



New England Chapter News *Japanese American Citizens League*

January 2014

P.O. Box 592 • Lincoln, MA 01773
Visit our web site: www.nejacl.org

Filmmaker set for 2014 Day of Remembrance Program

New England JACL will be joining Tufts University to sponsor this year's Day of Remembrance program. Featured will be filmmaker Tad Nakamura, the director of the film *Pilgrimage*. The program is tentatively set for Monday, February 24 at 6 pm on the Tufts University campus in Medford. Final date and time will be in the February newsletter. Nakamura is the Community Projects Coordinator at UCLA's Center for EthnoCommunications. In 2006 he directed *Pilgrimage*, a film about the first pilgrimage to Manzanar and the impact it had on internees and their children and how communities came together to mobilize for change. Nakamura's latest film was *Jake Shimabukuro: Life on Four Strings*, a documentary about the ukulele virtuoso that was shown on PBS last year.

MIT program explores suicide in Japan

Thursday, January 23, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm
MIT, Tang Center, Building E51, Room 345
70 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, MA

The film *Saving 10,000: Winning the War on Suicide in Japan* will be featured in a program at MIT on January 23. The film tells the story of an Irishman's personal passion to uncover the true causes of the high suicide rate in Japan. The disturbing findings include the Japanese media's perverse love affair with suicide, a variety of cruel and predatory economic pressures, and an outdated and failing mental health care system. The program will be followed by a panel discussion featuring Dr. Daisuke Fujisawa, a psychiatrist from Keio University School of Medicine and a visiting researcher at Massachusetts General Hospital, and members of the MIT Department of Mental Health and Counseling Services. This event is free and open to the public and is sponsored by the MIT-Japan Program with co-sponsors New England JACL and Japan Society Boston.

Deadline nears for 2014 Research Fellowship at UMass

There is still time to apply for the 2014 Research Fellowship Program at the Institute for Asian American Studies at UMass Boston. Application deadline is January 13, 2014. The program provides support for scholarly projects focusing on Asian Americans. Faculty, graduate students and other scholars are eligible to apply. Awards will be up to \$4,000, depending on merit and project needs. For detailed information about applying, go to: www.iaas.umb.edu/research/fellows/index.shtml.

2014 JACL Scholarship applications available

Applications are still being accepted for the 2014 JACL National Scholarship and Awards Program. More than 30 scholarships are available to incoming college freshmen, undergraduates, graduates, and students specializing in law and the creative/performing arts. Deadline for freshmen applications is March 1, 2014. All other applications are due April 1, 2014. For more information and application forms, go to: <http://www.jacl.org/edu/scholar.htm>. You can also contact Patty Wada by phone at (415) 345-1075 or email her at pwada@jacl.org.

Princeton Prize in Race Relations for high school students

High School students are being sought to apply for the 2014 Princeton Prize in Race Relations. The program was created to recognize and support young people who are working to improve race relations in their school or community. Deadline for application is January 31, 2014. Students doing particularly noteworthy work will be eligible for cash awards up to \$1,000. For more information call 800-742-1036; email PPrize@princeton.edu; or go to: <http://www.princeton.edu/pprize/>.

EVENTS IN NEW ENGLAND

Odaiko New England in January

Tuesday, Jan. 7 **Introductory Taiko Workshop, from 7 to 9:30 pm**
At ACAS (American Chinese Art Society), 29 Montvale Avenue, Woburn, MA.

Thursday, Jan. 9 **Public performance at the Dover Town Library, at 3 pm.**
A Japanese New Year celebration that will include tea, snacks, crafts and more. Dover Library, 55 Dedham Street, Dover.

Jan. 14 **Spring taiko classes begin at 6:45 pm.**

For information about these programs and more about Odaiko New England, go to www.onetaiko.org.

Public Taiko Workshops with Genki Spark

Saturday, Jan. 11, from 6 to 8 pm
Brookline Ballet School, 1431 Beacon Street, Brookline

A fun, engaging beginners' workshop designed for all ages and focused on learning some of the basics of taiko drumming. Additional dates on Saturdays, February 22, March 15, and April 12. Cost: \$30. For more information and to register, go to: www.thegenkispark.org. If you have any questions, contact Karen at Karen@thegenkispark.org or call 617-308-4900.

**Boston's Chinatown Main Street
Chinese New Year Annual Fundraising Gala**

Saturday, January 11, from 6 to 10 pm

Hei La Moon Restaurant, 88 Beach Street, Boston Chinatown

An evening of Chinese food, performances and activities. Featured will be a Lion Dance, martial arts, Chinese folk dancing, calligraphy, dough arts, and a silent auction and raffle. Cost: \$50, table for 10 is \$500. For ticket information call 617-350-6303. For program information go to: www.chinatownmainstreet.org.

NAAAP Boston Toastmasters Club

Wednesday, January 15, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm

**Tufts Medical Center, Wolff Auditorium, Atrium Basement Level
800 Washington St., Boston**

The Boston chapter of the National Association of Asian American Professionals is launching a Toastmasters Club for individuals wishing to improve their speaking skills in a friendly, social and relaxed atmosphere. This program is open to NAAAP members and non-members. To reserve your spot go to:

<http://www.naaapboston.org/Events/UpcomingEvents.aspx>.

For more information about NAAAP Boston, go to: <http://www.naaapboston.org>.

Annual Japanese New Year Celebration

Sunday, January 19, from 11 am to 4 pm

Boston Children's Museum, 300 Congress Street, Boston

Activities include taiko drumming, Shishimai lion dancing, mochi pounding, tako kite making, and much more. For more information go to:

<http://www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org/calendar/2014-01-19>.

Japan Business Forum: *Japan Update*

Wednesday, January 29, from 3 to 6 pm

The Charles Hotel, One Bennett Street, Cambridge

An up-to-date perspective on issues relevant to contemporary Japan will be presented by Hideya Takaishi, President and CEO of BTMU Capital Corp.; James Schoff, Carnegie Asia Program; and Ezra Vogel, Harvard University. Sponsored by the Japan Society. Cost: \$25 for members; \$35 for non-members. For more information and to register, go to:

<http://japansocietyboston.org/Events?eventId=814359&EventViewMode=EventDetails>.

The Way of the Carpenter: Tools and Japanese Architecture

Friday, February 7, from 4 to 5:30 pm

**Tsai Auditorium S010, Japan Friends of Harvard Concourse
CGIS South Bldg, 1730 Cambridge Street, Cambridge**

Featuring William Coaldrake, Project Professor in Japanese Cultural Resources, at the University of Tokyo. This Reischauer Institute Japan Forum presentation is co-sponsored by the Harvard Graduate School of Design. The program is free and open to the public. For more information: <http://rijs.fas.harvard.edu/programs/calendar.php>.

Film: *Like Father, Like Son***Starts Friday, February 14, for one week only****Kendall Square Cinema, One Kendall Square (at Binney Street), Cambridge**

Winner of the Jury Prize at the 2013 Cannes Film Festival, this is a new film by Hirokazu Kore-Eda. Two couples with 6-year-old sons learn their sons were switched at birth.

The families struggle with what to do for their sons. One family is headed by a handsome and successful architect father who spends little time with his wife and son.

In contrast, the other family's father is a slovenly shopkeeper whose motto is "Put off until tomorrow everything you can," but he spends more time with his family. The

theater will list show times about two weeks prior to the first showing. Go to:

http://www.landmarktheatres.com/Market/Boston/Boston_Frameset.htm.

Quincy Lunar New Year Festival**Sunday, February 16, from 10:30 am to 4:30 pm****North Quincy high School, 316 Hancock Street, Quincy**

Sponsored by Quincy Asian Resources. For more information:

<http://quincyasianresources.org/lunar-new-year-festival/>.

CPA's Year of the Horse Spring Festival Banquet**Friday, February 28,****China Pearl Restaurant, 9 Tyler Street, Boston Chinatown**

Save the date, details to come. For information go to:

<http://www.cpaboston.org/calendar.html>.

BCNC Chinese New Year Banquet**Friday, March 7, Wine & Dim Sum at 5:30 pm, Banquet at 7 pm****Empire Garden Restaurant, 690 Washington Street, Boston**

The Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (BCNC) celebrates the Year of the Horse with a traditional banquet and live and silent auctions. Tickets are \$125 per person, \$1250 for a table of 10. For tickets and more information go to: www.bcnc.net/ and click where indicated under the "Year of the Horse" headline and icon.

EXHIBITIONS/EVENTS IN NEW ENGLAND

Five Works by Three Generations of Yoshida Family Artists through January 31, 2014

Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury Street, Worcester

This small exhibition includes woodblock prints by members of the famous Yoshida family, ranging from a work by Hiroshi (1876-1950), to prints by his two sons Toshi (1911-1995) and Hodaka (1926-1995) and one of his grandsons Tsukasa (b.1949). The artists relied on traditional Japanese woodblock print making techniques and subject matter while also exploring individual artistic tastes and identities. For more information: <http://www.worcesterart.org/Exhibitions/five-works-three-generations-yoshida-family-artists/>.

Exhibits/Events at the Peabody Essex Museum

161 Essex Street, East India Square, Salem

through Jan. 26 ***Future Beauty: Avant-Garde Japanese Fashion.*** Japanese designers such as Issey Miyake, Rei Kawakubo and Yohji Yamamoto reshaped fashion in the early 1980s. The narrow silhouettes of Western couture gave way to flowing, sculpted forms and redefined the relationship between art, design and fashion. Co-organized by the Kyoto Costume Institute and the Barbican Art Gallery, London.

through Feb. 2 ***Toshio Shibata: Constructed Landscapes.*** Shibata is one of Japan's preeminent landscape photographers, known for exploring the delicate balance between human-made structures and nature.

Feb.1 **Lunar New Year Celebration**

10 am to 4 pm Featured activities include lion dances by the Cubs Lion Dance and Gund Kwok Asian Women's Lion Dance Troupes; the film *Freckled Rice* set in Boston's Chinatown; and many others.

For more information on exhibits and events, go to: www.pem.org.

Exhibits at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

465 Huntington Avenue, Boston

through Sep. 8 ***Fired Earth, Woven Bamboo – Contemporary Japanese Ceramics and Bamboo Art.*** A Celebration of Japanese decorative arts. More than 60 dramatic ceramics and baskets are complemented by contemporary Japanese quilts and fabric screens and an example of sophisticated paper sculpture.

through Aug. 17 ***The Creative Process in Modern Japanese Printmaking.*** In the 20th Century, printmaking in Japan became not just a way of producing popular images, but a fine art form. No longer constrained by the requirements of commercial publishing, artists were able to exploit the color woodblock process as far as their imaginations could take them.

For more information go to: <http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions>.

WHAT'S HAPPENING ELSEWHERE

2014 Season at the Pan Asian Repertory Theatre

540 8th Avenue, Suite 314, New York, NY 10018 phone: 212-868-4030

April 5 to 27 ***Fishing for Wives.*** The New York premiere of this comedy by Edward Sakamoto and directed by Ron Nakahara. Set in 1913 Hawaii, a Japanese fisherman sends for a picture bride using the picture of his handsome friend.

May 14 to 18 ***No No Boy.*** A drama by Ken Narasaki, adapted from the John Okada novel set in the aftermath of WWII. The play follows draft resister Ichiro Yamada after his release from prison as he struggles to come to terms with his choices. Directed by Ron Nakahara.

All performances are at theatres located at Theatre Row, 410 West 42nd Street, New York. For more information go to: www.panasianrep.org. Email: info@panasianrep.org.

Exhibits/Events at Japanese American Museum San Jose

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

Feb. 22., 5-8pm ***Ai Love Japan – Tohoku Update.*** An update in photos and video by Darrell Miho who has been to Tohoku 12 times since March 2011. Also featured will be a live Skype video call with people from the area. The audience will have an opportunity to interact directly with residents of the Tohoku area.

through Jan. 15 ***Jack's Show: His Life and Sketches.*** The exhibition featuring the work of Japanese American cartoonist Jack Matsuoka has been extended.

For more information on all exhibitions and programs go to: www.jamsj.org.

Exhibits at the Japanese American National Museum

100 North Central Ave., Los Angeles, CA phone: 213-625-0414

through Feb. 9 ***Martels & Monsters: Unmasking Asian Images in U.S. Comics, 1942-1986.*** Comic books illustrate how evolving racial and cultural archetypes defined America's perceptions of Asians.

through Mar. 2 ***Go For Broke: Japanese American Soldiers Fighting on Two Fronts.*** A photographic story of the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Mar.8 to Sep.14 ***Perseverance: Japanese Tattoo Tradition in a Modern World.*** An exploration of the artistry of traditional Japanese tattoos and its rich history and influence on modern tattoo practices. A photographic exhibition by Kip Fulbeck and Takahiro Kitamura.

Mar.29 to Sep.14 ***Dodgers: Brotherhood of the Game.*** The LA Dodgers' rich history in civil rights, community building, and globalization is explored through the stories of Hideo Nomo, Chan Ho Park, Jackie Robinson and others.

For more information go to: www.janm.org.