

2024 JACL National Convention Recap

The Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) held its 54th National Convention in the birthplace of American democracy, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania the week of July 10-14, 2024. Representing the Arizona JACL chapter at the convention were **Cathy Yoshida-Coreella** (*photo right*) and **Matthew Marumoto**.

The convention's theme was "Looking Into the Future Together," held in partnership with OCA – Asian Pacific American Advocates and APIAVote, focusing on unity among the AANHPI communities.

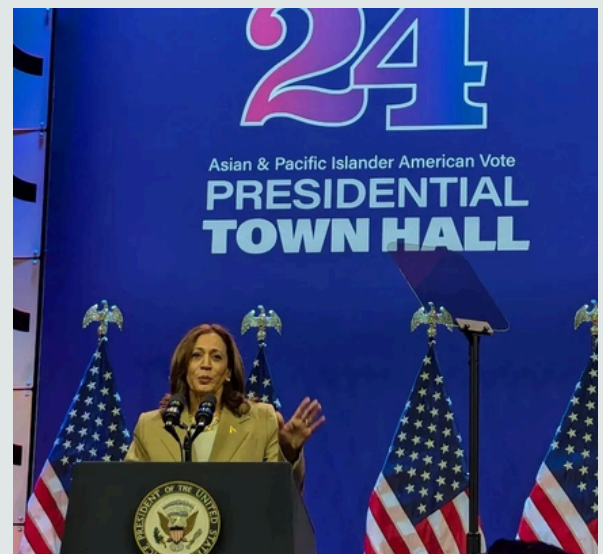
Key highlights of the event include:

- The welcome reception at the Philadelphia City Hall, where attendees heard from Acting Secretary of Labor Julie Su and Philadelphia Councilwoman Nina Ahmad.
- The National Council adopted resolutions to update membership protocols, take action on the Gaza conflict and hate crimes, and support the Salt Lake City Japantown.
- Workshops covered topics including African American reparations, election strategy, social media marketing, the future of internment sites, and more.
- The APIAVote Presidential Town Hall featured speakers including Vice President Kamala Harris, Tamlyn Tomita, and members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus.
- Japanese American of the Biennium Awards were conferred upon Judge Dana M. Sabraw, Dr. Satsuki Ina, and David Ono.
- Ruby Pins were awarded to Teresa Maebori of the Philadelphia Chapter and Steven Okamoto of the San Mateo Chapter for their exceptional service to the JACL.
- The Sayonara Banquet concluded the convention, with the awardees recognized and the recently elected National Board members sworn in, with the oaths delivered by Congresswoman Jill Tokuda of Hawaii.

To learn more about the JACL National Convention and details on the new constitutional amendments, resolutions, and event photos, visit: <https://jacl.org/convention>.



Cathy Yoshida-Coreella representing the JACL-Arizona chapter at the 2024 JACL National Convention at the Sheraton Philadelphia Downtown Hotel. Amy and Greg Suko of the JACL New Mexico chapter are sitting with Cathy. The 2025 Convention will be in Albuquerque.



Vice President Kamala Harris delivers a passionate speech at the town hall organized by APIAVote.

Board Meeting Highlights

September 2024 Board Meeting Highlights

The JACL Arizona Chapter held its monthly board meeting on September 4, 2024, via Zoom. The meeting commenced with a roll call, and Kevin Uehara from Arizona Matsuri attended as a guest.

The board acknowledged the June 2024 meeting minutes and reviewed the Treasurer's Report presented by Michelle. Several upcoming events were discussed, including the Island Liaison 10th Anniversary Fundraiser on September 14, 2024, at Parson's Leadership Center, and the International District Night Market on October 26, 2024. Matthew Marumoto shared details of his recent appointment as the 2024 Daniel K. Inouye Fellow in Washington, D.C.

Ongoing initiatives included updates on the JACL-AZ Hall's security system and the search for a Hall Caretaker. Senior Outreach activities, such as the Ladies' Activity Day at the Japanese Senior Center, were scheduled for the last Tuesday of each month. Civil rights and community outreach efforts focused on opposing Arizona legislative bills that impact immigrant communities.

The board also discussed a proposed visit to the Gila River Indian Community's historic incarceration site with Japanese officials in October. Bill Staples provided an update on the Cooperstown Symposium and the possibility of including Nikkei Baseball in the Baseball Hall of Fame.

Membership updates highlighted the chapter's growth to 208 active members, and the communication team set deadlines for the upcoming newsletter. Plans for the 2025 Matsuri Festival were outlined, including water and information booths to promote JACL's mission.

The meeting concluded with a discussion on supporting a non-partisan voter registration drive and reminders of key upcoming events, including the Annual Meeting and Picnic on November 3, 2024. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

The next JACL AZ board meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 2, 2024, at 7 pm via Zoom.

Click here to view the archive from the past meeting: [September 2024](#).



Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) Arizona Chapter
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Questions, comments, suggestions for an article? Contact JACLAZnews@gmail.com.

Arizona's Matthew Marumoto Named 2024 Daniel K. Inouye Fellow

Congratulations to Matthew Marumoto (*photo right*) on being named the 2024 Daniel K. Inouye Fellow for the JACL National Office. This prestigious fellowship, sponsored through a grant from UPS, offers an exceptional opportunity for young professionals to work at the forefront of civil rights advocacy in Washington, D.C. It's a testament to Matthew's dedication and passion for the Asian American community and a well-deserved recognition of his contributions to the JACL Arizona Chapter.



Matthew's journey to this remarkable achievement has been shaped by his diverse experiences and steadfast commitment to community service. Before being selected as the Inouye Fellow, he served as Secretary and Officer of the Board for the JACL Arizona Chapter, where he was instrumental in managing the chapter's website and social media outreach. His proactive approach and organizational skills have strengthened the chapter's communications and engagement with its members, demonstrating his leadership potential and ability to drive positive change.

Matthew brings a wealth of professional experience to the fellowship. He previously worked as a Courtroom Clerk for the Maricopa County Clerk of the Superior Court, where he demonstrated exemplary attention to detail and efficiency. In this role, he attended court hearings, managed post-court documents, and ensured a high level of accuracy in legal proceedings. His experience in a demanding legal environment has equipped him with strong research and problem-solving skills, which will be invaluable as he navigates complex policy issues in Washington, D.C.

Before his role at the Maricopa County Clerk's Office, Matthew served as a Law Office Administrator at Cordell & Cordell, handling client communications and office management with precision and care. His ability to balance multiple responsibilities and maintain a high standard of customer service speaks to his adaptability and dedication—traits that will serve him well in his new role as the Inouye Fellow.

In addition to his professional achievements, Matthew's educational background is rooted in a strong commitment to law and politics. He holds a degree in Political Science with a minor in Philosophy from the University of Utah, where he was actively involved in student organizations, including serving as a cheerleader, a role that underscored his teamwork and leadership abilities. His academic pursuits have given him a solid foundation in understanding the intricacies of public policy, making him a perfect fit for the fellowship's goal of fostering young leaders in civil rights and advocacy.

As the Daniel K. Inouye Fellow, Matthew will have the unique opportunity to work directly with the JACL National Office on a broad range of public policy issues impacting the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. He will engage with key legislative initiatives, collaborate with other civil rights organizations, and represent JACL in various capacities. This fellowship will not only enhance his professional skills but also deepen his understanding of the legislative process and the importance of advocacy in shaping a more equitable society.

Matthew's appointment as the Inouye Fellow is a proud moment for the JACL Arizona Chapter and the broader community. His passion for civil rights, combined with his professional expertise and academic background, make him an outstanding choice for this role. We wish him the best of luck as he embarks on this exciting journey in Washington, D.C., and look forward to seeing the positive impact he will undoubtedly make on behalf of the AAPI community and beyond. Congratulations, Matthew!

2024 JACL Bowling League Celebration

The 2024 JACL Summer Bowling League concluded with a celebratory dinner on August 18, capping off a thrilling 12-week season that featured 20 teams and 80 enthusiastic bowlers. The evening was filled with camaraderie and laughter as prize money was awarded, and highlights from the season were shared.

Catered by Famous Dave's BBQ, the dinner included desserts, drinks, rice, and salads generously provided by volunteers. Mike Hashimoto served as the lively emcee, ensuring everyone had a memorable time. Attendees also enjoyed a raffle featuring JACL bowling gift bags and special "Pat on the Back" neck coolers and bottle holders crafted by Patty Hashimoto.

The season saw a fierce competition for the top spot, with the Savage Duos ultimately claiming first place. The team, consisting of Tanner Savage, Hunter Savage, MacKenzie Savage, and Jade Savage, showcased their skill and teamwork throughout the league. On the opposite end of the leader board, a spirited battle for last place ended in a tie. The last place teams, Never Seen 300 and Rock N Bowl, received gift bags filled with fun items and good luck wishes for next season.

During the celebration, Karie Matsuishi presented a heartfelt thank-you card on behalf of all the bowlers to league secretary Joyce Shiota, whose hard work and dedication made the season a success. With friendships strengthened and a shared love for the game, the JACL bowling community is already looking forward to next year's league.



Denise Fuse and Joyce Shiota



Last Place Losers: Rock N Bowl and Never Seen 300



Mike & Patty Hashimoto



Grace Lee & Alice Yamamoto



Kevin & Sophia Uehara

Annual Meeting and Picnic, Sunday, November 3, 2024

The JACL Arizona Chapter is excited to announce its Annual Meeting and Picnic, taking place on Sunday, November 3, 2024, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Rio Vista Park in Peoria, Arizona. This year, we're combining our annual meeting with a fun-filled picnic, and we invite all members to join us for a day of community, food, and festivities.

Held at Ramadas 6 and 7, the event will feature a delicious spread with main dishes and drinks provided by the JACL. Members are encouraged to bring their favorite side dish, salad, or dessert to share, creating a communal feast that reflects the diverse and vibrant spirit of our chapter.

The picnic is a wonderful opportunity to catch up with friends and meet new members, while also getting an inside look at what the Arizona Chapter has been up to over the past year. The annual meeting portion will include updates on the chapter's activities, achievements, and plans for the future, offering a chance for everyone to get involved and voice their ideas.

There will be plenty of activities for all ages, making it a perfect family event. From games and raffles to engaging discussions and networking opportunities, the day promises something for everyone. Whether you've been a long-time member or are new to the chapter, this is your chance to connect with the community, enjoy great food, and be part of the exciting developments in the JACL Arizona Chapter.

We look forward to seeing you there! Remember to bring your favorite dish to share and join us for a fantastic day celebrating our shared heritage and the strong bonds of our community. Let's make this year's Annual Meeting and Picnic one to remember!

JACL Arizona Chapter

Annual Meeting and Picnic

November 3, 2024 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Rio Vista Park

8866 W. Thunderbird Rd.

Peoria, AZ 85345

(1/4 mile west of Loop 101 at Thunderbird)

Ramadas 6 & 7

Main dish and drinks provided by JACL



Bring your favorite side dish, salad, or dessert to share!!

We'll be combining the annual meeting and picnic this year. All members are encouraged to attend. Come enjoy delicious food, good company, fun activities, and see what your Chapter has been doing.

Senior Luncheon Spotlight: Classical Japanese Dance Program

On Wednesday, July 17, the JACL Senior Luncheon featured a special performance by Marilyn Tang and V. (aka Violet) Lageschulte of the Suzuyuki Dance Troupe, under Sensei Mari Kaneta. A special thanks to Cathy Yoshida-Corella for supplying these wonderful photos.



Dancers like V. and Marilyn promote and preserve Japanese culture through traditional kabuki-style dance performances that include the wearing of traditional kimonos, hairstyles and kabuki makeup.



Did you know?

JACL AZ member V. Lageschulte has been involved in traditional Japanese dancing throughout her life. At age 4, she was featured (photo left) in an *Arizona Daily Star* article about traditional kabuki-style dancing.

Click here to read the article: [Troupe keeps kabuki tradition alive, Arizona Daily Star, Apr 21, 2011](#)

JACL AZ Proudly Supports Island Liaison

JACL AZ was pleased to sponsor a table at the 10th Anniversary Fundraiser on Saturday, Sept. 14, for Island Liaison, a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to connecting the Pacific Islander community in Arizona with local educational, health, and government services while spreading awareness of Pacific Island cultures. Learn more about Island Liaison at: <https://www.islandliaison.org>.



Upcoming Community Events

Japanese Film Festival Arizona

October 19, 2024, 10:30 AM to 8:30 PM

Phoenix Art Museum, Whiteman Theater

1625 N Central Ave, Phoenix, AZ 85004

Learn more: <https://www.japanesecultureclubofaz.org/about-4>

Poston Pilgrimage

Oct 25 & 26, 2024

Parker, AZ

Learn more: <https://www.postonpreservation.org/pilgrimage>

International District Night Market (IDNM)

Asian Chamber of Commerce

Saturday, October 26, 2024, 2:00 PM to 10:00 PM

1815 W Camelback Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85015

Learn more: <https://azasianchamber.com/idnm>

Japanese Heritage Day Watching Manami Kojima Play Volleyball

Sunday, October 27, 2024, 1 PM

Arizona Athletic Grounds | VOLLEYBALL

6321 S Ellsworth Rd, Building C, Mesa, AZ 85212, US

Purchase Deadline: Oct 25, 2024 11:00 AM MDT

Learn more: <https://fevo-enterprise.com/event/Japaneseculture2>



2024 Election Key Dates & Reminders

Oct. 7

Voter
Registration
Deadline

Oct. 9

Ballots Mailed &
Drop Boxes
Available

Oct. 25

Last day to re-
quest an early
ballot

Oct. 29

Last Day to Mail
Back Your Ballot

Nov. 5

Election Day!

Have election questions? Visit:

<https://elections.maricopa.gov/voting/election-calendar-faqs.html>

Photo: Bill Staples, Jr. and Joyce Saka (1933-2024) before the November 2016 election. Let's honor Joyce's memory and get out the vote in 2024.



**Japanese American Citizens League
JACL Arizona Chapter
5414 West Glenn Drive
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Return Service Requested

Chapter Calendar

- OCT 2 – JACL-AZ Board Meeting
- OCT 7 - Arizona Voter registration deadline
- OCT 9 - October board meeting
- OCT 19 - Japanese Film Festival Arizona
- OCT 26 - International District Night Market
- OCT 25-26 - Poston Pilgrimage
- NOV 3 - Annual Meeting & Picnic
- NOV 5 - Election Day
- NOV 6 - November board meeting
- DEC 4 - December board meeting

CELEBRATING NEW & RETURNING MEMBERS

- Howie Asaki, Scottsdale, AZ
- Christine Iijima Hall, Phoenix, AZ
- Kathy Ikeda, Phoenix, AZ
- Temya Jackson Long, Phoenix, AZ
- Harriet Lucero, Phoenix, AZ
- Glen Kishi, Phoenix, AZ
- Margaret Kishi, Phoenix, AZ
- Eugene Nomura, Gilbert, AZ
- Taylor Tsuchiya, Glendale, AZ
- Russell Tsubota, Tempe, AZ
- Nancie Haranaka-Tsubota, Tempe, AZ
- Dennis Wier, Sun City, AZ

Join, Renew, or Gift a JACL Membership at jacl.org/member