



PACIFIC CITIZEN

CELEBRATING 93 YEARS

The wooden tablets feature soil samples from each WWII confinement site.

PHOTO: KRISTEN MURAKOSHI

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AADAP Marks Its 50th Anniversary Milestone.

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THIS BOOK IS READY TO CONSOLE YOUR SOUL

The *Ireichō* interactive memorial seeks to remember what history books omit.

FELLOWS CORNER

WE MUST DO MORE TO MEND OUR COUNTRY'S BROKEN IMMIGRATION SYSTEM

By Bridget Keaveney,
JACL Norman Y. Mineta Policy
Fellow

So, how was it? How was the trip?" My mind goes blank as I try to find the words to describe that weekend. I knew that any response I provided would fail to encompass the range of emotions I felt while attending the program. In writing this reflection, I recognize that despite my best efforts, I won't be able to do the program and the community organizers that my colleagues and I had the honor of meeting justice. What I observed at the border was a humanitarian crisis, and I hope that as a community, we can come together to collectively address and eradicate the militarization of our borders and discrimination against migrants.

I had the privilege of attending the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance's Border Tour from Aug. 26-29 in San Diego, Calif., and Tijuana, Mexico, with my colleague and mentor, Cheyenne Cheng (JACL youth and programs manager), and Rehana Morita, this year's JACL/OCA summer intern.

The Border Tour was organized and hosted in collaboration with UCLA's Labor Center. JACL Seattle Co-President Stan Shikuma and his wife, Tracy Lai (American Federation of Teachers and APALA national board member), were also among the participants.

The program's first day consisted of workshops and panels that featured local activists and educators from within the immigrant youth movement and labor and social justice spaces. Close to 120,000 people travel across the Mexico-U.S. border every day, including asylum seekers, individuals and families who have been forcibly displaced from their country of origin and are seeking shelter, stability and freedom from persecution.

Many migrants, unfortunately, undergo hardship and trauma in their journey to seek refuge in the U.S., and upon their arrival, often face uncertainty, instability and prejudice. The marginalization of migrants cannot help but lead one to question our country's values. Without Congressional action toward comprehensive immigration

reform, the structural, insidious issues we see at our borders today will continue to perpetuate.

The first day's panels challenged participants to work toward creating open pathways for citizenship for undocumented individuals and refugees and abolish harmful legislation and programs like Title 42 and MPP (Migrant Protection Protocols) in order to establish a more humane and inclusive means of immigrating into the U.S.

The next day offered participants two different experiences. Those who were undocumented participated in UndocuAPI Leadership Summit in San Diego, while those who could cross the border spent the day in Tijuana.

For those of us who traveled to Tijuana, the day began with a trip to Mexico's Customs and Migrations, where each of us received paperwork to enter the country. The entire process took less than 15 minutes, in sheer contrast to the over two hours it would take us later in the day to re-enter the U.S.

Once everyone was accounted for, we made our way to CESFOM (Centro Scalabrini de Formación Para Migrantes), a vocational school that provides education, training, legal counseling and emotional support to migrants, deportees and refugees. CESFOM focuses on supporting people assimilating into local communities by providing workshops in carpentry, mechanics and other vocations.

It also prides itself on abiding by principles established by the U.N.'s Universal Declaration of Human Rights, stating that one of its primary tenets is empathy, believing that empathy incites community and political participation to enact long-lasting change.

It was moving to see how seriously the team at CESFOM took the mental health of the migrants it served. It was very clear to the participants that CESFOM recognized the need for a holistic approach to

support, as many migrants arrive struggling with PTSD.

Prior to visiting CESFOM, I had never seen an organization speak on migrant mental health so vocally; its commitment to ensuring that the welfare of the migrants it serves is prioritized and centered was refreshing and inspiring. (To learn more about CESFOM, please visit <https://cesfom.org/>.)

Next our group went to Friendship Park, a historic meeting place for families and friends wishing to reunite with their loved ones from whom they have been separated due to U.S. policy. The location of Friendship Park is unique in that it runs alongside the point of the border that cuts into the Pacific Ocean.

The park is considered sacred ground for many, as it has been a place of reunification and healing for many years. While family unity and cross-border events are at the center of the park, the enforcement zone, which splits it in half, has unfortunately made collaboration and special meetups in recent years challenging.

Despite this fact, Friendship Park remains diligent in promoting binational celebrations and reunions by endorsing and taking part in mobilizations such as the Let Them Hug campaign and hosting a weekly joint border church service that is co-officiated by priests on both sides of the border.

Our tour of Friendship Park was led by American activist Robert Vivar, who advocates for the rights of veterans who have been deported. I owe a debt of gratitude to Robert for his thoughtful lesson on the wrongful deportations of U.S. veterans. (For more information on Friendship Park, please visit www.friendshippark.org.)

Our final visit of the day led us to the Borderline Crisis Center, where we met with several of the center's lead organizers and current migrant tenants. The BCC serves as a shelter for women, children

and LGBTQIA+ individuals and families.

Upon entering the space, we were confronted with the harsh reality of the dire circumstances under which the BCC operates. It was abundantly clear that what is happening at our country's borders is extremely problematic. It is a humanitarian crisis.

We were told that the BCC was three months behind on rent and is only able to pay one month's worth of salary for one of its employees at this time. The director revealed to us that they have not been paid since December 2021, and they occasionally receive threats from local gangs, with one of their offices being recently set on fire.

We were also told that the Mexican government does not provide or have available grants that the BCC could apply for at this time. With the growing influx of migrants coming through the border, the need for income/donations is imperative.

At the time of this writing, the BCC has helped 3,000 migrants cross legally into the U.S. On any given day, it shelters 30-40 people; however, during moments of calamity, it has been known to accommodate upwards of 140 people.

When asked what support it needs, staff noted legal aid and funding. Those interested can help by donating in one of the following ways: PayPal (Border Line Crisis Center AC), @Borderlinecrisiscenter or <https://bit.ly/3RNzVTA>.

One thing that really stood out to me during my visit to the center was how strongly it is centered and operated from a place of intersectionality, and how hard its staff works to ensure that racism and racial profiling are not perpetuated. As a community of defenders working to create a thriving sanctuary and space out of nothing for those seeking refuge, the BCC richly deserves support.



APALA
Border Tour
participants

PHOTOS:
COURTESY
OF BRIDGET
KEAVENEY



(From left) Stan Shikuma, Bridget Keaveney and Cheyenne Cheng discuss where JACL fits in the fight for immigration reform and how as an organization it could be more engaged.



The
border
wall

AADAP PAUSES TO REFLECT AS MISSION CONTINUES

Drug counseling nonprofit marks its 50th year as drugs still kill teens.

By P.C. Staff

Past and present collided in Los Angeles, separated by 50 years.

In 1972, prior to the official formation AADAP — the Asian American Drug Abuse Program Inc. — 31 Japanese American teenagers in Los Angeles County's Japanese American community died from illicit drugs.

Just before AADAP commemorated its 50th anniversary on Sept. 17, news accounts reported a sadly familiar incident. On Sept. 13, a 15-year-old Los Angeles-area teen was found “unresponsive” on the floor of her high school's bathroom. Hers would be the sole death among seven teens who had also reportedly overdosed since August. Instead of barbiturates, like in the 1970s, the drug in question was fentanyl.

For Mark Manzo, who was present at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel gala as a table sponsor, the difference between becoming a statistic and a contributing member of society was AADAP.

“I always want to support this organization. It saved my life and gave me a whole new opportunity that I didn't have before,” said the 1993 AADAP graduate, who also worked 11 years for the nonprofit and now operates his own business, Mark Manzo Construction.

The fundraising gala, was, in other words, a celebration not just for the 500 in attendance to mark five decades of AADAP since its humble roots or give glory to its leaders, past and present, or its evolution beyond its original goal to serve the Asian American demographic. It was also to serve as a tribute to people, like Manzo, who personified the organization's motto, “Changing Lives and Saving Families,” and its “People Need People” credo.

Receiving honors were Los Angeles mayoral candidate and U.S. Rep. Karen Bass (D-Calif.), recipient of the Mike Watanabe Leadership Award, named after the longtime AADAP leader who rose through the ranks from drug counselor to executive director over his decades of service.

The Social Justice Award went to Nick Nagatani, attorney, activist, author and co-founder of the Yellow Brotherhood. The Heart & Soul Award was given to Marlene Lee, and the Kuleana Award went to the Aratani Foundation.

Serving as masters of ceremony

were former AADAP staffer and board member and present-day Go for Broke National Education Center President and CEO Mitch Maki and educator and Miss America 2001 Angela Perez Baraquio Grey, with entertainment provided by her husband, singer Tini Grey, who crooned old school standards like “Let's Stay Together” and “Change the World.”

Among the many speakers were event chair and AADAP board member Ty Carter, 40-year AADAP volunteer and board member Sandra “Sandy” Bryant, former AADAP Executive Director (1973-75 and 1980-81) Ron Wakabayashi and AADAP CEO Dean Nakanishi, who described the night as “the culmination of 50 years of your blood, sweat and rage and tears, as well as the culmination of 50 years of vision, inspiration, kindness and faith that make up AADAP.”

Other speakers included AADAP Executive Board Chairman Mike Yoshiba, NCR activist Miya Iwataki and Joel Jacinto, AADAP business services representative.

Dignitaries present included California State Sen. Sydney Kamlager (30th Senate District); Los Angeles County Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell (2nd District); Los Angeles City Councilman Marqueece Harris-Dawson (8th District); former Los Angeles City Councilman, former California state Assemblyman, former California State Sen. and former Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas; Los Angeles Community College board of trustees member Kelsey Iino; and Trisha Murakawa, El Camino College board of trustees member. The predinner invocation was given by Rev. Louis Lewis.

Among the corporate sponsors were

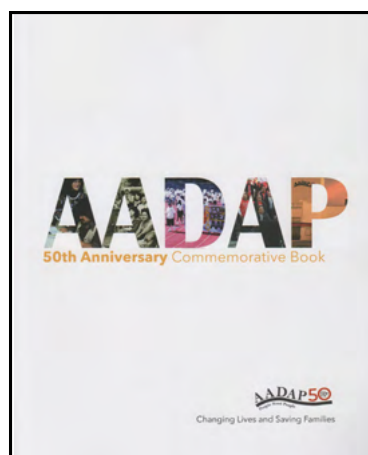
the Aratani Foundation, J. Morey Co., William and Linda Kumagai, L.A. County Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell, L.A. City Councilman Marqueece Harris-Dawson, Kaiser Permanente, Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment, City National Bank, Dr. Ford and Francis Kuramoto, Murakawa Communications, Southern California Gas Co. and MUFG Union Bank.

In the course of the program, a 50th-year anniversary video was presented. It can be viewed at tinyurl.com/4xthxdrx.

As for Manzo, the need for an organization like AADAP more than 50 years since its founding is a sad reality.

“That's why I want to support it because it gave me a life,” he told the *Pacific Citizen*. “It gets really deep when you talk about drug addiction. And, you know, a lot of it usually stems from family, the upbringing and just being lost.”

“Now, it's even worse than when I was [a teenager],” Manzo concluded. “The peer pressure, the Internet . . . the drugs nowadays are scary. I'm glad I wasn't involved in that.” ■



AADAP program cover



(From Top)

Mark Manzo and David Marmalejo attend AADAP's 50th anniversary gala.



Pictured (from left) are Mike Watanabe, former AADAP executive director, president; Rep. Karen Bass, Mike Watanabe Leadership Award honoree; and AADAP CEO Dean Nakanishi.



Pictured (from left) are former AADAP Executive Director Ron Wakabayashi, AADAP Heart & Soul Award honoree Marlene Lee and Ty Carter, AADAP board member and 50th anniversary event chair.

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF SOCIALPHOTO



Congratulating AADAP Social Justice Award honoree Nick Nagatani (center) are (from left) Sandra Bryant, longtime AADAP volunteer and board member, and Nikkei Progressives and NCR activist Miya Iwataki.

PHOTO: GEORGE TOSHIO JOHNSTON



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JAPANESE AMERICANS REVISIT REDRESS TO REPARATIONS TASK FORCE

Trio give background, perspective in a bid to inform African American reparations.

By P.C. Staff

According to the Office of the Attorney General of California, Assembly Bill 3121 in 2020 established a “task force to study and develop reparation proposals for African Americans, with a special consideration for African Americans who are descendants of persons enslaved in the United States.”

Once established, the three objectives of the Reparations Task Force were to “study and develop reparation proposals for African Americans; recommend appropriate ways to educate the California public of the task force’s findings; and recommend appropriate remedies in consideration of the task force’s findings.”

On Sept. 23 and 24, the Reparations Task Force held a public meeting at the California Science Center’s Wallis Annenberg Building in Los Angeles to discuss how those objectives might be achieved.

For those Japanese Americans who were part of the Redress Movement, those objectives had particular resonance. The forced removal from the West Coast and subsequent incarceration of ethnic Japanese — most U.S. citizens — began with President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s Executive Order 9066 on Feb. 19, 1942. Of the 120,000-plus persons so affected, some are still alive today.

The enslavement of African Americans, meantime, may have officially ended with President Abraham Lincoln’s Emancipation Proclamation of Jan. 1, 1863 — but it would take a war between the states to actually end the practice. The last American who claimed to have been a slave died in 1971.

Although American slavery was a longer-lasting and far more devastating and dehumanizing institution than the Japanese American incarceration of World War II, both communities are still dealing with the trauma and aftereffects of those respective experiences in the present day.

Unlike African Americans, however, Japanese Americans achieved a rare feat in U.S. history: winning a legislative victory that acknowledged and apologized for the abrogation of rights and due process, a win that included a \$20,000 payment as a form of legal remediation to surviving Japanese Americans whose lives and livelihoods were affected. That victory occurred more than 30 years ago with the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

It was with that backdrop that three Japanese Americans who were involved with and knowledgeable about the Japanese American Redress



Pictured (from left) are Dr. Amos C. Brown, Reparations Task Force vice chair; speaker Miya Iwataki; Reparations Task Force member Sen. Steven Bradford; Reparations Task Force member Don Tamaki; speaker Ron Wakabayashi and speaker Dr. Mitchell Maki.

Movement were on hand during Day 2 of the public meeting to provide background, history and perspective from one aggrieved community’s quest for justice to another. For the trio, it was imperative to be there, an obligation their Issei forebears might call *giri*.

The three were Dr. Mitchell Maki, president and CEO of the Go For Broke National Education Center and author of “Achieving the Impossible Dream: How Japanese Americans Obtained Redress”; Ron Wakabayashi, former national director of the Japanese American Citizens League who served during the height of the Redress Movement and afterward was the executive director of the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations and Western regional director of the Justice Department’s Community Relations Service; and Miya Iwataki, a longtime community activist with Nikkei Progressives and NCCRR, when it stood for National Coalition for Redress and Reparations and now as Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress.

Speaking first was Maki, who said, “I would like to start off by emphatically stating that I, nor my fellow panelists, make any claim to equivalency between the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II and the institution of African American slavery, which stained our nation for two and a half centuries. Rather, I intend to simply share some insights from the Japanese American Redress Movement, which I hope you will find relevant to the work of your task force.”

Maki then stated that he wanted to emphasize three “insights from the Japanese American redress experience,” namely the importance of speaking with a unified voice; the public commission hearings and education of the general public, a reference to the Commission on

Wartime Relocation and Incarceration of Civilians*; and the objective of redress for the Japanese American community.

Maki also addressed the issue of the monetary aspect of Japanese American redress. “In the end, our community eventually agreed to a ‘symbolic’ payment of \$20,000 for each affected individual and the creation of a \$50 million community fund, for many different reasons. This level of monetary payments, coupled with the presidential apology, satisfied many in the community but left others feeling less than satisfied.

“Therein lies a critical issue for the Task Force,” Maki continued. “Is a ‘symbolic’ payment for African Americans appropriate? On one hand, the actual dollar amount of the harm would be incredibly high — and probably politically impossible. On the other hand, to be ‘symbolic’ on this issue can be seen as a slap in the face or a disingenuous attempt to pay the issue away.”

The baton passed to Wakabayashi, who, echoing Maki’s introductory statement, said, “The Japanese American experience, as wrong and hurtful as it was, was not of the scale of this country’s legacy of chattel slavery. It was a different time and different journey.

“If there are helpful takeaways from our experience, I hope that they will contribute,” Wakabayashi continued. “It would help repay a great debt. The Black Civil Rights Movement generated the Japanese American Redress Campaign and led the struggle for human rights in this country.”

Echoing Maki’s reference to the CWRIC and the 10 multicounty hearings that were part of its mission, Wakabayashi said, “It was, in fact, the Commission process that informed, educated and transformed our community, as well as our internal

relationships and relationship with allied communities,” adding how it was “the telling and the hearing of the stories” that proved to be “an essential part of ultimately achieving a legislative and social victory.”

In reference to the \$20,000 figure received by surviving Japanese Americans affected by the government’s mass incarceration, it was an “arbitrary number,” Wakabayashi said. “It was enough not to be insulting in that time period. . . I don’t think it would be acceptable to us today, even as a symbolic gesture, but at the time, it was.”

Wakabayashi also relayed how the Japanese American community needed to reconcile and recognize the actions of both those who resisted the government’s unjust incarceration and the role of Nisei veterans who served in the military during WWII, with the segregated 100th Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team becoming “the most decorated in history for size and length of service, winning seven Presidential Citations.”

Speaking next was Iwataki, whose remarks generated the most-enthusiastic responses from the audience. Noting that her mother had been incarcerated at the Manzanar War Relocation Authority Center and her father had been a staff sergeant in the 100th/442nd RCT, she said, “I want to acknowledge the difference in our fight for reparations for the injustice of the concentration camps and the 400 years of history of enslaved people. We’re not here to make recommendations or to prescribe lessons learned.

“I’m here to share the experiences of NCCRR, an all-volunteer grassroots organization that fought for reparations and to express our continuing solidarity for black reparations today.”

Iwataki also noted that histori-

cally, California was once “ground zero for anti-Japanese hate and anti-Asian legislation,” which “set the stage for imprisonment of Japanese Americans.” She called the value of the CWRIC and the hearings “incredible.”

“Standing up and speaking out was powerful and transforming for our community that was told to be ‘quiet Americans.’ The testimonies educated my entire generation. Those stories exposed the little-known history, and the hearings gained national media attention and started generating support,” Iwataki said. “Those hearings and our people that spoke put a human face on the Japanese American concentration camp experience for the nation and the world.”

She also noted the recommendations of the CWRIC’s report, “Personal Justice Denied,” and stated that it “found no military necessity for the camps. The Commission recommended a presidential apology, civil liberties education funding and direct monetary reparations. It was immediately put into legislation, where we faced a real uphill battle in Congress, maybe similar to what the Task Force will be facing when they introduce legislation in the state and in the Senate and Assembly.”

Concluding her remarks, Iwataki said, “The Japanese American internment reparations movement was not an isolated campaign. It was part of a continuation of a legacy of building a movement that continues to this day, and we want to thank you for letting us share our experience and continue to stand in solidarity with Black reparations.”

The nine members of the Reparations Task Force are state Sen. Steven Bradford, Dr. Amos C. Brown (vice chair), Dr. Cheryl Grills, attorney Lisa Holder, Assemblyman Reginald Jones-Sawyer, Dr. Jovan Scott Lewis, Kamilah Moore (chair), San Diego City Councilwoman Monica Montgomery Steppe and attorney Donald K. Tamaki.

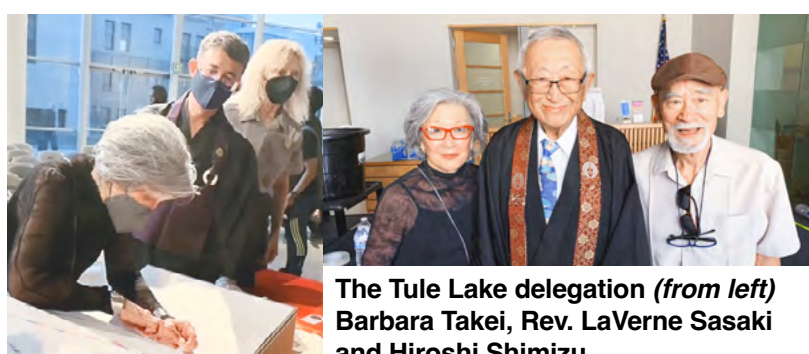
Tamaki, who was a member of the *coram nobis* legal team that reopened the WWII-era Supreme Court case *Korematsu v. the United States*, called the meetings an “opportunity to educate not only internally, the community, but also the American public. And this Reparations Task Force is, I think, just the beginning of that process.”

***See related stories at tinyurl.com/4h5ypbsp and tinyurl.com/2p87v3fv.**



Barbara Takei makes her mark in the *Ireichō* honoring her mother and grandmother with Rev. Duncan Williams looking on.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF BARBARA TAKEI



The Tule Lake delegation (from left) Barbara Takei, Rev. LaVerne Sasaki and Hiroshi Shimizu

Delegates from 75 WWII incarceration sites walk in the footsteps of history at the Sept. 24 installation ceremony.

PHOTO: REGINA BOONE



THIS BOOK IS READY TO CONSOLE YOUR SOUL

The newly installed *Ireichō* is an interactive memorial, but that's besides the point. *You* are the point.

By Lynda Lin Grigsby,
Contributor

Barbara Takei represented 27,000 souls in a procession to honor all Japanese Americans incarcerated during World War II.

The calendar officially said autumn, but on this September day in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo, the oppressive heat begged to differ. Takei, a Sansei Florin JACL member, walked in the steps of history and carried the memories of those once imprisoned at Tule Lake, including her own family members. A steady taiko beat orchestrated her footsteps. Her mother, Sakaye Bette Takei, is a former Tule Lake internee who is listed in the *Ireichō*, or sacred book of names, a first of its kind comprehensive list of Japanese Americans affected by the WWII mass incarceration.

There is a precise soul count now of the harrowing Japanese American wartime experience: 125,284 persons. It's a more accurate number than the oft-cited 120,000 thanks to Rev. Duncan Williams and a small group of historians and fact-checkers who scrutinized and cross-checked scattered records to create the list now published in an unassuming book with more than 1,000 pages sequenced in order of eldest to youngest.

Hand-sewn together and now lying recumbent at the Japanese American National Museum waiting for affirmations and edits, the *Ireichō* is parchment color and hefty enough to need two people to carry because it, as Takei describes, is filled with souls.

With the help of white-gloved official

page-turners, Takei found her mother and grandmother's names and carefully placed a small, circular blue stamp, or *hanko*, next to each. She felt like she was summoning their spirits.

"It made me a witness and a participant in the history captured by this iconic book of names, a manifest of the thousands of lives scarred by America's injustice," said Takei, 73.

The multifaceted project is the latest memorial dedicated to the WWII Japanese American experience that seeks to remember what many history books omit. Traditional memorials seek to reclaim space and history through physical evidence of power — immovable granite and stone — but the thrust of *Ireichō* project differs in its impermanence.

The intent is not to take a pilgrimage to see the sacred book (though you should go see it during its yearlong residency at JANM). The aim is to get you to see yourself as the sacred artifact and a living part of history.

"We believe that a monument can be a living dynamic one that actually changes because of you," said Williams to the delegates before the ceremony. "You become the monument."

In a community that has already wrested an apology and compensation from the U.S. government for its actions during WWII, the *Ireichō* project also underscores the need for continual repair because not all wounds heal after one apology.

The Particles Are Settling

The Sept. 24 installation ceremony at JANM had all the pomp of a major sporting event's opening ceremony, a deliberate choice that



Ceramic art pieces are embedded on the inside front and back covers of the book. The pieces were created using soil from the 75 sites.

PHOTO: KRISTEN MURAKOSHI

Williams, 53, acknowledged a week before the event when we met at the museum in a room in the shadows of his current exhibit, "The Sutra and Bible."

"To kick it off right, we wanted to have a strong installation ceremony," said Williams, bespectacled and wearing shoes with loose laces that danced as he rushed through the museum. He is director of the USC Shinso Ito Center for Japanese Religion and Culture and a Buddhist priest who often closes his eyes when he talks about the Buddhist traditions interwoven into the memorial (the number five is a motif).

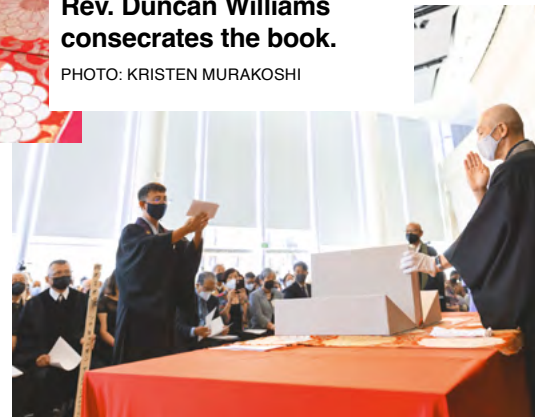
On the day of the *Ireichō* ceremony, delegates representing 75 WWII confinement sites walked in a procession through JANM's campus — from the former site of the Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple to the glass-encased Aratani Central Hall — carrying wooden tablets with names of the camps, military bases or detention centers that once imprisoned people based on their ethnicity. The sites included more well-known ones like Manzanar and obscure ones like Fort Howard, a place just beyond Baltimore, Md., where in 1941 the FBI imprisoned Tsuruju Miyazaki.

Prewar, Miyazaki owned the Horseshoe Café in Suffolk, Va., and Mike's Café in Norfolk, Va.

In the segregated Southern state, Miyazaki met Lethia Mae Boone and had two children. His entrepreneurial success likely led to his

The *Ireichō*, a sacred book of names to console ancestors, is filled with souls. Rev. Duncan Williams consecrates the book.

PHOTO: KRISTEN MURAKOSHI



arrest hours after the Pearl Harbor attack — FBI agents targeted prominent Issei men and community leaders as potential threats to national security. No Issei men were convicted of such crimes, but their imprisonment changed their lives forever.

Miyazaki died of tuberculosis before he could reunite with his family in Virginia. He left behind two young children, including a toddler son, Raymond H. Boone, who grew up with questions swirling about his mysterious father. Before he died in 2014, Boone asked his daughter to tell Miyazaki's story.

"That was a heavy lift," said Regina Boone, 52, Miyazaki's granddaughter. "Our whole family was disrupted due to racism."

Regina Boone is a staff photojournalist with the *Richmond Free Press*, a weekly newspaper that her parents founded in 1992 in the former capital of the Confederacy. Her research led to Minamishimabara, a city in the Nagasaki prefecture of Japan, her grandfather's hometown, where she met family members who affectionately referred to Miyazaki as "Uncle America" and displayed his ashes on the family's Buddhist altar. She paid respects to the grandfather she had never met. Over the phone from Richmond, Va., Regina Boone compares herself to a snow globe.



Delegates represent the 75 WWII incarceration sites during the installation ceremony.

PHOTOS: KRISTEN MURAKOSHI



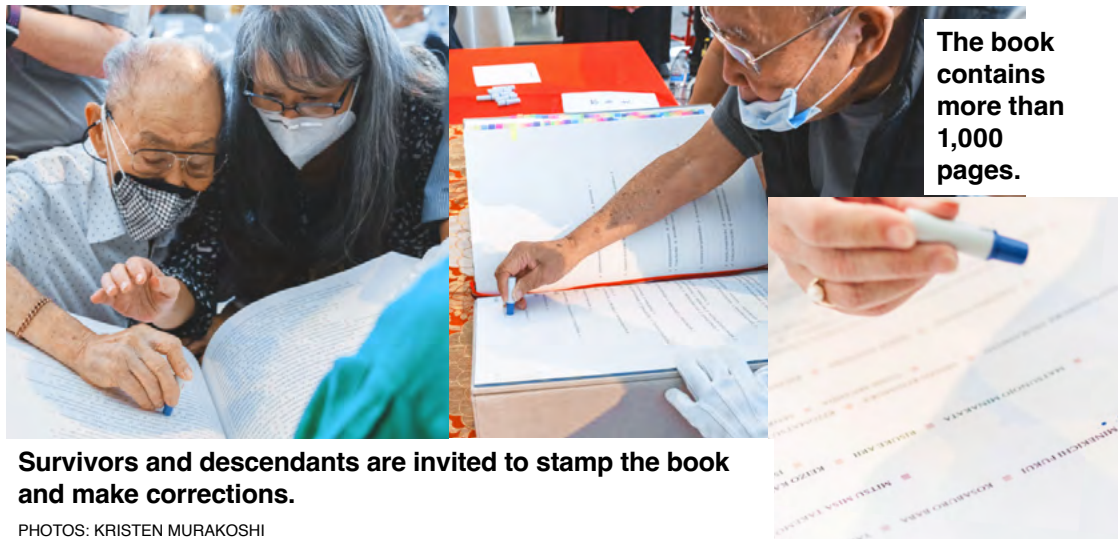
Bacon Sakatani (right), a San Gabriel Valley JACL member, holds the Pomona Assembly Center tablet and soil in the procession. He and his family were incarcerated there during WWII.

Rev. Michael Yoshii (left), a Topaz descendant, represents the place and people at the ceremony. He is flanked by Horishi Fukuda, a Topaz and Crystal City survivor.



Naomi Dyo Wagner, a Tulare descendant, carries family pictures and memories. Japanese Americans were imprisoned on grounds formerly used by the Tulare-Kings County Fair.

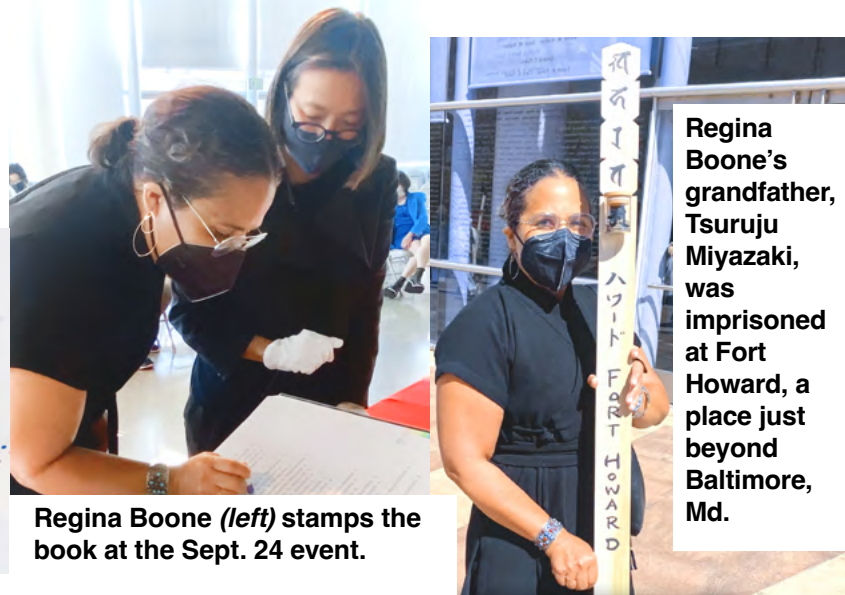
PHOTOS: KRISTEN MURAKOSHI



The book contains more than 1,000 pages.

Survivors and descendants are invited to stamp the book and make corrections.

PHOTOS: KRISTEN MURAKOSHI



Regina Boone (left) stamps the book at the Sept. 24 event.

Regina Boone's grandfather, Tsuruju Miyazaki, was imprisoned at Fort Howard, a place just beyond Baltimore, Md.

"It's kind of like when you're asking me these questions, all this stuff is shaking up in my body," she said. "But then because I know the answers now, I'm not as stressed out because I do know my story so well. The particles are settling, so I can breathe a little better."

Days later in the *Ireicho* procession, Regina Boone carried the Fort Howard marker. Dressed in all black save for the pop of turquoise bracelets around her wrists, she walked with a sporadic flow of tears. *Your ancestors are so proud of you*, other delegates whispered. Then, she imprinted a blue stamp next to Miyazaki's name.

"I thought to myself, 'My grandfather must be listening and standing tall knowing we are collectively righting a wrong in the most amazing way,'" said Regina Boone.

The dominant narrative of the WWII Japanese American experience often cites 120,000 (a now imprecise number) lives uprooted from the West Coast. This narrative, which casts Regina Boone's family history to the periphery in part because Miyazaki lived in the South, is decidedly being rewritten through a more inclusive lens with the *Ireicho*.

"What we tried to do was make sure that nobody's left out," said Williams to the delegates before the procession. This includes people who died while incarcerated or were forced to work in sugar beet fields. It's an acknowledgement that every life disrupted during WWII counts. The Boone family never received an apology or monetary compensation from the U.S. government for the wrongful incarceration. The 1988 redress bill only included living survivors, but at what cost can you affix to a life and intergenerational trauma?"

"There's no monetary amount that's ever going to wipe away the pain and agony and everything that happened to all of these families — all people of Japanese descent, all people who intersected into this community," said Regina Boone.

Repair is transitory. It can change and morph. What heals for one person can rupture again a generation later, so the danger of memorializing historical events is that it pretends to be only about the past when the act of affixing a civic memory also includes the present.

This project is very much a look at the Japanese American WWII experience through a 2022 lens — post George Floyd's murder and the toppling of Confederate monuments. It's a step away from the traditional definition of a permanent memorial, but what happens when sentiments change and the need for repair morphs?

The answer lies in the book's timeless focus on accuracy. It personalizes and humanizes the impact of the WWII Japanese American experience and brings into focus names and identities behind the number 125,284.

"After the campaign to repair the historical record comes to a conclusion, the deeper work of repair continues as we encourage ever-widening circles of the American public to continuously reckon with the racial karma of our nation's past," said Williams.

The beauty of the *Ireicho* is in its thoughtful curation of Japanese traditions using five elements: wood (the paper in the book), earth (representatives were asked to bring soil samples from each confinement site), fire (represented by ceramic pieces embedded in the inside front and back covers), metal (the gold font on the cover) and water (the blue stamp).

The idea borrows from the Buddhist tradition of writing and reciting ancestors' names as an act of bringing the past and the present together. For a community to be made whole, every individual must be counted.

This project, Williams said, is also about correcting the historical record. During the war, Japanese American names were often misspelled or replaced completely with unique numbers.

"We know what the power of names

is," said Ann Burroughs, JANM's president and CEO, during her address of the ceremony's delegates.

The *Ireicho* seeks to restore power to those names and identities. Its residency at JANM is a yearlong effort to correct the official record. Survivors and descendants can book a timed reservation to view the *Ireicho* and correct misspellings or omissions.

The goal is to get the official record right. The *Ireicho* is the first part of a multifaceted project that includes a website (ireizo.com) and an *Irehi*, or soul consoling tower monument, like the one at Manzanar.

A memorial like this is not a magic balm that heals all wounds, but it can offer an opportunity to perform a ritual for self-reflection and self-care.

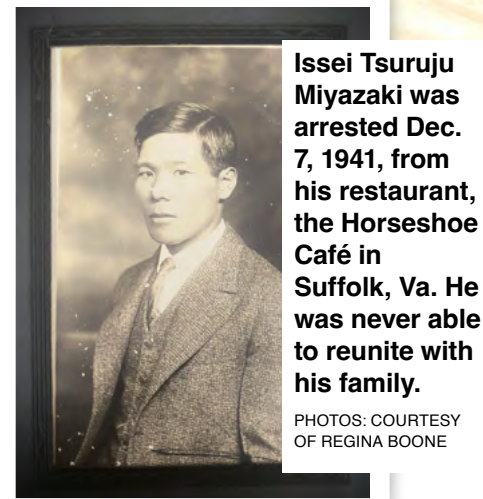
"Rituals deepen our understanding of something that happened in the past, and also rituals can give us much hope for the future," said Rev. Jiko Nakade, a Sansei Buddhist minister of the Soto Zen sect at the Daifukuji Soto Mission in Hawaii.

In 1942, Nakade's grandfather, Kanesaburo Oshima, an Issei man imprisoned at Fort Sill, Okla., felt despondent over his protracted separation from his wife and 11 children. Despondency grew to desperation as he wandered to the fence line at Fort Sill, mumbling, "I need to go home." The guards shot Oshima in the back of the head.

In the Little Tokyo procession, Nakade, 60, clutched the black-and-white portrait of the grandfather she never knew to her black-and-mustard-colored robe. Through ritual and ceremony, she is feeling more connected to her past.

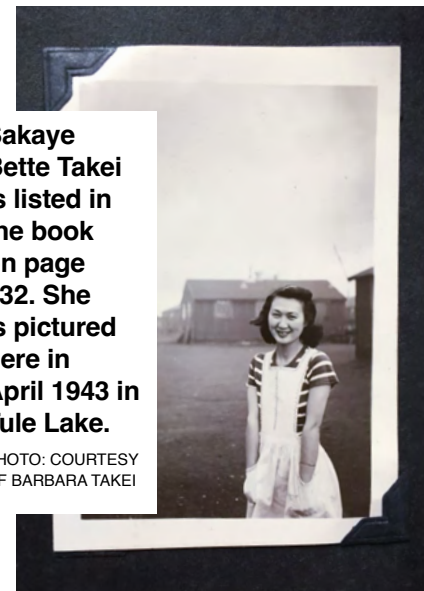
"Suddenly, [my grandparents'] pictures and their faces, which are kind of etched in my memory from childhood, have deep meaning for me now," said Nakade.

The *Ireicho* itself is a macguffin, an object that is necessary to the plot of the retelling of



Issei Tsuruju Miyazaki was arrested Dec. 7, 1941, from his restaurant, the Horseshoe Café in Suffolk, Va. He was never able to reunite with his family.

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF REGINA BOONE



Sakaye Bette Takei is listed in the book on page 532. She is pictured here in April 1943 in Tule Lake.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF BARBARA TAKEI

this historic event, but is also irrelevant. Go see the book and feel the gust of wind when the pages are turned. The impact of racism is sobering. Then, go talk to survivors and descendants such as Takei or Regina Boone. They are the true monuments. ■

How to Honor Your Ancestors in the *Ireicho*

Starting Oct. 11, the *Ireicho* will be available for stamping from 12-4 p.m. on Tuesdays-Fridays and 11 a.m.-4 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. Museum admission is not required, but reservations are required. Each person stamping will have 15 minutes to go through the process, including creating a memento with the names, completing the research, stamping (limited to two names) and making any corrections if necessary. The *Ireicho* will be available at JANM for one year.

Reservations can be made at janm.org/exhibits/sutra-and-bible/ireicho.

Guests are encouraged to visit ireizo.com to prepare, locate, verify and amend records of the former WWII incarcerated.

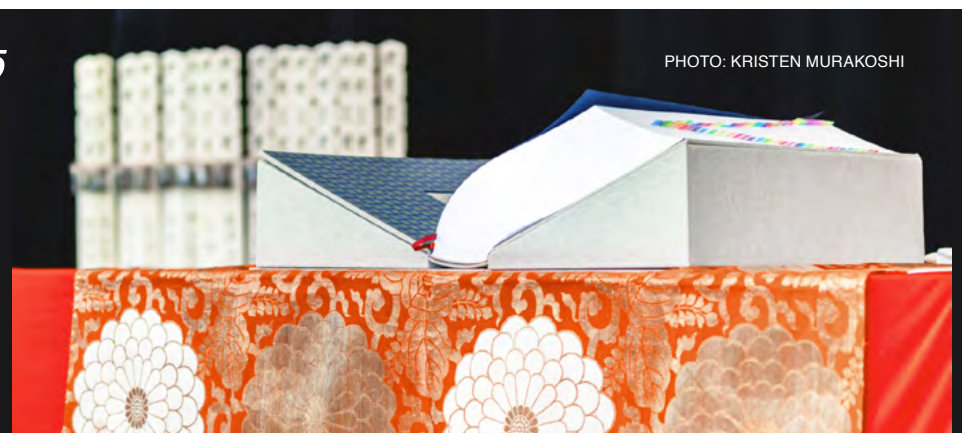


PHOTO: KRISTEN MURAKOSHI



Naomi Ostwald-Kawamura and Tom Ikeda engage with the audience.

PHOTO: MATTHEW WEISBLY

JANM HOSTS MEET AND GREET WITH NEW DENSHO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The town hall-style event welcomes Naomi Ostwald-Kawamura while sending well wishes to retiring founder Tom Ikeda.

*By Ashley Bucher,
JACL Membership Coordinator*

Around 50 friends of Densho gathered at the Tateuchi Democracy Forum at JANM in Los Angeles' Little Tokyo

on Sept. 18 to give well wishes to outgoing Densho Founding Executive Director Tom Ikeda, as well as welcome and learn more about the nonprofit organization's next executive director, Naomi Ostwald-Kawamura. The town hall-style event included an audience Q & A session, followed by an outdoor reception.

Ostwald-Kawamura, who was selected unanimously by Densho's board and staff search committee, officially joined the Densho staff on Sept. 1 and will formally succeed outgoing Executive Director Ikeda on Nov. 2. She brings nearly two decades of nonprofit experience and is pursuing a Ph.D. in curriculum and pedagogy at the University of British Columbia, which she will defend this fall.

She looks forward to her new position and

also recognizes the historic shift occurring with her transition.

"I take it not just as this lovely person retiring, it's also a key cultural moment for the community, and what does it mean to sort of take on a leadership role in a community institution," said Ostwald-Kawamura during the reception. "So, I take that with a lot of responsibility, and I think it warrants a lot of respect, and so I'm thinking through this transition period very thoughtfully and in partnership with Tom. . . . I feel I'm walking into an organization that feels very stable, that feels like it's exciting and that the staff feel excited as well for this next chapter. I'm quite humbled and honored to be stepping into this role."

UTAH FARMING COMMUNITY COMMEMORATES ITS 80TH ANNIVERSARY

The Keetley Farm served as a self-evacuation colony at the onset of World War II.

By May Kitagawa

One hundred and sixty family and friends of the World War II Japanese American self-evacuation colony of Keetley, Utah, gathered on Aug. 8 to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the founding of the farming community led by Fred Isamu Wada.

Keetley, Utah, was settled by 130 Japanese Americans in March 1942 during a 38-day period when self-evacuation from the West Coast states was allowed.

Japanese Americans who chose to evacuate together at Keetley were comprised of farmers, carpenters, electricians, fishermen, auto mechanics, merchants and a pharmacist. More than 30 families transformed the high desert land into a productive farm.

Keetley Farm, as the colony was called, was founded as a farming cooperative and was considered a highly successful mountain farm that grew 14 varieties of produce that was sold to neighboring markets and in Salt Lake City. Produce was also donated to the Topaz Internment camp, as well as to the U.S. Army in Salt Lake City.

Produce was sold often by the roadside next to billboards that

read, "FOOD FOR FREEDOM," as well as an American flag. A nearby barn also displayed a sign that read, "FOOD FOR VICTORY."

The Jordanelle State Park recently erected two historical signs near where Keetley once existed. Keetley is now underwater at the Jordanelle Reservoir. A hiking trail in the area has also been named Wada Way.

Nine members of the original community were present at the reunion. The oldest in attendance, May Yamada-Kong, 94, from Honolulu, Hawaii, spoke eloquently of her family's heart-wrenching journey with nine children from San Jose, Calif., to the Keetley valley in 1942. Keetley was located 35 miles east of Salt Lake City.

Attendees heard speakers recount the history of the area, the living conditions at that time in Keetley, as well as the hardships suffered while preparing the land for farming.

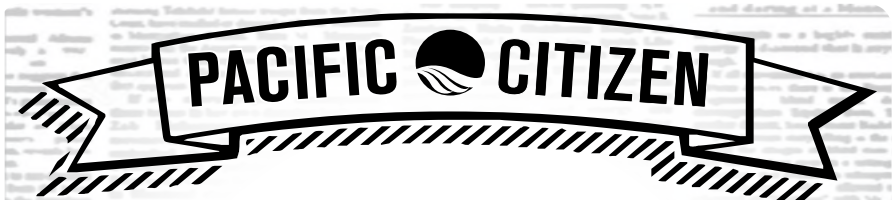
A bento lunch was served at the reunion, capped off with children in kimonos together with adults joyously Obon dancing with a lively, resounding taiko drummer. ■



Family and friends of the self-evacuation colony of Keetley, Utah, gathered recently for an 80th anniversary reunion.



Historical signs were recently erected at the Jordanelle Reservoir, site of where the Keetley Farm once produced numerous varieties of produce in the high desert land.



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GEORGE AND SAKAYE ARATANI 'COMMUNITY ADVANCEMENT RESEARCH ENDOWMENT' AWARD APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

UCLA's Asian American Studies Center is pleased to announce that the 2022-23 Aratani CARE Award applications are now being accepted until Dec. 9. The awards will be announced in January.

The George and Sakaye Aratani "Community Advancement Research Endowment" awards are given to projects that will benefit and advance the Japanese American community. Projects that strengthen ties between the Japanese American community and UCLA students, staff and faculty will receive particular consideration.

Award recipients must list and acknowledge UCLA's Asian American Studies Center and the George and Sakaye Aratani CARE Award as co-sponsors on all PR and programs. Nonprofit organizations and qualified individuals are invited to apply for awards that generally range from, but are not limited to, \$1,000-\$5,000.

Recent past awardees include the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute's "Day of Remembrance 2022 — Camp Creativity: Resilience Through Art" program; Japanese American Cultural & Community Center's "Sustainable Little Tokyo: Senior Academy" classes; Koreisha Senior Care & Advocacy's "Restoring Compassion: Bringing Culturally Sensitive Senior Care Services to the Nikkei Community" film project, Little Tokyo Historical Society's "Japanese Americans at 800 Traction" research project and UCLA Nikkei Student Union's "36th Annual Cultural Night" production.

Information about the funding and how to apply is available at the Aratani CARE website at <http://www.aratanicare.org/>. Specific questions not covered on the website can be sent to aratanicare@aasc.ucla.edu.

SYSTEM » continued from page 3



The border wall

We ended our visit by crossing the border on foot back into the U.S. Our experience waiting in line and being vetted provided myself and the other participants an idea of the obstacles that migrants face when seeking refuge in the U.S.

What I found most unsettling about my experience entering back into the U.S. was the small camera that was pointed directly at me at the border checkpoint. It appears that officers take a photo of every person who enters the country.

I noticed as I was being screened that I was not asked at any point whether or not I consented to have my photo taken, nor was I told why a camera was pointed at me. During a time when privacy is slowly deteriorating and surveillance is becoming more prevalent, I couldn't help but have ethical questions.

While I understand that it is common practice for one's photo to be taken at a country's entry point, the number of reported and unreported cases of immigrants being surveilled and deported by the CBP due to the U.S.'s digital wall raises concern.

If this practice is indeed for the benefit of my country's national security, why were we not provided details on what exactly this practice achieves and what happens to my photo/scan once collected? What parties have access to it later, and what does that mean for me in the future? How is my photo cataloged?

The Border Tour provided by APALA and the UCLA Labor Center gave me the tools I need to be a better ally in the fight against this country's anti-immigrant, white nationalist agenda. As a JACL policy

fellow, I'm tasked to monitor a lot of issues, including immigration.

I've had the privilege of learning firsthand from those directly impacted by this country's harmful policies and those working to expand and protect the civil rights of immigrants. I was extremely moved to see how committed the advocates we met with were in their fight.

The politicization of human movement is disheartening, especially for those seeking asylum. The overreach in power and exertion of control over people's free will and attempts to live a life free of poverty, persecution and instability are reprehensible.

The Border Tour exposed me to the harsh realities of this country's broken immigration system. I hope that as a community, we do more to stay engaged on this issue.

As a civil rights organization, we must do more to lend ourselves to the advancement of comprehensive immigration reform. I hope you all consider joining the huge network of activists who are already putting in the work to humanize the issue.

Bridget Keaveney is the Norman Y. Mineta Policy Fellow for the JACL. She is based in the organization's Washington, D.C., office.



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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.

NCWNP

Half Moon Bay Art & Pumpkin Festival
Half Moon Bay, CA
Oct. 15-16; 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
Main Street Between Mill and Spruce Streets
Price: Free

This annual festival celebrates the bountiful fall harvest and autumn splendor and this year marks its 50th anniversary! Join the community for a weekend of family fun and activities, including live music, Great Pumpkin Parade, arts and crafts, craft beer, Pumpkin Run and pumpkin carving and contest.
Info: Visit <https://pumpkinfest.miramarevents.com/>.

Author Talk: Tabemasho! Let's Eat! With Gil Asakawa
San Francisco, CA
Oct. 16; 1-3 p.m.
JCCCNC
1840 Sutter St.
Price: Free
Meet author and journalist Gil Asakawa as he presents his newest book, "Tabemasho! Let's Eat," covering the history of your favorite Japanese foods, home-cooked, packaged or served in restaurants, and how these foods came to delight the American palate. Asakawa will have copies of his book available for purchase at the event for \$21 courtesy of the Nikkei Traditions store in San Jose Japantown.
Info: Visit www.jcccnc.org for more event details.

Japantown Halloween Carnival
San Francisco, CA
Oct. 28; 6-8 p.m.
JCCCNC
1840 Sutter St.
Price: General Admission \$7
After a two-year break, the JCCCNC's Japantown Halloween Carnival is back, featuring an evening of Halloween crafts activities, spooky storytelling, cultural and community performances, a "haunted" hallway, bounce house, costume parade and contest for kids with prizes. A scary snack sale will also be held to support the Japanese Community Youth Council.
Info: For questions, email programsevents@jcccnc.org.

'Bearing Witness: Selected Works of Chiura Obata'
San Francisco, CA
Thru January 2023
Asian Art Museum
Chong-Moon Lee Center for Asian Arts & Culture
200 Larkin St.
Price: Check Museum for Information
This exhibit showcases Chiura Obata's firsthand depictions of the 1906 earthquake and fire, as well as his paintings documenting the forced incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII. Obata (1885-1975) is renowned as

a 20th-century master who merged Japanese painting techniques and styles with modern American abstraction.
Info: Visit <https://asianart.org>.

PSW

San Diego JACL and San Diego JA Historical Society Virtual Program
San Diego, CA
Oct. 13; 6:30 p.m.
Virtual Event
Price: Free
Join Jack Kubota and Linda Canada of the Japanese American Historical Society of San Diego as they make a "guided interview" presentation for the San Diego JACL. Carlsbad resident Kubota was 13 years old in 1942 when he and his family were forced to move to Camp One of the Poston incarceration camp near Parker, Ariz. Kubota will share stories about his family's experiences following Pearl Harbor and his tales of life as a not-very-motivated student in the government's schools inside the camp.
Info: To RSVP, email sandiegojaci@gmail.com for the Zoom link.

'Portraits of the People of Payahuunadu' Exhibit
Independence, CA
Oct. 15; 11 a.m.
Manzanar Visitor Center
5001 U.S. Hwy. 395
Price: Free
All are invited to the opening of artist Steve Cavallo's watercolor exhibit honoring indigenous peoples whose connections to this valley stretch back to time immemorial. Those featured range in age from their mid-20s to mid-90s. Manzanar's nonprofit partner Eastern Sierra Interpretive Assn. will provide light refreshments.
Info: Manzanar Visitor Center is open 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. daily. For more information, visit www.nps.gov/manz.

Self-Defense Workshop
Gardena, CA
Oct. 20; 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute
GVJCI Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall
1964 W. 162nd St.
Price: Free But Donations Accepted
Participants will be introduced to the art of practical self-defense and learn basic methods to minimize any attack and injury and to facilitate escape. The workshop will be taught by 6th degree black-belt instructor Art Ishii from the Matsubayashi-Ryu Karate-Do of Little Tokyo. The class is limited to 50 students.
Info: To register, visit the Events/Programs/Classes page on the GVJCI website at <https://www.jci-gardena.org/gvjci-upcoming-events.html>.

Poston Annual Pilgrimage
Parker, Ariz.
Oct. 21-22
Blue Water Casino and Other Nearby Sites

11300 Resort Dr.
Price: Registration \$225
The Poston Community Alliance Annual Pilgrimage returns this year with an in-person event, featuring a new Poston exhibit created within donated space at the Museum of the Colorado River Indian Tribes that includes a map of Poston's three camps for visitors to locate the exact barrack and apartment where their family resided. Educational workshops and bus tours of the Poston Monument and Camp 1 school sites will also be included. A banquet featuring keynote speaker Janice Munemitsu, author of "The Kindness of Color," will include the weekend's activities. Pilgrimage capacity is limited to 150 attendees.
Info: To register, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2022-poston-pilgrimage-tickets-326676537317>.

The Domo Concert: An Evening With Hiroshima
Los Angeles, CA
Oct. 29; 7:30-9:30 p.m.
JACCC's Aratani Theatre
244 S. San Pedro St.
Price: Ticket Prices Vary
After 42 years of recording and touring, the band has decided to "wind down," curtailing live performances, so don't miss out on this opportunity to listen to Hiroshima as they present their "Domo Tour" to thank fans for their many years of support. The band will play more than four decades of their hit music, in addition to songs featured on their most-recent album, "2020."
Info: Call the boxoffice at (213) 680-3700 for questions or visit boxoffice@jacc.org to purchase tickets.

Elemental Funk Concert Fundraiser
Gardena, CA
Nov. 12; 3-7 p.m.
Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute's Main Hall
1964 W. 162nd St.
Price: Early Bird Tickets \$35; General Admission \$40 (Must be 21+)
Get ready to Groove! Do you miss listening and dancing to those old school live bands? Well join the GVJCI at this entertaining event featuring Elemental Funk, who will perform hits ranging from Earth, Wind & Fire to Bruno Mars. Beer, wine and appetizers will be available for purchase.
Info: Visit www.jci-gardena.org for more details.

PNW

'Be Water My Friend' Exhibit
Seattle, WA
Ongoing Exhibit
Wing Luke Museum
719 S. King St.
Price: Museum Admission
Do you ever wonder how Bruce Lee developed the philosophy behind his most iconic quote? This exhibit invites viewers to step into the mind, body and spirit of Bruce Lee to see how his pursuit of knowledge informed his philosophy and

life. The exhibit's interactive technology interweaves beautiful imagery with the legendary martial artist's personal objects and books to bring his journey to life.
Info: Visit <https://www.wingluke.org/exhibit-be-water-my-friend>.

MDC

Hoosier Pitch-In Luncheon
Indianapolis, IN
Oct. 22; 1 p.m.
Nora Branch of the Indianapolis Public Library
8625 Guilford Ave.
All are welcome to attend this pitch-in luncheon that will be followed by a travel slideshow. Kate Ase and Maya Wagle will share experiences from their recent trip to Budapest and other sites in the area.
Info: Email info@hoosierjaci.org.

Hoosier JACL Holiday Party
Indianapolis, IN
Dec. 10; 12:30-4 p.m.
Masa Sake Grill
5946 E. 86th St. (located near Costco, behind Castleton Square Mall)
Price: Details to Follow
Save the date for the Hoosier chapter's 2022 holiday party, which will be held at Masa restaurant. A menu is available at masasakegrill.com. All guests are welcome to attend. More event details to follow.
Info: Email info@hoosierjaci.org.

IDC

Asian Dumplings for Beginners: Cooking Class by Classpop!
Denver, CO
Oct. 19; 7 p.m.
Waldschanke Ciders
4100 Jason St.
Price: \$55
Join Classpop! and Chef Kelly to learn how to craft amazing Asian dumplings. No cooking experience is necessary to learn how to make these delectable appetizing treats all while enjoying a craft cocktail and having fun with friends.
Info: Visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/asian-dumplings-for-beginners-cooking-class-by-classpopmtickets-423067806197?aff=ebdssbestsearch>.

EDC

'The Legacy of Norman Mineta'
Chevy Chase, MD
Oct. 22; 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Meiwah Restaurant
4457 Willard Ave.
Price: \$40
Join JAVA at its fall luncheon that will include a special program, "The Legacy of Norman Mineta," as Eric Federer, Mineta, will share his reflections on the former U.S. Transportation Secretary and Senator's life and legacy.
Info: Visit www.java.org for more details.

Spooky Sunday
Washington, D.C.
Oct. 23; 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Japan Information and Culture Center

1150 18th St. N.W.
Suite 100
Price: Free
Bring your family and get ready for Halloween at the JICC during its special gallery hours. Halloween costumes (or cosplay) are encouraged! Enjoy trick-or-treating, kamishibai or Japanese paper theater storytelling throughout the afternoon event, as well as Halloween-themed origami activities. Educational videos will also be shown.
Info: Walk-ins will be accepted but since supplies are limited, preregistration is encouraged. To register, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/trick-or-treat-at-jicc-spooky-sunday-hours-tickets-425352158757?aff=Emma>.

Experience Chinatown Arts Festival
Boston, MA
Thru October
Pao Arts Center
99 Albay St.
This fall, see, hear, create and connect to celebrate the rich cultural fabric of Boston's Chinatown through free creative activities. Performances will be held at the Pao Arts Center.
Info: Visit <https://www.paoartscenter.org/events/experiencechinatown2022>.

Crafting Global Friendships: Celebrating 20 Years of the World Cosplay Summit
Washington, D.C.
Thru Nov. 3
Japan Information and Culture Center
1150 18th St. N.W.
Suite 100
Price: Free
This exhibit features stunning handmade costume gear from famous Japanese anime series such as "JoJo's Bizarre Adventure," "Cardcaptor Sakura," "Revolutionary Girl Utena" and much more.
Info: For additional details, call (202) 238-6900 or email jicc@ws.mofa.go.jp.

'Creative Confluence: South Asian Community Reflections, Connections and Dialogue' Exhibit
Towson, MD
Thru Dec. 17
Asian Arts Gallery, Center for the Arts
Towson University
1 Fine Arts Dr.
Price: Check Website for Admission Information
Explore the rich array of creativity expressed through the works of 22 South Asian artists from across the Greater Baltimore and Washington, D.C., area. Discover the intersecting and distinct experiences of these artists who share their perspectives on lineage, self-identity, ideas of homeland and spiritual traditions.
Info: Visit www.towson.edu for more details. ■

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

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VETERAN L.A. TIMES EDITORIAL STAFFER HENRY FUHRMANN DIES AT 65

The journalist pushed for disuse of 'internment camp' in reference to WWII JA incarceration.

By P.C. Staff

Henry Fuhrmann, who left the *Los Angeles Times* in 2015 after 25 years in various capacities from copy editor to having his name in the masthead of the op-ed page with the title of assistant managing editor, died Sept. 14. The respected and well-liked journalist was 65.

A post written by family members on his Facebook page noted that Fuhrmann "died peacefully" with his wife, Lindi Dreibelbis, his daughters and son and other family members at his bedside.

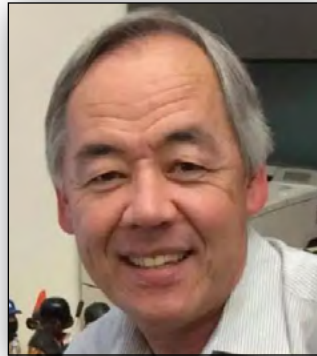
In a statement, Asian American Journalists Assn. Board President Michelle Ye Hee Lee said, "AAJA is devastated over the loss of our dear friend Henry, an AAJA legend and guiding light and a thoughtful journalist dedicated to fair and precise coverage of Asian American and Pacific Islander communities and treating our communities with dignity through our words. I can't imagine AAJA without Henry Fuhrmann, and we will miss him dearly."

In a statement released by the Los Angeles chapter of AAJA: "As the years evolved, there has been one constant in our AAJA-L.A. chapter: Henry Fuhrmann. In every role, and leading with empathy, he shaped, soothed, persuaded, promoted and recruited with smarts, humor and humility. We are thankful we have flourished as we boosted generations of journalists as well as innovation funds, sparked by his work."

"In this moment, we join our AAJA family spanning the miles for a massive group hug, saluting the rare spirit that is Henry. We send gratitude to Henry's family, especially to his daughters, Elena and Angela, for sharing his time and talent with us through vigorous decades."

After learning of the serious nature of his illness, the AAJA's national board awarded Fuhrmann its Lifetime Achievement Award, hoping he would learn of this honor before his death. As it turned out, the honor came too late, and AAJA will present his survivors the award at its 2023 national convention in Washington, D.C.

According to various sources, Fuhrmann was admitted to the hospital on Sept. 2 after having been diagnosed with advanced esophageal cancer. Just weeks earlier in Los Angeles, he attended the AAJA national convention. In the organization's Los Angeles chapter, he most recently held the title of vp of



Henry Fuhrmann

career development. He also served two terms as president of AAJA-L.A. and was on the national board of ACES: The Society for Editing, formerly known as the American Copy Editors Society.

Fuhrmann was the eldest of four siblings born to Ronald and Yukiko Fuhrmann, née Miyamoto. The Fuhrmann patriarch met his future wife while stationed in Japan following the U.S. occupation of Japan after WWII. After Henry was born in Japan, the Fuhrmanns moved to Port Hueneme, Calif., where the family added three more children, Irene, David and Glen.

It was after his stint at the *L.A. Times* that Fuhrmann earned the moniker "hyphen killer" when, in 2019, the *Associated Press* changed its policy regarding so-called hyphenated Americans.

In an essay, he contended that the hyphen, a punctuation mark typically used to "avoid ambiguity" or "form a single idea from two or more words," had the unfortunate effect of, when applied to ethnic groups in America, e.g., African-Americans, Asian-Americans, Italian-Americans, etc., actually relegated such groups to an otherness that separated them from being fully recognized as Americans.

His essay is credited for prompting the "Associated Press Stylebook" to finally change its guidance to avoid using a hyphen with regard to American ethnic groups or heritage.

Fuhrmann also is credited for championing the *L.A. Times* to change its guidance on the word "internment" to describe camps operated by the U.S. government during WWII for Japanese Americans, since the word by its definition applies to foreign nationals, not U.S. citizens. Most ethnic Japanese in WWII who were incarcerated at so-called internment camps were U.S. citizens.

After leaving the *L.A. Times* in 2015, he worked for five years at the University of Southern California's Annenberg School of Journalism where, according to his LinkedIn page, he was a writing coach and

adjunct instructor.

In a recorded oral history conducted by AAJA, Fuhrmann looked back at his academic trajectory and career path and said, "I'm the accidental journalist," referring to a series of chance encounters that led him to become a journalism professional in his early 30s.

In the video, Fuhrmann recalled how after high school he initially attended Caltech to become an engineer. His roommate's best friend was the editor-in-chief of the school's newspaper and happened to ask Fuhrmann if he might be interested in helping the paper's production.

After agreeing, he learned to "set type and paste up the pages" and write articles — and he fell in love with newspapering. By his sophomore year, he was the paper's editor-in-chief and was spending more time working on the paper than paying attention to "differential equations."

Through another bit of random chance when he felt compelled to drop out, a Caltech professor recommended him for a part-time job in the media office of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, where he stayed for eight years. He then transferred to the University of California, Los Angeles, still thinking he would pursue engineering. But after a year, Fuhrmann transferred once more to California State University, Los Angeles, which offered a journalism degree. He also went on to earn a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University.

Yet another chance encounter occurred at a job fair when a recruiter insisted that he take his copy editing test. Fuhrmann did well enough to land himself a place in METPRO (Minority Editorial Training Program) at New York Newsday — now defunct but then-owned by the same parent company as the *L.A. Times*. Two years later, he was sent to the *L.A. Times* as a copy editor.

Fuhrmann was predeceased by his mother, Yuki, in July 2010, and his father, Ronald, in January.

He is survived by his widow, Lindi Dreibelbis; daughters, Elena Fuhrmann and Angela Fuhrmann Knowles; stepchildren, Kelly Arthur and Grant Arthur; and siblings, Irene, David (Kim) and Glen (Maria).

According to Dreibelbis, a celebration of life is scheduled for Feb. 19, 2023, at 1:30 p.m. at the DoubleTree by Hilton in Little Tokyo. (Note: To view Fuhrmann's oral history, visit tinyurl.com/2waex54v.)

MEMORIAM

TRIBUTE

DONALD MATSUBARA



Donald Yoshiyuki Matsubara was born Oct. 12, 1927, the third of four boys to the late Ichizo and Sumie Matsubara.

He is survived by his loving wife of more than 57 years, Katie Fumi (Yamamoto); children, Kenneth Matsubara and Leslie Kimi (Carter) Harbaugh; and granddaughter, Kaitlan. He is also survived by his in-laws, June (Ray) Matsubara, Tomiko (Harold) Yamamoto and James (Tulie) Takeuchi, as well as many nieces and

nephews.

He was preceded in death by his brothers, George, Jean and wife Kiyo, Ray; in-laws, Tak and Hiroko Taniguchi, John and Masako Yamamoto, Harold Yamamoto, Ichiro and Tatsuyo Yamamoto, and Tulie Takeuchi.

TRIBUTE

MIYOSHI IKEDA



Miyoshi Ikeda died on Aug. 3 in Chula Vista, Calif., at 92. He was born in Hilo, Hawaii, on March 16, 1930. He was the youngest of five children of Tatsuo and Nobu Ikeda. He majored in theater arts at UH in Honolulu. Miyoshi was an Army Ranger and paratrooper who served in Korea. The love of his life, Emiko Oda, was an Army nurse at Fort Benning, Ga. Later, he was a public school teacher and administrator, and a college professor. He enjoyed

opera and theater. Miyoshi and Emiko were married for 62 years until her death in 2019. His Sept. 19 service with military honors took place at Miramar National Cemetery, officiated by the Buddhist Temple of San Diego. Miyoshi loved to "talk story" and had a great sense of humor. He is deeply missed. Survivors are his children, Edna and Michael, and grandson, Kenzo, and many nieces and nephews.

PLACE A TRIBUTE

'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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