



## *New England Chapter News* *Japanese American Citizens League*

December 2012

P.O. Box 592 • Lincoln, MA 01773  
Visit our web site: [www.nejacl.org](http://www.nejacl.org)

### **Applications available for Collegiate Leadership Conference**

Applicants are being sought for the 2013 JACL Collegiate Leadership Conference that will be held in Washington DC March 15 to 18, 2013. The program is open to Asian Pacific American freshmen, sophomores or juniors attending an accredited college or university on a full-time basis. The Conference is an intensive 3-day leadership development program that introduces students to the national policy-making arena. Participants will be briefed on legislative issues affecting the Asian Pacific American community they will examine the role Asian Pacific American civil rights organizations play in affecting public policy in the nation's capital. Deadline for application is January 25, 2013. For eligibility information and application forms go to:

<http://library.constantcontact.com/download/get/file/1102241208552-354/2013+Conference+Info+-+District.pdf>

(Editor's Note: if you have difficulty opening this page, copy the address above and insert it into your search engine.)

### ***Asian Voices from Beantown on sale***

Short stories and poetry from the Asian American Resource Workshop (AARW) Writers' Group are now available in book format from AARW. Featured writers include Alison Chan, Amanda Chiang, Gay Eng, Pong Louie, Yvonne Ng, Cynthia Yee, and Karen Young. It is available through AARW for \$10 plus \$2.50 shipping. It can also be purchased through Amazon.com for \$14.95 or \$9.95 for the Kindle edition (photos not included). An order form is being sent as an attachment to this newsletter.

### **JANM's Remembrance Project fundraiser to collect JA stories**

The Japanese American National Museum has introduced a new fundraising initiative that will feature online portraits and stories of those whose lives were changed by the signing of Executive Order 9066. Their goal is to build a permanent "living museum" online with these stories. Individuals wishing to create a story can do so by making a donation to the museum and providing a written tribute that can be up to 4,000 characters long. For more information on the Remembrance Project go to:

<http://www.remembrance-project.org/faq.html>.

The basic donor level for a single tribute story is \$90.66. At the Family Circle level, with a donation of \$906.60, you can submit up to 12 tribute stories. For more information on the various levels of donation go to: <http://www.remembrance-project.org/sponsors/donor-levels.html>.

## LOCAL EVENTS

### ***Chinglish***

through December 23

**Lyric Stage Company of Boston, 140 Clarendon Street, Boston (2nd floor)**

Named one of Time Magazine's best plays of 2011, *Chinglish* follows an American businessman in a bustling Chinese province looking to cash-in on the area's growth potential. A hilarious comedy of mistranslation and manners by award winning playwright David Henry Hwang. For more information on tickets and performances, call 617-585-5678 or go to: [https://lyricstage.com/main\\_stage/chinglish/](https://lyricstage.com/main_stage/chinglish/).

Hwang will be in Boston appearing at a benefit performance of the play for the Asian Taskforce Against Domestic Violence (ATASK) on Friday, December 7, from 8 to 11 pm. He will also be interviewed onstage at the Wheelock Family Theatre on Saturday, December 8 from 1 to 2 pm. Tickets or reservations are necessary to attend either event. For details go to: <https://www.atask.org/site/component/content/article/296.html>.

### **Women in NAAAP: *Igniting Your Confidence for Success!***

**Saturday, December 8 from 9:30 to 3 pm**

**Boston Common Hotel, 40 Trinity Place, Boston**

This day-long program sponsored by the National Association of Asian American Professionals (NAAAP) is aimed at Asian women professionals, women of color, and men interested in learning about challenges women face in the workplace. Included are speakers, panel discussions, and practical workshops that will help build self-confidence in the workplace by applying emotional intelligence and by bridging cultural differences. Registration is \$75 for NAAAP members and \$105 for non-members. For more information and to register, go to:

<http://www.naaapboston.org/Events/Calendar/tabid/2304/vw/3/itemid/3033/d/201208/Default.aspx>.

### **Book Talk: Amy Kwei**

***A Concubine for the Family: A Family Saga in China***

**Tuesday, December 11 from 6:30 to 8 pm**

**Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center, 38 Ash Street, Boston**

Amy Kwei's book covers a tumultuous era in Chinese history from 1937 to 1941. It explores the circumstances surrounding the true-life event of Kwei's grandmother's gift of a concubine for her grandfather on his birthday. RSVP by Monday, December 10 at [www.bcnc.net](http://www.bcnc.net). For more information contact: [tina.chien@bcnc.net](mailto:tina.chien@bcnc.net) or call 617-635-5129, x1054.

### **AARW Annual Meeting & Dumpling Making Party**

**Saturday, December 15, from 11 am to 1 pm**

**Metropolitan Community Room, 38 Oak Street, Boston**

The Asian American Resource Workshop (AARW) will celebrate a year of accomplishment and share information about the coming year over a dumpling making and eating event. A new slate of AARW Board of Directors will be elected at this meeting. This event is free, but RSVPs are requested. To reserve a spot, go to: [info@aarw.org](mailto:info@aarw.org) or call 617-942-8178

### **Odaiko New England's Winter Showcase**

**Saturday, December 15, at 5:30 pm**

**29 Montvale Avenue, Woburn, MA**

Featuring performances by Odaiko members and students. Concert will be followed by a reception. Suggested donation is \$10 to \$20. For more information go to: [www.onetaiko.org](http://www.onetaiko.org).

### **Christmas Charity Concert**

**Saturday, December 15 at 2:30 pm**

**First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church , 630 Mass Avenue, Arlington**

A concert sponsored by Boston-based organization Tewassa as a fundraiser for Japan disaster relief. The program will include selections from the Nutcracker Suite, a Christmas medley, and a Christmas sing-along. Performers include Nick Drane, Yoko Igarashi, Atsuko Kida, Michiyo Percey, Momoko Matsumura, Toshimitsu Motoyama, Lilika Tokushige, and Akiko Tsukamoto. Tickets will be sold at the door on the day of the event. Cash only. Tickets are \$12, children under 12 are free. For information contact: [info@tewassa.org](mailto:info@tewassa.org).

### **Odaiko New England at First Night**

**Monday, December 31, at 1:30 pm**

**Mary Baker Eddy Library, 200 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston**

Odaiko joins in Boston's First Night activities. Admission is a First Night Button (\$15). For more information go to: [www.onetaiko.org](http://www.onetaiko.org) or [www.firstnight2013.org](http://www.firstnight2013.org).

### **Oshogatsu Celebration**

**Sunday, January 13, 2013. From**

**Boston Children's Museum, 308 Congress, Boston**

An annual New Year's celebration sponsored by the Boston Children's Museum and the Japan Society.

Cost: \$35 for Japan Society members; \$50 for non-members.

## **EXHIBITS IN NEW ENGLAND**

### ***The Allure of Japan***

**through December 31, 2012**

**Museum of Fine Arts Boston, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston**

This exhibit celebrates a period around 1900 when America had a fascination for all things Japanese. Included will be a rich display of rarely exhibited American prints, posters, watercolors and decorative arts complemented by a selection the MFA's renowned Japanese collections. For more information go to:

<http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/allure-japan>.

***Cats to Crickets: Pets in Japan's Floating World***  
through February 18, 2013

**Museum of Fine Arts Boston, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston**

Urban commoners in 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Century Japan enjoyed a hedonistic lifestyle that included the pleasure of the companionship of pet animals. Formerly a prerogative of the nobility, pets were now available to newly affluent commoners as well. Cats and small dogs were especially favored, but monkeys, mice, fish, birds and even singing insects were also cherished. This exhibit is not just for animal lovers, but will also appeal to those interested in early modern Japanese popular culture and fine printmaking. For more information go to: <http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/cats-crickets>.

***Reinventing Tokyo:***

***Japan's Largest City in the Artistic Imagination***  
through December 30

**Mead Art Museum, Amherst College, 41 Quadrangle Drive, Amherst, MA**

This is the first exhibition ever held in the US to consider portrayals of Tokyo in light of the city's continual reinvention since it's founding more than 400 years ago. The museum is open Tuesday to Sunday from 9 am to 5 pm and on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Sunday until midnight. For more information go to:

<https://www.amherst.edu/museums/mead/programs/2012/tokyo>.

***Grand Tales of the Loom: Four Master Weavers***  
through January 20, 2013

**Fuller Craft Museum, 455 Oak Street, Brockton**

Fuyuko Matsubara is among the four weavers featured in this exhibit. She joins Cyndy Barbone, Deborah Frazee Carlson and Bhakti Kiek in exhibiting narrative, symbolic or ethereal woven images. For more information call 508-588-6000 or go to:

<http://fullercraft.org/event/grand-tales-of-the-loom-four-master-weavers/>.

***Spotlight on Maki Haku (1924-2000)***  
through January 2013

**Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury Street, Worcester**

Japanese artist Maki Haku is famous for his deeply embossed prints of abstract and playfully arranged Chinese characters. For more information go to:

<http://www.worcesterart.org/Exhibitions/maki-huki/>.

***Lethal Beauty: Samurai Weapons and Armor*****February 2, 2013 to May 5, 2013****Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash Street, Manchester, NH**

This exhibit will feature approximately 60 works by more than 30 master craftsmen from the 1200's to the 1900's. Included will be full suits of armor, helmets, warrior hats, face masks, long and short swords, daggers and rifles and more. For more information go to: [www.currier.org](http://www.currier.org).

**WHAT'S HAPPENING ELSEWHERE*****Silver Winds: The Arts of Sakai Hoitsu (1761-1828)*****Through January 6, 2013****Japan Society, 333 East 47<sup>th</sup> Street, New York City**

The first American retrospective of Sakai Hoitsu, master of the bravura gesture, a samurai aristocrat turned Buddhist monk who dedicated his life to art and poetry. The exhibition includes 58 screens, scrolls, painted fans, lacquer ware and woodblock-printed books from public and private collections. For more information call 212-832-1155 or go to: <http://www.japansociety.org/>.

***Designing Nature: The Rinpa Aesthetic in Japan*****through January 13, 2013****Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York City**

The exhibition features more than 100 works of art created in Japan by the Rinpa-school artists with more than 50 works from the Museums own holdings and 45 loans from public and private collections. It includes many masters' renowned works in a variety of media – painting, textiles, lacquer ware and ceramics.

For more information call 212-525-7710 or go to:

<http://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2012/rinpa-aesthetic>.

***Giant Robot Biennale 3*****through January 20, 2013****Japanese American National Museum****369 East 1<sup>st</sup> St., Los Angeles, CA phone: 213-625-0414**

Presenting the creative talents of Japanese and Japanese Americans whose innovative work is having an impact on American culture. Curated by *Giant Robot* co-founder Eric Nakamura, GRB3 presents the work of eight emerging artists along with a customized vinyl figure collection. For more information on all these exhibits, go to: [www.janm.org/](http://www.janm.org/).

**Ongoing Exhibits****Japanese American Museum of San Jose****535 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, San Jose, CA phone: 408-294-3138**

Ongoing exhibits include: **Agricultural Exhibit - Yesterday's Farmer: Planting an American Dream; Pioneers of San Jose Japantown; World War II: Assembly**

**Centers and Internment Camps; 100<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team; World War II: Military Intelligence Service; Post World War II: Resettlement; and Asahi/Zebras Baseball.** Museum hours: Thursday through Sunday, 12 to 4 pm. For more information go to: [www.jamsj.org/](http://www.jamsj.org/).

**Secrets Revealed: The Presidio Project**  
**current until 2013 when major exhibit opens**  
**Visitors Center, Presidio of San Francisco, 105 Montgomery Street**  
**San Francisco, CA**

The exhibit reveals untold stories of Nisei internees, including military enlistees. Their stories are brought to life through an interactive kiosk that presents a special sneak preview of the more extensive exhibits and programs coming to the new Military Intelligence Service (MIS) Historic Learning Center scheduled to open in 2013. This is the site of the US Army's first MIS Language School at the Presidio of San Francisco. Visitors Center hours: Thursday-Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm. For more information go to: <http://www.njahs.org/programs/viewdetails.php?id=317>.