

Application Submittal Checklist

The following items are required for submittal of the grant application. Please verify and check off that the items have been included in the application packet.

- 1) Certificate of Good Standing (If the Applicant is an Organization)
- 2) Declaration Statement
- 3) Verify that grant shall be used for a public purpose
- 4) Background and Summary
- 5) Service Summary and Outcomes
- 6) Budget
 - a) Budget request by source of funds (Attached)
 - b) Personnel salaries and wages (Attached)
 - c) Equipment and motor vehicles (Attached)
 - d) Capital project details (Attached)
 - e) Government contracts, grants, and grants in aid (Attached)
- 7) Experience and Capability
- 8) Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing



AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

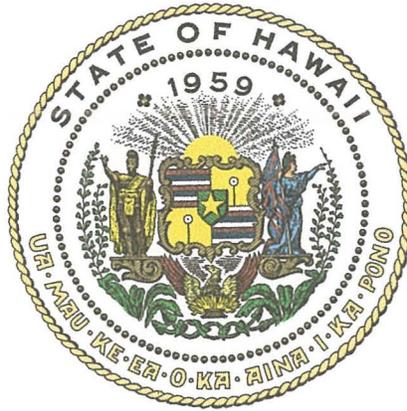
Lynn Heirakaji

PRINT NAME AND TITLE

NLL President

1/14/2020

DATE



Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

I, the undersigned Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs of the State of Hawaii, do hereby certify that

NISEI VETERANS LEGACY CENTER, INC.

was incorporated under the laws of Hawaii on 02/24/2012 ; that it is an existing nonprofit corporation; and that, as far as the records of this Department reveal, has complied with all of the provisions of the Hawaii Nonprofit Corporations Act; regulating domestic nonprofit corporations.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, at Honolulu, Hawaii.

Dated: January 04, 2020

Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs



**DECLARATION STATEMENT OF
APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS PURSUANT TO
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISIED STATUTES**

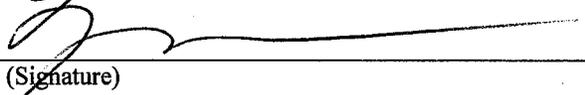
The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies the following:

- 1) The applicant meets and will comply with all of the following standards for the award of grants pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is licensed or accredited, in accordance with federal, state, or county statutes, rules, or ordinances, to conduct the activities or provide the services for which a grant is awarded;
 - b) Complies with all applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability;
 - c) Agrees not to use state funds for entertainment or lobbying activities; and
 - d) Allows the state agency to which funds for the grant were appropriated for expenditure, legislative committees and their staff, and the auditor full access to their records, reports, files, and other related documents and information for purposes of monitoring, measuring the effectiveness, and ensuring the proper expenditure of the grant.
- 2) If the applicant is an organization, the applicant meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is incorporated under the laws of the State; and
 - b) Has bylaws or policies that describe the manner in which the activities or services for which a grant is awarded shall be conducted or provided.
- 3) If the applicant is a non-profit organization, it meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is determined and designated to be a non-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service; and
 - b) Has a governing board whose members have no material conflict of interest and serve without compensation.

Pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for grants used for the acquisition of land, when the organization discontinues the activities or services on the land acquired for which the grant was awarded and disposes of the land in fee simple or by lease, the organization shall negotiate with the expending agency for a lump sum or installment repayment to the State of the amount of the grant used for the acquisition of the land.

Further, the undersigned authorized representative certifies that this statement is true and correct to the best of the applicant's knowledge.

Nisei Veterans Legacy, Inc.
(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)


(Signature) 1/15/2020
(Date)

Lynn Heirakuji
(Typed Name) President
(Title)

Application for Grants

If any item is not applicable to the request, the applicant should enter "not applicable".

I. Certification – Please attach immediately after cover page

1. Certificate of Good Standing (If the Applicant is an Organization)

If the applicant is an organization, the applicant shall submit one (1) copy of a certificate of good standing from the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs that is dated no earlier than December 1, 2019. (See Attachment A)

2. Declaration Statement

The applicant shall submit a declaration statement affirming its compliance with Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes. (See Attachment B)

3. Public Purpose

The applicant shall specify whether the grant will be used for a public purpose pursuant to Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The Nisei Veterans Legacy (NVL) embodies the idea that the incredible stories of sacrifices and acts of heroism and patriotism demonstrated by the Americans of Japanese Ancestry (AJA) during the course of World War II (WWII) as well as their significant contributions to our post-war society, need to be preserved, protected and promoted by and for the next generations.

We hope that our promotion of community awareness of the values of good citizenship, such as loyalty, gratitude and humility, exemplified by the Nisei veterans, will lead to a greater sense of civic responsibility among these generations.

We believe these tenets comprise a public purpose in accordance with Section 42F-102, HRS.

II. Background and Summary

This section shall clearly and concisely summarize and highlight the contents of the request in such a way as to provide the State Legislature with a broad understanding of the request. Please include the following:

1. A brief description of the applicant's background;

The Nisei Veterans Legacy Center, Inc. (dba Nisei Veterans Legacy) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization formed in 2012. Our membership primarily consists of descendants of the Nisei (second-generation AJA) soldiers of WWII, who were initially discriminated against and declared “enemy aliens” and prohibited from serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Once allowed to serve in segregated all-Japanese American units, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team (RCT) went on to become the most highly decorated unit in American military history for its size and length of service. The men of the Military Intelligence Service are credited with shortening the Pacific war and saving many American lives by translating captured Japanese information that provided the U.S. forces superior intelligence on the enemy’s plans.

Upon returning from the war, the Nisei veterans were determined to change the social, economic, and political environment of Hawaii to become a more democratic and fair society. Young people growing up in Hawaii today owe much to their hard work and sacrifices.

Our mission is to preserve and promulgate the history and story of the Nisei soldiers to the general public. We are the only such educational organization in Hawaii that promotes the stories and legacy of all the Nisei Army units of WWII on a state-wide basis. We believe that all of the men who served their country during the war to prove their loyalty as Americans deserve to be remembered for their service and sacrifice.

2. The goals and objectives related to the request;

We are committed to ensuring that future generations learn about Hawaii’s Nisei soldiers who served gallantly during WWII in the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd RCT, the Military Intelligence Service and the 1399 Engineer Construction Battalion.

We are committed to sharing their remarkable life stories, from plantation villages to military service, and how they were a driving force behind Statehood and the re-shaping of our islands into the vibrant state it is today. Our primary audiences are the younger generations of Hawaii, and Japanese visitors and students. However, through our website and exhibits we also intend to reach national and global audiences.

These are our aspirations.

3. The public purpose and need to be served;

We believe that the stories of the incredible sacrifices made by the AJA during the course of WWII as well as their significant contributions to our post-war society need to be preserved and promoted, especially here in Hawaii. We also hope that a greater sense of civic responsibility will transpire by promoting community awareness of the values of good citizenship, such as loyalty, service, gratitude and humility, exemplified by the Nisei soldiers.

As the Nisei generation passes on, it is increasingly important that its history and stories be kept alive for future generations of young people in Hawaii and the world.

4. Describe the target population to be served; and

The NVL, through our traveling exhibits had initially been targeting Hawaii residents for our educational programs. Our target audience is the general public but with a special focus on the younger generations so that they can appreciate the rights and freedoms that were attained by the hard work and sacrifices of the Nisei soldiers.

Recently, we have expanded our outreach through a significant investment in a permanent airport exhibit located inside the Interisland Terminal of the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport. The expansive historical exhibit documents the wartime and post war contributions of the Nisei veterans through text, photographs, and artifacts.

Airport officials estimate that as many as 3 million travelers per year walk through the area where our exhibit is located and this is one of the main reasons the State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation, Airports Division, partnered with the NVL on this effort.

In addition, we installed a kiosk exhibit on the Nisei Army units of WWII in Japanese near the Japan Air Lines gates. We accomplished this with support from local Japanese-owned businesses and the Japanese Consulate of Honolulu.

Therefore, many Japanese visitors as well as local residents are exposed to the history and legacy of the Nisei soldiers.

We are also continuing to improve and develop our interactive website to allow even greater access to the tremendous stories of sacrifice of our Nisei veterans. The website has made it possible for users world-wide to access the information about the history of the Nisei soldiers. We are in the process of adding Japanese translation to the website content to make the information available to the Japanese audience. We believe that this will contribute to increased tourism and interactions between Japanese visitors and the local community.

Since December 2016 when President Obama and Prime Minister Abe held the Joint Statement Ceremony at Pearl Harbor, Japanese visitation to Pearl Harbor has steadily risen. We have made numerous presentations to Japanese students coming to Hawaii for educational and cultural exchange over the past several years.

5. Describe the geographic coverage.

While our past efforts have targeted geographic locations primarily within the State of Hawaii with traveling exhibits on Oahu, Maui, Hawaii and Kauai, we have been

expanding our geographic outreach. In 2017 and 2018, we displayed the Hawaii Nikkei Legacy Exhibit in over 10 cities throughout Japan.

The exhibit tour focused on those Japanese prefectures that sent the majority of immigrants to Hawaii known as the Kanyaku Imin, or contractor immigrants.

Through this experience, we have learned about the high level of interest in the Nisei soldier story among the Japanese and are working to increase their awareness of this important piece of Hawaii's history. To make the information more accessible to the general Japanese public we are including Japanese translations of our historical information on our website and are continuing to deepen our relationships with Japan oriented entities such as the Japanese Consulate of Hawaii, and Hawaii Tourism Japan (HTJ).

We also work with other Nisei veterans' organizations across the country on collaborations for educational functions like development of high school curriculum and exhibit materials for the new National Museum of the U.S. Army. Thus, we strive to serve as a state-wide clearinghouse for national efforts to preserve the Nisei soldier legacy.

III. Service Summary and Outcomes

The Service Summary shall include a detailed discussion of the applicant's approach to the request. The applicant shall clearly and concisely specify the results, outcomes, and measures of effectiveness from this request. The applicant shall:

1. Describe the scope of work, tasks and responsibilities;
 - a. The NVL conducts educational programs primarily via permanent and travelling exhibits, presentations, social media such as Instagram and our website.

We have been planning a permanent exhibit on the Nisei soldiers at the Maui International Airport for a couple of years. The project will consist of a high-quality wooden cabinet that will frame educational poster panels on the Nisei soldiers.

The Department of Transportation Airports Division has provided a tentative location for this exhibit but a final decision is still to be determined. This exhibit will be similar to the kiosk exhibit at the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport (near the Japan Air Lines gates).

In 2018 and 2019, the NVL displayed the Hawaii Nikkei Legacy Exhibit (HNLE) in several locations around the State, see details at Section V. Experience and Capability. The HNLE is a 26-panel photographic traveling exhibit that features the Nisei soldier story and includes information on their post war contributions, as well as, the initial Japanese immigration to Hawaii. We partner with the Japanese Consulate of Honolulu to identify venues, publicize the showing, and do set-up and

take down of the exhibit. Guided tours are also offered to the public interested in learning more details about the Nisei soldiers.

We enjoyed successful showings at the Waimalu Shopping Center, and the Pearl City and Kaimuki Public Libraries in 2019. In 2020, we will explore the showing the exhibit at other public libraries on Oahu in addition to the Honolulu Festival in March.

We will continue to update, refresh, and maintain our existing fixed and traveling exhibits which may include expanding and refining our speakers bureau.

- b. We will be continuing our educational outreach presentations to local students, visiting Japanese students and various community and military organizations. Details of presentations over the past few years are listed at Section V. Experience and Capability.
- c. In 2020 we are planning the following additions to the NVLC Hawaii website:
 - Provide more Japanese language translated webpages that are focused on historical information. We have found that there is a large interest in Japan regarding Hawaii and its citizens of Japanese ancestry. Providing more of our webpages in the Japanese language will continue to promote goodwill and cross-cultural values between Japan and the United States.
 - We anticipate working in collaboration with the Scholarship program of the Sons and Daughters of the 442nd RCT to create Event Stories for the AJA Historical Timeline Events and add them to our website in both English and Japanese.
 - Complete the "522 Story" video about the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion (FAB) and its rescue of Jewish prisoners at the end of WWII and make it available on our website. It was started in 2019 and the video is targeted at middle school children and their teachers and parents. It describes the formation of the all-Nisei 442nd RCT and the special achievements of the 522nd FAB.
- d. Our major event is an annual memorial service to honor the Nisei soldiers, currently referred to as the Joint Memorial Service. The planning committee and NVL board are considering renaming the event since it is not readily recognizable to the general public.

The service is held every year on the last Sunday of September. This date symbolizes the sacrifices made by the Nisei soldiers during World War II. Sergeant Shigeo Joseph "Joe" Takata was the first Nisei soldier killed in action on September 29, 1943 in Italy. He was awarded a Distinguished Service Cross for his actions in combat. You can find details on the service at Section V. Experience and Capability.

- e. In 2019, we helped sponsor a special education event in conjunction with the MIS Veterans Club of Hawaii that featured a dramatic presentation on the experience of people during WWII along with a presentation by author Tom Coffman on the contributions of the Nisei soldiers. Over 100 people attended the event at the 100th Infantry Battalion Clubhouse.

In 2020, we are anticipating sponsoring or co-hosting other special education events for the general public and possibly school or military groups.

- f. Scholarship Program (Proposed) - The NVL is working with the Sons and Daughters of the 442nd RCT to develop a scholarship program to promote the achievements and values of the Nisei soldiers. Details are still in development.
- g. National History Day – Each Spring, students around the State and Nation develop projects that reflect each year’s designated values or achievements in history. On an ongoing basis, the NVL assists students with reference information and arranging interviews with Nisei soldiers.
- h. We will continue to finalize and execute against our NVL marketing plan which will identify our core product and status in the community, target affinity groups, specify promotional goals and measurements, describe strategies for achieving those goals, and maximize results by integrating efforts with other NVL elements. The plan will also identify budget and resource needs, as well as, an implementation plan and schedule.
- i. New NLV office space – Beginning in March 2019, the NVL entered into a new 3-year lease with the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii to rent 226 sf of office space. Prior to entering into this lease, the NVL was using no-cost office space at One Kalakaua Senior Living and a State office to hold meetings. The NVL also used the 100th Infantry Battalion Clubhouse for meetings but for a small fee. NVL costs include rent as well as office equipment and supplies acquisition and maintenance.

- 2. Provide a projected annual timeline for accomplishing the results or outcomes of the service;

For our travelling exhibits and presentations, they are scheduled throughout the year as opportunities arise. The HNLE has been shown for the past two years at the Honolulu Festival in March and will again be shown there this year.

Group presentations already scheduled in 2020 include the Rainbow Kids Foundation in March and the Usa City, Japan student group in August. The Rainbow Kids Foundation brings students from Fukushima, Japan who were orphaned by the 2011 Earthquake and Tsunami. The students spend a week on Oahu experiencing educational and cultural exchanges.

Usa City was the home of a Japanese Navy aviation training base during WWII and its squadron was the lead squadron during the attack on Pearl Harbor. Usa City middle

school students have been coming to Oahu for the past three years to learn about Pearl Harbor from the American perspective. They spend the night on the USS MISSOURI and learn about the surrender ceremony at the end of the war.

In addition, the Hawaii Trail and Mountain Club asked President Lynn Heirakuji to conduct a presentation which is scheduled for February. Lynn conducted a Veterans Day presentation on the Nisei soldier story for the residents of the Kahala Nui facility last year and was asked to return for a repeat presentation in 2020.

Once the final location is confirmed for the Maui International Airport permanent display, we anticipate six to nine months to produce and install the exhibit.

Website improvements have been coordinated with our consultant, Upspring Media, and have been scheduled over the year.

Refreshing, updating and maintenance of exhibits occurs throughout the year on an as needed basis.

During 2020, we anticipate finalizing and executing against the NVL marketing plan.

3. Describe its quality assurance and evaluation plans for the request. Specify how the applicant plans to monitor, evaluate, and improve their results; and

As a primarily educational organization, the NVL is in a constant state of quality assurance and self-evaluation. We believe that in order to have credibility our website, presentations and exhibits require accuracy and appropriate reference citations.

We collaborate with other legacy organizations such as Densho in Seattle and the Go For Broke National Education Center in Los Angeles to develop applicable standards of reference citation to enable researchers to use information and data provided on our website.

We have utilized a collaborative approach to create the HNLE, which has toured extensively in Japan and Hawaii to wide acclaim. We teamed with the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii and the Japan-America Society of Hawaii and received sponsor support from Hawaii Tourism Japan. This project demonstrates our ability to work with other organizations to achieve a common goal.

We also encourage feedback from the public and users of our information on how we can improve the quality of our offerings as well as ease of access. While touring the HNLE around the State, we offered feedback forms produced in conjunction with the Japanese Consulate of Honolulu to obtain inputs from the public as well as any questions for additional follow-up.

Questions and inquiries from our website are referred to the proper NVL individual for response. Any critiques or suggestion for improvement are incorporated in the website improvement plan.

We plan to conduct our second NVL Advisors Briefing in 2020 during which we solicit feedback and guidance on our accomplishments and objectives. We also incorporate accepted recommendations into our plans moving forward.

4. List the measure(s) of effectiveness that will be reported to the State agency through which grant funds are appropriated (the expending agency). The measure(s) will provide a standard and objective way for the State to assess the program's achievement or accomplishment. Please note that if the level of appropriation differs from the amount included in this application that the measure(s) of effectiveness will need to be updated and transmitted to the expending agency.

We have instituted a survey feedback tool at our traveling exhibits which will allow us to better monitor how that portion of our activities are progressing. A summary of sample comments can be included in our progress reports. We can also provide visitor estimates to help assess the popularity of the exhibits.

We are also currently exploring ways in which we can more effectively track the number of interactions occurring at our newly opened permanent exhibit at the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport, Interisland Terminal.

We can also obtain feedback from venue exhibitors such as the public libraries on the feedback provided by their clients.

In 2018, we initiated an Instagram account through which we highlight significant events or historically significant dates in the Nisei soldier timeline. The number of subscribers can be used as a metric of the level of interest in our information.

All website visits and interactions are recorded and we are able to accurately track the number of visits to our website. We believe this data will be extremely helpful in determining where we should extend outreach efforts. These data can be reported to the expending agency.

As each new capability or section is completed, it is entered on a Beta Testing site for our collaboration team to review and comment. Once all initial comments are received, changes are incorporated then put on the live website.

One of our major website efforts includes expanding the Japanese translations. These translations are made locally, then sent out to the Japanese Overseas Migration Museum in Yokohama for review of the language and factual content. This is an arduous but necessary process since the translation process is so difficult.

The NVL currently prepares bi-annual newsletters outlining our achievements during the year. Our reports to the expending agency can include these newsletters which provide an overview of our educational and collaboration activities. A copy of the latest newsletter is attached.

IV. Financial

Budget

1. The applicant shall submit a budget utilizing the enclosed budget forms as applicable, to detail the cost of the request.
 - a. Budget request by source of funds (attached)
 - b. Personnel salaries and wages (attached)
 - c. Equipment and motor vehicles (attached)
 - d. Capital project details (attached)
 - e. Government contracts, grants, and grants in aid (attached)

2. The applicant shall provide its anticipated quarterly funding requests for the fiscal year 2021.

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total Grant
\$50,000	\$50,000	\$25,000	\$25,000	\$150,000

3. The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are seeking for fiscal year 2021.

We typically solicit donations from the general public and associated Japanese and AJA organizations throughout the year along with fundraising activities through events and via the website.

4. The applicant shall provide a listing of all state and federal tax credits it has been granted within the prior three years. Additionally, the applicant shall provide a listing of all state and federal tax credits they have applied for or anticipate applying for pertaining to any capital project, if applicable.

The NVL has neither applied for nor does it intend to apply for any tax credits.

5. The applicant shall provide a listing of all federal, state, and county government contracts, grants, and grants in aid it has been granted within the prior three years and will be receiving for fiscal year 2021 for program funding.

In 2016, the NVL applied for a \$150,000 Grant in Aid and received \$150,000.00. This funding was used to conduct the Joint Memorial Service and increase the content and functionality of the website.

In 2017, the NVL applied for and received a grant of \$100,000, the receipt of which was instrumental in allowing the NVL to create and showcase the HNLE. All of the 2017 GIA funding has been expended.

In 2019, the NVL applied for a grant of \$150,000 and was appropriated \$131,000.

6. The applicant shall provide the balance of its unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2019.

The balance of our unrestricted account as of December 31, 2019 was \$38,920.54.

V. Experience and Capability

1. Necessary Skills and Experience

The applicant shall demonstrate that it has the necessary skills, abilities, knowledge of, and experience relating to the request. State your experience and appropriateness for providing the service proposed in this application. The applicant shall also provide a listing of verifiable experience of related projects or contracts for the most recent three years that are pertinent to the request.

a. NVL Leadership:

President – Lynn Heirakuji

- Member, Sons & Daughters of the 442nd RCT
- Retired Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army
- Former Vice President, Nisei Veterans Legacy
- Board Member, Maunalani Nursing and Rehabilitation Center

Vice President – Currently Vacant

Treasurer – Lawrence Enomoto

- President, Military Intelligence Service Veterans Club of Hawaii
- Major (Retired) Enomoto served for 22 years in the U.S. Air Force and has a law degree from the University of Hawaii. He is actively involved with many veteran-related organizations.

Secretary – Phyllis Hironaka

- Member, Sons & Daughters of the 442nd RCT
- President, 522nd Field Artillery Battalion Chapter
- Deputy Public Defender. General Practice lawyer with over 30 years of experience.

Board Member – Wesley Deguchi

- Former President, Nisei Veterans Legacy.
- Member, Sons & Daughters of the 442nd RCT
- Director, 442nd Regimental Combat Team Foundation
- Former President, Sons & Daughters of the 442nd Veterans Club 2010-2015.
- President, AD2 International, Inc. Has over 40 years of experience as an architect.

Board Member - Lloyd Kitaoka

- Former Board president, 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Club.
- Kitaoka has experience as a residential designer and estimator in the construction industry. He also spent 20 years as a pharmaceutical representative.

Board Member – Warren Yamamoto

- President, 100th Infantry Battalion Legacy Foundation
- Semi-retired civil engineer with over 40 years of professional engineering experience.

Board Member – Janice Trubitt

- Member, Sons & Daughters of the 442nd RCT

Advisor – Irene Hirano Inouye

- Widow, Senator Daniel K. Inouye
- President U.S.-Japan Council
- Former Executive Director, Japanese American National Museum

Advisor – BG (Retired) James Hirai

- Deputy Executive Director, Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies
- Retired U.S. Army one-star general with over 30 years of command and leadership experience
- Former Director, Go For Broke National Education Center

Advisor – Warren Haruki

- President, Grove Farms, Inc.
- Former President, Hawaiian Telephone Co.
- Serves on several boards of directors

Advisor – Barbara Tanabe

- Former television news anchor

- President, Hoakea Communications
- University of Hawaii Distinguished Alumnus

Advisor – Gary Okuda

- Civil and Commercial Litigation lawyer
 - Partner, Leu Okuda and Doi
 - Member, State Land Use Commission
- b. In addition to this leadership group, the NVL has a cadre of dedicated volunteers who are primarily descendants of Nisei soldiers. The core group consists of individuals with backgrounds in engineering, law, government service and education. We also have younger generation supporters who work on individual events or projects on an ad hoc basis.
- c. The NVL conducts educational programs primarily via permanent and travelling exhibits, presentations and our website. We also conduct an annual memorial service to honor the Nisei soldiers.

Our first extensive exhibit, the "Go For Broke Exhibit: Japanese American Soldiers Fighting on Two Fronts", was displayed in numerous locations as listed below:

- Hawaii State Capitol, Oahu, Hawaii - March 24-28, 2014
- University of Hawaii West Oahu - March 31 - April 11, 2014
- Honolulu Hale, City and County of Honolulu, April 14-25, 2014
- Maui Nisei Veterans Memorial Center, Wailuku, Maui - May 1- June 13, 2014
- 100th Infantry Battalion Clubhouse, Oahu, Hawaii-June 23-July 4, 2014
- Arizona Memorial Visitor's Center, Oahu, Hawaii - July 14-25,2014
- Hawaii Community FCU, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii - August 18 – September 12, 2014
- Hawaii Japanese Center, Hilo, Hawaii - September 17 – October 10, 2014
- Central Pacific Bank, Oahu, Hawaii - October 25 - December 6, 2014
- Kauai Veterans Center and Museum, Lihue, Kauai - January 5-30, 2015

During this exhibition tour over 15,000 visitors were exposed to this exhibit. Most of these were local residents.

- d. In the spring of 2015, the NVL obtained the "Unlikely Liberators" exhibit from Mr. Eric Saul, retired U.S. Army historian. This very moving and emotional exhibit documents the encounters between Nazi concentration camp prisoners and the Nisei soldiers of the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion at the very end of WWII. The NVL showed this exhibit at the following venues:
- Temple Emanu-El, Oahu, Hawaii - August 20 - September 6, 2015
 - Kahala Mall, Oahu, Hawaii - October 5 - 24, 2015

- Yano Library, Schofield Barracks, Oahu, Hawaii – May 4-21, 2017
- Kauai Veterans Center, Lihue, Kauai, Hawaii – September 5-27, 2017

e. Additionally, the NVL has installed permanent exhibits at:

- Central Pacific Bank, Downtown Branch, Honolulu, Hawaii
- Daniel K. Inouye International Airport - kiosk display on Nisei Army units in Japanese near the Japan Air Lines gates.
- Daniel K. Inouye International Airport - Interisland Terminal - The “Hawaii Nisei Veterans” Exhibit. The materials and construction of this exhibit was funded by a State Legislature GIA. The design, planning and content installation were completed by volunteer labor from the Nisei descendants community.

f. In 2017 and 2018, the NVL partnered with Hawaii Tourism Japan to take the HNLE to several locations in Japan as part of its Aloha Program to promote Japanese tourism to Hawaii:

- Yokohama: June 24 – September 5, 2017
- Tokyo: July 15-17, 2017
- Fukushima: July 21 – 28, 2017
- Hiroshima, October 1-14, 2017
- Usa: September 7-18, 2017
- Nagoya: May 25 -27, 2018
- Hiroshima: June 16, 2018
- Osaka: July 4 - 9, 2018
- Nagaoka: July 7 -20, 2018
- Fukuoka: August 16-19, 2018
- Sapporo: September 1-2, 2018
- Okinawa: October 2-14, 2018
- Kumamoto: October 20 – November 25, 2018

We estimated that over 50,000 visitors saw the exhibit at these locations. In addition, several presentations were made to interested audiences on the history and culture of Hawaii AJA.



Opening Ceremony Participants, Hiroshima, November 2017

In 2018, the HNLE toured the State of Hawaii as part of the 150th anniversary celebration of initial Japanese immigration to Hawaii:

- Honolulu Festival: March 9 - 11, 2018
- Honolulu Hale: March 27 – April 18, 2018
- Queen Kaahumanu Center, Wailuku: April 26 – May 10, 2018
- Kahala Mall: June 16 – July 1, 2018
- University of Hawaii West Oahu: August 20 – 31, 2018
- Kuhio Grove Center, Lihue: September 7 – 23, 2018
- Hawaii Community Federal Credit Union, Kona: November 1 – 28, 2018
- Hawaii Japanese Center, Hilo: December 1 -21, 2018



Hawaii High School Students at Honolulu Festival, March 2018

In 2019, the HNLE was displayed at the following locations:

- January 14-18: Punahou School Cooke Learning Commons
- February 4-14: Sendai City Hall, Miyagi Prefecture, Japan
- March 8-10: Honolulu Festival, Hawaii State Convention Center
- May 24 - June 3: Waimalu Shopping Center
- June 25: First State Veterans Summit
- July 14 – August 31: Pearl City Public Library
- October 1-31: Kaimuki Public Library



Guided tour at Pearl City Public Library, August 2019

Largely due to these efforts regarding the HNLE, the NVL received the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii Spirit of Aloha award in June 2018 and the Consul General of Japan's Commendation Award in November 2018.



JCCH Spirit of Aloha Awardees, June 2018. NVL Former President Wes Deguchi on the left.



Consul General of Japan Commendation Awardees, November 2018. NVL Former President Wes Deguchi and Byrnes Yamashita, Second Row, Far Left.

- g. Joint Memorial Service (JMS) - The NVL is the primary sponsor for the annual Joint Memorial Service, which serves to honor the Nisei Soldiers of WWII. The NVL has been successful in increasing the attendance of younger people at this annual ceremony.

Those attending represented various military organizations, veterans' groups, high school JROTC cadets and members of the general public.



- Joint Memorial Service participants September 2019. Photo courtesy of iHiPhotography.

Following the Joint Memorial Service wreaths are then displayed at the Brothers in Valor Monument at Fort DeRussy. The Brothers in Valor Monument commemorates the four Nisei Army units of WWII and is in a prominent location adjacent to Kalakaua Avenue. This location helps to educate the visitors travelling along the roadway.

The Joint Memorial Service is the largest public ceremony in the State that honors the sacrifices of the Nisei soldiers of WWII. As the members of our "greatest generation" pass away, it is imperative that this ceremony be kept alive to honor their memory and sacrifices for our younger generations to learn from their legacy.

The event is regularly attended by the Governor, Mayor of Honolulu, Commander USINDOPACCOM and numerous military and civilian leaders including the Consul General of Japan.

JROTC cadets from several Oahu high schools and Cub and Boy Scout troops participate in the program. They each receive a handout that explains the Nisei Army units and their contributions. Through this active participation and educational exposure, young Hawaii residents are exposed to the history and contributions of the Nisei soldiers to modern Hawaii.

The ceremony has been broadcast on O'lelo and highlighted on local news programs. It has the largest singular impact on keeping the Nisei soldier story alive for the local public.

It is the key annual event presented by the NVL.

f. The NVL's comprehensive website is being continually upgraded as content is prepared, (nvlchawaii.org). We believe that the continued development and upgrading of the website will have a significant impact on sharing the story of these tremendous Nisei citizens. The primary purpose of the website is to promote a wide-ranging awareness of the Nisei soldier legacy.

Among the recent developments in the NVL's website are the following projects:

- In 2018, the NVL initiated a video project called the "The 522 Story". This animated video tells the story of the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion of the 442nd RCT, with the target audience being middle school children. The animated video communicates the values that were core to the Nisei soldiers' motivation and success in WWII combat. When completed, the video will be 40 minutes in length and organized in six chapters. It will be available on the NVL website for teachers, parents and children nationwide for viewing on-line.
- AJA Historical Timeline - This section currently contains 148 historical events that are significant in AJA Hawaiian history and the Nisei soldiers of WWII. Each event will have an extended article that provides context, detail, and reference sources. Currently there are 25 Event Stories. The remaining stories for each of the historical events will be developed.

- Nisei Stories – This section provides 29 multimedia stories that combine the related events from the AJA Historical Timeline, with related photos and videos. Combined with the AJA Historical Timeline, these portions of the website provide an informational resource for teachers, parents and children nationwide.
 - HNLE Exhibit –At the core of the exhibit is the story of the Nisei who served in the U.S. Army during WWII. The exhibit also describes the initial Japanese immigration to Hawaii and the Nisei’s post-war accomplishments. These webpages are presented in both English and Japanese.
- g. Japanese Educational Outreach. Over the past several years, the NVL has made presentations to Japanese organizations and groups about the history of Hawaii’s Japanese community and the Nisei soldier story. These presentations have been both in Japan and in Hawaii.

In conjunction with the HNLE tour of Japan, numerous presentations were made to university students and the general public. Through these presentations, we learned that the Japanese people have a tremendous interest in Hawaii and the story of the Nisei soldiers.



Presentation at Nagaoka City Auditorium, July 2018

According to the Japanese Consulate of Honolulu, over 10,000 Japanese middle, high school and university students visit Hawaii each year for educational and cultural exchanges. The NVL has made numerous presentations to some of these student groups including tours of facilities like the 100th Infantry Battalion clubhouse.



Presentation and tour to Japanese students from Fukushima, Japan, March 2018 at the 100th Infantry Battalion Clubhouse.

Additionally, the NVL supports researchers and students from Japan to find information on the Nisei soldiers including arranging interviews.

h. Hawaii Community Educational Outreach. The NVL offers a speakers bureau to local schools and organizations to make presentations about the history and achievements of the Nisei soldiers. These have included the following:

- March 2018: Shufu Society of Hawaii
- May 2018: Scouts of Aloha Council
- June 2018: Society of Military Widows, Hawaii Chapter
- June 2018: U.S. Coast Guard District 14
- July 2018: 808 Hawaii Update Radio Talk Show
- November 2018: Downtown Honolulu Rotary Club
- November 2018: Hawaii Tokai International College
- December 2018: Rouren NHK Employees
- January 2019: Hawaii Tokai International College
- February 2019: Pearl City AARP Chapter
- May 2019: Pan-Pacific Leaders and Mentors (PPALM)
- June 2019: 9th Mission Support Command (U.S. Army)
- June 2019: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Leadership Development Program
- November 2019: Kahala Nui

i. National Nisei Organization Coordination and Collaboration. The NVL assists in coordinating amongst Nisei veterans' organizations both within the State of Hawaii as well as across the nation.

For example, in June 2018 NHK World Japan sponsored a showing of a documentary on the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. NHK wanted to invite

members of the Nisei veteran community but had no idea of how to contact them. The NVL reached out to the local Nisei veterans' organizations and put NHK World Japan in touch with each of the organizational Presidents. Through this coordination, over 400 people including over 15 Nisei veterans and their wives or widows, attended the showing at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii.

In August 2018, then Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Kono visited Hawaii and asked to meet with the various Nisei veterans organizations. The NVL coordinated with all the major units and hosted a meeting at the 100th Infantry Battalion Clubhouse.

In 2019, the NVL among other organizations, was contacted by the Nisei Veterans Network in Washington, D.C. to assist with gathering stories and memorabilia of Nisei soldiers in Hawaii for possible inclusion in the National Museum of the U.S. Army which is set to open in June 2020 in Ft Belvoir, Virginia.

In 2018, the various Nisei organizations on Oahu began discussions and deliberations regarding cooperation amongst the various groups to honor the memories and contributions of the Nisei soldiers. The NVL is an active participant in these discussions and encourages further collaboration amongst the various organizations.

In 2019, the Go For Broke National Education Center headquartered in Los Angeles sent a video crew to Hawaii to record interviews and oral histories from Nisei soldiers. The NVL coordinated with the various Nisei organizations to set up the interview sessions that will be edited and then provided via the GFBNEC website for future generations of researchers. The NVL also provided input and is a sponsor of the GFBNEC-JCCH pilot initiative to introduce curriculum on the Nisei soldier story to local high school students.

2. Facilities

The applicant shall provide a description of its facilities and demonstrate its adequacy in relation to the request. If facilities are not presently available, describe plans to secure facilities.

We are currently renting a small (approximately 226 SF) office space at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii. This space provides a desk workspace and a small conference area for meetings.

VI. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

1. Proposed Staffing, Staff Qualifications, Supervision and Training

The applicant shall describe the proposed staffing pattern and proposed service capacity appropriate for the viability of the request. The applicant shall provide the

qualifications and experience of personnel for the request and shall describe its ability to supervise, train and provide administrative direction relative to the request.

The work of the NVL is being performed strictly with the extensive use of volunteers and community organizations. Our part-time administrative specialist is currently on an unpaid volunteer status.

2. Organization Chart

The applicant shall illustrate the position of each staff and line of responsibility/supervision. If the request is part of a large, multi-purpose organization, include an organization chart that illustrates the placement of this request.

The Nisei Veterans Legacy Board of Directors and advisors are provided at Attachment C.

3. Compensation

The applicant shall provide an annual salary range paid by the applicant to the three highest paid officers, directors, or employees of the organization by position title, not employee name.

The Nisei Veterans Legacy has no current salary commitments.

VII. Other

1. Litigation

The applicant shall disclose any pending litigation to which they are a party, including the disclosure of any outstanding judgement. If applicable, please explain.

Not applicable.

2. Licensure or Accreditation

The applicant shall specify any special qualifications, including but not limited to licensure or accreditation that the applicant possesses relevant to this request.

Not applicable.

3. Private Educational Institutions

The applicant shall specify whether the grant will be used to support or benefit a sectarian or non-sectarian private educational institution. Please see [Article X, Section 1, of the State Constitution](#) for the relevance of this question.

No portion of this grant will be used to support or benefit a sectarian or non-sectarian private educational institution.

4. Future Sustainability Plan

The applicant shall provide a plan for sustaining after fiscal year 2020-21 the activity funded by the grant if the grant of this application is:

- (a) Received by the applicant for fiscal year 2020-21, but
- (b) Not received by the applicant thereafter.

The NVL is currently a member organization. The board and membership are currently assessing whether we should convert to a non-member organization. We anticipate that past revenue from membership dues would be replaced by personal contributions from supporters by cash and via the website. One of the purposes of adding Japanese translations to the website is to attract donations from Japan.

The NVL has also received between \$5,000 to \$10,000 annually from various organizations that support the organization's legacy efforts or Japanese tourism.

For example, in 2018 and 2019 the Hawaii Senior Life Enrichment Association donated \$1,000 from the proceeds of its annual charity golf tournament. Also in 2019, Hawaii Tourism Japan donated \$2,500 from the proceeds of its Aloha Program educational program where Japanese learn about Hawaii history and culture.

In addition, our fundraising drives such as annual dinners and special guest presentations are expected to raise \$20,000 to \$25,000 each year. These funds allow us to cover our operational expenses for our office space and printed materials.

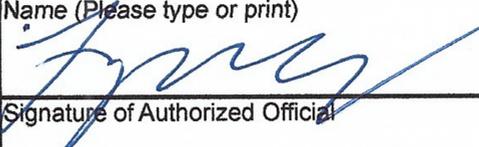
If not funded beyond fiscal year 2020-21 we will have to increase our fundraising efforts and resort to options like crowdfunding in order to sustain our activities.

BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

App

Nisei Veterans Legacy Center, Inc.

BUDGET CATEGORIES	Total State Funds Requested (a)	Total Federal Funds Requested (b)	Total County Funds Requested (c)	Total Private/Other Funds Requested (d)
A. PERSONNEL COST				
1. Salaries	0			
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments	0			
3. Fringe Benefits	0			
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	0			
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Airfare, Inter-Island	1,000			
2. Insurance	1,000			
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment	0			
4. Lease/Rental of Space	9,000			
5. Staff Training	0			
6. Supplies	2,000			
7. Telecommunication	1,000			
8. Utilities	0			
9. Tax Preparation	1,000			
10. Presentations	3,000			5,000
11. Website Education Improvements	85,000			10,000
12. Joint Memorial Service	9,000			
13. Special Education Events	3,000			
14. Scholarship Program	5,000			
15. Marketing/Communications Plan	20,000			
16. Exhibits Preparation and Update	10,000			5,000
17				
18				
19				
20				
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	150,000			20,000
C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES	0			
D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES	0			
E. CAPITAL	0			
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	150,000			20,000
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	150,000	B. Yamashita (808) 728-9900		
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested	0	Name (Please type or print) Phone		
(c) Total County Funds Requested	0			
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested	20,000	Signature of Authorized Official Date		
TOTAL BUDGET	170,000	Lynn Heirakuji, President		
		Name and Title (Please type or print)		

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Period: July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

Applicant: Nisei Veterans Legacy Center, Inc.

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
None			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:				0
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:				

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
None			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:				0
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:				

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS

Period: July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021

Applicant: Nisei Veterans Legacy, Inc.

FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED						
TOTAL PROJECT COST	ALL SOURCES OF FUNDS RECEIVED IN PRIOR YEARS		STATE FUNDS REQUESTED	OF FUNDS REQUESTED	FUNDING REQUIRED IN SUCCEEDING YEARS	
	FY: 2018-2019	FY: 2019-2020	FY:2020-2021	FY:2020-2021	FY:2021-2022	FY:2022-2023
PLANS	0	0	0			
LAND ACQUISITION	0	0	0			
DESIGN	0	0	0			
CONSTRUCTION	0	0	0			
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0			
TOTAL:	0	0	0			
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:						

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID

App: Nisei Veterans Legacy Center, Inc.

Contracts Total: 131,000

	CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S. / State / Haw / Hon / Kau / Mau)	CONTRACT VALUE
1	Grant-in-Aid	Jul 1, 2019 to Jun 30, 2020	DoD	State	131,000
2					
3					
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30					

Attachment C. 2020 NVL Board of Directors and Advisors
Nisei Veterans Legacy Center, Inc. (dba Nisei Veterans Legacy)

President – Lynn Heirakuji

Email: lheirakuji@gmail.com

Professional/memberships:

- Member, Sons & Daughters of the 442nd RCT
- Retired Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army
- Former Vice President, Nisei Veterans Legacy

Experience: Heirakuji had a 30-year career in the Federal Government and served in leadership positions at the U.S. Departments of Homeland Security, Housing and Urban Development and Commerce. She holds a Doctorate from Howard University, a Masters Degree from the University of Denver and a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Hawaii.

After returning to Hawaii she worked for the Governor as the Director of the Hawaii Fair Share Initiative. She later served as Associate Director for Administration for the University of Hawaii Cancer Center.

Vice President – Currently Vacant

Treasurer – Lawrence Enomoto

Email: lawrence.enomoto@gmail.com

Professional/memberships:

- President, Military Intelligence Service Veterans Club of Hawaii
- Major (USAF, Retired), 22 years.
- Affiliated with several veterans' organizations including Veterans of Foreign Wars and Military Officers Association of America.

Experience: Larry had a 40-year career of military and civilian government service. These included attorney-advisor duties in the U.S. State Department Law of the Sea Office; political-military duties at the U.S. Consulate General in Okinawa; U.S. representative to U.N. space-related organizations' meetings; and co-leader duties for a U.S.-Japan joint initiative to implement a Global Observation Information Network.

Larry earned four academic degrees: Juris Doctor from University of Hawaii School of Law at Manoa, Master of Laws from the University of Washington Law School, Master of Public Administration from Auburn University, and a Bachelor of Arts from Sophia University.

Secretary – Phyllis Hironaka

Email: phironaka@gmail.com

Professional/memberships:

- Member, Sons & Daughters of the 442nd RCT
- President, 522nd Field Artillery Battalion Chapter
- Deputy Public Defender, State of Hawaii

Experience: General Practice lawyer with over 30 years of experience. Phyllis obtained her undergraduate degree from Stanford University and her law degree from UCLA.

Director – Wesley Deguchi

Email: wesley@ad2intl.com

Professional/memberships:

- Former President, Nisei Veterans Legacy
- Member, Sons & Daughters of the 442nd RCT (former President)
- Director, 442nd Regimental Combat Team Foundation
- President, AD2 International, Inc. Has over 40 years of experience as an architect.

Director - Lloyd Kitaoka

Email: lloydkitaoka@yahoo.com

Professional/memberships:

- Former Board president, 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans Club.
- Kitaoka has experience as a residential designer and estimator in the construction industry. He also spent 20 years as a pharmaceutical representative.

Director – Warren Yamamoto

Email: daisy3@hawaiiantel.net

Professional/memberships:

- President, 100th Infantry Battalion Legacy Foundation
- Semi-retired civil engineer with over 40 years of professional engineering experience.

Director – Janice Trubitt

Email: janicetrubitt@hotmail.com

Professional/memberships:

- Member, Sons & Daughters of the 442nd RCT
- Member, 100th Infantry Battalion Veterans

Advisor – Irene Hirano Inouye

Professional/memberships:

- Widow, Senator Daniel K. Inouye
- President U.S.-Japan Council
- Former Executive Director, Japanese American National Museum

Advisor – BG (Retired) James Hirai

Professional/memberships:

- Deputy Executive Director, Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies
- Retired U.S. Army one-star general with over 30 years of command and leadership experience
- Former Director, Go For Broke National Education Center

Advisor – Warren Haruki

Professional/memberships:

- President, Grove Farms, Inc.
- Former President, Hawaiian Telephone Co.
- Serves on several boards of directors

Advisor – Barbara Tanabe

Professional/memberships:

- Former television news anchor
- President, Hoakea Communications
- University of Hawaii Distinguished Alumnus

Advisor – Gary Okuda

Professional/memberships:

- Civil and Commercial Litigation lawyer
- Partner, Leu Okuda and Doi
- Member, State Land Use Commission

NVLnews

Nisei Veterans Legacy

September 2019



Mission

The mission of the Nisei Veterans Legacy is to preserve and perpetuate the legacy of Americans of Japanese Ancestry (AJA) who served in the U.S. armed forces in World War II: the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Military Intelligence Service, and 1399th Engineer Construction Battalion. Through education and outreach, the NVL is committed to ensuring that future generations learn Hawai'i's story of the Nisei soldier legacy. These stories include the incredible sacrifices made by the AJA during the course of World War II as well as their significant contributions to Hawai'i's post war society. It is hoped that a greater sense of civic responsibility will transpire by promoting community awareness of the values of good citizenship, such as loyalty, gratitude and humility, exemplified by the Nisei veterans.

Leadership

Directors:

Wesley Deguchi
Lawrence Enomoto
Phyllis Hironaka
Lloyd Kitaoka
Janice Trubitt
Warren Yamamoto

Advisors:

Warren Haruki
Lynn Heirakuji
Irene Hirano
Dr. Fujio Matsuda
Gary Okuda
Barbara Tanabe



Mentors and JROTC cadets visited the 100th Infantry Battalion Clubhouse to hear NVL representatives talk about the Hawai'i Nisei soldiers and their post-war legacy. The event was sponsored by the Pan-Pacific American Leaders and Mentors (PPALM).

PPALM Presentation

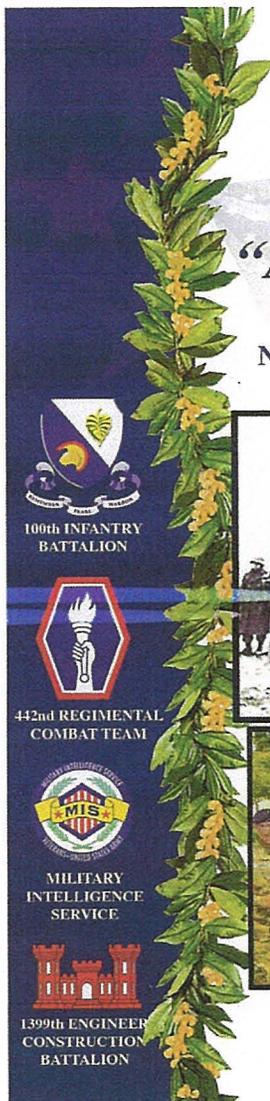
NVL Board members Lloyd Kitaoka and Lynn Heirakuji gave a presentation on the Nisei Soldier units and their post-war legacy to JROTC cadets at the 100th Infantry Battalion Clubhouse on May 11, 2019. The Hawaii Chapter of the Pan-Pacific American Leaders and Mentors (PPALM) organization sponsored this event. The NVL's Nisei Soldier Post-War Legacy Exhibit was also displayed at the event. About 30 cadets attended along with several PPALM members including MG Suzanne Vares-Lum, USA; BG (Ret) Jim Hirai, USA; BG (Ret) John Ma, USA; LTC (Ret) Bob Takao, USA; and Lenn Sakata, whose father was a member of the 442nd RCT. This was particularly significant because the NVL was able to connect with many young people.

14th ANNUAL JOINT MEMORIAL SERVICE

Honoring Hawaii's Japanese American Soldiers who served during WWII

"A Legacy for Generations"

SEPTEMBER 29, 2019 • 9:30 am
NATIONAL MEMORIAL CEMETERY OF THE PACIFIC AT PUNCHBOWL



ihiphoto

ihiphoto

Transportation provided to Hawaii's Japanese American Veterans who served during WWII.
Call 808-949-7997

About the Joint Memorial Service

The Joint Memorial Service honors the Americans of Japanese Ancestry (AJAs) who served in World War II. The NVL sponsors the hour-long service which is held on the last Sunday of September each year. The end of September is chosen because it is when the first AJA soldier died in battle. This year's keynote speaker is Major General Suzanne Vares-Lum of the of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command at Camp Smith. The program will include a wreath presentation ceremony from 16 veteran related organizations. The public is welcome to attend.



Byrnes Yamashita leads a tour of the Hawai'i Nikkei Legacy Exhibit at the Pearl City Library

Hawai'i Nikkei Legacy Exhibit Completes Japan Tour; Continues in Hawai'i

The Hawai'i Nikkei Legacy Exhibit completed its tour of sites in Japan with an exhibition in Miyagi Prefecture at the Miyagi City Hall in February 2019. The exhibit continued its tour of Hawai'i with showings at the Honolulu Festival (March 9–10), Waimalu Shopping Center (May 24–June 2), State Veterans Summit (June 21–22) and the Pearl City Library (July 13–August 29). Organizations interested in showing the exhibit can contact Byrnes Yamashita at (808) 728-9900.

Selected posters from the Hawai'i Nikkei Legacy Exhibit were displayed at the VIP Reception for the opening performance of the play, *Allegiance*, on March 28, 2019, at the Hawai'i Theatre. The event was sponsored by the Central Pacific Bank Foundation. Byrnes Yamashita coordinated this event.

The Nisei Soldier Post War Legacy Exhibit was shown at the Doris Duke Theatre, Honolulu Museum of Art on May 5, 2019. The AARP invited us to display the exhibit in conjunction with its showing of the film, "Voices Behind Barbed Wire" and a follow up Q&A session with film Director, Ryan Kawamoto, and JCCH President, Jacce Mikulanec. Lynn Heirakuji hosted the Exhibit and also gave short remarks to the audience of about 200 individuals.

Byrnes Yamashita represented the NVL at the May 13, 2019, HSTA-R (Hawai'i State Teachers Association - Retired) Mahalo Luncheon, during which HSTA-R celebrated its members participation in a number of community events. During the event Byrnes had an opportunity to thank HSTA-R for its support of the NVL, including HSTA-R providing members to serve as greeters at the Kahala Mall showing of the Hawai'i Nikkei Legacy Exhibit last year.



Six Nisei Veterans presented Legion D'Honneur

The Legion D'Honneur Conferment Ceremony was held on June 1, 2019, at the Hawai'i Convention Center. The Consul General of France, based in San Francisco, Emmanuel Lebrun-Damiens, assisted by Guillaume Maman, the Honorary Consul of France in Hawai'i, presented medals to six Nisei Veterans in a dignified ceremony. The six Veterans were: Royce Higa (522nd FAB, 442nd), Hidenobu Hiyane (100th), George Oide (522nd FAB, 442nd), Clinton Shiraishi (522nd FAB, 442nd), Koichi Tokushige (522nd FAB, 442nd), and Paul Watanabe (232nd Combat Engineer Company, 442nd).

The Planning Committee, consisting of Jeff Morita, Grace Fujii, Mae Isonaga, and Lynn Heirakuji worked closely with the Honorary French Consul's office to schedule this important event. Jeff Morita has been instrumental in coordinating the solicitation, submission and monitoring of nominations for this prestigious award for the Nisei Veterans.



President's Message

Dear Friends,

This year marks the 75th anniversary of D-Day. On June 6, 1944, more than 160,000 Allied troops invaded the northern coast of France, overwhelming German forces in what proved to be the turning point in World War II. A few



weeks later, on June 26, 1944, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team joined the 100th Infantry Battalion in their first combat near Suvereto, Italy. Together, the men of the 100th and 442nd began a journey that would change not only their

lives, but also those of future generations of Japanese Americans.

Under suspicion and bigotry they answered the call to serve their country. They fought with honor to prove their loyalty to the United States. Their wartime accolades are unmatched in U.S. military history. After the war, the veterans had a profound effect on the Hawai'i community. Many became successful businessmen and community leaders and set the foundation for culture of Hawai'i today. The Nisei Veterans have undeniably earned the right to be considered a part of America's "greatest generation."

Today, in their twilight years after successfully navigating the challenges of life, Nisei Veterans epitomize the definition of good citizens. They exemplify noble values, such as humility, gratitude, and patriotism.

If you ask the Nisei about their values, they'll undoubtedly acknowledge their parents, the Issei or first generation Japanese Americans. At a young age, Nisei were instilled with such ideals as: giri (duty), oyakoko (for love of family), haji (don't shame the family), gaman (internal fortitude, bear with it), shikata ga nai (some things cannot be helped) and kodomo no tameni (for the sake of the children). These are basic social principles which we can all live by and nurture within ourselves, our families, and our communities.

The NVL is committed to keeping the Nisei veteran values and spirit alive. We honor all those who served our country with unmatched patriotism. Through the NVL's educational projects, programs and events, we will continue to share their story with future generations. We hope the values they believed in will live on in all of us.

Warm Regards,
Wes Deguchi



LEFT TO RIGHT: Socializing after the program; A rapt audience during the dramatic reading; Author Tom Coffman addressing the audience

Members of the Nisei Veteran community gathered at the 100th Infantry Battalion clubhouse on Saturday, July 27, 2019, for a day of fellowship and learning.

Event organizer and emcee Dr. Shinye Gima welcomed all the guests and explained the agenda. Representatives of the various sponsoring Nisei Veteran organizations provided brief explanations of their organizations and activities. The Nisei Veterans Legacy was one of several sponsoring organizations.

Colonel Ron Han (USAF Retired), Director of the State of Hawai'i Office of Veterans Services, expressed his appreciation for the contributions of the Nisei Soldiers and explained the services provided by his organization.

Author Tom Coffman discussed the intriguing story of the Miwa family described in his recent book, "TADAI MA – I am Home". The book details five generations of a family that has roots in both Hawai'i and Japan and their experience in being "transnational" which included surviving the Atomic Bomb attack on Hiroshima and later returning to Hawai'i.

The program highlight was a dramatic story telling of "OKA-SAN," by Nyla Fujii-Babb & Dann Seki, local actors who created an original play describing a hapa haole man's search for his Japanese birth mother.

"Kealohapau'ole" (Nolan & Liz Santa Ana) provided musical entertainment.

MIS Summer Event

Hawai'i Tourism Japan Honors NVL with a Donation

Hawai'i Tourism Japan (HTJ) made a generous donation to the Nisei Veterans Legacy on May 3, 2019, in connection with their educational program, the Aloha Program. Donations are awarded to Hawai'i non-profit organizations involved with educational, cultural and sustainability efforts.

On May 28, 2019, Lynn and Byrnes again met with HTJ representatives to discuss our continuing relationship and shared desire to share with the Japanese public stories of the Japanese Americans in Hawai'i and the Nisei Soldiers. Potential future collaborations include additional showings of the Hawai'i Nikkei Legacy Exhibit in Japan, assistance in providing Japanese translation capability to the NVL website, and conducting seminars for Japanese tourists on the Nisei Soldier story.



Byrnes Yamashita, Education Committee Chair (left), and Lynn Heirakuji, Vice President (second from left), represented the NVL in accepting the award from Hawai'i Tourism Japan. HTJ Vice President Mitsue Varley is on the right.



NVL is on Instagram With the goal of attracting interest from the social media generation, the NVL initiated an Instagram account in February 2019. As part of the NVL Publicity Committee, Kristen Nemoto, created and maintains the account. We invite you to check out postings at: [nvlchawaii](https://www.instagram.com/nvlchawaii). A new photo and narrative is posted weekly. The site currently has 104 followers.



NVL's New Home at JCCH The NVL is now at Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii. The office is located on the third floor (Suite 302) of the JCCH's office building. It includes a small conference area and two workstations. Shirley Igarashi is currently the office manager and helps with the coordination of various committee meetings. NVL members are welcome to use the office space. Please call the office for more information: 808 942-0881.



ABOVE: Lynn Heirakuji holding her father's (Walter Heirakuji) WWII Army Jacket, as she conducted the Nisei Soldier presentation. ABOVE RIGHT: Byrnes Yamashita (right) speaking to Japanese students from Usa City (photo from 2018 presentation). DIRECTLY ABOVE: Ryojiji Koike, Byrnes Yamashita, and Lynn Heirakuji (front row, seated) with Rainbow Kids and Moanalua High School students.



Nisei Soldier Presentation to Japanese Students

Byrnes Yamashita made a presentation on the Nisei Soldiers to middle school students from Usa City, Oita Prefecture, Japan. The July 30, 2019 event was the NVL's fourth consecutive-year presentation. Usa City is known for having trained the Japanese Navy's lead squadron for the Pearl Harbor attack. The students spend a week in Hawai'i learning about local history and culture, as well as the impacts the Pearl Harbor attack had on Hawai'i and on Japanese Americans during World War II.

Lynn Heirakuji and Byrnes Yamashita gave a presentation to the Rainbow Kids from Tohoku, Japan on March 30, 2019, at the Nuuanu Tendai Mission. The Rainbow Foundation sponsors events for these children who lost parents in the 2011 tsunami disaster. This is the 3rd year the NVL has hosted the Rainbow Kids. This visit was especially memorable because high school students from Moanalua High School joined the Rainbow Kids during the presentation.

Byrnes Yamashita spoke about the Nisei Soldier Story to college students at the Tokai College in April 2019, at the invitation of Dr Laurence Tool. Byrnes's talks have been extremely well received and it appears that he will be a regular speaker there.

Aloha to Ambassador Shigeeda

After serving as the Consul General of Japan in Hawai'i, Mr. Toyoei Shigeeda was appointed Japan's Ambassador to Lithuania and remained at that post until 2018, when he retired from the Japanese Diplomatic Corps. Mrs. Shigeeda was the person who originally suggested the creation the Hawai'i Nikkei Legacy Exhibit and as such, she had a particular interest in its current status. The Shigeedas have now returned to Japan and we hope to continue our relationship with them.



Mr. Toyoei Shigeeda, former Japanese Ambassador to Lithuania, and former Consul General of Japan in Hawai'i.

photo from Embassy of Japan in Lithuania www.it.emb-japan.go.jp/english/emb_guid.htm

The **GFBNEC/JCCH Pilot Education Initiative** reports that 20 high school teachers will be deploying curriculum that features the Nisei Soldier story in 12 high schools across Hawai'i. The curriculum was developed with input from several Nisei Veteran organizations including the NVL. To date, eight teachers have completed presenting the curriculum. JCCH is currently analyzing teacher and student feedback.

A small NVL crew consisting of Reid Mizue, Stan Matsushita, Janice Trubitt, and Phyllis Hironaka **conducted spring cleaning on the Hawai'i Nisei Veterans Airport Exhibit** on April 19, 2019. This activity occurs periodically throughout the year to ensure that the Exhibit is well maintained. The Exhibit is located in the Hawaiian Airlines terminal of the Daniel K. Inouye International Airport and gets a significant amount of foot traffic.

Lynn Heirakuji was a guest speaker at the **U.S. Corps of Engineers, Leadership Development Program** for mid-level civilians at Ft. Shafter on June 11, 2019. The group of emerging leaders hail from a wide range of occupations and journeyed from Army posts in South Korea, Hawai'i, Japan, and Alaska. The Leadership Development Program serves as one of the pipelines for filling senior Army civilian leadership positions. Lynn used the Nisei Soldier story and her career experience to discuss the pathways to Federal sector executive leadership.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lynn Heirakuji also made a presentation on the Nisei Soldiers to **Officers of the 9th Mission Support Command (MSC)** on June 26, 2019, at Ft. Shafter. Her presentation was a part of the MSC's Officers Annual Training program.

NVL Website Chair, Bill Wright, arranged for Upspring Media, the Honolulu-based digital and data consultancy which supports the NVL website, to give a 2-hour online **training session on Google Analytics** to interested NVL Board members on June 13, 2019. The session provided attendees with insight into interpreting the website visitor data toward improving access to the site and encouraging greater and more effective usage of its content.

The NVL conducted its first **NVL Advisor Briefing** on April 28, 2019. NVL Board Members and Committee Chairs made presentations on the NVL Strategic Plan, progress of the various committees, and other relevant issues. The Advisors suggested that the NVL should seek to differentiate itself from the multitude of other Nisei Veteran organizations in Hawai'i; strengthen its internal structure; focus on development not just fundraising; intensify outreach to young people; and improve how it communicates. Next steps for the NVL Board include dedicating time to review the Strategic

Plan and determining how to execute the Advisors' suggestions.

There have been a few changes to the NVL leadership. Carole Hayashino has decided to step down as a director. Lynn Heirakuji is also relinquishing her position but will continue to support the organization as an advisor.

The first annual **State Veterans Summit** was held at the Hawai'i Convention Center from June 21 through 22, 2019. The Hawai'i Nikkei Legacy Exhibit and Nisei Soldier Post-War Legacy Exhibit were displayed at Ballroom C from 9 am to 4 pm on both days. Byrnes, Lynn, and NVL member Momoko Maniscalco served as greeters.

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Honoring the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Military Intelligence Service, and 1399th Engineer Construction Battalion.

