



OREGON NIKKEI ENDOWMENT

December 3, 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

On Saturday, October 17th, we held another wonderful Family Day at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center thanks to Lori Tsugawa Whaley. Our Family Day program is an opportunity for audiences to participate in family-friendly programming for free at our Japanese American history museum. The mission of the Oregon Nikkei Endowment is to preserve and honor the history and culture of Japanese Americans in the Pacific Northwest, to educate the public about the Japanese American experience during World War II, and to advocate for the protection of civil rights for all Americans.

For this Family Day, kids and the young-at-heart were able to join in the fun as Lori performed Japanese folk tales with puppets. With a sizeable audience of children and adults alike, stories included the riveting *The Two Frogs* and the humorous *The Singing Turtle* where everyone had a chance to join in and sing along. We were particularly thrilled by the hands on and participatory approach Lori designed for this program. She clearly has a command on innovative ways to inspire audiences to learn and experience culture.

For the older crowd that day, Lori shared insights from her latest inspirational and historical book *The Courage of a Samurai: Seven Sword-Sharp Principles for Success*. Attendees were inspired by the life stories the book contained, drawing lessons from the extraordinary biographies of community innovator Dr. Toshio Inahara, local heroes such as Arthur Iwasaki and Roy Matsumoto, and groundbreaking leaders including the late Senator Daniel K. Inouye and Michi Nishiura Weglyn.

Thanks to Lori's great planning, dozens of visitors participated in the activities and discussions that day at our museum. The appeal of the rich overall program that she designed reached and resonated with a diverse range of ages and ethnic backgrounds. Through storytelling and discussions around her book, Lori engaged new audiences and truly enhanced the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center as a place to explore the culture and history of Japanese Americans.

Sincerely,

Lynn Fuchigami Longfellow
Executive Director