



PACIFIC CITIZEN

CELEBRATING 93 YEARS

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SHAPING EDUCATION ACROSS THE U.S.

Teachers from throughout the U.S. convene to learn about the JA incarceration experience.

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Broad Museum Features Takashi Murakami Exhibit.

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MNHS Holds Commemorative Nisei Soldiers Program.



The 2022 JACL Teacher Training Workshop participants at Manzanar

PHOTO: MATTHEW WEISBLY

JACL WELCOMES JACS FUNDING FOR 'THE LEAGUE OF DREAMS'

By JACL National

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Park Service announced on June 21 its new round of funding for the Japanese American Confinement Sites (JACS) grant program. In total, 19 grants were funded for \$3.4 million, with funding directed toward Japanese American and historical organizations, institutions and community partners aimed toward preserving the legacy and history of former Japanese American confinement sites during WWII. JACL is pleased that its proposal, "The League of Dreams," was selected as an awardee.

"The League of Dreams" is a joint project between JACL National and celebrated film producer Lane Nishikawa and will chronicle the history

of the JACL, from its founding in 1929 to the present day.

The film will document the organization's rich 93-year history of advocacy work highlighting its work in fighting prewar racism and discrimination directed toward Japanese Americans, JACL's activity during WWII, postwar advocacy including immigration reform and engagement in the civil rights movement, the passage of the 1988 Civil Liberties Act and the current focus on how our unique Japanese American experience is applicable to other civil rights struggles.

"There is an urgency I've felt for the last five years to document as many of our elder Nisei as we can before we lose them. Now, with the help of National JACL and the National Park Service's Japanese American

Confinement Sites Program award, we will be able to accelerate our efforts exponentially," stated Nishikawa. "Already we captured some great moments with many JACL members, but the most meaningful was the time I was able to spend with Norm Mineta." This funding will enable JACL to capture more stories such as this to document our history.

With more than \$38 million in total grants distributed, including this most recent round, the JACS grant program has and continues to provide unparalleled support to the continued retelling and reinterpretation of the Japanese American experience.

With these many diverse programs, newer generations of Americans will have the opportunity to learn about the legacy and the lessons of Japanese American wartime incarceration.

Unfortunately, the JACS program will soon deplete the funds authorized by Congress. We hope that based on the success and impact that the JACS program has had in its nearly 13-year history, we urge the Senate to take up Rep. Doris Matsui's legislation, HR 1931, and reauthorize the JACS program with an additional \$42 million in total funding, including \$10 million for specialized education programs.

UPDATE: On July 21, the JACE Act (HR 1931) legislation was amended and renamed the "Norman Y. Mineta Japanese American Confinement Education Act." It will now go to the full Senate for passage and because of its name change, will need to be revoted on in the House. Hawaii Sen. Mark Schatz reintroduced the legislation and the new name as S.4576.



JACL CALLS FOR FURTHER REFORM AFTER JULY 4 SHOOTING IN HIGHLAND PARK, ILL.

By JACL National

The JACL was shaken by the recent mass shooting at a parade in Highland Park, Ill., over the 4th of July that left six dead and 38 injured. This attack was one of several mass shootings that occurred over the weekend and marks at least the 308th mass shooting in the U.S. this year, according to data compiled by the Gun Violence Archive, a nonprofit tracking such incidents. The organization defines a mass shooting as involving four

or more people shot, not including the shooter.

The mass shooting in Highland Park took place only nine days after President Joe Biden signed into law the first major federal gun safety legislation in decades. This bipartisan bill represented the most significant new federal legislation to address gun violence since the expired 10-year assault weapons ban of 1994.

The legislation came together in the aftermath of recent mass shootings at an Uvalde, Texas, elementary school and a Buffalo, N.Y., supermarket

that was in a predominantly Black neighborhood.

The passage of this legislation shows proof of concept that bipartisan gun legislation reform can be passed, and these tragedies highlight the need for further legislation and stronger enforcement of existing laws.

Had the new law been in place, perhaps some of the red flag provisions may have kept the gunman from acquiring his weapons. Although the recently passed legislation represents the most significant gun violence prevention laws passed in decades,

it still falls short of what is needed to prevent the mass murders that have become a daily occurrence.

Congress must go further to pass measures including comprehensive background checks and reinstating the assault weapons ban with more stringent restrictions on high-capacity ammunition.

These weapons serve only one purpose — to kill and maim large numbers of people in a short amount of time in the waging of war, and deserve no place in the hands of private citizens. ■

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The *P.C.*'s mission is to 'educate on the past Japanese American experience and preserve, promote and help the current and future AAPI communities.'

** Your donations will help build and preserve a cohesive library of the Pacific Citizen to educate future generations.**

'I'm glad to see the Pacific Citizen growing and evolving with its website, and especially LOVE the much easier-to-navigate digital archives. It's a treasure trove for JAs to learn about our community's history, and for scholars and journalists looking to connect the past with the present. Thanks for the improvements, P.C.!'
— Gil Asakawa



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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

By David Inoue, JACL Executive Director

Thirty-four years ago this week, Congress passed and President Ronald Reagan signed into law the Civil Liberties Act of 1987, more commonly known to our community as Japanese American Redress. Passage of redress was possible due to a confluence of many factors that seem so distant in today's hyperpartisan Congress that lacks the collegiality of the past and, more importantly, the greater interest of our country over party.

The Jan. 6 commission has been revealing the depths to which our former president and his closest supporters went to try to maintain

power. The violence of the rioters was well-documented that day as most of us watched in horror.

What is now being revealed is the direct role the president played in promoting his followers to insurrection — and allowing them to continue, despite the pleas of several of his other advisers to call for an end to the violence.

The bipartisan cooperation that passed redress is a distant memory, indeed.

Perhaps in a glimmer of hope, at the Heart Mountain Pilgrimage, ground was broken on the Mineta-Simpson Institute, a new multi-purpose facility with the hopes of fostering the bipartisan friendship that was the hallmark of the institute's namesakes.

The friendship between Sec. Norman Mineta and Sen. Alan Simpson was one forged outside the contractions of political partisanship. This was the common thread for many from their generation in Congress.

Others such as Sen. Daniel Inouye had forged friendships on the basis of their shared experience of service during World War II. And other more recent generations through their service in the Vietnam War. Their relationships were not only through their service in Congress and to their constituents, but also in relation to one another at a truly personal level.

Key to the leadership in the fight for redress were Sen. Inouye, who had come to prominence during the Watergate hearings as a member of the Senate Watergate Committee, and Sec. Mineta, who was elected to Congress as part of the Democratic wave in response to the Watergate scandal.

It would be an understatement to say that the Jan. 6 insurgency is the modern Watergate. A mob breaking

into the Capitol, assaulting the Capitol police and calling for the heads of Vice President Mike Pence and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi makes the Watergate scandal look more like a parking violation relatively speaking, and yet our political leadership remains unable to coalesce to agree that what happened was wrong.

Just as Watergate defined a generation, where we go from here will define our country. Will we continue down the path of obstruction, where the best form of government is no government, leading to the anarchy of Jan. 6? Or, do we get the leadership we need who will denounce such hyperpartisanship and work to ensure our government serves the people.

We are now three months away from the midterm elections. We have seen the impact of past elections that have led to a regressive Supreme Court that values gun rights over the right to life, while ignoring the right of a pregnant person to determine the future of her own life.

Thievery voting rights we will seek to exercise in November have been eroded by justices who believe only in justice for themselves and their allies, not for equal voting rights for all. The only way we can make a difference on these issues is if we vote, and not only for federal representation, but also for school boards, city council and state legislators.

We need for both of our major political parties to engage in the process of legislating and taking part in an honest debate of issues. Right now, we don't have that, and are faced with an uncertain future unless we make the difference with our votes.

I still hold the hope that we can live out the ideals of the Mineta-Simpson Institute and return to a political system that works to pass bipartisan legislation like the Civil Liberties Act.

David Inoue is executive director of the JACL. He is based in the organization's Washington, D.C., office.



LEGAL-EASE: AN ATTORNEY'S PERSPECTIVE

WARNING SIGNS OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

By Judd Matsunaga, Esq.

At 64 years of age, I'm determined to keep my mind as sharp as possible for as long as possible. Yet, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website, symptoms of the disease can first appear after age 60. Furthermore, the risk increases with age, i.e., the number of people living with the disease doubles every five years beyond age 65.

So, when I have trouble remembering somebody's name, or the name of a restaurant, my "inner retard" sounds the alarm — "Could be early onset Alzheimer's disease." Fortunately for me, the Alzheimer's Assn. lists my occasional memory lapses as "typical age-related change." Yet, approximately 5.8 million people in the United States age 65 and older live with Alzheimer's disease. Of those, 80 percent are 75 years old and older (source: www.cdc.gov/aging/aginginfo/alzheimers.htm).

Early intervention is critical to provide help and support as soon as possible. Treatments are more effective when they are started early. Here are some warning signs of Alzheimer's disease from www.alz.org.

(1) Memory Loss That Disrupts Daily Life

One of the most common signs of Alzheimer's disease, especially in the early stage, is forgetting recently learned information. Others include forgetting important dates or events, asking for the same information over and over and increasingly needing to rely on memory aids or family members.

What's a typical age-related change? Sometimes forgetting names or appointments but remembering them later.

(2) Challenges in Planning or Solving Problems

Some people living with dementia may experience changes in their ability to develop and follow a plan or work with numbers. They may have difficulty concentrating and take much longer to do things than they did before.

What's a typical age-related change? Making occasional errors when managing finances or household bills.

(3) Difficulty Completing Familiar Tasks

People with Alzheimer's often find

it hard to complete daily tasks. Sometimes they may have trouble driving to a familiar location or organizing a grocery list.

What's a typical age-related change? Occasionally needing help to use microwave settings or record a TV show.

(4) Confusion With Time or Place

People living with Alzheimer's can lose track of dates, seasons and the passage of time. They may have trouble understanding something if it is not happening immediately. Sometimes they may forget where they are or how they got there.

What's a typical age-related change? Getting confused about the day of the week but figuring it out later.

(5) Trouble Understanding Visual Images and Spatial Relationships

For some, having vision problems is a sign of Alzheimer's. This may lead to difficulty with balance or trouble reading. They may also have problems judging distance and determining color or contrast.

What's a typical age-related change? Vision changes related to cataracts.

(6) New Problems With Words in Speaking or Writing

People living with Alzheimer's may have trouble following or joining a conversation. They may stop in the middle of a conversation and have no idea how to continue or they may repeat themselves.

What's a typical age-related change? Sometimes having trouble finding the right word.

(7) Misplacing Things and Losing the Ability to Retrace Steps

A person living with Alzheimer's may put things in unusual places. They may lose things. He or she may accuse others of stealing, especially as the disease progresses.

What's a typical age-related change? Misplacing things and retracing steps to find them.

(8) Decreased or Poor Judgment

Individuals may experience changes in judgment or decision-making. For example, they may use poor judgment when dealing with money or pay less attention to grooming or keeping themselves clean.

What's a typical age-related change? Making a bad decision or mistake once in a while.

(9) Withdrawal From Work or Social Activities

A person living with Alzheimer's may experience changes in the ability to hold or follow a conversation. As a result, he or she may withdraw from hobbies, social activities or other engagements.

What's a typical age-related change? Sometimes feeling uninterested in family or social obligations.

(10) Changes in Mood and Personality

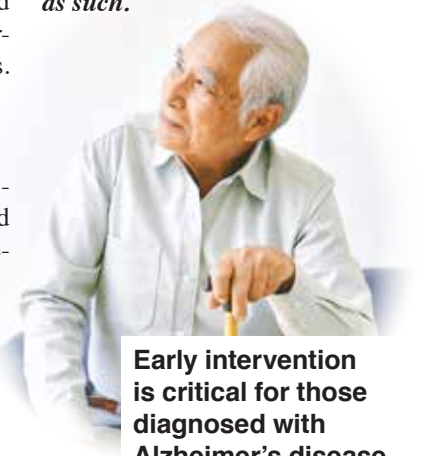
Individuals living with Alzheimer's may experience mood and personality changes. They can become confused, suspicious, depressed, fearful or anxious. They may be easily upset at home, with friends or when out of their comfort zone.

What's a typical age-related

change? Developing very specific ways of doing things and becoming irritable when a routine is disrupted.

If you notice one or more signs in yourself or another person, talk to a doctor. It's natural to feel uncertain or nervous about discussing these changes with others. Voicing worries about your own health might make them seem more "real." Or, you may fear upsetting someone by sharing observations about changes in his or her abilities or behavior. However, these are significant health concerns that should be evaluated by a doctor, and it's important to take action to figure out what's going on.

Judd Matsunaga is the founding attorney of Elder Law Services of California, a law firm that specializes in Medi-Cal Planning, Estate Planning and Probate. He can be contacted at (310) 348-2995 or judd@elderlawcalifornia.com. The opinions expressed in this article are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect the view of the Pacific Citizen or constitute legal or tax advice and should not be treated as such.



Early intervention is critical for those diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.

Pictured (from left) are Gerald Yamada, Sandra Tanamachi, LTC Robert Vokac, USA (Ret), and Mary Pat Higgins Abrunzo at JAVA's Day of Affirmation ceremony on July 15.

PHOTOS: NEET FORD



JAVA HOLDS DAY OF AFFIRMATION CEREMONY

The third-annual event commemorates the anniversary of President Truman's review of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team at the White House in 1946.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Japanese American Veterans Assn. held its third annual Day of Affirmation wreath ceremony at the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C., on July 15 to commemorate the anniversary of President Harry S. Truman's review of the returning 442nd Regimental Combat Team on the White House Ellipse on July 15, 1946.

The event is named the "Day of Affirmation" because President Truman's salute to the Japanese American soldiers affirmed that all Japanese American soldiers, men and women, who served during World War II were to be regarded as America's heroes and removed any doubt that they were loyal citizens of the U.S. Said Truman, "You fought not only the enemy, but you fought prejudice — and you have won."

"The Japanese American Veterans Assn. is proud to present this wreath to honor the legacy forced by the valor and patriotism of the Japanese American men and women who served during WWII," said Gerald Yamada, president of JAVA, during his ceremony remarks.

This year's participants in the wreath ceremony are historically meaningful. Serving as the military escort was LTC Robert Vokac, U.S. Army (Ret), grandson of Col. Virgil R. Miller, who was the commanding officer of the 442nd RCT starting with the battle to save the Texas Lost Battalion.

Also participating was Sandra Tanamachi, whose uncle, Saburo Tanamachi, was killed in action while serving with the 442nd RCT in its efforts to save the Texas Lost Battalion and is one of the first Japanese Americans to be buried at Arlington National Cemetery. Col. Miller was a pallbearer at Saburo Tanamachi's

funeral. Sandra Tanamachi was presented with JAVA's Courage, Honor Patriotism Award in 2005 for her 12-year struggle to have a racial slur removed from Texas street signs.

The other wreath bearer was Missy Higgins Abrunzo, whose father, Capt. Marty Higgins, was the commanding officer of the Texas Lost Battalion at the time the 442nd RCT rescued it. After WWII, Capt. Higgins worked with Mike Masaoka, the JACL Washington, D.C., representative at the time, in support of the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1942, which allowed Issei to apply for naturalized citizenship.

"It was an honor to take part in this year's program as a wreath bearer along with friend Missy Higgins Abrunzo," said Sandra Tanamachi. "We were both able to meet LTC Robert Vokac, U.S. Army Ret, a grandson of Col. Virgil R. Miller, commanding officer of the 442nd RCT during WWII and to hear his thoughts about his deep admiration of our Nisei veterans. It was an emotional experience to place a wreath in front of the Wall of Freedom, as each gold star represented 100 killed in action. I was honored and thankful to be able to represent my Tanamachi family in giving thanks to our uncle, Saburo Tanamachi, and to each of the veterans who gave their lives for a better America."

During his remarks, Yamada stated, "The participants in today's ceremony honor the 442nd Regimental Combat Team's rescue of the Texas Lost Battalion, which is one of the historically significant battles fought by the 442nd RCT. The U.S. Army considers this rescue one of the 10 most significant battles in its history.

"At the end of October 1944, the 442nd RCT, a segregated all-Japanese American combat unit (except for its officers), was ordered to rescue 275 members of the 1st Battalion of 141st Texas Regiment that had become surrounded by the German Army," Yamada continued. "After a fierce five-day battle, 211 members of the Texas Lost Battalion were rescued, with the 442nd RCT suffering over 800 casualties, including 54 killed in action."

In all, 33,000 Japanese Americans served in the U.S. military during WWII as part of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd RCT, Military Intelligence Service, Women's Army Corps, Army Nurse Corps and in rebuilding Pearl Harbor.

JAVA acknowledges CAIC International for its donation of this year's Day of Affirmation wreath. ■



The Day of Affirmation Wreath at Price of Freedom Wall at the National World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.



A MOTHER'S TAKE

LEAVING A BEAUTIFUL LEGACY OF LOVE

By Marsha Aizumi

It has been said that we all have a true calling. It comes at the intersection of our gifts, the times and having the courage to be a voice for those who may not be able to speak. Jane Goodall became a voice for the gorillas, Walt Whitman became a voice for the wounded and dying soldiers and Susan B. Anthony became a voice for women. And, of course, there were many like Fred Korematsu and Sec. Norman Mineta who were voices for our Japanese American community.

Rev. Gary Oba and his wife, Rev. Janet Cromwell, are two people who I believe have followed their true calling in innumerable ways, starting with being amazing allies to the Nikkei LGBTQ+ community and Okaeri.

They were one of the first churches that invited Aiden and me to share our story with their congregation, as West LA United Methodist began its journey to become a reconciling church. And after much education and discernment, West LA UMC voted to become reconciling, openly welcoming and embracing to those from the LGBTQ+ community.

West LA UMC choir sang at



Rainbow sign welcoming all to West LA UMC

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF MARSHA AIZUMI

one of Okaeri's conferences, connecting us all with its messages of love and acceptance. I remember receiving a sponsorship check for Okaeri signed by Rev. Gary who was part of the National Japanese American United Methodist Caucus. Recently at an Okaeri event, panelists were asked, "What was a pivotal moment in your life?" and one father replied, "Attending an LGBTQ+ event at West LA UMC, where for the first time in public, I acknowledged that I was the father of two gay sons."

This summer, Aiden and I were able to thank Rev. Gary and Rev. Janet, who retired after many years of service. It was an honor to see Rev. Gary give his last sermon, choking up in places, as he realized this was his final service as senior minister at this church. And Rev. Janet gave her last lesson to the Sunday School children, which was filled with sweet moments.

Following the church service, a retirement program, beautifully choreographed by Jeri Okamoto-Tanaka, held countless loving memories and tributes to these beloved ministers.

Aiden and I were invited

to say a few words on behalf of Okaeri and the LGBTQ+ community. Actually, Aiden said, "Momma, you can speak for both of us." And so I represented not only Aiden and me, but I also felt the Nikkei LGBTQ+ community when I emotionally spoke my words of gratitude.

There are JA churches who have said they support the LGBTQ+ community, and we are seeing more and more of these places becoming visible voices of love and acceptance. The visibility of Rev. Gary and Janet has healed hearts that have been broken, including my own heart, which felt that our family was not worthy of God's love. It is churches like West LA UMC that have courageously stood up for my son and our family that made this healing possible.

So, as Rev. Gary and Rev. Janet move onto the next adventure that awaits them, we hope they recognize that their work, their visibility and their hearts have touched the lives of those who have often felt unseen, unheard and unwelcomed. We will always be so grateful for knowing them and feeling their love.

Marsha Aizumi is an advocate for the LGBTQ+ community and author of the book "Two Spirits, One Heart: A Mother, Her Transgender Son and Their Journey to Love and Acceptance."



Pictured (from left) are Rev. Gary, Rev. Janet and Jeri Okamoto-Tanaka.

Pictured (from left) are Kyle Abraham, Social Impact Leaders at West LA UMC Guy Cheney and John Peng and Aiden Aizumi.





Installation view of “Takashi Murakami: Stepping on the Tail of a Rainbow” at the Broad

ON VIEW NOW

Two noteworthy exhibitions at the Broad — ‘Takashi Murakami: Stepping on the Tail of a Rainbow’ and ‘This Is Not America’s Flag’ — reflect our interconnectedness over separateness.

By Alissa Hiraga, Contributor

As we rekindle after years of on-again/off-again isolation, art appears anew in museum spaces to heal and inspire us. Two new exhibits at the Broad art museum in downtown Los Angeles showcase the expansive artistic universe with an exhibit by Takashi Murakami entitled “Takashi Murakami: Stepping on the Tail of a Rainbow” and a special exhibition by more than 20 artists called “This Is Not America’s Flag.”

Fans of Takashi Murakami know it has been more than 20 years since “Superflat,” which examined Japanese art and animation’s inclination toward two-dimensionality. Murakami’s first solo exhibition “Takashi Murakami: Stepping on the Tail of a Rainbow” has recently emerged with 18 works, including the 32-foot-wide “100 Arhats” and the 82-foot-wide “In the Land of the Dead, Stepping on the Tail of a Rainbow.”

Fans will instantly recognize Murakami’s Mr. DOB in DOB in the Strange Forest sculpture. The works are Murakami’s expression of the human experience, war, pop culture and our global environment.

The exhibition will charm visitors with its augmented reality (AR) features. As Murakami’s characters appear, one might wonder if they are in your world or if you are in theirs.

Murakami and the artists of his Kaikai Kiki studio have sensed the metaverse for some time now, rendering art using digital mediums in what seems like light years ago. The immersive exhibition reflects our next-level journey — how we interact with technology and ultimately how we interact or will interact with one another.

Ed Schad, curator and publications manager at the Broad, shared his perspective: “I think that digital experiences will continue to become increasingly available as a part of a museum visit. For a place like the Broad that is committed to expanding engagement, digital experiences offer expanded ways to do it.

“The job of a museum is to document, interpret and exhibit culture, and large swaths of culture are going in this direction,” Schad continued. “What makes Murakami’s use of digital worlds special is that it is a logical extension of what he has always done as an artist. Especially evidenced by his interpretation of manga and anime in ‘Superflat,’ Murakami

goes where the energies of culture can be found, whether that is art made for galleries or art made for crypto wallets. The pandemic definitely shifted energies further toward digital realms, and I would guess that Murakami’s work will continue to pursue and interpret that shift.”

Another exhibition presented by the Broad was conceived from important discourse and the tragic consequences of racism. Importantly, the exhibition “This Is Not America’s Flag” represents hope — hope that we the people understand the histories that exist, and that we the people will challenge and disrupt injustices and inequities when we see them.

According to the Broad website, the “exhibition was developed conceptually in the summer of 2020 during the groundswell of activism for racial justice in the wake of the murders of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery and Breonna Taylor. . . . The exhibition includes works that both embrace the flag as the signifier of the nation and its ideals and subvert it to express injustices and inequities woven into the fabric of the U.S., past and present.”

“This Is Not America’s Flag,” inspired by Jasper Johns’ “Flag” (created in 1967 during the height of the Vietnam War) and David Hammons’ “African-American Flag” (which delivers a sense of pride and confirms the presence of African-Americans in the U.S. and how being Black and American are one and the same) disrupts the flag’s idealized symbolism, inclusive of the country’s history of racial injustices and inequities.

Also among the works of 20 artists, including Laura Aguilar, Nicole Eisenman, Jeffrey Gibson, Jaar, as well as Johns and Hammons, is Wendy Red Star’s “The Indian Congress, 2021,” a powerful mixed-media installation with cutouts of leaders from Native American nations arranged in rows on a replica booth adorned with a U.S. flag motif, signifying in part the U.S.’s expansion into Native and Indigenous territories. Red Star’s work reminds the viewer of the important role we each have in honoring Native American histories and the traditional owners of the land.



Installation view of the exhibit “This Is Not America’s Flag” at the Broad



Wendy Red Star’s “The Indian Congress”

David Hammons’ “African-American Flag” (hanging) and Jasper Johns’ “Flag” displayed on the right wall

PHOTOS: JOSHUA WHITE/JWPICTURES.COM

» See VIEW on page 9

JACL TEACHER TRAINING ‘CIVIL LIBERTIES IN TIMES OF CRISIS’ SHAPES EDUCATION ACROSS THE COUNTRY

The organization invites 72 teachers throughout the U.S. to learn about the Japanese American incarceration experience.

By Emily Murase, Contributor

As part of the National Endowment for the Humanities’ “Landmarks of American History and Culture” educator training workshops, the JACL selected educators from across the country to participate in the organization’s “Civil Liberties in Times of Crisis: The Japanese American Experience” over two sessions, six days each, which were held from June 19-24 and July 10-15.

The workshop was developed by Program Co-Directors Phillip Ozaki and Matthew Weisbly of the National JACL and Program Faculty Professor Susan Kamei of the University of Southern California and Professor Sharon Ishii-Jordan of Creighton University. Limited spots in the workshops were in high demand.

According to Ozaki: “Our team scored 192 applications for 72 spots and looked for highly qualified teachers from different parts of the

Former JACL Redress Committee Chair John Tateishi makes a presentation on redress to the workshop participants.

country, especially those in states where one teacher learning about Asian American Pacific Islander history and civil liberties could make a significant difference to a home learning community.” Added Weisbly, “The point of the workshops is to teach 50 who will teach another 50.”

Participants came from Arkansas, Alabama, Northern and Southern California, Hawaii, Kentucky, Montana, New York, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, and Wisconsin, among other states.

“For some participants, this was

their first trip to Los Angeles and, for many, a first visit to Little Tokyo,” said Weisbly.

Most participants had some previous exposure to Japanese American history. Kymberly Mattern, a middle school social studies teacher from New York, studied the experiences of Indigenous peoples and Black history but had limited knowledge of Japanese American history.

“All I really knew about Japanese Americans was the World War II incarceration. At my Northern Virginia high school, we read (David Guter-



GFBNEC’s Mitch Maki guides participants through the JANM exhibits.

Teacher training participants learn about the history of Manzanar from Manzanar Committee Co-Chair Bruce Embrey (far right).

PHOTOS: MATTHEW WEISBLY



“It was a privilege to have the opportunity to train history teachers, English teachers and other educators who, for the most part, did not have direct experience with the Japanese American community,” said Kamei.

Ishii-Jordan introduced the KWL instructional framework whereby she asked participants, “What do you want to KNOW,” “What do you WANT TO KNOW” and “What did you LEARN”?

She added, “Having media specialists and librarians in the workshop was very special as they shared out resources with other participants. . . . The two cohorts were very collegial.”

Based on an intentional place-based learning approach, teacher training workshop participants stayed at the Miyako Hotel in Los Angeles’ Little Tokyo, and many of the sessions were conducted nearby at the Japanese American National Museum.

Teachers from all school levels and librarians heard from prominent Nikkei historians, activists and authors, including Dr. Mitch Maki, president and CEO of the Go For Broke National Education Center; John Tateishi, former chair of the JACL Redress Committee; and Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, author of “Farewell to Manzanar.”

son’s) “Snow Falling on Cedars” in English, but never learned about [the Japanese American experience] in U.S. history class. . . . Before this workshop, I had never even really considered Hawaii as being part of Japanese American history. I am now inspired to teach noncontinental history,” said Mattern.

Cyrus Knower, a high school teacher from Philadelphia, explained that his interest in the workshop was rooted in the kinds of students he teaches.

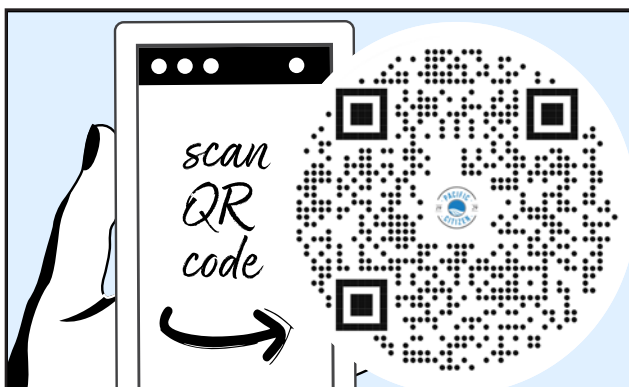
“Many of my students come from immigrant families (Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic),” he shared. “Since Puerto Rico is a U.S. territory, Puerto Ricans enjoy some, but not all, of the same rights as full U.S. citizens. I know the issue of the rights of Japanese Americans during WWII will resonate with my students.”



Participants learn about the history of Manzanar from Chief of Interpretation Alisa Lynch (center in uniform).



Min Tonai, a 96-year-old survivor of Santa Anita and later Amache in Colorado, spoke about his family’s experiences during WWII.



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Participants also traveled to the Santa Anita Horse Racetrack, formerly the Santa Anita Assembly Center, in Arcadia, Calif.

PHOTOS: PHILLIP OZAKI



“Hearing firsthand from Mitch Maki and John Tateishi about how the Federal Commission [on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians] allowed families to share and generations to heal was exceptional. I have truly been blown away by the firsthand storytelling,” stated one workshop participant.

An important component of the workshop was field trips to Santa Anita Horse Racetrack (formerly Santa Anita Assembly Center) and the Manzanar National Historic Site (aka Manzanar Incarceration Camp) with Nisei survivors June Aochi Berk and Min Tonai, as well as Sansei Pat Sakamoto.

Berk was just 10 years old when she and her family were forced from their Los Angeles home to the Santa Anita Racetrack, where they were confined while the Rohwer incarceration camp in Arkansas was being constructed.

Raised on Terminal Island, Tonai is a 96-year-old survivor of Santa Anita and the Amache incarceration camp in Colorado who later served in the Korean War. Pat Sakamoto was born in Manzanar and regularly shares her family history with groups visiting the Manzanar National Historic Site.

One workshop participant explained, “The opportunity to . . . listen to June Aochi Berk say, ‘That horse stall was where I lived’ while experiencing the smells of the manure, the feel of the dust and the heat of the sun unveils the reality in our nation’s history that must be understood and acknowledged.”

The trip to Manzanar was equally impactful. According to one workshop participant, “Hearing a firsthand account of the experiences and losses from the incarceration camp (Manzanar) while at the same time hearing this survivor’s story along with the . . . relentless wind while standing in the California desert is an experience I’ll always have to share with my classes.”

Another participant observed, “During our trip to Manzanar, the long, four-hour drive from Los Angeles allowed us to experience the shock of the geographical change, the isolation and the feeling of seclusion Japanese Americans who

were forcibly moved to Manzanar must have felt.”

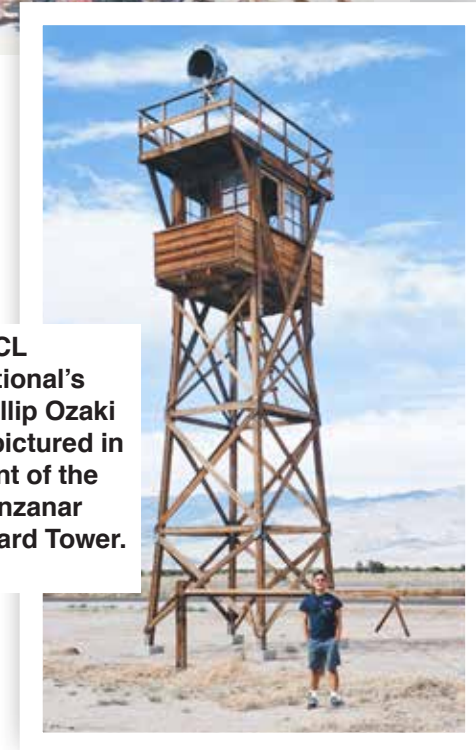
Once at Manzanar, participants were greeted by Alisa Lynch, chief of interpretation for the MNHS, who said, “This place vibrates with history.”

Survivor Pat Morikawa stated, “My name was Pat Morikawa, Number 3959, my family number.”

The visit diverged from Mattern’s expectations. “I went into the workshops thinking I would hear a standard history,” she reflected. “Instead, I heard about a kid’s perspective that the incarceration camp was like ‘summer camp’: riding the bus for the first time, sneaking out to see the movies, going out with friends. I was exposed to the role of incarcerated parents shielding their children from the full horrible context, the implications of what was actually going on. It’s really moving that the parents did that. It’s actually really sad.”

Program Faculty Ishii-Jordan facilitated a similar NEH workshop in 2016 and co-developed JACL’s one-day teacher training workshop that has been in use for more than 25 years.

In reflecting on this year’s workshops, she stated: “It is very important for JACL members to understand that the JACL’s enduring commitment to teacher education is truly valuable. These teachers carry on the legacy of our parents and grandparents, their experiences and the impact of government actions in times of crisis. If the JACL doesn’t maintain this commitment, teachers will not have the opportunity to



JACL National’s Phillip Ozaki is pictured in front of the Manzanar Guard Tower.

continue this legacy.”

Program Faculty Kamei recognized the contributions of all of the workshop staff. “In their evaluations, participants were very appreciative of opportunities to speak with former incarcerated, author Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, but especially the personal stories of Yonsei Phillip (Ozaki) and his Nisei grandfather, and Gosei Matthew (Weisbly’s) Eastern European and Jewish heritage, Sharon’s family history located in the Midwest and mixed with Eastern European heritage, plus my own family history, including my parents, who were founding members of the SELANOCO (Southeast Los Angeles and North Orange County) JACL chapter — in short, the spectrum of experiences from within the JA community.”

» See TEACHER on page 9



Teachers take a moment for a photograph in front of a remembrance plaque at Santa Anita Racetrack acknowledging its World War II history.

TEACHER TRAINING FEEDBACK

‘This was probably the most powerful and meaningful professional development I have ever done. Presentations from Nisei survivors and the stories they told in person and at Santa Anita and Manzanar were like nothing I have ever experienced.’

—Workshop Participant

‘Each of the topics reviewed, from the idea of a “Community Interrupted” to “Shaping Imagery” (Art in the Camps) and the “Impact of Incarceration” were topics relevant to my U.S. History classes today.’

—Workshop Participant

‘Traveling to Santa Anita Park and Manzanar were essential to understanding what Japanese Americans experienced.’

—Workshop Participant

‘The feelings and emotions these historic sites evoked will have a significant impact on my teaching.’

—Workshop Participant

‘I am carefully processing the material we learned, and the story will find its way into my school’s curriculum in more meaningful, cohesive and specific ways.’

—Workshop Participant

‘I plan on working with my district’s Humanities department to develop grade-level appropriate lessons about the Japanese American experience and Executive Order 9066 and a district-wide recognition for the Day of Remembrance.’

—Workshop Participant

‘If we want truth in information, it is very important to work with teachers.’

—Sharon Ishii-Jordan

‘Know that your messages will be shared back in my hometown.’

—Workshop Participant

‘I will never forget.’

—Anonymous.

Stamp Our Story's Wayne Osako with Seleste Sakato, who told her family's WWII experience.

PHOTO: MNHS/NPS



Darrell Kunitomi (left) gave a presentation on his Uncle Ted Fujioka, who was killed in France during WWII at the age of only 19.

PHOTO: CHARLES JAMES



Alan Broch, former postmaster in Independence, Calif. (and husband of Manzanar Ranger Alisa Lynch, chief of interpretation at the Manzanar National Historic Site), sold Go For Broke stamps and also postmarked envelopes and postcards for visitors attending the program.

PHOTO: MNHS/NPS

'GO FOR BROKE'

The Manzanar National Historic Site honors Nisei soldiers and their commemorative 'Go For Broke' stamp during the July 4 holiday.

By Charles James, Contributor

The Manzanar National Historic Site hosted a special program over the July 4 holiday to honor the estimated 33,000 Japanese American soldiers that served in the U.S. Military during World War II and promote the issuance of a U.S. Postal Service "Go for Broke" commemorative stamp honoring the patriotism and bravery of the Nisei Japanese American soldiers that served during the war with the 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team, Military Intelligence Service and Women's Army Corps.

The 442nd RCT's motto, "Go For Broke," signified their commitment to "put everything on the line" when fighting. They lived up to their motto time and again during eight military campaigns, though at great cost to their own lives.

The Forever 55-cent Go For Broke USPS stamp was issued last year on July 4, 2021. That it happened at all was the result of the years-long combined campaign of three Nisei women from California, all of whom have since passed away.

According to the Stamp Our

Story website (www.niseistamp.org), all three women, Fusa Takahashi, Chiz Ohira and Aiko O. King, were forcibly incarcerated in American concentration camps during WWII. Takahashi and King were at Amache in Colorado, and Ohira was at Poston in Arizona. It took 17 years for the women's Stamp Our Story campaign to realize success.

According to Manzanar's Chief Interpretive Ranger, Alysa Lynch Broch, the July 4 holiday program was the first opportunity the Manzanar National Historic Site has been able to host a live in-person public event since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic restrictions. Her husband, Alan Broch, is the former postmaster in Independence, Calif. During the event, sold stamps and postmarked cards from Manzanar to visitors during the program.

The current chairman of the Stamp Our Story Committee is Wayne Osako. Osako joined Takahashi, Ohira and King in 2006 when working as a teacher for the Go For Broke National Education Center in Los Angeles. Osako proved instrumental in garnering support from various groups and was especially effective with the campaign's social media aspects, which would be required for the plan to succeed.

Osako, who spoke at the MNHS program, said that both of his parents were Americans, born and raised in

the U.S., and had been incarcerated during WWII.

"It was really a tragic era," he said, "run by a lot of war hysteria . . . prejudice and racism that really made people want to turn against Americans who happened to be of Japanese heritage." Osako went on to say that the Postal Service did not make it easy for the committee, telling them, "Sorry, we don't allow that kind of stamp that honors individual groups or units in the military," despite having previously issued stamps with comic book characters, entertainers, baseball players and so on. However, the USPS' position on the Go For Broke stamp would change over time with increased support and pressure from many groups, as well as both Republican and Democratic politicians. In July 2021, the USPS officially issued the stamp, with Takahashi and King both able to participate in official dedication ceremonies in California before their passings.

Darrell Kunitomi spoke after Osako, telling the audience about his 19-year-old Uncle Teruo "Ted" Fujioka's life and letters. Kunitomi's Uncle Ted was incarcerated at the age of 16 along with his family at Heart Mountain, Wyo.

Fujioka's father was an editor and writer for the *Rafu Shimpo*, the Japanese newspaper in Los Angeles. The Fujioka family lived in

the Hollywood Hills, but shortly after the attack on Pearl Harbor in December 1941, the family was first sent into detention at the Santa Anita Racetrack in Arcadia, Calif., before being sent to Heart Mountain.

During his incarceration at the racetrack and in Heart Mountain, Fujioka wrote letters to his high school teacher talking about his experience. After graduating high school at Heart Mountain, he then joined the Army at the age of 18.

Pfc Ted Fujioka was assigned to the 442nd RCT and sadly would be killed in action in France at the age of only 19. During the time before his death, he wrote many letters to his friends and family. Kunitomi shared several passages of "Uncle Ted's" letters with the audience.

Interestingly, Fujioka never wrote about the battles or the war. What he did write about was the importance of patriotism and the need for other Nisei to fight for the U.S. in order to guarantee their freedoms in the future, despite the incarceration of nearly 120,000 individuals of Japanese descent under the guise of "military necessity" and security.

The MNHS will be posting Kunitomi's talk on YouTube in the near future. It is compelling to hear the words of Kunitomi's 19-year-old Uncle Ted, especially in today's political environment with the rise in racial

A Go For Broke postmarked postcard (right) was available at the Manzanar program during the July 4 holiday special event.

PHOTO: MNHS/NPS



hate attacks on Asian Americans and the re-emergence of white supremacy in American politics.

After the program segment by Kunitomi, Seleste Sakato spoke briefly about her mother and family, who were incarcerated at Manzanar from June 1942-August 1945. Her mother was in high school in Santa Monica, Calif., when her family was sent to Manzanar.

Sakato spoke about how her mother described the poor conditions found when the family arrived and what they needed to do to survive. Sakato had three cousins born in Manzanar. Her father's family lived in Redlands, Calif., but were able to move to Arizona rather than be sent to an incarceration camp. As with many other families, many of her uncles also served during WWII with the 100th/442nd.

There are many inspirational books and websites that speak to the bravery of the Nisei Japanese American soldiers during World War II. The 442nd became the most-decorated American military unit ever for its size and length of service. The 1951 movie "Go For Broke," starring actor Van Johnson and several actual 442nd soldiers, is one of the few movies to acknowledge the contributions of Nisei soldiers. It gives an overall view of the 442's story and is no longer under copyright protection, it can be viewed for free on YouTube.

"Go For Broke" stamps are available at the U.S. post office and can also be ordered online. ■



Teruo "Ted" Fujioka's gravesite in France with a photo of Ted in uniform on a visit back to Heart Mountain.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF THE FUJIOKA FAMILY



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VIEW » continued from page 5

In Dorothea Lange’s “Interior View of Japanese American Citizens League Headquarters, Centerville, California,” a framed photo is seemingly diminutive against the wall but more arresting once the visitor looks closer.

“Dorothea Lange’s photograph was taken in 1942 and is the earliest work in the exhibition and the only work made during the World War II era,” said Sarah Loyer, curator and exhibitions manager at the Broad. “Despite being an outlier in this way (all of the other works were made from the 1960s to the present), it is an exceptional example of an artist voicing criticism by engaging the

U.S. flag. Like many artists in the exhibition, Lange relies on our shared understanding that the flag represents the rights to freedom and justice.”

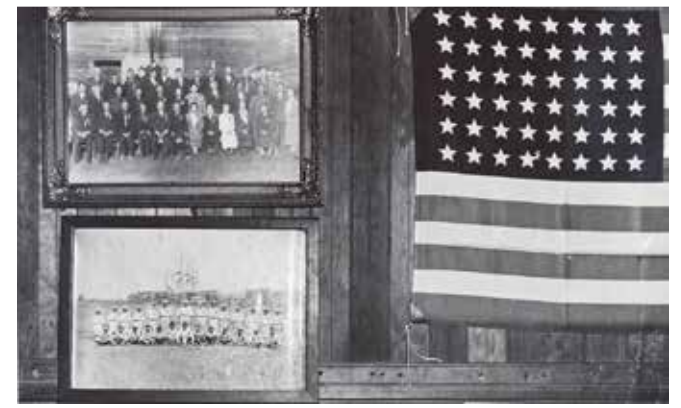
An intentional crop of the U.S. flag in the photo is symbolic of Lange’s opposition to Executive Order 9066. The other side of the photo shows a Japanese American baseball team on the lower half; the upper half shows Japanese and Japanese American members of the Japanese American Citizens League Headquarters.

Loyer added: “Here Lange captures images of imprisoned Americans next to the flag meant to represent them and their rights to freedom and justice, a juxtaposition meant

to shine light on how the government’s actions were in violation of these rights.”

“Takashi Murakami: Stepping on the Tail of a Rainbow” and “This Is Not America’s Flag” are both on view at the Broad until Sept. 25. To experience the AR feature, bring a smartphone with the latest version of the Instagram app. For more information, visit <https://www.thebroad.org/art>.

Further information on “Interior View of Japanese American Citizens League Headquarters, Centerville, California” can be found at <https://www.getty.edu/art/collection/object/108FZQ>.



Dorothea Lange (American, 1895-1965), photographer Interior View of Japanese-American Citizens League Headquarters, Centerville, California, negative April 7, 1942; print about 1960s Gelatin silver print, 20.2 x 30.5 cm (7 15/16 x 12 in.)The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, Gift of the John Dixon Collection, 2000.52.1

TEACHER » continued from page 7

Just as the first workshop was wrapping up, a national controversy erupted over Julie Otsuka’s 2002 award-winning novel “When the Emperor Was Divine,” which is based on the author’s family history with the incarceration at the Topaz incarceration camp in Utah.

A Wisconsin school board rejected the recommendation from district teachers to include the book in the 10th grade Advance Placement English curriculum. It was dropped on the basis that it lacked “balance” and supposedly did not fully present the American government perspective. According to the book’s publisher, Alfred A. Knopf, the book is taught in hundreds of schools nationwide.

In a strongly worded letter to the Muskego-Norway School District dated June 13, 2022, JACL National President David Inoue stated, “The call for a ‘balanced’ viewpoint in the context of the incarceration of Japanese Americans is deeply problematic, and racist, and plays into the same fallacies the United States Army used to justify the incarceration. . .The story of what happened to the Japanese American community is an American story,



Program faculty Sharon Ishii-Jordan speaks to participants.

PHOTO: MATTHEW WEISBLY

one that balances the challenges of injustice, but also the patriotic stories of service and resistance. If anything, these stories that need to be told more in our schools.”

Ozaki summed up the program this way: “The JACL, the National Endowment of Humanities, the National Park Service, Japanese American community leaders, the participants from across the country came together with strong purpose because this will be one of the last times we are able to host a workshop with living survivors of the incarceration as the WWII generation passes the torch to us.”

The educator workshop would

not have been possible without the support of the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Japanese American National Museum, the Manzanar Committee, the Go For Broke Education Fund, the Miyako Hotel and the Little Tokyo Historical Society.

Emily Moto Murase, PhD, is a board member of the San Francisco JACL chapter and serves as Executive Director of the Japantown Task Force. Previously, she was a board member of the Washington, D.C., and Tokyo JACL chapters. She is very excited to become the newest contributor to the Pacific Citizen.



JACL National’s Matthew Weisbly reviews the workshop’s training agenda.

PHOTO: PHILLIP OZAKI

AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL

Dear Travelers,
Good News! JAPAN IS OPEN! The Japanese Government has re-opened its borders on June 10 to international visitors and it will be done in stages, starting with organized group tours. Individual travels will be forthcoming later. New entry requirements have been established for this re-opening.
Our US domestic tours have been operating. We thank you very much for your patience for the past 2 years.
We look forward to traveling with you in 2022 and 2023. In the meantime, please take care, continue to be safe and stay healthy until we meet again.
If you have any questions about our tours, please contact us by email.
Thank you very much.

2022 TOUR SCHEDULE

- GRANDPARENTS-GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR** (Ernest Hida) Jun 19-29
Tokyo, Hakone/Atami, Hiroshima, Kyoto. Craftmaking hands-on experiences.
(CANCELLED - RESCHEDULED TO JUNE 2023)
- CANADIAN ROCKIES-GLACIER NATIONAL PARK TOUR** (Carol Hida) Aug 17-23
Calgary, Glacier National Park, Kootenay National Park, Lake Louise, Columbia Icefields Parkway, Moraine Lake, Banff. (WAITLIST)
- KENYA WILDLIFE SAFARI HOLIDAY TOUR** (Carol Hida) Sep 4-15
Nairobi, Amboseli-Nakuru Lake-Masai Mara National Parks, Mt. Kenya Safari Club, Sweetwaters Tented Camp, Jane Goodall Chimpanzee Sanctuary.
(CANCELLED - RESCHEDULED TO OCT 2023)
- GRAND CANYON-ROUTE 66-LAS VEGAS HOLIDAY TOUR** (Carol Hida) Oct 9-14
Phoenix, Scottsdale, Sedona, Flagstaff, Grand Canyon, Route 66, Las Vegas.
- JAPAN AUTUMN COUNTRYSIDE HOLIDAY TOUR** (Ernest Hida) Oct 9-21
Tokyo, Shimoda, Shizuoka, Mt Fuji, Yamanashi, Matsumoto, Takayama, Kyoto.
- OKINAWA HOLIDAY TOUR** (Ernest Hida) Nov 10-20
Naha, Onnason, Islands of Ishigaki, Iriomote and Taketomo.

2023 TOUR SCHEDULE PREVIEW

- HOKKAIDO SNOW FESTIVALS TOUR Feb 4-15
- JAPAN SPRING COUNTRYSIDE HOLIDAY TOUR Mar 28-Apr 7
- JAPAN HOLIDAY CRUISE Apr 7-24
- MT RUSHMORE-YELLOWSTONE HOLIDAY TOUR Jun 7-15
- GRANDPARENTS-GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR Jun 18-28
- HOKKAIDO SUMMER HOLIDAY TOUR July
- EASTERN CANADIAN CAPITALS HOLIDAY TOUR Sep
- KENYA WILDLIFE SAFARI HOLIDAY TOUR Oct
- CHICAGO GETAWAY HOLIDAY TOUR Oct
- JAPAN AUTUMN COUNTRYSIDE HOLIDAY TOUR Oct
- CLASSICAL JAPAN HOLIDAY TOUR Nov

For more information and reservations, please contact:

AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL
312 E. 1st Street, Suite 240 * Los Angeles, CA 90012
Tel: (213)625-2232 * Email: americanholiday@att.net
Ernest or Carol Hida

NOTE: During this pandemic, our office is closed temporarily, therefore, please contact us by email only. For any mailings, please send it to:

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A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

CALENDAR

DUE TO HEALTH AND SAFETY CONCERNS IN THE U.S. BECAUSE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC, PLEASE CHECK REGARDING THE STATUS OF EVENTS LISTED IN THIS ISSUE'S CALENDAR SECTION.

NATIONAL

52nd JACL National Convention: 'Strengthening Our Community Through Action!'

Las Vegas, NV

Aug. 3-7

Price: Visit jacl.org for Event and Pricing Information

Let's unite and reunite, in-person and virtually, to take action for our community! This year's convention builds upon last year's theme of "Communities Forged Under Fire" and welcomes partner organization OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates. Enjoy full access to four days of programming, expanded workshop and mixer opportunities, Sayonara Banquet and Awards luncheons, in addition to National Council meetings and an in-person election of officers. To keep participants as safe as possible, all attendees are required to be up to date on their Covid-19 vaccine per the CDC's definition of being fully vaccinated effective July 20. Programming will be in-person and virtual.

Info: Visit www.jacl.org for more information.

NCWNP

'Sansei Granddaughters' Journey: From Remembrance to Resistance' Exhibit

San Bruno, CA

July 24-Sept. 3

AZ Gallery, The Shops at Tanforan
1150 El Camino Real

Suite 254

Price: Free

Opening Reception: July 30, 12:30-3 p.m.

This new exhibit features the work of Sansei Japanese American artists who have dedicated their careers to honor the legacy of the incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII. Participating artists include Shari Arai DeBoer, Ellen Bepp, Reiko Fujii, Kathy Fujii-Oka and Na Omi Judy Shintani. A main feature of the exhibit will be the Aug. 14 screening of the film "Sansei Granddaughters' Journey," a 27-min. film that documents the five artists' experiences on an annual pilgrimage in 2018 to Manzanar.

Info: Visit www.sanseigranddaughters.com.

Palo Alto Buddhist Temple Obon 2022
Palo Alto, CA

Aug. 6, 4-8 p.m.; Aug. 7, 4-6:30 p.m.

Palo Alto Buddhist Temple

2751 Louis Road

Price: Free

Food and Obon dancing are back this year at the PABT Obon 2022! All are welcome to experience live music, Obon dancing, taiko performances, Japanese food, arts and crafts and much more for the entire family to enjoy. Food preorder deadline is July 23. Also on sale will be Sequoia Sake "Coastal Ginjo" at \$24, the 2019 Gold Medal Sake Competition winner.

Info: Visit www.pabt.org.

76th Annual Japanese Food and Cultural Bazaar at the Buddhist Church of Sacramento
Sacramento, CA

Sept. 18; 11 a.m.-8 p.m.

This year's drive-thru bazaar will feature preordered food including chicken teriyaki, karaage chicken, chow mein udon and spam musubi. The bazaar will also feature commemorative merchandise including T-shirts, bags and aprons also available through presale. Food items must be preordered by Sept. 4.

Info: Visit <https://www.buddhistchurch.org>.

PSW

Baseball's Bridge to the Pacific: Celebrating the Legacy of Japanese American Baseball
Los Angeles, CA
Dodger Stadium
1000 Vin Scully Ave.

This exhibit pays tribute to the 80th anniversary of Executive Order 9066 and the 150th anniversary of U.S.-Japan diplomacy. It consists of historical panels and prewar artifacts that chronicle the introduction of baseball to Japan in the early 1870s to the first Japanese American teams in 1903. The early tours by these Nikkei teams to Asia starting in 1914 helped usher in the start of professional baseball in Japan in 1936.

Info: Visit <https://niseibaseball.com/2022/06/11/baseballs-bridge-to-the-pacific-celebrating-the-legacy-of-japanese-american-baseball/>.

Smartphone Classes
Mondays Thru Aug. 22 (No Class Aug. 3)

Gardena, CA

Gardena Valley JCI

1964 W. 162nd St.

Price: \$10 Per Class (Upstairs Classroom 207/208); Free for JCI Gardens Residents

These lessons will cover the basic functions of the smartphone such as adding contacts, making phone calls, sending text messages and using the camera, in addition to explaining what apps are, how to use and download apps, as well as data usage, wifi connections and storage.

Info: Visit www.jci-gardena.org or call (310) 324-6611 for class details and to register.

2022 Natsumatsuri Family Festival
Los Angeles, CA

Aug. 13; 11 a.m.-5 p.m.

JANM

100 N. Central Ave.

Price: Free

Save the date for the 2022 Natsumatsuri Family Festival, an annual summer celebration featuring free cultural performances, crafts and activities for families and kids of all ages. Admission will also be free to the museum for all exhibitions.

Info: RSVPs are requested. Visit www.janm.org for more details.

janm.org for more details.
Okinawan Festival
Honolulu, HI

Sept. 3-4; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Hawaii Convention Center
1801 Kapiolani Ave.

Price: Tickets Available for Purchase

This year's festival will feature live entertainment, food booths, Obon dancing and Hawaiian cultural exhibits. Food specialties will include Okinawa soba, andagi and andadogs. Don't miss this fabulous cultural event on Oahu!
Info: Call (808) 676-5400.

Keiro No Hi Festival
Los Angeles, CA

Sept. 17

Hosted at four local community organizations in Cerritos, Gardena, Pasadena and Venice

Price: Free; Registration Required

The fifth annual Keiro No Hi Festival will be hosted by four local organizations throughout the Los Angeles area that will each feature a complimentary bento, gift bag, crafts and more. Come out and safely enjoy celebrating all of the older adults that we have in our lives.

Info: Visit Keiro.org/knh to register for free. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis and closes on Aug. 29 or until spots are filled. For more information, email programs@keiro.org or call (213) 873-5708.

'BeHere/1942: A New Lens on the Japanese American Incarceration'
Los Angeles, CA

Thru Oct. 9

JANM

100 N. Central Ave.

Created by visionary Japanese media artist Masaki Fujihata, this exhibit invites visitors to see things in the photographic archive that they never knew were there as a result of careful curation of little-known photographs by Dorothea Lange and Russell Lee, some presented in hyperenlarged form or reimagined as video. Visitors will become photographers themselves, actually participating in the scene, thanks to this unique exhibit.
Info: Visit www.janm.org/exhibits/behere1942.

PNW

Obon Fest 2022
Portland, OR

Aug. 6; 2-9 p.m.

Oregon Buddhist Temple
3720 S.E. 34th Ave.

Price: Free

This year's Obon Fest at the Oregon Buddhist Temple will feature live entertainment, food and beverages, children's activities, Obon dancing, cultural displays and much more fun for the entire family! All are welcome.

Info: Visit www.oregonbuddhisttemple.com.

Na Omi Shintani: 'Dream Refuge for Children Imprisoned'
Portland, OR

April-September
Japanese American Museum of Oregon

411 N.W. Flanders St. (entrance on 4th Avenue)

Price: Ticket Admission

"Dream Refuge for Children" is an installation by San Francisco artist Na Omi Shintani that explores the trauma of children that have been incarcerated. Shintani has created a series of cots arranged in a circle with an image of a sleeping child drawn directly on each mattress that draws parallels between different children who have been imprisoned and denied their culture.

Info: Visit www.jamo.org.

MDC

Obon Festival
St. Paul, MN

Aug. 21; 3-9 p.m.

Como Park

1225 Estabrook Dr.

Price: Advance Ticket Purchase

Required: Adults \$5, Children/ Seniors \$3

This year's event marks a return to an in-person celebration of Japanese culture featuring bonsai, martial arts, singing, dancing, drumming delicious foods and all other aspects of Japanese culture. This important cultural event will celebrate ancestral spirits and feature lighted lanterns that will help guide familial ancestral spirits back to their resting places.

Info: To purchase advance tickets, visit <https://webstore1.centaman.net/comozooconservatory/calendar/1000014>.

Twin Cities JACL 'Nikkei With Disabilities' Webinar

Saint Paul, MN

July 26; 7-9 p.m.

Virtual Event

Join the Twin Cities JACL chapter and the East Side Freedom Library as they host local scholar Selena Moon and invited panelists about the experience of disabled Japanese Americans during World War II incarceration and their fight for redress, disability and civil rights.

Info: Visit www.tcjacl.org.

IDC

Tri-State Denver Buddhist Temple
Obon

Denver, CO

Aug.

Tri-State Denver Buddhist Temple
1947 Lawrence St.

Price: Free

Come and celebrate Japanese culture at this year's in-person Obon gathering at the Tri-State Denver Buddhist Temple Obon. Food, music, dancing, cultural exhibits will be featured and include offerings for the entire family.

Info: Visit www.tsdbt.org.

EDC

Ukulele Concert: Taimane
Natick, MA

Aug. 11; 8 p.m.

The Center for the Arts in Natick
(TCAN)

14 Summer St.

Price: Tickets \$35, \$30

Dazzling audiences with her talent, style and repertoire, from Bach to rock, flamenco infernos to tribal hymns, Taimane is known for her virtuosity.

Info: Visit www.natickarts.org/performance/taimane-2022-08-11.

52nd Chinatown August Moon Festival

Boston, MA

Aug. 14; 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Location: Main Stage and Beach, Tyler, Hudson and Oxford Streets

Price: Free

This festival is filled with cultural performances (including lion dancing, Chinese music and singing, traditional folk dance and martial arts), as well as Chinese calligraphy, arts and crafts and various vendors of Chinese food and merchandise.

Info: Visit <https://ccbaboston.org/en/chinatown-august-moon-festival-2022>.

Virtual Book Talk: 'Bronze Drum'
East Coast

Aug. 16; 7 p.m.

Virtual Event

Price: Free

Phong Nguyen talks with William Pierce about his novel of ancient Vietnam based on the true story of two warrior sisters who raised an army of women to overthrow the Han Chinese and rule as kings over a united people. This event is presented by Brookline Booksmith.

Info: Visit <https://www.brooklinebooksmith.com/event/phong-nguyen-william-pierce-bronze-drum>.

35th Annual Quincy August Moon Festival

Quincy, MA

Aug. 21; Noon-4 p.m.

Coddington Street at Quincy Center

Price: Free

This year's festival, presented by Quincy Asian Resources, will feature performances, food trucks, amusements and vendors for an afternoon for the entire family to enjoy.

Info: Visit <https://www.qarius.org/august-moon-festival>.

Book Talk: 'Babel: Or the Necessity of an Arcane History of the Oxford Translators' Revolution'

Cambridge, MA

Aug. 24; 6 p.m.

Brattle Theatre
42 Brattle St.

Price: \$29.75 (includes book copy)

R. F. Kuang will be in discussion of her new book "Babel," the world's center for translation and, more importantly, magic.

Info: Visit https://www.harvard.com/event/r.f_kuang_at_the_brattle_theatre/.

ADVERTISE HERE

Events in the calendar section are listed based on space availability. Place a 'Spotlight' ad with photos of your event for maximum exposure.

FOR MORE INFO:

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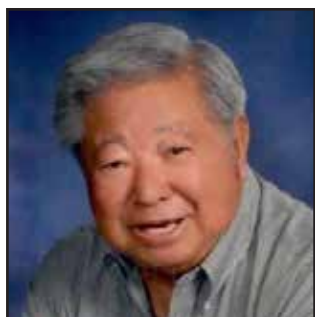
In MEMORIAM



Hayashi, Marilyn, 91, Skokie, IL, May 18; she is survived by her children, Lynne Oshita-Wong (George), Ellen Patrnczak (Carl) and Karen Nakagawa (Terry); gc: 6; ggc: 2.



Miyakawa, Edward Takeshi, 87, Battle Ground, WA, May 6; author of the novel, "Tule Lake"; he is survived by his wife, Mary; adopted children, Kimiko Griffith, Isaac Miyakawa, Huong Komanecky, Mahn Miyakawa, Keith Miyakawa and Kanka Hanson; sisters, Caroline Adams and Maryilyn Miyakawa; gc: 7.



Sasaki, Lilly, 84, Montebello, CA, April 24; during WWII, her family and she were incarcerated at the Gila River WRA Center in AZ; she was predeceased by her husband, Ted; she is survived by her daughters, Susan Tuggy (Stephen), Nancy Sasaki and Kathy Sasaki (Billy Gifford); siblings, Taz Inadomi, Minoru Inadomi (Taye) and Grace Naruse (James); gc: 2.



Taniguchi, Kazuto, 96, Gardena, CA, May 12; during WWII, his family and he were incarcerated at the Poston WRA Center in AZ; inducted into Army (442nd RCT, L Co.); recipient, Congressional Gold Medal; he was predeceased by his wife, Mitty; siblings and in-laws, Hatsumi (Ben) Ogata, Tsutako (Minoru) Takata, Itsuko (Mark) Asada, Natsuko (Flavio) Ciferri, Torao (Teiko) Taniguchi and Henry Kato; he is survived by his children, Warren (Lisa Tanaka) Taniguchi, Lori (Terry Stewart) Taniguchi, Larry Taniguchi and Pat Taniguchi; sister, Yasuye Kato; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Ando, Hiroshi, 91, Los Gatos, CA, May 17; during WWII, his family and he were incarcerated at the Heart Mountain WRA Center in WY; veteran, USAF (Korean War); he is survived by his wife, Sachiko; daughters, Carolyn Ando-Verwilt (Bart), Gayle Barkley (Andy) and Lorraine Tatsukawa (John); siblings, Minoru Ando and Sayuri Yamanishi; gc: 6.

Iida, Glenn, 74, Santa Clara, CA, May 12; veteran, USAF (Vietnam War); he is survived by his wife, Karen; daughters, Valerie (Eric) and Denise (Tyler); siblings, Mike (Carolyn) and Nona; he is also survived by many nieces and nephews; gc: 2.



Doi, Jeffrey, 30, Sacramento, CA, April 23; he was predeceased by his grandparents, Iwao Nakao and George and Ruby Doi; he is survived by his parents, Steven and Janice Doi; brother, Michael Doi (Irene); and grandmother, Kyoko Nakao; he is also survived by many aunts, uncles and cousins.



Nakagawa, Hiro, 95, Santa Clara, CA, May 20; during WWII, he was incarcerated at the Poston WRA Center in AZ; veteran, Army; he was predeceased by his wife, Kimiko; he is survived by his children, Victor (Denetia), Doug (Tracie) and Susan (Dan); gc: 7; ggc: 7.



Imoto, Kinuyo Jane Omori, 89, Vista, CA, May 5.



Nakano, Georgia, 86, Sunnyvale, CA, April 25; she was predeceased by her siblings, Itsuwo Hirashima, Noby Amamoto, Saddle Katayama, Janice Hirashima and Bob Hirashima; she is survived by her husband, Masamichi; daughters, Tracey Kemp (Jeremy Kemp) and Wanda Nakano; sisters, Asami Endo and Nardine Brandon; gc: 3.



Kimura, Philip, 53, San Carlos, CA, May 10; he is survived by his parents, Tom and Jo; sister, Julie.

Furukawa, Naoye Marian, 99, Sacramento, CA, May 15; she is survived by her daughter, Hitoko Katayama (Henry); gc: 2; ggc: 4.

Minami, Fumiyo, 89, San Gabriel, CA, April 28; she is survived by her husband, Mitsugu; son, Michael (Jane); gc: 3; ggc: 6.


Oka, Asako, 97, Centennial, CO; March 6; she is survived by her daughter, Katy Tobo (Hank); sisters, Yoshie Tanita (Stome) and Carol Furuta; gc: 2.



Serata, Henry, 89, San Francisco, CA, June 8; during World War II, his family and he were incarcerated at the Topaz WRA Center in UT; veteran, Army (Korean War); he is survived by his wife, Adelina; daughters, Teresa Serata (Charly Kagay) and Louise Heckert (Bruce); gc: 4; ggc: 1.

TRIBUTE


MAY NAKANO



It is with deep sorrow that we announce the death of May Nakano (née Satsuki Kawamoto). May was born on May 31, 1943, at the East Lillooet Japanese Canadian Internment Camp in Bridge River, British Columbia, and passed away on July 4, 2022, in Chicago. She was predeceased by her parents, Masao and Hisako Kawamoto; and her sister, Amy Kawamoto. She is survived by her brother, Ted Kawamoto; children, Megan and Matt Nakano; nephew, Jon-Erik (Julia) Kawamoto; and grandnephew, Ben Kawamoto. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. CT on Saturday, Sept. 24, 2022, at the Midwest Buddhist Temple of Chicago, 435 W. Menomonee St., Chicago, IL 60614. The service will be livestreamed at bit.ly/MayNakano. The community will miss her delicious cooking and her refreshing honesty.

TRIBUTE

KELLY MICH IRIYE



Aug. 14, 1964-March 30, 2022
Kelly, 57, of Seal Beach, Calif., was born in Seattle, Wash., to William and Kathleen Arita. She attended and graduated from Chapman University. She worked at Toyota for 25 years in Torrance, Calif., and Plano, Texas. She was predeceased by her mother, Kathleen (Kurasaki) Arita. She is survived by her husband, David; children, Connor, Jordan and Kaylene; father, William (Bill) Arita; and brother, Roger Arita. She is also survived by her mother-in-law, Aimee Iriye; brother-in-law, Brian (Kelly) Iriye; uncles and aunts, James (Marion) Arita, Eiko (John) Honda and Jeannie Kurasaki. Kelly was very active in all her children's sports. She was team mom or team representative for their sport programs: FOR (Friends of Richard), VFW, Ranger, Victory and Los Alamitos High School Cheer. Kelly attended all the meets of Kaylene's Acro and Tumbling meet for the University of Oregon.

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'In Memoriam' is a free listing that appears on a limited, space-available basis. Tributes honor your loved ones with text and photos and appear in a timely manner at the rate of \$20/column inch.

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WISCONSIN'S 35 MOST INFLUENTIAL ASIAN AMERICAN LEADERS INCLUDE JACLERS

Ron Kuramoto and Kevin Miyazaki are selected to Madison365's annual list of community leaders.

By Cheryl Lund

Two members of the JACL Wisconsin chapter were recognized recently by the nonprofit news publication Madison365 as being among Wisconsin's most influential Asian American leaders: Ron Kuramoto, JACL Wisconsin chapter president, and Kevin Miyazaki, JACL Wisconsin chapter board member.

Kuramoto and Miyazaki were selected to the publication's 2022 list "Wisconsin's 35 Most Influential Asian American Leaders." Madison365 has been recognizing Black and Latino leaders in Wisconsin since 2015. In 2020, the publication began recognizing Indigenous and Asian American leaders.

Wisconsin has approximately 194,000 AAPI as of 2020, with the largest populations being ethnically Hmong, Indian and Chinese (source:

aapidata.com).

Per Madison365's website, the lists were created to "highlight the beauty of diversity across our state" and for children to see strong role models of color in Wisconsin "doing difficult, important work, often in the face of discrimination and literally generations of oppression."

Ron Kuramoto



Kuramoto has served in numerous professional and board positions for nonprofit organizations in both the Southern California and greater Milwaukee areas over the past 40 years, including Public Allies, the Wisconsin Nonprofits Assn., Future Milwaukee Leadership Programs and Leadership Wisconsin.

This year as an AAPI Coalition of Wisconsin board member, he successfully advocated for the use of the Asian American Education Project to provide free professional development workshops for K-12 educators through the Wisconsin Association of School Boards.

Also in conjunction with AAPI Coalition of Wisconsin, Kuramoto spoke at the Wisconsin Council for Social Studies Conference on the Japanese American incar-

ceration experience and helped to develop and film the "Celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage in the Classroom" webinar with PBS Wisconsin.

And in mid-July, Kuramoto was a featured speaker at a widely covered teach-in that was organized by parents, students and the AAPI Coalition of Wisconsin. The protest was held as a result of the Muskego Wisconsin School Board's refusal to accept Julie Otsuko's incarceration novel "When the Emperor Was Divine" as part of its curriculum (<https://www.jsonline.com/story/news/education/2022/07/18/rally-backs-book-rejected-muskego-focus-japanese-americans/10051434002/>).

Kevin Miyazaki

Miyazaki is an artist and photographer based in Wauwatosa, Wis. His artwork focuses on issues of ethnicity, migration and place, often addressing fam-

ily history and the incarceration experience of Japanese Americans during World War II.

He is also a food, cookbook and travel photographer whose assignment work has taken him to 22 countries and 30 states for clients such as the *New York Times*, Food Network and *Architectural Digest*.

A cookbook that he photographed for Japanese American author Julia Momose's book "The Way of the Cocktail" recently won a James Beard award.

In addition, Miyazaki completed a solo gallery exhibit entitled "Incarceration, Friend or Foe" in Racine, Wis., and has been featured in galleries all over the U.S., including New Jersey, New York City, San Francisco and Seattle.

Among his accolades are being the recipient of the Mary L. Nohl Fund Fellowship and being hosted as an artist in residence at the Center

for Photography at Woodstock.

Miyamoto attended Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, where he earned his bachelor's degree in 1990. ■



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