michiko Ota, Naomi Suenaka, Millie & Steven**

Tani, Aki & Mike Vaughn, and Helen & Henry Yasuda.



Join Us On the NYK Board!



If you are interested in becoming more involved with NYK, **we encourage you to join our Board**. As a board member, you will have the opportunity to help plan our New Year's Luncheon, Picnic, and possible tour to Japan. We hold only about 4-5 meetings each year, and Japanese language is not a requirement.

If you are interested, please contact Aki at 562-234-5702 or Nanka.Yamaguchi.Kenjinkai@gmail.com

9th Annual L.A. Tanabata Festival

Although Nanka Yamaguchi Kenjinkai didn't win the 1st prize in the 9th Annual L.A. Tanabata Festival, we did place 5th in the Kenjinkai category!

"Hero" was the theme and NYK transformed the Yamaguchi mascot, "Choruru", as a superhero.

Kenjinkai winners were:

1. Nanka Tochigi Kenjinkai
2. Hiroshima Kenjinkai
3. Nanka Miyagi Kenjinkai
4. Ehime Kenjinkai
5. Nanka Yamaguchi Kenjinkai

Kudos to the following for their help with creating the kazari: **Richard Fukuhara, Trace Fukuhara, Arlene Nakamura, Naomi Suenaka, Millie & Steven Tani, and Aki & Mike Vaughn.**



The kazari will be on display at the 2018 NYK picnic.

JPASC All Kenjinkai Talent Show

The Japanese Prefectural Association of So Cal (the organization of ALL So Cal Kenjinkai) is holding its annual Scholarship Fundraising Charity and Talent Show. This show gives scholarships to young people who pursue Japanese cultural activities, showcases talent from participating So Cal Kenjinkai, and features a prominent singer from Japan.



Guest Singer
Hitomi Idemitsu

Scholarship Fundraising Charity and Talent Show

Sunday, October 15, 2017 1:00 p.m.
ARATANI THEATRE (Little Tokyo)

For information, please contact:
Noriko Shibata (213) 389-3953
Tak Nishi (310) 478-4722

NYK Member News

RICHARD FUKUHARA

Advisor and former NYK president **Richard Fukuhara** presented his dance and musical project, "An Afternoon of Peace: The Hiroshima and Nagasaki Experience", at the Aratani Theatre on September 16, 2017.

Attendees were moved by the interpretive dance of the atomic bombings by the **Ken Dance Company** and the experiences verbalized by the "Hibaku-sha" (atomic bomb survivors). Yet, the program was filled with hope and inspiration by pianist **Akiko Dohi**; the **Nori Tani Jazz Ensemble** featuring vocalists **Takako Umeura**, **Keiko Kawashima** and **Helen Ota**; and an odori by **Nancy Hayata**, surrounded by one thousand huge paper cranes.



Kana Miyamoto and Junji Dezaki of the Ken Dance Company perform "The Experience," a choreographed interpretation of the bombings.

The program ended with the audience joining in a spirited version of "Let There be Peace on Earth".



Atomic bombing survivors (from left): Cathy Kajiyama, Hiroko Nakano, Taeko Okabe and Midori Seino.

Richard is very grateful and would like to thank the Nanka Yamaguchi Kenjinkai and its members for their support.

—photos by MIKEY HIRANO CULROSS / Rafu Shimpō

If you have news you'd like featured in our quarterly NYK newsletter, please contact:
Aki Vaughn @ 562-234-5702



Like Us on Facebook

The Nanka Yamaguchi Kenjinkai Facebook page, created and administered by **Steven** and **Millie Tani**, is not only loaded with information about past and upcoming NYK events, photos and newsletters, but also features the latest news about Yamaguchi, Japan and the Nikkei community. Check it out for more photos and videos from the June 11th NYK picnic and February 21st New Year's Luncheon.



Yamaguchi-Kenjinkai-Los Angeles

Please visit our website created by NYK member **Bruce Thompson** at <http://yamaguchi-usa.org>.

Questions? Suggestions? Comments? News you'd like to share?

Email us at

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Nanka Yamaguchi Kenjinkai

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