



# JASH Newsflash

A Summary of Recent Events of the Japan-America Society of Hawaii

Fall 2018

## APCC Children's Convention in Fukuoka

JASH's six Junior Ambassadors (JAs) attended the 30th Anniversary of the Asian-Pacific Children's Convention (APCC) in Fukuoka, Japan from July 11 - 23, 2018. The JAs spent six-months with JASH staff to train and prepare for their role as representatives from Hawaii. In addition to the six delegates and volunteer-chaperone **Sandy Takeda**, Bridge Club Hawaii President **Garrett Cho**, JASH President **Reyna Kaneko**, and Educational Program Director **Liz Barrera** also took part in the 30th Anniversary commemorative events in Fukuoka.

Now in its 30th year, the APCC has hosted over 11,000 students from all across the Asia-Pacific region and other countries across Europe and South America. The APCC has been hosted by the Fukuoka City government since 1989.



APCC delegates on their way to Fukuoka, Japan

The mission of the APCC is to promote international relationships among children so they will become adults with a sense of social responsibility for the world. In addition, the APCC is intent on helping to build a bridge between the people of Japan and the international community.

## Product of Japan and Hawaii



On October 24, 2018, JASH hosted a JASH Talk with **Mr. Paul Yonamine**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Central Pacific Financial Corp. and the Executive Chairman of its Subsidiary, Central Pacific Bank. **Mr. Yonamine** began his presentation speaking about his roots and growing up as the son of the famous athlete and baseball player **Mr. Wally Yonamine**.

Before returning to Hawaii, **Mr. Yonamine's** career had been dedicated to promoting the globalization of Japanese corporate management and operations. In his most

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## JASH Japan Wizards Competition Summer Trips

This summer, JASH gave six teams the opportunity to travel to Japan and experience first-hand the country and culture they had studied in preparation for the 2018 Japan Wizards Academic Team Competition (JWC). The JWC, held on February 24, 2018, gathered 135 students from 27 high schools to compete in two categories, Levels A and B, depending on their Japanese language proficiency. The four winning teams—Hawaii Baptist Academy Level A, King Kekaulike High School Level A, St. Andrew's Schools Level B,



Maui Preparatory Academy Level A. This prize, named the **Dr. Michael Leineweber** Trip Award after **Ms. Rolles'** fellow JASH Board member and friend who passed away in 2014, was awarded to one team from the top 20 scoring teams with over 100 points. The second highest scoring team in the Level B category from King Kekaulike High School was also awarded a trip from a generous anonymous donor. Thanks to Hawaiian Airlines, who sponsored the winning teams' air fares to Japan, students and their advisors explored a variety of landmarks in Japan while traveling through the regions of Tohoku, Kanto, Kansai, and Chugoku.



King Kekaulike Level A and Level B Team Members enjoying a traditional *teishoku* meal with their advisors.

The annual Atsuhiko Tateuchi Memorial Award for Outstanding Scholarship, sponsored by JASH Board Member **Mrs. Ina Tateuchi** in honor of her late husband, **Mr. Atsuhiko Tateuchi**, who was a strong supporter of JASH and the JWC, was awarded to the overall top-scoring team in the competition, Hawaii Baptist Academy, Level A team. This team received a total of 225 points out of a possible 300 points at the competition.

and Mililani High School Level B—received free trips to Japan for themselves and their advisors.

In addition, this year, a generous donation from JASH Board Member and Educational Committee Chair **Jean Rolles** gave one additional team the chance to go to Japan:



Hawaii Baptist Academy students and their advisor traveled on the Hello Kitty Shinkansen

## JASH Annual Dinner

On October 23rd, JASH hosted our 2018 Annual Dinner & Silent Auction at the Sheraton Waikiki featuring **Ms. Carole Hayashino** and the **Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii** and JASH Director **Dr. Dennis Ogawa** as our Bridge Awardees for the year. All three played a significant role in this year's Gannenmono Celebration in June commemorating the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants to Hawaii.



(R): Michelle Hirose, JASH Program Director, greeting JASH Board members (L-R): Mr. Howard Hamamoto, Ms. Barbara Tanabe who served as our MC for the program, and Ms. Betty Brow.



Some of our 2018 APCC delegates and their parents as they arrive.

One of the highlights of our event was a video showcasing JASH's Educational Programs: Japan-in-a-Suitcase; Asian-Pacific Children's Convention; Japan Day, and Japan Wizards Competition. There wasn't a dry eye in the house after a few dozen student-participants in this year's programs took the stage right after the video.

We also held a Silent Auction with many featured items such as fine wine, beautiful gift baskets, and travel packages which included airfare and hotel. Mahalo to the many generous donors who contributed items for our Silent Auction!

## Japan U.S. Military Program (JUMP) at the Japanese Consulate in Honolulu

JASH, in partnership with the National Association of Japan-America Societies (NAJAS) and the Sasakawa Peace Foundation-USA, hosted a gathering for Japanese military service members from the visiting JS Kashima and locally based service and civilian members of the U.S. military who have served in Japan. The Japan U.S. Military Program (JUMP) took place at the Official Residence of the Consul General of Japan in Honolulu on Monday, October 15, 2018.



JUMP connects past and present service members, families, and government civilians who have served in Japan. The program provides a powerful foundation for sustaining the solid alliance and relationship that exists between the U.S. and Japan.



Special thanks to **Consul General Koichi Ito** and **Mrs. Ito** for graciously hosting the event at their residence; **Peter Kelley**, President of NAJAS; and **Chris Rodeman**, Director of JUMP and Research Fellow at the Sasakawa Peace Foundation for attending and making this event possible



## Product of Japan and Hawaii

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most recent role, **Mr. Yonamine** was the Executive Chairman of GCA Corporation, Japan.

Until March 2017, **Mr. Yonamine** was the President and Country General Manager of IBM Japan, Ltd. During his tenure at IBM Japan, **Mr. Yonamine** was credited with the introduction and acceleration of the use of AI or Artificial Intelligence by Japanese businesses. Prior to IBM, **Mr. Yonamine** founded the first management consulting firm for Hitachi, Ltd., Hitachi Consulting Co., Ltd, and served as Chairman of BearingPoint Asia Pacific and President of KPMG Consulting Japan.

### Upcoming Events:

**Japan Day  
November 29, 2018**

Japan Day is JASH's longest running educational program celebrating its 26th year. High school and middle school students are invited to learn about Japanese cultural activities such as Bon Dance, Soroban (abacus), Origami, Ikebana, Karate, Tea Ceremony and other activities.

**JASH Bonenkai  
December 5, 2018, 5-8pm**

Join us as we present a traditional year-end celebration at Odori-ko restaurant.

*Bonenkai 2018*



**Tomodachi Christmas Tea  
December 12, 2018**

Our annual Tomodachi Christmas Tea will be held at Bakery & Table restaurant again this year. Join us for warm camaraderie, fun and holiday cheer!