



New England Chapter News

Japanese American Citizens League

March 2020

P.O. Box 592 • Lincoln, MA 01773

Visit our web site: www.nejacl.org

Day of Remembrance 2020, One of the Best!

Thank you all for your help in making our Day of Remembrance program last Saturday (Feb. 29) such a successful event. We had members attending from Maine, New Hampshire and Rhode Island, as well as from all over Massachusetts. It was so great to put faces to many of the names we see in our membership roster. We know it's a distance for some of you, but we hope to see you at other programs we plan in the future.

We're grateful to all of our excellent speakers. Our keynote speaker was **Carl Takei**, Senior Staff Attorney at the ACLU's Trone Center for Justice and Equality, who provided an update on present national policies on immigration and refugees. As one of the co-chairs for the national **Tsuru for Solidarity** organization, he gave us an overview of activities leading up a **National Pilgrimage to Close the Camps** that will be held June 5 to 7 in DC. **Margie Yamamoto**, New England JACL co-president, told her family's story about incarceration at Gila River, Arizona, during WWII, and detailed living conditions at that facility. **Adriana Lafaille**, Staff Attorney with ACLU Massachusetts, spoke in more detail about current Federal immigration and refugee policies and their impact on family separation, immigration detention, and immigrants' rights issues. **Paul Watanabe**, Professor of Political Science and Director of the Institute for Asian American Studies at UMass Boston, summarized the presentations and shared with us his own mother's experience with incarceration during WWII. **Ken Oye**, New England JACL co-president and Professor of Political Science and Data Systems at MIT, organized the panel and moderated the discussion.

Following a lively question and answer period, the audience remained for a Tsuru fold-in, during which hundreds of paper cranes were folded in support of the **National Pilgrimage to Close the Camps**. Takei's organization, Tsuru for Solidarity, is organizing the Pilgrimage and is collecting the cranes to take to DC in June. They plan to take 125,000 cranes to DC, representing all the persons of Japanese ancestry from the United States and South America who were incarcerated during WWII. The organizers are predicting this will be the largest gathering of Japanese Americans since the incarceration in 1942. Caravans of supporters are planned from California, Chicago, New York and Philadelphia. The California contingent plans to stop at former incarceration sites, current detention sites and historically significant community and cultural sites.

For more information on how you can join the *National Pilgrimage to Close the Camps* go to:

<https://tsuruforsolidarity.org/pilgrimage/>

If you are unable to join the Pilgrimage but would like to show your support by adding your Tsuru to the thousands that are being folded to take to DC, go to:

<https://tsuruforsolidarity.org/tsuru-resources/>

2020 Tule Lake Pilgrimage set for July 3 to 6

The Tule Lake Committee (TLC) has announced a comprehensive registration plan for this year's Pilgrimage scheduled from Friday, July 3 through Monday, July 6. Registration forms are posted on the TLC's web site. Registration for this event is in high demand; be sure to register early. The standard registration fee is \$575 per person and covers lodging, meals and all activities during the four-day event, as well as carter bus transportation from locations in Northern California; Seattle, WA; and Portland, OR. For students, those on fixed incomes, and survivors of incarceration, the fee is \$350. Grants are available to assist with the fee.

TLC's web site: www.tulelake.org

National Scholarship Updates

JACL's 2020 National Scholarship Program is still accepting applications from undergraduate and graduate students. Interested students should carefully read the information about the types of scholarships available, some are aimed at students in specific fields of study. Among the eight undergraduate awards available are scholarships in journalism, agriculture and public/social services. The seven graduate awards include scholarships in dentistry, general medicine, education, social justice and community service. There are three law school scholarships as well as special awards for financial need, in the performing arts, and Japanese American creative arts. **Deadline** for undergraduate, graduate, law, creative/performing arts, and student aid is **April 1, 2020**. For scholarship program guidelines, instructions and application forms: <https://jacl.org/jacl-national-scholarship-program/>

JAVA Memorial Scholarship Program. The Japanese American Veterans Association (JAVA) is accepting applications for scholarships in four categories:

The Daniel K. Inouye Memorial Scholarship for \$5,000

The JAVA Founder's Memorial Scholarship for \$3,000

The JAVA Kiyoko Tsuboi Taubkin Legacy Scholarship for \$2,000

The JAVA Memorial Scholarships (9 are available) for \$1,500

Deadline for application to these scholarships is **March 25, 2020**. For information, go to: <https://java.wildapricot.org/JAVA-Memorial-Scholarship-Program>

BAAFF Short Film Competition

The Boston Asian American Film Festival is looking for people with stories to share though film. No prior experience needed. They want everyone to have the opportunity to tell their story and share it on the big screen with our community. Submissions can be made with cameras or smart phones and should be 5 minutes or less. **Deadline is May 3**. For information and samples of past films: <http://www.baaff.org/short-waves.html>

News clipping of interest:

From time to time, we'll post links to news stories called to our attention by our friends and members. This one comes from JACL member George Sugai:

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/business/reparations-slavery-japanese-american-internment/>

EVENTS IN NEW ENGLAND

Saturdays
Mar. 7-28

Chinese Brush Painting for Adults

Pao Arts Center, 99 Kneeland Street, Boston

Celebrate the seasons by learning how to paint small birds in the fall, winter, spring and summer. The instructor is Xiaoyong Liu who is experienced teaching adults and children Chinese painting of landscapes, flowers and birds. Classes are taught in Chinese with an English translator present. Tuition is \$100 for four classes or \$30 for individual classes. Materials will be provided. Information and registration:

<https://bcnc.net/upcoming-events/2020/brush-painting-birds>

Saturdays
Mar. 7&21
4 pm

Harvard Film Archive: *Weekend Matinees*

Harvard Film Archive, 34 Quincy Street, Cambridge

Animated films directed by Makoto Shinkai. Admission is \$5 and free to Cambridge library card holders. On **March 7**, *The Place Promised in Our Early Days*, directed by Shinkai and Yoshio Suzuki in 2004. Information:

<https://harvardfilmarchive.org/calendar/the-place-promised-in-our-early-days-2020-03>

On **March 21**, *5 Centimeters Per Second* and *The Garden of Words*

Information: <https://harvardfilmarchive.org/calendar/5-centimeters-per-second-2020-03>

Sunday
Mar. 8
3 pm

Film: *Who Killed Vincent Chin?*

Paramount Center, 559 Washington Street, Boston

Vincent Chin was a Chinese American brutally killed in Detroit by two unemployed auto workers in 1982. The Academy Award-nominated documentary will be followed by a preview of an upcoming PBS series *Asian Americans* and Q&A with filmmaker Renee Tajima-Pena and author and journalist Helen Zia. Tickets and information: <https://artsemerson.org/Online/default.asp>

Monday
Mar. 9
1-5 pm

The Stories We Tell and the Objects We Keep: Asian American Women and the Archives

Radcliffe Institute, Knafel Center, 10 Garden Street, Cambridge

This half day program will feature Asian American activists and artists, including novelists, filmmakers, playwrights, and photographers who will share the stories that inspire their craft and the objects they retain as part of their personal histories. Featured speakers will include Tomiko Brown-Nagin, Radcliffe Dean; Wendy Maruyama, furniture maker/woodworker; Renee Tajima-Pena, filmmaker; and Helen Zia, journalist. This program is free and open to the public, but registration is required. Information and registration:

<https://www.radcliffe.harvard.edu/event/2020-stories-we-tell-objects-we-keep-conference>

Monday
Mar. 9
7 pm

Film: *Violet Evergarden*

Kendell Square Cinema, One Kendall Square, Cambridge

An animated film directed by Haruka Fujita from Kyoto Animation, the producers of *A Silent Voice*. For information:

<https://www.landmarktheatres.com/boston/kendall-square-cinema/film-info/violet-evergarden>

- Monday
Mar. 9
Wednesday
Mar. 11
7 pm** **Film: *Tokyo Godfathers***
Check the web site for a theater near you
A holiday classic from director Satoshi Kon about three Tokyo homeless people who discover a baby girl abandoned in a garbage dump on Christmas Eve. The animated feature returns to theaters in a brand-new restored version. Information and tickets: <https://www.fathomevents.com/events/tokyo-godfathers>
- Wednesday
Mar. 11
6 to 8pm** **Japanese/English Language Exchange**
CIC Boston, Meridian Room, 50 Milk Street, 5th floor, Boston
Join the Japan Society of Boston for a Japanese/English language exchange with native Japanese speakers. This event is open to those learning to speak Japanese and native Japanese speakers. Register online or at the door. Registration: <https://japansocietyboston.wildapricot.org/event-3752252/Registration>
- Mar. 11-15** **Boston Flower and Garden Show**
Seaport World Trade Center, Seaport Lane, Boston
The Ikebana International Boston Chapter will be displaying many arrangements from the Ikenobo, Ohara, Sogetsu and Ichioyo schools. There will also be a Hina Doll display by the Consulate of Japan in Boston. Tickets: \$22 for Adults, \$19 for Seniors, \$12 Children (under 17), and free for children under 6. Information & tickets: <https://bostonflowershow.com/hours-tickets/>
- Mar. 16-30** ***Under the Underground –
The Visionary Cinema of Kanai Katsu***
Harvard Film Archive, 24 Quincy Street, Cambridge
Katsu Kanai is one of the most vital and inventive filmmakers in the history of Japanese underground film. As a filmmaker, he is dedicated to constant and intensive imaginative reinvention. In this re-examination of the world of Katsu Kanai, the Harvard Film Archive is one of the few US venues to host this extraordinary retrospective. Information and film schedule: <https://harvardfilmarchive.org/programs/under-the-underground-the-cinema-of-kanai-katsu>
- Friday
Mar. 20
6-8 pm** **JSB Jazz Series: The Boston Higashi School Jazz Band**
CIC Venture Café, 5th floor, 1 Broadway, Cambridge
The Japan Society of Boston (JSB) is hosting a Jazu Kissa (jazz café) series in this Kendall Square location. Featured is the Boston Higashi School Jazz Band. General admission is \$20 and \$10 for JSB members. Information & registration: <https://japansocietyboston.wildapricot.org/event-3752258>
- Friday
Mar. 27
6 pm** **Tamagawa Taiko & Dance**
First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church, 630 Mass. Ave., Arlington
This group brings their unique blend of music, Japanese folklore, dance, and performance to Arlington. Tickets are \$25 general admission, \$15 for Japan Society members, \$10 for students with ID, and free for children 12 and under when attending with parents. Information: <https://japansocietyboston.wildapricot.org/event-3734688>

Friday-
Saturday
Mar. 27-28

Let's Talk Conference 2020: Promoting the Success and Well-Being of Asian and Asian American Students

Locations vary on or near Harvard campus

This event is sponsored by the Harvard Graduate School of education and several affiliated partners and includes a film screening, a morning conference for professionals, and an afternoon session for students and parents. The film is ***Maineland***, on **Friday, at 7 pm**, at the Smith Campus Center, 1350 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, and is free and open to the public. The documentary examines the experiences of two Chinese international students who board and study in rural Maine. A panel discussion following the screening will feature the film's director Miao Wang. On **Saturday, from 8 am to 1 pm**, in Gutman Library, Harvard Graduate School of Education, 6 Appian Way, Cambridge, is the session directed at professionals who support Asian American and Asian international students in K-12 schools, higher education, and in the community. Registration is \$50 and continuing education credits are available. On **Saturday, from 1 to 5:30 pm**, in Longfellow Hall, Harvard Graduate School of Education, 13 Appian Way, Cambridge, the focus will be on parents and students of Asian descent. Free and open to the public. Information & registration: <http://www.talkhgse.org/>

Wednesday
April 1
Reception
at 5:30 pm
Talk
At 6:30 pm

Japanese Samurai Study in Roxbury: 1867-1868

5:30 at Dillaway-Thomas House, 183 Roxbury Street, Roxbury
6:30 at First Church in Roxbury, 10 Putnam Street, Roxbury

The Roxbury Historical Society has long known that Charles Dillaway taught English to four Japanese samurai at the Dillaway-Thomas House but it wasn't until last year that David Howell, Professor of Japanese History at Harvard University, uncovered the full story of their stay in Roxbury. Dr. Howell will share this history, the process of discovering it, and answer the questions: Who were these students? What brought them to the US? How and why did they end up in Roxbury? How were they received by local residents? Questions, contact Marcia at roxburyhistory@gmail.com.

Thursday
April 2
6:30-8pm

In the Kitchen: Homestyle Favorites
Pao Arts Center, 99 Albany Street, Boston

Expert cook and community volunteer Valerie Sizhe Li cooks dishes that carry the flavors of a Chinese home: egg and tomato stir fry, soy-braised pork belly, and seaweed egg drop soup. Registration is \$30. Information and registration: <https://bcnc.net/upcoming-events/homestyle-favorites>

Coming in
April

Film: Alternative Facts: The Lies of Executive Order 9066
Locations in New England to be announced

Alternative Facts tells the untold story of false information and political influences that led to the WWII incarceration of Japanese Americans. The film was first screened in Boston last fall and it will be returning to several venues in April 2020. The filmmaker Jon Osaki will be on hand at most of the screenings. We'll publish details of where and when as the information is received. We do know it will be shown at Tufts University, Medford, and in Providence, RI.

EXHIBITIONS IN NEW ENGLAND

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

465 Huntington Avenue, Boston

through
June 30,
2020

Conservation in Action:

Japanese Buddhist Sculpture in a New Light

A rare, behind the scenes look at the conservation of seven Buddhist sculptures. The wooden figures date from the 9th to the 12th centuries. The conservation project occupies an entire gallery in the Museum, allowing visitors to observe the techniques employed by conservators. Information:

<https://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/conservation-in-action-japanese-buddhist-sculpture-in-a-new-light>

INSTITUTE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART (ICA)

25 Harbor Shore Drive, Boston

through
Feb.7, 2021

Yayoi Kusama: Love is Calling

An icon of contemporary art, 90-year-old Yayoi Kusama has interwoven ideas of pop art, minimalism and psychedelia throughout her work in paintings, performances, room-size presentations, outdoor sculptural installations, literary works, films, design and architectural interventions over her long and influential career. Information:

<https://www.icaboston.org/exhibitions/yayoi-kusama-love-calling>

HARVARD ART MUSEUMS

32 Quincy Street, Cambridge,

through
July 26

Painting Edo: Japanese Art from the Feinberg Collection

One of the largest exhibitions ever presented at the Harvard Art Museums that extends from the core gallery into four additional galleries. More than 120 works span the Edo period (1615-1868) when the country settled into an era of peace and opened its doors to greater engagement with the outside world. Information:

<https://www.harvardartmuseums.org/exhibitions/5909/painting-edo-japanese-art-from-the-feinberg-collection>

WORCHESTER ART MUSEUM

55 Salisbury Street, Worcester

Mar.28 to
Jun.28

The Kimono in Print:

300 Years of Japanese Design Kimono Design

An exhibition devoted to examining the kimono as a major source of inspiration and experimentation in Japanese print culture from the Edo period (1603) to the Meiji period (1868-1912). Artists documented the evolving trends in fashion, popularized certain styles of dress, and even designed kimonos. The exhibit includes 80 Japanese prints as well as a selection of illustrated books and paintings. Information:

<https://www.worcesterart.org/exhibitions/kimono-in-print/>

April 25
to July 26
2020

Kimono Couture: The Beauty of Chiso

This is the first exhibition outside of Japan of historic and contemporary kimonos from the collection of Chiso – the distinguished Kyoto-based kimono house founded in 1555. The exhibit will include 13 kimonos from the mid-1600s to 2000s. A special video will document the contemporary creation of a kimono, from start to finish. A rare and up-close look at the intricacy, character and artistry of kimono design and fabrication in one of Japan's most exclusive kimono houses. Information:

<https://www.worcesterart.org/exhibitions/kimono-couture/>

PEABODY ESSEX MUSEUM

East India Square, 161 Essex Street, Salem

ongoing

The Japanese Collection

Featured are works from America's most important 19th and 20th Century collectors of Japanese art. The exhibit contains many pieces considered rare even in Japan.

Information: <https://www.pem.org/explore-art/japanese-art>

WHAT'S HAPPENING ELSEWHERE

CALIFORNIA

JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

100 North Central Avenue, Los Angeles, CA

phone: 213-625-0414

through
Mar. 29

Transcendents: Heroes at Borders

A contemporary art exhibition by Taiji Terasaki that honors individuals who advocate and fight for those who face discrimination, prejudice and inequality at borders both real and imagined. The exhibit includes video projections, photographic weavings, and audience participation. Information: <http://www.janm.org/exhibits/transcendents/>

through
Jun.7

Under a Mushroom Cloud:

Hiroshima, Nagasaki and the Atomic Bomb

An exhibit organized in partnership with the cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and will include (through March 1, 2020) a special display of artifacts belonging to some atomic bomb victims. Information: <http://www.janm.org/exhibits/under-a-mushroom-cloud/>

JAPANESE AMERICAN MUSEUM SAN JOSE

535 North Fifth Street, San Jose, CA

phone: 408-294-3138

Saturday
Mar. 14
1 pm

Film: *Citizen Tanouye*

A documentary film that follows eight ethnically diverse students on a three-day journey to uncover the lost story of local WWII hero and Medal of Honor recipient Technical Sgt. Ted Tanouye of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. The film's writer and director Robert Horsting will be available for Q&A. The film is free with museum admission but reservations are advised. Admission is \$8, seniors & students \$5. To rsvp email PublicPrograms@jamsj.org or call 408-294-3138.

Saturday
Mar. 21
11am-2pm

Community Cookbooks: *Sharing Family Recipes*

Yu-Ai Kai, Room 200, 588 N. 4th Street, San Jose

Presented with Yu-Ai Kai, this event will feature Nina F. Ichikawa, Executive Director of the Berkeley Food Institute, who will talk about her article "Community Cookbooks: Asian American Food Sellers." Registration fee is \$25. Advance registration required. Registration and information at the Yu-Ai Kai front desk or by calling 408-294-2505.