

## Nisei Veterans Memorial Center Summary

**Mission:** To preserve and perpetuate the legacy and history of Nisei veterans in WWII and beyond for education and research purposes.

**Category:** Military History

**Contact:** Deidre Tegarden, Executive Director

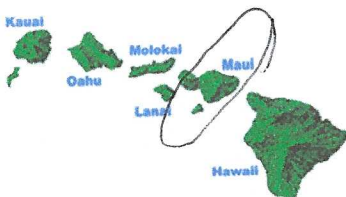
**Address:** P.O. Box 216, Kahului, HI 96733-6716

**Grant History:** N/A

<b>2022 Request:</b>	<b>\$10,000 for general operating support.</b>
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**Notes:**

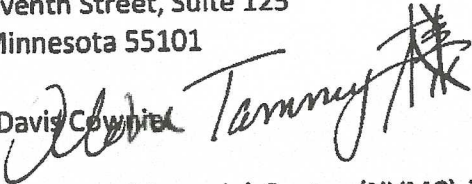
- Nisei means second generation Japanese Americans.
  - Established in 1991.
  - Official archive of Maui's Nisei veterans' personal experiences in WWII.
  - Campus includes Kانشا Preschool and Maui Adult Day Care Center.
  - 3000 visitors and 300 researchers each year.
- 2021:** Capital campaign is to enclose the existing Pavilion to protect the artifact collection from the environment and to expand space for exhibits, education, special community events, and research.
- Pavilion Project goal \$800,000. Approximately \$664,000 raised - \$136,000 still needed.
  - Declined: 2021 \$100,000 request for Pavilion renovation campaign.
- 2022:** Find the Hero series and exhibits helps to tell the stories of soldiers and their families and to promote discussions surrounding social justice and learning from the past.



January 26, 2022

Tammy Davis Cownie, JD, MACL  
Administrator  
Dorcy Hawaiian Foundation  
81 East Seventh Street, Suite 125  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55101

Dear Ms. Davis Cownie



The Nisei Veterans Memorial Center (NVMC) is humbled to submit for consideration the following operating grant request to the Laurence H. Dorcy Hawaiian Foundation for the "Find the Hero" series.

**Amount Requested for General Operating Support: \$10,000**

**Need Being Addressed:** Aligned with the interests and goals of the Laurence H. Dorcy Hawaiian Foundation, NVMC is dedicated to preserving and perpetuating the legacy and history of Nisei (Second Generation Japanese Americans) veterans in World War II and beyond for education, research and understanding between people and cultures.

**How NVMC Meets The Need:** NVMC was established as a nonprofit corporation in December 1991 with the goal of building a lasting tribute to the Nisei veterans of World War II. The roots of its mission, however, go back to 1982 when the children of 100<sup>th</sup>/442<sup>nd</sup> veterans founded the Maui Sons and Daughters of the 100<sup>th</sup>/442<sup>nd</sup>, the first such organization in the nation.

In partnership with the Maui Sons and Daughters, NVMC has become not only the caretaker of memorabilia, artifacts and history of our Nisei veterans, but a "living memorial" that encourages positive community impact by perpetuating the values of our nisei.

Currently, NVMC serves as the official archive of over 200 special collections from Maui's Nisei veterans, including 150 digitized oral histories which are utilized for our annual exhibits.

Integral to the mission of NVMC has been to collect, share and perpetuate the stories and values of all veterans from over a hundred years of U.S. military combat, making the Center a uniquely American experience. Building on the values of our nisei to be inclusive, the work of NVMC transcends ethnicity, religion, political affiliation, and gender in its research collections and programs.



A Hawaii Non-Profit Corporation

PO Box 216  
Kahului, HI 96733-6716  
Phone 808.244.NVMC  
[www.nvmc.org](http://www.nvmc.org)

*Deidre Tegarden*  
executive director

*Jill Tokuda*  
external director

*Kyoko Kimura*  
president

*Grant Nakama*  
vice president

*Linden Joesting*  
secretary

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*Rachelle Ouye*  
*Catherine Shimizu*  
*Rene Yamafuji*  
*Jan Yokouchi*  
*Dana Young*

*Melanie N. Agrabante*  
research archivist

*Hiroshi Arisumi*  
president  
1993-1997, 2003-2015

*Leonard Oka*  
director emeritus

This unique collection of military memorabilia and artifacts attracts thousands to the Center each year, averaging over 300 research requests annually from students, scholars from across Hawaii, the United States and Japan, and community members.

Responding to ever increasing demand, NVMC has continued to expand its efforts to develop meaningful exchanges and partnerships with local and international universities, secondary schools across Maui, and numerous national and Hawaii based non-profit organizations.

**Who NVMC Serves:** The NVMC campus is well utilized by the entire Maui community, ranging from young children coming to the center to attend Kansha Preschool, seniors attending the Maui Adult Day Care Center, or kamaaina and visitors participating in an event or viewing an exhibition. As one of the state's first inter-generational centers, Kansha Preschool and Maui Adult Day Care provide socio-emotional and health benefits to both keiki and kupuna.

At this critical juncture in NVMC's history, thousands of individuals are coming to NVMC from across Maui County, the State of Hawaii, the United States and as far as Japan to share knowledge, learn from the past, and come together to look to the future. NVMC averages over 3,000 visitors a year and prior to the pandemic partnered with over two dozen major community partners that actively utilized the center for events and programs throughout the year.

Core to its mission, NVMC also recognizes its humbling responsibility to the hundreds of Maui Nisei and their families, and veterans of all U.S. military campaigns who entrust their stories and memories to help educate future generations and preserve their legacy of sacrifice and service in hopes of helping others find the "*heroes in themselves.*"

**Number of Individuals Served by NVMC:** As mentioned above, NVMC averages over 3,000 visitors a year and assists over 300 researchers locally, nationally, and globally through its archive collection. While the pandemic has severely limited in person access, exposure and interaction through NVMC's website and virtual programming has allowed the center to maintain and expand its outreach efforts with many participants now joining in from the mainland United States and abroad.

**Geographic Region NVMC Serves:** All of Maui County, with visitors coming to donate to the archives and view exhibitions from across the state, country, and as far away as Japan.

**How the Dorcy Foundation Would Make a Difference to NVMC & Those it Serves:** Support from the Dorcy Foundation through an operating grant would allow the NVMC to expand our "Find the Hero" series bringing the values, stories and legacy of the Nisei soldiers and their families, to the greater community.

## About the Series:

By hosting presentations by politicians and poets; decorated military officers, authors and educators; journalists and bankers; business and non-profit CEO's; community leaders and storytellers; Maui's Nisei Veterans Memorial Center's "Find the Hero" webinar series aims at protecting and playing-forward the legacy of WWII Nisei Soldiers, a legacy of honor, endurance, loyalty and service. In their talks, invited guest speakers weave their personal stories with examples of how they and society at large have learned and benefited from the Nisei story.

In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Center's increasingly popular series switched from in-person to ZOOM and since June 2020, has hosted numerous webinars featuring local, state, and national speakers on subjects ranging from the internment of Japanese Americans during WWII to today's racial, economic, and societal realities, hopes and challenges (*speakers have included: Paul Yonamine, Kurt Suzuki, Ann & Lori Teranishi, Paul Kosasa, Meredith Ching, George Ariyoshi, Gen. David Bramlett and others.* To see all videos, visit: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPbPGTQIFZr4t4HH1L7bk0w/videos>)

Included in NVMC's "Find the Hero" series, the Center also has in-house (due to Covid-19 by appointment) exhibits throughout the year. The exhibits showcase artifacts from the Center's archives such as WWII military uniforms, medals, letters home, and photographs, the latter two not only from the war but also from the internment camps in Hawaii and on the mainland where an estimated 110,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry were forcibly moved and detained during the war. At the same time 33,000 young Nisei soldiers were conscripted (and many volunteered) to serve on the distant battlefields of Europe, Asia and the Pacific. Many died and many were the children of local families. The sacrifices made and ordeals endured by Japanese-Americans before, during, and after the war must be remembered. It is a part of our shared American history that calls for serious discussions about social justice today and what we can learn from the sacrifices of those who came before us.

**Budget:**

ITEM	AMOUNT	NOTES
<b>Webinar Costs</b>		
Design	\$3,000	Design of PR collateral
Printing	\$1,000	Printing of flyers, info cards
Speaker Fees	\$4,500	Stipends to speakers with an average of \$125/speaker
Books	\$2,400	
Zoom	\$3,200	Zoom related costs including post event editing
<b>Public Relations</b>		
Radio/Newspaper	\$11,000	Radio and newspaper advertising (including Hawaii's Japanese newspaper)
Flyers	\$1,200	Flyers to be placed at partner organizations (costs \$100/each month)
Social Media	\$1,200	FB, IG ad buys; constant contact
Website	\$4,800	Website updates
<b>EXHIBIT Costs (incls 3 per year)</b>		The exhibits for the 2022 include: <i>WWII Maui Remembers; Internment: Maui's Stories; Shane Sato's Go For Broke Spirt</i> [photography exhibit]
Design	\$15,000	Design of exhibit panels
Printing	\$12,000	Printing of exhibit panels
Research Tools	\$3,000	Ancestry; Veterans network, various archivist sites
<b>Public Relations</b>		
Radio/Newspaper	\$8,000	Radio and newspaper (Maui only)
Flyers/postcards	\$3,000	Flyers and event postcards
Social Media	\$1,200	Social media buys; constant contact
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>\$74,500.00</b>	

NVMC is requesting a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from the Laurence H. Dorcy Hawaiian Foundation to help with program costs.


**Recognition:**

Understanding the importance of recognition, the Nisei Veterans Memorial Center recognizes funders, in order of funding level, in the following manner:

- Corporate logo of virtual logo board to be displayed as follows:
  - o In every "Weekly Wednesday Update" (52 updates) emailed to 3,000 subscribers (statewide, national and Japanese clientele)
  
  - o At the beginning of each Zoom webinar:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPbPGTQIFZr4t4HH1L7bk0w/videos>
- Recognition in bi-annual Okage Sama De (print) newsletter (3,400 subscribers)
- Corporate Logo on Sponsor Board within the exhibit hall
- Opportunity to submit "Sponsor Spotlight" article about Dorcy Hawaiian Foundation in our Weekly Wednesday Update

With the support of the Laurence H. Dorcy Hawaiian Foundation, NVMC would be able to continue and expand its educational outreach and further preserve the stories and history of our veterans.

Me ke aloha pumehana,

  
Deidre Tegarden  
Executive Director

Current List of 2021-2022 Sponsors  
Nisei Veterans Memorial Center

Government Agencies
State of Hawaii
County of Maui
PRIVATE FOUNDATIONS
ABC Stores
Atherton Family Foundation
Central Pacific Bank Foundation
Fred Baldwin Foundation
Freeman Foundation
Island Insurance Foundation
JA Foundation
Kent and Polli Smith Family Foundation
Pulama Lanai
Roy & Lorraine Okumura Foundation
Servco Foundation
Businesses
Abbey Carpet of Maui
Arisumi Brothers
Hale Mahaolu
Hamai Appliance
HouseMart (Ben Franklin Crafts)
Mahi Pono
Maui Disposal
Maui Health Sustainment
Maui Oil
Maui's Sons and Daughters of the Nisei Veterans
Mid-Pacific Pest Control
Munekiyo Hiraga
Napa Auto Parts (Maui)
Pacific Pipe
Pasha Hawaii
Pulama Lanai
Pural Water Specialty Co.
Sae Design Group
Service Rentals
The Maui News
T.Js Warehouse/Maui Chemical

VIP Food Service