



# **New England Chapter News**

## **Japanese American Citizens League**

**JUNE 2025**

[www.nejacl.org](http://www.nejacl.org)

### **FESTIVALS, PROGRAMS, EVENTS**

#### **Book Talk:**

#### ***Empire of AI: Dreams and Nightmares of Sam Altman's OpenAI***

**Wednesday, June 4 at 6:30 pm**      **Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge**

Join **Karen Hao**, award-winning journalist and contributing writer for *The Atlantic*, for a discussion of her new book with **Amy Nordrum**, executive editor at *MIT Technology Review*. When AI expert and investigative journalist Karen Hao first began covering OpenAI in 2019, she thought they were the good guys. Founded as a nonprofit with safety enshrined as its core mission, the organization was meant, its leader Sam Altman told us, to act as a check against more purely mercantile, and potentially dangerous, forces. What could go wrong? Sponsored by **Harvard Book Store, Harvard University Division of Science, Harvard Library** and **Cambridge Public Library**. **RSVP** to this free event or choose the "Book-Included" ticket to reserve a copy of *Empire of AI* and pick it up at the event. Karen Hao will sign copies after the presentation. **INFO & RSVP:** <https://www.harvard.com/event/karen-hao>

#### **Panel Discussion: *Women in Sports***

**Wednesday, June 4 at 7 pm**    **Porter Square Books: Boston Edition, 50 Liberty Dr., Boston**

Authors **Letisha Brown, Maggie Mertens, Katie Steele** and **Christine Yu** discuss women in sports with moderator **Frankie de la Cretaz**. Their books will be available for purchase: ***Say Her Name: Centering Black Feminism and Black Women in Sports*** by Letisha Brown; ***Better Faster Farther*** by Maggie Mertens; ***The Price She Pays*** by Katie Steele; and ***Up to Speed: The Groundbreaking Science of Women Athletes*** by Christine Yu. **INFO & RSVP:** <https://www.portersquarebooks.com/event/women-sports-panel-ft-authors-letisha-brown%C2%A0maggie-mertens%C2%A0katie-steele-and%C2%A0christine-yu>

#### **15th Annual Dance for the World Community Festival**

**Saturday, June 7 from 12 to 6 pm**

**Indoors: Sanctuary Theatre, 400 Harvard St., Cambridge**

**Outdoors: Massachusetts Ave. between Putnam Ave. & Bow St., Cambridge**

Celebrate the rich diversity of Greater Boston's dance communities and their contributions to the area's cultural and economic vitality. The event demonstrates the power of dance, in all its forms, to bring together people of diverse backgrounds and cultures. Performances and classes from over 60 local dance companies take place at outdoor and indoor stages. Social justice organizations, local businesses, artist and food vendors are also present. • **1:30 pm (indoors): The Asian American Ballet Project** presents a sneak preview of *Receding and Reemerging* (See their listing on June 21-22 of this newsletter). <https://www.danceforworldcommunity.org/festival>

## 46th Annual Boston Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival

Sunday, June 8 from 12 to 5 pm

Near the John Weeks Footbridge on the Charles River, between JFK St. & Western Ave.

Features dragon boat races, performances, arts & crafts, and food trucks.

INFO: <https://www.bostondragonboat.org/>

## Book Talk: *Flashlight*

Tuesday, June 10 at 6 pm

Cambridge Public Library, 449 Broadway, Cambridge

Join **Susan Choi**, author of the award-winning novel *Trust Exercise*, for a discussion with author **Gish Jen**. Choi's new novel traces a father's disappearance across time, nations and memory. One night, Louisa and her father take a walk on the beach. He's carrying a flashlight. He cannot swim. Later Louisa is found washed up by the tide, barely alive. Her father is gone. She is ten years old. Sponsored by the **Harvard Book Store** and **Cambridge Public Library**. **RSVP** to this free event or choose the "Book-Included" ticket to reserve a copy of *Flashlight* and pick it up at the event. Susan Choi will sign copies of her book after the presentation. **INFO & RSVP:** <https://www.harvard.com/event/susan-choi>

## Virtual Book Talk: A Conversation with Michael Luo and Lisa See *The Promise and Peril of Being Chinese in America, 1871 to 2025*

Tuesday, June 10 from 8 to 9 pm

Join the **1871 Memorial Project**, author **Lisa See** and New Yorker Executive Editor **Michael Luo** for a discussion of his new book, *Strangers in the Land: Exclusion, Belonging, and the Epic Story of the Chinese in America*. This is an extremely important book published at an important moment. They will talk about Chinese American history and where we are today. **Register at:** <https://bit.ly/3HfMl67>

## Book Talks at Brookline Booksmith

279 Harvard St., Brookline

### • Wednesday, June 11 at 7 pm – *The Phoenix Pencil Company*

Author **Alison King** talks about her debut novel with author **Ken Liu**. A hidden and nearly forgotten magic—of reforging pencils, bringing the memories they contain back to life—holds the power to transform a young woman's relationship with her grandmother, and to mend long-lost connections across time and space. **INFO & RSVP:** <https://brooklinebooksmith.com/event/2025-06-11/allison-king-ken-liu-phoenix-pencil-company>

### • Wednesday, June 25 at 7 pm – *Gaysians*

From **Mike Curtato**, author and illustrator of children's books and the young adult graphic novel *Flamer*, comes a heartwarming story following four gay Asians navigating love, identity and friendship—a celebration of queer chosen family. He discusses his debut adult graphic novel with **Melinda Lo**. **INFO & RSVP:** <https://brooklinebooksmith.com/event/2025-06-25/mike-curato-melinda-lo-gaysians>

## 15th Asian American Mental Health Forum

*Creative Connections: Strengthening Community and Mental Well-Being through the Power of Arts & Culture*

Saturday, June 14 from 9 am to 3 pm

Northeastern University, Curry Student Center, 360 Huntington Ave., Boston

Explore the power of arts and culture, connect with others, share your experiences, and enjoy various workshops and performances. Keynote Speaker: **DJ Ida**, Executive Director Emeritus, NAAPIMHA. Co-Hosted by **Asian Women for Health, NAAPIMHA** (National Asian American Pacific Islander Mental Health Association), **Northeastern Asian American Center**. **Free Admission**. **INFO & Registration:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/15th-asian-american-mental-health-forum-creative-connections-tickets-1333970284029>

**Podcast: *Book Friends Forever Podcast Live!*****Saturday, June 14 at 1 pm****Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art, 125 West Bay Rd., Amherst**

Childhood friends **Grace Lin** and **Alvina Ling** grew up to be Book Friends Forever! Grace became a children's book author and illustrator and Alvina became a children's book editor. Not only do they create books together, they also have a podcast. Come to a live recording of one of the episodes.

**INFO:** <https://carlemuseum.org/visit/events/books-friends-forever-podcast-live>

**Book Friends Forever Podcasts:** Go behind the scenes of kid lit with award-winning author/illustrator Grace Lin, and one of NYC's top editors, Alvina Ling, and catch a glimpse of the lives of the best-selling author and editor, and the relationship between them. **INFO:** <https://bookfriendsforever.com/>

**Book Talk and Screening:*****The Village Beyond the Mist and Spirited Away*****Tuesday, June 24 at 6 pm****Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline**

**Brookline Booksmith** celebrates *The Village Beyond the Mist*, the novel that inspired *Spirited Away*, with author **Sachiko Kashiwaba**, translator **Avery Fischer Udagawa**, and WBUR's **Kalyani Saxena**.

The talk will be followed by a screening of *Spirited Away*. **About the Book:** A mountain town that's not on any map, a messy bookstore with infinite doors, and a spoiled prince under a forgetful wizard's curse . . . this summer might hold more than Lina bargained for! When a gust of wind carries off her umbrella, it leads Lina down a secret path between the trees to a strange and incredible world. In the hidden village of Misty Valley, centaurs roam the cobblestone streets and gnomes visit shops stuffed with spellbooks and enchanted desserts. All magic has a dark side, though, and sometimes even sorcerers need a human's helping hand. Now, 50 years after its debut in Japan, Sachiko Kashiwaba's acclaimed novel is available in English and certain to delight readers of all ages. **About the Film:** Winner of the 2003 Academy Award for Best Animated Feature, Hayao Miyazaki's *Spirited Away* transports you to a strange world of spirits, sorceresses and dragons, as one 10-year-old girl must use her cunning and determination to return to the real world. **Ticket options:** General Admission or General Admission and a copy of *The Village Beyond the Mist*. **INFO & Tickets:** <https://brooklinebooksmith.com/event/2025-06-24/spirited-away-author-sachiko-kashiwaba>

**Book Talks:**

- ***The Book of Records* by Madeleine Thien**

- ***The Sisters* by Jonas Hassen Khemiri**

**Tuesday, June 24 at 7 pm****Harvard Book Store, 1256 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge**

**Madeleine Thien**, author of four books, including the acclaimed *Do Not Say We Have Nothing*, and **Jonas Hassen Khemiri**, National Book Award finalist and author of six novels celebrate the release of their new novels with **Lewis Hyde**, MacArthur Fellow and former director of undergraduate creative writing at Harvard University. **About *The Book of Records*:** Lina and her father arrive at an enclave called The Sea, a staging post between migrations, with only a few possessions. In this mysterious and shape-shifting place, a building made of time, pasts and futures collide. **About *The Sisters*:** Meet the Mikkola sisters: Ina, Evelyn, and Anastasia. Their mother is a Tunisian carpet seller, their father a mysterious Swede who left them when they were young.

**INFO:** <https://www.harvard.com/event/thien-khemiri>

**Book Talk: *The Book of Records*****Wednesday, June 25 at 7 pm****Wellesley Books, 82 Central St., Wellesley**

**Madeleine Thien** discusses her new novel with **Jonas Hassen Khemiri**. Tickets: \$5. Buy tickets online (fees apply) or by calling 781-431-1160 during store hours (no fees). **INFO:**

<https://www.wellesleybooks.com/event/madeleine-thien>

**Lecture: *Japanese Lacquerware Culture and the Appeal of Urushi*****Saturday, June 28 at 2 pm****Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston**

Join **Murose Kazumi**, a master of *urushi* lacquerware and designated a Living National Treasure of Japan, as he delves into the relationship between the Japanese people and *urushi* lacquer dating back to the early Jōmon period. Drawing from his own expertise, Kazumi emphasizes the unique qualities of Japanese lacquerware and its enduring cultural significance as one of the world's most exceptional artistic traditions. *Presented In Japanese with English interpretation.* **INFO & Tickets:**

<https://www.mfa.org/event/the-rad-smith-program-in-japanese-art/japanese-lacquerware-culture-and-the-appeal-of-urushi?event=142211>

**Japanese Tea Ceremony****Sunday, June 29 at 2 pm****Art Complex Museum, 189 Alden St., Duxbury****Additional Dates: Sunday, July 27 and Sunday, September 28 at 2 pm**

The Japanese Tea Ceremony has long been a part of the history of the Art Complex Museum. The museum co-founders believed that the tradition of the tea ceremony is one of the best ways to understand Japanese culture. The tea hut, *Shofuan* (Wind in Pines), was built in 1971, in Kyoto, Japan and erected on museum grounds in 1975. They have hosted the ceremony in *Shofuan* since the mid-70's. **INFO:** <https://artcomplex.org/programs/japanese-tea-ceremony/>

**Book Talk: *Together in Manzanar: The True Story of a Japanese Jewish Family in an American Concentration Camp***

**Tracy Slater** discusses her new book about a mixed-race family in a World War II U.S. incarceration camp. **About this book:** <https://www.newtonvillebooks.com/book/9780913705704>

- **In Person Talk** Tuesday, July 7 at 7 pm **Newtonville Books, 10 Langley Rd., Newton**  
**Event INFO:** <https://www.newtonvillebooks.com/event/tracy-slater-together-manzanar>
- **Virtual Talk with Densho** Tuesday, July 15 at 3 pm (ET); 12 Noon (PT)  
Sign-up will be available soon at: <https://densho.org/events/>.

**CONCERTS, FILMS, PERFORMANCES****Play: *Learning How to Read by Moonlight*****Presented by CHUANG Stage and Company One Theatre**

- **Thursday, May 29 to Sunday, June 1** **Pao Arts Center, 99 Albany St., Boston**
- **Thursday, June 5 to Sunday, June 8** **The Umbrella Arts Center, 40 Stow St., Concord**

While his mother struggles to earn money in New York City and his father waits alone in Manila for their daily phone calls, 6-year-old Eddie learns English from his imaginary friend. Between the War on Drugs in the Philippines and the anti-immigrant movement in the United States threatening their humanity, will this undocumented family be able to pursue their dreams and address unspoken truths?

The **CHUANG Stage and Company One Theatre** present a musical and multilingual journey of childlike wonder, **Gaven D. Trinidad's** play is equal parts playful, poignant, and hella Pinoy. To spotlight Boston's own community leaders and activism, a new narrator (a fellow artist, community organizer, or elected official) joins the storytelling every night. The play is spoken in English and Tagalog with subtitles. **INFO:** <https://companyone.org/learning-how-to-read-by-moonlight/>

**Film Series at the Pao Arts Center****99 Albany St., Boston Chinatown**

- **Friday, June 13 – 6 to 8 pm – *Didi*** <https://www.paoartscenter.org/events/2025/didi>
- **Friday, June 20 – 6 to 8 pm – *The Fall of I-Hotel***  
<https://www.paoartscenter.org/events/2025/fall-of-i-hotel>

**Comedian: Henry Cho**

Thursday, June 19 at 7:30 pm

The Wilbur, 246 Tremont St., Boston

INFO & Tickets: <https://thewilbur.com/artist/henry-cho/>**Ballet: *Receding and Reemerging*****Presented by Asian American Ballet Project**

Saturday, June 21 at 7 pm &amp; Sunday, June 22 at 3 pm

Arrow Street Arts, 2 Arrow St., Cambridge

Asian American Ballet Project's (AABP) third annual performance weaves together six original ballets that honor ancient folktales, confront painful histories, and unravel the complexities of Asian American identity. With original choreography, live music and bold new interpretations, AABP offers a powerful artistic response to this moment. Featuring contributions by 18 Asian American artists, ***Receding and Reemerging*** invites audiences to imagine a future where Asian American experiences are not only seen, but celebrated. INFO: <https://www.arrowstarts.org/aabp-1>

**Studio Ghibli Fest 2025**

Celebrating its 40th anniversary in 2025, Studio Ghibli with legendary filmmakers like **Isao Takahata**, **Hiromasa Yonebayashi** and **Hayao Miyazaki** has carried the torch for traditional hand-drawn animation, crafting masterpieces that have inspired audiences and artists for generations. Join **GKIDS** and **Fathom Events** to experience the wonder of these beloved animated films. To find a movie theater near you, click on "Get Tickets" and enter your zip code.

June 22-24 *The Secret World of Arrietty* (15th Anniversary)July 19-23 *My Neighbor Totoro* | Aug 10-12 *Grave of the Fireflies* | Aug 23-27 *Ponyo*INFO & Additional Films: <https://www.fathomentertainment.com/series/studio-ghibli-fest/>**Films: *Japan's Pop Renegade: Nobuhiko Obayashi***

Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge

- Friday, June 27 at 7 pm • Saturday, June 28 at 12 pm – *Hausu*
- Saturday, June 28 at 2:15 pm – *The Girl Who Leapt Through Time*
- Saturday, June 28 at 4:30 pm – *School in the Crosshairs*
- Saturday, June 28 at 6:30 pm – *The Girl Who Leapt Through Time*
- Sunday, June 29 at 12 pm – *School in the Crosshairs*
- Sunday, June 29 at 2 pm – *The Girl Who Leapt Through Time*
- Sunday, June 29 at 4:15 pm – *The Island Closest to Heaven*
- Sunday, June 29 at 6:30 pm – *His Motorbike, Her Island*
- Monday, June 30 at 4:15 pm – *The Island Closest to Heaven*
- Monday, June 30 at 6:30 pm – *His Motorbike, Her Island*

INFO: <https://brattlefilm.org/film-series/nobuhiko-obayashi/>**ANNOUNCEMENTS****Call for Photos for JANM's 2026 Exhibit**

The Japanese American National Museum (JANM) is in the process of creating their new core exhibit, ***In the Future We Call Now: Realities of Racism, Dreams of Democracy***, which will open when the museum reopens in late 2026. In the exhibit, they will feature photos of Japanese American community life from 2005 to today and they would love help sourcing these images. If you have **high resolution photos** of things like community events, family reunions, art and performances, gatherings, community actions and protests, etc. and you are willing to share them, please fill out this form:

<https://forms.gle/sf8gXLYpMRoFjVp19>.Please email **Erin Aoyama**, [eaoyama@janm.org](mailto:eaoyama@janm.org) with any questions.



## Japanese American National Museum Podcast:

### *Japanese America* – Season 2/Episode 4:

#### ***From Dachau to Salvation – A Story of Unexpected Heroes***

Hosts **Koji Sakai** and **Michelle Malizaki** explore the incredible journey of Holocaust survivor **Solly Ganor** and his unexpected salvation by Japanese American soldiers during World War II. Through Solly's harrowing experiences on a death march from the Dachau death camp, listeners are introduced to the **522nd Field Artillery Battalion**—soldiers who defied prejudice and became beacons of hope for many. Joined by guest **Naoyuki Ikeda**, the episode delves into the inner conflicts faced by these Japanese American soldiers, who were fighting abroad while their families faced internment back home. Featuring real stories of courage and kindness, including the actions of **Sergeant Imamura** and **Chiune Sugihara**, this episode highlights the complexities of wartime morality and the profound impact of individual acts of bravery. <https://japaneseamerica.buzzsprout.com/>

## Documentary: *Ten Times Better*

*Ten Times Better*, which captivated audiences at film festivals and events across the country, tells the story of **George Lee**, a teenaged refugee from China who leapt his way into dance history in ballet and on Broadway. After a long and illustrious career, Lee retired in Las Vegas. He was 88 years old when director **Jennifer Lin** discovered him working as a blackjack dealer. By then, few were aware of his previous exploits. *Ten Times Better* helped to restore Lee's place in dance history. He passed away in April 2025 at the age of 90. **PBS American Masters** is streaming *Ten Times Better* for free: <https://www.pbs.org/wnet/americanmasters/ten-times-better/35948>.

## 2025 Boston Asian American Film Festival – Open Call for Films

**BAAFF** is seeking narratives, dramas, comedies, shorts, documentaries, animations, music videos and experimental films for their 17th annual film festival in October at ArtsEmerson.

Late Deadline: **June 15**. Submit at: <https://filmfreeway.com/baaff>

## Virtual Programs: GBH Celebrates AANHPI Heritage Month

- **A Conversation with Connie Chung**, a trailblazer in American media, shared her personal story with GBH President & CEO **Susan Goldberg** in front of a live in-studio audience in March. View this program at: <https://www.wgbh.org/events/a-conversation-with-connie-chung>

- **GBH Amplifies** presented two **AANHPI Community Conversations** held in May at the GBH Studio in the Boston Public Library.

The first program featured Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center's CEO **Ben Hires** leading a discussion on **AANHPI Economic Growth in Boston** with **Yvonne Hao**, former MA Secretary of the Executive Office of Economic Development, **Q.J. Shi**, Senior Director, Asian Business Empowerment Council, and **Amy Kridaratikorn**, chef/co-owner, Sugar & Spice Restaurant. It can be viewed at: <https://www.wgbh.org/forum-network/lectures/bcnccs-ben-hires-leads-a-discussion-on-aanhpi-economic-growth-in-boston>

The second program is with **Mai Du**, Founder, Wah Lum Kung Fu & Tai Chi Academy in Malden & Quincy, who leads a discussion on the **Importance of Sharing Culture through Arts Programs** with **Connie Chin**, CEO of Global Arts Live, and **Myra O. Liwanag**, Executive Director, Iskwelahang Pilipino. View this program at: <https://www.wgbh.org/events/gbh-amplifies-presents-aanhpi-community-conversations>

## Harvard Book Store - AAPI Heritage Month: LGBTQ Books

May celebrates the wide array of identities within the Asian American & Pacific Islander communities in America, and this year they're highlighting a selection of titles written by LGBTQ authors. <https://www.harvard.com/recommended/lists/aapi-heritage-month-2025>

## Tickets for Boston Red Sox vs. Detroit Tigers: Japanese Celebration

Tickets are on sale for the game on Friday, September 26 at 7:10

pm. <https://www.mlb.com/redsox/tickets/promotions/cultural-and-identity-celebrations/japanese>

## 2025 INCARCERATION CAMP PILGRIMAGES

Japanese American Memorial Pilgrimages - <https://www.jampilgrimages.org/pilgrimages>

- Crystal City – October 9-12 – <https://www.crystalcitypilgrimage.org/>
- Heart Mountain – July 24-26 – <https://www.heartmountain.org/visit/events/pilgrimage/>
- Minidoka – July 11-13 – <https://www.minidokapilgrimage.org/>
- Poston – October 24-25 – <https://www.postonpreservation.org/>

## Ireichō Tour to Former Confinement Sites & Other Places

- June – San Francisco, CA
- July – Minidoka, ID; Heart Mountain, WY
- Sept – Fort Lincoln, ND
- Oct – Crystal City, TX; Poston, AZ
- Oct/Nov – Gila River, AZ
- Nov – Chicago, IL

2026 Dates: <https://www.janm.org/exhibits/ireicho/venues>

## 2025 CONVENTIONS

**JACL National Convention – July 17-20 – Albuquerque, NM**

<https://jacl.org/2025-national-convention>

**OCA National Convention – July 24-27 – Seattle, WA**

<https://www.ocalnationalconvention.org/>

**NAAAP Leadership Convention – August 14-16 – Kansas City, MO**

<https://leadershipconvention.org/>

## CLASSES

### Kaji Aso Studio

40 Saint Stephen St., Boston

Japanese Calligraphy Class with Michiko Imai

- 4 Wednesdays – June 4 to June 25 from 3:30 to 5:30 pm - \$120
- 4 Wednesdays – July 9 to July 30 from 3:30 to 5:30 pm - \$120

INFO: <https://www.kajiasostudio.com/summer-classes-2025>

### Virtual Cooking Class: *Ouchigohan! One Pan Meal*

Saturday, June 7 from 5 to 6:30 pm

Popular among busy Japanese home cooks is a healthy and practical method of cooking a whole meal in one large pan or skillet. A main dish, sides, and even dessert are wrapped in parchment paper, set in simmering water, covered and steamed. Dinner is cooked in just 15 minutes! In this class with **Debra Samuels**, learn how to make a delicious meal with minimal clean-up and maximum flavor and nutrition! Different from Western sheet pan meals, the Japanese way is faster, healthier, and allows for more variation and moisture retention.

**Menu:** *Salmon in Ginger Miso Sauce with Cabbage and Mushrooms • Okra or Asparagus with Wasabi Soy Sauce • Baby Potatoes and Carrots with Butter and Soy Sauce • Japanese Sweet Potato and Apples Dessert.* The recipe card with ingredient list and Zoom link will be provided before the event.

Only one registration needed per household. **INFO & Registration:**

<https://www.japansocietyboston.org/events/ouchigohan-one-pan-meal>

## EXHIBITS

### **ICA Watershed      Boston Harbor Shipyard & Marina, 256 Marginal St., East Boston** ***Chiharu Shiota: Home Less Home*      through September 1**

In her awe-inspiring installations, **Chiharu Shiota** (born 1972 in Osaka, Japan; lives and works in Berlin) foregrounds stories of migration, home, connection, memory, and consciousness. For the ICA Watershed, Shiota presents two signature, large-scale installations: ***Accumulation – Searching for the Destination*** (2014/2025) and a newly commissioned installation, ***Home Less Home*** (2025). Featured as part of the **Boston Public Art Triennial 2025**, Shiota's first solo presentation in New England amplifies the Watershed as a unique space for public art in Boston.

<https://www.icaboston.org/exhibitions/chiharu-shiota/>

### **Pao Arts Center      99 Albany St., Boston Chinatown** ***Celebrations in Perseverance: Public Art in Chinatown, 2024-2025*      through June 30**

<https://www.paoartscenter.org/events/celebrations-in-chinatown>

### **Outdoor Installation: Zhidong Zhang's *Far Away, From Home*** **Auntie Kay & Uncle Frank Chin Park in Boston Chinatown      through October**

<https://www.rosekennedygreenway.org/yearofthedragon/zhidong>

### **Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum      25 Evans Way, Boston** ***Yu-Wen Wu: Reigning Beauty, 2025*      June 17 to October 14**

This summer, violets, nasturtiums and hydrangeas escape from the Gardner's greenhouses and rain down the Anne H. Fitzpatrick Façade (outdoors) in a site-specific installation by Artist-in-Residence **Yu-Wen Wu**. Inspired by Isabella's passion for plants and the loving care given to the "Living Collection" by the Museum's horticulture team, Wu composed a collage of photographs of the Gardner's flowers, transforming individual blossoms into a windswept shower blooming bright against dark storm clouds. At once an homage to the fleeting beauty of the natural world and meditation on the precious vulnerability of the environment, ***Reigning Beauty*** is part of this summer's inaugural **Boston Public Art Triennial**. <https://www.gardnermuseum.org/yu-wen-wu-exhibition>

### **MassArt Art Museum      Bakalar Gallery, 621 Huntington Ave. Boston** ***GENERATIONS - L'Merchie Frazier, Daniela Rivera and Wen-ti Tsen*      through Nov 30**

Exhibit honors three artists deeply engaged in Boston's creative ecosystem. Each artist, through their distinct artistic practices in sculpture, painting, textile, and public art, explores themes of community memory, identity, and cultural narratives. They are the inaugural recipients of the Wagner Arts Fellowship, founded by Wagner Foundation in partnership with United States Artists. This fellowship recognizes established Greater Boston artists whose transformative work inspires social change locally and beyond. The fellowship annually awards 3 artists at a pivotal moment in their artistic trajectory with unrestricted grants of \$75,000 each. <https://maam.massart.edu/exhibition/generations>

### ***Illuminate: Contextualizing Asian American Women's Stories*** ***through the Archives*      to January 23, 2026**

**Harvard Radcliffe Institute, Schlesinger Library, 3 James St., Cambridge**

***Illuminate*** spotlights the stories and lives of Asian American women whose collections are held in the Schlesinger Library. It provides viewers an opportunity to contextualize the often invisible and forgotten histories of Asian and Asian American women in the U.S., examining how understandings of race, ethnicity, gender, citizenship, and migration impact the collective memory of a nation.

<https://www.radcliffe.harvard.edu/event/2025-illuminate-exhibition>



**Museum of Fine Arts**

465 Huntington Ave., Boston

- A new installation in the **Japanese Print Gallery** takes a look at the **Three Cities of Japan during the Edo period (1615–1868)—Kyoto, Edo (now Tokyo), and Osaka**. The rotation is inspired by the World Expo 2025, which is underway now through October in Osaka.

<https://www.mfa.org/gallery/arts-of-japan>

- **Qi Baishi: Inspiration in Ink**

through September 28

Living in a time of civil and political turmoil, **Qi Baishi** (1864–1957) was renowned for his modernization of Chinese ink painting. Conveying rural sentiments with bold landscapes, lifelike animals and plants, and lively and amusing figures, Qi's paintings of mundane objects and everyday life broke social and cultural barriers. Marking the 160th anniversary of Qi's birth, this exhibit features nearly 40 works and offers a rare opportunity to examine the breadth of his artistic vision and inspiration.

<https://www.mfa.org/exhibition/qi-baishi-inspiration-in-ink>

**Griffin Museum of Photography**

67 Shore Rd., Winchester

**New Horizons: Contemporary Korean Photography**

through June 29

Curated by **Joanne Junga Yang**, the exhibit showcases the captivating works of seven contemporary Korean photographers: **Ok Hyun Ahn, Seongyoun Koo, Anna Lim, Soosik Lim, Hyundoo Park, Jiyeon Sung** and **Sun Hi Zo**. Their diverse portfolios delve into the intricate tapestry of human emotions, exploring themes of longing, loss, and the nuanced ways in which individuals navigate their cultural identities. <https://griffinmuseum.org/show/koreancontemporary25/>

**Peabody Essex Museum**

East India Sq., 161 Essex St., Salem

- **Korean Art** (newly opened)

<https://www.pem.org/exhibitions/yu-kil-chun-gallery-of-korean-art-and-culture>

- **Jung Yeondoo: Building Dreams**

to January 25, 2026

<https://www.pem.org/exhibitions/jung-yeondoo-building-dreams>

**Art Complex Museum**

189 Alden St., Duxbury

**Celebrating Sano Gofu: 50th Anniversary of Sho-fu-an**

through August 31

This exhibit displays the paintings, sketches, and architectural plans created by Japanese artist and designer, **Sano Gofu**. He designed the museum's tea hut, *Wind in the Pines (Sho-fu-an)*. Gofu created numerous watercolors of botanicals and locations in Japan, as well as painted fans, scrolls, and screens. A student of the famous *nihonga* painter Seihō Takeuchi, Gofu graduated from the Kyoto Municipal Arts and Crafts College. He became a *sumi-e* painter: a Zen painting technique that focuses on nature using ink washes, ink brush and watercolor paint. <https://artcomplex.org/exhibitions-2/>

**Highfield Hall and Gardens**

56 Highfield Dr., Falmouth

**Trailblazers: Celebrating Contemporary Japanese Prints**

June 21 to October 26

The **College Women's Association of Japan's** prestigious juried exhibit of contemporary printmaking highlights the significant contribution of five notable women printmakers who paved new exciting paths in the art of printmaking, in addition to emerging and established artists. A variety of printing techniques is featured by artists working in representation and non-representational imagery. A special 'hands-on-art' component for sight impaired individuals is included. <https://highfieldhallandgardens.org/upcoming-art-exhibitions/trailblazers-celebrating-contemporary-japanese-prints-june-21-2025-october-26-2025/>

**Worcester Art Museum**

55 Salisbury St., Worcester

- **Reflections of A Changing Japan: The Evolution of Shin Hanga**

through June 29

<https://www.worcesterart.org/exhibitions/reflections-of-a-changing-japan-the-evolution-of-shin-hanga/>

- **Form/Function: Contemporary Japanese Ceramics**

on-going

<https://www.worcesterart.org/exhibitions/asian-art/>

**Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art**

125 West Bay Rd., Amherst

***The Art of Grace Lin: Meeting a Friend in an Unexpected Place*** June 14 to Jan 4, 2026

Grace Lin's first picture book, *The Ugly Vegetables*, was published in 1999 to glowing praise. Twenty-five years later, she has created over 30 titles, including board books, early readers and middle grade novels, garnering Caldecott, Newbury and Geisel honors. Lin is a dedicated advocate for diversity in children's book publishing, with a popular TEDx talk, *The Windows and Mirrors of Your Child's Bookshelf* and created the video essay, *What to do when you realize classic books from your childhood are racist?* for PBS News Hour and New England Public Radio. This career retrospective of more than 80 works celebrates all aspects of Lin's creativity with original art, sketches, manuscripts and videos.

<https://carlemuseum.org/explore-art/exhibitions/upcoming-exhibition/art-grace-lin-meeting-friend-unexpected-place>

**The William Benton Museum of Art**

University of Connecticut, 245 Glenbrook Rd., Storrs, CT

***Minnie Negoro: From Heart Mountain to UConn***

through July 27

<https://benton.uconn.edu/minnie-negoro-from-heart-mountain-to-uconn/>

**ELSEWHERE****Pan Asian Repertory Theatre: *NuWorks Festival*****Saturday, June 14 to Sunday, June 22.** Theatre Row: One, 410 West 42nd St., NYC

Pan Asian Repertory Theatre caps its 48th season with their annual *NuWorks Festival*, an experimental series of self-created work from innovative artists exploring an eclectic range of genres and techniques using poetry, text, dance and music. **INFO:** <https://www.panasianrep.org/nuworks-2025>

**Musical: *Maybe Happy Ending***

continues on Broadway

Belasco Theatre, 111 West 44th St., New York, NY

*Maybe Happy Ending* has received 10 Tony Award nominations, including Best Musical.

**INFO & Tickets:** <https://www.maybehappyending.com/>

**Museum of Chinese in America**

215 Centre St., New York, NY

• ***Heaven & Earth: The Blue Maps of China***

through March 29, 2026

How do maps contribute to a sense of national and cultural identity? During the first decades of the 19th century, China was in a moment of transition, grappling with its geopolitical status as both an ancient and modern nation-state. It was in this moment that two series of large-format maps, one terrestrial and one celestial, were printed in the city of Suzhou. These maps were presented in an extraordinary format, on eight vertical sheets printed in the style of rubbings. Even more strikingly, they were rendered in a rich Prussian blue coloring. More than just visually astonishing, they also captured Chinese ideas about the relationship between terrestrial and celestial space, and provide insight today into how Chinese scholars and artists conceptualized the world around them.

<https://www.mocanyc.org/event/heaven-earth-the-blue-maps-of-china/>

• ***Magazine Fever: Gen X Asian American Periodicals***

through August 31

<https://www.mocanyc.org/event/magazine-fever-gen-x-asian-american-periodicals-2/>

**Isamu Noguchi Foundation and Garden Museum**

9-01 33rd Rd. (at Vernon Blvd.), Long Island City, NY

***Against Time: The Noguchi Museum 40th Anniversary Reinstallation***

thru Sept 14

<https://www.noguchi.org/museum/exhibitions/view/against-time-the-noguchi-museum-40th-anniversary-reinstallation/>

**Baseball Hall of Fame**

25 Main St., Cooperstown, NY

- **Yakyu | Baseball: The Transpacific Exchange of the Game** **opens in July**

Baseball in the U.S. and *yakyu* in Japan exist and prosper as a result of the emergence of transpacific systems of exchange between the 2 countries over the past 150 years. This exhibit explores the wide-ranging exchange of baseball between Japan and the U.S. from the Meiji era to today and the transpacific circulation of baseball concepts, styles of play, fan experiences, equipment, and people that shape the shared culture of the game.

[https://baseballhall.org/yakyu?mc\\_cid=50fa427953&mc\\_eid=f915f525c9](https://baseballhall.org/yakyu?mc_cid=50fa427953&mc_eid=f915f525c9)

- Exhibit coincides with **Ichiro Suzuki's** induction into the Baseball Hall of Fame. Ichiro is the first Japanese player to be elected to the Hall of Fame. Induction Ceremony takes place on **Sunday, July 27** from 1:30 to 4 pm, outside the Clark Sports Center, lower Susquehanna Ave., 1 mile south of the Hall of Fame. <https://baseballhall.org/events/2025-induction-ceremony>

**Smithsonian American Art Museum**

8th and G Streets, NW, Washington, DC

- **Pictures of Belonging: Miki Hayakawa, Hisako Hibi, and Miné Okubo** **through Aug 17**

<https://americanart.si.edu/exhibitions/pictures-of-belonging>

- **Sightlines: Chinatown and Beyond** **through November 20**

<https://www.si.edu/exhibitions/sightlines-chinatown-and-beyond:event-exhib-6754>

**Morikami Museum & Japanese Gardens**

4000 Morikami Park Rd., Delray Beach, FL

- **Women of Yamato** **through August 24**
  - **Japanese War Brides: Across A Wide Divide** **through August 17**
  - **The Art of Peace: Jizai Okimono from A Private Collection** **through September 28**
- <https://morikami.org/current-exhibitions>
- **Roji-en: Garden of the Drops of Dew** <https://morikami.org/gardens/>

**Cleveland Museum of Art**

11150 East Blvd., Cleveland, OH

- **Takashi Murakami: Stepping on the Tail of a Rainbow** **through September 7**

Takashi Murakami is known for his pantheon of vividly colorful characters and his unique style that simultaneously honors the rich tradition of Japanese art and deploys the cultural energies of anime, manga, otaku, and kawaii in singular contemporary artworks. He uses his art to interpret historical events and their lasting effects, such as the 2011 Tōhoku earthquake and tsunami, and the COVID-19 pandemic. <https://www.clevelandart.org/exhibitions/takashi-murakami-stepping-tail-rainbow>

**The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston**

- **Floating World: A.A.Murakami** **through September 21**

Audrey Jones Beck Building, 5601 Main St., Houston, TX

Visitors to the first U.S. museum show from Tokyo/London-based artist duo **A.A.Murakami** (Alexander Groves and Azusa Murakami), encounter immense bubble-like clouds that gracefully float and dissolve into mist; swirling fog rings that radiate from a central tower; and dozens of plasma krypton “lightning” tubes that flicker and click while evoking a field of crickets. *Floating World* transports you to an ethereal world and scientific spectacle. <https://www.mfah.org/exhibitions/floating-world-aamurakami>

- **Anicka Yi** **June 29 to September 7**

Caroline Weiss Law Building, 1001 Bissonnet St., Houston, TX

**Anicka Yi's** work dissolves boundaries between biology and technology, proposing new ways of thinking about perception, sentience and survival. Her practice blends scientific research with philosophical inquiry and sensory experience, drawing from microbiology, artificial intelligence, perfumery, and Buddhist thought. Yi constructs immersive worlds that reimagine how life—and art—might evolve, mutate, and persist. <https://www.mfah.org/exhibitions/anicka-yi>

**Brigham City Museum of Art & History** 24 North 300 West, Brigham City, UT  
*Uncovering the Journey: Japanese American Pioneers in Box Elder County* to June 21  
<https://brighamcitymuseum.org/uncovering-the-journey-japanese-american-pioneers-in-box-elder-county>

**Japanese American National Museum** 100 North Central Ave., Los Angeles, CA  
 While the museum and store are closed until late 2026, there are programs and events in their Little Tokyo campus, throughout Southern California, and beyond. <https://www.janm.org/events>

**Go For Broke National Education Center** 355 East 1st St., Los Angeles, CA  
<https://goforbroke.org/defining-courage-exhibition/>

**Chinese American Museum** 425 North Los Angeles St., Los Angeles, CA  
*(BE)Spoken: Poems from Our Asian American Voices* through January 8, 2026  
<https://camla.org/upcoming-events/>

**Japan House Los Angeles** 6801 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles, CA  
*Neo-Japonism | Samurai and Beyond: Exploring Tradition through Technology* to Sept 1  
<https://www.japanhousela.com/exhibitions/neo-japonism-samurai-beyond-tradition-technology-nhk-taiga-japanese-drama-3dcg/>

**The Museum of Us** 1350 El Prado, San Diego, CA  
*hapa.me – 25 Years of The Hapa Project* on-going  
 Artist and author **Kip Fulbeck** started **The Hapa Project** in 2001, photographing over 1,200 individuals who identified as multiracial, including their handwritten response to the question, “What are you?” This exhibit features Fulbeck’s photographic portraits as he revisits the cultural and artistic significance of the work, its impact on the participants, and the changing awareness of multiracial identity in the United States. Nearly 25 years later, Fulbeck has re-photographed 130 of the original participants and asked them to write new personal statements, exploring how self-definitions and perspectives change over time. <https://museumofus.org/exhibits/hapa-me>; <https://kipfulbeck.com/hapa-me/>

**The Huntington Library, Art Museum and Botanical Gardens**  
 1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA

• **Wang Mansheng: Without Us** through August 4

The 2025 Visting Artist in the Chinese Garden, **Wang Mansheng** has depicted intricate scenes of plants, rocks and water on delicate silk panels. Suspended from the gallery’s ceiling, the panels create a 3-dimensional painted landscape through which visitors can wander. During their journey, viewers can gaze through the translucent silk to see the shadowy forms of other visitors entwined with the mountains and streams. Humans and nature become connected, even as they remain separate.

<https://www.huntington.org/exhibitions/wang-mansheng-without-us>

• **Mineo Mizuno: In the Huntington Art Gallery** on-going  
<https://www.huntington.org/exhibition/mineo-mizuno-huntington-art-gallery>

• **Japanese Heritage Shōya House** <https://huntington.org/japanese-garden/shoya-house>

**Fresno Art Museum** 2233 North First St., Fresno, CA

• **Art of the Word: Once Upon a Book featuring the Illustrations of Grace Lin** to June 29  
<https://fresnoartmuseum.org/exhibitions/next-exhibitions/grace-lin>

**Japanese American Museum at San Jose** 535 North 5th St., San Jose, CA  
*NI DO TO: A Transplanted Pilgrimage* - through July 13 <https://www.jamsj.org/ndt>

**Conference:*****Changing Perspectives on Japanese American Incarceration***

Saturday, June 21 and Sunday, June 22 from 9 am to 5 pm

Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 388 9th St., Suite 290, Oakland, CA

INFO: <https://www.jampilgrimages.org/changing-perspectives>**Musical: *Pacific Overtures***

through June 15

Brava Theater Center, 2781 24th St., San Francisco

Stephen Sondheim and John Weidman mixed elements of Kabuki theatre with the conventions of the Broadway musical in ***Pacific Overtures***, a highly original, inventive, powerful, educational and surprisingly humorous theatrical experience. Commodore Matthew Perry's 1853 mission to open trade relations with isolationist Japan through gunboat diplomacy forges an unlikely friendship between the samurai, Kayama, and the Americanized fisherman, Manjiro. Kayama and Manjiro – and all of Japanese society – must face the wave of Westernization that follows. Presented by **Kunoichi Productions**.

<https://www.kunoichiproductions.org/>**Asian Art Museum**

200 Larkin St., San Francisco, CA

• ***Shinoda Toko: Abstract Calligraphy***

through September 15

<https://exhibitions.asianart.org/exhibitions/shinoda-toko-abstract-calligraphy/>• ***Yuan Goang-Ming: Everyday War***

through July 7

<https://exhibitions.asianart.org/exhibitions/everyday-war/>**San Francisco Museum of Modern Art**

151 Third St., San Francisco, CA

***Ruth Asawa: Retrospective***

through September 2

This first posthumous retrospective presents the full range of **Ruth Asawa's** work and its inspirations over six decades of her career. As an artist, Asawa forged a groundbreaking practice through her ceaseless exploration of materials and forms. As an educator and civic leader, Asawa's impact on San Francisco can still be felt today. <https://www.sfmoma.org/exhibition/ruth-asawa-retrospective/>

**Chinese Historical Society of America Museum**

965 Clay St., San Francisco, CA

***Challenging a White-Washed History: Chinese Laundries in the U.S.***

This collaborative showcase is a partnership with students from San Francisco State University and the Academy of Art University that explores both the historical roots and the ongoing legacy of Chinese laundry businesses in America from early hand-wash laundries to present-day reflections on Chinese American entrepreneurship. Featuring academic research, oral histories, original artwork and rare artifacts, this showcase brings the resilience of Chinese laundry workers to life. The collaboration invites reflection on historical Chinese American themes of labor, resilience and identity through the lens of laundry businesses, their owners and workers. Today, they are recognized as symbols of both hardship and perseverance in Asian American history. <https://chsa.org/chinese-laundries-in-the-u-s/>

**Portland Japanese Garden**

611 SW Kingston Ave., Portland, OR

• ***Earthen Elegance: The Ceramic Art of Bizen***

through June 9

<https://japanesegarden.org/events/earthen-elegance-the-ceramic-art-of-bizen/>• ***Natural Patterns: Katazome Stencil Dyeing***

through September 15

Primarily used for elaborate patterns on kimono and *yukata*, **katazome** is a method of using exquisitely cut paper stencils and resist paste to dye fabrics. Today, *katazome*-created designs can be stand-alone art pieces, or are often found on *noren* curtains, futon covers, and *furoshiki* gift wraps. <https://japanesegarden.org/events/natural-patterns-katazome/>



**Japanese American Museum of Oregon**

411 NW Flanders St., Portland, OR

***Sadako and Paper Cranes: Through Our Eyes***

through September 7

In observance of 80 years since the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, this exhibit examines the devastation of nuclear war through the eyes of Sadako Sasaki, a young girl who experienced it.

Alongside her story are works from artists **Erin Shigaki**, **Lynn Yarne**, **Marie Johnston**, **Maya McDarragh**, and 6 Grant High School students who contribute to ongoing discussions about peace and nuclear disarmament. <https://jamo.org/sadako/>

**13th Annual Seattle Asian American Film Festival – June 20-26**

**June 20** at the Wing Luke Museum; **June 21** at the Broadway Performance Hall; **June 22 to June 26**

Virtual Screenings: <https://seattleaaff.org/>

**Wing Luke Museum**

719 S. King St., Seattle, WA

• ***DISplace***

June 13 to May 17, 2026

This exhibit sheds light on the often-overlooked histories and movement of people who connect Hawai'i and the Pacific Northwest since the arrival of the first documented Native Hawaiians to the West Coast in 1787. It features visual art by regional Native Hawaiian creatives, family stories and ephemera, historic photographs, and archival objects to honor these histories and reclaim the narrative through the voices of families and individual descendants today. <https://www.wingluke.org/displace>

• **Additional exhibits:** <https://www.wingluke.org/exhibits>

**Television Programs on GBH**

<https://www.wgbh.org/tv-shows/schedule> (Click on "A-Z" for an alphabetical list.)

**Programs about Japan:**

- ***Asia Insight*** – Tuesday at 6:30 am or 1:30 pm – WORLD
- ***Cycle Around Japan Highlights*** – Friday at 10 am or 5 pm – CREATE
- ***Dining with the Chef*** – Monday at 9 am – CREATE
- ***Journeys in Japan*** – Sunday at 10:30 am – CREATE
- ***Newsroom Tokyo*** – Monday to Friday at 7 am – WORLD
- ***NHK Newsline*** – Monday to Friday at 6:30 pm – WORLD
- ***Trails to Oishii Tokyo*** – Sunday at 10 am – CREATE

**Sunday, June 15 at 10 pm and Monday, June 16 at 10 am – WORLD**

***Doc World: The Making of A Japanese***

From the Oscar-nominated short comes the full-length feature - an intimate portrait of childhood inside a Tokyo public school. Over the course of a year, 1st and 6th graders navigate daily routines and small dramas while learning discipline, empathy, and community, finding the balance between individualism and being respectful toward others. <https://worldchannel.org/episode/doc-world-the-making-of-a-japanese/>