



SEATTLE-KOBE SISTER CITY ASSOCIATION

Volume 12, Issue 1

Celebrating 50 Years of a Vibrant Sister City Relationship

April 2008

33rd Annual Seattle Cherry Blossom & Japanese Cultural Festival

Friday, April 18 – 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday, April 19-20 – 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

The 33rd annual admission-free Seattle Cherry Blossom & Japanese Cultural Festival will be held April 18-20, 2008 at Seattle Center Fisher Pavilion/grounds, Seattle Center Pavilion A/B, and Center House.

Spend the weekend at the Cherry Blossom Festival and see the fun things going on with hands on activities for the whole family! The traditional beauty and grace of the festival will include traditional dance and music, colorful costumes, martial arts, tea ceremonies and entertaining educational activities. SKSCA will continue its tradition of a kimono-yukata dress-up booth in cooperation with the Japan-America Society.



The festival is presented by Seattle Cherry Blossom and Japanese Cultural Festival Committee, which founded the festival in appreciation of the gift of 1,000 cherry trees to the city by Prime Minister Tadeo Miki on behalf of the Japanese government in commemoration of the nation's bicentennial in 1976.



Seattle
Cherry Blossom &
Japanese Cultural
Festival

Help support the Cherry Blossom Festival!

Cherry Blossom Festival offers a wide variety of arts, culture, and educational interactivity on a grassroots basis, free to the general public. The festival is managed by all-volunteers and nonprofit groups. The festival committee seeks continued sup-

port of its programs through fundraising. If you would like to make a donation, please mail checks or call if you wish to charge a donation to SCBJCF Committee, P.O. Box 9311, Seattle, WA 98109-9311. Telephone: 206.723.2003

22nd Seattle International Children's Festival – May 12-17, 2008

~ Free Tickets Available ~

Live From Planet Earth...it's the 22nd Seattle International Children's Festival, the annual performing arts event for all ages held at the Seattle Center. Strap yourself in as you and your family take off to explore exciting new galaxies of performing arts and culture in an atmosphere that won't crowd or overwhelm.

Live circus, theatre, music, dance, puppetry, multi-media performance, hands-on activities and more...live from planet earth. It's all here, all week, for all ages, just waiting for you to touch down at the Seattle Center or Tacoma's Broadway Center for the Performing Arts. Prepare for takeoff – it's a blast!

Check out the schedule at www.seattleinternational.org, decide which performances you'd be interested in seeing, and contact Nathan Eddings at 206-250-7510 or neddings80@yahoo.com by April 28th. SKSCA's Free Tickets available on a first-come, first-served basis.

SKSCA History Project

We are currently gathering photos, stories and information about our rich 50-year history. If you have photos and memories to contribute to the history project, we want to include your stories as we build out our website and create a commemorative book in 2008. We're looking for your written stories, memories and photos. Please contact Karin Zaugg Black at karinzaugg@yahoo.com or 206-733-9810.

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



Happy Spring! I hope your 2008 is off to a great start. What an amazing 50th anniversary year we had last year, filled with jazz, Kobe sake, Washington wines, student exchanges and delegation trips. We had 75 people travel to Kobe in May, and hosted not one, but two, delegations from Kobe in July and October. Thank you all so much for your support in making all of our events and programs such a success.

We are pleased to be hosting our Kimono & Yukata Dress-Up booth with the **Japan-America Society** at the Cherry Blossom Festival again this year. We have a great new selection of yukata, kimono and obi that the **Kobe-Seattle Sister City Association** gave us last year as part of the 50th anniversary.

We are also working on our anniversary history project this year. If you have photos and memories to contribute to the history project, please make sure to contact us. We want to include your stories!

As always, we could not continue our exchanges and programs without your support. Membership invoices are being mailed this month – we thank you in advance for renewing and donating to SKSCA!

All donations to SKSCA are tax-deductible; SKSCA is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization with IRS tax identification #23-7034425. Please visit our website www.seattlekobe.org to make your payment online via credit card, or send renewal checks to SKSCA, c/o Stacey Jehlik, 3115 NE 65th St., Seattle, WA 98115. Call or email Stacey (stacers@speakeasy.net or 206-523-2220) if you have any questions about your membership or renewal.

Warmly,

Karin Zang Black

4th Annual Seattle-Kobe Female Jazz Vocalist Audition

On March 24, 2008, the Seattle Kobe Sister City Association (SKSCA) held its fourth annual Seattle-Kobe Female Jazz Vocalist Audition. We thank the audition participants, their friends and family, and our members for their support of this now yearly event! The four high school finalists and seven adult finalists performed at Dimitriou's Jazz Alley to a crowded house of over 250 people.



The judges selected **Ms. Karen Shivers** and

Winner Karen Shivers (left) and special mention winner **Trish Hatley** (right) in the Adult Division

Ms. Siobhan Bruggers to represent Seattle at the 9th Annual Kobe Jazz Queen Contest on May 10-11, 2008 in Kobe, Japan.

Karen Shivers is a professional vocalist who has performed throughout the Puget Sound region. She is a self-taught jazz vocalist who has several CD recording available. You may have seen her perform at the Triple Door, Glass Museum, Pampas Room at El Gaucho's, or at Egan's Jam House in Ballard.

Siobhan Bruggers is a junior at Kings High School who has been recognized as an outstanding vocalist at several jazz festivals throughout the region. She also performs with jazz choirs that have also received outstanding recognition.



Winner **Siobhan Bruggers** (left) and special mention winner **Mikaela Kahn** (right) in the High School Division

Special mention prizes and \$150 gift certificates to Jazz Alley were awarded to **Trish Hatley** in the Adult Division and **Mikaela Kahn** in the High School Division. You may have enjoyed hearing Trish Hatley during one of Everett Symphony's Pop Concerts or when she sings in the Trish Hatley Quartet or the Trish, Hans, and Phil vocal group. Mikaela Kahn is a senior at Mercer Island High School and studies both jazz and classical vocals and piano. She has sung with the Gospel Choir and is lead soprano of the Mercer Island High School Midnight Blues Jazz Choir.

If any SKSCA members or friends plan to be in Kobe on May 10-11, we encourage you to attend and support these talented vocalists! Stay tuned for our next SKSCA jazz event when the winner of the Kobe Jazz Queen competition will perform at Dimitriou's Jazz Alley in the fall.



A big thank you to all who helped make this event possible: event coordinator **Mari Maruyama Carpenter**; event judges **Milt Hamlin**, **Yumi Imai**, **William Montgomery**, **Raina Wagner** and **Jim Wilke**;



Consul General Mitsunori Namba; last year's high school division winner **Jenny Hoyt** and her accompanist **Darin Clendenin**; High School Division finalists **Genevieve Ferrari** and **Lucy Horton**; Adult Division finalists **Rebekka Goldsmith**, **Stina Hultin**, **Rebecca Peterson**, **Leah Stillwell** and **Laura Welland**; sponsors **Dimitriou's Jazz Alley** and **Sankei Travel**; supporter **Kobe Trade Information Office**; volunteers **John Charlton**, **Nathan Eddings**, **Cynthia Rekdal** and **Amy Scott**; screeners **Steve Alley**, **Mark Carpenter**, **Amy Scott** and **Adam Thompson**; and supporters from **Kobe City of Kobe**, **Shinkaichi Music Street**, **Art Farmer Company**, **Dentsu** and **Yoshio and Yumi Imai**.

Please visit the Seattle-Kobe Sister City Association's website at www.seattlekobe.org and the Kobe Trade Information Office's website at www.cityofkobe.org to keep up-to-date about Kobe related events.

Sankei Travel of America

Sankei Travel is a multi-branch full-service travel agency that has been providing top-rated travel services for both domestic and international travel for over 30 years. The Seattle branch is located at Lenora Ave. and 6th St. in downtown Seattle. With 21 offices worldwide and still growing, Sankei Travel is a team of travel professionals who provide kind and careful service to each and every customer. By working with its affiliated offices around the world, the Seattle branch can provide the most economical fares available. It can offer special rates that are not available from your current location, but that are available strictly locally, that is, locally to other locations around the world. In addition to special fares, Sankei handles Japan Rail Passes, hotel and rental car reservations, insurance, package tours, discount business fares, and more! They can make package tours based on where their customers want to go. They can formulate the best tours, at low prices, and also offer group and student discounts. By efficiently utilizing exchange rate fluctuations, Sankei is able to "make magic," converting exchange losses into exchange gains. Their daily objective is to make their customers happy, and they work hard to satisfy their clients by providing great services and wonderful deals. Wherever you are, Sankei Travel can help you complete your trip at a price you can afford!

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New Membership/Membership Renewal/Volunteer Form

April 2008

Name _____
Company _____
Address _____
Address _____
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, IRS tax identification # 23-7034425.

Membership dues are a tax deductible donation.

Individual: \$30 Family: \$50 Senior/Student: \$15

Corporate and Major Gift Levels

Supporter: \$125-\$249 Patron: \$250-\$499 Benefactor: \$500-\$999 Founder: \$1,000-plus

_____ 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 Stacey Jehlik, 3115 NE 65th St, Seattle, WA 98115



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