



Victoria NIKKEI FORUM

Volume 23 Issue 4 July/August 2015

www.vncs.ca

70 YEARS ON—what have we learned?

Hiroshima-Nagasaki memorial

This year's lantern ceremony marks the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Japan

**Thursday
August 6th**

**7:30 pm
Esquimalt
Gorge Park**

1070 Tillicum Road, south of Gorge Rd.



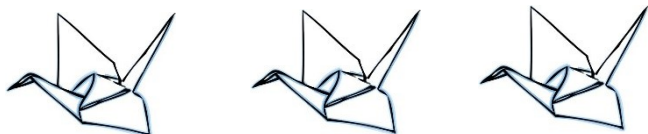
Lantern making starts at 7:30 pm, with words and songs of peace at 8 pm, followed by floating the lanterns in the Gorge.

All welcome.

Free – (Bring something to sit on)

Sponsors: Victoria Raging Grannies,
Physicians for Global Survival

Call 250 381 5120 for more information



BC Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples Federation
Vancouver Island Obon
Cemetery Visitation Tour
August 8 & 9, 2015



The Annual Vancouver Island Obon Cemetery Tour has been sponsored by the BC Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples Federation. We are a group of temples belonging to the Jodo Shinshu Hongwanji-ha denomination of Japanese Pure Land Buddhism.

The purpose of the Annual Vancouver Island Obon Cemetery visitation is to pay respect to the many individuals of Japanese heritage who forged their

lives on the Island and who have long since passed on. Many of the individuals buried at the cemeteries on Vancouver Island no longer have descendants living nearby and the Obon Cemetery Visitation is our way of acknowledging the pioneers of our country, letting them know that they may be gone, but they are not forgotten.

We will be visiting cemeteries in Nanaimo, Cumberland, Port Alberni, Chemainus, Duncan and Victoria

The other purpose of the Obon Cemetery Tour is to foster fellowship and understanding as we welcome people from all nationalities and faith denominations in paying tribute to those who have gone before us. Your participation in the visitation is greatly appreciated.

For more information and a schedule of when each cemetery will be visited, please contact Rev. Grant Ikuta of the Steveston Buddhist Temple at (604) 908-4140 or email at: rev.ikuta@steveston-temple.ca.

Thank you

Obon Ceremony and Obon Matsuri

Once again we will hold our annual Obon Ceremony on Sunday, August 9 at 2:30 pm at Ross Bay Cemetery at the Kakehashi Monument.

Reverend Grant Ikuta will preside over the service as the final leg of the Vancouver Island schedule.

The cleaning of the graves begins at 12:30 pm followed by the Obon service at 2:30 pm and the Obon Matsuri following at Ross Bay Villa.

Please contact Cristina at cristinashore@shaw.ca if you have any questions or are interested in volunteering at the event. More info on the next page.

BC Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Churches Federation
2015 Vancouver Island Obon Cemetery Services
 August 7 (Friday) to August 9 (Sunday)

Date	Time	Location
Aug 7, Fri.	2:00 PM	Tsawwassen Ferry Terminal
	3:15 PM	Departure from Tsawwassen
		[2:00 hours]
	5:15 PM	Arrival at Duke Point (Nanaimo)
		Stay overnight in Nanaimo
Aug 8, Sat	9:30 AM	Cemetery visitation in Nanaimo
	10:00 AM	Nanaimo Obon Service at Mr. Fukui's Residence
	12:00 Noon	Lunch (in Cumberland)
	2:00 PM	Cumberland Cemetery Service
	5:00 PM	Port Alberni Cemetery Visitation
	7:30 PM	Stay overnight in Nanaimo
Aug 9, Sun	9:30 AM	Chemainus Cemetery Visitation
	11:00 AM	Duncan Cemetery Service
	12:00 Noon	Lunch
	2:30 PM	Obon Service at Ross Bay Cemetery in Victoria
	8:00 PM	Leave Victoria Swartz Bay back to Tsawwassen Terminal

We will try to clean up the memorial monument at each cemetery before or after the service.
 Prepared by

Rev.

Obon Information

Hosted by the **Victoria Nikkei Cultural Society** and the **Japanese Friendship Society** with support from **The Old Cemeteries Society** – we thank you for coming to participate with us in honouring those who have gone before.

What is Obon?

"Obon is a Japanese Buddhist custom to honour the spirits of one's ancestors. This Buddhist-Confucian custom has evolved into a family reunion holiday during which people return to ancestral family places and visit and clean their graves. It is when the spirits of ancestors are supposed to revisit the household altars. It has been celebrated in Japan for more than 500 years and traditionally includes a dance, known as Bon-Odori." – from Wikipedia

This is a time for us to get in touch with our past, expressing our true joy and gratitude to not only our immediate ancestors, but to all past causes and conditions that have allowed us to be here today. It is the ultimate recognition and celebration of the oneness of life that has existed in the past and that we continue to be a part of today.

Japanese-Canadian Graves at Ross Bay Cemetery

The Japanese-Canadian community in Victoria was exiled by the Canadian Government during the Pacific War (WWII) and very few ever returned. Therefore, there are few or no descendants living nearby to care for the graves in Ross Bay Cemetery. The VNCS and Victoria Japanese Friendship Society are pleased to continue the work of the Kakehashi (Bridge Building) Project along with the Old Cemeteries Society in caring for the Japanese graves. For more information please read: <http://www.jccvictoria.ca/rossbay.html>.



Schedule

12:30 pm Cleaning of Gravestones

Meet at the Kakehashi Stone and then break into teams to wash the graves. Supplies will be provided. Cleaning is followed by laying flowers, toys (no senko this year due to risk of fire).



2:30 pm Obon Service



Led by Reverend Grant Ikuta, Resident Minister of the Steveston Buddhist Temple and Bishop of Jodo Shinshu Buddhist Temples Canada

3:30 pm Obon Matsuri

Ross Bay Villa (1490 Fairfield Rd). Walk straight up from the Kakehashi Stone until you reach Fairfield Road and the Ross Bay Villa is just across the street. Please join us for light refreshments.



3:50 pm **Rina El-Nahas** (Japanese Minyo Folk singer)
 4:10 pm **Furusato Dancers**
 4:30 pm **Suikawari** (Japanese watermelon game)
 4:55 pm **Uminari Taiko**

Inaugural Annual Tanabata Social

By Yukari Peerless

Our first Tanabata social was held on Sunday, July 5th at Gorge Park. It was the day when we had the crazy hazy sky and the orange sun due to the forest fires up north, but temperature wise, it was perfect for us –Not too hot, not too cold. This was actually my first time at the Gorge Park, but the setting couldn't have been more perfect. We had big picnic tables to set up food, and also to make Tanabata crafts. There is also the beautiful Takata Japanese Garden only few steps away.

Mike Abe was generous enough to donate bamboos from his backyard. He had divided bamboo and planted them into individual pots. This was a great idea and everyone had their own pots of bamboo to decorate.

We also made various paper decorations for the bamboo- nets, streamers, stars and lanterns. We also had Tanzaku, strips of paper to write down your wishes.



We had around 25-30 people attend. Members enjoyed catching up with each other while enjoying some obento (potluck lunch). Mugi-cha and a tent was provided by VNCS, and many members also brought their own folding chairs.

Another highlight of the day was Kaki-Gori (shaved ice). Craig and Yukari brought their home-Kagigori machines and everybody enjoyed the cold treat with different syrups (Strawberry, Melon and “Hawaiian Blue”). It was so popular we have decided to do this again at Obon festival.



I took my bamboo home and I've been watering it regularly. Hopefully it will take root and I can bring back this bamboo for next year's Tanabata festival.

For the first ever event, I think it was very smoothly. I am looking forward to next year's event already. A very special thank you to Craig and Kana Mercer, who helped to organize, set-up, and took care of the tent and mugi-cha.

Swept Away by Simple and Warm

by Ann-Lee Switzer

On the evening of July 11, 2015, Victorians were treated to a jazz piano concert that warmed the cool night, filling the Phillip Young Recital Hall at the University of Victoria with a great variety of music. “Simple and Warm Melodies” with pianist Kentaro Kihara was presented by the Consulate General of Japan in Vancouver, the VNCS and the Japan Foundation.

Kentaro Kihara was a familiar face for many who had attended last year’s performance in February at École Victor-Brodeur with Noh theatre master Yamai Tsunao. Kentaro Kihara played a supporting role in this unusual collaboration. It was the first time I had heard a piano accompanying a Noh performance instead of the traditional Japanese instruments. This time Kihara was the feature, with a little help from friends.

Kentaro Kihara was born in Kushiro Japan—which is part of the reason he was in BC, playing for a performance in Burnaby to celebrate the Burnaby-Kushiro 50th Anniversary of becoming twin cities. He started playing piano at the age of 4, and like Mozart, began composing at age 5. As a teenager, his taste turned to jazz and pop styles. For further instruction he auditioned for the prestigious Berklee College of Music in Boston for which he received the Gary Burton scholarship. While at the school, he received the Berklee Jazz Performance Award. After graduation he went on to a professional career. In addition to jazz, Kihara has been composing music for J-Pop, film, animation and TV programs. He has released eight albums.

Appearing at ease and relaxed, Kentaro Kihara, dressed in a black suit and open-neck white shirt, sat down at the piano. His hands ranged over the keys with great facility, producing harmonious, sometimes playful melodies that swept the audience along with them. Titles like *Into the Light*, *Holiday*, *Starting Over*, *Kindness had no words*, but expressions of emotion in the music. Suddenly he motioned for us to sing along with a very familiar tune, “The Sukiyaki Song”, originally sung by Kyu Sakamoto in 1961 (the words having nothing to do with the dish), and the audience responded with enthusiasm. Then it was back to variations and themes, until another surprise was introduced: our very own Consul General Seiji Okada, clad in a snazzy white jacket, stepped up to the stage and took up a long rectangular machine that had been sitting at the side of the stage on a stand. And began blowing on it. What emerged were the mellow tones of a saxophone. Indeed it turned out to be an electronic version of the curved-bell brass instrument, one that can be programmed to suit the player, producing sounds that closely imitate the original. The two men were later joined by Yuji Nakajima on guitar, a Vancouver based, Brazilian-style player. The trio performed several of Kihara’s own pieces, including several numbers from his latest album, “be...”

All too soon, the concert was over, and we were left with warm and simple music ringing in our heads. Thanks go to the sponsors and the University for providing a memorable evening. We hope that Kentaro Kihara will be returning soon to share his simple and warm melodies with us.



L-R Consul General Seiji Okada, Kentaro Kihara, Yuji Nakajima

故郷

Furusato Dancers

Tsugio Kurushima

As reported last Newsletter the summer is a busy time for the Furusato Dancers. So far we performed at the Heritage Dance Festival in Beacon Hill Park (June 20) and the Royal Colwood Golf Club at a Japanese Theme night. If you didn't see us at one of these performances there are plenty in August to catch us.

Aug 6 Hiroshima-Nagasaki Remembrance at the Esquimalt Gorge Park.

We dance shortly after 8:00 pm

Aug 8 India Mela (Festival) at Centennial Square
We perform at 3:00 pm.

Aug 9 Obon Festival at the Ross Bay Villa, 1490
Fairfield Road.

Our performance is at 3:30 pm.

Aug 14 – 16 Dragon Boat Festival

On Friday we dance at 7:00 pm, on Saturday and
Sunday at 1:30 pm.

Cultural Stage in the Forbidden City

We hope you can make it to one of these
performances.

If you are interested contact Tsugio
Kurushima at tsugukurushima@gmail.com or
Tomoko Okada at tokada32003@gmail.com

海鳴り太鼓

Uminari Taiko

Jacob Derksen

Uminari Taiko's performance season is in full swing. We played the Japanese Car Show June 21st and performed on the main stage at the Legislature as part of the Canada Day celebrations on July 1st and we got more shows lined up. We will be playing at India Mela in Centennial Square on August 8th at 12:30pm and again the following day at O-Bon. The following weekend, August 14th, 15th and 16th, we will be performing at Dragon Boat Festival. We are scheduled to perform at 4:00pm on Friday August 14th and at 10:30am Saturday August 15th and Sunday August 16th. If you come out to see us perform you will have the added bonus of seeing our newest apprentice, Clara, join us on at least a song or two.

We have been enjoying learning some of what UT members brought back from the North American Taiko Conference that took place in Las Vegas back in June. The NATC affords participants the opportunity to learn from some of the best in North America and Japan and this year was no exception. It's always nice to learn new skills and push beyond previously held boundaries.

Speaking for myself, though, I must admit to experiencing a certain amount of cognitive dissonance whenever I have the opportunity to learn from highly skilled taiko players and teachers. On one hand I'm always inspired to work diligently to hone my skills but on the other I find myself tempted to pack it in and just hang up my bachi. Ultimately, however, my passion for the art wins out. I will likely be experiencing that same cognitive dissonance again in the not-too-distant future as I have been accepted to participate in the prestigious KodoJuku 2015 on Sado Island in mid-October. As much as I would have liked to have attended this year's NATC, having the opportunity to train with Kodo members on Sado Island will more than make up for it.



*Furusato Dancers
performing Hana-
gasa Ondo at Her-
itage Dance Festi-
val*

桜婦人会

Sakura Fujinkai

After a Summer break the Fujinkai will meet for dinner in August at the Jasmine Family Restaurant. Carpools can be arranged. An email will go out closer to the last Tuesday of August. Patti Ayukawa will be coordinating the Fujinkai table at the Cultural Fair this year for the first time so she will need lots of help from crafters, as well as pricing and sale day volunteers. The VNCS Ikebana group will begin again on September 10 and will meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month at St. Aidan's United Church. The class fee for the 7 classes will be \$105 for VNCS members. This includes instruction and flowers. We can accept 1 or 2 new beginners this time. Contact Susan for details.



*Ann Stopp's arrangement
at the May 28 class*

For more information about any of our activities please contact Susan by phone (250) 384-2654 or email sukurushima@gmail.com.

Landscapes of Injustice Project – Call for records

The Nikkei National Museum is a partner in the exciting Landscapes of Injustice seven-year multi-sector interdisciplinary project to uncover and tell the history of the forced sale of Japanese-Canadian-owned property during the Second World War.

We are looking for any evidence of sale or expropriation such as land deeds, letters from the custodian, lists of chattels entrusted to the custodian, case files from the Bird Commission, returned life insurance policies, rental agreements, farm appraisals, custodian case files from Library and Archives Canada, maps, photographs, directories, lists of people in communities pre-war, in camps, post war, and research done on the topic. We recognize these documents are archival treasures and some may be deeply buried in the backlog, but we need your help.

If you think you might have something to contribute, please contact: Lisa Uyeda, Collections Manager at luyeda@nikkeiplace.org or 604 777-7000 X 140, or Linda Kawamoto Reid, Research Archivist at lreid@nikkeiplace.org or 604 777-7000 X 111.

For more information visit: www.landscapesofinjustice.com and www.nikkeiplace.org
Lisa Kiyomi Uyeda (MAS)

My name is Carmel Tanaka (UVic Hillel Director) and I would like to invite the VNCS and the greater Victoria Japanese-Canadian community to attend the “[Global Connections: Critical Holocaust Education in a Time of Transition](#)” conference to be held September 1-3, 2015 at the University of Victoria. This is an international, interdisciplinary conference committed to critical, multi-cultural Human Rights education. While the majority of the conference will delve into the Holocaust, there will be a panel discussion with invited guests, including Bev Sellars (First Nations Chief) and Pamela Sugiman (Ryerson), who is working on the Landscapes of Injustice project with Jordan Stanger-Ross (UVic) on Japanese internment in Canada.

Panel Discussion: "Racial Injustice and Memory: Remembering the Internment of Japanese-Canadians"

September 1, 2015 at 9:30-11:30AM in the David Lam Auditorium at UVic

Pamela Sugiman is a Professor and Chair of the Department of Sociology at Ryerson University in Toronto. She has written extensively on the relationship between personal memory and public history in the context of the internment of Japanese Canadians during the Second World War. She is currently leading the Oral History Research Cluster of a large SSHRC-funded project, Landscapes of Injustice, a multi-disciplinary study of the dispossession of Japanese Canadians. Sugiman is currently focusing on the memories of non-Japanese Canadian eyewitnesses to the internment, in an effort to enhance our understanding of racialization, memory and Canadian history.

Important links: [Conference schedule](#) [General website](#) [Facebook page](#)

Registration to the conference is free and open to all.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or the conference organizers at globalconnections@uvic.ca

Tsugaru Shamisen Concert

Traditional Japanese Rhythm on Three Strings

Celebrating Victoria – Morioka Sister City 30th Anniversary

Featuring Hiroshi Yamaguchi

Guest artist: Yujiro Nakajima on guitar

Presented by: The Consulate General of Japan in Vancouver

Date: Wednesday, September 9th, 2015

Venue: Phillip T. Young Recital Hall, University of Victoria

Concert is free of charge and begins at 7:30 PM (doors open at 7:00 PM)

RSVP: culture@vc.mofa.go.jp (The concert is free of charge, but reservations are required)

For More Information: www.vancouver.ca.emb-japan.go.jp

About Hiroshi Yamaguchi

Hiroshi began his musical studies at the age of four with his father Koji Yamaguchi. He first studied Tsugaru Shamisen under the tutelage of Katsuhiro Chiba and began placing and winning national competitions at a young age.

In 2001 he completed his graduate degree from the Department of Traditional Japanese Music at Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music.

He has performed for high profile audiences such as playing Tate Shamisen for the Imperial prince, Mikasanomiya Takahito. Hiroshi has done extensive international tours including Austria, Canada, China, Croatia, Germany, Korea, Spain, Thailand, Vietnam, the United Kingdom, and the USA.



Mark your calendar and inform your friends - Saturday, October 24 is the date of the Cultural Fair.

The Cultural Fair is very important event for the VNCS. Not only is it a celebration and sharing of our Japanese cultural roots it is also the only fundraiser that the VNCS undertakes. The revenue generated from this event helps the VNCS to support its cultural programs such as Ikebana, Taiko and Odori, fund the Grant program, pay for member events such as Obon and Mochi-tsuki Shinnen Kai and cover our operating costs.

Planning and preparation is well underway for this year's edition of the Cultural Fair. The facilities have been booked. Most of the entertainment has been confirmed. The promotional material have been created. **But there is still a lot of work yet to be done.**

The Victoria Nikkei Cultural Society presents the 16th annual

Japanese Cultural Fair



Savour the wonderful tastes of Japan
(including delicious sushi, bento boxes
and sweet manju desserts).

Experience demonstrations of
ikebana, tea ceremony, bonsai,
shodo, various martial arts, with
a special anime presentation by
Tsukino-Con.

Enjoy performances by
Uminari Taiko, the Furusato
Dancers, Satomi Edwards (Koto), the
VJHLSS Children's Dance Group and
Choir and many more!



10 am - 4 pm
Saturday, October 24th, 2015
Esquimalt Recreation Centre
527 Fraser Street
A Free Family Friendly Event
With Kids Activity Area



For more information visit
www.vnscs.ca or facebook.com/vnscs.ca

Volunteers

As you know we need a lot of volunteers to put on this event. On the day of the Fair we require 80+ volunteers. But even prior to October 24 there is a small core of volunteers who are laying the groundwork and doing preparatory work for a successful Fair. This year we have had some members of that core team step down. So I am looking for some people to fill in these vacancies. We need help in coordinating the decorations, soliciting for donations and organizing the Fujinkai/Things Japanese table. If you can help please contact Tsugio Kurushima at tsugukurushima@gmail.com. It is really not a lot of work and it can be very rewarding!

Donations

The success of the Fair is greatly impacted by the quantity and quality of donations we receive. We need donations for the Silent Auction, Things Japanese Table, Fujinkai Craft table, Raffle, Door prizes and Bake Table. If you have items you would like to donate contact the following people:

Silent Auction - Patti Kagawa at hellopatti@shaw.ca or Cristina Shore at cristinashore@shaw.ca
Things Japanese and FujinkaiTable – Susan Kurushima at sukurushima@gmail.com

Raffle and Door Prizes – Tsugio at tsugukurushima@gmail.com

The Raffle prizes are restaurant gift certificates predominately from Japanese restaurants. We have volunteers who make calls on these restaurants asking for a donation. However it really helps if there is a personal relationship such as knowing the owner or being a frequent patron of the restaurant. If you have that type of relationship and can help please let Tsugio know.

Bake Table – Lisa Nakamura at Lisa.Nakamura@gov.bc.ca

As the name implies we need baked items - cookies, buns, tarts, etc. We could also use breads, cakes and pies. These larger items have been in short supply the past few years. To comply with the Vancouver Island Health Authority Food Safety Guidelines we cannot accept baked goods with whipped cream, cheese or synthetic cream filling. For example no pumpkin pie, cream puffs or any kind of custard fillings. Please indicate whether your baked item contains any nuts. You can start baking now and put your baked goods in the freezer until Fair Day.

Work Parties

There are two work parties that are scheduled each year to prepare the food for the event. The sushi, manju and bento boxes that are made at these work parties contribute significantly to our sales revenue.

Saturday, October 17 at St. Aidan's United Church

This work party is for the making of the manju both the yaki manju (baked) and the mochi manji (soft). We make over 1,000 pieces of manju. The work party goes from 10:00 to 4:00 pm.

Friday, October 23 at Esquimalt United Church (500 Admirals Road)

This work party is for making age sushi, packaging of the manju and for preparation of the ingredients for the Bento Box. This work party also runs from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

VNCS hosts the National Association of Japanese Canadians AGM in September.

The NAJC will hold its Annual General Meeting in Victoria from September 25-27, 2015. The organizing Committee, Patti Ayukawa, Yukari Peerless, Karen Kobayashi, Kyla Fitzgerald and Michael Abe have been working with the NAJC to present an interesting and informative agenda. Panels include discussions on Elder care, Preserving the Past, volunteerism & youth engagement and best practices for cultural event planning. Check the NAJC website for the agenda as it becomes finalized. www.najc.ca.

Members of the community are welcome to attend the panel sessions free of charge. Tickets to the banquet may be ordered through the VNCS until Sept. 22.

Please direct any questions and banquet reservations to info@vncs.ca

70th Anniversary of the Atomic Bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2015

AMBROSIA BANQUET HALL

638 Fisgard Street, Victoria, British Columbia

"On the cenotaph in the Peace Park in Hiroshima is an inscription which reads, 'Rest in peace; the mistake will not be repeated'. This has become the prayer and vow of many survivors, who are determined to make sure that the deaths of loved ones has not been in vain and that no human being will ever have to repeat their fate. I am committed to share the warning of Hiroshima until my last breath."

—Setsuko Thurlow



photo from laromkarnvapeen.se

Speaker: Setsuko Thurlow

Renowned peace activist and a Hiroshima survivor (Hibakusha)

6:30 pm: Banquet and lecture – \$35.00

8:15 pm: Lecture only with coffee/tea and dessert – \$5.00 (suggested donation)

Ticket sale deadline: September 22, 2015



Organized by: National Association of Japanese Canadians
& Victoria Nikkei Cultural Society



For further information please contact: info@vncs.ca

NAJC Japanese-Canadian Young Leaders Conference

The NAJC JCYLC will be held in Winnipeg from Aug. 7-9, 2015.

The Japanese Canadian Young Leaders' Conference is a three day conference that will educate, inspire, and connect emerging leaders with powerful ideas that can help motivate them and their community. This conference is organized in collaboration with the National Association of Japanese Canadians (NAJC). [http://jcyoungleaders.najc.ca/?](http://jcyoungleaders.najc.ca/?page_id=37)

[page_id=37](http://jcyoungleaders.najc.ca/?page_id=37)

This stand alone conference builds on the momentum from last year's conference that was held concurrently with the NAJC AGM in September in Vancouver.

The VNCS received grant money and was able to send three delegates, Kyla Fitzgerald, Kento Abe and Natsuki Abe.

Below is the report submitted by Kyla.

NAJC Japanese-Canadian Young Leaders Conference Report by Kyla Fitzgerald

The NAJC Community Development enabled three Nikkei youth from Victoria, British Columbia to attend the Japanese Canadian Young Leaders Conference (JCYLC) held in Vancouver, British Columbia in September 2014.

The JCYLC Conference aimed to bring together the younger Japanese Canadians and reinvigorate this growing community. Here, the young delegates explored topics of activism and history, the value of arts and culture as well as the significance of business and entrepreneurship in the Japanese-Canadian communities. These topics, in particular, were identified as key issues that were fundamental in creating, building, and maintaining Japanese Canadian communities and unique narrative in Canada. The exploration of these topics provided a platform in which young delegates engaged in stimulating dialogues about balancing traditional and contemporary cultural practices in our everyday lives, intergenerational relations, the importance of supporting Japanese Canadians, both individually and as a group, and the issue of identity in Canada's ever-growing multi-ethnic environment. It was evident from these discussions that young Japanese Canadians are eager to learn and carry on their heritage and history from their elders and members from the NAJC and from the larger Japanese Canadian population so to continue meaningful and positive growth in the Japanese Canadian community.

Beyond exploring contemporary issues, the JC young leaders also learned about a vital component of JC history, Powell Street, through a walking tour. This tour provided an overview of the once-thriving Powell Street by highlighting significant historical churches, business, and former residences.

Overall, the JCYLC conference was a valuable learning experience. It allowed young Japanese Canadians to meet their community counterparts from across the country and make meaningful connections that will be fundamental in the continued involvement of Japanese Canadian youth in not only the NAJC, but also in the broader Japanese Canadian community. Furthermore, young delegates gained a deeper comprehension and appreciation of Japanese Canadian history in British Columbia. Finally, having both the JCYLC Conference and NAJC AGM run concurrently allowed young delegates to meet long established members of the NAJC and the larger community, which facilitated interactions between the two groups and encouraged further mentorship by the NAJC that is vital in the growth of the Japanese Canadian community in Canada.



Art of Ikebana – the Japanese flower arranging with Master Rinkei Nagamine

WORKSHOP ONE: Sept.16th 9am – 2pm

arranging in a plate with a frog (a kenzan)

-if you do not have a 3.5"x 2" kenzan please let us know at the time of your registration.

WORKSHOP TWO: Sept.17th 9am – 2pm

arranging in a vase

WORKSHOP THREE: Sept.18th 9am – 2pm

arranging in free style

Participation fee: \$40 for each day (flowers and light lunch are included)

Please participate in any of the workshops you like. Basics will be taught in the first arrangement of all three workshops. All the workshops will take place at Studio G Art (7298 Someone Road, Duncan, BC).

Public presentation: September 19, 2015 2:00 pm – 5:00 pm at Studio G Art, Cowichan Valley Arts Council Word & Vision writers/artists, a short Japanese tea ceremony, large Ikebana installation by Rinkei Nagamine, kimono display, yuzen prints, origami creation and much more.

Rinkei Nagamine: Master of Japanese flower arrangement in Ryusei school

"I have been teaching Ikebana for 50 years. I believe that any flower arranged in a vase is not only beautiful but also shows the charm of the person who made the piece. I am looking forward to meeting creative people with whom I will share my knowledge, skills and passion in these two exciting workshops."

More information/question/ registration: please email to Yuko Yamamoto at yuko@sewyuzen.com

Workshop information: <http://sewyuzen.com/>



The Art of Ikebana

Japanese flower arranging

with Master Rinkei Nagamine

WORKSHOP ONE: Sept. 16th 9am - 2pm
arranging in a plate with a frog (a kenzan)

WORKSHOP TWO: Sept. 17th 9am - 2pm
arranging in a vase

WORKSHOP THREE: Sept. 18th 9am - 2pm
arranging in free style

Participation fee: \$40 for each day
(flowers and light lunch are included)

Please participate in any of the workshops you like. Basics will be taught in the first arrangement of all three workshops



- Presentation Event
with Cowichan Valley Arts Council "Word and Vision"
Sept. 19th, 2015 2 pm - 5 pm
at Studio G Art
7298 Somenos Road, Duncan, BC

- More information/ questions/ registration
yuko@sewyuzen.com
gdalyart@shaw.ca



Kyudo

By Brian Angene

Kyudo, the way of the bow, is alive and well in Victoria. The Victoria Kyudo Association is in its third year of practicing and promoting kyudo. We have an enthusiastic group that meets every Sunday morning from 10-12. We practice in the gymnasium at the Fernwood Recreation Centre located at 1240 Gladstone Ave.

To better serve our members we now only offer the introductory course once a year. This enables our members a greater opportunity to practice and improve with more one on one instruction. Our next course will be from Sept 20 – Dec 6. If you are interested please come by and observe a class before the end of August. The introductory course covers the hasseitsu (8 stages of shooting), kihontai (the correct form of movements), rei (etiquette), and of course safety practices.

We also welcome those of you who have practiced kyudo previously. Even if it has been a few years (or more) please join us and be surprised by how much you remember.

All equipment, gomuyumi (rubber bows), kake (gloves), yumi (bows), and (ya) are provided. We advise students not to purchase any equipment or clothing until they have developed some form and technique.

The instructor, Brian Angene, was trained at Oji-dojo in Kobe. He has practiced kyudo for over 10 years and regularly returns to Japan for seminars and exams. He earned his yondan rank last year in Nagoya at the Asia Oceania seminar.

We look forward to kyudo enthusiasts, new and old, joining us in the coming year. Come and observe a class if you are curious. The introductory course is \$120 for 10 classes. Fees for continuing members vary by number of classes per session. Typically it is around \$40 per month. For more information, or to arrange a class observation, please contact: kyudo.victoria@outlook.ca



Thank you for your donations to the VNCS

Emiko Arakawa
Margaret Hoyle
Madoka Yasumura
Rudolf and Tracel Carolsfeld
Karen Kobayashi and Carey Hayashi family
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