



New England Chapter News *Japanese American Citizens League*

April 2016

P.O. Box 592 • Lincoln, MA 01773

Visit our web site: www.nejacl.org

Sakura Matsuri: Brookline Cherry Blossom Festival

Saturday, April 30, from 12 to 4 pm

Brookline High School Quad, 115 Greenough Street, Brookline

This year's festival will feature taiko drums, Obon dancing, singing, Japanese food, community information tables, and more. Participating taiko groups include The Genki Spark, Odaiko New England, Takahashi Minyo Kai (Newburyport, MA), Mountain River Taiko (western MA), ShinDaiko (Concord, MA), and Burlington Taiko (VT). You are invited to bring blankets and lawn chairs. Suggested donation is \$10-\$20 for families, \$5 for students. All proceeds support the Brookline High School Japan Exchange Program Scholarship Fund and promotion of the arts. This event is a collaboration between The Genki Spark and the Brookline High School Japanese Program, in partnership with the New England JACL, Showa Boston, Japan Society of Boston, Brookline Asian American Family Network, Amos A. Lawrence School, The Boston Children's Museum, and Tewassa. For information:

<http://www.brooklinecherryblossom.com>

From AARW: Caring for our Parents & Grandparents

The Asian American Resource Workshop (AARW) is hosting a series of community gatherings to share experiences, challenges, and resources to better help our aging Asian American parent or grandparent. If you are caring for an elderly relative, you are invited to join these sessions with Janet Gee, Michael Liu, Shauna Lo, and members of the AARW leadership. If you are interested, please answer this survey:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1bIYB80iWd3ndtnjX9ZKGyeTPpIYzPrL7ZmlM2HLsKu8/viewform>.

The survey may be returned electronically or mailed to: Asian American Resource Workshop, 42 Seaverns Avenue, Boston, MA 02130. For questions, email workshop@aarw.org or call 617-942-8178. Please respond by April 18.

NBC Asian America spotlights AAPI communities

NBC Asian America is a new video channel from NBC that features documentaries centered on themes and voices found in the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. Its first series, *Self Starters*, premiered on March 29 with the story of Xi'an Famous Foods in New York City and how a family run, single food stall became a citywide phenomenon. A new episode will be released every Tuesday and can be viewed by going to:

<http://www.nbcnews.com/video/self-starters-xi-an-famous-foods-653873219836>

You can follow NBC Asian America on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Tumblr.

EVENTS IN NEW ENGLAND

Sunday
April 3
8 pm

Fukushima Youth Sinfonietta

Boston Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston

The Fukushima Youth Sinfonietta (FYS) was self-created by dedicated music students from four Fukushima high schools in the immediate aftermath of the earthquake/tsunami/nuclear disasters that devastated much of northeastern Japan on March 11, 2011. FYS has quickly developed into one of Japan's finest youth orchestras. This concert is part of a cultural exchange program supported by the governments of Japan and the United States, and by the Tomodachi Program's Fund for Exchanges of the US-Japan Council. Ticket are \$10, \$25, and \$40. For reservations: <https://www.bso.org/Performance/Detail/79564/>

Mondays
April 4 to
May 2
8 pm

WGBH World: *Pacific Heartbeat*, season 5

check with your cable provider for the channel number

An anthology series that provides a glimpse into the real Pacific, its people, cultures, languages, music, and contemporary issues. April 4, *A Place Called Home*; April 11, *Sons of Halawa*; April 18, *Waiting for John*; April 25, *Big Dream: Nanakuli at the Fringe*; and May 2, *Splinters*.

Monday
April 4
6:30 to
9:30 pm

Joslin Diabetes Annual *A Taste of Ginger*

**Museum of Fine Arts, Art of the Americas Wing
465 Huntington Avenue, Boston**

A fundraiser to benefit Joslin's Asian American Diabetes Initiative. Featured will be dozens of Boston's celebrity chefs sharing some of their specialties. Chefs include Joanne Chang, Wesley Chen, Ming Tsai, Jasper White, and many others. Tickets are \$250. For more information:

<https://secure2.convio.net/jodc/site/SPageNavigator/Ginger%20Pages/ATasteofGinger2016.html>

Tuesday
April 5
12:30 to
2 pm

Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies:

Fukushima Five Years Later: A View from the Ocean

**Bowie-Vernon Room K262, CGIS Knafel Building
1737 Cambridge Street, Cambridge**

Guest speaker is Ken Buesseler, Senior Scientist, Marine Chemistry and Geochemistry, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. His talk will be moderated by Susan J. Pharr, Professor of Japanese Politics and Director of the Weatherhead Center Program on US-Japan Relations at Harvard University.

More information: <http://rijs.fas.harvard.edu/programs/calendar.php>

Friday
April 8
9:30 am

Ikebana Demonstration by Master Instructor Kimiko Kato

Newbridge on the Charles, 500 Great Meadow Road, Dedham

Ms. Kato is from the Sogetsu Headquarters in Tokyo. The featured potter is Dennis Howard. Guests are welcome. Tickets are \$20. When attending, allow time for a shuttle from the parking area. For information:

<http://www.ikebanaboston.org/upcoming.php>

Friday
April 8
7 pm

Asian American Cultures Festival
UMass Lowell, Durgin Hall, 35 Wilder Street, Lowell

A program on *Looking Back to the Future* featuring the Angkor Dance Troupe, Flying Orb Productions, and UMass Lowell World Music Ensemble. Sponsored by the Nancy Donahue Endowed Professor in the Arts, UMass Lowell Department of Music, and the Center for Asian American Studies. Tickets are \$10 cash at the door, free to UMass Lowell students. More information:

<http://www.uml.edu/Research/CAAS/News-Events/default.aspx>

Saturday
April 9
starts at
8 am

ATASK 2nd Annual Community 5K Race
Chestnut Hill Reservoir, Boston

The Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence (ATASK) brings together individuals and nonprofit organizations serving the diverse Asian population for a run or walk through the Chestnut Hill Reservoir. Registration fees: individuals \$30, non-profit supporters \$20, students/children \$15. Registration **deadline is April 1**. For information and to register:

<https://runsignup.com/Race/MA/Boston/ATASKCommunity5K>

Saturday
April 9
6 to
7:30 pm

Tamagawa Taiko & Dance
Wellesley College, Alumnae Hall, 106 Central Street, Wellesley

Tamagawa Taiko is considered one of the top-ranking taiko groups in Japan and infuses drumming with traditional Japanese dance. Featured are nearly 30 drummers and dancers. Tickets are \$20 general admission, \$15 Japan Society members, and \$10 students. For more information and tickets:

<http://www.japansocietyboston.org/event-2156148>

Saturday
April 9
7 to 10pm

A Little Peace: a Night of Appetizers & Desserts
Viet-AID, 42 Charles Street, Dorchester

Join the Asian American Resource Workshop as it celebrates its past and present Executive Directors. Outgoing ED is Allistair Mallillin and incoming is Carolyn Chou. Suggested donation is \$30 for AARW members (sliding scale starting at \$20); \$40 for non-members (sliding scale starting at \$27); \$50 Fundraising Ticket. Order tickets online at: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/2523829>. Or send a check by April 6 to AARW, 42 Seaverns Avenue, Boston, MA 02130-2884.

Tuesday
April 12
12:30 to
2 pm

Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies:
Abenomics: Passes, Fails, and Incompletes
Bowie-Vernon Room K262, CGIS Knafel Building
1737 Cambridge Street, Cambridge

Guest speaker is Robert Alan Feldman, Managing Director, Chief Economist, Morgan Stanley MUFG Securities. Program moderated by Susan J. Pharr, Professor of Japanese Politics and Director, Weatherhead Center Program on US-Japan Relations at Harvard University. For information:

<http://rijs.fas.harvard.edu/programs/calendar.php>

Friday
April 15
5:30 pm

Boston International Film Festival: *The Cocktail Party*
Paramount Center, Bright Family Screening Room,
559 Washington Street, Boston

A film by Reggie Life based on the prizewinning novel of the same name by Tatsuhiro Oshiro about the daughter of a Japanese businessman in Okinawa who charges that an American serviceman assaulted her. The serviceman claims the encounter was entirely consensual. The resulting civil and military investigations bring to light the resentment that goes back many years on both sides. Tickets are \$12 general, \$7.50 seniors, \$5 students. For information and tickets:

<http://www.bostoniff.org/portfolio-view/cocktail-party/>

Saturday
April 16
2:30 to
4:30 pm

Ohara School of Ikebana classes
Boston Aikikai Aikido Dojo, 54a Hyde Park Avenue, Boston

Classes are open to first time, beginner and advanced students. Instructor is Russell Bowers. Registration fee is \$25. For more information:

<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/ikebana-class-japanese-flower-arrangement-at-boston-aikikai-in-forest-hills-jamaica-plain-registration-14400521347>

Saturday
April 16
6 to 8 pm

The Genki Spark Taiko Workshop for beginners
Brookline Ballet School, 1431 Beacon Street, Brookline

The Genki Spark offers a two-hour introductory workshop open to all ages (over 7), no experience necessary. Cost: \$30. Information:

<http://thegenkispark.org/public-workshops1.html>

Wednesday
April 27
11 am to
1 pm

Multi-Industry Job Fair
SEIU 32 BJ District Union Hall, 26 West Street, Boston

Some of Boston's largest employers will be represented at this job fair sponsored by the Asian American Civic Association. Participants are encouraged to dress professionally and bring resumes. For a list of participating companies and to register for the event, go to: <http://aaca-boston.org/jobfairsignup/>

Thursday
April 28
7 pm

Book Reading: *Mayumi and the Sea of Happiness*
Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard Street, Brookline

Jennifer Tseng will be reading from her novel about Mayumi, a 41-year-old disenchanted wife and dutiful mother, who is a librarian on an island off the coast of New England. On the same program, Chaitali Sen will read from *The Pathless Sky*, a novel about a nation's political turmoil, its secret history, and a growing social unrest. For information call 617-566-6660 or go to

<http://www.brooklinebooksmith.com/events/2016-04/chaitali-sen--jennifer-tseng-the-pathless-sky--mayumi-and-the-sea-of-happiness/>

Saturday
April 30
12 to 4 pm

Brookline Cherry Blossom Festival
Brookline High School Quad, 115 Greenough Street, Brookline

See lead story on page one of this newsletter or go to:

<http://www.brooklinecherryblossom.com>

Monday
May 2
7:30 pm

Film: *Mountains May Depart*
Studio Cinema, 376 Trapelo Road, Belmont

An intimate drama and decades-spanning epic that leaps from the recent past, to the present, to the near future. Directed by Jia Zhangke, the film is a study of how China's economic boom and the culture of materialism it has spawned affected the bonds of family, tradition, and love. Discussion follows film with Catherine Yeh, professor of Chinese & Comparative Literature at Boston University. Tickets are \$11.89 general and \$9.79 for students and seniors. For information and tickets: <http://www.belmontworldfilm.org>

EXHIBITIONS IN NEW ENGLAND

Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Avenue, Boston

through
April 3,

In the Steps of the Master: Pupils of Hokusai

Hokusai's pupils were inspired by their master to produce outstanding prints and paintings of beautiful women, historical warriors, landscapes, still lifes, and fabulous monsters. This exhibit examines the first wave of Hokusai's impact on the Japanese art world during his own lifetime and shortly thereafter. For information:

<http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/in-the-steps-of-the-master>

through
Aug. 14,
2016

Hiro Photographs

Hiro is known for his distinctively conceived and precisely realized images of subjects including fashion, portraiture and still life. Born Yasuhiro Wakabayashi in 1930 in Shanghai to Japanese parents, he grew up in China and spent the years following WWII in Japan before coming to the US in 1954. His work is known for its originality and technical innovation, with bold uses of light and color, and an elegant sense of surrealism. For information: <http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/hiro>

April 3 to
July 17

Megacities Asia

With the accelerated rise of megacities (those with populations of more than 10 million) the 11 artists in this exhibition respond to the political, environmental, and social conditions of their home cities of Beijing, Shanghai, Delhi, Mumbai, and Seoul. Accumulations of objects that each artist encounters in daily life – dishes, doors, plastic bags – become immersive sculptures. For information:

<http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/megacities-asia>

April 30
to Oct. 10

Year of the Monkey

To celebrate the Year of the Monkey, the MFA presents 56 works on the importance of monkeys in Japanese culture. Included are works by Tsukioka Yoshitoshi (1839-92), Art Deco postcards from 1932, and images related to the famous Three Monkeys – see no evil, hear no evil, and speak no evil. For information:

<http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/year-of-the-monkey>

Worcester Art Museum

55 Salisbury Street, Worcester

through
April 3

Nature Unfolded: Korean Art from the Collection

This installation features two recent acquisitions, an early 19th Century eight-panel *Grapevine Screen* by Choe Sokhwan and the 18th Century Joseon *Moon Jar*. For more information: <http://www.worcesterart.org/exhibitions/nature-unfolded-korean-art/>

Peabody Essex Museum

East India Square, 161 Essex Street, Salem

through
June 5

Asia in Amsterdam: The Culture of Luxury in the Golden Age

During the 17th Century, the Dutch East India Company, that era's largest and most powerful trade and shipping company in the world, filled Dutch homes with Asian porcelain, lacquer, textiles, diamonds and spices. Inspired by these imports, Dutch artists produced work that is now perceived as distinctly Dutch. This exhibit of Asian and Dutch works of art explores the transformative impact that Asian luxuries had on Dutch art and life, bringing new perspective on the Dutch Golden Age and its relationship to Asia. For more information:

<http://pem.org/exhibitions/187-asia-in-amsterdam-the-culture-of-luxury-in-the-golden-age>

INTERNSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS & OTHER OPPORTUNITIES

Films sought for Boston Asian American Film Festival 2016

The Boston Asian American Film Festival (BAAFF) has announced an open call for both long and short format films for the BAAFF 2016 on the theme: *Call to Action*. The short film competition, *Short Waves: Stories Shaping Our Community*, is looking for locally-made films (five minutes in length) about your Asian American life or community based on your personal experience. Deadline for submission is May 1 with a free public screening of entries on May 25. The winner receives automatic entry into BAAFF 2016. Longer format films have an early deadline of May 15. Regular deadline is June 1 and final deadline is July 1. Selected films will be shown at the 8th Annual Boston Asian American Film Festival on October 20 to 23. The 2016 BAAFF is a production of the Asian American Resource Workshop. For information: www.baaff.org/open-call.html.

Essay, Poetry, Video Contest for high school & college students

The Go for Broke National Education Center is offering \$8500 in prizes through its annual Essay, Poetry and Video Contest. Cash prizes will be awarded 16 students with \$1000 going to the top six winners. Entries to the competition should be on topics relating to experiences of the World War II Japanese American soldiers. **Deadline is June 30.** For more information on the competition:

http://www.goforbroke.org/about_us/about_us_student_essay.php

Leadership Program seeks young professionals

The 2016 Tomodachi-Mitsui & Co. Leadership Program is accepting applicants for this year's program. Ten American and ten Japanese young professionals (under 35 years of age) will be selected to travel Japan or the US to explore innovation, new technology and industrial development in the context of US-Japan relations. Participants will come from a mix of public and private sectors. The goal of the program is to create a professional network of rising business and government leaders in Japan and the United States and to motivate them to engage in and contribute to furthering US-Japan relations. The American delegation will travel to Fukushima Prefecture and Tokyo, while the Japanese delegation will travel to Detroit, Michigan and Washington, DC. Transportation, hotels and meals will be provided. **Application deadline is Friday, April 8.** For more information and to apply: <http://usjapantomodachi.org/2016/02/18525/>

WHAT'S HAPPENING ELSEWHERE

NEW YORK

Pan Asian Repertory Theatre:

June 22 to
25

NoNo Boy

Studio Theatre at Theatre Row, 410 W. 42nd Street, New York City

Adapted from the novel by John Okada, *No-No Boy* follows draft resister Ichiro Yamada as he returns to Seattle following his release from prison. He searches for resolution from family, friends and a community in transition following the resettlement of Japanese Americans on the West Coast after the war. For more information: http://www.panasianrep.org/no_no_boy.shtml

CALIFORNIA

Japanese American Museum San Jose

535 N. Fifth St., San Jose, CA phone: 408-294-3138

current

Visible and Invisible: A Hapa Japanese American History

This exhibit uses photos, historical artifacts, multimedia images and interactive media to explore the diverse and complex history of the mixed-race and mixed-roots of the Japanese American experience locally and beyond. For more information:

<http://www.jamsj.org/exhibit/visible-and-invisible-a-hapa-japanese-american-history>

current

The Barracks Room

An accurate recreation of a family's living quarters at the Tule Lake camp. Most of the furnishings and other items in the room are genuine artifacts from the camps, including the wood/coat burning stove, a window, door, handmade furniture and several decorative and utilitarian items. For more information:

<http://www.jamsj.org/exhibit/the-barracks-room>

**Saturday
April 2** ***Tadaima: A JA Gathering of LGBTQQ & Allies***
San Jose State University, 1 Washington Square, San Jose, CA
 Events hosted across the Northern California Bay Area for Japanese American lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQQ) individuals, families, and allies who want to learn more about the intersections of the Japanese LGBTQQ experience. Registration fee is \$30. Information and registration: <http://www.tadaimabayarea.org>

**through
Apr. 24** **Japanese American National Museum**
100 North Central Ave., Los Angeles, CA phone: 213-625-0414
Two Views: Photographs by Ansel Adams and Leonard Frank
 During WWII citizens of Japanese ancestry in both the US and Canada were incarcerated by their governments. Each photographer had his own approach to recording those events. For more information: <http://www.janm.org/exhibits/two-views/>

**through
June 26** ***Making Waves: Japanese American Photography 1920-1940***
 An in-depth look at the art photographs lost during the incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII. The museum presents 103 surviving photographs from the 20s and 30s alongside artifacts that help bring the era to life. For more information: <http://www.janm.org/exhibits/making-waves/>

**May 29 to
Aug. 21** ***Above the Fold: New Expressions in Origami***
 Nine contemporary artists, working in six different countries present a bold and innovative collection of three-dimensional, folded paper works that include Sculpture, large-scale installation, and conceptual pieces. For more information: <http://www.janm.org/exhibits/above-the-fold/>

**July 30 to
Jan. 8,
2017** ***Tatau: Marks of Polynesia***
 An exhibit of the 2,000-year-old origins and current practices of Samoan tattoo tradition in the land of its inception, with particular emphasis on the influential Sulu'ape family and their disciples. For more information: <http://www.janm.org/exhibits/upcoming/>

**April 2 to
October 2** **Mingei International Museum**
Balboa Park, Plaza de Panama, 1439 El Prado, San Diego, CA
Mingei from Japan: Treasures New and Old
 From the museum's collection of Japanese arts of daily life. Included will be important textiles, paintings, baskets, soba cups, tea kettles, cabinets, Ainu coats, kimonos, and pottery. For more information: <http://www.mingei.org>