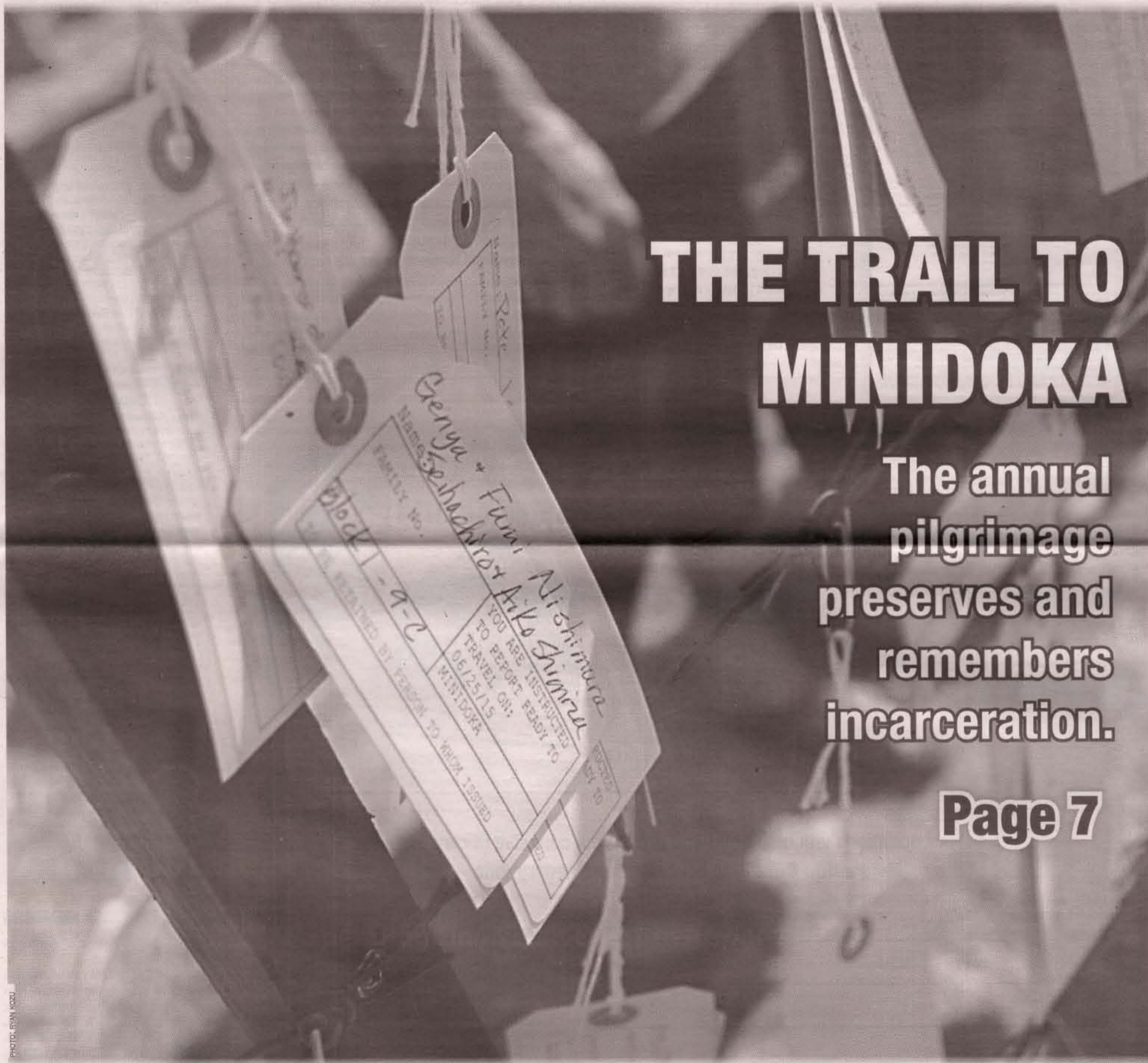




# PACIFIC CITIZEN



## THE TRAIL TO MINIDOKA

The annual pilgrimage preserves and remembers incarceration.

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Lay's Finalist Hopes She Has the Winning \$1M Creation. Page 5

JACL Fellow Donates Army Uniform to the Smithsonian. Page 6

Owens Valley Solar Project Delayed Indefinitely. Page 9

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

INTERROGATION REPORT NO. 49 OF COMFORT WOMEN

While defending the reputation of Japan is not the purpose of JACL, we should not ignore slander against Japanese Americans. Recently, a high school newsletter on its website had an article supporting comfort women statues. The article accused Japanese Americans of the abduction of Korean

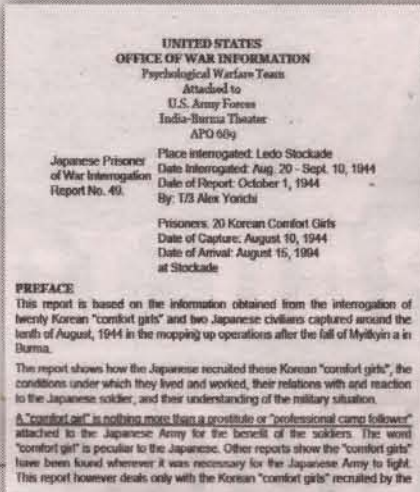
women. After a concerned JA threatened legal action, the matter was resolved, and the offending article was removed from the website. As evident from this, many ignorant Americans still associate JAs with the actions of Imperial Japan. Comfort women statues are politically driven symbols of hate and have no place in America.

As scholars dig deeper into the comfort women issue, facts are emerging that are contradicting Korean claims. One such evidence is Interrogation Report No. 49, dated Oct. 1, 1944, of 20 Korean comfort women by the U.S. Army. The report provides an objective description of comfort women and supports what the Japanese have been saying; the comfort women system was sanctioned prostitution operated by private Japanese and Korean civilians regulated by the military to ensure order, security and health of Japanese soldiers and the women.

The report clearly states: "A 'comfort girl' is nothing more than a prostitute or 'professional camp follower' attached to the Japanese Army." The report tells how the girls were recruited, of being given advance loans, of signing contracts, of being paid, of not being under guard and being free to go shopping, of being allowed to refuse customers, of joining officers and soldiers in recreational activities and social dinners, of receiving gifts from soldiers and even of proposals of marriage and actual marriages. There is no mention of abduction, rape or brutality. It throws a completely different light on the issue. The report was obtained directly from the National Archives. If anyone has need for the entire report and authenticity is not an issue, I can email it. My email is myto@jps.net.

Sincerely,

Archie Miyamoto, Harbor City, Calif.



Dear Editor,

I read with interest the excellent article "Historic Panama Hotel" (Pacific Citizen, June 15-18, 2015) by Tiffany Ujiye, assistant editor.

It was most interesting to know the historical Nikkei background of the hotel and that it has received the National Trust for Historic Preservation, which designates the Seattle landmark as a National Treasure.

However, there is one thing the article did not mention and that is who originally named it and why as "Panama Hotel." It's a wonder when an Issei, Mr. Takashi Hori, who became the owner of the hotel in 1938, did not change it to a Japanese name.

I will appreciate it very much, and I'm sure other readers would also be most interested in knowing the background of the hotel's name.

Sincerely,

Stanley N. Kanzaki, N.Y. Chapter JACL



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Email: pc@pacificcitizen.org Online: 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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## NIKKEI VOICE

# RAMEN IS JAPANESE COMFORT FOOD, AND IT'S BECOMING AMERICAN COMFORT FOOD, TOO

By Gil Asakawa

I grew up in Japan when I was a kid, and I have vivid memories of bowls of ramen (and soba) being delivered by crazy men riding bicycles through crazy Tokyo traffic. Ramen had been around since the late-1800s in Japan, but it was during the post-WWII years, and particularly in the 1960s, when ramen became the ubiquitous Japanese comfort food it is today.

I loved ramen as a child, and when my family moved to the States in the mid-'60s, I was sad to find that ramen wasn't sold in the few Japanese restaurants that were available here. But in 1970, Nissin, the company that invented instant ramen in 1958, began selling instant ramen in the U.S. The next year, the company rolled out Cup Noodles.

Several generations of college students have grown up with instant ramen and Cup Noodles since the '70s. Who can argue when each savory serving can cost just pennies? Lots of people even use instant ramen as a base for fancier dishes by adding meats and vegetables. But I think that's cheating. For "real" ramen, nothing beats going to a good ramen-ya (shop) for a steaming bowl.

Ramen's origins are Chinese. The noodle bowls were

originally sold at Chinese food carts and restaurants in port cities as working-class food. But since then, ramen has become a Japanese cultural institution. Different cities and regions have developed unique ramen styles and enhancements. Sapporo is famous for miso ramen; Tokyo for shoyu; and Kyushu for tonkotsu ramen — everyone's current favorite. It's a rich pork and chicken broth that simmers the bones so long that the ramen has a layer of fatty collagen on top.

But here, real ramen is still a novelty. Some Japanese restaurants might serve ramen, but it takes a lot of time and dedication to make it right. So, most Japanese restaurants will stick to the reliable standards like teriyaki and sushi. I know a few Japanese restaurants that serve pretty good ramen, but honestly, the best ramen is served at places that specialize in just ramen, where the soup stock can be simmered all day to get it just right.

If you're lucky, you live in a city where ramen has always been part of the culinary scene, or the ramen fad has already caught on fire. Denver isn't exactly a ramen hotbed — yet.

Los Angeles has a bunch of great ramen places, many new. Some are overrated and filled with hipsters who don't

know better (Uncle in Denver is one such hipster hangout). In L.A.'s Little Tokyo, Daikokuya, with its yellow awning, always has lines outside. But look closer, and you'll see very few Asians in line. Not that Asians are the arbiters of quality or even authenticity, but the crowds in that place don't know better.

On a recent trip to L.A., I tried a couple of ramen places including a new favorite called Men-Oh, which opened in 2012 in a strip mall a couple of blocks from Daikokuya. I had their specialty, Tokushima Black Garlic Ramen with Gyoza, and it was heavenly. I also had a very good tonkotsu ramen at Yamadaya in Torrance.

On a previous trip to Los Angeles, I went to Tsujita, a trendy place in the trendy Sawtelle Japanese district. The place is famous for tsukemen, in which noodles are served separate from a bowl of concentrated dipping soup, and for its tonkotsu ramen. I'm not a big fan of tsukemen — I like my noodles swimming in hot soup — and I don't care for Tsujita's tonkotsu. It's too fatty, and I felt like I'd been French-kissing a can of Crisco shortening after I had the ramen there.

>> See RAMEN on page 12



## MY COUNTRY

# WHY POVERTY IS THE WORST FORM OF OPPRESSION ... AND WHY WE SHOULD START GIVING A \$HIT

By Rhianna Taniguchi

Money is power — at least that's what they say. In America, it is clear that race, money and power have a strong connection. So, why don't we talk about it more? Asian Americans are commonly viewed as well-assimilated, educated and highly competent. However, 12.7 percent of Asian Americans are estimated to live in poverty according to the U.S. Census Bureau's 2013 report. Unfortunately, this is one of the least-addressed issues within the model minority myth.

Mahatma Gandhi once said, "Poverty is the worst form of violence," and quite frankly, I agree.

Poverty is society's way of perpetually dehumanizing people and subjecting them to unlivable conditions while calling it "just." Those within society believe (or pretend to believe) that the system creating poverty is equitable and therefore fair. It is hard to deny the strong correlation between wealth and race, but ironically, that's exactly what we do.

The effects of poverty include mental and physical illness, inadequate nutrition, food insecurity, adverse effects on academic outcomes . . . the list goes on. The effects of poverty are most felt by women. This topic is never discussed with the urgency it deserves, and how can it? Where in the world do we start?

Let's first define poverty in the United States. The 2014 poverty thresholds by size of family and number of related children would define a two-adult household with one

child in poverty if their total income was less than \$16,317. That means living off of less than \$15 per day per person. It doesn't sound too bad, until you factor in rent, utilities, transportation to and from work, education, medicine, health care and food.

So, why is race tied to poverty? Well, there are many speculations. The American Psychological Assn. has found that "while non-Hispanic whites still constitute the largest single group of Americans living in poverty, ethnic minority groups are overrepresented. These disparities are associated with the historical marginalization of ethnic minority groups and entrenched barriers to good education and jobs."

According to the APA, there are a few barriers. First and foremost is marginalization, which is assigning and confining a group to inferior conditions. As a result of marginalization, access to good education and jobs are limited. What are we doing as individuals, as a society, and as a country to battle the inequities? Whatever efforts we're making, they're not working — at least not fast enough.

Financial education and social reconfiguration are the missing components of the equation to equity. On an individual level, we need to get smart about money in order to increase our income, increase our savings and increase our investments. I highly recommend LearnVest for affordable financial planning. We also need to change the way our society thinks — no person is inferior based on race, gender, sexual orientation or ability. Lastly, we need to

provide access, education and tools to those who are most vulnerable in our community. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau actively listens to our community's needs and concerns, but we must be vigilant and continuously seek progress. The JAACL Credit Union is another resource that provides a higher interest rate than most banks with high standards of privacy, security and service.

In a nutshell, you should care about poverty because it is one more way that society is using racial prejudice to violate your right to the pursuit of happiness. It is one more way that people of color are being targeted, and it is working. Here are eight ways you can make some change:

**Eight Ways to Show That You Give a \$hit:**  
(From [Change.org](http://Change.org), [DoSomething.org](http://DoSomething.org))

### 1. Educate Yourself

A nationwide lack of affordable housing, sad state of public education, lack of public transportation systems linking commercial and residential neighborhoods, racial injustice, domestic violence and policies restricting contraception all contribute to an endless cycle of poverty that pervades every state in this country. By reading and educating yourself, you can strengthen your understanding of anti-poverty aspects of workers' rights, immigrants' rights, women's rights, reproductive justice, environmental justice and economic human rights movements.

>> See POVERTY on page 12

## NATIONAL TRUST FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION AWARDS POSTON COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Poston Community Alliance was awarded a \$10,000 grant by the National Trust for Historic Preservation from the Hart Family Fund for Small Towns on July 15. The grant funds will be used to prepare a Historic Structures Assessment Report to preserve the adobe classrooms at the Poston site.

“Organizations like the Poston Community Alliance help to ensure that communities and towns all across America retain their unique sense of place,” said Stephanie Meeks, president of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. “We are honored to provide a grant to the Poston Community Alliance, which will use the funds to help preserve an important piece of our shared national heritage.”

The mission of the Poston Community Alliance is to preserve the stories, artifacts and historic structures of the Poston Confinement Site, which is located on the Colorado River Indian Tribes Reservation.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a privately funded nonprofit organization that works to save America’s historic places to enrich the future of the U.S. It is committed to protecting America’s rich cultural legacy and helping build vibrant, sustainable communities that reflect the nation’s diversity.

Grants from the National Trust Preservation Funds range from \$2,500-\$5,000; more than \$15 million have been provided since 2003. These matching grants are awarded to nonprofit organizations and public agencies across the country to support wide-ranging activities, including consultant services for rehabilitating buildings, technical assistance for tourism that promotes historic resources and the development of materials for education and outreach campaigns. ■

## JAPAN MARKS 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIROSHIMA ATOMIC BOMBING

By Associated Press

HIROSHIMA, JAPAN — Japan marked the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima on Aug. 6 with Mayor Kazumi Matsui renewing calls for U.S. President Barack Obama and other world leaders to step up efforts toward making a nuclear-weapons-free world.

Tens of thousands of people stood for a minute of silence at 8:15 a.m. at a ceremony in Hiroshima’s Peace Park near the epicenter of the 1945

attack, marking the moment of the blast. Then dozens of doves were released as a symbol of peace.

The U.S. bomb, “Little Boy,” the first nuclear weapon ever used in war, killed 140,000 people. A second bomb, “Fat Man,” dropped over Nagasaki three days later, killed another 70,000, prompting Japan’s surrender in World War II.

The U.S. dropped bombs to avoid what would have been a bloody ground assault on the Japanese mainland, following the fierce battle for Japan’s southernmost Okinawan islands, which took 12,520 American lives and an estimated 200,000 Japanese.

Matsui called nuclear weapons “the absolute evil and ultimate inhumanity” that must be abolished and criticized nuclear powers for keeping them as threats to achieve their national interests. He said the world still bristles with more than 15,000 nuclear weapons.

He renewed an invitation to world leaders to visit Hiroshima and Nagasaki to see the scars themselves, during the G-7 summit in Japan next year.

“President Obama and other policymakers, please come to the A-bombed cities, hear the *hibakusha* (surviving victims) with your own ears and encounter the reality of the atomic bombings,” he said. “Surely,



The Hiroshima Peace Memorial is a reminder of the 140,000 people killed on Aug. 6, 1945.

you will be impelled to start discussing a legal framework, including a nuclear weapons convention.”

The anniversary comes as Japan is divided over Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s push to pass unpopular legislation to expand the country’s military role internationally, a year after his Cabinet’s decision to loosen Japan’s war-renouncing constitution by adopting a new interpretation of it.

“We must establish a broad national security framework that does not rely on use of force but is based on trust,” Matsui said. He urged the Japanese government to stick with “the pacifism of the Japanese Constitution” to lead the global effort of no proliferation.

Abe, also addressing the ceremony, said that as the sole country to face a nuclear attack, Japan had a duty to push for the elimination of nuclear weapons. He pledged to promote the cause through international conferences to be held in Hiroshima later this month.

With the average age of survivors now exceeding 80 for the first time this year, passing on their stories is considered an urgent task. There were 5,359 *hibakusha* who died over the past year, bringing the total death toll from the Hiroshima bombing to 297,684.

U.S. Ambassador Caroline Kennedy and representatives from more than 100 countries also attended the ceremony.

“Little Boy,” dropped from the Enola Gay B-29 bomber, destroyed 90 percent of the city. A “black rain” of radioactive particles followed the blinding blast and fireball and has been linked to higher rates of cancer and other radiation-related diseases among the survivors. ■

## JACL Secures NEH Grant for \$165,831 to Educate Teachers About Incarceration

National JACL has been awarded a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to conduct two educational conferences for teachers on the Japanese American incarceration during summer 2016.

Titled “Civil Liberties in Times of Crisis: The Japanese American Incarceration,” the project will provide an opportunity for middle and high school teachers from throughout the United States to participate in intensive sessions about the incarceration.

Conference presenters will include Lane Hirabayashi and Valerie Matsumoto from the University of California, Los Angeles; June Aoki Berk; Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston; Sharon Ishii-Jordan; Greg Marutani; Dale Minami; John Tateishi; and Minoru Tonai.

The presenters will cover a range of topics about the incarceration, including its psychological impact, its constitutional significance, the Redress Movement, the military accomplishments of Japanese Americans and personal accounts including resistance.

Participants will visit the Japanese American National Museum, tour historic Little Tokyo, visit the section of Santa Anita Race Track that served as a detention facility and visit Manzanar National Historic Site.

Co-directors for the project are Christine Munteanu, JACL assistant program director, and Bill Yoshino, JACL Midwest director.

In commenting on the significance of the grant, Yoshino noted, “The funds from NEH provide JACL an opportunity to deliver its message to educators that the tragic experience of Japanese Americans during World War II should be a required lesson for all students.”

Added Munteanu: “This immersive training will allow educators to recognize full impact of the incarceration experience while also exploring its nuances and ongoing significance. We’re grateful to NEH for this opportunity.”

The grant is provided from the National Endowment for the Humanities, Division of Education, Landmarks of American History and Culture: Workshops for School Teachers. ■

## Little Tokyo Celebrates 75th Nisei Week Anniversary

Celebrations are in full swing throughout August as Los Angeles’ Little Tokyo celebrates the 75th anniversary of the Nisei Week festival.

The annual observance, which began in 1934 as a means to bring back the Nisei community to Little Tokyo (JACLers also had an influence in developing its origin), which was experiencing financial difficulty in the wake of the Great Depression, has evolved into a full-fledged celebration of the Japanese American community and culture.

An opening ceremony, presided by Terry Hara, 2015 Nisei Week Foundation president, was held July 19 at the Japanese American National Museum to officially kick off the events under the theme “Let the Good Times Roll.” This year’s Nisei Week Court consists of Michelle Kaori Hanabusa, Sara Kuniko Hutter, Kelsey Nakaji Kwong, Karen Naza Mizoguchi mVeronica Toyomi Ota, Caryn Michiko Rie Sugita and Tamara Mieko Teragawa. The queen will be crowned at the Coronation Ball on Aug. 15 at the Aratani Theatre in Little Tokyo.

The Grand Parade is set to take place Aug. 15 at 5:30 p.m. This year’s grand marshal is Chef Roy Yamaguchi of Roy’s Restaurants worldwide, and the parade marshal is legendary taiko master Kenny Endo. For the second time in L.A.’s history, the parade will feature a giant Nebuta float, designed by Japanese Master Nebuta Artist Hiroo Takenami, made of wood, special colored paper and LED lights and “inspired by the legendary Minamoto no Yoshitsune, the famous general of the Minamoto clan in the late Heian and early Kamakura period.”

Pioneer honorees are Richard Yutaka Fukuhara, Tery Handa, Kay Inose, Katsukiyo Matsumae, George Nagata and David Yanai.

Nisei Week concludes Aug. 23 with an Ondo and closing ceremony. ■

# A MILLION DOLLARS TASTES A LITTLE LIKE TRUFFLE FRIES

Lay's 'Do Us a Flavor' finalist Angie Fu is in the running to win \$1 million as the first Asian American contestant.

On the shelves in the potato chip aisles and in select Subway restaurants across the nation is Angie Fu's ticket to reconnecting with her mother and a chance to win a \$1 million grand prize. Out of millions of submissions, Fu was chosen as one of four finalists in Lay's "Do Us a Flavor" contest with her chip the West Coast Truffle Fries.

The trifecta of parmesan, garlic and truffle atop a Lay's Wavy chip pays homage to Asian infusion cuisine synonymous to the West Coast, but also to Fu's childhood.

Out of millions of submissions from snackers across America, Lay's picked Fu's concoction along with three other flavors: Southern Biscuits and Gravy, New York Reuben and Greektown Gyro.

Past winners include Kettle Cooked Wasabi Ginger and Cheesy Garlic Bread, but this year, Lay's chose its first-ever Asian American contestant.

"Some truffle flavors come from Asian cuisine, and I tried to mix that with something American like fries," Fu said, also admitting that truffle fries on a menu is fair game and finds its way in front of her.

In addition to her love for the savory side dish, Fu "followed what my mom used to do, which is mix Asian flavors with American dishes." Her mother, Esther Fu, passed away after a 10-year battle with breast cancer on July 27, 2009. The voting for Lay's "Do Us a Flavor" competition began July 27 — the parallels are hard to ignore.

With a million dollars on the shelves, Fu is making waves all over social media through her Instagram, Twitter and Facebook accounts, encouraging friends and family to vote for West Coast Truffle Fries.

When asked about the chance to win, Fu didn't hesitate with an answer. "I would travel," she said. During her mother's battle with breast cancer, she along with brothers



Angie Fu is one of four finalists in Lay's "Do Us a Flavor" contest with her creation of West Coast Truffle Fries, inspired by her love of fusion cooking and in memory of her late mother.

Jonathan and Victor and her mother would frequently talk about all the places they would love to go one day.

"It was hard to travel, so we never did growing up," Fu said. "If I had the chance to travel now, I would fly to Europe and take in all of the experiences, living the life she would've wanted me to live. This would be a trip I'd take for her. This is what she would want."

Even at home, Fu's mother did the best she could to help her family through the numerous doctor's visits and uncertain times — by cooking food.

"I always had a packed lunch," Fu remembers of her mother. "When I came home, we would always make traditional dishes with unusual flavors." For example, her mother's sloppy joes were prepared with soy sauce and Asian spices in lieu of barbeque sauce, proving to be unexpectedly delicious.

While Fu was in middle school, her mother was reaching her final years, and Fu became inspired to enroll in an

ROP class at a hotel restaurant. Hoping to continue her relationship with her mother through cooking, Fu loved her experience but decided to pursue a business degree from the University of California, Irvine.

Today, she is a senior manager of production at Too Faced Cosmetics, but she still cooks and eats for love.

"She really taught me how to cook and create flavors," Fu said. "And that's what I did."

From now until Oct. 18, voters can cast one vote per day per device and platform, making it a total of four votes per day. Options include visiting [www.DoUsAFlavor.com](http://www.DoUsAFlavor.com); Instagram and Twitter with #VoteTruffleFries; or text "VoteTruffleFries to 24477."

Visit Fu's campaign on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/votetrufflefries](http://www.facebook.com/votetrufflefries); Instagram and Twitter @AngieFuFu; and YouTube at Angie Fu (WestCoastTruffleFries).

PHOTO: COURTESY OF SEATTLE OPERA



The lives of two families collide in the midst of World War II in "An American Dream."

## SEATTLE COMMUNITY HISTORY IS ALIVE ONSTAGE AT 'AN AMERICAN DREAM'

Seattle Opera's "An American Dream," a new production from the Belonging(s) Project, will allow Japanese Americans and the community to finally watch local histories unfold onstage when it premieres on Aug. 21 at Marion Oliver McCaw Hall.

Production for "An American Dream" was inspired by local personal narratives, particularly the stories from the wartime incarceration of Japanese Americans from the Seattle area.

"There's a misconception that opera is a long ago and far away art form, but it's not," explained Gabrielle Nomura Gainor, Seattle Opera media relations manager and JACL Seattle board member. "This is a piece of opera that touches on Japanese American stories in World War II that are part of a greater American history. It's important to all Americans."

Gainor had an integral roll as a bridge between the Seattle Opera and community partners, including the Japanese American Citizens League Seattle, Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience and the Japanese American National Museum. "The partnership made efforts in providing cultural and historical expertise, contributing to the overall production," she said.

Continued Gainor, "I tried to facilitate a conversation right away with the Seattle Opera and our community partners, especially in adhering to the 'Power of Words.'"

The "Power of Words Handbook" is an educational campaign started by National JACL to understand language euphemisms and describes the preferred terminology that describes the experiences. "I was really pleased with how people were open and receptive to the 'Power of Words' because it's not only important to me personally as being half but really to the community at large in understanding the impact of those words," Gainor concluded.

Mezzo soprano Nina Nelson, who plays Mama in "An American Dream," feels personally connected to the story, as she has "heard my 91-year-old grandmother's own stories from camp, learning about where she came from and where she has been. I've learned about the struggles and joys that my grandparents experienced during the war, and I feel close to my own family as a result of working on 'An American Dream.'"

Opening night will include preshow activities, including documentaries, presentations with three special speakers and historical exhibits. Anticipated guests include former Sec. Norman Mineta and Seattle Mayor Ed Murray.

"I hope we keep learning to look past how people look and learn to support our fellow human beings," Nelson said about the play's impact. "We can learn that just because something looks one way, it doesn't mean it actually is that way."

# JACL INOUE FELLOW DONATES AFGHANISTAN UNIFORM TO SMITHSONIAN

By JACL National Staff

Washington, D.C. — JACL Daniel K. Inouye Fellow Craig Shimizu formally donated the uniform he wore while deployed to Afghanistan to the Smithsonian National Museum of American History on July 30. The uniform will become part of the museum's collection of uniforms and represents Asian Americans and Japanese Americans who served in the Afghanistan conflict. Shimizu served as a cavalry platoon leader and staff officer in the 6th Squadron, 8th Cavalry Squadron of the 3rd Infantry Division from 2011-14 and served in Afghanistan for nine months in 2013.

"It's a huge honor, but I'm also a little uncomfortable with it since I think there are so many others who are much more deserving," said Shimizu. "There are so many people who gave much more than I did, had longer and more distinguished careers and were just far better soldiers than I was — I'd be way more excited to see their items in the Smithsonian than my own."

Shimizu was first approached about possibly donating his uniform while he was in attendance at a meeting with museum staff in May. Shimizu accompanied JACL Executive Director Priscilla Ouchida to a meeting where an agreement was signed with John Gray, director of the National Museum of

American History, for JACL to collaborate with the museum on a 2017 exhibition commemorating the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066.

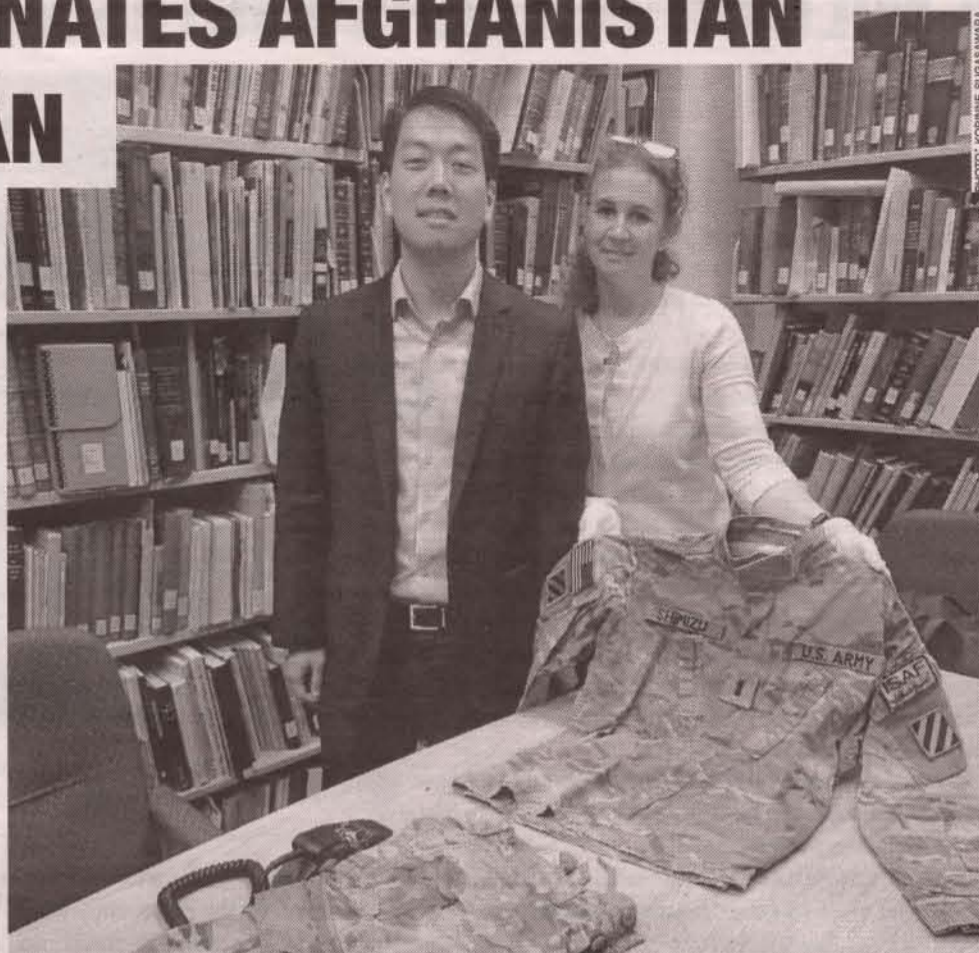
Ouchida mentioned that Shimizu was an Afghanistan veteran, and Jennifer Jones, chair of the museum's Armed Forces History Division, who also was present at the meeting, asked Shimizu if he would like to donate his uniform.

Jones accepted the donation on behalf of the museum.

"When we collect uniforms and equipment from individuals such as Craig, it helps us to tell a more inclusive story about those individuals who serve in the military," said Jones. "Craig served in Afghanistan, and his uniform and story about why he chose to enter into military service tell a story that is familiar to many American families and helps us understand a long history of military service from the Japanese American community. It helps us show the diversity of our armed forces in the 21st century."

In addition to the uniform, Shimizu donated a hand-mic communicator that was damaged in an improvised explosive device (IED) attack on July 7, 2013. The hand-mic was clipped to his body armor when an IED exploded in the middle of his patrol formation; it was destroyed by shrapnel from the bomb. The IED detonated about 22 yards from Shimizu.

"The hand-mic is bittersweet — it's a great souvenir and an exciting story to tell, but it's also a reminder of a day when three of my guys were wounded," Shimizu recalled. "It's hard to shake the feeling that as the platoon leader, I could've done something different or been better at my job and avoided putting us in that situation altogether. I've never really spent a lot of time dwelling on the hand-mic itself — in Afghanistan, I put it out of my mind since I didn't think it was productive to think about such a close call when we still had a lot of patrols to go on. Once I was back at home and out of the Army, it just went into the closet with the rest of my Army stuff, so it



JACL Inouye Fellow Craig Shimizu and Jennifer Jones at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History

wasn't too hard to give it up."

Shimizu was stationed at Forward Operating Base Shank in Logar, Afghanistan, for the duration of his assignment (Logar is located just south of the capitol in Kabul). His unit was the battlespace owner for Logar.

Insurgents in the area launched more than 200 107mm rockets at the base during his stay, and it was his troop's overall mission to patrol the area in the vicinity of the base to prevent and reduce the number of rocket attacks.

Insurgents used AK47s, PKM machine guns and RPGs to ambush the patrol, in addition to burying IEDs on frequently traveled paths and in blind spots. Shimizu experienced about 10 ambushes/firefights and three IED attacks while on foot patrols.

All of the soldiers from Shimizu's platoon survived the deployment, but three soldiers from his squadron, SPC Nicholas Burley, SPC James Wickliff and SFC Forrest Robertson, were killed in action or died due to

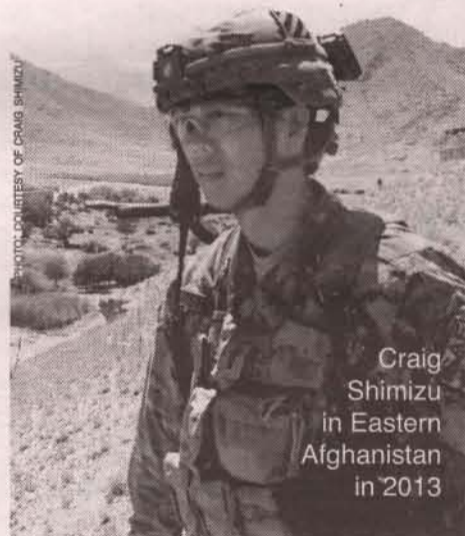
injuries suffered in the field.

Now back from his deployment in Afghanistan and working in Washington, D.C., with the JACL, Shimizu reflected on the fact that his uniform will forever be linked to the Smithsonian.

"It's hard to put into a wider perspective or think about my items as being representative of any specific population or of the conflict as a whole," said Shimizu. "On one hand, I feel completely unworthy of this opportunity given that there are so many others who are much more deserving. On the other hand, I feel lucky and honored to be in a position to highlight the service and sacrifices of this generation of veterans."

Shimizu has served JACL as the Daniel K. Inouye Fellow since November 2014 and will be transitioning to a Mike M. Masaoka Fellowship in January 2016.

— Additional reporting by P.C. Staff



Craig Shimizu in Eastern Afghanistan in 2013



Shimizu (left) served as a cavalry platoon leader and staff officer in the 6th Squadron, 8th Cavalry Squadron of the 3rd Infantry Division. He served in Afghanistan for nine months in 2013.



Shimizu (far right) was stationed at Forward Operating Base Shank in Logar, Afghanistan, for the duration of his assignment.

# THE TRAIL TO MINIDOKA PILGRIMAGE

PHOTOS: RYAN KOZU



Visitors had a chance to tour an original barrack at the site during the pilgrimage.

Attendees at this year's annual Minidoka Pilgrimage pose for a group photo at the Minidoka National Historic Site.

## The annual Minidoka Pilgrimage preserves and remembers incarceration for future generations.

By Stephen Kitajo, Contributor

The expansive desert of south central Idaho is a place few choose to travel to, especially to visit the remains of an American concentration camp, but every year, a group of people make the journey to honor the memories of thousands of Japanese Americans who were removed from their homes on the West Coast and confined to the area during World War II.

From June 25-28, nearly 200 people traveled to the Minidoka National Historic Site, tucked among the sagebrush and dust near the city of Twin Falls, Idaho, to participate in the annual Minidoka Pilgrimage. Participants came from various locations, backgrounds and ages — yet all made the pilgrimage for the same reason: to ensure that the memories and stories of Minidoka, and the unjust incarceration of Japanese Americans as a whole, are remembered and shared to preserve them for future generations.

The all-volunteer Minidoka Pilgrimage Planning Committee, based out of Seattle, Wash., organizes the pilgrimage each year. Its members are driven by one simple fact: “Every year, there are fewer and fewer people able to share their stories. We need to hear their stories while we still can, and we need to make sure we continue to share them. The pilgrimage is the best way to bring people together to do that,” said the MPPC.

One of the ways the MPPC helps make this possible is by offering youth and senior scholarships to help bring generations together on the pilgrimage.

Several different educational sessions were offered on the first full day of the pilgrimage

to educate participants on facets of the Japanese American incarceration. These sessions are designed to shine a light on little-known pieces of history to help educate and promote discussion about incarceration.

Fumika Iwasaki, a college exchange student from Japan, participated in the pilgrimage this year on a youth scholarship awarded by the MPPC.

“For me, it is the first step to understand the history of Japanese Americans,” Iwasaki said. “Before participating, I thought I could understand the history and situations, and it is not difficult to tell the history and facts to Japanese people after the pilgrimage. However, my expectation was thoughtless.”

Now, after participating in the pilgrimage, Iwasaki admitted: “I cannot answer the reason, but now, I strongly feel I have to tell the story in Japan. *Nidoto nai yoni* (Let it not happen again).”

The second day hosted a guided tour of the Minidoka National Historic Site by members of the National Park Service. Today, the camp is only a fraction of what it once was, with several buildings restored and rebuilt over the past few years.

Visitors can walk through an original barrack, mess hall, fire station and warehouse on the site, as well as view a reconstructed guard tower and the Honor Roll honoring those from Minidoka who served in the U.S. Armed Forces. Many memories resurfaced at this year's pilgrimage as former internees made their way around the site. These memories were later shared during breakout sessions in a safe environment behind closed doors.

On its final day, a closing ceremony was held at the site, where speaker Jim Azumano

discussed the importance of remembering Minidoka in our everyday lives.

“Where do we go from here?” Azumano asked. “We go back to our lives. Do we go back into ‘denial’? Next week, will this new portrait of Minidoka fade back into the darkness of my gradual forgetfulness? Should I talk to my kids? Is it OK to share my stories with anyone? In order for Minidoka to blossom and succeed, we need you again. More than anyone else, you have a story to tell.”

In the last few moments of the four-day event, participants hung nametags, replicas of the tags worn by internees, with messages written on them by the pilgrims.

Austin Soriano, MPPC member and Gordon Hirabayashi's great-nephew, felt

that he initially didn't know the history of the Japanese side of his family.

“Finding out that my family played an important role in the Japanese American incarceration left me with so many questions,” said Soriano. “However, my grandpa passed away before I could hear about his experience.”

When hanging the nametags, Soriano said that “this is always the most emotional part of the pilgrimage for me. I always reflect on my family during this message, especially my grandpa since I never got to know him as well as I would have liked. I was only 10 years old when he passed away. Every year, I write to him, in hopes that he is proud of me for learning about our legacy and representing the family during this special time. I actually started tearing up just thinking about him. That's what Minidoka and the incarceration does to you. For me, it connects me to my roots.”

PHOTO: DON SHIMONO



(From left) Jimmy Tobe, John Tobe and Jack Tobe at the Honor Roll sign

# TAKAHASHI YOUTH FELLOWS VISIT JAPAN

Ten student members embark on a 12-day trip as a way to encourage young people to learn more about Japanese American culture and community, as well as ancestral ties to Japan.

**SAN FRANCISCO** — Ten high school student members of the Takahashi Youth Ambassador Fellowship Program (Takahashi Program), organized by the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California and sponsored by the Henri and Tomoye Takahashi Charitable Foundation, embarked July 17 on a 12-day trip to Japan.

The Takahashi Program, now in its fifth year, is a follow-up program to the Shinzen Nikkei Youth Goodwill Sports Program. The structure of the Takahashi Program is based on the best practices, experiences, opportunities and activities of the Shinzen Program but focuses more on the leadership and civic development of youth to build a strong background and foundation for their future endeavors.

The program is invaluable in not only helping youth in the Japanese American community develop and define their identity but also helps to create future leaders for the community.

This year's fellows include:

- **Pierce Cavanaugh**, a 17-year-old senior at St. Ignatius College Preparatory in San Francisco
- **Caelynn Hwang**, a 16-year-old junior at Hillsdale High School in San Mateo
- **Catherine Kamita**, a 15-year-old junior at Mission High School in San Francisco
- **Toshio Kanazawa**, a 16-year-old senior at Monte Vista High School in Danville
- **Courtney Koyama**, a 17-year-old senior at Oakland Technical High School in Oakland
- **Marissa Otonari**, a 16-year-old junior at Hillsdale High School in San Mateo
- **Cullen Reilly**, a 17-year-old senior at St. Ignatius Preparatory in San Francisco
- **Adam Schulze**, an 18 year old who will attend Harvey Mudd College in



Participating in this year's Takahashi Youth Ambassador Fellowship Program are (back row, from left) Toshio Kanazawa, Pierce Cavanaugh, Courtney Koyama, Caelynn Hwang, Marissa Otonari, Adam Schulze, Cullen Reilly and (front row, from left) Catherine Kamita, Junko Taniguchi and Alison Shikada.

Claremont, Calif.

- **Alison Shikada**, a 17-year-old senior at Presentation High School in San Jose
- **Junko Taniguchi**, a 16-year-old junior at Lowell High School in San Francisco

The 10 chosen youth members participated in 12 intensive workshops that spanned two summers in preparation for the trip. In the workshops, the students were able to learn more about the history of Japanese Americans, as well as were given the opportunity to research and create their own family history books.

In addition, they participated in team-building activities, including a day at the Fort Miley Ropes Course; planned and coordinated an udon fundraiser to raise money for their activities dur-

ing their trip; and began to understand the planning process and importance of setting goals, objectives and understanding how each step in planning aids to success.

This summer, the students took part in Japanese language workshops; organized a bake sale fundraiser to support an orphanage they will visit in Kobe; and broadened their leadership skills by planning elements

of their own workshops, which have resulted in several intercultural activities in Kobe and special activities in Sendai and Kesenuma for Tohoku earthquake and tsunami survivors during their trip to Japan.

While in Japan, they will also have the opportunity to visit the Nagata Kodomo (orphanage) Home and the Kisen Wai Wai Mura, where they will experience traditional Japanese village life — farming, cooking and making their own chopsticks.

The Takahashi Program was developed by the JCCCNC in 2011 as a way to continue to encourage young people, particularly those of Japanese American heritage, to learn more about the Japanese American culture and community, as well as their ancestral ties to Japan.

The program incorporates the continued support and involvement of civic and community involvement and how individual citizens of any age can play a role in creating a better understanding and relationship with their foreign neighbors, particularly in Japan.

All Takahashi Program participants will receive a certificate of completion, as well as personal letters or certificates of commendation from the Consulate of Japan, United States Senate and House of Representatives members and California Senate and Assembly members.

*For more information on the Takahashi Youth Ambassador Fellowship Program, contact Lori Matoba at the JCCCNC at (415) 567-5505.*

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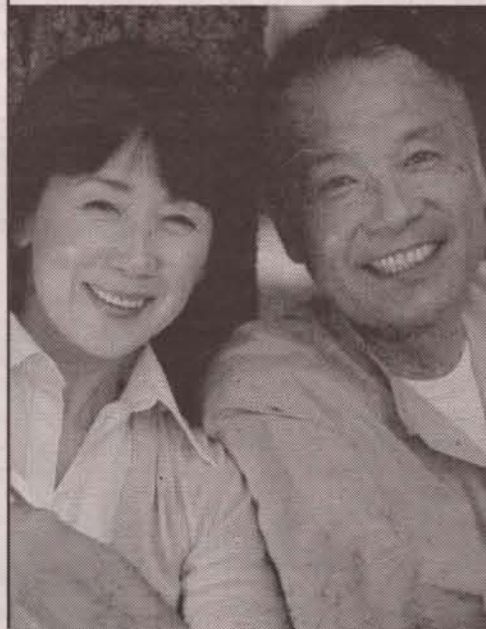
Sep. 17 ~ Sep. 26	Pacific Coast: "Seattle, Portland, Newport, Gold Beach, San Francisco"
Oct. 04 ~ Oct. 14	Let's Go Hokkaido: "Sapporo, Sounkyo, Shiretoko, Tomamu, Toyako"
Oct. 08 ~ Oct. 19	Jewels of Morocco: "Casablanca, Fez, Erfoud, Ouarzazate, Marrakesh"
Oct. 18 ~ Oct. 27	Autumn Japan: "Hiroshima, Kyoto, Kanazawa, Takayama, Tokyo"
Oct. 19 ~ Nov. 01	Italy: "Rome, Pisa, Florence, Milan, Venice, Capri, Amalfi Coast, Pompeii"
Oct. 22 ~ Nov. 02	South Korea (West Coast): "Jeonju, Yeosu, Gwangju, Boseong, Jeju"
Nov. 01 ~ Nov. 11	Islands of Okinawa & Shikoku: "Naha, Takamatsu, Matsuyama, Kochi"
Nov. 30 ~ Dec. 10	South America Escape: "Rio de Janeiro, Iguassu Falls, Buenos Aires"

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# SOLAR ENERGY PROJECTS DELAYED INDEFINITELY



A view looking east from the visitor's center at Manzanar National Historic Site. The floor of the Owens Valley, along with the Inyo Mountains in the background, are visible. This view is now potentially saved thanks to massive community efforts to halt a solar energy generating station, proposed by the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power.

A unified, grass-roots effort is credited with gaining an indefinite hold on industrial-scale solar projects threatening Manzanar and the Owens Valley.

**LOS ANGELES** — In a joint statement, the Manzanar Committee and the Owens Valley Committee (OVC) announced on Aug. 3 that two industrial-scale solar energy projects that would have had adverse impacts on California's Owens Valley and the Manzanar National Historic Site have been delayed indefinitely.

On March 12, 2015, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power withdrew its proposed 1,200-acre Southern Owens Valley Solar Ranch from the Interconnection Queue for its Inyo-Rinaldi transmission line, which transports electricity through the Owens Valley, south to Los Angeles.

As reported by Deb Murphy of *Sierra Wave Online*, a news outlet covering Inyo and Mono Counties, LADWP confirmed that the SOVSR project has been removed from the interconnection queue.

"While DWP worked with the community on interests and options on SOVSR and examined a variety of alternatives for the project (size, specific locations, etc.), the time limit on the transmission service request expired," said Amanda Parsons, LADWP, to the *Sierra Wave*.

While the SOVSR has been placed on indefinite hold, the proposed solar energy generating facility is not dead.

"The project has been removed from the queue," said Parsons. "The Department reserves the right to renew exploration into the SOVSR at a later date. LADWP will continue to examine the viability of this renewable project for a commercial operation date estimated to be between 2024-2027.

"LADWP will continue to examine the viability of this renewable project and many others, especially in light of the new state

goals of 50 percent renewables by 2030," added Parsons.

On April 1, 2015, Northland Power/Independence Solar Farms LLC withdrew its interconnection request for the Inyo-Rinaldi transmission line. In addition, the Inyo County Planning Department has indicated that the permit for the proposed 1,200-plus acre Northland project that was slated to be built near Independence, Calif., just north of where the SOVSR would have been built, has been canceled.

Along with Owens Valley Paiute and Shoshone tribal organizations and concerned citizens in the Owens Valley, the OVC and Manzanar Committee joined forces to oppose both projects, which would have had detrimental effects on the environment and economy of the Owens Valley. They would have also caused irreparable damage to the viewshed of the Manzanar National Historic Site, where the desolation of the surrounding area is critical to teaching future generations about the unjust incarceration of more than 110,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry in American concentration camps, such as Manzanar, and other confinement sites, during World War II.

"The Owens Valley Committee is pleased that Northland Power/Independence Solar Farms LLC has withdrawn its application for an industrial-sized solar project near the town of Independence, Calif., and that the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power has significantly lowered the priority of the proposed Southern Owens Valley Solar Ranch, adjacent to Manzanar National Historic Site," the OVC Board said in a statement.

"The recent announcements that the

LADWP has delayed the SOVSR, as well as the Northland solar project being removed from consideration, are welcome news," said Manzanar Committee Co-Chair Bruce Embrey. "It speaks to the effectiveness of grass-roots organizing. The passionate efforts of those in the Owens Valley, particularly the Owens Valley Committee, members of the Paiute and Shoshone tribal organizations, and others, coupled with those of us working to preserve Manzanar, clearly made an impact.

"The blatant disregard for the cultural and social concerns of the Japanese American community, and of the Paiute and Shoshone people of the Owens Valley, by those seeking quick profits was a familiar theme," added Embrey. "Reminding our political leaders in Los Angeles and in the Owens Valley of this, coupled with our position that massive industrial solar facilities miles from where the power is needed is the least effective path to transitioning off fossil fuels, seems to have carried the day, at least for the time being."

Embrey hailed the strong relationship that developed between the Manzanar Committee and members of the Owens Valley community.

"The working relationship that developed between activists in Los Angeles and the Owens Valley was almost effortless," Embrey noted. "We were all on the same page. We simply had to focus on getting our message out and taking our concerns to our local political representatives in Los Angeles and in Inyo County.

"What was important was how those of us from Los Angeles and the Owens Valley immediately took on each other's concerns," Embrey added. "It wasn't just lip service

— we all took the threat to the environment, the threat to the Paiute and Shoshone tribe's ancestral lands and the threat to Manzanar, to heart. I remember at the first LADWP meeting here in Los Angeles in November 2013, seeing LADWP officials looking extremely uncomfortable in front of a crowd of residents from Owens Valley, former incarcerated, representatives of the Japanese American Citizens League, the Big Pine Paiute Tribe and the Manzanar Committee."

Concluded Embrey: "As former incarcerated spoke of the importance of preserving the environment around Manzanar, and as tribal representatives spoke of the importance of preserving their lands and ancestral sites, it was very, very powerful. In a sense, we all bonded at that meeting."

With the SOVSR on indefinite hold rather than having been halted, the movement to protect the Owens Valley and the Manzanar National Historic Site must continue.

"It is imperative that all those concerned with the preservation of World War II confinement sites, the Manzanar National Historic Site in particular, and the precious environment of the Owens Valley, remain vigilant," Embrey stressed. "It is not a time to shift our attention away from the threat of these massive solar projects. We all need to support viable alternatives, particularly expanding rooftop solar in urban areas and expanding policies to encourage sensible renewable energy projects where the power is needed. We need to continue to exercise our democratic rights and hold our elected officials accountable whenever they attempt to place the needs of indifferent corporations above those of the people."

Said the OVC board: "The OVC supports rooftop solar installations that produce energy to be utilized at the source, not hundreds of miles away. The OVC will continue to uphold the fact that the unique and beautiful Owens Valley is not an appropriate location for industrial development."

The Owens Valley Committee is a non-profit organization seeking just and sustainable management of Owens Valley land and water resources. It envisions a valley in which existing open space is protected, historic land uses sustained and depleted groundwater reserves and surface water flows restored as Los Angeles phases out its dependence on Owens Valley water. For more information, e-mail [info@ovcweb.org](mailto:info@ovcweb.org).

The Manzanar Committee is dedicated to educating and raising public awareness about the incarceration and violation of civil rights of persons of Japanese ancestry during World War II and to the continuing struggle of all peoples when Constitutional rights are in danger.

A nonprofit organization that has sponsored the annual Manzanar Pilgrimage since 1969, along with other educational programs, the Manzanar Committee has also played a key role in the establishment and continued development of the Manzanar National Historic Site.

For more information, e-mail [info@manzanarcommittee.org](mailto:info@manzanarcommittee.org), call (323) 662-5102 or visit <http://blog.manzanarcommittee.org>.

A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

# EMPOWER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

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JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

## CALENDAR

**Kollaboration Empower Conference L.A.**  
Los Angeles, CA  
Aug 29; 9 a.m.-7 p.m.  
Japanese American National Museum  
100 N. Central Ave.

EMPOWER invites all young Asian Pacific Islander professionals to connect with inspirational leaders. The conference will include keynote speakers, panels, mentoring sessions and networking opportunities.

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

New York, NY

Nov. 8

**Longacre Theatre**  
220 W. 48th St.

George Takei's "Allegiance" is a dramatic musical that tells the story of siblings Sammy and Kei Kimura. Together, they face the challenges and struggles of the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II.

Info: Visit [www.allegiancemusical.com](http://www.allegiancemusical.com).

**MDC**

**Art Event and Musical Evening**  
presented by New Mexico JACL  
Albuquerque, NM

Sept. 19; 5:30-9 p.m.

1701 Fourth St.

Price: Free

The evening will showcase internationally renowned artist and photographer Patrick Nagatani and other artisans such as Betty Hahn, Wendy Kawabata, Takashi Murakami, Yoshiko Shimano, Shira L'Heureux. New Mexico Taiko will also make an appearance at this special evening of art and music.

Info: Visit [www.nmjacl.org](http://www.nmjacl.org) or call (505) 883-5320.

**Aki Matsuri 2015**

Albuquerque, NM

Sept. 20

**National Hispanic Cultural Center**

1701 Fourth St.

Price: \$5 donation

Join the New Mexico JACL chapter in its annual Aki Matsuri celebration supported in part by an award from New Mexico Arts. This year's theme is "Mukashi Banashi: Japanese Folk Tales," featuring dancing, storytelling and other activities related to popular ancient folk tales passed down for generations. Enjoy a full day of food and live entertainment. Free parking will be available.  
Info: Visit [www.nmjacl.org](http://www.nmjacl.org) or call (505) 883-5320.

### NCWNP

**Japanese Tea 'The Way of Tea'**

San Francisco, CA

Aug. 15; 1-1:45 p.m.

Asian Art Museum

200 Larkin St.

Price: Museum general admission \$15

Join tea teachers from Chado Urasenke Tankokai San Francisco Assn. for a bowl of whisked green tea with traditional sweets. Seating is limited and first-come, first-served. This workshop is part of the "Way of Tea" series.

Info: Contact [www.asianart.org](http://www.asianart.org).

**'White Light/Black Rain'**

San Jose, CA

Aug. 23; 3 p.m.

San Jose Japantown

Jackson Street

Price: Free but reservations are recommended.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The San Jose JACL and the South Bay Area Hiroshima Kikuei Jin Kai are presenting a screening of Steven Okasaki's award-winning documentary "White Light/Black Rain: The Destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki."

Info: Contact Komo at [komoevents@gmail.com](mailto:komoevents@gmail.com) or call (408) 418-6266.

**'Fire of Freedom' Premiere**

San Francisco, CA

Sept. 10-13 and 17-20; 8 p.m.

Fort Mason Center

1 Franklin St.

Price: General admission \$16

Fort Mason Center presents in association with Asian Improv aRts, API Cultural Center and the Chinese Historical Society of America the "Fire of Freedom," a new site-specific multimedia immersive dance piece by Lenora Lee Dance.

Info: Email [lenoraleedance@gmail.com](mailto:lenoraleedance@gmail.com), call (415) 345-7575 or visit [www.lenoraleedance.com](http://www.lenoraleedance.com).

**35th Japantown Kimono Day**

San Francisco, CA

Sept. 14

Kinokuniya Building

1581 Webster St.

Put on a kimono and join the annual kimono celebration in Japantown. Enjoy shopping and dining with local shops and restaurants participating in the festivities. Advance registration is required, and kimono rentals are available. Special workshops will include a dance from the San Francisco Awakko-Ren.

Info: Register at [sfkimonoday@gmail.com](mailto:sfkimonoday@gmail.com) or visit <http://sfkiminodayen.blog.132.fc2.com/>.

**'Above and Beyond Chinatown: CHSA Gala 2015'**

San Francisco, CA

Sept. 19; 4-8 p.m.

CHSA Museum

965 Clay St.

Price: Single ticket \$150

The Chinese Historical Society of America's annual gala will honor Cecilia Chiang and Liam Mayclem. Chiang is best known for bringing

authentic and high-quality cuisine to American audiences and was featured in the PBS TV documentary "Soul of a Banquet." Mayclem is a host at CBS 5's "Eye on the Bay" and is frequently heard on KCBS' "Foodie Chap."

Info: Visit [www.chsa.org](http://www.chsa.org) or call (415) 391-1188.

### PSW

**Nikkei Peruvian Cooking Workshop**

Gardena, CA

Aug 23; 1-3 p.m.

Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall

1964 W. 162nd St.

Price: Free

Interested in multicultural fusion food? Come to learn about delicious cuisine with Nikkei and Peruvian flavors. Chef Paulo Asato, a native of Peru, will be teaching hands-on recipes and dishes.

Info: Visit [www.jci-gardena.org](http://www.jci-gardena.org), call (310) 324-3223 or email [info@jci-gardena.org](mailto:info@jci-gardena.org).

**'Never Forget' Gala**

San Diego, CA

Sept. 19; 3 p.m.

Mission Valley Marriot

8757 Rio San Diego Dr.

Price: Single ticket \$125

The San Diego JACL chapter invites all to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, honoring veterans of the 100th and 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the Military Intelligence Service and all Nisei WWII veterans and their families.

Info: Call Robert Ito at (619) 954-7017 or email [Robert@itogirard.com](mailto:Robert@itogirard.com).

### EDC

**Book Talk 'Daughters of the Samurai'**

Boston, MA

Aug. 8; 2-3 p.m.

Boston Museum of Fine Arts

465 Huntington Ave.

Price: \$10

Janice Nimura will discuss her book, a true story about five young girls who, after being sent by the Japanese government to the U.S. in 1871 to learn Western ways, returned to help nurture a new generation to lead Japan. The book talk will be held in the Mabel Louise Riley Seminar Room 156.

Info: Visit [www.mfa.org/programs/lecture/daughters-of-the-samurai](http://www.mfa.org/programs/lecture/daughters-of-the-samurai).

**Lowell Southeast Asian Water Festival**

Lowell, MA

Aug. 15; 5-9 p.m.

Lowell Heritage State Park,

Esplanada and Sampas Pavilion

500 Pawtucket Blvd.

Price: Free

Celebrate the cultural heritages of Southeast Asian communities in Lowell at the annual festival. This waterfront celebration will include special blessings, food, crafts, performances and competitive boat races.

Info: Visit [www.lowellwaterfestival.com](http://www.lowellwaterfestival.com).

**'Allegiance'**

### 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:  
[tiffany@pacificcitizen.org](mailto:tiffany@pacificcitizen.org)  
(213) 620-1767



# Memoriam

**Ebato, Larry Koichi, 91**, La Jolla, CA; June 6; he is survived by his son, Daryl (Mariko) Ebato; daughter, Debbie (Blake) Asato; brothers, Hiroshi (Janet) Ebato and Terry (Karen) Ebato; sister, Jenny Fukuhara; gc: 6; ggc: 8.

**Fujita, Riye Hideko, 91**, Ontario, OR; July 24; she was predeceased by her husband, Minoru; she is survived by her stepson, Kazu Fujita; stepdaughter, Miyo Arata; niece, Sakae Shinkawa; nephew, Takumi Nishimoto; she is also survived by many friends, former students and other family.

**Hayashi, Bert Yukio, 94**, Honolulu, HI; July 4; he is survived by his wife, Clara C.; sons, Gerald and Craig; sister, Amy Nishijima; gc: 3.

**Higashi, Alice Reiko, 84**, Aiea, HI; July 8; she is survived by her sons, Stephen M. and Stanley H.; brother, Kenneth Oda; sister, Chieko Endow.

**Hironaka, Ethel Shizuno, 94**, Tacoma, WA; July 10; she is survived by her daughter, Lorna Vioria; sisters, Merle Ragasa and Shizue Tan; gc: 2.

**Ikoma, Keiya Kay, 74**,



Los Angeles, CA; July 28; he is survived by his wife, Junko June; daughter, Michelle Ikoma; gc: 1.

**Ishikawa, Frank Tatsuo, 95**, Honolulu, HI; July 3; he was an Army veteran; he is survived by his sons, Kenneth and Walter; gc: 3; ggc: 3.

**Izumi, Tomiko, 99**, Cerritos, CA; July 29; she was predeceased by her husband, Uichi Fred Izumi; she is survived by her daughter, Joyce (Paul) Gima; sister-in-law, Fumi Kuromiya; nephew, James Kuromiya; niece, Aiko (Don) Murase; gc: 2; ggc: 2.

**Kamikawa, Ted Hiroki, 90**, Waimanalo, HI; May 20; he was

an Army veteran; he is survived by his son, Kyle (Lynn) Kamikawa; daughters, Lynn Hoffacker and Myra (Gary) Tamanaha; brothers, Francis and Thomas; sisters, Mary Yamada and Carrie Fuchise; gc: 3; ggc: 6.

**Kido, Ellen Tomino, 85**, Wayland, MA; July 2; she is survived by her daughters, Sherrie Simpson and Phyllis Kido-Sadagursky; brothers, Frank, Ken, Mark, Dick and Eddie Watase; gc: 4.

**Kimura, Noboru, 83**, Torrance, CA; July 28; he is survived by his wife, Noreen; daughter, Natalie Harada; son, Michael; gc: 5.

**Kondo, Ralph W., 89**, Honolulu, HI; July 10; he was a retired judge and an Army veteran; he is survived by his wife, Michele K.; son, Randall; daughters, Karen Sasaki, Janice Arakaki, Colleen Chong, Ruby Chow and Jasmine Williams; brothers, Harry and Norman; sister, Jean Nakagawa; gc: 16; ggc: 2.

**Koyama, Aiko, 94**,



North Hollywood, CA; July 26; she is survived by her children, Eileen Sakiko (Cris) Dawson, Lorraine Masae Koyama, Elaine Miyoko Fong and Daniel Yoshie (Eileen) Koyama; siblings, Toshio (Rose) Nakayama, Sachi (Shiro) Kawamura and Amy Ishimoto; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 5.

**Kurasaki, Florence Tsuruyo, 100**, Honolulu, HI; July 30; she is survived by her sons, Ronald T. and Barry Y.; daughters, Beverly T. Miyake and Lynne T. Gardetto; sister, Edith Kuwana; gc: 7; ggc: 8.

**Matsuda, George Katsuake, 89**, Honolulu, HI; July 4; he is survived by his daughter, Gail Tom; brothers, Motoo and Robert; sister, Ellen Lau.

**Miyunaga, Miyoko, 84**,

Pāhala, HI; July 10; she is survived by her son, Edwin; daughter, Molly Ernzer; brothers, George, Robert and Perry Shimamoto; sisters, Rose Watanabe, Betsy Olores, Mae Dailey and Lillian Abe; gc: 3; ggc: 1.

**Miyahira, Harry T., 85**, Los Angeles, CA; July 22; he was a Korean War veteran; he is survived by his sister, Martha Aiko Miyahira; brother, Richard; he is also survived by other nieces and nephews.

**Miyama, Harry I., 90**, Kapolei, HI; July 12; he was an Army veteran; he is survived by his wife, Setsuko "Pat"; son, Gary; daughters, Janice Watanabe and Wendy Miyama; sisters, Betsy Tao and Lillian Nishikawa; gc: 5; ggc: 2.

**Miyasato, Edward Haruo, 79**, Honolulu, HI; July 9; he was an Army veteran; he is survived by his wife, Ruby; son, Cornell; daughter, Doreen; brothers, Stanley, Wilbert, James and Ronald; sister, Madeline Shimabuku; gc: 2.

**Nishida, Ruth Ohmura, 82**, Monterey Park, CA; July 22; she is survived by her children, David (Tina) Nishida, Douglas (Tia) Nishida and Karen (Chris Woschenko) Nishida; sister, Florence Dobashi; sister-in-law, Jean Ohmura; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 9.

**Omori, Leslie Ikuo, 69**, Pearl City, HI; July 14; he was an Air Force veteran; he is survived by his wife, Jamie; sons, Andrew, Lee, Alan, Craig and Brandon; brother, Jon; sister, Frances Kitagawa; gc: 6.

**Onaga, Ian T., 62**, Honolulu, HI; July 13; he is survived by his wife, Jan; daughters, Janine and Alyssa; brother, Eric T.; sisters, Cassie Nakagawa and Tracy Siu.

**Onouye, Tamie Amy, 84**, Pearl City, HI; May 21; she is

survived by her son, Archer; daughter, Wendy Boteiho; sisters, Debbie Shimabuku and Ruth Frost; gc: 2; ggc: 2.

**Oshiro, Mitsuko, 80**, Honolulu, HI; July 16; she is survived by her brothers, Douglas, George and Masa.

**Oshiro, Zumi 'Sandy,' 79**, Harbor City, CA; Aug. 1; she is survived by her husband, Francis Oshiro; children, Naomi Naccari, Nina (Ramon) Valdillez, Nora Watanabe, Nikki (Kevin) Ueda and Anthony; gc: 11; ggc: 4.

**Shimizu, Diane S., 60**, Lihue, HI; July 7; she is survived by her parents, Kazuki and Fuyuko; brothers, Dennis and Leslie; sisters, Christine Hashimoto and Jeanne Shimizu.

**Suzuku, Edward Kaoru, 80**, Honolulu, HI; July 3; he was an Army veteran; he is survived by his daughter, Sharon Suzuki-Martinez; brother, Ray; sister, Doris Uchida; gc: 2.

**Takebayashi, Ruby Kazuko, 77**, Kaneohe, HI; July 15; she is survived by her husband, Fred; sons, Dean, Vern, Donn, Jon and Chad; daughters, Lori Ikeda and Lee Stevens; gc: 14; ggc: 3.

**Tanaka, Ihoko Joy, 83**, Los Angeles, CA; July 30; she was a survivor of the Nagasaki atomic bombing; she is survived by her husband, Osamu Fred Tanaka; daughters, Cindy (Shigeto) Inoue and Cathy Tanaka; she is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives.

**Tsuji, Lei Adachi, 89**, Hilo, HI; July 17; she is survived by her daughter, Cheryl Nacis; brothers, Kenneth, Jiro and Shunji Adachi; sisters, Doris Suighara, Suga Suzuki and Chizu Nakashima; gc: 1.

**Uehara, Wilbert Masanori, 83**, Honolulu, HI; July 11; he was an Army veteran; he is survived by his wife, Doris; son, Roy; daughter, Joanne Kurihara;

sister, Betty; gc: 3.

**Wada, Ayako, 82**, Long Beach, CA; July 23; she is survived by her daughter, Barbara Sachiko (Daniel) Leon; son, Frank Takashi Wada; sister, Shigeko Shimokubo; gc: 2.

**Yasuda, Hisako Kido, 86**,



Caldwell, ID; May 18; she was predeceased by her husband, Paul Yasuda; brothers, Mas Kido and Hiro Kido; she is survived by her sister, Nori Kondo; brother, Robert (Yae) Kido; sister-in-law, Emi Kido; children, Robert (Sally) Yasuda, Mardi (John Hine) Wilburn, David (Katy Shanafelt) Yasuda, Christi (Danny) Jackson and Mark (Cheri Ruch) Yasuda; she is also survived by many nieces and nephews; gc: 8.

**Yotsuuye, Akinobu, 'Aki,' 92**,



Tacoma, WA; June 19; he was incarcerated at Minidoka Camp during WWII; he is survived by his children, David (Kathy), Gene (Nancy Martella), Vicki (Curtis Martsen) and Wayne (Dawn); brother, Tada (Yoshie); gc: 4.

## PLACE A TRIBUTE

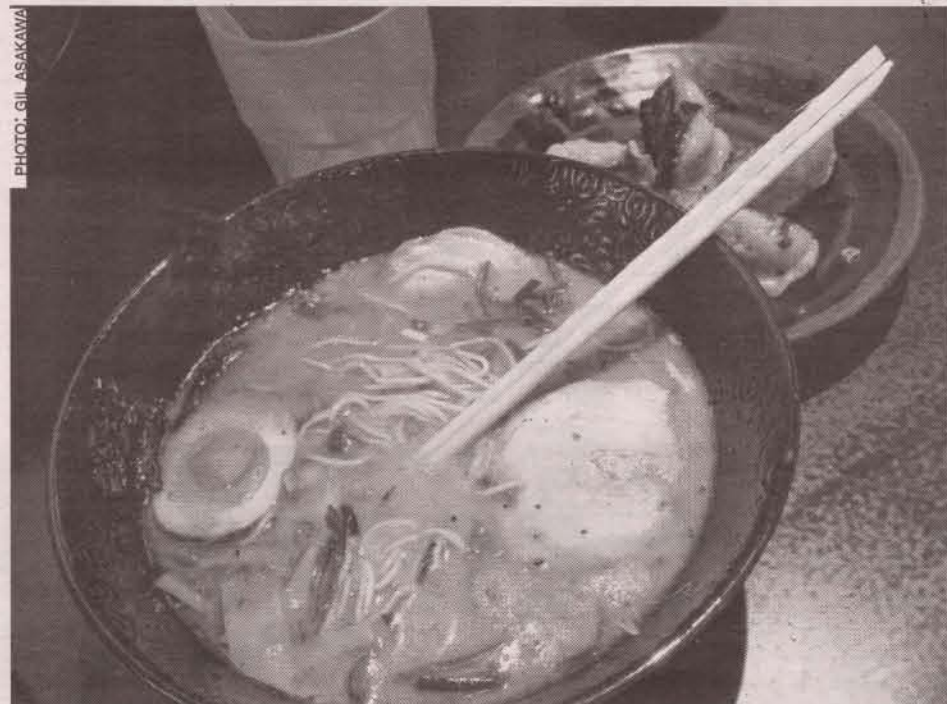
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## RAMEN &gt;&gt; continued from page 3



Men-Oh's specialty, the Tokushima Black Garlic Ramen with Gyoza

Denver has several new and legitimate ramen-ya now. A couple of good ones only serve ramen one day a week because it's so labor-intensive. My current local ramen-ya faves are Tokio in downtown Denver; Osaka Ramen and Tengu, both sort of fusion/contemporary in the RiNo district; and for now, the best, Katsu Ramen in Aurora, a Denver suburb.

I'm headed to San Francisco on a business trip in several weeks, and I can't wait. You know what I'll be eating: ramen!

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

## Applications Now Being Accepted for 2015 Masanori 'Mashi' Murakami Scholarships

The San Francisco Japanese American Citizens League announces that applications are now being accepted for the 2015 Masanori "Mashi" Murakami athletic and academic scholarships.

Four scholarships of \$2,000 each will be awarded to deserving applicants by the San Francisco JACL and Fred Tanaka and Jack Sakazaki, co-chairs of the Masanori Murakami Golf Tournament.

Applications are now available to Northern California and Central California college students of Japanese ancestry who carry a grade-point average of 3.0 and above and are a member of a college team.

The scholarships are named in honor of Murakami, who, 50 years ago, became the first Japanese baseball player in Major League Baseball. In 1964, he made his debut as a relief pitcher with the San Francisco Giants after being sent over to the United States by the Nankai Hawks.

Murakami's successful experience in the MLB paved the way for future generations of Japanese stars such as Hiroki Kuroda, Daisuke Matsuzaka, Hideo Nomo, Ichiro Suzuki and Yu Darvish.

The deadline to apply for a scholarship is Sept. 30.

For more information and an application, contact the San Francisco JACL at [sfjaci@yahoo.com](mailto:sfjaci@yahoo.com).

## POVERTY &gt;&gt; continued from page 3

## 2. Take Legislative Action

Citizen-driven resources like GovTrack.us support national and local nonprofits such as the National Low-Income Housing Coalition in their efforts to develop and drive anti-poverty legislation in areas such as affordable housing and education, living wages, food security, universal health care, child care, Gulf Coast recovery, adult literacy, early childhood education, prisoner re-entry and sanctuary for undocumented workers.

## 3. Donate

You can donate food, money, clothing, toiletry items, old furniture, toys and magazines.

## 4. Volunteer

You can volunteer with kids, families, the elderly, the disabled, the homeless, women and the mentally ill; in shelters, soup kitchens, community centers, afterschool programs and employment centers. You can teach literacy, résumé development, job-training courses, ESL, computer class, coach sports, serve food and provide counseling.

## 5. Join a Campaign

There are a number of different local and national campaigns that you can join to help combat poverty. Even better, you can ask your local synagogue, church, youth group, community center, workplace or school to do the same. Locally, you can get involved with Focus and Fight Poverty and Real Change News. Nationally, you can get involved with

Fighting Poverty With Faith; CARE:

Defending Dignity, Fighting Poverty; the ONE Campaign; and End Poverty 2015.

## 6. Write or Start a Petition

Petitions are fantastic ways to create change in your local government or neighborhood. You can choose to fight a bad policy or create a good one. You can write your own petition or help to propagate one already in existence.

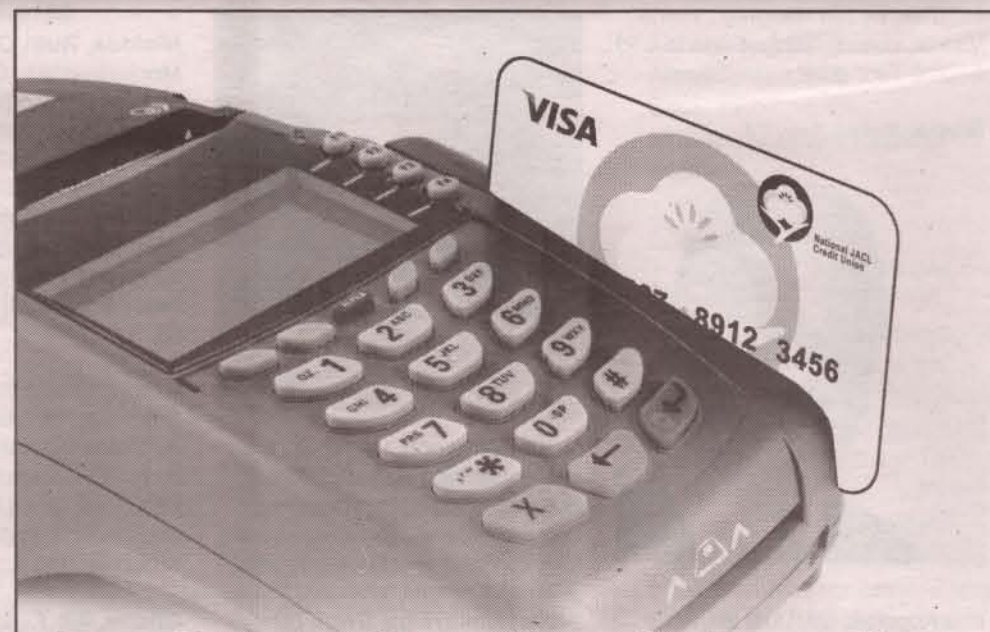
## 7. Write an Article

An article to your local newspaper about homelessness in your community is a great way to spread the word and personalize the matter with statistics and facts that hit close to home. And not only will you educate others, but you will also learn a lot in the process.

## 8. Donate Leftovers

Ever notice how much leftover food is thrown away in your school or workplace cafeteria every day? Try speaking to your school or office administration to find a way to donate all of that leftover food to a local shelter or food bank. There is no need to waste so much when so many people are hungry. Check out <http://feedingamerica.org/> to find a food bank that will take leftover food donations.

*Rhianna Taniguchi is an account executive at the Denver Post. She was the 2014 JACL Norman Y. Mineta Fellow.*



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