



## *New England Chapter News*

### *Japanese American Citizens League*

March 2021

Visit our web site: [www.nejacl.org](http://www.nejacl.org)

### ***Our Thanks for a Successful DOR Event***

Our thanks to all of our JACL members and friends who joined us for an event that included participants from California, Seabrook, Philadelphia, DC, and Georgia as well as most of the New England states. Our keynote speaker Peter Kiang, spoke in amazing detail about the role played by New England Nisei in the Japanese American redress movement during the 1980s. Part of his research was based on the NE JACL archives that the chapter donated to UMass Boston. Kiang is Professor and Director of the Asian American Studies Program at the university. The program was rounded out with comments from Paul Watanabe, Professor of Political Science and Director of the Institute for Asian American Studies at UMass Boston, and Paul Uyehara, Civil Rights Attorney and a member of the Philadelphia JACL. Uyehara's mother, Grayce Uyehara, led JACL's national redress movement. More than 40 persons attended the Zoom session and actively participated in the Q&A session that followed the formal presentations. If you missed this event, thanks to our webmaster Chris Martell and board member Christine Pilcavage, it was recorded and is available at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qggTRFT4d78>

#### **Zoom Webinar:**

### ***Responding to Anti-Asian Violence in the Japanese American Community***

**Tuesday, March 9, 3 pm (EST)**

**registration required**

The Sunday *Boston Globe* (March 7) had a cover story in the Metro section titled "Anti-racist movement must include fighting anti-Asian discrimination," a topic with which most Asian Americans are familiar. We've received notification of an event happening in San Francisco on this topic that should be of interest to us all. Our apologies for this short notice, but we hope many of you can attend. Though they may be speaking more directly to what is happening in San Francisco, we're sure much of it can apply to our own circumstances. The event's flyer is attached to the NEJACL's newsletter email. Please note the time printed on the flyer is Pacific time. For more information and to register:

<https://www.jccnc.org/event/jtownrespondingtohate/>

### **A BOOK TO CONSIDER**

We sometimes receive recommendations about books that might be of interest to our membership. We are not able to review the books, but will pass this information on to you.

***Nisei Radicals: The Feminist Poetics and Transformative Ministry of Mitsuye Yamada and Michael Yasutake*** by Diane Fujino. The radical lineage of Japanese American activism through the lives of feminist poet, Mitsuye Yamada and her brother, Michael Yasutake.

## LECTURES, DISCUSSIONS & MISC.

### **Educator's Open House: Virtual Visits to JANM**

**Wednesday, March 10 at 1 pm (EST)**

**registration required**

The Japanese American National Museum Education Unit is inviting teachers and educators to join them for a walk through of their available virtual visits designed for students in grades 1-3, 4-6, and 7-12. They will provide a sense of what each program entails and how students will be engaged. Q&A will follow. Information and registration:

<https://9644p.blackbaudhosting.com/9644p/tickets?tab=2&txobjid=a2a6bf37-42f5-43f4-a9c7-cda297f401bb>

### **Tacoma Art Museum: Missives from Minidoka**

**Thursday, March 11, from 1 to 3 pm (EST)**

**registration required**

This is a new K-12 Teacher workshop offered by the Tacoma Art Museum in partnership with Densho. The program will explore the works of Kenjiro Nomura, an artist who was incarcerated at the Minidoka camp, and consider how art sheds light on our history and current events. Cost: \$15. Information and registration:

<https://2513a.blackbaudhosting.com/2513a/TAM-Teach-Missives-from-Minidoka>

### **Tsuru for Solidarity Town Hall**

**Saturday, March 20, from 4 to 5:30 pm (EST)**

**registration required**

Since August 2020, Tsuru for Solidarity has been undergoing a long-term planning process for future activities. After receiving feedback from hundreds of groups and individuals, they are ready to report back with their priorities and how to have their supporters involved.

Information and registration:

[https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tsuru-for-solidarity-town-hall-tickets-141901259487?can\\_id=47321377307c703453ff3372a580a4f2&source=email-end-family-detention&email\\_subject=end-family-detention&email\\_referrer=email\\_1096284&link\\_id=7](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tsuru-for-solidarity-town-hall-tickets-141901259487?can_id=47321377307c703453ff3372a580a4f2&source=email-end-family-detention&email_subject=end-family-detention&email_referrer=email_1096284&link_id=7)

### **The World of Hayao Miyazaki – Master of Japanese Animation**

**Tuesday, March 23, from 7 to 8:15 pm**

**registration required**

A lecture by Susan Napier, author of *Miyazakiworld*, that will explore how a Japanese director has created films that deal with issues of climate change, gender equality, and war responsibility at the same time as they offer visions of transformation, beauty and hope.

Among the films by Miyazaki are *Spirited Away* and *My Neighbor Toroto*. The program is free and open to the public. Information and registration:

<https://www.libraryinsight.com/EventSignUp.asp?t=592308532&jx=gxp&lmx=%CFcn%2C%A%A%ACt>

## SCHOLARSHIPS & AWARDS

### JACL 2021 National Scholarship program

JACL's National Scholarship program offers \$70,000 in approximately 30 scholarships for incoming freshmen, undergraduates and graduate students. The deadline for freshmen scholarships has passed, but all other categories of scholarships (undergraduate, graduate, law, creative/performing arts, and financial aid) are still being accepted until **April 1, 2021**.

For full scholarship details, go to:

<https://jacl.org/jacl-national-scholarship-program/>

### Minoru Yasui Essay Contest

The theme for this year's essay contest is ***Refugee and Immigrant Experiences***. The competition is open to students on two levels: Junior Division, students in grade 8 and below. Senior Division, students in grades 8 through 12. Junior Division awards will be \$200 for first place, \$75 for second place, and three awards of \$20 for finalists. In the Senior Division, \$500 for first place, \$200 for second place, and three awards of \$25 for finalists.

**Deadline for essays is March 12.** Information:

<https://www.minoruyasuilegacy.org/student-contest>

## AUDIO THEATRE

### Huntington Theatre Company

#### ***Tiger Style!* – An Audio Play**

All four episodes of the Huntington Theatre's hit 2016 production of ***Tiger Style!*** is available as an audio play online. *Tiger Style!* is the story of squabbling siblings Albert and Jennifer Chen – both have reached the pinnacle of academic success, but as adults feel they are epic failures. He's just been passed up for promotion and she's been dumped by her boyfriend. They confront their parents and launch an Asian Freedom Tour from California to China. The comedy examines race, parenting and success with wit and sharp humor. The cast includes Francis Jue, Emily Kuroda, Rubio Qian and John Norman Schneider. The play is by Mike Lew and directed by Maritz von Stuelpnagel. This event is free and open to the public. To listen to the play, go to:

[https://soundcloud.com/huntington/sets/tiger-style-an-audio-play?utm\\_source=wordfly&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=EBLAST\\_3.3\\_TigerStyle!Entireseries&utm\\_content=version\\_A](https://soundcloud.com/huntington/sets/tiger-style-an-audio-play?utm_source=wordfly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBLAST_3.3_TigerStyle!Entireseries&utm_content=version_A)

### Huntington Theatre Company

#### ***The View from MemChurch* by Rosanna Yamagiwa Alfaro**

A short audio play by Rosanna Yamagiwa Alfaro, a NE JACL member, is featured in the Huntington Theatre Company's *Dream Boston* series. Rosanna's play is set in Harvard Yard with a cast that includes Emily Kuroda, Alberto Isaac, and Calley Chase. To listen to the play, go to:

[https://www.huntingtontheatre.org/season/upcoming/dream-boston/memchurch/?utm\\_source=wordfly&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=EBLAST\\_12.8\\_DreamBoston&utm\\_content=version\\_A](https://www.huntingtontheatre.org/season/upcoming/dream-boston/memchurch/?utm_source=wordfly&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=EBLAST_12.8_DreamBoston&utm_content=version_A)

## EXHIBITS

### ***Memento Mori***

**Praise Shadows Art Gallery, 313A Harvard Street, Brookline**

**March 11 to April 18**

To commemorate the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 2011 Tohoku earthquake and tsunami the Praise Shadows Art Gallery presents the US premiere of ***Memento Mori***, a painting series by Yuri Shimojo dedicated to the memory of the lives lost in the disaster. On the opening day of the exhibit (March 11), the public is invited to join an online conversation between the artis; Yng-Ru Chen, gallery founder; and Dr. Gennifer Weisenfeld, Professor of Art History & Visual Studies at Duke University.

Information: <https://praiseshadows.com/exhibitions/memento-mori/>

Registration for talk: <https://rsvp.duke.edu/d/cjgpbj/>

Film about artist: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tGD0rXxn4gw>

### ***The Kimono in Print: 300 Years of Japanese Design***

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

**The exhibit runs until May 2**

This is the museum's first exhibit devoted to examining the kimono as a major source of inspiration and experimentation in Japanese print culture from the Edo period (1603-1868) to the Meiji period (1868-1912). This dialogue between print and kimono design is illustrated by approximately 70 Japanese prints. Print artists from this period documented ever-evolving trends in fashion, popularized certain styles of dress, and even designed kimonos.

Information on this exhibit: <https://www.worcesterart.org/exhibitions/kimono-in-print/>

Information on tickets & admission: <https://www.worcesterart.org/exhibitions/kimono-in-print/>

### ***Kimono Couture: The Beauty of Chiso***

**Virtual Exhibition**

The **Worcester Art Museum** is partnering with Chiso, the distinguished, 465-year-old, Kyoto-based kimono house to present a view of the world of traditional kimono design and artistry. Over the course of 10 weeks, the virtual exhibit provided a rare, behind-the-scenes look at the creation of the *Worcester Wedding Kimono*, the first kimono ever commissioned as a work of art by an art museum. The final episode of the series will be available on February 6. For information and access to the video series, go to:

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