General Volunteer Information

About the Projects

The Sadako Peace Projects include two initiatives: The Sadako Project, founded in 2014, and the Sadako Peace Cranes Project, founded in 2016. The projects are peace-building activities for older high school students and young adults at the Pearl Harbor National Memorial by former Punahou Japanese language faculty Hiromi Peterson and Naomi Hirano-Omizo. JASH was honored to take over administration of the projects in 2021 and host the volunteer days with the support of Pacific Historic Parks.

Through the Sadako Project, volunteers teach visitors to Pearl Harbor about the story of Sadako Sasaki, a young girl who was a victim of the Hiroshima atomic bombing and who would pass away from the effects of irradiation when she was twelve years old. In memory of Sadako’s thousand paper cranes, visitors are invited to fold peace cranes bearing their own hopes for world peace and to reflect on the importance of peace and reconciliation.

In the Sadako Peace Cranes Project, teachers in Japan are invited to share the story of Sadako, World War II, and the importance of peace with their students. As part of the lesson, Japanese students fold peace cranes containing their messages of peace, which are then shared with Pearl Harbor visitors. This initiative connects Japanese participants with others from around the globe through these small, beautiful, and meaningful paper cranes.

Through the Sadako Peace Projects, we hope to connect the people of Hawaii, Japan, and around the world to establish friendships and cross-cultural understanding, raise awareness of the consequences of war, and build a more peaceful future.

Volunteering Information

With the assistance of Pacific Historic Parks (PHP), JASH’s Sadako Peace Projects are held periodically at the Pearl Harbor National Memorial (PHNM) on Saturdays from 7:45AM-12:15PM throughout the academic year. As a volunteer, you will assist with set-up and clean-up, interact with visitors as a representative of either the Sadako Project or the Sadako Peace Cranes Project, and will have the opportunity to tour the memorial and park (pending availability) to learn more about the history of Pearl Harbor and World War II.

Volunteers MUST RSVP by submitting their volunteer forms (pgs. 3-5) at least ONE WEEK prior to the project date. Volunteers who are under 18 years of age must have a parent or guardian sign their forms.

Before their volunteer date, volunteers MUST view our video on “Peace Studies and the Sadako Sasaki Story,” produced for our virtual JASH Japan Day. This video includes the story of Sadako, information
about the Sadako Peace Projects, as well as instructions on how to fold an origami crane; all information volunteers will need to be able to share with PHNM visitors.

The present packet is for high school students/organizations. If you or your organization fall outside of this target group, please contact JASH Program Specialist Christianne Ono (cono@jashawaii.org) to discuss your interest in volunteering.

Due to space limitations, volunteer registration is first-come, first-serve. JASH and PHP are able to accommodate about 10~14 volunteers per project day. If you are interested in volunteering as a group, please contact Christianne to discuss and coordinate a day that will best accommodate your organization.

To learn more about the projects or view the calendar of upcoming volunteer days, please visit https://www.jashawaii.org/sadako-projects.

Materials for Volunteers:

1. HS Student Volunteer Application Packet (Applicant Information + Release Form)  
   OR  
   Chaperone/Adult Volunteer Application Packet (Applicant Information + Release Form)

Volunteers must submit their completed packet and RSVP their attendance at least ONE WEEK before their volunteer date.

2. Mandatory Viewing: JASH’s Japan Day Peace Studies Video

3. Mandatory Review: Online Quiz on the Peace Studies Video

All of the above documents and links will be available at https://www.jashawaii.org/sadako-projects.

Questions? Contact:

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