



November 2016

Dear friends,

The National Veterans Network Advisory Board is pleased to present the following new mission statement of the National Veterans Network:

To preserve, educate and advocate how the WWII Nisei Soldiers' Loyalty, Courage, and Patriotism embody American values and shape future decisions about justice and equality in a democracy.

This new mission statement was developed and adopted by the NVN Advisory Board after carefully evaluating the relevance of the World War II Nisei Soldier experience in context of the issues that America faces today. It is with renewed commitment and conviction that we announce that National Veterans Network will expand its efforts at the national level to preserve, educate and advocate for the Nisei Soldier story as a powerful example of what it means to be an American and to advance educational initiatives that promote justice and equality in our democracy.

As many of you know, we devoted many years to preserve the Nisei Congressional Gold Medal. It now displays at the Smithsonian, our country's premier history museum, along with a digital online exhibition that shares the stories of their service. This serves as recognition that the Nisei Soldier service is an important part of our nation's history. However, we cannot stop there. The work has just begun. Moving forward, we will work in partnership with the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center to bring the Nisei soldier stories to life by actively engaging with national partners to reach the students, teachers and larger public.

As we continue our work, we recognize that there are organizations throughout the country whose mission is to share the Japanese American World War II experience and who are making an impact in their communities. The National Veterans Network's position is to deliver its mission at the national level, while supporting and at times working in congruence with these organizations, to reach areas of our country where this story is not known or required in the schools. The national landscape is large, and given this, NVN will continue to strategically partner with national institutions that have the capacity to reach 1 million constituents or more in an effort to reach the broadest and most diverse audience. This will provide the biggest yield in our time and investment to reach an audience that has yet to learn about this incredible story of loyalty, courage and patriotism.

We are excited to announce three educational initiatives to bring the Nisei story to the classrooms and to a national audience. In support of this, NVN is launching a campaign to raise funds that will allow us to advance our national initiatives outlined on this site.

We ask for your consideration to donate \$100, \$500 or \$1,000 or more, in memory or honor of a Nisei Soldier.

Please support the American legacy of the Nisei Soldiers today.

Sincerely,



Christine Sato-Yamazaki
Executive Director

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