

# 姉妹都市

## SEATTLE-KOBE SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION

Volume 4, Issue 1

Our Fifth Decade of Friendship

April 2000



### Kimono Dress-Up Booth at the 2000 Cherry Blossom Festival is a Success!

The 25th Annual Cherry Blossom Festival took place on April 21-23 at the Seattle Center, and this year celebrated the Kinki District,

which includes Seattle's sister city of Kobe and Washington State's sister state of Hyogo Prefecture. SKSCA had its annual Kimono and Yukata Dress-Up Booth, this year supported by the **Japan-America Society of the State of Washington**. A big thank you to **Akiko Kawai** and **Mayumi Hiroe** of the Japan-America Society, **Iku Skeels** of the **International Cross-Cultural Committee**, **Bruce Robb**, **Maiyim Baron**, **Marcy Edwards** and all of our dedicated booth volunteers!

This year, our booth also provided visitors with information about some sports-related sister city ties: the Sister Baseball Club relationship between the **Seattle Mariners** and the **Kobe Orix Blue Wave** and soccer exchanges between the **Seattle Sounders** and **Vissel Kobe**.

Two lectures about Kobe were also held at the Festival, "Five Years After the Kobe Earthquake - What Can Seattle Learn from the Ex-

periences of the Kobe - Hanshin Earthquake," organized by **Koichi Kobayashi**, and "Kobe People's Spirit" with speaker **Ginn Kitaoka** of the **Hyogo Business and Cultural Center**. Thanks to **Aki Takeda** of the **Consulate General of Japan** for his work on the lecture series.

SKSCA salutes the organizers and many faithful volunteers of the annual **Cherry Blossom and Japanese**

**Cultural Festival**, which this year celebrated its 25th year!! SKSCA is proud to be a part of the festivities every year and we look forward to many more years of giving kids and adults alike a chance to dress up in kimono!



**THANK YOU!!**

### A Big "Thank You" to our Corporate Sponsors!!

*We greatly appreciate the support of the following businesses and organizations!*

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## Message from the Chair

*Karin Zaugg*

Happy Spring! I hope you are enjoying the fine weather. April always brings change, particularly in Japan, as a new school year starts, and government and business offices have their annual staff changes. SKSCA bids a fond farewell to **To-shihiko Ono**, his wife **Yukari**, and sons **Taro** and **Shin**, as they travel back to Kobe. Mr. Ono was here for 3 years, serving as the Director of the Kobe Trade Information Office, and will be returning to work in the International Department of the City of Kobe. The new Director, **Takaaki Matsuda**, is now here in Seattle, and will be working with Assistant Director **Sandy Weiss** to promote business ties with the Kobe region. Mr. Matsuda has been a Manager in the International Department in the City of Kobe for many years. Having already had a chance to work with him while I was in Kobe, I look forward to working with him again during his stay in Seattle!

Sadly this April also marked the passing of **Former Mayor Tatsuo Miyazaki**. He passed away on February 22, 2000, and a city-wide memorial service was held for him on April 6. During his 20 years as mayor he worked tirelessly to promote connections between Kobe and Seattle. His presence and energy will be missed, but not

## Board of Directors

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forgotten.

Some of the individuals who have been traveling back and forth between our two cities are mentioned in our "Did You Know?" column, but I am sure there are many more. If you have information about an exchange program or visit between our two cities, please let us know about it.

As always, we appreciate your donations to SKSCA which help us host guests from Kobe and keep all of you informed about our active sister city relationship.

We look forward to planning some fun membership events for the summer and fall, such as our annual Kobe Day at the Mariners, so please watch for upcoming event announcements.

Thank you for your support!

## Did you Know???

The **Seattle International Children's Festival** will be held on May 15-20 at the Seattle Center. The annual six-day extravaganza takes place on Seattle Center grounds and features professional performers from around the world - Africa, Europe, Asia, Australia, and the Americas. For info and tickets call **206-684-7346** or visit [www.seattleinternational.org](http://www.seattleinternational.org).



**Meghan Barstow** of the non-profit exchange organization **Northwest Student Exchange (NWSE)** recently traveled to the Kobe area and visited with **Mr. Maeda** and other English teachers at Kobe's **Fukiai High School** and **Ono High School**, looking for schools to partner with for increased student exchanges. She is working with students and schools in the greater Seattle area such as Garfield, Chief Sealth, Bellevue and Mount Lake Terrace High School. For more information about NWSE, please contact Meghan at [mbarstow@nwse.com](mailto:mbarstow@nwse.com) or visit [www.nwse.com](http://www.nwse.com)

The **Sister Cities International Annual Conference** will be held on June 28 - July 1 in Denver, Colorado this year. The theme for the conference is 'A Mile High for Peace.' For information contact **Deanita**

**Holland**, Conference Director, at **202-347-8635** or [dholland@sister-cities.org](mailto:dholland@sister-cities.org).

The **Garfield High School Orchestra**, conducted by **Marcus Tsutakawa**, will be going on an 11-day Japan tour this summer. Though the group will not be able to visit Kobe on this trip (they had a joint concert with the Kobe Philharmonic in 1993), they have performances planned in locations including Matsumoto, Takatsuki, and the Kurashiki Tivoli Garden.



The orchestra will perform a "Bon Voyage" Concert at Meany Hall on June 7 at 7:30 p.m. This should be a great concert, as the orchestra will perform many of the pieces they will play in Japan. They would love to have the public attend this send off event. For ticket information, call **Leslie Linsley** at **206-281-8664**.



**Former Mayor Tatsuo Miyazaki** passed away on February 22, 2000, and a city-wide memorial service was held for him on April 6. He served as Mayor of Kobe from November 1969 to November 1989, and worked tirelessly for increased relations between Kobe and Seattle. The strong sister city relationship we enjoy today is part of his legacy.



# What's Happening...

## ... In Seattle

**Toshihiko Ono**, Director of the **Kobe Trade Information Office** has been called back to Kobe after working for three years in Kobe's branch office here in Seattle developing business relations and ties of friendship between Kobe and Seattle. An informal farewell gathering was held for Mr. Ono, his wife **Yukari**, and his two sons, **Taro** and **Shin**, at the Columbia Tower Club on April 11. (A surprise appearance was made by our Seattle representative in Kobe, **Andy Frank**, who happened to be visiting Seattle last month!) Mr. Ono expressed his appreciation to all those in the Seattle community who made him and his family feel at home here, and said that they had all come to see Seattle as their "daini-no-furusato" - their second hometown.



The SKSCA presented Mr. Ono with a Mariners jersey with his name on the back and the number 00 for the year 2000. His wife and sons were also given Mariners shirts. Mr. Ono has been called back to Kobe to work as a Manager in the city's International Division, so we are sure to have some opportunities to work with him again in the future.

Thank you, Mr. Ono, for all of your hard work on behalf of the City of Kobe and for contributing so much to the relationship between our two cities!! We wish you the best on your journey back to Kobe!

## Welcome!



## New KTIO Director Takaaki Matsuda

Replacing Mr. Ono at the Kobe Trade and Information Office is Mr. **Takaaki Matsuda**. Formerly a manager in the City of Kobe's International Division, Mr. Matsuda has been with the City of Kobe for over 20 years, and his expertise lies in the trade and international arenas. He holds an MBA from the University of Rochester and a law degree from Kyoto University. His wife, Yoko Matsuda, is currently employed as an Assistant Professor at the Kobe University of Commerce and instructs foreign students in the Japanese language. Given her work situation, current plans have her moving to Seattle in April, 2001. Welcome to Seattle, Matsuda-san!!

**If you or someone you know is traveling to Kobe or working on a project involving Kobe, please let us know!**



## ...This Summer

The **Foundation for International Understanding Through Students (FIUTS)**, a nonprofit arm of the University of Washington, hosts a group of 30 - 8th graders from Kobe each summer for two weeks as part of its special Language and Cultural Exchange Programs. Part of their stay involves a weekend homestay with a local household, and community members interested in serving as host families are recruited all year round. FIUTS is now looking for families that would be willing to host a student this summer. The dates for the homestay are the **evening of August 4 through the evening of August 6**. The weekend kicks off with a barbeque hosted on campus, after which your weekend with your homestay student is up to you!

For more information on hosting a student, please contact **Anita Verna Crofts** at the FIUTS office, **206-543-0735** or by e-mail, **homestay@fiuts.org**.

You can also check out the FIUTS web site at **www.fiuts.org**.

**Homestay Host Opportunity!**

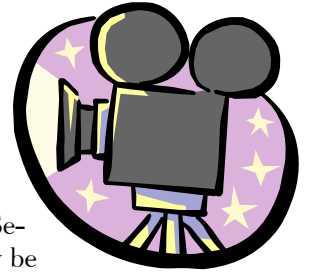


The **Foundation for International Understanding Through Students (FIUTS)** promotes mutual understanding between the international community at the University of Washington and the people of the Pacific Northwest.



# Passport to the World Film Festival

Opening Gala: Thursday, May 25, 2000  
Film Festival Runs May 25 - June 10



This year's Seattle International Film Festival will present a special mini-festival offering screenings of films from Seattle's 21 sister cities. Representatives from all 21 of the sister city associations have been working on this wonderful joint effort for the millennium. There will be a Gala Opening Event on Thursday, May 25, 2000 at the Paramount Theater. Tickets are \$15 and include a screening of the Hungarian Film "Sunshine" and a special opening reception (see ticket ordering information below).



The Japanese film "Kikujiro" by **Take-shi Kitano** will have two screenings, Saturday 6/3 at 6:30 p.m. at the Egyptian Theatre and Tuesday 6/6 at 5:00 p.m. at the Cinerama. "Kikujiro" is the only film that is part of the Passport portion of SIFF. However, there are a number of other Japanese films at the festival (the most they've ever had!!):

- "Audition" by Takashi Miike (6/8 and 6/11)
- "The Black House" by Yoshimitsu Morita (5/24 & 27)
- "The Crossing" by Yoichi Higashi (6/4 and 6/7)
- "The Frame" (5/26 and 5/31)
- "M/Other" by Suwa Nobuhiro (5/28 and 6/3)
- "Monday" by Sabu, (6/5 and 6/10)
- "Shikoku" by Shunichi Nagasaki (5/20 and 5/22)
- "Spellbound" by Masato Harada (6/6 and 6/11)

"When the Rain Lifts" by Takashi Koizumi (5/27 & 28)

The complete SIFF 2000 schedule for all films including Passport to the World were distributed in the Seattle Times on May 9. (Copies may be found at participating Starbucks locations).

If you want to put together a group sale of 20 or more people, contact **Karen Rippel**, Corporate and Foundation Relations Manager for Cinema Seattle/Seattle International Film Festival at **206-464-5830**. There will not be any private screenings arranged for specific sister city groups.

If you would like to volunteer to help with this exciting event, please contact **Karin Zaugg** at **206-325-6091** or [karin\\_zaugg@hotmail.com](mailto:karin_zaugg@hotmail.com) to sign up!

### Tickets and information

The SIFF Main Box Office is located at the Broadway Performance Hall (1625 Broadway, Seattle). An outlet for advance single tickets is located at Pacific Place, at the concierge desk on the ground floor. Tickets are available starting May 9. To purchase tickets by phone call **206-324-9996** from May 9. For additional festival information please phone our information line at **206-324-9997**. To purchase tickets over the Internet or for additional information, visit [www.seattlefilm.com](http://www.seattlefilm.com).



## Upcoming Events



- May 15-20** Seattle International Children's Festival at the Seattle Center.
- May 25- June 10** Sister Cities Cinema Festival (part of the Seattle International Film Festival).
- June 28 - July 1** Sister Cities International Annual Conference in Denver, Colorado.
- August** Kobe Day at the Mariners / US-Japan Young Leaders Conference
- September 23-24** The **Eastside Nihon Matsuri Association's Fall Festival** will be held at the Bellevue Community College Campus. Enjoy the cultural art exhibits and performing arts demonstrations, martial arts, and this year's new addition, *Japanese Food Booths!* For information or to find out about volunteering, visit [www.enma.org](http://www.enma.org) or call **425-861-9109**.

# CORPORATE MEMBER PROFILE

Since its inception in 1974 as a part of the old North American Soccer League (NASL), the Seattle Sounders have achieved unrivaled success. The Sounders have the Northwest's only back-to-back championships in professional sports history, winning the 1995 and 1996 A-League Championships.

Currently, the Sounders play at Seattle Memorial Stadium. The team has been known for its long history of community involvement in the Puget Sound region.

Seattle Sounders team member **Kei Kinoshita** is the first Japanese player to ever play professional soccer in the U.S. Kei was first noticed by the Seattle Sounders when he played for Vissel Kobe in the J-League from 1994 to 1996, during which time he tallied 63 points. Kei participated in the Seattle-Kobe Earthquake Benefit Matches in 1995 and 1996, which matched Vissel Kobe against the Sounders. Kei eventually landed a spot with the Sounders in 1998. After playing the 1998 season and then taking a year away from the team, he was signed as a free agent in March 2000. He has played as a pro for five years, two of which have been for Seattle.

Kei is a midfielder, who plays on the wings on

either the left or the right side. He is a versatile, speedy player and has spent time this season in the forward and defender positions. Kei is also active in the Seattle community with charitable and other worthy social efforts.

For team and ticket information, you can visit the Sounders web site at <http://SeattleSounders.net/> or you can call 1-800-796-KICK or 206-622-3415.



## 2000 Schedule Highlights

May 7	5pm	Opening Night 2000
May 27	7pm	Arena Sports Night
June 16	7pm	Soccer Golf Night
June 28	7pm	Sounders/Janjua Soccer Ball Night
July 1	7pm	Canada Day UAL Vacation Day
July 8	7pm	Championship Rematch
July 15	7pm	Nike Soccer/ Seattle Cup Night
July 22	7pm	Mascot Game!
August 6	7pm	Werder Bremen Night
August 12	7pm	NikeTown Women's Night
August 18	7pm	Tully's Trading Card Night
August 26	7pm	WSYSA Parade of Future Stars

YMCA of Greater Seattle was honored by the participation of **Tohru Yamaguchi**, General Secretary of the Kobe YMCA, in dedication ceremonies honoring the complete renovation of the Downtown Seattle YMCA. More than 300 community leaders and other YMCA supporters gathered in the Y's new gymnasium on Monday, April 3, 2000 to celebrate the year-long, \$15 million undertaking to renovate and expand the Y's landmark

1930s facility in the heart of downtown Seattle.

The downtown project continues the YMCA's 124-year tradition of service to the Seattle community. "Although Seattle's downtown has grown and changed dramatically, the presence of the YMCA has remained constant," said **Neil Nicoll**, President of the YMCA of Greater Seattle. "The community's support of our efforts makes it possible for the YMCA to both preserve its downtown presence and continue to provide easy access for youth." The downtown renovation is one of six projects included in the Y's successful "Step Up For Kids" Capital Campaign, which has raised \$15.6 million in pledges for new tools to serve youth and families in the growing Seattle region.



## Judo Exhibition

A Judo group from **Konan University** in the Kobe performed an exhibition of Judo at the **Seattle Judo Dojo** in the International District on March 13th. They also had a courtesy



**Clifford Traisman**, Director of the Office of Intergovernmental Relations, City of Seattle, welcomes the Konan University Judo Delegation Leader **Iku Nagai** on March 13, 2000, at Seattle City Hall.



call at Seattle City Hall.

Judo group members **Yoko Hirohata**, **Akiyoshi Yamashita**, and **Takaaki Achiha**.



YMCA of Greater Seattle President **Neil Nicoll** accepts congratulations from Kobe YMCA General Secretary **Tohru Yamaguchi** at the dedication of the completely renovated Downtown Seattle YMCA.

# New Membership/Membership Renewal/Volunteer Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address \_\_\_\_\_

PO Box \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose your mailing label if there are any changes. Thank you!!

SKSCA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Membership dues are a tax deductible donation.

**Individual/Family: \$20 Senior/Student: \$10 Corporate: \$100**

\_\_\_\_\_ I am a **current** member renewing my dues and I have enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am a **new** member and I have enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in volunteer opportunities. Please send me more information.

Please mail this form and a check to:

SKSCA c/o Fred Taucher, Corporate Computer Inc., 11300 25th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98125



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