



SAKAI ENTRY STONE

The artist immediately envisioned our entry sign upon seeing this stone on Sakai property.

Created by Molly Greist, stone sculptor

TORI SENTRY GATE

This wood sculpture serves as sentry for our school family and our cherry trees.

Alderson family donation



SYNERGY

Synergy sculpture and surround, remind us that our school community is strong and successful because we work together.



The wisteria is in memory of Anne Nakao, granddaughter of Sonoji Sakai & daughter of Kay and Sam Nakao.

Created by Molly Greist, Robert Miller and Peg Chapman

JAPANESE CHERRY TREES

Our oldest cherry tree was planted by the Japanese community in the early 1930s. This tree and two others were moved to Sakai from Bainbridge High School in 2007 after being rescued from destruction due to construction of a new wing. Each spring we celebrate with a Cherry Blossom Festival.

Thanks to the vision of Sakai teacher Shelley Minor and a generous donation of tree moving by Sue Cooley



CIRCLE OF STONES

Each large stone (found on the property) was selected to represent a Sakai family member, their name sandblasted in Kanji on a smaller stone is set at the base of the larger.

Collaborative design of Dean Sakai (Sonoji Sakai's grandson) and Molly Greist, Island artist

SAKAI FAMILY CREST (COVER)

Beautifully hand carved in maple and walnut.

Created by Peg Chapman, former Sakai secretary



Our traditions

We honor our school's heritage by enhancing student understanding. Please join us.

OPENING DAY CEREMONY

District and school staff, parent and student leaders, and Sakai family members welcome students to a new school year on the first day.

ARTS TOUR

An introduction to the history surrounding our art collection for grade 5.

LEAVING OUR ISLAND DAY

A truly special day when sixth graders interact with internment camp survivors and others with ties to the Japanese American WWII experience.

CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

An informal lunch in April under our cherry trees, in the tradition of Japanese Hanami.

BIKE TO SCHOOL DAY

In May (3rd Friday), appx. half of our students and staff, plus volunteers, ride bikes to school. Adult lead training rides begin in April.

SALMON RELEASE

Students raise salmon for release into Sakai's stream in late March and study the life cycle of salmon and related Native traditions.

SAKAI READS

Themed books (e.g. resilience) are read with volunteers leading small group discussions.

Photos by Ronnelle Browning



Arts & Traditions of Sakai

Honoring the History and Culture of the Japanese Americans of Bainbridge Island

SONOJI AND YOSHIKO SAKAI ETCHED GLASS

The large etched glass panel at the school entrance was done by a then 17 year old artist and a recent graduate of Bainbridge High School.

Created by Ben Philips



SHADOW BOX

This lovely box holds important treasures:

- Kay (Sakai) Nakao's childhood doll was sent to her by her grandmother from Hiroshima in 1930. The doll and a kimono were stored in a trunk at the Sakai home during WWII.



- Executive Order 9066 poster (reproduction) and others like it were posted all around Bainbridge Island in 1942. The original is in the Bainbridge

Historical Museum.

Poster donated by Secretary of State Ralph Munro

- The small accordion-fold book, "Executive Order 9066", was the design inspiration for the large mural across the hallway.

Created by MJ Linford, Sakai art teacher

Shadow box created by Carol Fiedler Kawaguchi, Island resident

"REMEMBERING EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066"

Through artifacts, photographs, poetry, and a story, this work of art tells about Bainbridge Island Japanese Americans as they were forced to leave in 1942. Kay Nakao, Sonoji Sakai's daughter, tells her story of being ordered to evacuate the island.

Collaborative design by MJ Linford, Sakai art teacher (graphic arts), and Peg Chapman, Sakai secretary (woodcarving). A Washington Civil Liberties Public Education Program grant funded this project.



by many women for various celebrations throughout the years.

Kay's mother made this corsage while incarcerated during WWII. Take a close look—she made it out of tiny sea shells found in the desert. A work of art!



7-UPS ART INSTALLATION

This display highlights the 70+ year friendship of seven Bainbridge Island Japanese Americans who were incarcerated in 1942, when they were 12 years old. Yae Sakai Yoshihara commented, "We always knew we had each other."

Created by Tammy Fujihara, a local graphic designer



FUMIKO HAYASHIDA PAINTING

The left side depicts Fumiko Hayashida in 1942 being forced to leave the island. The right, in 2006 when she was 95 years old and testified at the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. She died in October, 2014 at the age of 103.

Created by artist HIRO and on loan from the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial

