



MOA Hawai'i Newsletter

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2019

Third Grade Student of Hawaii Receives Highest Award in the 30th Annual MOA Museum of Art International Children's Art Contest.

Lila Yamashiro, daughter of Steve and Amy Yamashiro of Honolulu, won the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Award, the highest award possible for an entry outside of Japan. The 30th Annual MOA Museum of Art Children's Art Exhibition is Japan's most renowned children's art contest, even supported by and participated by Japan's Prime Minister and his cabinet. This year's entries totaled 456,646 from throughout Japan and 17,215 foreign entries from 13 countries outside of Japan. From these foreign entries, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs chooses only one painting. Hawaii has participated in this contest since it began in 1989, 30 years ago, yet this top award has always eluded us. This year, for the first time in 30 years, an American has finally won. An American from Hawaii, Lila Yamashiro, has won the highest award possible presented for a foreign entry. After hearing the great news, her parents did not hesitate to decide to go to Japan for the Awards Ceremony held on January 27 at the MOA Museum of Art in Atami City, Shizuoka Prefecture.

300 artworks consisting of paintings or calligraphy are chosen and awarded gold, silver, bronze or honorable mention for each grade level, all honored to be displayed. The whole exhibition will last throughout the month of February. Part of the exhibit, including Lila's painting, will then go on tour throughout Japan and the world. In May, it will be a part of the Hawaii State and International Children's Painting Exhibition, tentatively scheduled to be at the Hawaii State Capital Building. This exhibition will feature 36 paintings of this show, 28 paintings from each of Hawaii's 6 district exhibitions, 19 award-winning paintings from MOA Nagaoka's exhibition, and paintings from Central and South America.



Lila Yamashiro, in front of her winning painting

The MOA Museum of Art Children's Art Exhibition is open to elementary school children, grades 1-6. A little over 40% of all of Japan's elementary schools annually participate in this contest. It is supported by The Office of the Prime Minister of Japan; Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of



"Sleepy Cat" by Lila Yamashiro, 8 years old, Grade 3, Waialae Public Charter School

Lila's Comments: "Sleepy Cat is a picture that I painted with Oil Pastels. After making the picture, I covered the blue carpet purple and made the green outside of the carpet black. I then scratched in the lines. Starting with the orange striped cat, surrounding it with the blue and purple carpet makes the cat really stand out. Then the eyes of the cat are green, same as the background. This makes the eyes very powerful and makes the cat look dazed, looks like a sleepy cat. I enjoyed making this picture and was very happy that it won but surprised."

Judges' Comments: "With vibrant colors against a simple dark green background, the appearance of the cat lying so relaxed is drawn impressively. Bold lines such as the contour or striped pattern of the cat contrast with the scratched lines so well in the carpet and the background, giving a change to the painting making the finished work an even more attractive piece of artwork."

Japan; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan; National Congress of PTA of Japan; National Federation of Kodomo-Kai (Children's League); and the Scout Association of Japan. Representatives of the above supporters are added to the panel of 16 judges who jury the hundreds of paintings sent in that represent exhibitions conducted throughout the world.

Lila's Once in a Lifetime Trip

By Amy Yamashiro

The Yamashiro family had an amazing trip to Japan, thanks to MOA. We had always wanted to visit Japan, and the perfect opportunity presented itself when Lila was awarded the "Ministry of Foreign Affairs Award" at the Children's Art Exhibit at the MOA Museum of Art in Atami, Japan.

We flew into Narita and spent two full days in Tokyo. We bundled up and headed into the 30-something degree mornings to explore the beautiful city. We visited many special places, marveling at how safe and clean it was everywhere we went. At the Tokyo Sky-Tree, we got a panoramic view of the city from 350 meters (1148 feet) up, while at the Tokyo-Edo Museum we had a glimpse into Tokyo's long and fascinating history. Thanks to MOA Hawaii's Steve Ichikawa, we got tickets in advance to the Digital Art Museum in Odaiba to experience the spectacular light shows and to see our kids' drawings come to life. We squeezed in a visit to a city playground, where fun was the universal language. We loved getting around the city by walking, riding the train, and taking an occasional taxi. One highlight of our time in Tokyo was meeting four sumo wrestlers at a taxi stand and watching them pile into a sub-compact taxi.

We said a fond farewell to Tokyo and boarded the Bullet train bound for Atami. Roy met us at the station with Yuko, a staff member from the MOA International office. After dropping off our luggage, we had the most amazing lunch and tour of the MOA museum with Roy and Yuko. As we ascended the seven flights of underground escalators, we made the mental transition from hustle-bustle to serenity and beauty. The center Rotunda held the Children's Art exhibit. We visited Lila's "Sleepy Cat" and took in the beautiful and creative artwork of children from all over the world.

The museum was a marvel, with overwhelming beauty everywhere we looked. We tried to convey to the kids how special it was to see such important cultural treasures, some dating back to the 7th century. We made our way to the Noh

seats right up front. Roy translated the ceremony for us, which we could hear through small headsets. We felt like we were part of the United Nations! This allowed us to learn about the



Lila receiving the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Award

dignitaries presenting the awards and hear the children talk about their artwork. Lila bravely got up and spoke about "Sleepy Cat" and then accepted her award. Every detail of the event was well organized and beautifully carried out, including a final lunch after the ceremony.

The day following the ceremony, Roy orchestrated an amazing van tour. We climbed the mountainside to see Mt.



Lila holding her Certificate with her family on her right, father Steven, mother Amy, and brother Noa. On her left is Dr. Tokugo Uchida, Director of MOA Museum of Art and Roy Goshi-Otaguro of MOA Hawaii.



Lila and family in front of the MOA Museum of Art



Mr. Kazumi Murose (in the dark colored suit), Japan's Living National Treasure and Dr. Tokugo Uchida (light colored jacket), MOA Museum

Theater, where Roy and Torii gave Lila a rehearsal of what to expect during the awards ceremony, which was incredibly reassuring for her. As we were wrapping up our tour in the gallery featuring the most exquisite lacquer ware of Kazumi Murose, a Living National Treasure of Japan, we met the artist himself. Mr. Murose was with the Museum Director Dr. Tokugo Uchida. Despite their high stature, they made Lila feel like the VIP of the group, buying her an ice cream at the Cafe and showering her with congratulations.

The next day was the ceremony, and we had amazing

Message from the Executive Director: March Message

This month we focus on Okada's philosophy on nutrition.

"Since the Creator created human beings as masters of the planet Earth, it is designed so just enough foods will be produced to sustain life. He included respective flavors in foods, and gave the sense of taste to human beings. Accordingly, health will be fully maintained if one enjoys eating foods one wants to eat, so there is no need for the complications of matters like

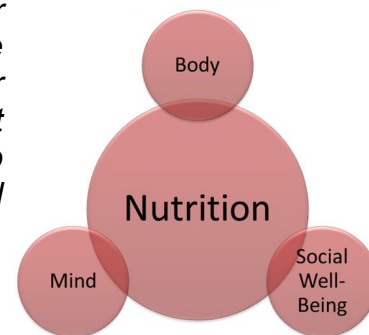
nutrition. This is something like sexual desire, which develops involuntarily for another purpose rather than the objective of creating human beings. It is exactly the same principle. If that is the case, it is a matter of course that human beings must not put into their bodies foreign substances apart from foods determined by the Creator.

Precisely, the thing in itself is pointing out that it must not be eaten—for example, not appetizing, flavorless or bitter substances. Since ancient times, people have said things like good medicine tastes bitter because they are ignorant of that. I must say that this is an error in the extreme. In this way, the digestive function is formed so it will not process anything that has not been determined as food. Medicines are also foreign substances, so they remain in the body without being processed and become the cause of diseases."

(A Revolutionary Method of Treatment for Tuberculosis; December 1, 1952)

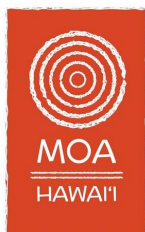


**Promoting
Healthy
Living**



MOA Hawai'i Staff: Norman Oshiro, Executive Director; Alan Aranaydo, MOA Wellness Center Director; Roy Goshi-Otaguro, Arts & Culture Program Manager; Ruby Gines, Operations and Facility Assistant Manager; Administrative Assistants: Mallori Choy Rahminjah, Ceronda Encencio, Dick Mills, Brianna Goo, Teri June Amuro

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The MOA Supporter System

We cordially invite you to be a part of our MOA Supporter System. MOA Supporters contribute a vital piece to the overall development and expansion of all our outreach and community activities. Together, we will make a difference for the welfare of society.

Questions: please contact us at:
(808) 952-6900
Email: info@moahawaii.org
Website: www.moahawaii.org

Name(s) _____

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TYPE

- \$25 Individual
 \$50 Family (2 or more individuals)

PAYMENT

- Check enclosed
 Charge my credit card
 VISA MC Discover JCB

Name _____

Card no _____

Exp. Date _____

Security code _____

Signature _____

Make checks payable to: **MOA Hawaii.**

ADDRESS CHANGES

To keep us up-to-date on your current address, please complete the MOA supporter form if you've moved. The newsletter is also online at www.MOAHawaii.org

CORRECTIONS

Send MOA Hawaii newsletter corrections via U.S. mail to the MOA Wellness Center at 600 Queen Street, C-2, Honolulu, HI 96813 or email us at info@moahawaii.org

MEMBERSHIP

MOA membership dues are paid on an annual basis. Being a member gives you discounts on the Okada Health and Wellness programs, Nutrition classes, Calligraphy classes, flower arranging (Kohrinka) classes and various other classes offered.

Upcoming Events at the MOA Wellness Center unless noted otherwise:

Please call (808) 952-6900 to reserve your seat at any of the events listed

- Mar 5, 12, 19, 26, Tuesdays, 10:00 am to noon, **Dr. Garcia Consultations**, Cost \$25 for non-members, \$20 for members
- Mar 11, Monday, 9:30 am to 11:30 am, **OPT Continuing Education Class** (taught in Japanese), a small \$5 donation is helpful
- Mar 11, Monday, 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm, **OPT Continuing Education Class**, a small \$5 donation is helpful
- Mar 20, Wednesday, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, **OPT Continuing Education Class**, a small \$5 donation is helpful
- Mar 15, Friday, 9:30 am to 11:30 am, **OPT Continuing Education Class**, a small \$5 donation is helpful
- Mar 16, Saturday, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm, **OPT Continuing Education Class**, a small \$5 donation is helpful. This class will be held at Toho No Hikari, 3510 Nuuanu Pali Drive
- Mar 15, Friday, 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm, **Introduction to MOA**, a small \$5 donation per person is Helpful
- Mar 9, Saturday, 10:00 am to 11:00 am, **Japanese Calligraphy (Shodo) Class with Yoshiko Morimoto**, cost is \$13 for non-members, \$12 for members, \$10 for students K to 12 grade
Location: Toho No Hikari Social Hall
- Mar 18, Monday, 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm, **Flower Arranging (Kohrinka) Class with Norman Oshiro**, cost for first class is : \$20 for textbook + \$10 per session + \$25 annual membership
- Mar 27, Wednesday, 9:30 am to 11:00 am, **MOA Discussion on "Nutrition"**, a small \$5 donation is helpful
- Mar 28, Thursday, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, **Okada Health and Wellness Program (OHWP) Lifestyle Improvement Program**, Day 1 of 2 includes Okada Purifying Therapy (OPT), Dr. Garcia consultations, tea and flower therapy, simple exercises and lunch. Cost for both days is \$60.
- Mar 29, Friday, 9:00 am to 11:30 am, **Okada Health and Wellness Program (OHWP) Lifestyle Improvement Program**, Day 2 of 2, includes Okada Purifying Therapy (OPT), Dr. Garcia consultations.
- Mar 30, Saturday, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, **Okada Health and Wellness Program (OHWP) Lifestyle Improvement Program**, incl Okada Purifying Therapy (OPT), Dr. Garcia consultations & lunch. Cost for this one day session is \$70

MOA Wellness Center Office Hours: Monday to Friday 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, Saturday 9:00 am to 3:00pm
Phone: (808) 952-6900 Fax: (808) 566-6911 Email: moa808hawaii@gmail.com
Website: www.moahawaii.org

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