



JAPANESE AMERICAN CULTURAL
& COMMUNITY CENTER



ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023

JACCC MISSION

The **Japanese American Cultural & Community Center** weaves Japanese and Japanese American arts and culture into the fabric of our communities.

JACCC remains firmly rooted in Little Tokyo, providing a vital place to build connections between people and cultures, locally and internationally. Through inclusive programs and authentic experiences, we continue our living traditions and nurture the next generation of innovative artists, culture-bearers, and thinkers.



Hansei, 2022
Photo by Katrina Frederick

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THE PRESIDENT & CEO

Dear Friends and Supporters,

JACCC was once just a dream. Our founders were told that building a Japanese American cultural and community center in the middle of Downtown Los Angeles couldn't be done—but with the support of the entire community, the dream was realized. Over 50 years later, inspired by the beautiful 2.2-acre campus they built, we continue to present arts, culture, and programs to serve and support our elders, youth, culture-bearers, Little Tokyo residents, Japanese Americans, and guests from around the world.

In the past year, we welcomed visitors to the John & Susan Sasaki Tokonoma Reception and the Kanai Shudo-An, while offering a sneak peek to our Toshizo Watanabe Exhibition Center (TWEC). These spaces allow us to offer large-scale and more intimate events and programs that attract both new and returning visitors. In addition, we have been working to boost organizational success by strengthening our staff's skills and by executing marketing projects to reach an audience that numbers in the millions.

While we celebrate these successes, we have much more to do. We recognize that we are living in a time of great change and challenge. After several decades of service, our beloved campus is in need of repairs. Meanwhile, the aftermath of the COVID pandemic requires new ways of thinking and presenting arts and culture: ticket sales do not cover production expenses; audiences need more encouragement to return to live venues; new voices must be nurtured and supported.

While there is not a simple solution, like JACCC's founders, we continue to imagine the possibilities. We are looking forward to an even greater future to preserve and advance our beloved center, and to serve those who need us most.

Thank you for all you do to support JACCC.



Bette Hiramatsu
Chair of the Board of Directors



Patricia Wyatt
President & CEO

YUME: IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES

We are students of our surroundings' past and present. We look back on this history on Tongva land to take inspiration from Bridget "Biddy" Mason, the formerly enslaved midwife, landowner, and cultural mother of Los Angeles who, on the site where JACCC now stands, founded a community in the late 1800s; from Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, who dreamed of making Los Angeles an international destination and then welcomed the world here; from artist Isamu Noguchi who shared Mayor Bradley's dream and designed our iconic plaza, centered around the sculpture he dedicated, *To the Issei*; and to those who built the Japanese American Veterans War Memorial Court, proudly situated on JACCC's campus, reminding us of the self-sacrifice, loyalty, and courage of Japanese Americans.

Continuing in their footsteps, we are also dreaming big, imagining the possibilities, and working to strengthen our community, opening new opportunities for all of us—and for the generations to come.



SNEAK PREVIEW OF THE TOSHIZO WATANABE EXHIBITION CENTER



Sneak Preview of the TWEC at JACCC's
42nd Anniversary Celebration & Awards Dinner, 2023

Guests of JACCC's 42nd Anniversary Celebration & Awards Dinner (June 2023) were given a special sneak peek of the Toshizo Watanabe Exhibition Center (TWEC) before its successful grand opening in October 2023. This space, as well as its companion Toshizo Watanabe Culinary Cultural Center, allows us to delve deeply into our exploration of Japanese and Japanese American foodways and Japanese culinary arts.



Exterior of the TWEC, 2023
Photo by Katrina Frederick

THE KANAI SHUDO-AN



Atsuko Kanai with Jane Matsumoto,
JACCC's Director of Culinary Arts, 2023



Kanai Shudo-An Display,
2023

Located inside the Toshizo Watanabe Exhibition Center is the Kanai Shudo-An, made possible by a generous gift from the Kanai Foundation. The name, Shudo-An has a special meaning and is reflected in its design: *Shudo* (the way of sake) and *An* (a place of rest and tranquility). This inviting tasting counter allows visitors to enjoy all types of food and beverage tastings and demonstrations, including, but not limited to, sake.

THE JOHN & SUSAN SASAKI TOKONOMA RECEPTION

The John & Susan Sasaki Tokonoma Reception proudly welcomes visitors to JACCC. Over the past year, this artful new space has featured weekly rotating, seasonal displays of traditional Japanese arts and artifacts such as *ikebana* arrangements, calligraphy, tea ceremony implements, bonsai, and textiles.

Tokonoma Display, 2023
Photo by Mike Park





FUNDING & DIVERSIFYING PROGRAMS

With a robust slate of programming, JACCC's visibility has been on the rise. These successful programs included the popular "Bronzeville Sessions" (September 2022), a concert series inspired by the late night breakfast clubs of the Bronzeville era in Little Tokyo; "Bronze Hours" (October 2022), listening parties, in collaboration with In Sheep's Clothing, exploring the history of Bronzeville jazz; a live-streamed, virtual, "Cooking with Care: Culinary Demonstrations for Caregivers" (October-December 2022), featuring nutritious and simple Japanese meals that can be prepared at home for aging loved ones, in partnership with Keiro; JACCC's signature New Year's celebration, "Kotohajime" (January 2023); "Hiro's Bokashi Workshop" (ongoing) teaching participants the Okinawan tradition of turning kitchen waste into healthy soil and nutrient-rich fertilizer; "Ukuleles for Little Tokyo" (ongoing) music classes for older adults; and more.

Bronze Hours, 2022
Photo by Aya Mac Photography

LEADING FOR IMPACT

Building Pathways to Management

The growth and maturity of our creative, talented, and dedicated staff continues to be a source of great pride for us. With newly installed systems and guidance from Bridgespan's Leading for Impact program, we are now collaborating even more creatively and efficiently, directly driving success in programming, community outreach, financial management, and fundraising.

EFFECTIVE MARKETING PROJECTS THAT REACHED MILLIONS

In preparation for the launch of *Hansei*, JACCC's culinary pop-up led by Chef Chris Ono, JACCC enlisted public relations assistance from Treat Day Creative. With new and effective marketing efforts, *Hansei* earned over 17 media features including EaterLA, the L.A. Times, Thrillist, and Food Network, to name a few. For our month-long Rising Chef Series in May 2023, we earned 56+ pieces of press coverage, which reached an estimated 97M unique monthly viewers. We also generated 284+ organic social posts, generating 89M unique digital impressions, and 500K+ social engagements.

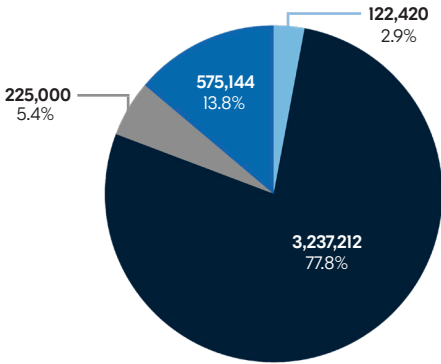
SELECTED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES (\$)

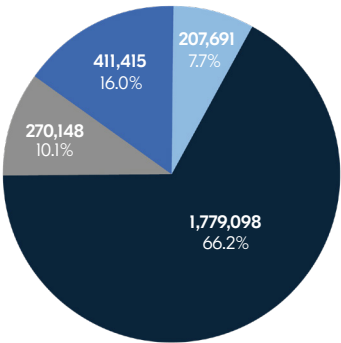
	for the year ended June 30, 2023	for the year ended June 30, 2022
Individual	122,420	207,691
Foundation and Corporate	3,237,212	1,779,098
Government and Public	225,000	270,148
Events and Membership	575,144	430,582
Contributions for Operating and Programs	4,159,776	2,687,519
Tenant rents	356,276	358,089
Other rents	815,180	645,484
Theatre, workshops and other earned income	242,952	220,928
Earned Income	1,414,408	1,224,501
Revenue and Support for Operating and Programs	5,574,184	3,912,020
People	2,190,362	1,798,821
Occupancy	530,319	569,592
Program and other general expense	1,434,716	1,693,435
Event and other development expense	732,111	250,539
Operating and Program Expenses	4,312,387	4,312,387
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	686,676	(400,367)
Capital contributions	0	579,955
Investment interest, dividends & unrealized gains	216,298	(198,028)
Non-Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	216,298	381,927
Change in Net Assets	902,974	(18,440)

Resources and Expenses (in thousands)	FY23	FY22	FY23
Contribution Support	4,159.78	2,687.52	▲
		35.4%	
Foundation support increased 45% while Individual support declined 70% and Government/Public declined 20%.			
Earned Income	1,414.41	1,224.50	▲
		13.4%	
In 2022 JACCC lost its largest tenant, FIA Insurance Services, Inc., but was able to makeup the loss in income with additional tenants and has now exceeded FY22 tenant levels. TWCCC revenues grew 21%. The Aratani Theatre had a deficit of \$287K, before depreciation.			
Operating and Program Expenses	4,887.51	4,312.39	▲
		11.8%	
Personnel expense grew 3% FY23 vs. FY22 which is approximately half of total expense. At the same time, total operating & program expense increased at a rate less than the increase in earned income, 11.8% vs. 13.4%.			
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	686.68	(400)	▲
		158.3%	
FY23 operating surplus of \$687K was driven by an 82% (\$1.5M) increase in foundation grants and a 21% (\$170K) increase in TWCCC revenue.			

FY23 CONTRIBUTION SUPPORT



FY22 CONTRIBUTION SUPPORT



- Events/Membership
- Government/Public
- Individual
- Foundation/Corporate

SELECTED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION


	at June 30, 2023	at June 30, 2022
ASSETS		
Cash	2,366,953	1,141,026
Investments	2,375,388	2,163,623
Receivables and prepaid expense	690,367	1,283,796
Property and equipment, net	8,644,313	8,692,918
Art collection and other assets	281,086	281,086
Total Assets	14,358,107	13,562,449
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	438,596	407,509
Notes payable	1,883,744	1,984,686
Deferred revenue and other liabilities	65,750	103,211
Total Liabilities	2,388,090	2,495,406
Net assets without donor restrictions	6,939,337	7,011,593
Net assets with donor restrictions	5,030,680	4,055,450
Total Net Assets	11,970,017	11,067,043
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	14,358,107	13,562,449

Changes in Assets (in thousands)	FY23	FY22	FY23
Total Assets	14,358	13,562	
		5.5%	

Cash on hand increased \$1.2M while Investments increased \$200K and receivables decreased \$593K.

Changes in Liabilities (in thousands)	FY23	FY22	FY23
Total Liabilities	2,388	2,495	
		-4.5%	

Notes payable decreased \$100K. JACCC continues to have a \$1.4M line of credit that is untouched.

Changes in Net Assets (in thousands)	FY23	FY22	FY23
Total Net Assets	11,970	11,067	
		7.5%	

Total net assets increased \$903K.

JACCC’s complete audited financial statements can be obtained upon request.

SPONSORS

ありがとうございました!

Thank you to our 42nd Anniversary Celebration & Awards Dinner sponsors and supporters.

Kiku

Arafani Foundation

Sakura

Terasaki Family Foundation

Ume Sponsors

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Fuji

Kawaguchi-Kihara Memorial Foundation

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Little Tokyo Service Center

Omotesenke Domonkai So Cal Region USA

Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment

So-Phis

West Los Angeles United Methodist Church

Table Centerpiece

American Museum of Ceramic Art (AMOCA)

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Ohara School of Ikebana

Sogetsu School of Ikebana

Scott Yamabe, Southern California Flower Market

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Significant In-Kind Support

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Add'l Donations of \$500 & Above

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Dwight Otani

Craig Tomiyoshi

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DONORS

ありがとうございました!

Thank you to our 2022-2023 members and supporters.



\$100,000 to \$999,999

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Aratani Foundation

California Community Foundation
(L.A. Arts Recovery)

Kanai Foundation

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Government

California Arts Council

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\$15,000 to \$99,999

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Foundation

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ありがとうございました!

Thank you to our 2022-2023 members and supporters.

\$1,000 to \$2,499

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Gigi Yamada
Leonard Young

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Beam Suntory
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Individuals

Masa Endo

In Honor of

The Incredible JACCC Staff
Kenji Nakai
Chef Chris Ono & Derek Takeda
Rumiko Ota
Allison Pankow
Suzy Sasaki
Paul Takeda
David Yamahata

In Memory of

Ken & Cherri Hamanaka
Junichi Hirai
Philip Ito
Satoko & Toshio Kubota
Michael LaBeau
Ling Miao
Momo Nagano
Ernest Sasaki & Hugo Sase
Makoto Takeichi
Mikio Toda

We are deeply grateful to all donors.
We regret that due to limited space we cannot list everyone. If your name has been displayed incorrectly or inadvertently excluded, please accept our deepest apologies.

This list is based on cash receipts from the 2023 fiscal year (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023).

Last updated December 21, 2023

VOLUNTEERS

ありがとうございました!

Thank you to our 2022-2023 Volunteers.

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Gerald Fukui
Elaine Harada
Jennifer Hirano
Thomas Iino
Elaine Jackson
Atsuko Kanai
Susan Kashibawara
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David Yamahata
Stephanie Yamasaki
Kevin Zamora

ありがとうございました!

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Stephanie Romero,
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Celeste Shimoura Goedert, *Director of Sustainable Little Tokyo & Community Arts*

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Maria Magdalena Rodriguez, *Operations Assistant*

Francisco Soc Sut, *Operations Assistant*

* as of June 30, 2023



JAPANESE AMERICAN CULTURAL
& COMMUNITY CENTER

2022-2023

Thank You