

December 21, 2007

www.richmondjmp.org



RICHMOND JAPANESE IMMERSION

Richmond Shinbun

Former Richmond Student Impressed Emperor of Japan with Her Japanese!

Hannah Hogness was a Richmond student from kindergarten through 4th grade until her family moved to Washington this past summer. This fall, Hannah and her family visited Japan to be with her grandfather as he received the International Prize for Biology from the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS). Hannah did a beautiful job introducing her family to the Emperor and Empress in Japanese. The picture below shows Hannah with her father, grandparents and the Emperor. Additional pictures appear on page 8 of this newsletter. Everyone complimented Hannah for her excellent Japanese and wanted to know where she learned to speak the language so fluently. Her parents credited Richmond with Hannah's excellent Japanese language skills.

The following information was taken from the JSPS announcement about the award:

The International Prize for Biology was instituted in April of 1985 by the Committee on the International Prize for Biology in commemoration of the sixty-year reign of Emperor Showa and his longtime devotion to biological research. The Prize is awarded each year to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the advancement of basic research in a field of biology. The Prize, comprising a medal and a prize of ten million yen, is awarded to the selected recipient, along with an Imperial gift from His Majesty the Emperor.

The Committee on the International Prize for Biology (chaired by Dr. Saburo Nagakura, president, The Japan Academy) of Japan Society for the Promotion of Science decided to present the 23rd (2007) International Prize for Biology to Dr. David S. Hogness, Professor Emeritus of Stanford University School of Medicine, U.S.A.

Dr. Hogness was born in the United States, 1925. He studied chemistry and biology at California Institute of Technology, obtaining his doctorate in 1952. Since he was appointed Professor of Biochemistry in the School of Medicine, Stanford University, 1959, he has dedicated his career to studying gene structure and function and the regulatory mechanisms of gene expression in higher eukaryotes.

The field of specialization for the 23rd Prize is "Genetics". Dr. Hogness established that the expression of many genes is controlled by regulatory regions or cis-elements located on the same strand; and he demonstrated that genes play key roles in animal morphogenesis, so that the absence of a certain gene's function results in a developmental abnormality. These findings extended the frontiers of genetics, molecular biology, and molecular developmental biology; indeed, they laid the foundations for an entire field, which we know today as genomics.



Looking Ahead in Your Child's Classroom

1st Grade— Winter Break is the perfect time for "authentic" learning. There is no English homework over the break, so you can help your child make connections from learning at school to using these new skills in the real world. To practice math, your child can help you in the kitchen with measuring, figure out how much groceries will cost, how many forks are needed for the holiday guests, etc. You could make a graph of the weather each day, like we do in class. Believe it or not, our lives are filled with math problem solving! This is also a great time for authentic writing! Write thank you notes, cards and letters, grocery lists, stories, New Year resolutions, movie reviews, book reports, daily journal entries, and more. The more writing practice children get, the more fun the process becomes! And finally, more time at home, means more time to read! Enjoy the time with your family and keep an eye out for that "light bulb" to go on as your child makes meaningful connections.

In Japanese classes, the "shiritori" activity was introduced. It is a word game where you think of a word with the same first letter used in the previous word. (The last letter of the word) We try to use as many words as we can to keep the game going. Students made their own "shiritori" and drew pictures of the words they used. We are singing and playing musical instruments to the song of "Shirokuma no Uta." Japanese class has a winter break homework that will be explained in our First Grade Japanese Newsletter.

Uchida-sensei & Karen Meier
Brooke Murphy & Mishina-sensei

2nd Grade— Our second grade English interactive read aloud was particularly meaningful this week. The story was about a boy corresponding with his grandma who lived in faraway Korea. He missed her very much. As we were reading, many of the students shared their own individual stories about grandparents and family members who live in Japan. Missing family who live in a distant country was definitely a topic to which they could relate. It was wonderful to witness the excitement they displayed as they shared. When we completed the story we located Korea on the world map and noted its proximity to Japan. With the theme of families in mind, my wish to you and your family is to have a joyous and memorable holiday season! Mrs. Naylor

In the Japanese class 4 new Katakana letters were introduced this week. In second grade, we are focused on the correct stroke order of each letter and the correct usage in sentence writing. Last Tuesday students made a paper reindeer as an art project. This week's reading homework is about the process of making this reindeer. I'd appreciate if you'd check your child's writing homework. If you find any blank spots there and he/she does not know what to write, it's his/her responsibility to ask teachers for help. Have a restful break with your family. Happy holidays!

Mogi-sensei

Kindergarten— In English rooms, we continued lots of Gingerbread man activities. The children voted for their favorite Gingerbread man book on a graph. The results were interesting. We ended the unit by decorating a gingerbread house.

In Japanese classes, children used 6 inch pieces of aluminum foil to try to make a boat that, when placed in a tub of water, would hold as many small ceramic tiles as possible. Students experimented with different shaped boats that could be made with the same piece of foil to see which shape would hold the most, (which also resulted in lots of counting practice!) Students also made art by blowing droplets of colored water across paper.

Jill, Amy, Kelly & Reiko-sensei

Thank you, Richmond families, for the beautiful holiday wishes and treats! We greatly appreciate your kind words of support and good cheer!

The Richmond Faculty

4th Grade— Fourth grade students have been reading fiction and nonfiction mysteries. Ask your child about Harry Houdini and the pink dolphins, encantado, of the Amazon. After the winter break, students will continue with fractions and start a unit on decimals. Expository writing will begin along with more imaginary writing in January. In late January, fourth grade students will be taking the State of Oregon Writing Assessment. Have a fantastic family time during winter break.

Mrs. Jacobson

Time has passed so quickly. Many 4th graders are working hard to improve their Japanese and math skills. I didn't give any specific homework during restful winter holidays. Winter break is the time to catch up with anything you need to improve on. Please refer to the first trimester report card and find out what to improve except kanji review practice, journal writing, and math. We have completed character analysis writing. Everybody worked very hard. We will start science "Bones and Skeletons" in Japanese class right after the winter break. We hope you will have happy holidays!

Ando-sensei

12TH ANNUAL JAPANESE AMERICAN NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

MOCHITSUKI 2008

Sunday, January 27, 2008 at Portland Community College, Sylvania Campus, 12000 SW 49th Avenue, Portland, OR

"Mochitsuki with Aloha" performances at 1:00 PM and 3:15 PM in the Performing Arts Center Cultural Fair with hands-on activities from Noon to 4:00 PM in the College Center. Don't forget to stop by Richmond Elementary and Oya No Kai's booths! There will also be artwork throughout the Cultural Fair and a Community Stage performance by Richmond students. Richmond, Mt. Tabor and Grant High School families and friends can purchase tickets to the "Mochitsuki with Aloha" performance without any service charges. Purchase your tickets early. Seating is limited. Please contact Kim Tanada at (503) 804-9991 or email info@mochitsuki.org.

Bringing the welcoming spirit of aloha to the Oregon winter, hundreds of volunteers from the Japanese American community will gather on Sunday, January 27, to celebrate mochitsuki, the making of sticky rice cakes that are a traditional food of the New Year celebration. Steamed rice is pounded into a soft dough and shaped into small round cakes, mochi, to resemble a mirror, one of the three ancient imperial treasures, representing wealth. All around the world, Japanese families and communities gather to pound mochi using a heavy wooden mallet and pestle, or in more recent times, an electric appliance similar to a bread machine. Making mochi is not a solitary activity. Many hands are necessary to steam the rice, pound and shape it, so the making of mochi is emblematic of bringing the community together to start the new year, bonded by sticky rice, and sharing the wealth of their labors in hopes of a prosperous future.

The public is invited to a cultural fair at Portland Community College, Sylvania Campus to try pounding mochi the traditional way using wooden mallets, or sample mochi made in modern machines. There will be hands-on activities for all ages: origami, calligraphy and ikebana (Japanese flower arranging). Local church and community groups will offer crafts, games, displays and demonstrations. Sushi, bento, Japanese and Hawaiian food will be served. A full afternoon of performances will enliven the Community Stage featuring Okinawan dance, martial arts, music and more. This year's celebration emphasizes the adaptability of the Japanese community to its immigrant locations. Many Japanese immigrated to Hawaii in the early part of the 20th century, drawn to work in the pineapple and sugar cane plantations. Hawaii still has a large population of Japanese ancestry, and surprisingly, many Asian American Hawaiian students come to study in Oregon. The Pacific current connecting Japan, Hawaii and Oregon gives the celebration its Hawaiian theme. "Mochitsuki with Aloha", the stage show in the Performing Arts Center, will feature the hula group, He Makana O Aloha. The stirring rhythms and exuberant energy of Portland Taiko, an Asian American drum performance group, Tanuki Taiko, renowned storyteller Robert Kikuchi-Yngojo, and Japanese dance troupes Fujinami-kai and Tachibana Studio will grace the stage. Alton Chung, storyteller from Hawaii will be the program's host. Show times are 1 PM and 3:15 PM in the Performing Arts Center. Tickets to "Mochitsuki with Aloha" are \$12 for adults, \$9 for students and seniors (62 years or older), and \$5 for children (12 and under).

Transfer Policy Meeting at Mt. Tabor

Do you want to know more about the transfer process within Portland Public Schools?

Mt. Tabor's P. T. A. has invited the District representatives from the Enrollment and Transfer Office to give a presentation on January 8th from 6:00-7:00 PM in the cafeteria at Mt. Tabor Middle School. Staff from the Enrollment and Transfer Office will give us tips, explain the transfer process and answer your questions. Parents with students entering middle school and high school in 2008-09 may be most interested in this information, but everyone is welcome. For more information call: Georgia Obradovich, 503-236-7093

New Playground Structure to be Installed Jan. 5-6

The Playground Committee of the PTA is glad to announce that we plan to install new equipment in the north playpit (near the existing wooden structure.) We are seeking volunteers to do construction-type labor, and other volunteers to prepare/provide lunch, on

SATURDAY, JANUARY 5TH

AND

SUNDAY, JANUARY 6TH

8 am to 4 pm both days. We will use half-day shifts if needed. About 10 volunteers are needed each day. THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING THIS REQUEST !!! This playground improvement has been sponsored in large part by Opus NW (a construction firm), by many generous Richmond families, and by your PTA.

Thank you !!!

PLEASE RSVP TO DAVID HILL (dad of 2nd grader Jimmy Hill) at the following email: davidcitizen@msn.com

News from Richmond's Parent Teacher Association

Kristina Kallen

Kim Tanada

Mika Obara

Sonciray Bonnell

Yoko Sato

Winter Signature Event Update: Monday, January 21 from 9 to noon at Richmond, we are hosting our Kaiser Permanente, Hands On Portland, PPS Winter Signature Event! Kaiser will be providing 100 volunteers to prep, prime, and paint our hallways and stairwells as well as clean our antique wooden banisters! What an opportunity this will be for our school to have some freshening up while promoting our school to the public through any media attention we may receive. All Richmond folks have an opportunity to assist in this wonderful morning of sharing by volunteering as a team leader to guide a crew of 10 to 12 people. There will be a training session on Tuesday, January 15 at 6:00 here at Richmond directed by Hands On Portland to train the team leaders on their job duties. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Kristina Kallen at kmk456@comcast.net. This is going to be fabulous!!!

Christmas Tree/Bake Sale! Amidst the Holiday Season's soaring music and the dimming sunlight, our smiles of Joy and our sighs of weariness, a single candle glows. Yep -- brush aside the glitter and the clutter, and at the heart of things the flame of Family illumines. Anna Claire Reid and her parents offer their thanks to so many from our JMP Family who traveled all the way to Beavercreek this month to find just the right tree (we hope!) and to share a small part of the holidays with us. A new record for tree sales was set at Figgy Pudding Farm, and we're happy to be donating \$800 to the Richmond PTA to support the great work being done. Warm wishes for a joyous Holiday and a bright, healthy New Year! Ann, Michael & Anna Claire Reid.

Docent Opportunity: We have another wonderful volunteer opportunity to anyone out there who would like to be a tour guide (or docent) for potential new Richmond families. The docent program is cochaired by Sally Mays (lefty_sally@hotmail.com) and Sachiko Nishikido (stepn55@gmail.com), and they are looking for some friendly volunteers to help them give tours on Wednesday mornings from 8:30 to 10:00 from January through March. The only requirement (besides being friendly) is that you can speak either Japanese or English, but you DO NOT have to speak both languages. If you are interested in this terrific, fulfilling opportunity, please email Sally or Sachiko.

Winter Break Holiday Wish for You. We began the school year with many activities, accomplishments, and goals and we quickly realized many of these goals. The progress we have made as a community is remarkable. Our fundraisers continue to exceed last year's goals, the Grandparents' Brigade is actively assisting the staff, and our wonderful interns are helping the classroom teachers. Through all these activities a more important goal has been reached; we have continued to grow a community of involved adults. The heart of all this work and effort ultimately is focused on providing each of our children the best learning experience we can offer. With the time off from school your Richmond PTA has a holiday wish for you and your family--the gift of time shared together. Take this time and spend it with your family; read that book to your son or daughter, watch the movie you have been meaning to see, and maybe even bake some cookies together. Your Richmond PTA will be observing the holidays and will not be responding to E-mails and inquiries, so hold onto those questions, thoughts and ideas because we will be back after the New Year refreshed and ready to take on the next project. Good health, good fortune, and good times to you all during this magical season!

Entertainment Book or Check?

Please take a minute to return the Entertainment Book or a check for \$20 made payable to the Richmond PTA if you wish to keep the book. We have several families and friends that would like to purchase your unwanted Entertainment Book. Thanks in advance for helping us with this simple fundraiser!



GARDEN JUICES ARE FLOWING !!!

Our PTA Garden Committee has really got the "juices flowing"! The Garden Committee is extremely vibrant - we've added several new committee members and are still seeking new ones. The talent and energy of these new committee members is pretty amazing and cannot be overstated.

A new Learning Lab Garden is being planned for the area just to the south of the playground areas, taking care to not interfere with the use of the field for sports. It will more than triple our current garden space and be organic.

We hope to utilize water from the school's roof to grow a "bioswale" – a landscape feature with native water-loving plants that sends water into the earth instead of into our over-taxed sewer system. Plans also include an outdoor teaching shelter.

The big goal here is to provide the students and faculty of Richmond Elementary with a hands-on outdoor learning laboratory which uses and demonstrates sustainable practices, supplements all academic subjects, and eventually supplies our kitchen with fresh produce!

The committee has been meeting twice a month this school year. We've begun grant work and all sorts of planning. We are planning a "charette" process, in which you and all school and community stakeholders will be invited to learn more and to give valuable input. Look for announcements of these important planning events!

Planning is also afoot for a Spring Signature Event, in which we will receive a large influx of volunteer work from the greater community, via Hands On Portland, PPS, and local companies. This garden effort is growing legs like a centipede that was bitten by a radioactive spider!

The next two PTA Garden Committee meetings are set for January 8th and 22nd at 6 pm at the school (enter through cafeteria door.) Interested people please contact Kristine Bacon-Brenes at kbbrenes@yahoo.com.

Mission Statement of the Garden Committee:

- *The garden is a place where students can experience hands-on learning outdoors.*
- *The garden is a living laboratory for all subject areas, ranging from language to math, science to art.*
- *The garden is for the use of all classes, and using it does not obligate a class to work in it.*
- *The garden is pesticide-free and a safe environment for children and others.*
- *The garden is a place of nature, excitement, learning, and fun.*

Buy Coffee to Support Richmond's Elm Trees – all year long!

For parents new to Richmond, 20 mature Elm trees line our school grounds – about half of the Elms in the Richmond neighborhood. These trees are not only beautiful, but they cool our surroundings, provide habitat to urban wildlife, and help absorb carbon monoxide emissions. Elms are susceptible to Dutch Elm Disease (DED) and many communities - including Portland - have lost the Elms trees lining their streets to this disease. DED is a fungus that is spread by beetles that eat dead Elm wood. Once infected, an Elm will die within weeks and can quickly spread the fungus to neighboring trees.

The Richmond chapter of Save Our Elms fundraises to inoculate the trees every three years with a fungicide to protect them from Dutch Elm Disease (DED). Next inoculation will be in June of 2010. (Fungicide prices vary every year, but we are hoping to have about \$4000 in the bank by our next inoculation date.)

To raise money, Save Our Elms has partnered with Portland Roasting to sell coffee. The coffee is delicious, environmentally friendly and costs \$9/bag for regular and \$10 for decaf. \$4.60 from each bag of regular and \$5.05 from each bag of decaf goes to Save Our Elms. We accept donations as well.

Portland Roasting descriptions:

All coffees for Richmond are our Farm Friendly™ Direct coffees because as important to us as the quality of our coffee is our social responsibility. We strongly believe that we can make a positive difference in the coffee world through direct, socially responsible coffee sourcing. We pay growers a premium for their coffee with 100% of the premium going to farm and community projects. All of these projects are designed to give back directly to the farmers - furthering the long term sustainable infrastructure.

Ethiopian – Kochere: This coffee is part of Project H.O.P.E., which stands for Hope and Opportunity for the People of Ethiopia. We are helping build a much needed community center for the Ethiopian farming community of Kochere to provide a common meeting place for educational purposes, as well as a vital medical dispensary for the people of Kochere.

French Organic – Certified organic; dark roast

(new) Tanager's Song – an organic blend (Central American and Indonesian certified shade grown coffees), silky-rich and full-bodied with a caramel-like finish.

(new) Papua New Guinea - a single varietal that is passive organic.

Farm Friendly Direct, SWP (Swiss Water Process) French Decaf – directly sourced, chemical free, dark roast.

Farm Friendly Direct, SWP (Swiss Water Process) Morning Decaf – directly sourced, chemical free, light roast.

A limited selection of ground coffee will be for sale on hand in the school office. Look on the counter for available selection or ask Patsy Burke. She will collect your \$9/bag or you can place your money in the Save Our Elms box. Patsy will not be able to give change. For your best selection (and essential ground or whole bean preference), I will fill weekly orders. Please put orders with your checks (made out to SAVE OUR ELMS) in the Save Our Elms mailbox in the school office or contact Mary Klinger at (503) 234-5147 or dustin-mary@comcast.net. For orders submitted by 8:00 AM Thursday, coffee will be available in the office by Friday afternoon. **THANK YOU VERY MUCH!!!**

Save Our Elms Coffee Order Form

Date _____

Name _____ Phone _____ or email _____

Coffee	Ground	Whole Bean	Totals
Ethiopian - Kochere			\$9/bag x bags = \$
French Organic			\$9/bag x bags = \$
Tanager's Song			\$9/bag x bags = \$
Paupau New Guinea			\$9/bag x bags = \$
SWP French Decaf			\$10/bag x bags = \$
SWP Morning Decaf			\$10/bag x bags = \$
Totals			

_____ Donation amount. Save Our Elms is a non-profit 501(c) 3 corporation in the State of Oregon. EIN: 31-1581092.

Revised 11-07

RICHMOND PARENT PLEDGE DRIVE – THANK YOU DONORS!

(as of 12-17-07)

"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest." Benjamin Franklin

The Richmond Foundation would like to gratefully acknowledge the many parents, families, friends, staff and businesses who have generously contributed their money, time, and effort to the Richmond Parent Pledge Drive. Every effort has been made to list all contributions accurately from July 1, 2007 thru the beginning of this week. We continuously update this list each week. It is up to date as of December 17, 2007. If, however, an error has been made, please accept our apologies and notify us.

Thank you Richmond Community! You are helping keep our school exceptional!

DONORS

Amano, Shigeki & Kaora
Andrew, Mike & Mueller, Jacqueline
Barber, Duane & Brackbill, Lise
Bauer, Maxine & Burt, Rich
Birke, Richard & Zehavoc, Angela
Chrisman, Charles & Shinobu
Clark, Norm & Ozaki, Mona
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Gooding, Tim & Tam, Sara
Gregor, Jennifer & David
Hagg, Daniel
Hardy, Jeff & Yuko
Heming, Karie
Hinkle, Stephanie
Hoesly, Fred & Mae (grandparents)
Hutson, Kim
Kaliszewski, Jeanne & Joe

Kott, Gregory & Bonnie Richardson
Kott, Phyllis (grandparent)
Luers, William & Katie
Mays, Sally & Head, Robert
McGee, Mikael & Jolene
Mueller, Jacqueline
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Peters, Doug & O'Brien, Colleen
Poole, Steve & Shannon
Reents, Brad & Yoshiko
Schultz, Teresa
Shawen, Richard
Sherrill, Carrie & Coonradt, Pete
Slyman, Mike & Cathy
Slyman, Jean (grandparent)
Thorp, Micah & Nicole
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Virnig, Dennis & Aimee
Wilkinson, Robert & Maluaka
Yanase, Craig & Lisa
Yano, Mayumi
Zaerr, Jon & Cathy
Zaerr, Joe & Lois

BUSINESS DONATIONS

Lauro's Kitchen
Academy Theatre
Pizzicato
Clinton St. Theatre

MATCHING DONATIONS

Pepsico



TOTAL DONATION

\$	0	1	6	7	0	3
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Hannah Hogness, Richmond student from grades K-4, introduces her grandparents to the Emperor of Japan. The occasion was the 2007 award of the International Prize for Biology, given to Hannah's grandfather by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science.



スクールツアーガイド募集のご案内

リッチモンドスクールご父兄の皆様

1月から始まるスクールツアーのガイドをしてくださるボランティアを募集しています。このツアーは、来年度に入学を希望する父兄の方々や、日本から視察にみえた先生方に対してわたしたちの学校をご紹介しますものです。

内容は、1時間で Pre-K、Kinder、1st grade、2nd grade、4th grade、図書室、カフェテリア、ジムなどをご案内し、できる範囲で質問にお答えするだけです。

ツアーは、1月9日～3月5日までの毎水曜日 8:15～10:00 に実施されます。これらの実施日に1回でもボランティアができる方は、下記の幹事まで、ぜひご連絡ください。

Sally Mays (lefty_sally@hotmail.com)

Sachiko Nishikido(stepn55@gmail.com)

よいお年をお迎えください。



Portland Public Schools
Japanese Magnet Program

RICHMOND JAPANESE IMMERSION

CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER 21– JANUARY 13, 2007

WINTER VACATION is Sat. December 22, 2007—Sun. January 6, 2008

- Mon. Jan. 7 **WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL!** Students return to school for 2008; Catlin Gabel's students of Japanese language volunteer in our classrooms
- Tues. Jan. 8 **Mad Science starts today: Earth, Wind, Inspire** for grades K-5 at 2:25-3:25 PM in rooms 104, 105 and 206
Garden Committee meeting at 6:00 PM at Richmond
- Wed. Jan. 9 **School tour for prospective parents** at 8:15-10:00 AM
Enrollment & Transfer presentation at Mt. Tabor Middle School at 6:00-7:00 PM in the cafeteria
- Thurs. Jan. 10 **Visiting teachers and principal from Miyanomori Elementary School in Sapporo, Japan arrive today!**
Vision & dental screening in room 206 for grades K, 1, 3 & 5
- Fri. Jan. 11 PreK on field trip to see the Oregon Children's Theatre production of *Lily's Purple Plastic Purse* at the Keller Auditorium, 8:20 AM-12:00 PM
- Sun. Jan. 13 **O-Shogatsu at the Portland Japanese Garden** from 12:00-3:00 PM; Richmond families receive a discount on admission and our interns will be available to help with calligraphy. This is also a chance to meet the teachers and principal from Miyanomori Elementary School in Sapporo, Japan who will attend this wonderful event with Kathryn.

Richmond office hours are

7:30 AM—4:00 PM

To reach Patsy Burke, Secretary:

503-916-6220

pburke1@pps.k12.or.us

To reach Kathryn Anderson, Richmond Principal:

503-916-6220

503-329-1681 (cell)

keanders@pps.k12.or.us

Building Bright Futures -
You and Lowe's.



- *Portland Public Schools recognizes the diversity and worth of all individuals and groups and their roles in society. All individuals and groups shall be treated with fairness in all activities, programs and operations, without regard to age, color, creed, disability, marital status, national origin, race, religion, sex or sexual orientation.*

Board of Education Policy 1.80.020-P

Have you heard the good news about the Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grant? Richmond's grant committee applied for and received this \$5,000 grant to support the building of our Japanese Garden!!! Thanks goes to Katie Luers who wrote the grant application for Richmond. **Way to go Katie!**