



PACIFIC CITIZEN

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HONORING WWII JAPANESE AMERICAN SOLDIERS

Family members of Pfc.
Teruo 'Ted' Fujioka gather
in Washington, D.C., to pay
homage to their beloved
'Uncle Ted.'

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NPS Awards
\$2.8 Million in
JA Confinement
Sites Grants.

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JANM Welcomes
the 2016 National
Youth Summit.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF THE
FUJIOKA FAMILY



P.C. HELPS US STAY CONNECTED AS A COMMUNITY

Recently, the St. Louis JACL chapter gathered on a sunny May day for the annual Bob Mitori Mochitsuki. We ate chicken teriyaki and soba salad, made mochi and chatted with old friends. As a chapter, we meet as a group only a few times a year, so when we are together, everyone enjoys the chance to catch up.

Our chapter is focused on our area's small Japanese American community, so as a JACL member, I value the national and world news I receive in the *Pacific Citizen*, stories that I may not find elsewhere.

I can read about Asian stereotypes in the media, planned pilgrimages to internment camp sites and the campaign to honor Nisei veterans with a postage stamp. The variety of stories and columns about other chapters and members also remind me that we in St. Louis are part of a larger group, one that needs to consider bigger issues.

That's just one of the reasons I urge you to

donate to the *Pacific Citizen*. St. Louis doesn't have a large Asian American population unlike many West Coast cities, so a newspaper like the *P.C.* helps us stay connected as a community. It has done so for more than 85 years.

This year's Spring Campaign is vital to keep the *P.C.* going, pay for essentials including the salaries of the dedicated staff and basic expenses such as rent, printing and mailing, as well as office supplies. While National JACL deals with its own financial challenges, fewer resources can go to the *P.C.*

I also encourage you to attend the JACL National Convention July 11-14 in Las Vegas, or tell a representative from your chapter or district to pass along how crucial you think the *P.C.* is. We need more members to speak out on behalf of the *P.C.* to the National Board and let them know people care. Your voice matters.

If you read the *P.C.* regularly, you know that like many other newspapers, the *P.C.* is dealing with the challenges of trying to

succeed in the print and digital world. The staff and the *P.C.* Editorial Board are working to navigate this evolving landscape and find ways to cut costs and increase revenue.

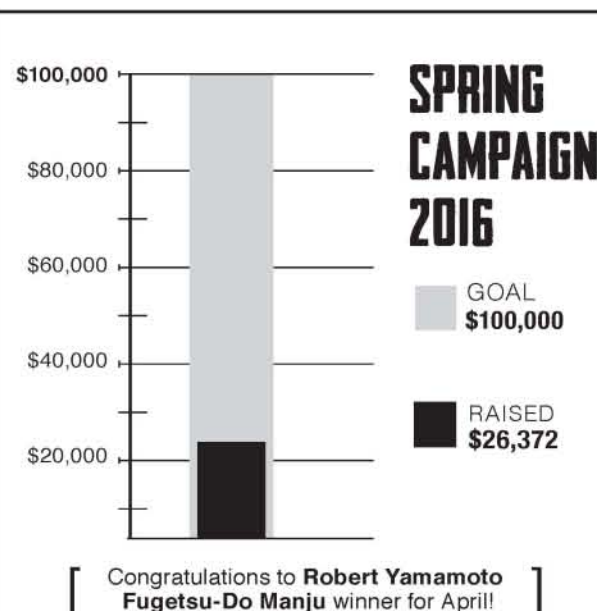
But first we need to make sure the *P.C.* doesn't disappear. The goal of the Spring Campaign is to raise \$100,000. So far it has raised a little more than \$26,000. We still have a long way to go to ensure that the *P.C.* can continue its mission to "educate on the past Japanese American experience and preserve, promote and help the current and future AAPI communities."

I'm part of that community, and so are you. We owe it to members past, present and future to continue to document our history. Please help support the *P.C.*

Sincerely,

Jody Mitori,

P.C. Editorial Board Member, MDC



Become a member of the JACL! Get Involved!

Your JACL membership matters. You are one of thousands of JACL members who, like you, believe in social justice, cultural and historical preservation, and community empowerment. We have 5 regional offices and 100+ chapters. Ask about ways to get involved locally!



Contact: **JACL Membership, P.O. Box 45397, San Francisco, CA 94145**, or contact our Membership Coordinator: **Mariko Fujimoto (415) 921-5225 ext. 25, or mfujimoto@jacl.org** to find more information and your local chapter.

PACIFIC CITIZEN

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

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More than ever, your funds will help preserve the legacy of the *Pacific Citizen*. Donations of \$150 or more will be entered in a monthly drawing for a box of "Fugetsu-Do" Japanese manju delivered to the winner's door.

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NIKKEI VOICE

THE POWER OF HIROSHIMA AS A SYMBOL OF PEACE

By Gil Asakawa

For a year and a half when I was a kid, my family lived in Iwakuni, a city not far from Hiroshima. My father worked for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at the huge Marine Corps Air Station there. We lived offbase in a cluster of Western-style homes that were clustered on a gravelly hillside.

By the time we moved to Iwakuni in 1965, Hiroshima had been rebuilt as a thoroughly modern, thriving city. Like all of Japan, the area seemed to be basking in the anticipatory glory of the global coming-out party that would be the 1964 Tokyo Olympics. The country was buzzing with excitement in its cities and with serene contentment in the countryside. At least, that's how it felt to a 6-year-old boy.

I recall I had American friends who, like me, were children of GIs, as well as Japanese friends. I remember riding my bike around the neighborhoods, stopping at a local family owned shop for candy or frozen pineapple treats and playing marbles with a bag of my glass balls that I carried with me, shooting them into a circle scratched into the gravel.

I have lots of memories of visiting family friends in Hiroshima, of crabbing in Hiroshima Bay, of visiting the famous Kintai Bridge (built with no metal nails for most of its

existence). And, I have vivid memories of Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park.

Today, the Peace Park includes a lot of memorials — some are recent additions. When I was there as a boy, the things that made lasting impressions included the statue of Sadako,

atomic bomb, and the Peace Flame that was lit in 1964, which seen through the arch, lined up exactly to show the skeletal A-Bomb Dome of the building that was at ground zero, 160 meters from the explosion at 8:15 a.m. on Aug. 6, 1945. That bomb killed 70,000 people instantly and up to another 70,000 subsequently died of radiation sickness and related causes, like Sadako.

The point of the Peace Park is clear in the message on the cenotaph, which translates to, "Please rest in peace, because the mistake will not be repeated."

The inscription purposely avoided saying "we shall not" or "they shall not" repeat the mistake. This caused a controversy when the cenotaph was completed — Japan's right wing read the text as an admission and apology for the country's wartime aggression. Decades later in 1983, a plaque was added to clarify the intent of the original message:

"The inscription on the front panel offers a prayer for the peaceful repose of the victims and a pledge on behalf of all humanity never to repeat the evil of war. It expresses the spirit of Hiroshima — enduring grief, transcending hatred,

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'Please rest in peace, because the mistake will not be repeated.'

— Peace Park Cenotaph Message

the young girl who died of leukemia caused by radiation years after the end of World War II, who was trying to make a thousand origami cranes so she might live. A folk tradition told that a wish would be granted to a person who made 1,000 cranes. The statue was unveiled on Children's Day, May 5, 1958, three years after Sadako died.

Another vivid memory was the arched cenotaph built in 1952 that contains the names of every person killed by the



A YONSEI TRANSPLANTED

NO FAREWELL TO ARMS

By Matthew Ormseth

President Barack Obama's announcement that he would visit Hiroshima at the tail end of a two-day summit with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe sent ripples throughout the Japanese American community, and rightly so — he would be the first sitting president to stand at ground zero of the world's first nuclear attack.

Those hoping that the president might revisit or even apologize for the decision to drop an atomic bomb on a major metropolitan area were quickly disappointed, however, by White House Press Secretary Josh Earnest. When asked whether President Obama's visit to Hiroshima constituted an informal apology for the bombing, Earnest quickly replied, "If people do interpret it that way, they'll be interpreting it wrongly."

Ben Rhodes, the country's deputy national security advisor and one of President Obama's top aides, performed a similar stifling maneuver a few days later, writing on his personal blog that Obama "will not revisit the decision to use the atomic bomb at the end of World War II." "Instead," the entry continues, "he will offer a forward-looking vision focused on our shared future."

These euphemisms like "forward-looking vision" are characteristic of Oval Office jargon — rhetorical waltzing that allows politicians to wriggle out of sticking to a particular stance, especially when that stance is contentious. Something like a "forward-looking vision" is pleasant to the ear, but what does it actually mean? Does it mean any-

thing at all?

We might examine an editorial written by the president himself and published by the *Washington Post* in March for an explanation.

In the piece, Obama writes, "Even as the United States

mention that his administration has embarked on a massive campaign of "modernizing" the nuclear stockpile — refurbishing outdated missiles and warheads and improving their destructive capabilities — and is in the process of spending \$1 trillion to do it.

In a 2014 study authored by John Wolfsthal, former nuclear advisor to VP Joe Biden, and published by the James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies, an NGO partnered with Middlebury College, Wolfsthal writes, "Over the next 30 years, the United States plans to spend approximately \$1 trillion maintaining the current arsenal, buying replacement systems and upgrading existing nuclear bombs and warheads."

In light of this revelation, the total number of nuclear weapons in the U.S. arsenal does not matter nearly so much as the vastly increased capabilities of those weapons, and Obama's claim that he is leading the fight for a nuclear-free world rings a bit hollow.

The White House's refusal to even contemplate issuing an apology for dropping the bomb strikes me as odd, considering President Obama has fashioned himself as some sort of crusader for a nuclear-free world.

In a 2009 speech delivered in Prague, he stated, "As the only nuclear power to have used a nuclear weapon, the United States has a moral responsibility to act"; in the aforementioned *Washington Post* editorial, he wrote, "Of all the threats to global security and peace, the most dangerous is the proliferation and potential use of nuclear weapons."

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'Of all the threats to global security and peace, the most dangerous is the proliferation and potential use of nuclear weapons.'

— President Barack Obama

maintains a safe, secure and effective nuclear arsenal to deter any adversary and ensure the security of our allies, I've reduced the number and role of nuclear weapons in our national security strategy. I also have ruled out developing new nuclear warheads and narrowed the contingencies under which the United States would ever use or threaten to use nuclear weapons."

While it is true that he has reduced the total number of nuclear weapons in the country's arsenal, Obama neglected to

CANDIDATES FOR NATIONAL JACL BOARD ANNOUNCED

LOS ANGELES — The JACL Nominations and Elections Committee is pleased to announce those individuals who have submitted candidate applications to run for the National JACL Board of Directors in this year's upcoming elections.

The candidates are:

National President: Gary Mayeda, a member of the APAN Chapter

VP for General Operations: Chip Larouche, a member of the Portland Chapter

VP for Public Affairs: Jeffrey Moy, a member of the Washington, D.C., Chapter

VP for Planning & Development: Matthew Farrells, a member of the Twin Cities Chapter

National Youth/Student Council Chairperson: Kota Mizutani, a member of the Washington, D.C., Chapter

This does leave a number of National Board positions without candidates. Those positions are:

National Secretary/Treasurer

VP for One Thousand Club, Membership & Services

National Youth/Student Council Representative

Nominations and Elections Committee Chairperson Kent Kawai stated, "We are excited that these individuals have stepped for-

ward and fulfilled the requirements to run for national office. The committee has reviewed the applications and declared them official candidates, who may now commence their campaigns."

Although the initial filing deadline has passed, those who wish to run for a position on the National Board may still do so. These candidates must run "off-the-floor" and shall be required to meet additional criteria as a late filer.

Candidate forms and instructions for running off-the-floor are available on the JACL website (www.jacl.org).

Added Kawai: "I do encourage JACL members to run for national office to provide for contested races and to ensure all positions on the board are filled. The more candidates we have, the more choices the membership shall have in selecting its leadership for the coming biennium."

Those elected shall serve a two-year term for the 2016-18 biennium and shall be installed into office at the JACL National Convention, which is set to take place at the Monte Carlo Resort and Casino from July 11-14.

For more information on the nominations and elections process, contact Chairperson Kent Kawai at mkawaiusa@netscape.net.

JACL PORTLAND CELEBRATES ANNUAL COMMUNITY GRADUATION BANQUET

PHOTO: CHIP LAROCHE



High school senior honorees at the Japanese American Community Graduation Banquet

PORTLAND, ORE. — The 69th Annual Japanese American Community Graduation Banquet was held at the Multnomah Athletic Club in Portland on May 1. Eleven sponsoring organizations (including the Gresham-Troutdale Chapter and Portland JACL) worked together to honor graduating high school seniors.

The event's keynote speaker was Aiko Iso, who is currently the head football athletic trainer at Oregon State University.

Prior to her position at Oregon State University, Iso was on the staff of the Pittsburgh Steelers for nine years.

Newly arrived Consul General Kojiro Uchiyama also congratulated the students on their academic success and wished them good luck in their future endeavors.

The 16 graduates received the book "Touching the Stones" as well as scholarships and awards totaling more than \$22,000.

— Chip Larouche

APAs in the News/News Bytes

JACL Responds to Congressman Peter King's Usage of Racial Slur 'Jap'



WASHINGTON, D.C. — Last week, Congressman Peter King appeared on MSNBC's "Morning Joe" and used the racial slur "Japs" when discussing Donald Trump's approach to national security.

"National defense and homeland security are issues that mean the most to me and there's real issues with him, real problems with his views," King said of Trump. "I don't know if he's thought them through, or if it's like the guy at the end of the bar that says, 'Oh screw them, bomb them, kill them, pull out, bring them home. You know, why pay for the Japs, why pay for the Koreans.'"

Many Asian American Pacific Islander leaders and organizations have responded to King's usage of the word.

In an interview with NBC News, JACL Executive Director Priscilla Ouchida said King was missing the point. "These types of words translate into hate speech," she said. "Hate speech is different than 'political correctness.' 'Jap' is hate speech. 'Jap' is a repugnant reminder of anti-Asian racism and of episodes that represent America at its worst. We as Americans should aspire to the ideals of a democratic nation, and those who choose to revert to usage of 'Jap' must understand the burden of that word."

In 1957, JACL launched a campaign to eliminate the use of the word "Jap" as a reference to persons of Japanese ancestry. A massive public education drive was carried out to make others aware of the racist roots of the term and to condemn its use.

To read Ouchida's full response to King, visit www.huffingtonpost.com/priscilla-ouchidapeter-king-jap-hate-speech_b_9995156.html.

Chula Vista Elementary School District Boards Names New School After Saburo Muraoka



CHULA VISTA, CALIF. — The Chula Vista Elementary School District recently unveiled plans for its 46th school as well as a name honoring Saburo Muraoka, a Japanese American resident who made Chula Vista his home for decades.

Ground is expected to be broken on Saburo Muraoka Elementary School in Otay Ranch on June 1 and will be completed by July 2017.

The new \$48 million campus is named after Muraoka, a farmer who grew crops in Chula Vista before being taken to a Japanese internment camp in Texas during World War II. Muraoka returned with his family after the war and rebuilt his life and became a pillar in the community.

Muraoka passed away in 1983 but his family knows he would be honored by the designation.

In a statement to KGTV ABC10 News, Muraoka's grandson, Ken Muraoka, who petitioned the school board to name the new school after his grandfather, said, "I was elated that he got it, but I was elated for the whole Japanese community."

Legislation to Remove 'Oriental' From Federal Law Passes Senate



WASHINGTON, D.C. — After passing through the House in February, Rep. Grace Meng's bill, H.R. 4238, recently passed through the Senate unanimously. The bipartisan bill is aimed to remove the terms "Negro, Puerto Rican, American Indian, Eskimo, Oriental or Aleut or is a Spanish-speaking individual of Spanish descent" from federal law and replace it with "Asian American, Native Hawaiian, a Pacific Islander, African American, Hispanic,

Puerto Rican, Native American or an Alaska Native." The bill now heads to President Obama's office, where he is expected to sign it into law.

"The word 'Oriental' is a derogatory and antiquated term and the passage of this legislation will soon force the U.S. government to finally stop using it," said Meng. "I thank my colleagues in the House and Senate for understanding that the time has come for our government to no longer refer to Asian Americans — or any ethnicity — in such an insulting manner. Repealing this term is long overdue. 'Oriental' no longer deserves a place in federal law, and very shortly it will finally be a thing of the past."

Hiroshi Hoketsu Misses Chance to Become Oldest Competing Olympian



TOKYO — A 75-year-old Japanese equestrian athlete will not be able to become the oldest competing Olympian of all time in Rio de Janeiro because of an illness to his horse.

Kyodo news agency reported that Hiroshi Hoketsu was unable to meet the criteria to join the qualifying trials for the Japanese team.

Hoketsu, who made his Olympic debut in Tokyo in 1964 and at 71 was the oldest athlete to compete at the 2012 London Games, has been training in the Netherlands and Germany but hadn't been able to take part in competitions after his horse fell ill.

— P.C. Staff, JACL National and Associated Press

NPS AWARDS \$2.8 MILLION IN GRANTS TO PRESERVE AND INTERPRET WWII JAPANESE AMERICAN CONFINEMENT SITES

WASHINGTON, D.C. — National Park Service Director Jonathan B. Jarvis announced \$2.8 million in Japanese American Confinement Sites grants to fund educational programs, preservation projects, memorials and exhibits. The 15 projects in five U.S. states will tell the story of the more than 120,000 Japanese Americans, two-thirds of whom were U.S. citizens, who were imprisoned by the U.S. government following the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941.

Jarvis announced the grants at a reception for the All Camps Consortium, hosted by the Embassy of Japan in Washington, D.C., on May 12.

"The National Park Service is dedicated to preserving the memory of the Japanese Americans who were incarcerated during World War II," Jarvis said. "The inclusion of sites like Honouliuli, Manzanar, Minidoka and Tule Lake in the National Park System and the support for the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program reflect our nation's commitment to remember and learn from this shameful episode in our past."

President Obama designated Honouliuli Internment Camp as Honouliuli National Monument in February 2015 to share the stories of those who were unjustly held there during World War II.

The grants announcement comes as the NPS pays tribute to the generations of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who have enriched America's history as part of Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month throughout May.

The NPS is also preparing a theme study to inspire Americans to discover the story of America's Asian and Pacific Island heritage and to help those seeking National Historic Landmark or National Register of Historic Places designation for historic places linked to the Asian American and Pacific Islanders experience in the U.S. The theme study's introductory chapter will be published soon.

Congress established the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program in 2006, authoring a total of \$38 million in funding for the life of the program. The announcement of \$2.8 million brings the current award total to more than \$21 million.

The grants will be used for projects that include a memorial to honor the 8,000 Japanese Americans who were imprisoned at the Tanforan Assembly Center, built on a former horse racing track in California; exhibitions about the Rohwer and Jerome camps in Arkansas; and the development of high school curriculum to teach students about the lesser-known Department of Justice Camps, such as Fort Lincoln in North Dakota and Fort Stanton in New Mexico.

Japanese American Confinement Sites grants may be awarded to projects associated with the 10 War Relocation Authority centers established in 1942 and the more than 40 additional confinement sites.

The program's mission is to teach future generations about the injustice of the WWII confinement of Japanese Americans and to inspire commitment to equal justice under the law. Successful proposals are chosen through a competitive process that requires applicants to match the grant award with \$1 in nonfederal funds or "in-kind" contributions for every \$2 they receive in federal money.

For further project details, visit www.nps.gov/JACS/. For more information on the incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII, visit www.nps.gov/subjects/worldwariinternment.htm.

2016 GRANT AWARDS

ARKANSAS

Recipient: Central Arkansas Library System (Little Rock, Ark.)

Project Title: "Exhibitions and Educational Outreach on the Confinement Camps at Rohwer and Jerome, Arkansas"

Grant Award: \$153,699

Site(s): Rohwer Relocation Center, Desha County, Ark.; Jerome Relocation Center, Chicot and Drew Counties, Ark.

Description: The Butler Center for Arkansas Studies will produce four major exhibitions to tell the story of Japanese Americans incarcerated at Rohwer and Jerome during WWII.

CALIFORNIA

Recipient: Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation (San Francisco, Calif.)

Project Title: "Developing Permanent Exhibits About Japanese Internment on Angel Island for Its Pacific Coast Immigration Center"

Grant Award: \$22,800

Site(s): Angel Island, North Garrison of Fort McDowell (INS and U.S. Army), Marin County, Calif.

Description: The AIISF will create an exhibit to share the experiences of Japanese American detainees held at Angel Island during WWII.

Recipient: Go For Broke National Education Center (Los Angeles, Calif.)

Project Title: "Communities of Compassion and Courage"

Grant Award: \$378,937

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: The GFB National Education Center will develop a traveling exhibit in partnership with 10 communities in seven states to share the unique stories of communities who demonstrated compassion and courage by helping Japanese Americans during WWII.

Recipient: Japanese American Citizens League, Pacific Southwest District (Los Angeles, Calif.)

Project Title: "Bridging Communities Fellowship Program"

Grant Award: \$41,340

Site(s): Manzanar Relocation Center, Inyo County, Calif.; and Tuna Canyon Detention Station (INS), Los Angeles County, Calif.

Description: JACL PSW District will engage college students from the Muslim American and Japanese American communities in the Bridging Communities Fellowship Program.

Recipient: Japanese American National Museum (Los Angeles, Calif.)

Project Title: "The Eaton Collection Project, Phase 1"

Grant Award: \$41,485

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: JANM will conserve, catalog and digitize 40 paintings and assess the condition of 102 objects that require treatment from the Allen Hendershott Eaton collection.

Recipient: Japanese American National Museum (Los Angeles, Calif.)

Project Title: "Meet the Yamashitas: An Interactive Website"

Grant Award: \$74,275

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: JANM will translate and digitize the Yamashita family's collection of letters, photographs, crafts and movies, which document the family's life during WWII.

Recipient: National Japanese American Historical Society (San Francisco, Calif.)

Project Title: "The Untold Stories: The Department of Justice Internment Teacher Education Project"

Grant Award: \$139,605

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: NJAHS will work with experts and organizations to develop secondary school curriculum focused on the history of the Department of Justice and U.S. Army internment sites.

Recipient: Midpeninsula Community Media Center (Palo Alto, Calif.)

Project Title: "50 Objects/50 Stories of the Japanese American Incarceration"

Grant Award: \$143,482

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: MCMC will identify 50 objects to tell 50 stories about the wartime experience of Japanese Americans.

Recipient: Tanforan Assembly Center Memorial Committee (Richmond, Calif.)

Project Title: "Tanforan Assembly Center Memorial"

Grant Award: \$363,839

Site(s): Tanforan WCCA Assembly Center, San Mateo County, Calif.

Description: The TACMC will design and install a memorial honoring nearly 8,000 Japanese Americans who were sent to the Tanforan Assembly Center in 1942.

Recipient: Valley Public Television, dba Valley PBS (Fresno, Calif.)

Project Title: "Silent Sacrifice: The Story of Japanese American Incarceration and Beyond in California's San Joaquin Valley"

Grant Award: \$373,716

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: VPT will create and air a documentary film chronicling life before, during and after the incarceration of Japanese Americans from the San Joaquin Valley.

IDAHO

Recipient: Friends of Minidoka (Twin Falls, Idaho)

Project Title: Minidoka Legacy Memorial Interpretive Exhibit Project

Grant Award: \$78,000

Site(s): Minidoka Relocation Center, Jerome County, Idaho

Description: FOM will design and fabricate an interpretive exhibit that honors the Issei, Nisei and Sansei who were incarcerated at Minidoka during World War II.

WASHINGTON

Recipient: Densho (Seattle, Wash.)

Project Title: "Names Registry and Thesaurus of the Japanese American Experience"

Grant Award: \$421,941

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: Densho will develop an online biographical database of the more than 120,000 individuals held at the various WWII incarceration sites.

Recipient: Densho (Seattle, Wash.)

Project Title: "Saving and Preserving Confinement Sites Materials From Personal Collections"

Grant Award: \$344,204

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: Densho will seek out, preserve and post to its online repository 40,000 digital images of historic photographs, letters, diaries and publications related to the WWII Japanese American confinement sites.

Recipient: Wing Luke Memorial Foundation dba Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience (Seattle, Wash.)

Project Title: "Inspiring Future Generations: Challenging the Forced Incarceration Through Acts of Resistance"

Grant Award: \$151,639

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: The Wing Luke Museum will create a graphic novel based on the experiences of five Japanese Americans who resisted forced incarceration or the military draft and were then sent to the Tule Lake Segregation Center or federal prison.

WYOMING

Recipient: Heart Mountain, Wyoming Foundation (Powell, Wyo.)

Project Title: "The History of the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee and Resister Movement Project"

Grant Award: \$116,038

Site(s): Heart Mountain Relocation Center, Park County, Wyo.

Description: The HMWF will preserve existing documents and facilitate the discovery of new materials related to the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee and Resister movement. ■

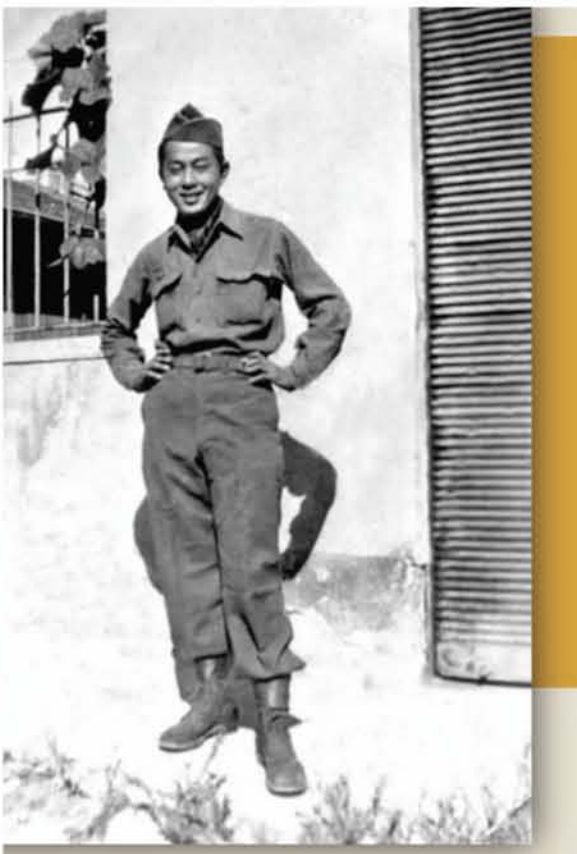
HONORING THE HISTORY OF WWII JAPANESE AMERICAN SOLDIERS

Pfc. Teruo 'Ted' Fujioka, killed in France during World War II, is among those remembered for their inspiring lives by the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, D.C.



ALL PHOTOS: COURTESY OF THE FUJIOKA FAMILY

Members of Ted Fujioka's family attended the Smithsonian Exhibition, including (front row, from left) Kerry Cababa, Grace Kunitomi, Dale Kunitomi, Colleen Miyano, Margaret Fujioka, Michael Fujioka, Robert Fujioka and (back row, from left) Shirley Nakaki, David Fujioka and Darrell Kunitomi.



Pfc. Teruo "Ted" Fujioka was just 19 when he was killed in action during World War II.

By Charles James,
Contributor

The late King of Belgium Baudouin I once observed that "youth is the first victim of war; the first fruit of peace. It takes 20 years or more of peace to make a man; it takes only 20 seconds of war to destroy him."

Pfc. Teruo "Ted" Fujioka's life was celebrated along with 11 other individual WWII Japanese American soldiers — one of whom is a woman — at the Smithsonian Museum of American History when it officially launched its Nisei Soldier Congressional Gold Medal Digital Exhibition on May 12.

The exhibit memorializes the life stories of 12 Nisei soldiers who served in the U.S. Armed Forces in World War II, among them soldiers of the all-Japanese American 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the most-decorated unit in American military history.

A joint project of the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center, the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History and the National Veterans Network, "The Nisei Soldier: Congressional Gold Medal" digital exhibition is an online educational exhibit. It features the stories of 2nd Lt. George A. Doi of the 100th Infantry Division; Pfc. Teruo "Ted" Fujioka, 442nd RCT; Technician 3rd Grade George Hara, Military Intelligence Service; Pvt. Stanley Hayami, 442nd RCT; Technician 3rd Grade Takejiro Higa, MIS; Capt. Daniel K. Inouye, 442nd RCT; 2nd Lt. Susumu "Sus" Ito, 442nd RCT; Staff Sgt. Kazuo Masuda, 442nd RCT; Pfc. Sadao Munemori, 100th Infantry Battalion; Cpl. Terry Toyome Nakanishi, MIS; Maj. Kan Tagami, MIS; and Capt. Sakae Takahashi, 100th Infantry Battalion.

Among the many family members of the soldiers gathered for the opening of the exhibit were 10 cousins, all nieces and nephews of Ted Fujioka — the sons and daughters of Fujioka's 11 siblings — who traveled to Washington, D.C., to honor their uncle's memory.

Death eventually takes everyone — youth being no exception. Yet, many young men and women become celebrated for how much living they packed into their short lives, serving as inspiration and an example of how to live in the hearts and minds of families through future generations. One such lucky young man that won his place forever in the hearts of his family was a young 19-year-old Private First Class, Teruo "Ted" Fujioka.

Cousins within the Fujioka family continue to honor and pass on the memory of his remarkable life to their own children. While none of them were even born during his short lifetime, all of them learned of his inspiring character and life through the loving memories of their parents, Fujioka's siblings. Even though they never knew him, he is known to them affectionately as "Uncle Ted," a man who has inspired others to seek out and serve their country.

Fujioka was 18 years old when he joined the U.S. Army after graduating from high school in 1943 while incarcerated along with his family at the Heart Mountain Relocation Center in Wyoming during World War II.

The family was incarcerated there as the result of the now-infamous Executive Order 9066 issued by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, which led to the forced relocation and incarceration of 120,000 people of Japanese descent into concentration camps; two-thirds of those sent to the American concentration camps were native-born American Citizens.

PHOTOS: COURTESY OF THE FUJIOKA FAMILY



Ted Fujioka (third from right) with other high school seniors at Heart Mountain



Ted Fujioka with his Issei parents, Shiro and Chiyo Fujioka

Pulled out of Hollywood High School and forced to relocate with his family to the Heart Mountain Relocation Center, Fujioka finished high school behind barbed wire. He has been described by family and friends as handsome, an exceptional athlete, a writer and a popular born leader. He was also student body president of his high school and a journalist and newspaper editor as well during his brief life.

Ted's father was Shiro Fujioka, a celebrated journalist and historian. Shiro worked at various Japanese-language newspapers in the U.S. before and after WWII. Because of his profession, community involvement and Japanese ancestry, Shiro was one of the very first people of Japanese heritage to be picked up, detained and questioned by the FBI after the Dec. 7, 1941, Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor.

After basic training at Camp Shelby in Mississippi, Pvt. Fujioka was assigned to the 1st Anti-tank Company of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, which was sent to France to fight the Germans. He was only a little more than 19 years of age when he was killed on Nov. 6, 1944, by a German artillery shell while on a special mission in the town of Bruyeres, France, during which three other soldiers were wounded.

Never mind that Ted Fujioka was only 19 years old; he was a man fighting for his country even as his own family was incarcerated in a concentration camp at Heart Mountain for no reason other than their ancestry. Why did he choose to become a soldier? His closest high school friend, Pfc. Albert Saijo, explained Ted's decision in the *Heart Mountain*



(From left) Robert Fujioka, Former U.S. Sec. Norman Mineta and Margaret Fujioka at the exhibit's opening



Sentinel on Nov. 25, 1945, in which it was announced that Ted had been killed while on a special mission. "Ted's whole life was a 'special mission' . . . to make others' life better, to make people happier," Saijo said. According to Saijo, "Ted was one soldier who knew what he was fighting for . . . he told me about his family and how close they all felt towards each other. He talked about his girl and his hopes and his belief in God." Saijo went on to say that "though his face was as the enemy's, Ted's heart and soul and brain were American."

Ted explained to his friend, Saijo, why he was joining the army:

"I'm joining the army so that my family will have security. So there will be no stigma against my children. So that I can prove things I believe in . . . democracy, equality, and tolerance and most of all, peace."

Reflect on his words for a moment. This was an 18-year-old saying these things to his best friend. Think of the maturity, intelligence, sensitivity and love — yes, the love for his country and for his family — that are shown in his comments. Small wonder that Ted Fujioka is held in such high regard some 72 years after his death by his family, including his nieces and nephews.

The Fujioka cousins who attended the exhibition had the following thoughts to share about their "Uncle Ted":

Margaret Fujioka, the current mayor of Piedmont, Calif., spoke of her father, Yoshiro "Babe" Fujioka (one of Ted's younger brothers), telling her about Ted's dream "to become a lawyer and run for public office someday." She said it is what inspired her to become a lawyer and serve in public office. Her older brother, Robert, offered that his father "always became emotional when talking about Ted, and I could feel Dad's deep love and loss for his brother . . ."

The other cousins weighed in as well.

"We pay homage to our Uncle Ted, the uncle we never met," says David Fujioka, the eldest son of Dick Fujioka, the elder brother of Ted. "He paid the ultimate sacrifice so that his family and the generations that would follow could enjoy

the 'freedoms' that he wholeheartedly believed in."

Dale Kunitomi, eldest son of Masa Kunitomi, elder sister of Ted, added that "the close relationship among the Fujioka siblings was often mentioned in Ted's letters. We cousins have rallied to celebrate his life and those of the aunts and uncles (our parents) and our grandparents. He would be so happy to know how close our family has remained in the 72 years since his passing."

"It's hard to imagine being 18," wrote Darrell Kunitomi, "being in a prison camp and then deciding to fight for the country who hated you and had placed you and your family behind barbed wire. In 1944 . . . our Uncle Ted believed in the goodness of the American promise . . . his Army service as an opportunity to show our government that his family belonged in this country, that America was 'our' country, too, and that he was willing to sacrifice his life to prove it."

"As compelling as Ted's story is," said Colleen Miyano, the second daughter of Masa Kunitomi, the elder sister of Ted, "there were many families who had their own 'Teds' — heroes, favorite sons with bright futures, who never returned home after WWII. What brings this story home for me is his relationship to my mother, his older sister, and his inspirational letters to his family, his gal and his high school teacher. I feel I am closer to him now that I've visited his grave in France and since the story of the Nisei soldiers is being remembered and honored."

Lastly, Don Kunitomi, the youngest son of Masa Kunitomi, wrote that "Ted's desire to do the greater good for the culture so the image of the Japanese Americans was changed by the actions of the 442nd."

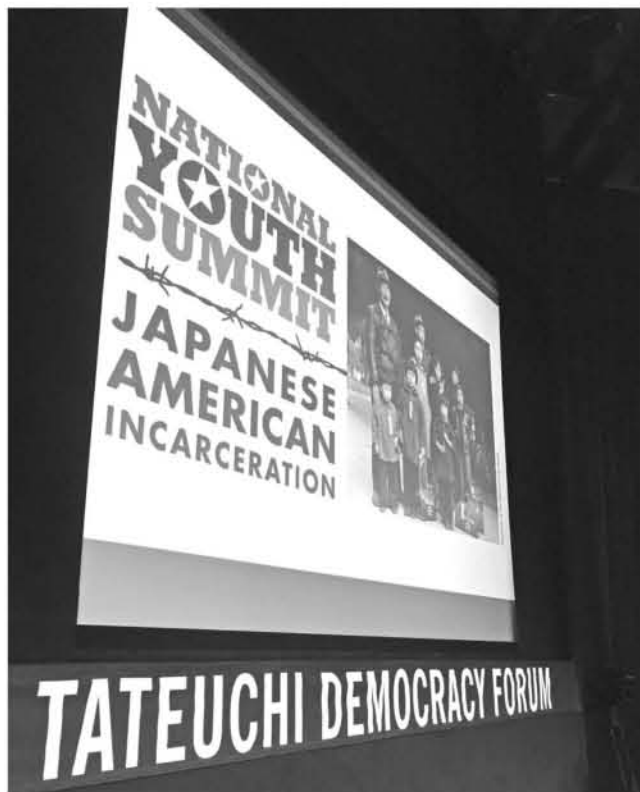
"Uncle Ted" and the stories of the other 11 Japanese American soldiers honored on May 12 in Washington, D.C., at the Nisei Soldier Congressional Gold Medal Digital Exhibition seem to give credence to an explanation given more than 80 years ago by English writer and journalist G. K. Chesterton as "to why a soldier fights":

"The true soldier fights not because he hates what is in front of him, but because he loves what is behind him."

A statement true for all the soldiers honored.

To explore the stories of the Nisei Soldier Congressional Gold Medal online exhibit, visit cgm.smithsonianapa.org.

JANM WELCOMES THE 2016 NATIONAL YOUTH SUMMIT



More than 3,000 students from 39 states and countries from Canada to France took part in the discussion.

This year's discussion centered on the Japanese American incarceration during World War II.

By Tiffany Ujiye,
Assistant Editor

The 2016 National Youth Summit was held at the Japanese American National Museum in downtown Los Angeles on May 17, where participants took part in discussions relating to the Japanese American incarceration during World War II.

Held in collaboration with the Smithsonian National Museum of American History, the National Endowment for the Humanities, PBS and museums across the United States, the program was a big success. More than 3,000 students from 39 states and countries from Canada to France tuned in to the live webcast, where they were given the opportunity to ask real-time questions during the program's Q & A session. A live performance from National Poetry Slam Champion George "G" Yamazawa Jr. concluded the program.

Speakers included David Ono, ABC7 anchor and producer of "Legacy of Heart Mountain"; Karen Korematsu, founder and director of the Fred T. Korematsu Institute; William "Bill" Shishima, teacher and JANM volunteer; Lorraine Bannai, director of the Fred T. Korematsu Center of Law and Equality at Seattle University of Law; Hussam Ayloush, executive director of the Los Angeles office of the Council on American-Islamic Relations; and Mariko Fujimoto Rooks, Kizuna Youth and Nishi Girl Scout member.

Students were given a short lesson about the Japanese American incarceration, and they discussed in-depth how the U.S. government forcibly removed more than 120,000 Japanese Americans from their homes during WWII. As many as two-thirds of those incarcerated were U.S. citizens and spent their lives in one of the 10 prison camps.

The webcast looked to deconstruct this dark period in American history and consider whether this injustice could happen again. Questions asked tackled fear and prejudice, examining the balance between the rights of citizens and the power of the state.

"As far as lessons to be learned, the first is the danger of prejudice and fear," Bannai said. Bannai was on the legal team that successfully challenged Fred Korematsu's conviction for violating military orders removing Japanese Americans from the West Coast during WWII.

"When prejudice and fear are combined, it can result in the targeting of small, vulnerable communities. We saw that during WWII. Japanese Americans were feared and treated as foreigners, spies, and people believed that they were going to commit espionage and sabotage although there was no evidence that they would," Bannai said. She went on to discuss how fear, ignorance and prejudice hurt minority communities. Unfortunately, Bannai said, "We see that now with the targeting of Muslim communities and Mexican immigrants because they're seen as foreign and to be feared."

Ayloush, who frequently lectures on Islam, media relations, civil rights, hate crimes and international affairs pertaining to American Muslims, addressed the effects of such fear and prejudice today.

"Islamophobia and the untimed bigotry is a reality that we all live in today, including Muslims who are the main victims," Ayloush said. He went on to discuss the media's involvement in spreading anti-Muslim rhetoric and its effect on the public at large.

Ayloush spoke on how lessons from the Japanese American experience should not go in vain and "the fact that we're here on that legacy will make sure and prevent that discrimination and targeting of fellow Americans and human beings."

The program also included a special message from actor-activist George Takei, which was filmed at JANM for the students.

"Our democracy is a people's democracy," Takei said. "And it can be as great as the people can be. It can be the shining ideals that were articulated by the founding fathers. All men are created equal and endowed with a right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. But we're also fallible human beings, and we can make disastrous mistakes. This is a mistake that must never happen again: to imprison people simply because their race. Race, prejudice, racial profile is something that we must always be conscious of and make sure it doesn't happen in our democracy."

To close the conversation, Yamazawa performed an original piece dedicated to his grandmother titled "Obachan."

REPUBLICAN REP. PAUL COOK JOINS VOICES OF SUPPORT FOR NISEI WWII STAMP

In a show of bipartisan support for a commemorative postage stamp proposal honoring the Japanese American World War II soldiers, Rep. Paul Cook (CA-08) sent his own letter of support to Postmaster General Megan J. Brennan on May 17. Col. Cook, a retired Marine, is a Republican who represents California's 8th District, which is the large swath in the southeastern part of the state that includes Inyo, Mono and San Bernardino counties.

"As a Representative from California, I have been able to personally visit the Manzanar incarceration site located in my district," Cook explained in his letter. "The site helps visitors relive an incredible time in American history and tells the story of this resilient and brave community of Japanese Americans. For those who haven't learned this history, a commemorative stamp could stimulate their curiosity and engagement."

Prior to Cook's letter, no other Republican had yet stepped forward to support the stamp this year. In past years, other Republicans have stepped forward, including Rep. Ed Royce (CA-39) and Ken Calvert (CA-42).

"As we look back at how these Japanese Americans were treated, for no reason other than their ethnicity, it is important that we find a way to honor their courage, loyalty and undying patriotism to the United States. This stamp will serve as a tribute to their sacrifice, as well as a necessary reminder that civil liberties belong to us all," Cook wrote in his letter.

The "Stamp Our Story Campaign" is leading the charge



The "Stamp Our Story Campaign" continues to gain support from Congress.

to advocate for this stamp subject. "We sincerely appreciate these members of Congress standing up for the veterans and this stamp. This is a cause that should unite both parties," said Wayne Osako, co-chair of the campaign. "If your congressman has not yet shown support, we encourage you to ask them to send their own letter like Col. Cook's."

On May 2, 34 members of Congress co-signed a letter of support from Rep. Mark Takai (HI-01) and Rep. Judy Chu (CA-27). The co-signers include Representatives Mike Honda, Doris Matsui, Mark Takano, Anna Eshoo, Barbara Lee, Chris Van Hollen, Jackie Speier, Ted Lieu, Raul

Grijalva, Tulsi Gabbard, Mark DeSaulnier, Zoe Lofgren, Nydia Velazquez, Eric Swalwell, Julia Brownley, Gregory Meeks, Denny Heck, Alan Lowenthal, Grace Napolitano, Sam Farr, Loretta Sanchez, Derek Kilmer, Jim McDermott, Scott Peters, Adam Smith, Dina Titus, Adam Schiff, Karen Bass and Susan Davis. Senators Mazie Hirono (HI), Brian Schatz (HI) and Ron Wyden (OR) joined the House members in signing on as well.

Rep. Charles Rangel (NY-13) sent his own correspondence to the postmaster general on May 17. "I am sending you this letter to add my name to the list of supporters of this stamp subject," Rangel explained. "We urge you to take decisive action to support this subject by 2017. Very few historical Asian American Pacific Islander stamp subjects have ever been issued. This inspirational stamp would be a big step in the right direction."

Next year marks 75 years since the start of the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II. The campaign's supporters hope that the U.S. Postal Service issues the stamp in 2017 to help commemorate this important year.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 in February 1942, leading to more than 120,000 Japanese Americans from West Coast states being forcibly removed from their homes and sent to incarceration centers. Two-thirds of those in the camps were American citizens.

Despite this injustice, more than 33,000 Nisei enlisted in the U.S. Army showing their American loyalty. Many volunteered directly from these camps, leaving family members still behind barbed wire. Over 800 Nisei servicemen died during the war.

For more information on the campaign and to read the letters from Congress in their entirety, visit the campaign's website at www.StampOurStory.org.



REIMAGINE EVERYTHING

'DISRUPT AGING' IS AARP CEO JO ANN JENKIN'S GUIDE TO LIVING A FULLER LIFE — AT ANY AGE

By Ron Mori

When AARP CEO Jo Ann Jenkins turned 50, she got a bunch of birthday cards with the usual over-the-hill jokes, and they bugged her for days afterwards.

She resolved to be defined by who she was, not how old she was. I totally feel that way, and I know a lot of us would agree. In her new book "Disrupt Aging," Jo Ann shows how we can all embrace opportunities and change the way society looks at getting older. She touches on all the important issues facing people as they age, from caregiving and mindful living to building age-friendly communities and making our money last. She chronicles her own journey and that of others who are making their mark as disruptors to show readers how we can be active, healthy and happy as we get older.

A national bestseller, "Disrupt Aging" is not a self-help book, nor is it a "pep talk." It's a reflection of our society and a guide to redefining what it means to get older. It provides an exploration of how aging is changing in today's world with insight and inspiration from influential disruptors making their mark today. It's about the new

reality of extended middle age that we can all take advantage of. I especially like the practical, hands-on information to improve health, wealth and self.

"Disrupt Aging" challenges outdated beliefs and sparks new solutions so more people can choose how they live and age.

"Disrupt Aging" is a guide to living your life fully at every age. Inspired by our new reality, it is an open invitation to choose how you live and age. It's a book for anyone who wants to continue exploring possibilities, celebrate discovery over decline and seek out opportunities to live the best life there is to live. I enjoyed the inspiring stories that made me think of my own life's real possibilities.

Jo Ann writes about all sorts of people who've disrupted aging and reimagined their lives, from Arianna Huffington, who started Huffington Post, one of the biggest media sites on the Internet, to Jenkins' sister Diane, who applied her passion after her kids were grown and has led efforts to improve a school in an impoverished area of Jamaica.

She tells the story of a man who retired early from an insurance company, got a

Master's degree and decided academia wasn't for him. He figured out a way to merge his love of animals with a vision to help people, and now he and his wife are certified as a rehabilitation team, working with a service dog in hospitals, nursing homes and other institutions. Jo Ann also writes about a woman who was about to be displaced from her trailer park by a Habitat for Humanity redevelopment. Instead of moving away, she became the self-appointed "mayor" of the complex and helped it meet the needs of residents, including ones who stayed from the trailer park.

There are obviously lots of different ways that you can disrupt aging!

Jo Ann offers a lot of ways for all of us to disrupt aging in our lives, starting with the simple acceptance that opened the door for her growth: "I refuse to allow outdated expectations of what people my age should do determine what I am going to do. Instead of apologizing for my age — or denying it — I decided to embrace it and make the most of it," she writes. "We must reject the common notion that aging equals failing and instead look at aging as a process of

continuous growth."

"Disrupt Aging" is a rallying cry for all of us. It's time to change the story about getting older. It's time to change the stuff around us. It's time to look at the bigger picture, too, and demand what we want — from our cars, our homes, our workplace, our communities and more.

One hundred percent of AARP's royalties from "Disrupt Aging" book sales support the charitable work of the AARP Foundation. Jo Ann will receive no payment or profit from book sales. You can learn about the book at www.disruptagingbook.org and read more inspiring stories at www.disruptaging.aarp.org. Join in and follow the conversation at #DisruptAging.

To enter a drawing for a complimentary autographed book, share your disrupt aging story by sending me an email at rmori@aarp.org.

Ron Mori is a board member for the Washington, D.C., JACL chapter, and manager of community, states and national affairs — multicultural leadership for AARP.

PRESIDENT OBAMA REFLECTS ON PROGRESS FOR AAPI COMMUNITY AT APAICS GALA DINNER

PHOTO: JOE SHYMANSKI

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President Obama spoke at the Asian Pacific America Institute for Congressional Studies' 22nd Annual Gala Awards Dinner on May 4. Introduced by Rep. Judy Chu (D-CA), the president highlighted his administration's efforts and successes on behalf of the Asian American and Pacific Islander Community.

"We can be proud of our individual heritage, and we can be fighting every single day for the democratic values and pluralism that allows us all to live together," Obama said.

The evening's program recognized individuals and organizations for their contributions to the empowerment and advancement of the Asian American and Pacific Islander community. Honorees included Congressman Xavier Becerra, who received the Lifetime Achievement Award, Aziz Ansari and Alan Yang, recipients of the Vision Award and Corporate Achievement Award winner Toyota.

Serving as master and mistress of cer-



President Barack Obama speaks at the 2016 APAICS 22nd Annual Awards Gala Dinner.

emonies were actor Parvesh Cheena and actress Sonal Shah.

The president previously gave the keynote address in 2012 at the APAICS 18th Annual Gala Awards Dinner, in which he focused on addressing disparities faced by the AAPI community.

APAICS is a national nonpartisan, non-profit organization dedicated to promoting Asian Pacific American participation and representation at all levels of the political process, from community service to elected office.



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A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

CALENDAR

NATIONAL

47th National JACL Convention
Las Vegas, NV
July 11-14
Monte Carlo Hotel
3770 Las Vegas Blvd.
Attend this year's convention at the Monte Carlo Hotel, featuring workshops, plenaries and advocacy opportunities. This year will also host the 2017-18 JACL elections.
Info: Visit www.jacl.org.

NCWNP

Tohoku Series: 'Stories From Tohoku'
San Jose, CA
June 4; 1-3 p.m.
Japanese American Museum of San Jose
535 N. Fifth St.
Price: Free with admission to the museum
Marie Mutsuki Mockett, author of "Where the Dead Pause and the Japanese Say Goodbye," will do a special meet and greet at the museum.
Info: Visit www.jamsj.org or call (408) 294-3138.

'Invisible Asians' Discussion With Kim Park Nelson
San Francisco, CA
June 4; 1-4 p.m.
San Francisco State University, Ethnic Studies and Psychology Building 116
1600 Holloway Ave.
Author Kim Park Nelson will discuss her latest book "Invisible Asians: Korean American Adoptees, Asian American Experiences, and Racial Exceptionalism."
Info: Visit www.aka-sf.org.

Japanese Cultural Fair
Santa Cruz, CA
June 4; 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Mission Plaza Park
103 Emmett St.
Price: Free
Enjoy a warm and beautiful day at the Mission Plaza Park for the Japanese Cultural Fair.
Info: Visit www.jcfsanta-cruz.org.

APAN 16th Annual 'CelebAsian' Rites of Passage Ceremony
Los Altos Hills, CA
June 24; 2-4 p.m.
Foothill College Dining Hall, Room 2201
12345 El Monte Road
Price: Free
APAN will host an event honoring all Foothill College students of Asian or Pacific Islander ancestry who are graduating, transferring or receiving certificates.
Info: Contact Lily Luu at luulily@fhda.edu.

San Jose Obon Festival
San Jose, CA
July 9
San Jose Japantown
Fourth and Jackson
Price: Free
Japantown celebrates the San Jose Obon festival this year, welcoming families and friends to come together.
Info: Visit www.jtown.org.

Japanese American Discussion Group
Oakland, CA
July 23; 6:30-7:30 p.m.
California Genealogical Society and Library
2201 Broadway, Suite LL2
Price: Nonmembers \$5
Join the California Genealogical Society as President Linda Harms Okazaki opens an informal discussion about Japanese emigrants.
Info: Call (510) 663-1358.

PSW

Emerging Voices of Asian American Mental Health: Panel Discussion
San Gabriel, CA
May 29; 1:30-4 p.m.
Asian Youth Center
100 W. Clary Ave.
Price: Free
Join the Taiwanese American

Citizens League, Asian Coalition and the Asian Youth Center for a panel discussion about how culture impacts mental health.
Info: RSVP at <http://emergingvoicesaamh.eventbrite.com>.

CAUSE 2016 Leadership Academy Kickoff
Los Angeles, CA
June 17; 2:30-4:30 p.m.
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
350 S. Bixel St.
Price: Free
Join elected officials, community leaders, local press and families as the Center for Asian Americans United for Self Empowerment (CAUSE) welcomes the 24th class of Leadership Academy Interns.
Info: Visit www.causeusa.org.

V3Con Digital Media Conference
Los Angeles, CA
June 24-25
Japanese American National Museum
100 N. Central Ave.
Price: Registration fees may vary
The Asian American Journalists Assn. will host its annual V3con geared toward promoting multiplatform Asian American and Pacific Islander journalists, creative social media communicators, seasoned bloggers and those interested in engaging on digital platforms.
Info: Visit www.v3con.com.

CCDC

The Topaz (Utah) Museum and Site
Independence, CA
June 11; 2 p.m.
Manzanar National Historic Site
5001 Hwy. 395
The special program is presented by Friends of Topaz board members Ann Tamaki Dion and author Kimi Kodani Hill. Hill is the author of 'Topaz Moon' and 'Obata's Yosemite'. She is also the granddaughter of artist Chiura Obata.
Info: Visit www.nps.gov/manz.

MDC

Japan Festival Chicago
Arlington Heights, IL
June 11-12
Forest View Education Center
2121 S. Goebbert Road
Hosted by the Chicago Japan American Council, this year's festival will showcase a variety of performances, exhibits, foods, music and special programming. A screening of "The Legacy of Heart Mountain" will also be shown.
Info: Visit www.japan-fest-chicago.org.

Listening Session on Asian American and Pacific Islander Aging — Chicago
Chicago, IL
June 15; 9 a.m.-Noon
Chinese American Service League Grand Hall
2141 S. Tan Court
The listening session hopes to develop connections between federal departments and the National Asian Pacific Center on Aging to help Asian American and Pacific Islanders age with dignity and well being.
Info: Contact Dave Hung at dave.hung@ed.gov.

Kansha Project Culmination
Skokie, IL
June 18; 1 p.m.
Skokie Banquet and Conference Center
5300 W. Touhy
Price: General tickets, \$30; youth and students, \$20
Save the date for a Kansha Project gathering in an event hosted by the JACL Chicago chapter. The Kansha Project is a program connecting Japanese American youth to the continuing legacy of the Japanese American community's incarceration during WWII.
Info: Visit www.jaclchicago.org.

JCCC Futabakai
50th Anniversary Walk and Run
Elk Grove Village, IL
June 19; 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Busse Woods Forest Preserve
Arlington Heights Road and Higgins Road
Please join the JCCC and the

Futabaki Japanese School by participating in the Walk and Run event.
Info: Visit www.jccc-chi.org.

2016 Heart Mountain Pilgrimage
Cody and Powell, WY
July 29-30
Heart Mountain Interpretive Center
1539 Rd. 19
Price: Registration fees may vary.
The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation will celebrate five years at this year's pilgrimage at Heart Mountain.
Info: Register at heartmountain.org/pilgrimage.html or call (307) 754-8000.

EDC

2016 CUNY Asian American Film Festival
New York, NY
May 27; 6 p.m.
City University of New York Graduate Center
365 Fifth Ave.
The City University of New York Asian American Film Festival will recognize and honor student filmmakers.
Info: Visit www.aaari.info.

Massachusetts Asian American Commission United Dinner
Boston, MA
June 3; 6 p.m.
Boston University, Metcalf Hall
775 Commonwealth Ave.
The dinner titled "Celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander Pioneers" will feature a program honoring community members.
Info: Visit www.aacommission.org.

'No-No Boy'
Washington, D.C.
June 18-19
The Burke Theatre
701 Pennsylvania Ave.
The play "No-No Boy" hits the stage again this year for a special limited engagement in Washington, D.C., as well as New York, N.Y. The play is based off of a novel by John Okada.
Info: Visit www.panasianrep.org.

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
(213) 620-1767

IN MEMORIAM

Abe, Victor Hiroshi, 95, Rolling Hills Estates, CA; April 7; he was a WWII MIS veteran; he is survived by his wife, Esther; daughters, Vicki and Verna; brother, Lewis (Deana) Abe; sister-in-law, Agnes Fukumoto.

Fujikawa, Osamu Sam, 90, Los Angeles, CA; April 14; he served in the 442nd Regiment during WWII and was incarcerated at Topaz; he is survived by his wife, Teri; daughters, Eva (Norman) Noda and Karen (Barry Koepke) Fujikawa; gc: 1.

Furumoto, Takao, 95, Los Angeles, CA; April 16; he was predeceased by his son, Russel; he is survived by his wife, Chiyoko Judy; son, Michael (Tina); siblings, Yukiko Tamanaka, Shizuko Machida and Setsuko Watanabe; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 2; ggc: 2.

Hashimoto, Manabu John, 93, Gardena, CA; April 18; he was predeceased by his daughter, Diane; he is survived by his wife, May; children, Harvey (Yuko), Lawrence (Stacy), Bernice (John) Diatalevi and Michael (Erica); cousin, Kazuko Takeda; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 5.

Higa, Lillian Yuriko (Arita); 82; May 3; Las Vegas, NV; she is survived by her husband, William; children, Robby (Carol), Jay (Gloria) Arita, Naomi (Darnell) Dean and Dale Arita; brother, Jack (Doris) Nakata; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 15; ggc: 5.

Higashiyama, Fumiye, 93, Stockton, CA; April 15; she was incarcerated at Gila River during WWII; she was predeceased by her husband, Kenso; sister, Yoshio; brother, Hisao; she is survived by her children, Arleen (Larry) Ota, Colleen (Norman) Choy, Kathleen (Derrick) Yamane and Kent (Pattie Blaine); gc: 5; ggc: 3.

Hoshiko, Katsumi Kenneth, 88, Torrance, CA; April 14; he is survived by his wife, Carole Yasue; children, Brian (Lori), Howard and Lisa (Lance)

Nakagawa; sisters, Amy Noriyuki, Mabel Shibata and Lillian Noriyuki; gc: 6.

Ikeda, Kazuo, 89, Arcadia, CA; May 3; he is survived by his wife, Mioko; children, Makoto (Belinda) Ikeda and Eliko (Charles Jacobsson) Ikeda; brother, Tatsuo (Sumiko) Ikeda; gc: 2.

Imai, Rumiko, 67, Torrance, CA; April 10; she is survived by her husband, Toshikaru; sister, Suzuko Iikawa.

Ito, Yonejiro, 89, Ventura, CA; April 14; he is survived by his wife, Tsuyako; children, George (Susan) Ito, Margaret (Jeff) Mason, Irene (Wayne) Koga, Thomas, Henry and Helen (John) Sun; brother, Tomio; sister, Tomiko Ando; sister-in-law, Suzuka Ito; gc: 13.

Kitagawa, Mary Fumiko, 88, Anaheim, CA; April 28; she is survived by her husband, Tom; daughters, Denyce (Tim) Evert and Lauryne (Larry) Silberman; gc: 2; ggc: 3.

Kobata, Sandra Lee, 65, Los Angeles, CA; April 6; she is survived by her husband, Mark Kobata; children, Randy and Krissy Kobata; sister, Karlene (Howard) Weg; sister-in-law, Patti (Michael) Nomura; she is also survived by many other relatives and friends; gc: 2.

Minata, George Akira 'Ike,' 93, Spokane, WA; April 13; he served in the 442nd Regiment during WWII; he is survived by his wife, Aiko; daughters, Laura (Bill) Kodama and Syndee (Chris) Snowden; sister, Grace (Kaz) Kayahara; gc: 1; ggc: 2.

Miyahata, Diane Yasuko, 84, Montebello, CA; April 12; she was incarcerated at Manzanar camp during WWII; she was predeceased by her husband, Masahiro; sister, Kiyomi Harada; she is survived by her siblings, Chiyeko Furushima and Masaru Segimoto; children, Leslie, Mitchell and Lisa (Jay Tamiya); gc: 3.

Nakanishi, Leanne Misao, 50, Los Angeles, CA; April 11; she is survived by her fiancé, Gary Lieberman; father, Alvin Nakanishi; sisters, Lisa (Chris) Aparicio and Laura (David)

Nakanishi; uncle, Calvin (Joanne) Leong; aunt, Susie Sasaki and Susan Yamamoto.

Nakano, Ayako, 70, Hollywood, CA; April 16; she is survived by her daughters, Naomi (Jonathan Brock Hammond) Nakano Rupp and Marie Nakano; siblings, Keiko (Norio) Ueda, Atsuko (Akira) Fujimoto, Yoshinobu (Hiroko) Ono and Masayuki (Sakiko) Ono; gc: 1.

Namba, Yaeko, 94, Ontario, OR; April 27; she was incarcerated at Pinedale, Tule Lake and Minidoka; she was predeceased by her husband, Harry; siblings, Nobuko Fujita; George Fujita, Frank Fujita and Jack Fujita; she is survived by her son, Ronald (Gloria); daughter, Rosanne (Mark) Perry; sisters, Sue Fujino, Toshiko Uchida, Tomeko Koga and Kimeko (Hesa) Yan; gc: 4.

Nishida, Atsuko, 8, Los Angeles, CA; she was predeceased by her husband, Shiro; she is survived by her children, Yuko (Paul) Chan, Hitomi (Glenn) Nishinaka, Norikazu (Tami) Nishida and Takashi (Kris) Nishida; gc: 13.

Nitta, Frances, 77, Culver City, CA; April 13; she was predeceased by her husband, Haruo Bobby; she is survived by her son, Kevin Nitta; gc: 1.

Nobuyuki, Arthur, 85, Whittier, CA; April 26; he was predeceased by his brother, Kevin Nobuyuki; he is survived by his loving wife, Tami; son, David (Theresa) Nobuyuki; siblings, Sekkou (Kazuko), Ken (Linda), Karen Kishida and Karl (Sandra); sister-in-law, Suzanne Nobuyuki; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 1.

Ogami, Yasuo, 77, Rancho

Palos Verdes, CA; April 10; he is survived by his wife, Yohko, sons, Tetsuya (Lisa) and Takeo (Kei) Ogami; gc: 5.

Onishi, Nobuyoshi, 97, Torrance, CA; April 28; he is survived by his wife, Lucina; brother, Haru.

Shibasaki, Shiyu Bob, 86, Los Angeles, CA; April 14; he was predeceased by his son, Bobby; brother, Eugh; sister, Toshiko; he is survived by his wife, Misao; daughter, Hiromi (James) Toberman; sister, Takako Kawaguchi; brother, Yo (Kaoru) Shibasaki.

Sugano, Leo Masanobu, 74, Downey, CA; May 4; he is survived by his wife, Michiko Sugano; children, Aya (John) Rubio, Daishin and Sen Sugano; sisters, Gayle Moriyama and May Egner; gc: 1.

Sugi, Tei, 98, Laguna Niguel, CA; April 9; she is survived by her son, Jim (Violet) Sugi; gc: 2; ggc: 4.

Sugiyama, Ray M., 78, Long Beach, CA; May 8; he is survived by his wife, Sharon Sugiyama; sons, Darren (Emilia) and Brandon Sugiyama; sisters-in-law, Waka Sugiyama, Marsha (John Wills) Shelbey and Kathlyn Ninomiya; gc: 1.

Takata, Yuriko, 89, Gardena, CA; April 29; she is survived by her husband, Haruto Takata; children, Haruo, Susan, Kenneth and Karen; gc: 1.

Tanaka, Kenneth Kenji, 75, Westminster, CA; April 28; he is survived by his wife, Patricia; siblings, Evelyn Toba, Jeanette (Clarence) Haseyama and Aileen (Don) Taguchi; brothers-in-law, Warren (Eileen) Taguchi and Wendell (Niwako) Taguchi.

Taniguchi, Robert, 57, Los Angeles, CA; April 30; he is survived by his daughters, Melissa and Amanda; sister, Judy.

Tanimoto, Kenji, 77, La Puente, CA; April 16; he is survived by his wife, Patricia; daughters, Traci (Gary) Higa and Stephanie (Andrew) Salcido; sister, Yuri; brothers, Tetsu and Akira; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 4.

Toguchi, Gladys Misao, 74, Monterey Park, CA; April 24; she is survived by her husband, Ted; children, Darren Toguchi and Tiffany (Josh) Park; step-daughters, Cindy (Peter) Hoffman and Christine Toguchi; sisters, Jeannette Ginoza and Helen (Owen) Iha; brothers, Thomas (Barbara) and Calvin Ige; she is also survived by many nieces, nephew and other relatives; gc: 3.

Tomita, Roy Hiroji, 85, Sun Valley, CA; March 27; he is survived by his sons, Randy and Donald; brothers, Toichi Nakanishi and George (Emi) Tomita; gc: 3.

Watanabe Kenji, Yorba Linda, CA; May 9; he is survive by his wife, June; daughter, Lori (Shuji) Yamada; gc: 2.

Yamaguchi, Aiko, 103; Los Angeles, CA; May 7; she was predeceased by her husband, Kinji; sister, Mineko Hashimoto; sister-in-law, Yae Nagai; nieces, Jane Kawahara, Bernice Nishikawa and Diana Kawamoto.

Yoshida, Miyoko, 73, Sun City, CA; April 16; she is survived by her husband, Tadashi; son, Alex Tadayuki Yoshida; daughter, Christine Yayoi Yoshida; sister, Betty.

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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Gerald Fukui
President

PEACE >> continued from page 3

pursuing harmony and prosperity for all, and yearning for genuine, lasting world peace.”

President Obama's visit to Hiroshima also won't include an "apology" for the bombing of Hiroshima, and a few days later, Nagasaki. He'll be there not to dwell on the past, but to condemn the future use of atomic weapons, a timely message for all of the world at a time when several rogue nations including North Korea are threatening to use one, and when a resurgently militaristic Russia talks of a new "Cold War." I grew up with the chill of the Cold War dividing the world, and President Obama is doing the right thing by speaking out against atomic warfare in the place that suffered its horror.

Americans should applaud the symbolism of friendship that the president's historic appearance in Hiroshima affords to the Japanese. He's acknowledging the past but looking to the future.

The stories of the past are preserved in Peace Memorial Park, and anyone who visits there will not forget the terrible destruction that nuclear weapons can cause. Let's hope the President's visit will inspire the lasting peace proposed in the cenotaph's inscription.

Gil Asakawa is a former P.C. Editorial Board Member and Board Chair.



The arched cenotaph, built in 1952, specifically shows the A-Bomb Dome of ground zero.

ARMS >> continued from page 3

How can you reconcile these convictions — that nuclear weapons represent the single greatest threat to human existence, that the world would be a better and safer place without them — with the continued insistence that the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki was the right course of action, given the alternatives?

You can argue that Obama was not the one who made the decision to use the atomic bomb, that it was the doing of his predecessor some 70 years ago and there is nothing he can do about it now, nothing except visit the city that was reduced to dust in an instant and whose inhabitants vanished in a flash of light and get up on a podium and speak vaguely of "forward-thinking visions."

But he can do much more than that. He can do more to further his aspirations for a nuclear-free world by revisiting and

re-evaluating our country's decision to use the bomb, instead of delivering euphemistic pats on the back that conceal sinister truths about his administration's nuclear policy.

It's time the U.S. owned up to its legacy as the only nation in human history to have used a nuclear weapon. Owning up does not necessarily equate to an apology, but it's important for us to face the facts.

The facts are that Hiroshima and Nagasaki were not the stunning military feats that saved untold millions of U.S. servicemen's lives that they are often made out to be. Hiroshima and Nagasaki were civilian centers, cities that were home to military headquarters, munitions factories and arms stockpiles, but also hundreds of thousands of ordinary people.

The world will be watching when Obama visits Hiroshima. Some want him to issue an apology; others find even the

possibility of him doing so offensive.

The debate over the decision to use the bomb is about contentious and as bitter as debates get, and rightly so — it was a moment that changed history forever, the moment that existential dread on a planetary scale entered human consciousness. And a moment of such consequence should be approached with candor and lucidity.

We should demand that our leaders be straight with us about their nuclear policy. We should identify rhetorical smokescreens when we see them and hold our president to his promise to do all he can to ensure that Hiroshima never happens again.

Matthew Ormseth is currently a student at Cornell University majoring in English. He seeks to give an honest portrayal of life as both a university student and member of the Millennial generation.



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