

# EVOLVING *Pictures*

“Sadako’s story was the first human story of Hiroshima or Nagasaki that I ever read,” said Clifton Truman Daniel. “Up to that point, my grandfather never spoke to me about the bombings. I was very young and it was a tough subject, and to keep our lives normal my family downplayed our relationship to Harry Truman ... I learned about the bombings from my history books, from my teachers. There was a page or a page and a half, a picture of the mushroom cloud, facts and figures, but nothing about what happened to the people on the ground.

“My son Wesley brought home ‘Sadako and the Thousand Paper Cranes’ when he was in fifth grade. He’s 27 now ... We read it together and I remember telling him it that was important for him to understand his great-grandfather’s and his country’s decision but also to understand what that decision cost the people of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. His teacher also taught them Japanese history, Japanese culture. They had tea ceremony in the classroom, she took me to a Japanese restaurant. I came home one afternoon and Wesley was wearing a kimono, and he had green tea and sushi laid out on the coffee table

“I mentioned this to a couple of Japanese journalists who were doing stories on anniversaries of the bombings, and those stories eventually got back to Japan and got to Masahiro. And he called me out of the blue one day and just said, ‘I understand you read my sister’s story and you read it to your son. Could we meet someday, maybe work together?’ I said yes.



*One of Sadako Sasaki’s cranes was donated to the Japanese American National Museum during the opening reception for “Above the Fold” on May 29. From left: Gene Kanamori and Nikki Kodama JANM governors; Yuji*

*Sasaki, Sadako’s nephew; Miyuki Sohara, producer/director/writer of “Orizuru 2015”; Clifton Truman Daniel, grandson of President Harry Truman; Masahiro Sasaki, Sadako’s brother; JANM President and CEO Greg Kimura; Consul General Harry Horinouchi and his wife, Sabine; Kathryn Bannai, JANM trustee; Tracey Doi and Mitchell Maki, JANM governors.*