



# PACIFIC CITIZEN

PHOTO: RAGO ARTS

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## IT'S SPRINGTIME — TIME TO SUPPORT THE P.C.

**I**t's springtime, which means it's time to think about how important the *Pacific Citizen* is to you. Is it the main way you feel connected to the JACL? Is it a reliable news source that

you flip through eagerly when it arrives in the mail? Is it a reliable news source that you click to daily or weekly in between issues to catch up on Japanese American and Asian American Pacific Islander news and information?

If the P.C. is important to you for any or all of these reasons, and more, then think about how your life would be without it.

There's no need to panic, it's not about to fold. But if you're an online user, you know that the P.C. website was not updated for more than two years because of lack of personnel and lack of funds. In this day and age, that's a terrible shame.

Fortunately, its website ([www.pacificcitizen.org](http://www.pacificcitizen.org)) finally came back online last fall after Herculean efforts, and it's being updated with every issue. It's an all-new, all-cool site, and I'll mention more about it below.

But happily, we now have a stable staff led by Allison Haramoto, who took on the position of editor-in-chief for more than a year before actually being hired for it; Susan Yokoyama, who kept the P.C. on the right financial path despite the challenges that faced her as business manager; Tiffany Ujiye, the busy assistant editor who writes a lot of stories and maintains the website. You've probably read a lot of stories by a prolific freelancer, Connie Ho. And as she has for years, Eva Lau-Ting makes sure you receive your P.C. in the mailbox.

Some freelancers round out the team as needed, but the P.C. runs lean — incredibly lean. I've worked at newspapers with 30 people on staff and with 250 on staff, and believe me, it's a constant miracle to me that the P.C. does such a good job covering both the JACL and wider AAPI issues that affect all of us. They do it so well that they've received awards for their work.

The budget belt's been tightened many times over the years, and the P.C. has sucked in its metaphorical gut and cinched its waist and gotten through some bad times. I applaud the staff today for their commitment and perseverance.

But it's springtime, and we need to take stock of their hard work and awards and understand that they can't keep up this pace on their own with support. Sure, they get some funding from national JACL, but the amount of that money has shrunk over the years.

And many of you may not know that except for the main salaries, the P.C. is basically self-sustaining through advertising, special productions like the Holiday Issue and, of course, through YOUR generosity during each year's Spring Campaign.

When I was the chair of the P.C.'s Editorial Board, I saw the staff raise enough in donations one year to buy new (real) cameras and better computers. After my time as board chair, all of you — the readers, the faithful JACL members who understand the value of the *Pacific Citizen* — donated enough funding for a reporter position.

This year, the P.C. staff would like your help to raise enough money for professional scanning equipment. Years ago, under the previous staff, the P.C. received a grant to digitize the newspaper's historic archives. And I mean historic: The *Pacific Citizen* is celebrating its 86th year in 2015.

That grant allowed the P.C. to scan and post many of the older issues of the paper and make them available (at the time, members-only) online. Those PDF files were a dream for researchers and fans of JA history like me — I spent many hours perusing the P.C. from the 1930s, or '40s with the break for the war, or the 1950s. They were invaluable.

Then the website took an extended break and is now back with a redesign and renewed purpose. Part of that purpose is to finish the work of making the P.C.'s archives available — for free — as a public service. To do that in a cost-effective and labor-efficient manner, the P.C. staff would like to purchase a professional-level scanner that can handle the full-size pages of the newspapers of yesteryear.

A state-of-the-art scanner and some volunteer help should be able to finish the job and make the future archiving of the important work that the P.C. produces much easier, and prompter.

We won't have to wait 80 years to see the print edition of today's *Pacific Citizen* online!

Sincerely,

Gil Asakawa

*Gil Asakawa is a P.C. Editorial Board member and former Board Chair. He is AARP's AAPI Marketing Communications Consultant, and blogs at [www.rikkview.com](http://www.rikkview.com). A new revised edition of his book, "Being Japanese American," will be published in June by Stone Bridge Press.*

### HOW TO REACH US

Email: [pc@pacificcitizen.org](mailto:pc@pacificcitizen.org)  
Online: [www.pacificcitizen.org](http://www.pacificcitizen.org)  
Tel: (213) 620-1767  
Fax: (213) 620-1768  
Mail: 250 E. First St., Suite 301  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

### STAFF

Executive Editor  
Allison Haramoto

Assistant Editor  
Tiffany Ujiye

Business Manager  
Susan Yokoyama

Production Artist  
Marie Samonte

Circulation  
Eva Ting

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JACL President: David Lin  
National Director: Priscilla Ouchida

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## THREE UNMISSABLE BOOKS THAT CAN HELP US HONOR OUR PAST

By Ryan Kenji Kiramitsu

**I**t was books," wrote social critic James Baldwin, "that taught me that the things that tormented me most were the very things that connected me with all the people who were alive, or who had ever been alive."

As Japanese Americans, our history and experiences offer far greater lessons than simple condemnations of the racism, war hysteria and failure of political leadership that led to our mass incarceration. Rather than trapping us in ancient history, our community's unique moral perspective can advantage us to speak into a number of modern social struggles, connecting us with all people who are alive.

In this vein, here are three unmissable books that can help us honor our past as we continue to draw fresh connections to present challenges.

**1. 'The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness'** — In this landmark and popular work, legal scholar Michelle Alexander meticulously documents the socially engineered rise of mass incarceration in the United States, connecting this disturbing trend to Jim Crow, a system of racist laws and traditions that targeted African-Americans following the formal abolition of slavery. Alexander's intellectually rigorous work — packed with concise and straightforward statistics — is able to satisfy all who tackle it, from the casual reader to the amateur critical race theorist to the law professor. The biggest takeaway from the project is the author's revelation of the extent to which both our country's carceral system and conceptions of race itself have been shamelessly doctored,

carefully crafted to serve white economic and political interests.

As descendants of one of America's most notable mass incarcerations, conversations on prison reform and abolition should matter deeply to Japanese Americans. "The New Jim Crow" gives us the language to speak meaningfully of this issue, providing practical tools with which we might dismantle a swollen prison system borne of systemic racism. This book is an educational necessity and with it Japanese Americans might join activists and educators in beginning to uproot a predatory prison industrial complex in favor of establishing more rehabilitative, community-based justice solutions.

**2. 'The Case for Reparations'** — Technically, this one isn't a book, but the *Atlantic's* June 2014 cover story needs to be included on this list because its 16,000-word report is essential reading for not only Nikkei but all Americans. This journalistic opus, which took author Ta-Nehisi Coates over two years to complete, is artistic polemic, argument by historical narrative. The essay painstakingly traces a brief history of anti-black racialized oppression in the United States and tells the stories of several African-Americans who have been viscerally affected by specific grievances including federal redlining and housing/loan discrimination, which they indict as direct causes for lasting economic and personal ruin. The reader begins to understand that reparations for these injuries are not only practically feasible for these still-living

individuals, but morally necessary.

"The Case for Reparations" concludes by encouraging thoughtful citizens to support the passage of legislative measures like HR 40, which calls for the formation of a federal commission to formally examine the institution of chattel slavery in the United States and make official recommendations on how to best ameliorate its lingering impacts. This language should be familiar to Japanese American activists, who won passage of a national redress bill after a bipartisan federal commission presented its findings on the wartime incarceration and its lasting effects in a damning report entitled "Personal Justice Denied."

A modern movement for reparations, Coates insists, would encapsulate "more than recompense for past injustices — more than a handout, a payoff, hush money or a reluctant bribe . . . [but] a national reckoning that would lead to spiritual renewal." The Nikkei who survived America's concentration camps and who successfully lobbied their government for redress are intimately familiar with this sort of renewal. As we fought for redress and apology Japanese Americans witnessed special life flow into our broken community. Inspired by the civil rights movement, we came together to grieve, conspire and champion an unprecedented healing and restoration. Reading Coates' work should be a special pleasure for Japanese Americans, who can naturally inhabit a crucial role as allies for all movements for reparations.

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## MY COUNTRY FAMILY MATTERS

By Rhianna Taniguchi

**T**he only reason I know my grandfather's *mon* (family crest) is because it is on his grave marker. He died when I was very young, and I only have memories of him walking me to the park and picking flowers with me on the road home. Now that I only have one living grandparent left, I feel the regret of not asking more questions about my heritage and family history.

Many frustrations arise when trying to piece together family history. For some, it is being scared of what you'll find, for others too much time or energy is required, and sometimes we do not know where to begin. There is no better time to start than now, no matter your age or your situation.

If not for the sentiment, there are many practical reasons to research your genealogy. First, it may help to trace medical conditions and assess the risk of inheriting certain medical conditions that are genetic. Second, research may help you find and reconnect with relatives. Third, it may help your children get to know grandparents who have passed, who are not mentally aware or who may have limited physical abilities. Lastly, genealogies can provide proof of lineage to qualify for a heritage society or for land rights.

### Test how well you know your family history:

1. Do you know what your dad's first car was? Y N
2. Do you know where your parents went to elementary school? Y N
3. Do you know where your grandparents were married? Y N
4. Do you know the names of all your grandparent's siblings? Y N
5. Do you know what awards your parents and grandparents received growing up? Y N

If you can't answer at least four questions, it's time to start your genealogy project! I hope that you take the time to look back and appreciate your family's journey. To prepare you on your journey, following are a few helpful tips and tools.

1. When interviewing elders, make sure to set up a time with them that's convenient beforehand. Let them know what you want to do and prepare your questions in advance.
2. Help jog their memory with pictures or heirlooms.

It may be helpful to bring a sibling, cousin or parent along with you to help with dates and timelines. Make it a party! Don't forget to put the group photo in your archives.

3. Be creative! You don't have to do a paper-and-pen-type interview. Break out your camera or even your GoPro. Make it exciting, memorable and fun. Don't forget to charge the batteries and make sure digital devices have memory available.
4. Tell your family members you love them along the way. Write thank-you cards always. Did they mention that they loved a food or activity in their interview? Go a step beyond and bring them something next time you visit.

Visit <http://oralhistory.library.ucla.edu/familyHistory.html> for a great list of questions to start your family interview provided by the UCLA Library Center for Oral History Research.

*Rhianna Taniguchi is an aspiring social engineer in Honolulu, Hawaii. She was the 2014 JACL Norman Y. Mineta Fellow.*



## USC Asian Pacific Alumni Assn. Honors Alumni Leaders

The USC Asian Pacific Alumni Assn. honored alumni leaders and 2015 scholars who have "demonstrated extraordinary leadership and merit while striving to advance the legacy of Asian Pacific Trojans" at its gala reception on April 10 at the Langham Huntington in Pasadena, Calif.

Honored were Leadership Award recipients Yosuke Honjo (MBA 1998), president and CEO of ITO EN North America; and Rocky Seto (class of 1999, MPA '01), assistant head coach, defense, for the Seattle Seahawks; Legacy Award honoree

Dr. Sammy Lee (class of 1947), two-time Olympic diving gold medalist and the first Asian American to win Olympic gold for the U.S.; and Service Award honorees Ben Wong (class of 1973, PhD '78) and Debbie Wong (class of 1975), dedicated alumni volunteers and USC parents.

In addition to the APAA alumni honorees, 61 2014/15 APAA scholars were presented. The APAA also launched its capital campaign of \$2 million, which was announced by campaign co-chairs John Iino and Brandon Lew.



In attendance at the APAA Gala were (from left) honorees Rocky Seto, Debbie Wong, emcee David Ono, honoree Yosuke Honjo and USC APAA Executive Director Grace Shiba.

## APAs in the News

JACL Downtown Los Angeles Chapter and the Japanese Women's Society of Southern California Announce the 2015 Women of the Year



KIMIKO GOYA



YOSHIE HIRATA



MARTHA NISHINAKA

### LOS ANGELES

— Five Japanese American community leaders have been selected as the 2015 Women of the Year by the JACL Downtown Los Angeles Chapter

and the Japanese Women's Society of Southern California.

Kimiko Goya, Yoshie Hirata, Martha Nishinaka, Pearl Omiya and Nancy Takayama will be honored on May 3 at the Quiet Cannon in Montebello, Calif.



PEARL OMIYA



NANCY TAKAYAMA

Goya worked as a Japanese school teacher

for 25 years before retiring in 2011. She has also served as president of the Okinawa Association of America.

Hirata retired from JFC Los Angeles in 2000. She is currently a member of the board, treasurer and office worker for the Japanese Community Pioneer Center.

For more than 10 years, Nishinaka has served as president of the United Methodist Women at Centenary United Methodist Church in Los Angeles, in addition to working as an office manager and director of operations for Pagel Sheeter, M.D.

Omiya serves as executive director of the East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center, overseeing its operations, finances, programs and services.

And Takayama has served as president of the San Fernando Valley JACL as well as a board member of the JACL Pacific Southwest District before working full time for PSWD JACL in 2012.

### Mariko Fujimoto Hired as New JACL Membership Coordinator



**SAN FRANCISCO** — Mariko Fujimoto has been hired as the new JACL membership coordinator and will be working out of JACL National Headquarters in San Francisco. The position was formerly held by Matt Walters, who is now the JACL business manager.

Fujimoto is currently a student at San Francisco State University studying classics. She has been involved with JACL since 2007 and has served as a board member of the Silicon Valley Chapter since 2009.

### Lea Salonga to Reprise Her Role in 'Allegiance' on Broadway This Fall



**NEW YORK** — Tony Award-winner Lea Salonga will join the cast of George Takei's musical "Allegiance" on Broadway.

The Broadway veteran played the lead female role, Kei Kimura, when the musical made its premiere in 2012 at the Old Globe in San Diego. She will reprise her role at the Longacre Theatre starting this fall.

Takei's "Allegiance" is a multigenerational tale with two love stories that is framed by a Japanese American war veteran looking back on his family's time at Heart Mountain Relocation Center during World War II.

"Allegiance" features music and lyrics by Jay Kuo and a book by Marc Acito, Kuo and Lorenzo Thione. It is being directed by Stafford Arima, whose own father was interned in Canada during the war.

Previews begin Oct. 6 with an opening set for Nov. 8.

### Matt Okada Named New Director of Programs at JCCCNC



**SAN FRANCISCO** — The Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California recently named Matt Okada as its new director of programs. Prior to being selected, Okada served as the center's program coordinator for the past two years, focusing on new program development and managing the department's computer system and technology.

"I'm excited for this amazing opportunity to serve as the director of programs for the JCCCNC. Working at the center has given me the opportunity to learn about San Francisco's Japantown and its rich history, while contributing toward providing programs to the many people around the community," said Okada.

Okada grew up in Selma, near Fresno, Calif., and earned his undergraduate degree from California State University, Fresno, in recreation administration with an emphasis in community recreation and youth services.

— P.C. Staff and JACL National Staff

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# Honouliuli Internment Camp Is Now a National Monument



State officials, government dignitaries and community leaders observe a Shinto blessing at the ceremony site of the official Honouliuli National Monument on March 31.

U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell joined state officials, community leaders and volunteers on March 31 in Honolulu to dedicate the Honouliuli National Monument, site of the largest and longest-used confinement site in Hawaii for Japanese American citizens, resident immigrants and prisoners of war during World War II.

The 155-acre site, located in the Kuria gulch near Pearl Harbor, opened in March 1943. In the years following the war, the area became mostly forgotten and overgrown with vegetation. However, after years of hard work and collaborative efforts by the public and private community partners including the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii and the Honolulu Japanese American Citizens League, President Barack Obama established the new monument, which is now part of the National Park System, in February. Obama used the Antiquities Act to establish the monument, which is now the fifth site in the park system associated with the internment of Japanese Americans during WWII.

Following both Hawaiian and Shinto blessings, Jewell — who was also joined by Hawaii Gov. David Ige, U.S. Senators Mazie Hirono and Brian Schatz, Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell, National Park Service Deputy Director Peggy O'Dell, JACL Executive Director Priscilla Ouchida, Honolulu JACL Chapter

President Jacce Mikulanec and Carole Hayashino, president/executive director of the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii — untied a maile lei at the edge of a concrete foundation that was once the camp's mess hall to officially declare Honouliuli a National Monument.

"As one of the newest units of the National Park System, Honouliuli National Monument speaks of a painful but important chapter in our involvement in World War II — the unjust internment of Japanese Americans and other citizens whose rights were trampled by the prejudice and fear of the time," Jewell said. "I applaud President Obama for establishing this monument and all those in Hawaii who worked so hard to ensure this place is preserved and the story is told for future generations."

The site will be managed by the National Park Service. In March, the NPS signed a cooperative agreement with the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii to help provide educational and interpretive opportunities of the site and promote awareness of Japanese American internment experiences during the Pacific

War. Monsanto Company donated the land for the new monument and the University of Hawaii signed an agreement with the NPS to assure public access over its lands adjacent to the site.

"The gathering for the dedication of the Honouliuli site as a national park, much like the circle that was formed at the conclusion of the ceremony, was an emotional culmination of over 15 years of effort. Many of us shed tears — what was once only a dream became a reality for ourselves, for our children and for the memory of those who suffered so we could become full Americans," said Ouchida, who was also presented by Jewell with a copy of an official proclamation signed by Obama.

In a statement following Obama's declaration in February, Mikulanec said, "The Japanese American Citizens League-Honolulu is pleased that President Obama has designated Honouliuli Internment Camp as a national monument. JACL has helped lead the effort to ensure the story of Japanese American Internment and incarceration is integral to our national story. Nowhere is that story more poignant than in Hawaii — where the bombing of Pearl Harbor set in motion actions that led to the signing of Executive Order 9066 and thus one of the darkest chapters of our collective history."

Continued Mikulanec: "Honouliuli is a symbol of what can happen when fear and prejudice dictate policy in our country — and why we must counter racism and prejudice in any form. JACL has a long history of advocating for civil rights in Hawaii and nationally, and we are honored to be part of this pivotal moment and look forward to the work ahead."

Japanese American organizations and elected leaders in Hawaii have strongly supported preserving and interpreting the camp. In 2010, Congress authorized the Department of the Interior to conduct a study of the site for possible inclusion in the National Park System, after the late Sen. Daniel Inouye included a provision in the Interior Appropriations bill in 2009, requesting a NPS special resource study on Honouliuli. Jewell visited the area in September 2013 to see the site first-hand.

"This day honors our past — the memories of the former internees — and celebrates the future. The Honouliuli National Monument is a gift to future generations who will now have the opportunity to visit the former internment camp site and learn about the unique WWII experience of Japanese Americans in Hawaii and lessons of civil liberties and the U.S. Constitution," said Hayashino. "Honouliuli was lost and forgotten for many years. The new Honouliuli National Monument will ensure that people will never forget."



(From left) JACL Executive Director Priscilla Ouchida, JACL Honolulu Chapter President Jacce Mikulanec and U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell at the Honouliuli dedication ceremony.

## JACL National Convention Sayonara Banquet to Honor Mike Masaoka



WASHINGTON, D.C. — JACL and the Hon. Norman Y. Mineta will honor Mike M. Masaoka at the JACL National Convention's Sayonara Banquet, which is set to take place at the Monte Carlo Resort and Casino in Las Vegas, Nev., in July.

Masaoka was a lifelong public servant and active JACL member, serving as JACL's National Secretary, field executive, national legislative director of JACL's Anti-Discrimination Committee and the Washington, D.C., Representative. He worked tirelessly to advance the cause of Japanese Americans during World War II, helping to form the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and abolish many discriminatory laws against Asian Americans. Masaoka passed away in 1991.

**The 2015 JACL National Convention will be held July 13-15. For more information, visit the Convention website at [www.jacl.org/2015convention/](http://www.jacl.org/2015convention/).**

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The Green River Road Gateway landscape concept by David Tatsumi and his team for the city of Corona

## Rethinking Landscape Design in the Face of Water Cutbacks

For landscape architect David Tatsumi, despite California's recent mandate limiting water usage, design is 'definitely not doomed because of the water cutbacks.'

By Tiffany Ufuye,  
Assistant Editor

**G**ov. Jerry Brown ordered California's first ever-mandatory 25 percent cut in urban water usage earlier this month as the state enters its fourth year in drought. The mandate will affect millions, with fines totaling up to \$500 from local counties, cities and water districts for those who fail to conserve water.

While agriculture consumes roughly three-quarters of the state's water usage, the order targets urban areas. Freeway median strips will no longer be watered, and the state is making efforts to partner with agencies to remove about 50 million square feet of grass.

Efforts also include rebate programs to homeowners that encourage them to replace their lawns with artificial turf or the disposal of water-wasting appliances in exchange for high-efficiency models.

Recreational spaces such as golf courses, educational institutions and cemeteries are also required to cut water usage with the new mandate.

In addition to Brown's mandated order, the Metropolitan Water District, which is one of the largest water distributors, voted on April 14 to further cut regional deliveries to more than two dozen local agencies by 15 percent.

Water District officials are hoping to help cities meet Brown's mandate to reduce their urban water usage by the required 25 percent by limiting their deliveries. The cuts will vary between local water districts. As water supplies dwindle into the summer months, residents and farmers alike are feeling the pressure and crisis to conserve. Just this month, state surveyors found the lowest level of Sierra Nevada snowpack in more than a half century in record keeping.

Cities and districts looking to purchase

more water will have to pay stiff penalties of up to four times the normal price, discouraging extra consumption.

Funds collected from the penalties will go toward the Metropolitan turf removal program and other conservation programs.

The following went into effect in California on April 15:

- All restaurants, bars and hotels will stop serving water unless customers request it.
- All hotels and motels are required to provide signs in rooms informing guests that they may choose to opt out of their linens and towels washed daily.
- California residents are banned from landscaping and watering lawns with potable water within 48 hours after measurable rainfall.
- Cities, counties, water districts and private companies are required to limit watering their lawns to two days a week unless they are already limiting lawn and landscape watering to a certain number of days a week.

Watering limitations for lawns will apply to all 411 water providers, covering more than 95 percent of the state's population. However, there are loopholes in the points listed. If water providers are already limiting their usage during the week, even if it is more than two days a week, they can continue to abide by those rules, allowing them to not comply with the new two-day rule.

For landscape architect David Tatsumi, such efforts are nothing new. In fact, the landscape architect field has always considered efficient watering and irrigation in its projects, according to Tatsumi.

With more than 28 years of experience, Tatsumi has been a board member of the California State Board of the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (1998-2003)

and Director of the "Conference on Water Conservation" at California Polytechnic University Pomona in 1991; he is currently the Technical Expert for the State Board.

"This is nothing new," said Tatsumi. "For many years, irrigation and planting design have always been together for me. We are always looking for sustainable solutions, so Gov. Brown's new requests haven't changed the way I design my projects."

Tatsumi opened his landscape architectural firm Tatsumi and Associates in 1985 after working with one of the field's founding fathers, Francis Dean at ED&AW.

Landscape architecture over the years has evolved from just planting design into a multifaceted industry, involving both functional and aesthetic design of public and private spaces.

"Traditionally, landscape architects don't consider irrigation and water efficiency into their designs," Tatsumi admitted, but such practices are hard to continue with dwindling water levels.

Tatsumi and his team incorporate drip systems, a new development in irrigation that maximizes water distribution for efficiency along with smart controllers. These days, the controllers are advanced, using smart data such as weather, humidity and rainfall. The technology along with design incorporations like grouping similar water demanding plants together can cut costs overall not just for businesses and public spaces but also for private homes.

For example, when

homeowners plant a tree in the middle of their lawn, they run the risk of wasting water very easily. Grass roots grow a few inches into the soil, whereas the tree's roots may go as far as three feet down into the soil. The varying depth in watering poses a dilemma for watering requirements. Either water the grass and risk killing the tree or irrigate the tree and waste water. Tatsumi and his team easily work around the dilemma by simply grouping like-plants together.

"Your lawn doesn't necessarily have to look like a desert for it to be water-savvy," explained Tatsumi. "Avoiding ice plants like aloe vera or succulents can reduce water consumption. There are alternative plants to use when designing any space, private or public."

In addition to sustainable and high-efficient irrigation design, Tat-

sumi also looks to maximize the overall aesthetic look of his projects.

Contractors and engineers look for efficiency, something that works, whereas landscape architects look to improve the over aesthetic of the space.

"For us, we try and bridge that aesthetic and efficiency together," Tatsumi explains.

In Nick Federoff's PBS feature "Things Green," Tatsumi explains how some design concepts can truly shape a space without people knowing it. The show explores how small spaces using different textures like brick vs. concrete can quicken or slow down people as they walk through them. The way people enter spaces unconsciously can be shaped through design, playing with psychological perceptions.

Today, the architectural design firm is involved in many visual quality management projects. The agency, along with environmental teams and engineers, works to model and assess what the visual impacts of projects such as freeways, bridges or any other developments will be.

For now in places like the Bay Area, some water providers are limiting lawn-watering days with no enforcement, leaving homeowners left to take actions.

"We don't want places to look like garbage, and it doesn't have to," Tatsumi suggested. "Design is definitely not doomed because of the water cutbacks." ■



David Tatsumi



Water-efficient landscape design for a street median



# Japanese American Outcry Pulls Auction Off Table

Battle over removing the largest collection of American concentration camp art ends as the consignor and Rago Auction removes sale.

Thanks to more than 7,000 people online, the sale of some 450 photographs and handmade artifacts collected in the 1940s from Japanese American concentration camps were withdrawn on April 15.

The collection's seller, John Ryan, came forward two days later in a *New York Times* article, explaining the Ryan family's efforts in protecting the artifacts for more than 25 years and a chance to cool the outrage directed toward his family.

Before deciding to sell the pieces through Rago Arts and Auction in Labertville, N.J., items such as handmade jewelry, family nameplates, wooden figurines, watercolors and photographs sat in storage. The collection represented a painful period in American history, capturing the enduring spirit of the Japanese and Japanese Americans and a snapshot of the prisonlike conditions they faced during the duration of World War II.

"These are pieces of art created in camps against our will," former poet laureate of San Francisco Janice Mirikitani said after finding a photograph of her cousin, Jimmy Mirikitani, among the auction's artifacts. "They are pieces of our soul."

As the largest private WWII Japanese American incarceration camp art collection to surface, the auction sale caught the attention of Asian American groups across the country and sparked a national outcry.

Ryan admitted in his *New York Times* feature that he and his family had no idea what kind of reaction they would receive despite being "good stewards of this material and protecting it over the years."

Crafts expert and historian Allen Hendershott Eaton, author of "Beauty Behind Barbed Wire: The Arts of the Japanese in Our War Relocation Camps in 1952," assembled the artifacts. Much of the material was given to him by those imprisoned in WRA camps for the purposes of educating the public



P.C. staff gave Eaton's book a positive review in 1952, calling it 'a remarkable document.'



(Above) Estelle Ishigo's watercolor art work from Heart Mountain during WWII was part of the collection.

about the Japanese American experience during WWII.

Now, more than 50 years later, the discussion of what is to come of the collection continues, but for now, the Japanese American community celebrates.

Toshi Abe, vp of membership for the Japanese American Citizens League, visited the collection over the weekend.

"I was overwhelmed by the support that our protest of the auction prompted," Abe told the *Pacific Citizen*. "Thanks from the bottom of my heart to the local JACL chapters in New York, Philadelphia and Seabrook and all the other religious and community organizations who gave their support and were ready to hold a demonstration at the auction house."

**For full coverage of the auction, please visit [www.pacificcitizen.org](http://www.pacificcitizen.org).**

## A LOOK AT LAST WEEK AND BEYOND:

- Dec. 7, 1941** Pearl Harbor is attacked, and the United States declares war on Japan, entering World War II.
- Feb. 19, 1942** President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs Executive Order 9066, incarcerating more than 120,000 persons of Japanese ancestry in American concentration camps.
- March 21, 1942** The first group of inmates arrives at Manzanar, Calif.
- Aug. 12, 1942** The first 292 inmates arrive at Heart Mountain, Wyo.
- Dec. 18, 1944** The WRA announces that all American concentration camps will close by the end of 1945.
- 1946** Allen Hendershott Eaton gathers artifacts and commissions photographs of the American concentration camps with the intention of capturing the injustice and spirit of the Japanese American people.
- Oct. 1, 1946** Eaton writes a letter explaining his intentions to "curate an exhibition that would carry their humanity throughout the country," but the exhibition is never realized.
- Sept. 2, 1946** World War II ends.
- 1952** Eaton publishes "Beauty Behind Barbed Wire: The Arts of the Japanese in Our War Relocation Camps." Eleanor Roosevelt writes the forward for the 208-page book. Inside, its pages explain the 81 sets of photographs, 100 illustrations and documents the arts and crafts of the camps.
- 1952** Eaton dies, and his daughter, Martha Eaton, inherits the collection. She keeps it for many years and sells some of the pieces to Thomas Ryan, John Ryan's father, a contractor who repaired Martha Eaton's house.
- Feb. 19, 1976** President Gerald Ford formally rescinds Executive Order No. 9066.
- Aug. 10, 1988** H.R. 442 is signed by President Ronald Reagan, providing payment to each surviving incarcerated.
- Nov. 2, 1989** President George H. W. Bush signs Public Law 101-162, guaranteeing funds for reparation payments to the WWII American concentration camp survivors.
- 1990** Martha Eaton dies, and Thomas Ryan becomes executor of her estate, receiving her property and the collection of camp artifacts.
- 2008** Thomas Ryan dies, and John Ryan inherits the collection.
- March 5, 2015** The *New York Times* publishes "Art of Internment Camps Will Head to Auction" which attracts the attention of Japanese Americans.
- March 17** Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation asks the consignor to donate the collection and not sell the artifacts through auction.
- March 26** Rago Arts and Auction, on behalf of the Ryan family, rejects the HMWF's request.
- April 8** "Japanese American History: NOT for Sale" Facebook page launches, opening the floodgates for social media discussion.
- April 9** HMWF offers \$50,000 to purchase the collection for display at the Interpretive Center.
- April 13** Rago Auction, on behalf of the Ryan family, rejects the offer, stating that the family doesn't feel "qualified to determine which organization is best suited for this collection."
- April 13** Lorna Fong opens a petition to stop the Rago Auction on change.org, requesting signatures and support.
- April 13** Historian Eric Muller cancels his lecture at the auction house for April 15. Muller served as a consultant but did not write the catalog descriptions for the collection. Mira Nakashima, daughter of celebrated woodworker George Nakashima, agrees to speak in place of Muller.
- April 16** HMWF prepares a Civil Action Complaint but does not file the legal papers.
- April 16** Rago Auction hosts an open house to promote the sale.
- April 16** George Takei contacts Rago Auction during the open house event and asks to remove the sale. Takei writes on "Japanese American History: NOT for Sale" Facebook page confirming the halted auction.
- April 16** JACL issues a press release applauding the withdrawal of the collection.
- April 17** The sale was scheduled to take place at Rago Auction.
- April 17** John Ryan comes forward in a *New York Times* article.

At press time, while the sale has been taken off the table, the discussion of future plans for the collection is under way.



# MIS Exhibit Coming to the Twin Cities

The important role of the Military Intelligence Service during WWII will take center stage and be shown for the first time in the Midwest.

The Minnesota Historical Society, in partnership with the Twin Cities JACL Education Committee, announces an exhibition of photographs related to the role of the Nisei servicemen and women of the Military Intelligence Service during World War II.

The exhibit "Minnesota's Secret WWII Weapon: Japanese Americans in the Military Intelligence Service," was curated by Eric Saul, formerly of the Military Museum at the Presidio of San Francisco, and is on loan from the National Japanese American Historical Society of San Francisco. It is being shown for the first time in the Midwest.

"We are excited to be able to bring this exhibit to our area, since the language training was done in our state, yet many Minnesotans are unaware of the important role that our state played in WWII," said Sally Sudo, co-chair of the TC JACL Education Committee.

The exhibit will be held at the



The MIS exhibit will be held at the Historic Fort Snelling Visitors Center in St. Paul, Minn. Pictured above are two of the many photos that will be on display. (Left) The photo of the MIS interrogating a Japanese prisoner includes Phil Ishio (third from left), the uncle of Carolyn Nayematsu. (Right) A photo taken in Burma of Gen. Frank Merrill (center) of the famed Merrill's Marauders with two Nisei servicemen.



Historic Fort Snelling Visitors Center in St. Paul, Minn., from April 24-July 5 and again from Aug. 25-Oct. 31. An opening ceremony and reception will be held on May 17 that will feature keynote

speaker Brigadier Gen. Paul M. Nakasone. The event will be free of charge and is open to the public.

The Military Intelligence Service has been called "America's secret weapon in the war against Japan."

During WWII, nearly 6,000 Japanese American servicemen and women received intensive and accelerated training in the Japanese military language at the MIS Language School at Minnesota's Camp

Savage and Fort Snelling.

Sent in small teams, these MIS soldiers participated in every major campaign in the Pacific.

"Never in military history did an army know so much about the enemy prior to actual engagement," stated Gen. Douglas MacArthur at the time.

This vital intelligence operation saved lives and helped shorten the war by two years. Due to its highly classified nature, the role of the MIS was kept secret for many years. Now, their story can be told through this exhibit and they can receive the recognition they deserve.

Days and times the museum exhibit will be open will vary, so visit the website ([www.historicfortsnelling.org](http://www.historicfortsnelling.org)) for exact details.

In conjunction with the exhibit, several educational programs are also being planned — a panel of former MIS soldiers, a documentary DVD and a book signing. Please stay tuned for further information.

**For questions and information, contact Sally Sudo at [ssudo@comcast.net](mailto:ssudo@comcast.net) or call (952) 835-7374, or Carolyn Nayematsu at [nayem001@umn.edu](mailto:nayem001@umn.edu) or call (651) 699-7407.**

## EDUCATION MATTERS

### Arizona JACL Holds Teacher Training Workshop

Courtesy of the Arizona Chapter's interest in continuing the education component of the JACL, its board, led by President Donna Cheung and assisted by a cadre of volunteers, hosted a Teacher Training Workshop in the Grand Canyon State on March 28 that was also facilitated by Sharon Ishii-Jordan and Greg Marutani.

The workshop, which took place in the chapter's Arizona Hall, also featured individuals who are part of Teach for America, a nonprofit organization designed to recruit college graduates to teach in low-income communities.

Teacher participants were eager to learn about the Japanese American incarceration during World War II, as many educators viewed this piece of the nation's history as an example of how all citizens must be vigilant in times of crisis where constitutional rights are violated due to war hysteria, economic greed and the failure of political leadership.

The passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 formally apologized for those violations through a grassroots effort that demonstrated the strength of the U.S. Constitution.

A workshop highlight occurred when the teachers heard the personal stories of Dr. Richard Matsuishi, Joyce Saka and Cindi Kishiyama-Harbottle. Each speaker gave his or her own unique aspect of what happened to his or her families during World War II.



Among the participants of Arizona's Teacher Training Workshop were (back row, from left) Cindi Kishiyama-Harbottle, Greg Marutani, Sharon Ishii-Jordan and (front row, from left) Peggy Matsuishi, Donna Cheung and Seiko Watkins.

And thanks in part to John Sachse, the participants were also able to view a screening of director Robert Bates' "Canbare: Don't Give Up," which recounts the Japanese American experience in Hawaii.

Following the screening, Gladys Sallas shared her personal recollections of life during the war in Hawaii, which was under martial law following the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941.

**The next Teacher Training Workshop will be held at Fort Snelling in Minnesota, hosted by the Twin Cities Chapter on April 24.**

## BOOKS >> continued from page 3

3 "Raising Mixed Race: Multiracial Asian Children in a Post-Racial World" — In her debut work, sociologist and critical mixed-race theorist Sharon H. Chang brings years of research and writing experience to the project of aiding multiracial Asian American families navigate critical conversations on multiracial identity. Chang's holistic and intersectional work delves into intensive interviews with 68 parents of mixed-race children, providing readers with invaluable insight and practical observations on the labor of raising multiracial Asian children in a "post-racial" society forever fixated on a black-white racial binary.

Historic and recent trends describe the relatively high rates of intermarriage between Japanese Americans and other ethnic groups, and mixed ancestry Asian children are now among the quickest-growing demographic in this country. As our community's racial makeup continues to diversify, Japanese Americans must frame these shifts not as racial hemorrhaging, as a loss of purity, but as an asset, steadily accrued by holding a plurality of perspectives in creative tension.

If we are to capture the imagination and membership of our community's next generational cohort, we must become fluent in nascent conversations on multiracial identity, jettisoning outdated concepts of diluted blood, rejecting talk of the inimitable aesthetic beauty of mixed-race people. "Raising Mixed Race" is undoubtedly set to become the benchmark tome on this subject, the powerful academic lighthouse by which all Americans will be able to navigate these constantly shifting waters.

Although these three literary works are relatively recent, mass incarceration redress/reparations and multiracial identity have constituted the heart of our community for the better part of a century. These books are among the best to give us a crash course in renewing sacred history, buoying us forward as we address novel social challenges. By continuing to connect with modern activism and others' shared humanity through great literature, we ensure that the task of preserving our legacy does not sour, congealing into moralistic waste.

**Ryan Kenji Karamitsu is the JACL MDC Youth Representative.**



# Rev. Paul T. Nakamura to Receive the 2015 Sue Kunitomi Embrey Legacy Award

LOS ANGELES — The Manzanar Committee announced on April 12 that longtime religious leader and community activist Rev. Paul T. Nakamura, pastor of Lutheran Oriental Church in Torrance, Calif., has been chosen as the 2015 recipient of the Sue Kunitomi Embrey Legacy Award.

The award, named after the late chair of the Manzanar Committee who was also one of the founders of the annual Manzanar Pilgrimage and the driving force behind the creation of the Manzanar National Historic Site, will be presented at the 46th Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage, scheduled to take place on April 25 at the Manzanar National Historic Site located in California's Owens Valley.

Nakamura, 88, a native of Waiāluā, Oahu, Hawaii, served in the U.S. Army as part of the occupation forces in Japan and Okinawa after World War II. HE went on to become a minister in the Los Angeles area and quickly immersed himself in the struggle for civil rights, including the Manzanar Pilgrimage and the fight for redress and reparations for Japanese Americans who were unjustly incarcerated in American concentration camps during World War II.

Even though one of his brothers, his wife, Kikuro, and her family were forced to endure life behind the barbed wire, Nakamura, who was not incarcerated during WWII, knew little about what the Japanese American community had been forced to endure.

"When I came [to the Los Angeles area], I met some of my wife's family in Upland, Calif.," Nakamura said during an oral history concluded by the staff at the Manzanar National Historic Site. "I heard them talking about Manzanar. I had no clue what Man-



Rev. Paul T. Nakagawa is shown here during the interfaith service at the Manzanar cemetery at the 34th Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage on April 24, 2004.

zanar was. I had no clue about anything regarding Manzanar or what the camps [were] about. All I knew was that they went to camp. That was about it, so my interest in camp wasn't that much. I wasn't even aware of a pilgrimage."

In the early 1970s, just after the first organized Manzanar Pilgrimage in 1969, all that changed.

"Rev. Grant Kimura, minister of San Fernando Holiness Church (now Crossway Church of the San Fernando Valley), came to me and said that he's been going to the Manzanar Pilgrimage and he was having a Christian service," Nakamura recalled. "He asked if I could go this one time because he had to go to one of the other camps. I said, 'OK,' and from then on, it was every year."

Nakamura quickly became the primary organizer of the interfaith service during the

annual Manzanar Pilgrimage. But he took his involvement one step further by becoming a member of the Manzanar Committee, remaining actively involved for decades.

Nakamura also immersed himself in the beginnings of the fight for redress and reparations for Japanese American concentration camp survivors in the late 1970s and '80s. He was one of the founding members of the Los Angeles Community Coalition on Redress/Reparations, which became the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations (NCRP; now Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress).

"Rev. Paul Nakamura didn't experience camp directly, but he has this passion, understanding and a complete appreciation for how the forced removal impacted the Japanese American community," said Manzanar Committee Co-Chair Bruce Embrey. "He

understood, more than most, the importance of going to Manzanar in order to reclaim and remember what happened there, and not just in a passive way. He knew that we had to go back to Manzanar to remember, understand and appreciate its relevance to the struggles for civil rights and social justice that were going on at the time.

"This year we're pleased to recognize Rev. Paul for all of his outstanding contributions to the long struggle for redress and reparations, and for his tireless work on the Manzanar Pilgrimage over the years," Embrey concluded. "Rev. Paul is a true, unsung hero in both the Japanese American and religious communities, not to mention the broader movement for civil rights."

The Manzanar Committee has also announced that a second bus from Downtown Los Angeles to the afternoon Pilgrimage program is now available.

The buses will depart at 7 a.m. and arrive at the Pilgrimage at approximately 11:30 a.m. Buses will also take participants to the Visitor's Center at the Manzanar National Historic Site following the afternoon program. The buses should arrive back in Los Angeles at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Reservations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. The nonrefundable fare is \$40 per seat and \$20 for students and seniors. Complimentary fares are available for those who were incarcerated at any of the former American concentration camps or other confinement sites during WWII.

**For more information, or to reserve a seat on the bus, call (323) 662-5102 or send an e-mail to [46thpilgrimage@manzanarcommittee.org](mailto:46thpilgrimage@manzanarcommittee.org). You can also follow the Manzanar Committee on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/ManzanarCommittee>) and Twitter (<http://twitter.com/manzanarcomm>).**

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A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

# CALENDAR

## >>EDC

### 'From Horizontal to Vertical: Translating American Fiction into Japanese'

Boston, MA

April 24; 1-3 p.m.

Boston University

745 Commonwealth Ave., Room 625

Price: Free

Featuring Motoyuki Shibata, the founder-editor of *Monkey*, a literary quarterly in Japanese, and *Monkey Business*, an English-language annual focusing on new writing from Japan. Info: Visit [www.bu.edu/translation](http://www.bu.edu/translation).

### Sakura Matsuri

Brooklyn, NY

April 25-26; 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Brooklyn Botanic Garden

990 Washington Ave.

Price: Adults \$25; Seniors \$20

Come for a weekend celebrating traditional and contemporary Japanese culture. Entertainment and activities include a taiko drumming performance, cosplay fashion show, tea ceremony, kabuki dance, manga drawing, vintage kimonos and much more. Info: Visit [www.bbg.org/visit/event/sakura\\_matsuri\\_2015](http://www.bbg.org/visit/event/sakura_matsuri_2015).

### Hibakusha Speaks Out

New York, NY

April 28; 6-8 p.m.

49th W. 45th St., 11th floor

Price: Free

In collaboration between the JAA, JAJA (Japanese Americans & Japanese in American) and the JACL NY Chapter, the community will come together to engage, educate and discuss the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombings. The evening will include hibakusha stories, those who survived the atomic bomb. Their stories will include their personal narratives of what happened during and after the bomb.

Info: Contact George Hirose at [ghirose@pratt.edu](mailto:ghirose@pratt.edu).

### Sushi for Sale

Washington, D.C.

May 13; 6-8:30 p.m.

Warner Bros. Theater

14th Street and Constitution

### Avenue N.W.

Price: Tickets \$40

How did a Japanese delicacy become an American snack? Through conversation, demonstrations, collections objects-out-of-storage and food and drinks, this program will explore the history of sushi and sushi's status as an American staple. The theater is the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History. Info: Email [americanhistory.apacollection@si.edu](mailto:americanhistory.apacollection@si.edu).

### Brookline Sakura Matsuri

Brookline, MA

May 9; Noon-4 p.m.

Brookline High School

115 Greenough St.

This event is organized by the Genki Spark taiko troupe and Brookline High School. Volunteers are still needed for help at the information and activity tables. Join the community and watch performances by Rustubo Taiko, Boston Miyake Taiko, Odaiko New England and Japanese singers Mami and Osamu Matsumora.

Info: Email Steve Nishino at [nishino@nejacel.org](mailto:nishino@nejacel.org).

## >>PNW

### 'Art in the Garden: Hakkodo, the Artisans of Kamakura'

Portland, OR

May 3

Portland Japanese Garden

611 SW Kingston Ave.

Cost: Adult \$9.50

For 29 generations, the artistry of carved and lacquered wood has been passed down from father to son in Kamakura, Japan. Learn about the Goto family's art in this special exhibit.

Visit: [www.japanesegarden.com](http://www.japanesegarden.com).

## >>NCWNP

### 2015 Berkeley JACL Scholarship Winners

Berkeley, CA

May 3; 11:30 a.m.

Spenger's Fresh Fish Grotto

1919 Fourth St.

The Berkeley JACL is proud to announce five new scholarship recipients this year. In addition, the Berkeley JACL chapter is proud to honor James (Jim)

Duff Jr. and George Yoshida as the 2015 Berkeley JACL Pioneers. The Pioneer Award was established in 1996 and is given to individuals in recognition of their long history of dedicated service to the community and the JACL. Info: Email at [berkeley@jacl.org](mailto:berkeley@jacl.org) or visit [www.berkeleyjacl.org](http://www.berkeleyjacl.org).

### Japanese Heritage Night With the San Francisco Giants

San Francisco, CA

May 19; 7:15 p.m.

AT&amp;T Park

24 Willie Mays Plaza

Price: JCCNC members \$45; Nonmembers \$47

Join the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California to cheer on the San Francisco Giants as they take on the Los Angeles Dodgers. The Giants will be celebrating Japanese Heritage Night by honoring Travis Ishikawa and his breakout performance in the 2014 postseason. Groups of 15 or more qualify for member rates. Seating is limited.

Info: Call (415) 567-5505 or email [membership@jccnc.org](mailto:membership@jccnc.org).

### Eden Township JACL Annual Bazaar

San Lorenzo, CA

June 6 from 3-8 p.m.; June 7 from Noon-7 p.m.

710 Elgin St.

Price: Free

Eden Township JACL hosts its annual bazaar this year, serving teriyaki chicken, ribs, corn, udon, curry, shaved ice, spam musubi and sushi. Come hungry and join family-friendly games at the event like bingo. A raffle will be held on Sunday at 7 p.m. for the finale.

Info: Call Ron Sakaue at (510) 276-0752 or Ed Oda at (510) 538-6380.

## >>MDC

### 'Japanese Americans in the Military Intelligence Service During World War II' Exhibit

St. Paul, MN

April 24- July 5

Fort Snelling

200 Tower Ave.

Shown for the first time in the Midwest, the Twin Cities chapter of the JACL is

partnering with the Minnesota Historical Society to present an exhibition of photographs about the Nisei servicemen and women who served in the Military Intelligence Service (MIS) during World War II. The photographs are part of a larger exhibit curated by Eric Saul and are on loan from the National Japanese American Historical Society of San Francisco.

Info: Visit [www.historicfortsnelling.org](http://www.historicfortsnelling.org) or call (612) 726-1171.

### New Mexico JACL Luncheon

Albuquerque, NM

May 3; 11 a.m.

AA Buffet Grill &amp; Sushi

880 Juan Tabo Blvd. N.E.

NMJACL's second General Membership Luncheon will be held for members, family and friends to have the opportunity to voice any concerns that impact the organization as a whole.

Info: Visit [www.nmjacel.org](http://www.nmjacel.org).

### Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce

Austin TX

May 13; 10-11 a.m.

Asian American Resource Center

435 W. Menomonee St.

Price: Free

Learn about ways to use Google My Business and Facebook Advertising to engage and communicate directly. Speaker Ricardo Geurrero is chief buzz generator of Social Media Dynamo and a pioneering, award-winning social commerce marketer for the creation of Dell Outlet Twitter Program. Reserve a seat, as space is limited.

Info: Visit [www.business.austinasianchamber.org](http://www.business.austinasianchamber.org) or call (512) 407-8240.

### Hawaiian Party at MBT

Chicago, IL

May 16; 5-8 p.m.

Midwest Buddhist Temple Social Hall

435 W. Menomonee St.

Price: Adults \$30; Children under 12 \$15

Join MBT for an evening of authentic Hawaiian entertainment provided by Pesi Mauga and his Royal Polynesian Revue. This family

oriented show features Hawaiian dance, singing, ukulele accompaniment, flaming knife tosses and authentic Hawaiian shave ice. Info: Email [office@midwestbuddhisttemple.org](mailto:office@midwestbuddhisttemple.org) or call (312) 943-7801.

## >>PSW

### 'Addressing Suicide in the Japanese American & LGBTQ Communities: A Panel Discussion'

San Diego, CA

May 16; 1 p.m.

UCSD Medical Center Hillcrest 200 W. Arbor Dr.

Suicide is a growing problem in all communities and is even more common amongst LGBTQ persons. This panel and program will be an opportunity to start the education and discussion regarding how to address this serious problem — its prevention, intervention, consequences and impact. Panelists include Debra Kawahara, Michael Takamura, Syed Imam and Mitsuo Tomita. RSVP by May 13. Space is limited. Info: Visit [www.jaolsandiego.org](http://www.jaolsandiego.org).

### 2015 Scholarship Dinner

Riverside, CA

May 17; 5 p.m.

First Christian Church

4055 Jurupa Ave.

The Riverside JACL Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce five scholarship recipients for 2015. Through the generosity of the Sugi family, it will be presenting the Anna Sugi Memorial Scholarship this year.

Info: Contact Michiko Yoshimura at [my141@sboglobal.net](mailto:my141@sboglobal.net). ■

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FOR MORE INFO:

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# In Memoriam

**Aratani, Terry Teruo, 92**, Honolulu, HI; March 14; he is survived by his wife, Elsie M.; sons, Rodney, Brian and Terrence; brothers, Ted and Roy; sister, Harue Araki; gc: 6.

**Fujita, Mary, 92**, Los Angeles, CA; March 16; she is survived by her children, Carol and Dr. Richard (Kathy) Fujita; sister, Fumi Kuromiya; sister-in-law, Grace; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

**Hatori, Michiko Tammy, 50**, Hilo, HI; March 15; she is survived by her husband, John; son, Jason Nathaniel (Myra Peters) Arizumi; daughter, Sheryl Lailani (Royden Requeleman) Arizumi; parents, Cheryl and Matsu Uehara; brother, Tyler "Butch" (Marci) Arizumi; stepbrother, Matsu Uehara Jr.; step-sister, Cristi (Brandon) Carvalho; gc: 5.

**Hara, Masazumi, 85**,



Los Angeles, CA; March 24; he is survived by his wife, Setsuko; sons, Robert (Jessica) and Todd (Jill) Hara; gc: 5; ggc: 1.

**Jansen, Carolyn Miko, 68**, San Dimas, CA; March 31; she was predeceased by her father, Louie Iriye; brother, Lenard Iriye; she is survived by her husband, Benjamin Jansen; children, Robert (Sherrie) and Malia Jansen; mother, Shirley Iriye; siblings, Sharon (Kathie Maier), Richard (Beth) and Donald (Nancy) Iriye; she is also survived by many other family members.

**Kashiwabara, Hideo, 85**,



Los Angeles, CA; April 6; he was a Korean War veteran; he is survived by his sons, Ken, George (Susan) and Glen Koj (Pamela) Kashiwabara; gc: 4.

**Kozohara, Amako 'Amy,' 98**, Hilo, HI; March 4; she is survived by her son, Edwin (Irene); daughters, Joyce (Willis) Motooka, Gayle (Clyde) Kimura; brother, Don (Helen) Nakamura; sisters, Betty Nakamura, Janice Turnburke and Emogene (Gerald); sisters-in-law, Hatsume, Doris and Yvonne; gc: 4; ggc: 2.

**Kumagawa, Ken, 86**, Fountain Valley, CA; March 6; he was a Korean War veteran; he is survived by his wife, Shigeko Kumagawa; daughter, Ellen Kumagawa; siblings, Ichiro, Yaeko and Takeo; nephews, Miyuki, Scott, Jeff, Mark, Dean, Burt, Patricia, Todd, Butch and Rusty; he is also survived by many grandnephews,

grandnieces and other family.

**Nakamura, Himi, 89**,



Anaheim, CA; April 1; she was predeceased by her husband, Suminori; son, Akira; she is survived by her children, Steve Nakamura and Minako Nishi; she is also survived by other relatives; gc: 3; ggc: 3.

**Okubo, Hideo Bud, 92**, Dayton, OH; Feb. 14; he was a founding member of the Dayton JACL; he was predeceased by his wife, Paula; he is survived by sisters, Kimiye Okubo and Helen (Milton) Hamasaki; step-son, Kenneth Thomas.

**Tamura, June Mitsuko, 77**, La Palma, CA; March 11; she is survived by her husband, Ralph Tamura; children, Tracy (Richard) Tamaki and Darrin (Jaime) Tamura; sisters, Clara (Albert) Shota and Koan (Charlie) Shimizu; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other

relatives; gc: 5.

**Tanaka, Walter Masayoshi, 94**, Los Angeles, CA; March 11; he is survived by his son, Ken Tanaka; daughter, Joanne; sister, Hanae P. Tanaka; he is also survived by other relatives.

**Tsutsui, Kazuko, 86**, Laguna Niguel, CA; March 29; she is survived by her husband, Kanichirou Tsutsui; son, Mikio (Arlene) Tsutsui; she is also survived by other nieces, nephews

and relatives; gc: 1.

**Urada, Richard A., 94**, Honolulu, HI; March 22; he served in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, 232nd Combat Engineer Company and was a retired shipwright at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard Shop 64; he is survived by his daughters, Velma Kawamae, Corinne Tam and Arlene Urada-Young; brothers, Henry and Ronald; sisters, Hatsue Komori and Helen Yoshida; gc: 2.

## TRIBUTE

### KIYOKO NAGAE



Kiyo was born on July 17, 1922, in Portland, Ore. Her parents, Suyekichi and Isa Kimura, emigrated from Japan at the turn of the century. Kiyo grew up in Carver, Ore., and graduated from Oregon City High School. Her family farmed in Carver, raising berries and vegetables. In May of 1942, Kiyo and her family — along with other Japanese Americans — were interned at the North Portland Livestock Pavilion. That fall the internees were transported to the Minidoka internment camp in Hunt, Idaho. During the War, Kiyo was paroled out of Minidoka and went to work on a farm in rural Idaho. After the war, she moved to Phoenix, Ariz., to work on her brother's farm. Thereafter, she returned to Oregon and then married Shigenari (Shig) Nagae on Dec. 24, 1945. Shig and Kiyo farmed in Boring, Ore., for over 40 years. They retired in 1989 and moved to Gresham, where Kiyo resided until shortly before her death.

Kiyo had a real zest for life. Though her life on the farm entailed hard work and included many lean years, she found joy for herself and for those with whom she worked. She had a great sense of humor and loved to joke, fostering that spirit among her co-workers, even though she often became the object of their jokes. Competitive by nature, she would make up games to brighten the days, such as who could pick the most strawberries in a given time. Despite the physical demands, Kiyo loved to work. For many summers after retirement, she worked at the Fujii Farms fruit stands, and she continued to make new friends at her gym, enliven her work environment and gift her much-loved bundt cakes to family, friends and even her aerobics teacher!

When not working, Kiyo loved to bowl, playing in a league for many years. She also loved to play cards with friends, especially if there were pennies, nickels, dimes or quarters involved. All who knew her could attest to her passion for the Portland Trail Blazers. She had her favorite players, and could talk Blazer basketball with the best of them. Outdoor hobbies included matsutake mushroom hunting — she had secret places that she never revealed, clam digging in early mornings at Copalis Beach in Washington and flower gardening. Her travels included trips with friends to Spirit Mountain and Reno, a trip to Hawaii with family and three trips to Japan. In recent years, she enjoyed cruises to Mexico and Alaska.

She shared her talents and enthusiasm with a number of organizations, including the Gresham Troutdale JACL as a volunteer on several committees, and Tickle Creek Road Neighborhood Women's Club, the Busy Bee Club, where she will be remembered for, among other things, her chow mein and egg foo young.

Kiyo is survived by four children, daughters Linda Ozawa, Ontario, Ore., and Peggy Nagae, Portland, Ore.; sons Jerry Nagae, Seattle, Wash., and James Nagae, Portland, Ore. She is also survived by eight grandchildren: Sarah Nagae, Marci Ozawa, Stuart Nagae, Aspasia Bartels, Kelsey Bigelow, Jared Nagae, Tyler Nagae and Jessica Nagae. Kiyo also leaves four great-grandchildren: Calliope Nagae, Sabrina Elkan, Violet West and Tallulah Nagae.

A Celebration of Life service will be held at 11 a.m., Saturday, April 25, 2015, at the Greater Gresham Baptist Church located at 3848 N.E. Division Street, Gresham, Ore., for Kiyoko (Kiyo) Nagae, who died March 14 of natural causes at the age of 92.

### HATSUNE HELEN KITAJI



1913-Jan. 23, 2015

Hatsune Helen Kitaji passed away Jan. 23, 2015, at the age of 101. Born Hatsune Helen Aihara and raised in the Santa Clara Valley, she was the eldest of four children of Issei parents.

Hatsune is survived by her brother, George (Yoko); children, Robert (Susie), Gail, Jean, Jon (Chris); grandchildren, Kayce (Kasey), Curtis, Keith, Kristen (Bobby); and great-grandchildren, Robert and Alyssa.

A memorial celebrating her life is planned for Saturday, April 25, at 1:30 p.m. at the Lincoln Avenue Presbyterian Church in Salinas.

Donations in her memory can be made to the Lincoln Avenue Presbyterian Church, 536 Lincoln Ave., Salinas, CA 93901, or to the charity of one's choice.

## 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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# Hitting All the Right Notes

For young musical prodigy Ray Ushikubo, his passion extends full circle.



For 13-year-old Ray Ushikubo of Riverside, Calif., life for the most part consists of typical teenage things — completing homework on weeknights, wearing braces and enjoying hobbies that include billiards, math, wakeboarding and admiring the latest Mercedes Benz automobiles. However, what sets him apart is the fact that he just also happens to be an incredibly talented musical prodigy.

As a pianist, Ushikubo has already performed at Carnegie Hall and Merkin Concert Hall in New York City, as well as on NBC's "The Tonight Show With Jay Leno." He also has performed alongside world-renowned pianist Lang Lang and with pianist-conductor Jeffrey Kahane at Royce Hall on the campus of the University of California, Los Angeles. By age 10, he made his solo orchestral debut in the Young Musicians' Foundation Gala concert at Los Angeles' Dorothy Chandler Pavilion.

Last year, Ushikubo made his debut with Kahane and the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra in two performances of Johann Sebastian Bach's "Double Keyboard Concerto BWV 1061" and was a featured guest artist on composer-conductor Rob Kapilow's "What Makes It Great" series, performing Frédéric Chopin's solo works.

In just 13 years, Ushikubo's list of accomplishments is impressive as a pianist, but he's also an incredibly gifted violinist.

Ushikubo performed at the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra's 2014 Gala celebration "StedFest." He also was part of the New West Symphony Orchestra's Symphonic Adventures Program.

"Not many people are successful at playing two instruments at a high level let alone build a sustainable career with both instruments," Ushikubo's piano instructor Ory Shihor explained. "But if it can be done, Ray can do it." Shihor is the co-chair of the piano department at the Colburn School and the dean of the pre-college Colburn Young Artists Academy for gifted young musicians in

Los Angeles.

Ushikubo's incredible career began when he was just 5 years old after watching the Japanese music drama "Nodame Cantabile." Like any fan of the show, he wanted to be just like the drama's hero, aspiring conductor Shinichi Chiaki. So, he begged his parents to buy him a \$20 violin.

Today, he has outgrown seven violins and has been a student since 2010 at the Colburn Music Academy, an intensive and prodigious training program for gifted precollege students. The days are dedicated to three hours each of piano, violin and homework. But it's not a big deal studying for nine hours a day when there is passion behind it.

"Without passion for music, you won't feel like you want to play music," said Ushikubo, whose dedication to his performances fuels him to continue his passion and sparked his "Circle of Life in Music" project.

In his "Circle of Life in Music" pursuit, Ushikubo looks to strengthen the relationship between the performer and audience, involving the teachers, parents, schools and organizations that support them.

He received a national scholarship of \$50,000 from the Davidson Institute for his project and became a 2014 Davidson Fellow Laureate. In 2013, he was a featured speaker at TEDxRedmond, an international nonprofit dedicated to spreading innovative ideas, where he shared his "Circle of Life in Music" project.

Other awards include the Young Artists Piano Prize at the 2013 Mondavi Young Artists Competition, the 2012 Colburn

Academy Steinway Prize awarded for the best performance of a Beethoven Sonata, gold prizewinner in the 2009 AADGT International Music Competition for piano and violin and first prize at the 2010 International Russian Music Piano Competition in San Jose, Calif.

"He's a rare individual to put in this kind of work," said Robert Lipsett, Ushikubo's violin instructor. "It's a struggle to just play one instrument and put in the arduous work required to be a fine violinist, to be great." Lipsett, a faculty member at the Colburn School for 25 years and the Jascha Heifetz Distinguished Violin Chair, has never seen a problem with Ushikubo's sustainability in continuing his studies.

While Ushikubo stands as an incredibly talented young man and despite his list of accomplishments in violin and piano, it's easy to call him a genius.

"I try to avoid the 'G' word as much as possible," Shihor explained about describing Ushikubo as a genius. "Musical talent comes in many shapes, forms and levels. A lazy Mozart would have amounted to pretty much nothing — super, supergifted, but no one would have known."

For Ushikubo, it's more than musical talent, hours of practice and rigorous instruction.

"When I can make others happy through my music, it makes me happy," said Ushikubo. "That's one of the reasons why I love music so much."

— Tiffany Ujiye, assistant editor

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