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OCTOBER 12, 2013 - FEBRUARY 9, 2014

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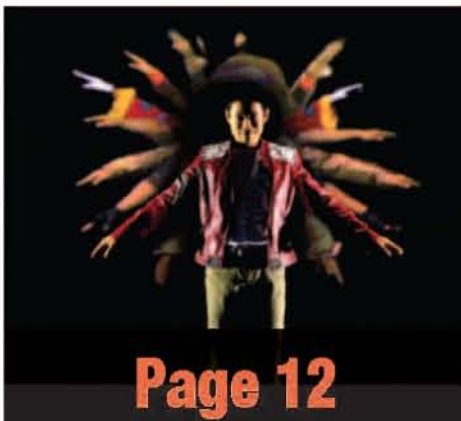
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JACL Celebrates Its
'Champions' at Gala.



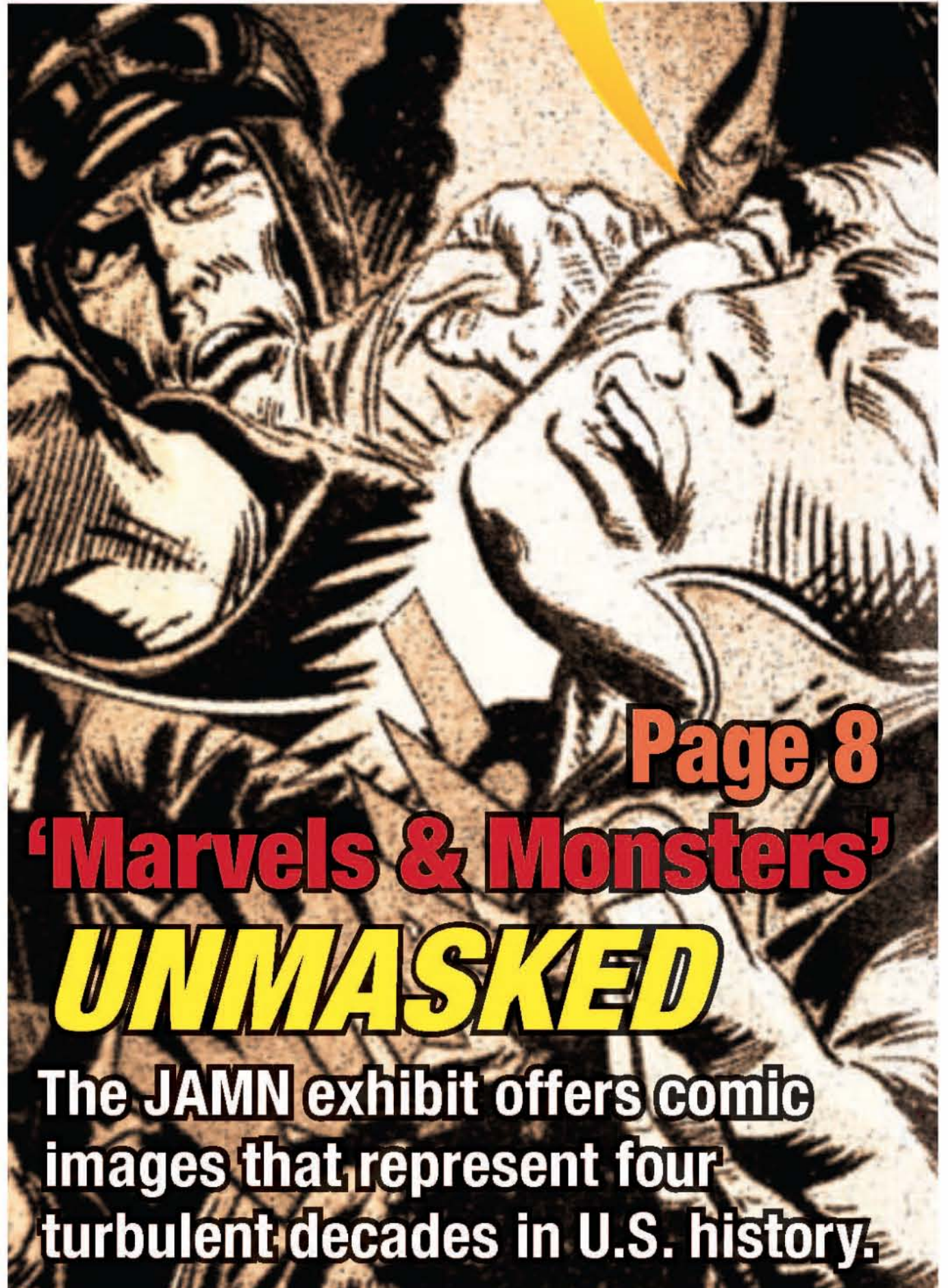
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JAVA Pays Tribute to
Robert Nakamoto.



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Up Close With 'AGT'
Winner Kenichi Ebina



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'Marvels & Monsters' *UNMASKED*

The JAMN exhibit offers comic
images that represent four
turbulent decades in U.S. history.



Park Fees That Fund Confinement Site Conservation Are Threatened

By Priscilla Ouchida
JACL National Director

JACL asks a lot of the National Park Service. We ask for surveys, acquisitions, conservation, security and personal time. Despite a spartan budget, NPS managers and staff have been generous partners in our quest to preserve our history. Looming on the horizon is a major threat that will impede the NPS's ability to work with our community.

In December 2014, the National Park Service authorization to collect fees will expire. The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA) allows the federal agency to charge entrance and recreation fees at national parks — those fees total about \$300 million. These monies fund repairs, maintenance, wildlife habitat restoration, education materials and services and law enforcement. NPS has financed more than 9,800 projects and services with fee revenues.

Why is FLREA important to JACL and the Japanese American community? Big parks such as Yellowstone and Yosemite collect a lot of fees, and a percentage of those fees go to little parks like Minidoka, Tule Lake and Manzanar. As a result, that money helps fund construction, preservation and education programs that help tell our story. With an increasing reluctance in Congress to fund federal programs, efforts to preserve the World War II prisons will be much harder if FLREA is not extended.

There have been deep cuts to the NPS over the past three years, resulting in elimination of visitor programs, reduced visitor center hours, decreased education programs for children, reduced seasonal employees and a decrease in restoration and conservation programs. Another significant cut will jeopardize the integrity of our national parks and monuments.

JACL needs to advocate for the extension of FLREA from the chapter level to the national level. There needs to be NOISE around this issue, or it will not get addressed.

There is a movement to extend FLREA for at least one year to allow Congress to consider a longer reauthorization and potential adjustments to the Act. Hearings on FLREA have been held or are in the planning stage in both the House and the Senate.

More than any other community, we have a vested interest in FLREA. And another thing.

I recently attended a meeting of park stakeholders about the plight of

NPS funding. I was the only person of color in the room. But because I was in that room, the conversation had to include the need to diversify national parks to include the stories of communities of color. Tour operators acknowledged that communities of color are a market, and that confinement sites are an important niche market. Making noise is not just about Congress. Making noise is also a demonstration to other park groups — park directors, environmentalists, recreationists, park employees and tour operators — that we count.



PHOTO: KEVIN MIYAZAKI

The Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act is important because a percentage of the funds raised goes to smaller sites such as Manzanar, Minidoka and Tule Lake.

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NIKKEI VOICE

Japanese Americans Should Travel to Japan

By Gil Asakawa

'The fact is, as JAs we have deep roots in Japanese cultural values, and a visit to Japan can rekindle those ties and remind us why we are the way we are, even in America.'

I recently returned from a two-week trip to Japan with my wife and mother, and I would love to go back for another trip. Our journey started with a new direct flight between Denver and Tokyo, which shaves a lot of time and trouble by avoiding a stopover on the West Coast. From Tokyo, we connected to Sapporo in the northern island of Hokkaido, where my uncle and his wife met us at the airport and rode the train with us to our hotel. We were there only for a day, but we had a wonderful sukiyaki dinner with my uncle before taking trains to eastern Hokkaido to Nemuro, my mom's hometown.

There, my other uncle and his wife greeted us and fed us some of the freshest seafood, including *ikura* salmon roe and the local specialty crab, *Hanasaki Kani*. We also had a sensational sushi dinner with my mom's old friends. Nemuro is a small fishing town, so all the seafood there is top-notch and incredibly fresh.

The next leg of our tour, which admittedly focused on food — as anyone who follows me on social media knows, I love all cuisines and post lots of photos of food — was Tokyo, where we spent several days. Family friends took us to an amazing *kaiseki*, or traditional multicourse Japanese meal in a fancy restaurant at the base of Tokyo Tower.

In Tokyo, my wife, Erin, shopped for craft supplies, including handmade Japanese *washi* paper, which we found at several shops in the heart of the city. Erin and I took one day to go to Disneyland (it's the 30th anniversary of Tokyo Disneyland), and then it was

off to an ancient Buddhist temple, Asakusa, then Sky Tree, the tallest tower in the world and the second-tallest structure, next to a skyscraper in Dubai.

After Tokyo, we traveled to Takayama, Denver's Sister City, and enjoyed lots of Takayama's local specialty, Hida beef. We had Hida beef sushi, Hida beef steak, Hida beef sukiyaki and Hida beef ramen. We even had Hida beef on a stick, wrapped around sticky rice. We were also there for a very famous fall festival, during which enormous floats are wheeled through Takayama's quiet and scenic streets. The city is a scenic tourist's delight and is often compared to Kyoto for its riches of cultural attractions and numerous temples and shrines.

Our final day in Japan was spent in Chiba near Tokyo, where Narita Airport is located. Our destination: The first Costco in Japan, which was really fun because it carried many items familiar to U.S. Costco customers but also lots of Japanese products, especially food.

It was a great trip, and we made new friends everywhere we went.

I've written before about how Japanese Americans should keep up with news from Japan. After all, even if we feel we're all-American and have no real ties to Japan anymore, people in the U-S-of-A are all too quick to stereotype us as foreigners. The fact is, as JAs we have deep roots in Japanese cultural values, and a visit to Japan can rekindle those ties and remind us why we are the way we are, even in America.

>> See JAPAN on page 16



FOR THE RECORD

A Proposal

By John Tateishi

'Keeping the building at this point is only holding on to the past, and we're not the same organization we were when we celebrated the opening of 1765 Sutter St.'

The National Headquarters building at 1765 Sutter St. in San Francisco has symbolized much about the JACL for more than 30 years.

In its heyday in the 1970s and '80s, the building was filled with 16 staff members and overflowed with energy and activity. So crowded was the building with JACL staff that we had to double up on a few desks for lack of space. Sometimes the back room with the copy and postage machines was so crowded that we had to make reservations for time on the copy machine.

Today, the building seems an empty shell of itself. Where there were nine of us in the building when I took over as national director in 1999, the 2000 market crash forced us to reduce our numbers to three only, the essential number to keep the administrative side of the organization operational.

There are currently four administrative personnel (office manager, bookkeeper, membership data processor, membership coordinator), plus Patty Wada, the NCWNP regional director.

Three of the six vacant offices are rented out to community organizations.

So, what's the point of bringing this up?

I don't know what the building cost originally, but it's easily worth nearly \$2 million today, especially given property values in San Fran-

cisco, one of the most expensive places in the country to buy real estate.

It's time we sold the headquarters building.

The national director is now located in the Washington, D.C., office, which logically makes that address our national headquarters. It's hard to justify keeping the San Francisco building when it serves very little purpose now.

When times were tough back in the early 2000s, I was ordered as director to shut down the regional offices and was told they were major cost centers. True, but those who advocated the shut down of those offices had no clue about what's important in our operations. The regional offices have always been vital to carry out the mission of the national organization.

They are and have always been our front line of defense and the centers from which we excel at what we do. Those offices are what distinguish us from all other organizations in the Asian American community. That's where things happen.

In contrast, the old national headquarters building in San Francisco is now an administrative office and processing center. While we have no mortgage obligation anymore, the building is in need of major repair and maintenance costs.

>> See PROPOSAL on page 16

All photos courtesy of
Joe Shymanski



JACL's
David Lin
and NPS'
Jonathan
Jarvis



NCAPA Leaders speak with
Congressman Xavier Becerra
(center) and Congresswoman
Judy Chu (second from left).

'Salute to Champions'

ANNUAL JACL GALA RECOGNIZES OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUALS
AND CORPORATIONS THAT PROMOTE DIVERSITY.

By JACL National Staff

Well over 200 guests packed the Capitol Hilton Ballroom at the 2013 JACL "Salute to Champions" Gala in Washington, D.C., on Oct. 10. The annual event recognized the contributions of individuals and corporations that have made outstanding contributions toward promoting diversity in their field or industry.

Awards were presented to Jonathan Jarvis, director of the National Park Service; Daphne Kwok, vp of multicultural markets and engagement for Asian audiences at AARP; and Toyota. Also honored were Congressman Mike Honda as Legislator of the Year and Southwest Airlines as Corporate Partner of the Year.

"The National Gala has been the signature event of the Japanese American Citizens League in Washington, D.C., for the seventh year. This event serves two purposes for the JACL," said JACL National President David Lin. "The event helps to raise the profile of the JACL in Washington, D.C., with elected officials and partners while raising much-needed funds to support a variety of JACL programs. As such, I am very grateful for the generosity of all the supporters and sponsors of this event."

Congressional representatives Judy Chu, Xavier Becerra and Ami Bera addressed the crowd at the VIP reception that preceded the dinner. Other dignitaries attending the gala were Congressman Eni Faleomavaega, Congressman Mark Takano, Minister Hideaki Mizukoshi of the Embassy of Japan and Terry Shima, recipient of the 2012 Presidential Citizens Medal. National JACL Board Members Chip Larouche, Toshi Abe, Matthew Farrells, Mariko Newton, Craig Tomiyoshi, Sheldon Arakaki and Michelle Amano greeted guests. Notable JACLers included Lillian Kimura, Floyd Mori and Dr. Ray Murakami.

David Louie, longtime reporter for ABC 7 News in San Francisco, served as the evening's master of ceremonies. The program opened with greetings from Lin, followed by remarks from Deputy Chief of Mission Hiroyasu Izumi of the Embassy of Japan. Honorary Gala Chairman and former U.S. Secretary Norman Y. Mineta shared his recollections of his introduction to JACL through Mike Masaoka, who later became his brother-in-law.

In his acceptance speech, NPS' Jarvis emphasized the importance of an American story that reflects the contributions of communities of color and women. In her address, AARP's Kwok spoke about the close relationship between JACL and OCA, and she urged increased collaboration between the two organizations. And Tracey Doi, who accepted the Salute to Champions award on behalf of Toyota, shared stories that demonstrated the importance of corporate programs that lift communities and individuals.

The "Salute to Champions" Gala was supported by Eli Lilly, Diamond Sponsor; Comcast and Southwest Airlines, Platinum Sponsors; AT&T and UPS, Gold Sponsors; and Toyota, Bronze Sponsor. Southwest surprised the audience by presenting every guest with a \$50 Southwest voucher.

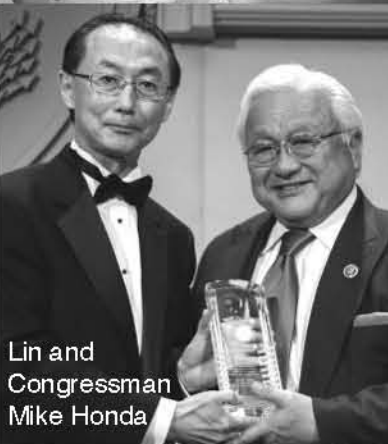
JACL National Director Priscilla Ouchida closed the program with a presentation to Amy Watanabe, the Daniel K. Inouye Fellow, and Rhianna Taniguchi, the Norman Y. Mineta fellow, in appreciation for organizing the gala.



Jarvis



AARP's
Daphne
Kwok



Lin and
Congressman
Mike Honda



Lin



(From left) Ouchida with
Toyota's Tracey Doi



Congresswoman
Judy Chu



Jarvis and the
Hon. Norman Y. Mineta



(From left) JACL's Matthew Farrells, Toshi Abe,
Mariko Newton, Chip Larouche, Craig Tomiyoshi,
David Lin, Sheldon Arakaki and Priscilla Ouchida



(From left) Southwest
Airlines' Kim Delevett,
Honda and Ouchida

Government Shutdown Forces Closure of Manzanar National Historic Site

SIXTEEN EMPLOYEES ARE FURLOUGHED AND EVENTS ARE CANCELED; TULE LAKE IS ALSO IMPACTED.

INDEPENDENCE, CALIF. — Because of the shutdown of the federal government caused by the lapse in appropriations, the National Park Service has closed all 401 national parks, including Manzanar National Historic Site.

All visitor facilities, including Manzanar Visitor Center, barracks, mess hall and the auto tour road, are closed. The site will remain closed until the government reopens.

Superintendent Les Inafuku said that all Manzanar group tours and special events for the next two weeks have been canceled. Events scheduled beyond that may be canceled if the shutdown continues.

Manzanar National Historic Site hosts 210 visitors on average each day in October; nationally, more than 715,000 visitors a day frequent the National Park System. Nationwide, the NPS stands to lose approximately \$450,000 per day in lost revenue from fees collected at entry stations and fees paid for in-park activities such as cave tours, boat rides and camping.

Gateway communities across the country see about \$76 million per day in total sales from visitor spending that is lost during a government shutdown.

At Manzanar National Historic Site, 16 employees are on furlough because of the shutdown and another two Manzanar History Assn. bookstore employees are similarly affected. One employee remains on duty, providing facility security.

Nationwide, the shutdown has also furloughed more than 20,000 NPS employees; approximately 3,000 employees remain on duty to ensure essential health, safety and security functions at parks and facilities. About 12,000 park concessions employees are also affected.

In Northern California, the Tule Lake Unit of the WWII



Manzanar National Historic Site remains closed due to the federal government shutdown; at press time, a bill to reopen the government was awaiting final approval by President Barack Obama.

Valor in the Pacific National Monument has also been impacted.

"We'll start the conversation again when we get back," NPS staff posted on the Manzanar and Tule Lake Facebook pages.

Because it will not be maintained, the NPS website will be down for the duration of the shutdown. NPS.gov has more than 750,000 pages and 91 million unique visitors each year.

*As of press time, a bill to reopen the government and end the shutdown was awaiting final approval by President Barack Obama, and the NPS reopened some sites after pressure from state governors and veterans. Among the parks reopened were three of the most iconic sites in the United States: the Grand Canyon in Arizona, the Statue of Liberty in New York and Mount Rushmore in South Dakota. For updates on the shutdown, visit www.doi.gov/shutdown.

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JACL Receives National Park Service Grant for Teacher Workshops

The JACL has received a \$62,845 grant from the Department of Interior, National Park Service through the Japanese American Confinement Sites grant program for teacher training workshops in 2014 and '15.

The purpose of the teacher workshops is to increase the understanding of the Japanese American confinement site experience among a broad range of educators. Five separate workshops will be held in Albuquerque, N.M.; Houston, Texas; Minneapolis, Minn.; Phoenix, Ariz.; and the Fresno, Calif., area.

The coordination and planning for the workshops will be accomplished through JACL staff and the JACL National Education Committee. JACL Midwest Director Bill Yoshino and NEC Chair Greg Marutani will be working with JACL chapters at each of the workshop sites.

"We look forward to working closely with our JACL chapters to ensure local

participation and to heighten awareness about the Japanese American incarceration experience," said Marutani.

"These workshops are in keeping with JACL's long history of providing opportunities for educators," said Yoshino, "and we appreciate the support of the NPS for providing the JACL with resources to continue our outreach to teachers."

In the past, the JACL has partnered with a number of organizations to conduct teacher workshops, including the Illinois Holocaust Museum, Atlanta public schools, Chicago public schools, the National Council for the Social Studies, the Holocaust Museum Houston and the National Conference of Christians and Jews.

For more information on this project, contact Bill Yoshino. For questions regarding the JACS grant program, contact Program Manager Kara Miyagishima at (303) 969-2885.

APAs in the News



Rhianna Taniguchi Named Norman Y. Mineta Fellow

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Rhianna Taniguchi of Honolulu, Hawaii, will be joining the JACL's Washington, D.C., office as the Norman Y. Mineta Fellow. Taniguchi, a specialist in the U.S. Army National Guard, was a Distinguished Honor Graduate from Ft. Lee, Va., where she went on to earn the Army Achievement Medal and a position as a military intelligence analyst.

In 2012, Taniguchi served as a senator in the Associated Students of Oregon State University, and she wrote multiple pieces of legislation that addressed the needs of low-income, multicultural and other underrepresented communities. During her tenure at OSU, she also re-established the Japanese American Student Assn.

Taniguchi also was a member of the JACL's National Youth Student Council.

Named after the former Secretary of Transportation and former Secretary of Commerce, the Norman Y. Mineta Fellowship position focuses on public policy advocacy in the Asian American Pacific Islander community.



George Takei Honored at Asian Americans Advancing Justice 30th Anniversary Dinner

LOS ANGELES — Actor George Takei was honored Oct. 10 by Asian Americans Advancing Justice (formerly the Asian Pacific American Legal Center) during its 30th anniversary dinner at the Westin Bonaventure Hotel.

More than 1,200 guests were on hand to congratulate Takei, who was awarded the organization's Public Image Award for his "lifelong efforts to promote positive images of Asian Americans, especially in popular media."

In his acceptance speech, Takei spoke about the "darker periods of Asian American history, highlighting egregious episodes of discrimination." He praised the organization for its 30-year-long fight against that legacy.



Kathryn Ellen Doi Is Appointed to the California New Motor Vehicle Board

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Jerry Brown on Sept. 24 announced the appointment of Kathryn Ellen Doi, 53, to the California New Motor Vehicle Board.

Doi, who earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of California, Davis, School of Law, has been a partner since 2008 at

Murphy Austin Adams Schoenfeld LLP. Doi also served as senior deputy legal affairs secretary in the office of Gov. Gray Davis from 2002-03.

Doi's position does not require Senate confirmation and the compensation is \$100 per diem.



Christine Kubota

Christine Kubota, Mitchell Nishimoto and Lori Teranishi Appointed to Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii Board of Directors

HONOLULU — The Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii has appointed three new members, Christine Kubota, Mitchell Nishimoto and Lori Teranishi to its board of directors for the 2013-14 fiscal year.

Kubota, a local attorney and director at Damon Key Leong Kupchak Hastert, will serve as a member of the Facilities & Operations Committee and as co-chair of the Fundraising & Membership Committee.

Nishimoto is senior vp of First Hawaiian Bank and supervises the Kapiolani Banking Region. He will serve on the Facilities & Operations Committee.

And Teranishi is co-founder and principal of IQ PR, a boutique communications firm with offices in Honolulu, San Francisco and New York. She will also serve on the Facilities & Operations Committee.

"We are pleased to welcome these three outstanding business leaders to the board," said Tyler Tokioka, chairman of the JCC of Hawaii board of directors. "Christine, Mitchell and Lori all have an incredible commitment for the center's mission to preserve and share the Japanese American legacy in Hawaii."



Lori Teranishi

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Record Number of Asian American Elected Officials Kick-Off 'APAICS Leadership Network'



Congressman Mike Honda (center) leads a roundtable discussion on education at the APAICS summit in San Francisco.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Building on the increase of Asian American Pacific Islander elected officials, a network of AAPI legislators gathered in San Francisco last month at a meeting hosted by Mayor Edwin Lee, the city's first Asian American mayor, that leverages the influence of state and federal AAPI legislators across the country.

The number of AAPI elected officials has risen rapidly over the past several election cycles. In the 2008 and 2010 election cycles, six to eight AAPI candidates ran for Congress. In 2012, the number tripled to 25 candidates, making the AAPI community crucial in battles to control Congress. A record number of AAPI candidates also ran at the state and local level, where a record number hold office.

"The APAICS Leadership Network is the first of its kind to unite AAPI elected and appointed officials, incumbents and challengers," said APAICS Leadership Network President Floyd Mori. "It provides a platform for direct support and training, networking officials at all levels with policy experts from the private and public sectors. There's no longer any question about the political clout of the Asian American Pacific Islander community — our time has come."

A panel moderated by Asian Pacific American Leadership Project Founder Ron Wong discussed breaking the glass ceiling and running for higher office. The introductory speaker was Betty Yee, a member of the California State Board of Equalization and candidate in 2014 for California State Controller. Panelists included Larry Tramutola of Tramutola Advisory, Mary Jung from the San Francisco Association of Realtors and Eric Jaye of Storefront Political Media.

Rep. Mike Honda, who began his political career in the 1980s and now represents California's 15th District, was also among the speakers.

"When I first started, reaching Congress seemed like a far-off dream — there were only seven Asian Americans in the House then," said Honda. "Today, there are 13 Asian American and Pacific Islander members of Congress, and the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus has 42 members and associates. That's a testament to the persistence, enthusiasm and sheer will of the community to get and stay involved in the mainstream political process of this country."

California State Controller and Chief Fiscal Officer John Chiang and Christine Pelosi joined Google's head of politics and causes, Ramya Raghavan, at Google's San Francisco headquarters to discuss using social technologies to create and scale a network effect.

MSNBC anchor-journalist Richard Lui was master of ceremonies, and Lee greeted participants and spoke to the group. Also featured was a new generation of AAPI elected officials, including Lisa Wong, mayor of Fitchburg, Mass., and Nate Shinagawa, county legislator in Ithaca, N.Y.

"This is the first step of many. We couldn't start this march without AAPIs who came before us," said Mori. "The network is grateful to Mayor Ed Lee of San Francisco, Jason Chan and others on the mayor's staff for hosting this summit and assisting APAICS staff members consisting of Helen Ruggiero, Leila Mohib and Kaitlin Inamasu. We express thanks to all who attended."

Currently, one AAPI serves in the U.S. Senate and 12 serve in the U.S. House of Representatives (including delegates from American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands).

Since 1903, there have been five AAPI U.S. Senators and 21 AAPI U.S. Representatives, including delegates and resident commissioners representing territories. They have come from a mix of ancestries, states and party affiliations.

Founders of the APAICS Leadership Network see involvement at the state and local levels as important to increasing Asian American and Pacific Islander political participation at the federal level.

"Making sure local excitement leads to cadres of AAPI policymakers at the state and federal level is a key goal of the APAICS Leadership Network," said Washington State Rep. Sharon Tomiko Santos, chair of the National Asian Pacific American Caucus of State Legislators and founding board member of the network. "Politics is a tough business and this network will help us ensure that, through mentoring, networking and support, no AAPI leader falls through the cracks."

Added Evan Low, founding board member and president of the National League of Cities' Asian Pacific American Municipal Officials, "As more and more AAPIs get interested and run for local and state offices, they become role models, which in turn fuels the next generation of AAPI policymakers." ■

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The new federal law that requires U.S. Citizens and Lawfully Present Immigrants to have health insurance is called the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (also known as Obamacare). As part of the Affordable Care Act, many new patient protection laws are already in place. For example, insurance companies may no longer deny coverage based on pre-existing conditions. This is changing the lives of people like Doug Ogden, age 51, of Beverly Hills: "For years I've had auto insurance, home insurance and earthquake insurance. To be told that I couldn't have health insurance because of a pre-existing health condition was the most frightening thing. For me, getting on the Pre-existing Condition Insurance Plan to get treated for my sleep apnea was a life saver."

Local Health Centers and County Social Services can also assist you with free personalized advice on coverage options and they can also help with enrolling in Medi-Cal through Covered California. Visit for your local health center:

<http://www.californiahealthplus.com/index.cfm/find-my-health-center/>

Open enrollment begins October 1, 2013 and you must have health insurance by January 1, 2014. For information in thirteen languages on your options and how to sign up for a plan, visit www.CoveredCA.com

'Marvels & Monsters' UNMASKED

THE JANM EXHIBIT, OPEN UNTIL FEBRUARY, OFFERS A SELECTION OF IMAGES THAT REPRESENTS FOUR TURBULENT DECADES IN AMERICAN HISTORY.



By **Connie K. Ho**
Contributor

The Lotus Blossom who is submissive and demure. The evil villain who is determined to destroy the world. The nerd who is buried in books all day. These are a few of the stereotypes that the Japanese American National Museum's newest exhibit explores. "Marvels and Monsters: Unmasking Asian Images in U.S. Comics, 1942-1986" made its West Coast debut at JANM on Oct. 10.

The images curated for the exhibit, pulled from four decades, show how racial and cultural archetypes of America's perceptions of Asians have evolved.

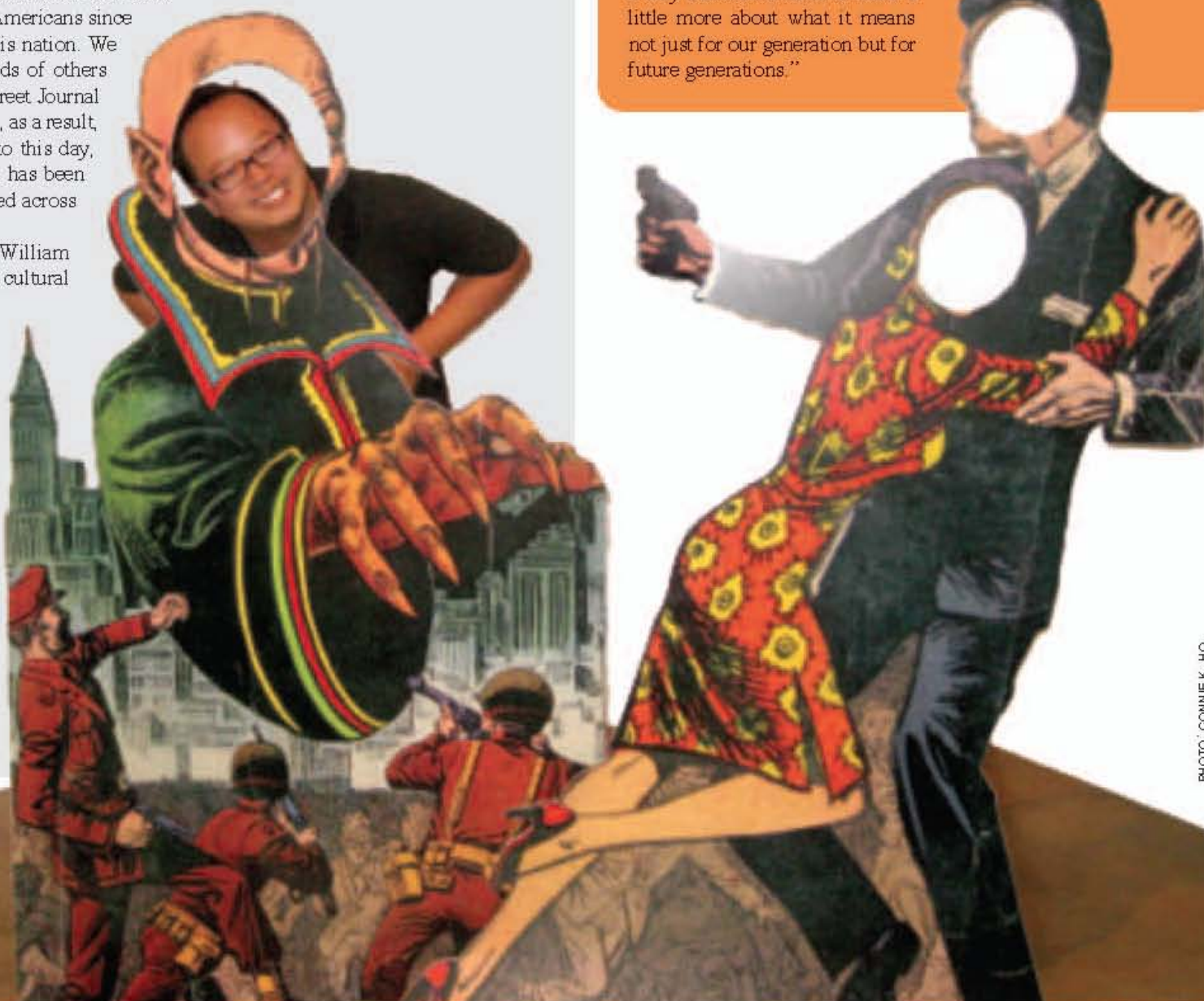
"At its core, it's an exhibition that talks about this dark path that has traveled with us as Asian Americans since we first encountered, first set foot in this nation. We have always been imagined in the minds of others and as others," said Jeff Yang, a Wall Street Journal columnist who curated the exhibit. "And, as a result, a picture that most people have, even to this day, of what Asians are and who Asians are has been shaped by these images that have traveled across decades in the media."

The exhibit is based off the collection of William F. Wu, a science-fiction author and cultural studies scholar, that was donated to the New York University Fales Library & Special Collections, and "Marvels & Monsters" was first presented in New York City at NYU's Asian/Pacific/American Institute in 2011.

Along the way, "Marvels & Monsters" has made stops in cities like Philadelphia and is heading to New York next for a showing in Stony Brook.

"People have been, genuinely speaking, blown away by it. More because what William F. Wu did is singular. I don't think anyone else has spent as much, so much of his time, so much of his life obsessed

as he has been with gathering together this amazing trove and all in one place. You can sort of see this secret history of America and its relationship with Asia," said Yang on the feedback he has received on the exhibit. "There are people who are shocked. There are people who are aghast, in some way, of these things that are out there. It's these things that you don't want to confront a lot of times. We don't want to stare at the darker part of our past, but unless we do, we can't overcome it. But ultimately, I think that the people who do see it, even if they're shaken by it — they're changed in a way that forces them to think a little more about what it means not just for our generation but for future generations."



"Marvels & Monsters" curator Jeff Yang participates in the exhibit's interactive experience.

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A Family Legacy in California Farming Since 1928

New Crop Shinmai Announcement

Here on our farm in the Central Valley, it's that time of the year when broad swaths of rice are slowly turning gold awaiting harvest. Year after year, this cycle repeats as we carry on in the tradition of our grandfather and Koda Farms founder, Keisaburo Koda.

Our family has now been farming in California for over 85 years and we look forward to our approaching centennial. To some that may seem far and distant, but in farming, the long term picture is always in sight. This was especially true for our grandfather who during the World War II internment of Japanese Americans lost over 90% of everything he owned. After the family's release from Amache, Colorado, he fought tooth and nail to re-establish his farm and milling operations and instilled in those around him an indomitable sense of hope for a better future.

With the daily reminders of the changing seasons and imminent harvest, we extend our sincere gratitude to all of you folks that have made the aforementioned possible.

- The Koda Family

Koda Farms is the oldest, continuously family-owned and operated rice farm and mill in California. We oversee all facets of production – from growing and harvesting our propriety heirloom strains, to milling and packaging in our own facilities. Our trademarks and products include Kokubo Rose® Japanese style rice, Sho-Chiku-Bai® Sweet Rice, Mochiko Blue Star® Sweet Rice Flour, Kokubo Rose® Jyoshinko, and Diamond K® Rice Flour. (Organic & conventional versions available.)

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NEW CROP 2013

These archetypes are shown along with comparative discourse by contemporary Asian American writers and creators such as David Henry Hwang and Naomi Hirahara.

"We took these long narratives of history, we showed how they evolved in places like the comics because we had this rich trove of color images that depict these recurring archetypes. Again and again and again, and then we try to put some context around them by getting present-day individuals, writers, authors, playwrights to comment on why these images remain so resilient, why is it that we can't quite overcome them," Yang said. "Effectively, the East-West divide has been such a huge part of American geopolitical context that these images that were borne out of these dark times, these images keep on getting new energy and keep on getting revived and resurrected in different ways. So, part of what we're doing here, the best is disinfecting the sunlight, we actually want to bring all of this stuff out and show how these images have evolved and show how they are being subverted and overcome."

The images shown in the exhibit also include drawings from children who were incarcerated during World War II. JANM pulled images from its own archives and unearthed a trove of cartoons and comics created by internees in the camps as well as the letters from the librarian who worked with children in the camps, talking about comic books and explaining about how comic books played a vivid role in the lives of young children who had been incarcerated.

"It adds another layer of conversation — so as all of these things are happening in the funny books, you have a young generation of Asian Americans who have grown up behind barbed wire, yet you have these comic books, not Japanese comic books, American comic books, as a form of sustenance. Just as they turned to baseball and other American pursuits because they were American, they are American," Yang said. "So, I think the nuances and the ironic richness of having these artifacts that show the love of comics and the way comics kind of intersected with the life of people behind barbed wire in one of the most shameful chapters of American history, alongside these artifacts of war that occurred in mainstream comics themselves — I can't imagine a better place for the exhibition than here, especially with what they've added to it."

Others have noticed the thoroughness of the exhibit materials and the JANM addition of illustrations. "It's amazing to have those kinds of records," said Julie Kang, a Long Beach resident who blogs about comic books in her spare time.

To inspire young children to interact with the exhibit, there are life-size cutouts of the different archetypes and an installation called "Shades of Yellow," where visitors can match the shades used for Asian skin tones in the comics to a slab of yellow Pantone to their own skin. Next to the cutouts, there are tables, chairs and white pads of paper where kids can draw their own villain or superhero. There is also a small reading corner dedicated to new and emerging Asian American comic book writers.

"My kids are budding comic book geeks, so I thought that they would especially have a good time," said Kang, who visited the exhibit with her husband, Tim Mansfield, 9-year-old son, Isaac, and 6-year-old daughter, Emi. "I thought that there might be some slightly disturbing imagery here, but then I thought this would be the perfect time to kind of introduce them to that, see the images and see why it's wrong and why it's inaccurate. I thought it would be the perfect introduction, instead of them stumbling on to it themselves."



Jon Jon Briones (left) and Marcus Choi performed "Evil Is a Yellow Face" at the exhibit's opening-night reception.



Curator Jeff Yang (far left) moderated a session that explored how racial and cultural archetypes of America's perceptions of Asians have evolved.

To celebrate the exhibition, JANM's Young Professionals Network also hosted a preview reception, "Marvels & Monsters: Unbound." Attendees sampled bite-sized appetizers and enjoyed performances inspired by the exhibition. The performances ranged from dramatic acts to hilarious song-and-dance pieces.

"I think a lot of what this collection says and does is that we can't forget the dark parts of our history and, to that matter, our present because they're never really that far away. The only way that we can overcome them as Asian Americans and as everything is if we confront them first and remember," Yang said.

"Marvels & Monsters" is on display at JANM until Feb. 9.

"It really doesn't matter if you're a Chinese American, Japanese American, Korean American, Filipino American — we all, at some degree, or any ethnicity, suffer as Americans when we succumb to the false consciousness of stereotypes," said Greg Kimura, president and CEO of JANM. "I felt a responsibility that this museum had to showcase this exhibit for the West Coast and for Los Angeles."

JAVA Honors Robert Nakamoto With the Terry Shima Leadership Award

KEYNOTE SPEAKER GRANT UJIFUSA RECALLS ROAD TO REDRESS.

FALLS CHURCH, VA — Robert Nakamoto, immediate past president of JAVA and current Executive Council member and chair of the JAVA Finance Committee, was awarded the 2013 Terry Shima Leadership Award on Oct. 12 for his leadership and diplomacy in further establishing the Japanese American Veterans Assn. as a premier nationwide Asian American veterans organization.

The presentation was made at the organization's quarterly luncheon, which was attended by 70 JAVA members and friends at the Harvest Moon restaurant.

Guests present at the luncheon included former Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta, Brig. Gen. Anthony J. Cotton and JAVA life members Lt. Col. Claude "Chip" Larouche, Maj. Setsy Sadamoto Larouche and Col. Mark Nozaki.

The luncheon's keynote speaker was Grant Ujifusa, founding editor of the "Almanac of American Politics." Ujifusa spoke of his key role and experience in the enactment of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, also known as House Resolution (HR) 442 and the Redress Bill.

Ujifusa said the bill was passed because of the thousands of people, including a key role played by then-Congressman Mineta, who worked to make it happen. In the end, however, it was ultimately approved because of the combat record of the "Nisei soldiers during World War II."

There were four Nisei soldiers who featured prominently



(From left) Reuben Yoshikawa, Bob Nakamoto, Terry Shima and Gerald Yamada at the 2013 JAVA Quarterly Luncheon

in the approval process, Ujifusa recalled. "They were Mike Masaoka, U.S. Senators Spark Matsunaga and Daniel Inouye and Kaz Masuda. Without them, I think we can also say that redress would have had no chance," he said.

Ujifusa said Masaoka was the "single most-gifted leader in American history... a big-time problem solver and as good a lobbyist as the best in Washington."

He also observed that "no one worked harder to make redress a reality than U.S. Sen. Spark Matsunaga. After three intense years, he put together, largely by himself, a solid bipartisan coalition of 69 Yes votes. And so to him we owe Senate passage of S. 1009. The reason the bill received so much support was that nearly all of Sparky's Senate colleagues just loved him."

Ujifusa also told the audience that "U.S. Sen. Inouye saved redress from perhaps becoming a grand exercise in symbolism only. An apology is nice, but because of him, money changed hands... Inouye made those payments mandatory, like Social Security in an appropriations bill. The entirely separate appropriations bill was the work of Sen. Inouye alone."

Ujifusa recalled how President Ronald Reagan was publicly opposed to HR 442, and it was Masuda, a 442nd soldier, who caused Reagan to sign the bill.

President Reagan was an Army captain when he spoke at Masuda's funeral in 1945, where the soldier was posthumously honored with a Distinguished Service Cross. Ujifusa recalled an excerpt from Reagan's speech: "Blood that has soaked into the sand is all one color. America stands unique in the world, the only country not founded on race, but on a way — an ideal. Not in spite of, but because of our polyglot background, we have had all the strength in the world. That is the American way..."

Years later, said Ujifusa, Gov. Thomas Kean of New Jersey brought up redress to then-President Reagan in 1987, and he produced a letter from Masuda's sister, June, to the president that reminded him of his 1945 speech. President Reagan then subsequently called Gov. Kean and said, "I remember that day at the ceremony for Kaz Masuda. I think redress is something I want to do."

On Aug. 10, 1988, President Reagan first reread the same words he had said at Masuda's award ceremony 43 years before. He then proceeded to sign the historic bill.



JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

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In the past year and a half, the Japanese American National Museum's Frank H. Watase Media Arts Center has captured more than 25 first-person accounts of individuals whose lives illuminate the astonishing diversity of the Japanese experience in America. From the little known early settlement of Japanese in a Florida colony to the struggles faced by the first war brides admitted to the U.S. after World War II, these chapters in history remain unfamiliar to the public.



Join us in the Tateuchi Democracy Forum for the premiere screening of this work featuring excerpts from the extensive video interviews conducted with Nisei, Kibei, Hapa and post-World War II Issei. A discussion with project staff and special guests will follow.

Light refreshments will be served after the program.

This Video Life History project was made possible by the generous support of NITTO TIRE, U.S.A. Inc.



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'AGT' Winner Kenichi Ebina Is Too Busy Touring to Cash in His \$1 Million Prize

THE JAPAN-BORN DANCER IS THE FIRST PERFORMER OF ASIAN DESCENT TO WIN NBC'S "AMERICA'S GOT TALENT."

By Nalea J. Ko
Reporter

After eight seasons of NBC's "America's Got Talent," we've seen nearly every type of performer win: an 11-year-old singer, a ventriloquist, an opera singer, a country music star, a singer/songwriter, a Frank Sinatra-inspired crooner, a performing dog troupe and then this year, a lone self-taught dancer, Kenichi Ebina.

Japan-born Ebina, 39, is the first contestant of Asian descent to win the talent competition, and his victory immediately prompted un-American-shaming comments to crop up online.

But Ebina, who moved to the U.S. when he was 20 years old, says he wasn't surprised to see the negative comments about a Japanese man winning AGT. Ebina's unique performances that blend mime, visual graphics, hip-hop and martial arts early on caught the attention of AGT judges and American viewers. It wasn't, however, Ebina's first brush with fame.

Hailing from Tokyo, Ebina formed the all-Japanese dance group BiTrip in 2001 and won Apollo Theater's Amateur Night. Six years later, he took the grand champion crown at "Showtime at the Apollo."

Since winning Season 8 of AGT in September, Ebina hasn't slowed down. He returned to Japan for a couple of days, where his wife and daughter are now living, and then was quickly thrown into the AGT live tour, which is currently crisscrossing the U.S.

Ebina is headlining the AGT live tour until Nov. 17, which features fellow AGT top contestants the KriStep Brothers, Collins Key, Cami Bradley, Jimmy Rose, Taylor



Kenichi Ebina won "America's Got Talent" on Sept. 18 with his performances that blend mime, special effects and dance movements.

Ebina was awarded a prize of \$1 million and the opportunity to headline a nationwide tour.

Williamson and Tone the Chiefrocca. The *Pacific Citizen* talked to Ebina via telephone from Nashville, Tenn., where he was in between rehearsals, about what he'll do with his \$1 million prize and how he's handling his newfound fame.

What happens after the AGT live tour? Do you get your own show in Las Vegas?

Kenichi Ebina: After that, no. What they say, "Headlining show in Vegas," it's kind of misleading information (laughs). It sounds like I do my own show in Vegas, but it's not true. It's part of this tour.

Oh, I assumed you got your own show on the Vegas strip.

Ebina: That's what I thought, too (laughs).

Are you disappointed?

Ebina: A little bit. But maybe sooner or later, I'm trying to do my own one with someone else. So, it's OK. I don't actually want to stay in Vegas for a long time. I want different things. I'm trying to do maybe a shorten time in Vegas, couple weeks or couple months. I'm from New York right now. So, I definitely want to do the show in New York, then travel all over the world. That's my plan.

Did you get your \$1 million prize yet?

Ebina: Not yet. Actually, I've been so busy — I haven't got the time yet to talk about it. So, after things settle down,

then I'm going to ask them how it works.

What did it feel like when you won?

Ebina: I was surprised to be in the finals, surprised to remain in the Top 2 because I didn't expect that I [would] even remain in the Top 2. So, that was surprising.

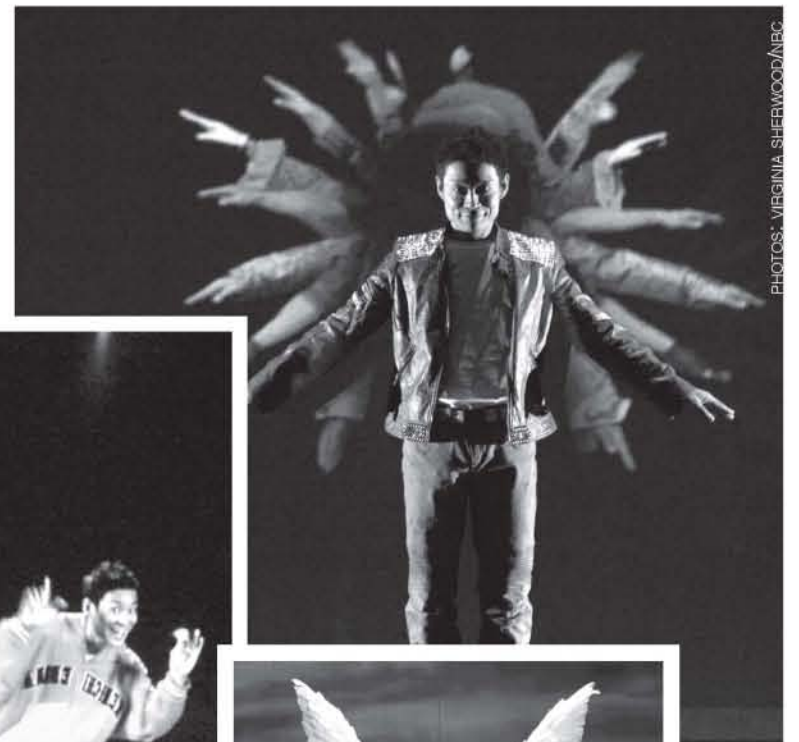
Before the finale, judge Howard Stern said on his radio show that he predicted you'd win. Did you know that?

Ebina: All over the place some say: Kenichi should win or Kenichi will win. It's so much different predictions. It was hard to predict. But it doesn't really matter for us who's going to win. It's all about the media people all talking about us.

What did you do to celebrate after the show?

Ebina: Because we were at Radio City (Music Hall), which is in New York City, I have a bunch of friends there. So, after that I went out with my friends and celebrated in a restaurant, in a bar (laughs).

People on the Internet were very critical of a Japanese man being crowned the winner, saying it's an American competition. Were you surprised at the negative comments?



PHOTOS: VIRGINIA SHERWOOD/NBC

Ebina: I think I knew that kind of negative comments were going to come out, so I totally expected it and predicted it. And everyone should have their own opinion. It's fine. But the bottom line is: 'America's Got Talent' — they scouted me, they invited me to the auditions and I was like, 'OK, why not?' And the eligibility was either you're a U.S. citizen or a green card holder, which I was eligible.

And you've lived in the U.S. for quite some time, right?

Ebina: Yeah, almost half of my life. I moved here when I was 20, almost 20 years.

Are you going to put your \$1 million winnings into developing a one-man show?

Ebina: First of all, like two-thirds of the million goes to the tax benefits. What I will get, at the max, is probably like \$300,000. And then I don't know, it might [be] over 40 years.

I might be able to get a lump sum. But it's more for my daughter, my wife.

Will your wife and daughter return to the U.S.?

Ebina: No, they're going to stay in Japan for a while, and I'm going to keep traveling.

Can you tell me about your background? Were your parents artists?

Ebina: My parents were working at the bank. They met in the bank — they were working in the same bank. They got married and had me.

Were you always interested in dance?

Ebina: No, I started dance after I moved to the United States. I started when I was 20.

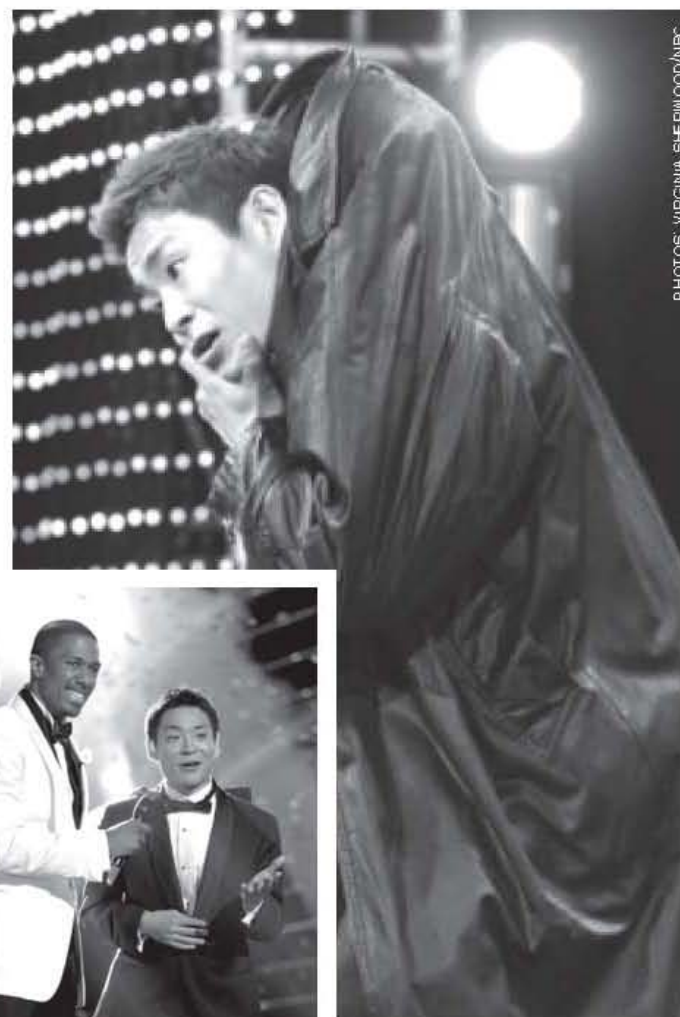
Was that when you saw the Running Man for the first time and tried it?

Ebina: Yeah (laughs).

As a kid, were you interested in the arts?

Ebina: Not at all. I was more into — like when I was a kid, I was more into sports like baseball, soccer, basketball.

And then when I was in high school, I was more into motorcycles. So, one of my dreams back then was driving Route 66.



PHOTOS: VIRGINIA SHERWOOD/INFERNO



Ebina's win of the talent competition drew controversy online, but the Japanese dancer was unfazed by the negative comments.

Did you get to do that?

Ebina: Yes, but with a car.

The AGT live tour schedule is hectic. Are you exhausted yet?

Ebina: It's kind of overwhelming right now. I might actually [get] some manager or agent. But it's kind of a long process, and I have to find someone I can trust who is good at it, who can handle it better than I do.

How is it touring with the AGT contestants? Are you guys getting on each other's nerves?

Ebina: We're having a lot of fun. We get along very well. Even during AGT, we were already good friends. Only the media tries to make us hate each other.

During the competition, you talked about how your wife encouraged you to show more emotion during your performances. Do you think that ultimately helped you win?

Ebina: Yeah, it was a good reason to bring up that kind of concept. But basically, each time I wanted to do something different.

[My] whole AGT [experience was] not for winning. If I really wanted to win from the beginning, I would've done different performances. I did it more for promoting, marketing — promoting my one-man show.

It doesn't really matter if you get the Top 2 or Top 6 or if you win — it doesn't really matter. The important thing is what you get after that and out of it. ■



Season 8 "America's Got Talent" winner Kenichi Ebina (foreground) poses with (from left to right) judges Howard Stern, Heidi Klum, Mel B, Howie Mandel and host Nick Cannon.

A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS



PHOTO: ANDY NAGUCHI

CALENDAR

The Congressional Gold Medal Traveling Exhibit

CHICAGO, IL

Opens Oct. 19

Chicago History Museum

1601 N. Clark St.

The traveling exhibit "American Heroes: Japanese American World War II Nisei Soldiers and the Congressional Gold Medal" honors Japanese American veterans who served in the 442nd RCT, the 100th Battalion and the MIS. The Chicago exhibit was organized thanks to the Chicago Japanese American Historical Society, the Japanese American Service Committee and the Chicago-Nisei Post #1183 of the American Legion.

Info: Call (312) 642-4600 or visit www.chicagohistory.org.

>>EDC

**Japanese American Assn.'s
Grand Bazaar**
NEW YORK, NY
Nov. 2, 10 a.m.-2p.m.
Japanese American Assn.
15 W. 44th St., 11th Floor
Cost: \$5/Individual tickets;
\$20/A group of 5; \$50/A group
of 50

The grand-prize raffle at this year's Grand Bazaar is a domestic air ticket by IACE Travel. Donations of clothing, shoes, bags, household goods, books, DVDs, furniture appliances and other items should be delivered to the Japanese American Assn. by Oct. 29.
Info: Call (212) 840-6942 or visit www.jaany.org.

**MIT Forum 'Japan's Continuing
Nuclear Nightmare' Lecture**
CAMBRIDGE, MA
Oct. 24, 5:30-7 p.m.
Massachusetts Institute of
Technology
77 Massachusetts Ave.,
Building 32/Ray and Maria
Stata Center

MIT professor Ken Oye, who is also the New England JACL co-president, will moderate a discussion about Fukushima and the aftereffects. Speakers include scientist Kenneth Buesseler, former retired U.S. Army Col. Patrick Stackpole and MIT professor Richard Samuels. The lecture is sponsored by the MIT Japan Program, Center for International

Studies, and the JACL New England chapter.
Info: Email starrforum@mit.edu.

**Boston Asian American
Film Festival**
BOSTON, MA
Oct. 24-27

Boston Theaters
The Boston Asian American Film Festival aims to empower Asian Americans through showcasing Asian American experiences.
Info: Call (617) 426-5313 or visit www.baaff.org.

>>NCWNP

**Watsonville Taiko's Holiday
Boutique and Raffle**
WATSONVILLE, CA
Nov. 3, Noon-5 p.m.
Watsonville JACL Kizuka Hall
150 Blackburn St.

Cost: \$10/General admission
The Watsonville Taiko's annual holiday boutique and raffle fundraiser will feature over 100 unique gifts from local area businesses, artists and individuals. There will also be a shiatsu massage therapist on-hand. The raffle prize winner will receive a handmade Japanese-themed quilt.
Info: Call (831) 435-4594 or email info@watsonvilletaiko.org.

Film Screening of 'Bully'
SAN JOSE, CA
Oct. 20, 1 p.m.
Japanese American Museum of
San Jose
535 N. Fifth St.

The Japanese American Museum of San Jose Youth will present a film screening of "Bully: Awareness, Perspective and Prevention," a documentary that chronicles bullying in America. A discussion about the parallels between bullying and the World War II Japanese American experience will follow the film. RSVP to reserve a seat.
Info: Call (408) 510-8609 or email jeff@jamsj.org.

**Remembering the Issei Film and
Lecture Program**
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
Oct. 27, 2-4 p.m.
New People Cinema
1746 Post St.

The National Japanese American Historical Society presents "Issei: The First Generation," a documentary about the unique experiences of Japanese immigrants who came to the United States at the turn of the century. Skyline College professor Masao Suzuki will lead a Q&A about the Alien Land Laws with the film's director Toshi Washizu and UCLA professor Lane Hirabayashi.
Info: Call (415) 921-5007 or email njahs@njahs.org.

Japanese Tea Tasting Workshop
SAN FRANCISCO, CA
Nov. 5, 6:15-7:45 p.m.
Japan Society of Northern
California
500 Washington St., Suite 300
Cost: \$7/Japan Society

**Students; \$10/Members;
\$15/Nonmembers**

This cultural experience workshop and tea tasting is presented in collaboration with the Lupicia Fresh Tea and the Japan Society. Kyoko Hori Tieu, Lupicia regional manager, will give a lecture about *nihon-cha*, or Japanese green tea. There will be a tasting of five different green teas: *sencha*, *gyokuro*, *hojicha*, *genmaicha* and *matcha*. RSVP before Nov. 3.
Info: Call Yukie Kato at (415) 986-4383 or email ykato@usajapan.org.

>>PSW

**Little Tokyo Community
Health Fair**
LOS ANGELES, CA
Nov. 2, 8:30 a.m.-Noon
Union Church of Los Angeles
401 E. Third St.

The 41st Little Tokyo Community Health Fair offers free flu shots, dental/oral cancer, podiatry and other medical screenings. Participants should eat a light breakfast and take their usual medications. Last year's event drew hundreds of participants, who received free bilingual health screenings.
Info: Call Dr. David Uyehara at (213) 473-3035.

**A Musical Performance of
'Nihonmachi'**
LOS ANGELES, CA
Nov. 16, 2 p.m.

**Japanese American Culture and
Community Center**
244 S. San Pedro St.

**Cost: \$75/Reserved sponsor
seating; \$45/Orchestra;
\$35/Balcony**

The Grateful Crane Ensemble's musical production "Nihonmachi" takes viewers on a journey back to the early beginnings of Japantown. The production, presented by Fugetsu-Do Confectionery, benefits the Little Tokyo Public Safety Assn.
Info: Call June Aochi at (818) 400-3273.

>>MDC

Aki Yoru Fall Festival Dinner
OMAHA, NE
Nov. 1, 6:30 p.m.
Mt. Fuji Inn
7215 Blondo St.

Cost: \$35/General admission
The Omaha JACL chapter's Aki Yoru Fall Festival event includes a teriyaki dinner, entertainment and \$200 raffle.
Info: Contact Mike Lewis at (402) 399-0872 or email mjlewis8@cox.net.

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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(800) 966-6157

In

Memoriam

Bowen, Reiko, 82, Diamond Bar, CA; Aug. 23; survived by her children, William (Karen) Culver and Cleo Taeko Staley; step-daughter, Deanna (Wendell) Tolman; brothers, Kusuo Miyawaki and Tamotsu Miyawaki; sister, Hamako Yamamoto from Japan; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Hanamoto, Terry Takeko, 78, Monterey Park, CA; Sept. 17; survived by her son, Michael S. (Cherilynn); daughter, Cindy Y. (Dr. Ryushi T.) Saisho and son, Steve T.; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives here in and in Japan; 5 gc.

Heyada, Grace Takako, 83,



L.A., CA; Sept. 11; survived by her husband, Mitsuo Heyada; daughters, Jill (Dean) Katayama, Ann (Weldon) Nomura and Jan (Daniel) Yoshimizu; grandchildren, Valerie Katayama, Kyle and Kacey Nomura, Dana and Tracy Yoshimizu; siblings, Kats (Irene), Reiko, and Kenji (Emi) Takai; brother-in-law, Masao (Nan) Heyada; and many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Hitomi, Russell Mitsuru, 83,



La Mirada, CA; Sept. 25; survived by his longtime companion, Betty Yamasaki; children, Cynthia (Eddie) Ishizaki, Clifford (Carolyn) Hitomi and Jamie (Sean Richardson) Higashi; sister, Sandy (Art) Sugiyama; sister-in-law, Lu Hitomi; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; 4 gc.

Ideta, Anne, 86, Fowler, CA; Sept. 24; she died from complications from an aortic aneurysm; during WWII she was interned with her family at Gila River; she settled down with her husband of 55

years, Tak, in the Central Valley, where they farmed and raised their family; she was a member of the Fowler Buddhist Church; preceded in death by her husband, Tak; her parents, Hachiroemon and Masuno Nishina; brothers Ray, Frank and Todd; survived by her children, Sharon Fukushima (Clifford) and Vickie Allison (Tim); 5 gc.

Kashiwagi, Tei, 91, Guadalupe, CA; Sept. 13; predeceased by her husband, Eddie; survived by her daughter, Jo Ann (Glenn) Tsuge; and other nieces, nephews and other relatives; 1 gc.

Kido, Hiro, 89, Nampa, ID; Sept. 21; during WWII his family was relocated to Nyssa; predeceased by his wife, Miki, and brother, Mas; survived by his siblings, Nori Kondo, Hisako Yasuda, Bob (Yae) Kido and sister-in-law Emi Kido, his children Sharlene (Doug) DesRochers, Scott (Lori Lovelace) Kido and Clark Kido; 7 gc.

Kirita, Susie, T., 92, Altadena, CA; Sept. 22; survived by her loving children, Susan Sierras and Melanie (Tim) Ishihara; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other family members; 4 gc; 3 ggc; 1 gggc.

Kiyan, Yoshihisa, 78, L.A., CA; Sept. 27; survived by his children, Gary (Darlene) and Linda Kiyan; siblings, Ikuko (Shoichi) Ikei, Shigeko (Noboru) Shimane, Yoshimasa (Kiyoko) Kiyan and Sadao (Tatsuzo) Kinjo and Fusako Nakagawa; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives in the U.S. and Japan; 2 gc.

Kurata, James Minoru, 80, Vale, OR; Sept. 22; served in the U.S. Army; predeceased by his parents, Jitsutaro and Kuni; brother, Takashi; sister, Haruyo Koda and his brother-in-laws, Bill Koda and Russ Tanaka; survived by his wife, Terry; sister, Mitsie Tanaka; daughter, Jamie and husband Adam Houston; son, Matt and wife Jaime; daughter, Angie and husband Brian Frost and his son, Steve and wife Anita Tucker; 13 gc; 4 ggc; and many nieces and nephews.

Maeda, Dennis Chugo, 62, L.A., CA; Aug. 22; survived by his wife, Kari Ann Maeda; children, Matthew (Rita) and Kevin Maeda; sister, Amy (Bob) Maeda-Burch; brother-in-law, Ken (Janet) Poland; sisters-in-law, Karen (Bob) Edwards and Karla (Dick) Lynch; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Masuda, Shiro, 92, L.A., CA; Oct. 1; survived by his children, Sam (Betty), James (Martha), Thomas and David Masuda; siblings, Teruso and Hiroko Masuda; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; 6 gc; 2 ggc.

Matsubu, Thomas Hisashi, 82, Fruitland, ID; Sept. 30; his family was interned during WWII at Minidoka; he was active with the Fruitland School Board, Lion's Club, JACL and Church of the Brethren in Fruitland; predeceased by parents, one sister and one brother; survived by sisters, Mary Hamada and Mabel Inamine; brother, Hank; wife, Helen; children Kirk, Francine, Tracey (Doug), Ben and Jeff (June); 4 gc; great-child Logan and numerous nephews and nieces.

Matsunaga, Aileen M., 83, Gardena, CA; Oct. 4; survived by her children, Lane, Duane (Keala), Kevin Matsunaga, Shawn (Milene) Matsunaga and Loreen Matsunaga; siblings, Mitsuno Yamaoka and Sueno Saito and Tadayuki Murakami; also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; 4 gc.

Nakata, Yoshio Dick, 91, L.A.,



CA; Sept. 27; his family was interned at Rohwer during WWII; predeceased by his beloved wife, Kiyoko; survived by his children, June Junko (Louis) Gomez and James Yoshiyuki (Susan); 4 gc.

Nakatani, Ayako, 96, Torrance,



CA; Sept. 3; survived by her sons, David (Lily) and Dennis Nakatani; sisters, Mitzi Okazaki and Fusako (James) Morita; sister-in-law, Eileen Takemoto; 5 gc; 9 ggc.

John Jiro Saito

July 4, 1928 - October 16, 2012



It's been a year since you passed away
We hope you know how much
you meant to us
We think about you everyday
Thank you
for mentoring each of us
Thank you
for your dedication to JACL
Thank you
for your friendship
JACL PSW District

Ono, Kay Emiko, 71, L.A., CA; Aug. 16; survived by her children, Paula Wada and Troy (Kandi); sisters, Leatrice Omiya and Janet (Rudy) Viloria; brother, Kenneth Yoshida; brothers-in-law, George (Merle), David and Bill Higa; 4 gc.

Sakaniwa, Margaret Kimiko, 88, Long Beach, CA; Sept. 20; She is survived by her beloved husband, Tanomo Sakaniwa; grandson, Mark Sakaniwa.

Sankey, Anita, 91, North Hollywood, CA; Sept. 7; survived by her children, Kitty, Dr. Mikio (Kathy) and EdWing Sankey.

Takamori, Hideyuki, 90, Torrance, CA; Aug. 27; a veteran of WWII; survived by his sons, Gilbert (Seandae) and Alvin (Debbie); siblings, Hisako Tamiya, Roger (Florence) and Lily; brother-in-law, Sadaichi (Hisae) Tanji; sisters-in-law, Katsuko Tanji from Japan and Mae Takamori.

Tanaka, Herbert Setsuo, 76,



Monterey, CA; July 5; Herb was a member of the Monterey Peninsula Buddhist Temple, JACL of Monterey and the Monterey Peninsula Nisei Memorial Post 1629 Veterans of Foreign Wars; predeceased by his parents, Ryuzo and Yoneko, and brother, Masaji; survived by his wife, Shizuko "Susie"; children, Randy and Cindy (Ernest) Cortes; 4 gc; also survived by his sister-in-law, Ann; four brothers Leonard (Akiko), Arthur (Mihoko), Norman (Alice) and Roy (Donna) Oku; cousins, Yumiko (Yasuo) Sakaguchi, Fumiyo (Virgil) Katsuyama and Sachiko (Bob) Uyematsu.

Tozaki, Yoshito, 93, Northridge, CA; Oct. 4; during WWII, he was sent to Poston and Tule Lake; survived by his wife, Jitsuko; sons, Ron (Jeannette), Jeff (Susan), Gary (Grace); half-siblings Kyoko, Hiroshi and Hiroto of Japan; 5 gc; 2 ggc.

Yasuhara, Yuzo, 92, L.A., CA; Sept. 30; survived by his children, Victor Shigeo (Elizabeth), Jose Luis Sakae, Paul Akira and Mario Yoshio; siblings, Michiko Yasuhara Garcia, Albert Iwao and Richard Kinzo; sisters-in-law, Mariko Nakashimada and Hiroko Tai; 2 gc; 2 ggc.

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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JAPAN >> continued from page 3



PHOTO: GIL ASAKAWA

A street lined with colorful *yatai*, or floats, in Takayama's Hachiman Matsuri fall festival

I also urge JAs to visit Japan. If you have distant family, look them up and let them know you're coming. Even if you don't know anyone, choose an area of Japan, do some online research and enthusiastically explore that area. Don't be scared, and don't be embarrassed if you don't speak Japanese. Everywhere you go, people will know just from how you dress and walk that you're an American.

But don't be an "ugly American" — speak Japanese if you can (but be aware that a lot of Nihongo that JAs know tends to be old-fashioned or blunt Japanese), but you'll always find someone who can speak a little English. Many signs have English alongside Japanese (and Chinese and Korean, and in Hokkaido, Russian). When you speak English, don't do what too many Americans do and start talking

louder. Just speak slowly. Japanese — especially young Japanese — are required to study English, but they can often read better than speak, so their conversational ability might be limited. But they're not deaf. Speak slowly and clearly, and you'll usually be able to communicate.

Many restaurants also have English menus . . . and the staff seems to know the moment you walk in that you'll need one. Everywhere you go, if you keep asking, "*Eigo wakarimasu ka?*" ("Can you speak English?") you'll find someone who will be happy to help you out.

If you go, be sure to buy a Japan Rail Pass in advance. For one flat price, you'll be able to travel anywhere in Japan, including most of Tokyo's rail system, by just waving your pass. You can even make advance reservations on express trains including the Shinkansen Bullet Trains. It's a terrific deal, but you can only buy a JR Pass if you're a foreigner — it's not available to Japanese citizens.

You'll never regret traveling to Japan. You might even find yourself feeling at home — even if you've never been there before!

Gil Asakawa is a current member of the P.C. Editorial Board and former P.C. Board Chair. His blog is at www.nikkeiview.com, and he also is the Japanese expert for Answers.com at www.japanese.answers.com.

PROPOSAL >> continued from page 3

During my tenure as director, the roof was a continual problem, and unless it has been done, in need of resurfacing. It leaked so badly at times that I wouldn't be surprised if workers discovered dry rot when they remove the current roof.

Another major cost will be replacing the two heater/air conditioning units on the roof that were installed in the early 1970s. When we looked into replacing those units in 2003, the cost was \$50,000 per unit. And the carpet, another original item from when the office was restored, is worn and in need of replacement. And just on a regular maintenance schedule, the building needs to be painted, another big-buck cost item.

It's time to let it go and make better use of the funds it takes to keep that place running. With the national director situated in D.C., the Sutter Street office is a big financial albatross around the neck of the organization.

There was a recommendation not so long ago to move the P.C. operation headquarters, where there was more than ample space, but that was rejected on the argument that it was unfair to ask the P.C. staff to move north. Ironically, the top staff left the P.C. not long after for other opportunities, but if the P.C.'s offices were in the headquarters building now, it would be a strong argument to keep the building.

As it is, I really don't see the value of having this big cost center sitting there when it's no longer needed. The four administrative

staff functions at the building can be carried out anywhere and aren't dependent on being at headquarters. If sold, the proceeds from the sale could be invested and the interest used to pay for leased offices outside the city where rents are more reasonable.

And National can pay the cost for the NCWNP office rental just as it does for the other offices around the country.

Having headquarters now in D.C. obviates the need for a Washington Rep, whose functions are now encompassed in the national director's position, a more effective arrangement since the director can focus on regularly working directly with members of Congress on issues important to the JACL and to the APA community.

Being in D.C. is the perfect fit, as Floyd Mori, the past national director, demonstrated in leading many of the policy and legislative battles for the APA community. His example should inspire our current and future directors to continue the JACL's tradition of excellence in D.C.

With our focus now in Washington and our operations centered there, having a building in San Francisco with the sign "National Headquarters" makes no sense. Keeping the building at this point is only holding on to the past, and we're not the same organization we were when we celebrated the opening of 1765 Sutter St.

John Tateishi is a former JACL national director.



Floyd Mori

Farmer
Assemblyman
Rebel
Mayor
Visionary
Loving Husband
Pet Owner
Public Servant
Community Organizer
Activist
Economist
Philosopher
♦ AARP Member
Volunteer
Policy Maker
Storyteller
Businessman
Basketball Player
Groundbreaker
Confidant

From the fields of Utah to California's State Capitol, Floyd Mori continues to drive social change by being a mentor for his community. Former National President of the Japanese American Citizens League, he speaks out on policy issues that affect millions of Asian Pacific Americans. A proud 23-year AARP member, Floyd dotes on his 11 grandchildren and helps displaced Vietnamese fishermen on the Gulf Coast find ways to make a living. Join Floyd today and enjoy the support and resources for life at 50+ by becoming an AARP member. Visit us at aarp.org/asiancommunity

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