



JAPANESE CULTURAL ASSOCIATION OF MANITOBA INC.

OUTLOOK

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JCAM is a federally registered charity # 12064 6021 RR0001

Keirokai 2024



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President's Message

Dr. Kelly Kaita

Spring is finally upon us! Spring in Japan brings the changing of the seasons and the beginning of Cherry Blossoms! It is the beginning of a new year and so much to be grateful for and hopeful for. This could not be any truer for the Japanese Cultural Association of Manitoba!

JCAM has been successful in receiving grant funds for two major areas that will enhance membership experience and help redevelop the centre. The first major grant is the JCLS Community Projects Fund. This fund will be used to enhance programming at the centre as well as provide the opportunity for new programming. Pamela Okano is spearheading these programs and is extremely excited to see them all come to fruition this year! The second grant is the JCLS Infrastructure Grant. This grant provides JCAM with funds to renovate the centre. These funds will be used to replace the outdated ceiling tiles and lighting, replace the flooring in the back of the centre, develop a universal handicap compliant restroom, renew the prep kitchen (previously known as the sushi kitchen), renovate the existing laundry room which requires some rejigging of the current change rooms and storage rooms, and finally redeveloping our existing bar/concessions room. All these changes will enhance the centre tremendously.

Some other centre changes that have been funded by SEVA International Charitable Association are new blinds throughout the main hall and with another grant from the Government of Manitoba, we will see the entire audiovisual needs of the centre be upgraded. Many of these renovations will take place during the July closure and may finish during the December closure. So please make sure you check with the centre during these time periods to ensure that the centre is open to the public.

We have ongoing roof leaks at the transition between the main hall and the vestibule. This was the result of a structural error that occurred when the vestibule was added to the centre. We have made many attempts at repairing this defect with two different roofing companies, therefore, this year we have asked them to produce a more permanent solution. Stay tuned! The final change will be a significant upgrade to the security systems. We will be replacing the main hall garden door and staff entry door. The staff door has been the entry point for the last two break-ins to our centre so we will have a more secure door as well as upgrades to the alarm system.

On a happier note, so much to be thankful for has started or recently took place. The JCAM Curling Bonspiel under the guidance of Ms. Sandra Shibata took place on April 6th and was a major success. Folklorama planning has started under the supervision of Les Kojima and new pavilion coordinators, Mrs. Debra Takeuchi and Mr. Nicholas Matsuo. Alex Allen-Chaput (new board member), with the help of many others, will reestablish the JCAM picnic this year! These are just a few events to look forward to so keep your eye on the website for all the information of all events coming.

Finally, the 2024 strategic planning meeting is now complete. These plans will now be put into action so you will hear more about the pillars and how it will impact the success of JCAM. Thank you to JCAM Vice-President Debra Takeuchi for developing these plans with Sue Hemphill.

Thank you to all members for trusting me and the Board with the keys to your community/cultural centre.

Kelly Kaita

JCAM DONATIONS

(January 1 – April 30, 2024)

Silver Family Sponsor 2024-2025

Yayoi & Lester Brandt
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In Memory of Aki & Mari Sato

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Janet & Len Matsukubo

JCAM Curling Bonspiel

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Terumi Kuwada
Sandra Campbell

In Memory of Paula Klan

Terumi Kuwada
Theresa Oye

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Gord & Pearl Sasaki

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Sumi Saito Kimanivong
Kelly & Lisa Kaita

In Celebration of Violet Okano's 2nd Birthday

Adam & Krystin Okano
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In Support of Fuurin Koto Ensemble

Yoshiko Watanabe

Keirokai 2024

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Zel & Naomi Krasovec
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Pat & Alvin Mackling
Diane Ooto
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Kelly & Lisa Kaita

In Memory of Lillian Shimoda

Sandra Allen

In Memory of Marilyn Furutani

Yoshimi Takeuchi

In Memory of Mary Mori

Sam Fujii

In Memory of Ted Koizumi

Gaia Hashimoto

JCAM extends its appreciation to all donors for their generosity and support.

JCAM is now able to receive donations through e-transfer – etransfer@jcamwpg.ca



The Charleswood Curling Club was the host to our community's 19th Manitoba Japanese Canadian Curling Bonspiel on April 6th. It was a fun-filled day of curling, reminiscing, family and friends, eating and showcasing our Centre.

On Saturday night all teams and guests attended the Japanese Cultural Center to celebrate the curling, chat about the curling shots that may or may not have gone their way and enjoy the company of all the curlers and their guests. The Japanese cuisine meal always provides a special ending to the day.

Congratulations to all curlers (16 teams) and especially the winning teams for 2024.

- 🍁 Toru Suzuki Champions: Judy Wolchuk, Karl Kennedy, Cory Wolchuk, Lisa Ito
- 🍁 A side runner up: Greg Holowka, Sandy Martin, Geoff Miki, Cheryl Miki
- 🍁 B side winners: Kara Gomez-Sanchez (Shibata), Kathryn Marcynuk, Matthew Kulasza, Jaime Gomez-Sanchez, Sofia and Mia
- 🍁 C side winners: Norm Scott, Bruce Kidd, Jim Suzuki, Theresa Oye
- 🍁 Consolation winners: Blair Yoshida, Bob Okabe, Kent Yoshida, Marcia & Maddy Yoshida

This bonspiel would be impossible to execute without our generous bonspiel donations.

- 🍁 JCAM Donations: Ken Matsukubo, Sandra Campbell, Terumi Kuwada
- 🍁 Prize Donations: Don MacDonald, Bob Poole, all 16 curling teams

Thank you to our community's volunteers, for without them this event would not be possible. A huge thank you to Caroline Yamashita for her leadership of the banquet and the tireless efforts of all the volunteers. The Japanese meal was absolutely delicious! Many thanks to the shoppers, cooks, sushi-rollers, set-up, servers, clean-up crew, bartenders, draw-master Doug, registration Karen & Tom Sands from BC, Gary & Karen and many others. The volunteers deserve a big thank you from all the curlers and their guests, so please take a bow!

They say a picture paints a thousand words, and we hope to have the event pictures posted to the JCAM website in the near future.

2025 will be the bonspiel's 20th anniversary, so we hope to see you there.

Sandra Shibata

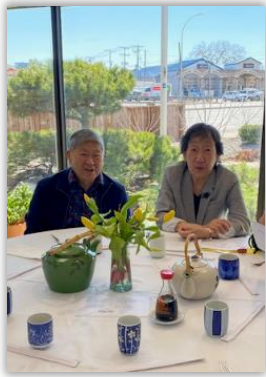


KEIROKAI 2024

After 4 long years, JCAM hosted Keirokai on Sunday, April 21, 2024 with 82 honoured guests plus family members for a total of 94 guests. Everyone enjoyed a bento lunch catered by Edokko Japanese Food, followed by dessert and tea. Each honoured guest received a gift bag and were entertained with a koto performance by Fuirin Koto Ensemble and the Kaede children's dance group. Thank you to our entertainers – Yuhko Kayama, Junko Rybuck, Lilly Stubbs, Tenley Donnalley, Huk Kimanivong, Suzu Kimanivong, Sumi Saito-Kimanivong (Kaede instructor), and Noriko Takahashi (Kaede assistant instructor).

Many thanks to the many people who volunteered time out of their busy schedule – Janet Okabe, Sandy Allen, Ben Allen, Christine Kaita, Debbie Harasym, Satoshi Takeuchi, Grayson Takeuchi, Debra Takeuchi (Keirokai committee), and Ken Teramura (Keirokai committee).

Keirokai is a long-standing tradition to honour our elders in our Manitoba community. Our local records show that the first Keirokai was held in Winnipeg in 1948 (see the 1948 picture below!). A slide show of group photos from Keirokai celebrations held between 1948 and 2005 was displayed.



HORIZON CLUB NEWS

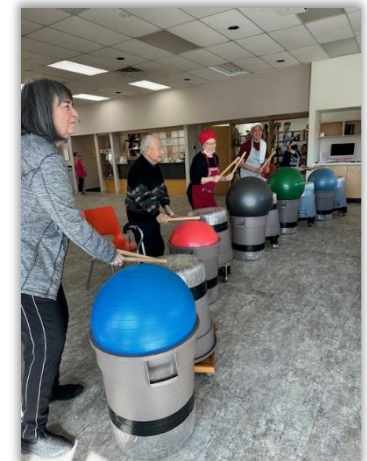
After a three month break for November, December, and January we are back. Our lunches started on February 7th. We started a little slow with about 40-45 members in attendance. However, the warmer weather has encouraged more to venture out and April has seen about 60 people enjoying great lunches. Our membership has also grown we are now at 118 members.

We enjoyed a few different lunches. We catered in Filipino and Ukrainian lunches. Jim and his team made Japanese style hot dogs. Everyone still enjoys chow mein and ham & scalloped potatoes.

Our exercise classes before lunch are well attended. We tried something new in April – “Drums Alive”. Check out the pictures from our first class. It was thoroughly enjoyed by all that attended. Some were reluctant at first to join, but when they saw and heard the fun everyone was having, they wanted to join. We



didn't have enough balls and drums so they used cardboard boxes and whatever we could find. No age limit on having fun and making noise. We are very fortunate that one of our Horizon Club members (Lila Conarro) is a certified Drums Alive instructor and she is leading the class. The next class will be on May 15th and then tentatively on June 19th. Thank you to Hinode Taiko who is supporting our classes by loaning us their bachi and Tsudo drums as well as assisting with setup and takedown.



Our last lunch before our summer break for July and August will be on Wednesday, June 19th. Chef and Mrs. Ono will be preparing a special bento lunch.

AURORA DANCE GROUP

Congratulations to the Aurora Dance Group upon receiving the City of Winnipeg Community Service Award for their contribution to the cultural well-being of Winnipeg. Aurora Dance Group has been entertaining the public for 25 years! Lucy Yamashita accepted the award from Mayor Scott Gillingham on behalf of Aurora on International Women's Day. *(Photos by David Lipnowsky Photography)*



JCAM JAPANESE LANGUAGE SCHOOL

Highlights from the Second Semester

The year 2024 has started off with excitement and cheer- Shoto 4, 5, 6 classes from Heritage Language Program had their annual New Year's calligraphy class with the guest instructor Yayoi Brandt. On April 6, they also had their annual sushi class with Chef Sadao Ono. Many college and high school students join our Saturday classes as volunteers, which makes the school more lively and enjoyable.

At the end of March, we invited some volunteer native Japanese speakers and hosted a special event for our Adults Program students to brush up their conversation skills. We received outstandingly favorable feedback from them.



Our "Middle School Program" for Heritage Language Program alumni and "Conversation Club for Adult Japanese Language Learners," which have officially started this school year, are full of diligent students who wish to enhance their Japanese proficiency.

In April, Nihongo Explorers, a program for children with little or no knowledge of Japanese language, launched its pilot session. It has enabled us to provide more people with Japanese learning opportunities.

We will continue our best efforts for fun, well-structured and rewarding programs. We thank all JCAM members for supporting us!

Recruiting New Staff!

JCAM Japanese Language School is looking for a few new instructors for the 2024-2025 school year.

Number of positions:

- 2 instructors for High School Credit Program (Saturday afternoons)
- 1 instructor for Adults Program (Tuesdays or Wednesdays, 6pm-8pm)

Selection criteria

- One of the following is required: professional experience in teaching Japanese, native or bilingual proficiency in Japanese (with fluency in English), having a certificate of Japanese-Language Proficiency Test N2 or higher.
- Willingness to work at least for an entire school year.

Other things to note:

- A successful candidate without professional experience in teaching Japanese will take charge of the class after the training period.
- Wages commensurate with experience.
- The programs use "Genki" as their textbooks.

To apply or for questions: please contact jcamlanguage@jcamwpg.ca

JCAM KIDS CLUB

The JCAM Kids Club has been a whirlwind of activity every Saturday morning. Thirty-four children aged 1-12 years along with their parents have participated in a variety of activities including, judo, taiko, odori, kendo, yoga, origami, holiday arts and crafts for Setsubun, Ohanami, and Children's Day, plus many more. JCAM Kids Club provides a wonderful opportunity for our youngsters to experience different cultural activities with their parents.

As we wind down the year, we thank the organizing committee – Sara Ebata, Debra Takeuchi, Valerie Hoshizaki-Nordin, Sarah Keating Sangalang, and Pamela Okano – for their vision and hard work to bring the Kids Club to fruition. Many thanks to our volunteers who came out early on a Saturday morning to provide support – Jordan Takenaka, Grayson Takeuchi, Aiden Muller, and Maya Kojima.

We also thank our guest instructors for volunteering their time and expertise:

Manitoba Kendo Club
Hinode Taiko
Kaede Odori Group
Steven Oye
Brian Cox
Victoria Sanders



For ongoing news from JCAM, check out our social media sites:

www.jcamwpg.ca

Twitter: @WpgJCAM

Instagram: @jcamincofficial

Facebook: @jcam.inc.org

Youtube: www.youtube.com/channel/UCIM3M-5wl3fVBhNEjgcNkFQ

Tik Tok: @jcamwpg

FUURIN KOTO ENSEMBLE

JCAM's Fuurin Koto Ensemble hosted Winnipeg's first-ever koto workshop on Friday, April 12 and Saturday, April 13, 2024. The ensemble hosted koto artisan, Mr. Hiroki Tanami, from Osaka who inspected, repaired, and re-strung 18 kotos. He was gracious in answering many questions from the workshop participants. All the koto players were thrilled to have their treasured kotos upgraded with new strings. They celebrated with short performances for the audience members. Many thanks to Fuurin Koto Ensemble instructor, Junko Rybuck, and Ensemble member, Keiko Burke, for all their hard work to put this one-of-a-kind workshop together.

This workshop was made possible with the generous support of the Japanese Canadian Legacy Fund and the JCAM Community Fund.



Congratulations to JCAM Member Yayoi Ban on her retirement as soloist with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet

For 19 seasons, JCAM members have enjoyed Yayoi's elegance, grace, and athleticism on the stage. While we will miss seeing Yayoi on stage, we look forward to seeing her at JCAM with Toshi, Yuki, and Toma.

Read Winnipeg Free Press reporter Jen Zoratti's exquisite article that celebrates Yayoi's career and journey from Chiba to Winnipeg on our JCAM website – <https://www.jcamwpg.ca/news/>



DANCE! DANCE! DANCE!



JCAM Bon Odori Matsuri dance practices will be held on:

Friday, May 10 from 7:00-8:30 PM

Monday, May 20 from 2:00-3:30 PM (Victoria Day)

Sunday, June 9 from 1:00-2:30 PM

Everyone is welcome to join us in learning 5 bon dances!
Practices will be held at the Cultural Centre.

Do you like to sing? Then come to the Matsuri to sing karaoke!
Groups and individuals can sing their favourite song.

Other activities will be kids' games and Bouncy Castle, watermelon hit activity and taiko drumming sessions. Japanese food, kakigori shaved ice, beverages, and souvenirs will also be sold.





JAPANESE CULTURAL
ASSOCIATION OF
MANITOBA INC.



Mark Saturday, June 22, 2-6 pm on your calendar!





**JCAM Bon Odori Matsuri will be back
again for a fun filled afternoon of
dancing, singing and kids activities!!
More details to come**



IT'S BACK! JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL

JAPANESE *Picnic*

Sunday, July 21st, 2024
10:00am - 1:00pm

ST. VITAL PARK

Oak & Aspen Shelters
(near the outdoor washrooms & playground)

BRING YOUR OWN LAWN CHAIRS AND PICNIC LUNCH OF CHOICE!

**KIDS RACES BEGIN AT 10:30AM FOLLOWED BY ADULT RACES AND
SCRAMBLES. DRAWS WILL TAKE PLACE AFTER LUNCH.**

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: JULY 14TH

If you are interested in attending the JCAM Picnic, you must register before July 14, 2024

TO REGISTER – [CLICK HERE](#)

FOLKLORAMA 2024

Sunday, August 4 – Saturday, August 10, 2024

Meet our 2024 Japan Pavilion Ambassadors!



KRISTEN TANIGUCHI – Adult Ambassador

Currently, I find myself engaged in the rigorous program at Red River College, where I am honing my skills and knowledge in the field of Sonography. Each day presents new opportunities for growth, and I enjoy each challenge set in front of me. Outside the realm of academia, I enjoy cultivating meaningful connections with those around me and making new connections. These moments provide a welcome balance to the demands of my studies. I believe in maintaining a healthy body and mind, and I enjoy regular visits to the gym to help me clear my mind and recharge before tackling a long study night. In addition to this, I find immense fulfillment and joy in the exhilarating sport of roller derby. As a passionate player, I thrive in the fast-paced intensity of the game, where you are challenged with teamwork, strategy and athleticism that create an experience unlike any other. Whether I am blocking opponents or scoring points, roller derby challenges me both physically and mentally. As I navigate life, I am grateful for the opportunities that each day brings and remain steadfast in my pursuit of growth, fulfillment and joy.

HANAKO TERANISHI – Adult Ambassador

Hanako Teranishi (They/Them) is a queer Yonsei mixed Japanese Canadian. They are a fourth-year English Honours student at the University of Manitoba. They are interested in learning and writing about racial and queer identities alongside anti-capitalist and Queer theory. They work as a Writing Tutor and pursue both academic and creative writing projects. In their spare time, Hanako loves catching up on their to-read list, organizing with social justice groups, rock climbing, and attending local concerts! Hanako's engagement with writing seeks to create pockets of belonging, intimacy, and love by filling in the gaps they see within academia and literature. Currently, they are a member of the National Association of Japanese Canadian's Young Leaders Committee and has recently taken up traditional Japanese Odori (Dance).



LUCA KENNEDY – Youth Ambassador

My name is Luca Kennedy and I am in the 11th grade at Collège Miles Macdonell Collegiate. I grew up in Japan until I was 4 and moved to Canada where I have lived for the last 12 years. I took Japanese language lessons at JCAM for 5 years. I've volunteered at the Japanese Pavilion and performed with Hinode Taiko. I enjoy playing school volleyball and badminton, hanging out with friends, making videos, playing music and working at a restaurant. I am very excited to take on the role of ambassador at the Japanese Pavilion this year.

HAULU BEYETTE – Youth Ambassador

Haulu is fifteen years old and a sophomore at Collège Sturgeon Heights Collegiate where he is enrolled in French Immersion. He is a competitive basketball player and will be on the Sturgeon Heights varsity team next year. He is often seen at the YMCA practicing basketball, working out, and training to be a lifeguard. Haulu was born and raised in Fukuoka, Japan until the age of five and then moved to Winnipeg. He speaks English, French, and Japanese. Last year, Haulu stayed in Japan the entire summer and is eager to be a part of Folklorama 2024 events, activities and the Japanese Pavilion.



DANIEL AKIRA COWEN – Greeter

Hello! My name is Daniel Cowen and I am 23 years old. I live in Winnipeg with my parents, Cathy and Steve, and my sister Stephanie. I attend a day program, Options, Pathways and Transitions, where I have many friends. We work on academic subjects such as literacy and numeracy and enjoy social activities such as bowling, art and gym. I also have one afternoon of supported work experience. I recently took up taiko drumming at JCAM and I love it! I take swimming lessons, volunteer at Children's Rehabilitation Centre, and am on two Special Olympics teams, 5 pin bowling and basketball. My family have been members of JCAM for many years and last year I was the Greeter for our Japanese Pavilion. I loved meeting people and welcoming them to the pavilion. My favourite part was dancing at the end of each show. I look forward to taking on this role again!

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