



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

MARCH 2024

www.nejacl.org

FESTIVALS, PROGRAMS, EVENTS

Rolling Lunar New Year Parade

Sunday, March 3 from 12 to 4 pm

Beginning in Boston Chinatown and winding through Cambridge, Belmont, Somerville and Malden, the multicultural motorcade is hosted by the **Chinese American Heritage Foundation**, with co-hosts: **Belmont Pan-Asian Coalition, Chinese American Association of Cambridge, Chinese Culture Connection, Korean American Citizens League of NE, and Chinese American Citizens Alliance Boston.** INFO:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=10161123498736686&set=gm.3534404503537374&id=2160328294278342>

Multicultural Lunar New Year Festival & Parade

Sunday, March 3 from 12 to 2 pm

Leonard St., Belmont Center

Rain date: **Sunday, March 10.** Enjoy a lion dance and martial arts demonstration at Moore & Leonard Streets. Plus: more dances, activities, local vendors and Pan-Asian hot teas and snacks! Presented by the **Belmont Pan-Asian Coalition.** INFO: www.belmontpac.org.

Book Talk: *River East, River West*

Monday, March 4 at 7 pm

Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St., Brookline

Author **Aube Rey Lescure** discusses her book with writer **R.F. Kuang.** Set against the backdrop of developing modern China, this mesmerizing literary debut is part coming-of-age tale, part family and social drama, as it follows two generations searching for belonging and opportunity in a rapidly changing world. **INFO & RSVP:**

<https://www.brooklinebooksmith.com/event/aube-rey-lescure-rf-kuang>

Virtual Presentation:

Beyond the Blade: Japanese Knife Craftsmanship

Tuesday, March 5 at 6 pm

Kentaro Hoshiba is a fourth generation blacksmith whose family has been supporting fishing and farming villages in Noto since the Meiji period by polishing and selling knives. Their company, **Fukube Kaji**, began in 1901 as traveling knife peddlers, selling and maintaining the vital everyday tools of housewives, farmers, and fishermen. Today, they keep the tradition of knife polishing services alive through *Pochisupa*, with the help of online shipping. They are working to expand business to the U.S., and launch their own knives. Presented by the **Japan Society of Boston.** **INFO & Registration:**

<https://www.japansocietyboston.org/events/beyond-the-blade%3A-japanese-knife-craftsmanship->

Book Talk: *36 Ways of Writing a Vietnamese Poem***Monday, March 11 at 7 pm****Harvard Book Store, 1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge**

Nam Le discusses his debut book of poetry with **Wyatt Mason**, contributing writer, *The New York Times Magazine*. In his first international release since the best-seller, *The Boat*, Nam Le delivers a book-length poem that honors every convention of diasporic literature before shattering the form itself. **INFO:** https://www.harvard.com/event/nam_le/

Virtual Talk: *Re/imagine Peace* with Machiko Harada**Tuesday, March 12 at 5 pm**

Machiko Harada will discuss what warfare means to us now by considering the ongoing consequences of World War II through the work of Japanese and Japanese American contemporary artists. She is a curator, writer, and cultural mediator based in Santa Fe, New Mexico. This event is sponsored by *Hyperallergic*, an online forum for playful, serious, and radical perspectives on art in society. An article by Harada was featured in a recent issue of *Hyperallergic* (see link below). **INFO & Registration:**

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_5OZQ8PI0SV-3mDPgp_fbHw#/registration

JA Artists Revisit the Legacy of WWII by Machiko Harada:

https://hyperallergic.com/873111/japanese-american-artists-revisit-the-painful-legacy-of-wwii/?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=D022224&utm_content=D022224+CID_b6a5436e93ccb94e1b0dc40bff5ae4c&utm_source=hn&utm_term=Japanese-American+Artists+Revisit+the+Painful+Legacy+of+WWII

Book Talk: *Here After: A Memoir***Friday, March 15 at 7 pm****Belmont Books, 79 Leonard St., Belmont**

Canadian author **Amy Lin** discusses her memoir with **Grace Talusan**. *Here After* is a poetic, raw depiction of an unlikely love followed by a dizzying loss.

INFO: <https://www.belmontbooks.com/event/amy-lin-conversation-grace-talusan>

Book Talk: *Memory Piece: A Novel***Thursday, March 28 at 7 pm.****Harvard Book Store, 1256 Mass. Ave., Cambridge**

Lisa Ko, author of *The Leavers*, discusses her novel with **Asako Serizawa**, author of *Inheritors*. In the early 1980s, Giselle Chin, Jackie Ong and Ellen Ng are three teenagers drawn together by their shared sense of alienation and desire for something different. "Allied in the weirdest parts of themselves," they envision each other as artistic collaborators and embark on a future defined by freedom and creativity. By the time they are adults, their dreams are murkier. Over time their friendship matures and changes, their definitions of success become complicated, and their sense of what matters evolves. **INFO:** https://www.harvard.com/event/lisa_ko1/

CONCERTS, FILMS, PERFORMANCES**Film: *The Paradox of Seabrook Farms*****• Sunday, March 3 at 11 am****Emerson Paramount Center, 559 Washington St., Boston**

This film by **Helga Merits** is a universal story of hope and new beginnings about people who came to Seabrook Farms with nothing and left with opportunities. In the middle of the 20th century, Seabrook Farms was one of the largest agricultural operations in the U.S. and a pioneer in the frozen food industry. Their success depended on the labor of over 3,000 employees in a company community representing more than two dozen cultures and 30

languages. The primary workers were Japanese Americans from U.S. incarceration camps and displaced persons from Estonia and other European countries overrun during World War II. They came to Seabrook with nothing but suitcases to restart their lives. The film captures their true-life stories of survival and perseverance, reflecting the same struggles for freedom from war and oppression that are in today's headlines around the world.

Presented by the **Boston Baltic Film Festival**. **INFO & Tickets:**

<https://www.bostonbalticfilm.org/films2024/theparadoxofsebrookfarms>

- **March 16 at 11 am** **Levoy Theatre, 130 North High St., Millville, NJ**

AAPI Voices: The Dragonfly Plays

through **Saturday, March 9** **The Park Playhouse, 1 Edgemere Ave., Burlington**

Featuring 3 short plays: ***Chagrin Valley*** by **Hortense Gerardo**; ***Don't Fence Me In*** by **Rosanna Yamagiwa Alfaro**; and ***Secret Asian Man*** by **Dev Luthra**. Presented by **The Burlington Players**. **INFO & Tickets:** <https://www.burlingtonplayers.com/home>

12th Annual Seattle Asian American Film Festival

Virtual Screenings: February 26 to March 3 <https://seattleaaff.org/>

Among the short films: ***Benkyodo: The Last Manju Shop in J-Town*** (2023). Ricky and Bobby Okamura, the current owners of Benkyodo mochi shop, make a difficult decision to close their family business. The shop, a landmark for Japanese Americans and Asian Americans in the San Francisco Bay Area, is one of two mochi shops currently open in the Bay Area. Currently 115 years old, the business has endured the anti-Asian laws of the early 20th century, Japanese incarceration, redevelopment of the 1960s, and San Francisco's notorious high costs of living. The unsurmountable economic pressure, coupled with the brothers' desire to preserve their Japanese heritage, family business, and community space, create an age-old conflict many children of diaspora face—preserving their culture or submitting to the economic forces of racial capitalism. Directed by **Akira Boch** and **Tadashi Nakamura**. **INFO:**

<https://saaff2024.eventive.org/films/benkyodo-the-last-manju-shop-in-j-town-65ada8f621b9e50081cfbfc>

Film: *in water* by Hong Sangsoo

Sunday, March 3 at 7 pm

Harvard Film Archive, Carpenter Center for the Visual Arts, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge

INFO: <https://harvardfilmarchive.org/calendar/in-water-2024-03>

UNIQLO Festival of Films from Japan

Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston

- **Sunday, March 3 from 2:30 to 4:30 pm – *Blue Monster***
- **Saturday, March 16 from 1 to 4:00 pm – *Seven Samurai***
- **Friday, March 29 from 7 to 9 pm – *Blue Giant***
- **Thursday, April 4 from 7 to 9 pm – *Perfect Days***

INFO: <https://www.mfa.org/series/uniqlo-festival-of-films-from-japan>

Film: *Perfect Days*

Through Thursday, March 7

Hirayama is content with his life as a toilet cleaner in Tokyo. Outside of his structured routine he cherishes music on cassette tapes, books, and taking photos of trees. Through unexpected

encounters, he reflects on finding beauty in the world. Film has been nominated for Best International Feature Film at the 96th Academy Awards, from director **Wim Wenders**.

AMC Theatres: <https://www.amctheatres.com/movies/perfect-days-75242>

Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline: <https://coolidge.org/films/perfect-days>

Embassy Theater, 16 Pine St., Waltham:

<https://www.embassytheaterwaltham.com/movie/perfect-days>

ArtsEmerson Projecting Connections: Chinese American Experiences **Film: Rally**

Friday, March 8 at 7 pm

Emerson Paramount Center, 559 Washington St., Boston

Rally tells the story of controversial, but influential, political activist **Rose Pak**. After fleeing the Cultural Revolution with her family, then growing up in Macau, Rose came to the United States to become a journalist before being swept up in the burgeoning progressive movement of the 70s. So deep in the power structure of city government, those who ran for office gave her the moniker of kingmaker. This Chinese woman, small in stature, working out of a small office in Chinatown, had the ability to make you mayor of San Francisco. Q&A with director **Rooth Tang** and community leaders follows. **INFO & Tickets:** www.artsemerson.org/events/rally

DisOrient Asian American Film Festival <https://disorientfilm.org/>

In-Person: March 8 to March 10 – Eugene, OR

Virtual Screenings: March 11 to March 17

Among the short films: **Benkyodo: The Last Manju Shop in J-Town** (2023).

Comedian Jo Koy

Friday, March 8 at 8 pm

TD Garden, 100 Legends Way, Boston

Jo Koy has had four comedy specials on Comedy Central and Netflix. He is on a mission to educate the masses on how to raise a millennial, the intricacies of Filipino traditions, and more! On his weekly podcast, **The Koy Pond with Jo Koy**, he welcomes friends and fellow comedians to share their hilarious insights on life. **Tickets:**

<https://www.eventticketscenter.com/jo-koy-boston-03-08-2024/5996004/t>

Film: The Perfect Motion

Performance by Urban Khmer Ballet

Wednesday, March 13 – Pre-Screening 3 to 5 pm; Film & Performance 7 to 9 pm

Richard & Nancy Donahue Family Academic Arts Center, 240 Central St., Lowell

The film by **Xavier de Lauzanne** follows the creation of a show called **Metamorphosis** and the history of the **Royal Ballet of Cambodia** since 1906, when Auguste Rodin tried to capture through his drawings the essence of this art he had just discovered. The conception and preparation of the new show, as well as the performances across France, lead to a journey of discovery of the Ballet's incredible odyssey. Performance by **Urban Khmer Ballet** follows.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8wNDCyS0vFU>. **INFO & RSVP:**

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfzef9yRykoZNPQztOR06gd9ric5BiuNJJuTBInsKkfYHGm7Wg/viewform?pli=1>

Concert: Miho Hazama and m_unit

Saturday, March 16 at 8 pm

Berklee Performance Ctr., 136 Massachusetts Ave., Boston

Grammy-nominated composer and conductor **Miho Hazama** creates inventive, complex and surprising compositions for **m_unit**, the 13-piece orchestral jazz collective that she conducts.

They have recorded three albums. Their 2019 *Dancer in Nowhere*, received a Grammy nomination for Best Large Jazz Ensemble Album. Presented by **Celebrity Series of Boston**.

INFO: <https://www.celebrityseries.org/productions/miho-hazama-and-m-unit/>

Concert: Bokyung Byun

Saturday, March 16 at 8 pm

UMass Amherst, Old Chapel, 144 Hicks Way, Amherst

Korean guitarist **Bokyung Byun** holds the distinction of having been the first woman to win the prestigious JoAnn Falletta International Guitar Concerto Competition. Other honors include the grand prize at the 2021 Guitar Foundation of America International Concert Artist Competition and a 2023 Avery Fisher Career Grant. **INFO & Tickets:**

https://fac.umass.edu/Online/default.asp?BOParam::WScontent::loadArticle::permalink=GuitarraByun&BOParam::WScontent::loadArticle::context_id=

Concert: JIJI

• **Thursday, March 21 at 7 pm**

Somerville Theatre, Crystal Ballroom, 55 Davis Sq., Somerville

“One of the 21 composers/performers who sound like tomorrow” (*The Washington Post*), **JIJI** is equally at home on acoustic and electric guitar. She is the first guitarist to win the prestigious Concert Artists Guild Award in 30 years. Her program, ***Classical Goes Electric***, begins in the Italian Renaissance and ends in the present day, bringing together composers like Paganini, Tania León, Steve Reich, and JIJI herself. Presented by **Celebrity Series of Boston**. **INFO:** <https://www.celebrityseries.org/productions/jiji/>

• **Thursday, April 11 at 7:30 pm**

UMass Amherst, Bowker Auditorium, 80 Campus Center Way, Amherst

INFO: https://fac.umass.edu/Online/default.asp?BOParam::WScontent::loadArticle::permalink=JIJI&BOParam::WScontent::loadArticle::context_id=

Concert: Otoboke Beaver

Thursday, March 21 at 7 pm

Royale, 279 Tremont St., Boston

Otoboke Beaver are a punk-rock-garage quartet from Kyoto, Japan. Formed at Kyoto University's music club, the band consists of **Accorinrin** (Lead Vocal & Guitar), **Yoyoyoshie** (Guitar & Vocals), **Hirochan** (Bass & Vocals) and **Kahokiss** (Drums & Vocals).

INFO: <https://www.japansocietyboston.org/events/otoboke-beaver>

Concert: Chromic Duo

Friday, March 22 at 7 pm

Somerville Theatre, Crystal Ballroom, 55 Davis Sq., Somerville

Lucy Yao and **Dorothy Chan**, as **Chromic Duo**, use toy pianos, “real” pianos, electronics and multimedia to uncover truths and reimagine human connection. Their program ***Room of Oceans*** invites audiences to reflect on the question, “how can we create moments of connection and empathy?” Presented by **Celebrity Series of Boston**. **INFO:**

<https://www.celebrityseries.org/productions/chromic-duo/>

Concert: Bruce Liu

Saturday, March 23 at 8 pm

Jordan Hall, 50 Gainsborough St., Boston

Canadian pianist **Bruce Liu**, launched on the fast track to classical superstardom when he won the 18th Chopin Competition in 2021, makes his Boston debut. With a program that spans the centuries, Liu will demonstrate the versatility and virtuosity that will make him a must-hear artist

for decades to come. Presented by **Celebrity Series of Boston**. INFO:

<https://www.celebrityseries.org/productions/bruce-liu-piano/>

The 13th Boston Charity Concert

Sunday, March 24 - Concert at 3:30 pm, preceded by Bake Sale at 3 pm

First Parish UU Church, 630 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington

The Boston Charity Concert began in 2011 when Boston musicians came together to support those affected by the Great East Japan Earthquake. Proceeds from this year's concert will benefit the victims of the January 1, 2024 Noto Peninsula earthquake and the Japanese Bostonians Support Line's music program for Japanese Seniors in Boston. **Tickets:** \$20 early bird (by 3/23); \$25 Adult; \$10 Grades 1-12 ; Free Preschool and under. **Tickets & Donations:**

<https://www.bostoncharityconcert.com/contact>

Film: *Hausu (House)*

Wednesday, March 27 at 7 pm

Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline

An unforgettable mixture of bubblegum teen melodrama and grisly phantasmagoria, Nobuhiko Obayashi's deranged fairy tale is one of Japanese cinema's wildest supernatural ventures and a truly startling debut feature. **INFO:** <https://coolidge.org/films/house-hausu>

Comedian Ronny Chieng – *The Love to Hate It Tour*

Friday, March 29 at 10 pm and Saturday, March 30 at 9:45 pm

Wilbur Theatre, 246 Tremont St., Boston

Ronny Chieng is a stand-up comedian, actor and Correspondent on *The Daily Show*. In addition to two Netflix comedy specials, he has starred in *Crazy Rich Asians*, Marvel's "*Shang-Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings*", *M3GAN*, *American Born Chinese*, *Doogie Kamealoha, M.D.*, *Vacation Friends 2*, *Joy Ride* and the upcoming Hulu series *Interior Chinatown*.

INFO & Tickets: <https://thewilbur.com/artist/ronny-chieng/>

Chronicles of Changing Times: The Cinema of Edward Yang

Friday, March 29 to Wednesday, May 22

Harvard Film Archive, Carpenter Center for Visual Arts, 24 Quincy St., Cambridge

According to a well-known anecdote, **Haruki Murakami** only began writing fiction when he was 29. When watching a baseball game, he suddenly had an epiphany that he could write a novel. After that he went home and started writing, giving birth to his first book 9 months later. Like Murakami, **Edward Yang** (1947-2007) had a similar flash of insight at a similar age when he came across Werner Herzog's *Aguirre, the Wrath of God* (1972). This film became a powerful inspiration, reminding him that magnificent films could be made without an extravagant budget. Having made up his mind, in early 1980s he came back to Taiwan and launched a 20-year career that was only too short for his immense talent and brilliance. As a leading figure of the Taiwan New Cinema, Yang conducted a series of inquiries into the trials and tribulations of contemporary life in Taipei through seven and a quarter feature-length films.

INFO: <https://harvardfilmarchive.org/programs/chronicles-of-changing-times-the-cinema-of-edward-yang>

Concert: Rasa String Quartet

Saturday, April 6 at 1 pm

Arlington Street Church, 351 Boylston St., Boston

The Boston-based **Rasa String Quartet** - **Kiyoshi Hayashi**, violin; **Maura Shawn Scanlin**, violin/viola; **Emma Kondo Powell**, violin/viola and **Mina Kim**, cello - explores the musical space

where classical and global folk traditions intersect and influence one another, inspiring curiosity and powerful emotions. They bring together folk selections and highlights from anime and film scores from Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Taiwanese backgrounds in this fascinating and beautiful program. Presented by **Celebrity Series of Boston**. **INFO & Tickets:**

<https://www.celebrityseries.org/productions/rasa-string-quartet/>

Concert: Vista Philharmonic Orchestra featuring Midori

Saturday, April 6 at 7:30 pm

Groton Hill Music Center, 122 Old Ayer Rd., Groton

Maestro **Bruce Hangen** welcomes violinist **Midori**. "She is one of a few international stars who make a point of playing with orchestras like ours in addition to the major metropolitan centers of the world," says Bruce. The concert will feature works from the classical and romantic periods as well as symphonic music based on Hungarian folk tunes. **INFO & Tickets:**

<https://grotonhill.org/concerts/vista-philharmonic-orchestra-featuring-midori/>

Concert: Grace Kelly with Strings: At the Movies

Thursday, April 11 at 7:30 pm

Regent Theatre, 7 Medford St., Arlington

Jazz saxophonist, singer, composer, songwriter **Grace Kelly** comes with a 15-piece large ensemble including strings; taking us on a musical journey to Hollywood and giving new life to some of the silver-screens greatest tunes. Her new album comes out on March 1st.

INFO & Tickets: [https://regenttheatre.csstix.com/event-](https://regenttheatre.csstix.com/event-details.php?e=220&mc_cid=99b7da3fc6&mc_eid=fa6aecb9d0)

[details.php?e=220&mc_cid=99b7da3fc6&mc_eid=fa6aecb9d0](https://regenttheatre.csstix.com/event-details.php?e=220&mc_cid=99b7da3fc6&mc_eid=fa6aecb9d0)

More Than Underdogs: Asian American Films at Sundance 2024

With all the talk of Oscar snubs, 2024 has been a sparse year for new Asian American-helmed works at the **Sundance Film Festival** – just 1 documentary short, 3 full-length documentaries, and 1 narrative film. Asian American filmmakers remain underdogs, coincidentally a common theme in many of their films. Learn about these films on the **CAAM** (Center for Asian American Media) blog: <https://caamedia.org/blog/2024/01/31/more-than-underdogs-asian-american-films-at-sundance-2024/>

Guide to Asian and Asian American Representation at the Oscars

With the 96th Academy Awards just around the corner, **CAAM** reflects on another year of Asian American media. Following major hits of recent years like *Everything Everywhere All At Once*, *Minari*, and *Parasite*, the nominated films of 2024 delve into quieter narratives of resilience, stories beneath the surface, and deeply personal journeys. While we may not anticipate another groundbreaking moment at this year's ceremony akin to the success of *Everything Everywhere*, which will forever be remembered among Asian Americans as a defining moment in history, this year's nominees continue to illuminate the diverse breadth of Asian and Asian American experiences that are resonating with audiences around the world. In preparation for the Oscars on **Sunday, March 10**, check out CAAM's list of some of the nominated films featuring Asian and Asian American creatives.

<https://caamedia.org/blog/2024/02/14/asian-and-asian-american-representation-at-the-2020-oscars-academy-awards/>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2024 JACL National Scholarship Program – Applications Available

The JACL has been helping students achieve their educational dreams with the National Scholarship and Awards Program since 1946. The program offers over 30 awards, with an annual total of over \$70,000 in scholarships to qualified students who are entering freshman, undergraduate, graduate, law, in the creative & performing arts, and those with financial need. All scholarships are one-time awards. **Deadlines: March 1, 2024 for Freshman Scholarships, April 1, 2024 for all others.** INFO: <https://jacl.org/scholarships>

2024 OCA Scholarships

OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates offers scholarships for graduating high school seniors, rising college students, and students pursuing a Master's in Public Administration. INFO on OCA scholarships and other scholarships: <https://www.ocanational.org/scholarships>

New Book: *Sounding Our Way Home:*

Japanese American Musicking and the Politics of Identity

NE JACL member **Susan M. Asai's** new book explores a generation-spanning history of music making and the sense of belonging it engenders. Susan is Professor Emerita of Ethnomusicology at Northeastern University. INFO: <https://www.upress.state.ms.us/Books/S/Sounding-Our-Way-Home>

JANM Debuts New Podcast: *Japanese America*

Join the Japanese American National Museum on an insightful podcast journey through historical milestones to contemporary perspectives with cohosts **Michelle MaliZaki** and **Koji Sakai**. This collection from JANM showcases a diverse community that shapes the American story in extraordinary ways. In the first episode, learn how Yuri Kochiyama's incarceration camp experiences transformed her into a civil rights icon. Listen and subscribe at your favorite podcast app. INFO: <https://linktr.ee/JapaneseAmericaPodcast>

CLASSES, WORKSHOPS

Kaji Aso Studio

40 Saint Stephen St., Boston

Japanese Seasonal Song Class with Mikiko Sato

- 4 Wednesdays – March 6 to 27 from 1 to 2:30 pm - \$150

<https://www.kajiasostudio.com/copy-of-japanese-seasonal-song-class-1>

Japanese Calligraphy Class with Michiko Imai

- 4 Wednesdays – March 6 to 27 from 3:30 to 5:30 pm - \$120

<https://www.kajiasostudio.com/>

Virtual Cooking Class: *Tonkatsu, Tofu Tonkatsu & Katsu Sando*

Saturday, March 23 at 5 pm

Originating in Japan during the Meiji Era in the late 19th century, *tonkatsu* is a type of *yōshoku* - Japanese versions of European cuisine - and has become one of the most popular dishes in Japan today. Crispy on the outside and juicy on the inside, participants will learn how to make the traditional fried pork cutlet, discover how tofu can be a healthy substitute, and also

incorporate your creation in a *katsu sando* sandwich. Accompanied by cabbage cole slaw and spicy edamame, this month's dishes can be prepared vegetarian and/or gluten-free. Instructor: **Debra Samuels**. Ingredient list will be provided before the event. **INFO & Registration:** [https://www.japansocietyboston.org/events/%E3%81%8A%E3%81%86%E3%81%A1%E3%81%94%E3%81%AF%E3%82%93%E3%81%BC\(ouchigohan\)---tofukatsu-and-tonkatsu](https://www.japansocietyboston.org/events/%E3%81%8A%E3%81%86%E3%81%A1%E3%81%94%E3%81%AF%E3%82%93%E3%81%BC(ouchigohan)---tofukatsu-and-tonkatsu)

Odaiko New England – Introductory Taiko Workshop

Regent Underground Theatre, 7 Medford St., Arlington

Sunday, March 31 from 9 to 10:30 am

INFO: <https://onetaiko.org/web/classes/workshops/>

Japanese American National Museum – Educator Workshops

- **Free Virtual Workshop: *Teaching the Youth Experience of Japanese American World War II Incarceration* – April 11**

Presented in conjunction with new virtual visit offering: *Youth in Camp: Coming of Age Behind Barbed Wire*

- **In-Person Workshop: *Little Tokyo: How History Shapes A Community Across Generations* – June 24-28 and July 15-19**
- **Virtual Professional Development Workshops** for up to 30 educators can be arranged for schools, districts, or other groups of educators.

INFO: <https://www.janm.org/education/workshops>

2024 INCARCERATION CAMP PILGRIMAGES

Japanese American Memorial Pilgrimages - www.jampilgrimages.org

The **National Park Service** recently designated Amache incarceration camp as the **Amache National Historic Site** in Granada, Colorado. <https://www.nps.gov/amch/index.htm>

- **Amache – May 17-19** - <https://amache.org/pilgrimage/>
- **Amache Field School – July 5-6** – <https://amache.org/archaeology-open-house/>
- **Angel Island – October 5** - <https://nichibeifoundation.org/educational-programs/nikkei-angel-island-pilgrimage/>
- **Crystal City – To be announced** - <https://www.crystalcitypilgrimage.org/>
- **Heart Mountain – July 25-27** – <https://www.heartmountain.org/visit/events/pilgrimage/>
- **Jerome/Rohwer – June 5-8** - <https://www.jampilgrimages.org/group-pilgrimages>
- **Manzanar – April 27** - <https://manzanarcommittee.org/manzanar-pilgrimage-faq/>
- **Minidoka – July 4-7** - <https://www.minidokapilgrimage.org/>
- **Poston – To be announced** - <https://www.postonpreservation.org/pilgrimage>
- **Topaz Art Pilgrimage – May 2-4** - <https://friendsoftopaz.org/events/save-the-date-topaz-art-pilgrimage>
- **Tule Lake – July 5-8** - <https://www.tulelake.org/pilgrimage>

EXHIBITS

Outdoor Installation: *Year of the Dragon 2024*

The Rose Kennedy Greenway Conservancy continues its annual Chinese zodiac series with two new public artworks in **Auntie Kay and Uncle Frank Chin Park** in Boston Chinatown.

- **Ponnapa Prakkamakul's** installation is a 20-foot long interactive dragon, playfully named *Ju Long, Ju Long* (巨龙, 聚龙), which means **Giant Dragon, Gathering Dragon**. Formed out of brightly colored plywood, it stands 7 feet tall, 4 feet wide, and is engraved with quotes from members of Boston's Chinatown community. It features 2 hands-on elements for children: a large spinning kaleidoscope and a hand drum. In June, Prakkamakul will install the dragon's "tail", a vinyl ground mural that was collaboratively created with A-VOYCE youth that will stretch 60 feet throughout Chin Park. February 2024 through January 2025.

<https://www.rosekennedygreenway.org/art-exhibit/year-of-the-dragon/ponnapa>

- **Zhidong Zhang's *Far Away, From Home*** will be installed in Chin Park in mid-March. This image-based sculpture features photographs displayed in a curio cabinet reminiscent of furniture from Zhang's childhood. March 2024 to March 2025.

<https://www.rosekennedygreenway.org/art-exhibit/year-of-the-dragon/zhidong>

Press Release: <https://www.rosekennedygreenway.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Year-of-the-Dragon-Lunar-New-Year-Press-Release.pdf>

Pao Arts Center

99 Albany St., Boston Chinatown

- **Lunchbox Moments: *Seek Understanding, Share Stories, Stop Hate*** through March 16

<https://www.paoartscenter.org/events/2023/lunchbox-moments-1>

- **Chinatown Worker Statues: *A Statue in the Making*** through March 16

Wen-ti Tsen's bronze statues represent four different workers from the Chinese immigrant community: the laundryman, the restaurant worker, the garment worker, and the grandmother tending a child. Last spring, Wen-ti exhibited 40%-scale clay models. This year, he is building the life-size statue of the laundryman in clay. He works on-site on: • **Thursdays, March 7 & 14 from 4 to 6 pm** • **Fridays, March 1, 8 & 15 from 3 to 5 pm** • **Saturdays, March 2 & 16 from 1 to 4 pm.** <https://www.paoartscenter.org/events/2023/workerstatues>

Outdoor Installation: *Hudson Street Stoop: Dancing Dragon*

One Greenway Park, 66-88 Hudson St., Boston Chinatown www.asiancdc.org/hss

WNDR Museum

500 Washington St., Boston (Downtown Crossing)

through December 31

Yayoi Kusama's *Let's Survive Forever* is featured among 20+ other immersive exhibits.

WNDR is a collective of thinkers, artists, poets and designers, working at the intersection of art and technology. **INFO & Tickets:** <https://wndrmuseum.com/location/boston/>

Yayoi's Kusama's exhibit: <https://wndrmuseum.com/exhibit/lets-survive-forever-boston/>

Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston

25 Harbor Shore Dr., Boston

- **Wu Tsang: *Of Whales***

through August 4

<https://www.icaboston.org/exhibitions/wu-tsang-whales/>

New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill***Patterns in Bloom: An Orchid Exhibition***<https://nebg.org/patterns-in-bloom/>; <https://nebg.org/orchids-after-dark/>11 French Dr., Boylston
through March 17**Museum of Fine Arts**465 Huntington Ave., Boston
through September 29

- **Toshiko Takaazu: Shaping Abstraction**

<https://www.mfa.org/exhibition/toshiko-takaazu-shaping-abstraction>

- **Hallyu! The Korean Wave**

March 24 to July 28

From tradition to trendsetting ... Today, South Korea is a cultural superpower—a global trendsetter producing award-winning films like *Parasite*, riveting dramas like *Squid Game*, and chart-topping music by K-pop groups such as BTS and BLACKPINK. But behind the country's meteoric rise to the world stage—a phenomenon known as the *Korean Wave*, or *hallyu*—is the story of resilience and innovation. <https://www.mfa.org/exhibition/hallyu-the-korean-wave>

Related Events:

- April 11 – Concert: **Ajaeng in America: Korean Music and Delta Blues**
- April 12 - Symposium: **Global Korea Beyond the Wave**
- May 2 – Lecture: **Min Jin Lee: Writing and the Korean Wave**

<https://www.mfa.org/related/events/102946>**ELSEWHERE****Theater: *Warrior Sisters of Wu***

through Sunday, March 10

ART/NY Mezzanine Theatre, 502 W. 53rd St., FL 2, New York, NY

Pan Asian Repertory Theatre presents the world premiere of this romantic comedy. *Romance of the Three Kingdoms* meets *Pride and Prejudice* in this scintillating ensemble tale of two Han Dynasty swordswomen battling tradition to gain love, respect and self-determination.

INFO: <https://www.panasianrep.org/wws>**Museum of Chinese in America**215 Centre St., New York, NY
through May 6***Five Senses of Chinatown***<https://www.mocanyc.org/event/five-senses-of-chinatown/>**2024 National Cherry Blossom Festival**

March 20 to April 14

In Washington, DC. INFO: <https://nationalcherryblossomfestival.org/>**Utah Museum of Fine Arts**

Marcia & John Price Museum Building, 410 Campus Center Dr., Salt Lake City, UT

Pictures of Belonging: Miki Hayakawa, Hisako Hibi, and Miné Okubo through June 30

This exhibit reveals a broader picture of the American experience through artworks and life stories of three Japanese American women from the pre–World War II generation, seen together for the first time. With more than 80 paintings and drawings, this exhibit spans 8 decades and reveals both the range and depth of these artists' oeuvres and connections that have not been explored previously. The **Japanese American National Museum** presents the national tour of this exhibit, which is traveling to 4 venues across the U.S. before its final stop at the Museum in late 2026. <https://umfa.utah.edu/pictures-of-belonging>

Japanese American National Museum 100 North Central Ave., Los Angeles, CA• **Giant Robot Biennale 5****March 2 to September 1**

Since 2007, the JANM has partnered with **Eric Nakamura**, founder of **Giant Robot** (<https://www.giantrobot.com/>) to produce a recurring art exhibit that highlights diverse creative works celebrating the ethos of Giant Robot—a staple of Asian American alternative pop culture and an influential brand encompassing pop art, skateboard, comic book, graphic arts, and vinyl toy culture. Artists: **Sean Chao, Felicia Chiao, Luke Chueh, Giorgiko, James Jean, Taylor Lee, Rain Szeto and Yoskay Yamamoto**, among others. <https://www.janm.org/exhibits/grb5>

• **J.T. Sata: Immigrant Modernist****March 15 to September 1**

James Tadanao Sata (1896–1975) created some of the most adventurous photographs made in America in the 1920s and '30s. He came to the U.S. in 1918. Despite his good education and the elevated social status of his samurai heritage, he worked a variety of menial jobs, including as a servant and custodian. However, Sata's artistic ambitions led him to become an amateur art photographer. He photographed in and around Little Tokyo, at the sea and in the mountains of Southern California. He also created modernist portraits and abstractions. At the onset of World War II, Sata was forced to abandon photography since cameras were deemed contraband for those of Japanese heritage. During the forced removal of Japanese Americans, the Sata family lived in a horse stall at Santa Anita temporary detention center. Later, they were moved to the Jerome and Gila River incarceration camps in Arkansas and Arizona, where Sata made drawings and paintings of life in the camps. Both his pre-war photographs and camp artwork expressed a sense of beauty, isolation and fortitude in the face of a daunting and complicated world. <https://www.janm.org/exhibits/jt-sata>

Theater: *Larry the Musical: An American Journey***Saturday, March 16 to Sunday, April 14****Brava Main Stage, 2781 24th St., San Francisco, CA**

The musical pays homage to **Larry Itliong's** remarkable legacy as a labor activist in California's Central Valley. It breathes life into Itliong's extraordinary journey, illuminating the pivotal role of the Filipino American community in shaping his leadership. **INFO & Trailer:**

<https://www.brava.org/all-events/larrythemusical>**Asian Art Museum****200 Larkin St., San Francisco, CA**• **Ruth Asawa: Untitled (S.272)****on-going**<https://exhibitions.asianart.org/exhibitions/ruth-asawa-untitled/>• **Japanese Ink Paintings****through May 6**<https://exhibitions.asianart.org/exhibitions/japanese-ink-paintings/>• **Japanese Tastes in Chinese Ceramics: Tea Utensils, Kaiseki Dishes and More – May 6**<https://exhibitions.asianart.org/exhibitions/japanese-tastes-in-chinese-ceramics/>• **Deities, Paragons & Legends: Storytelling in Chinese Pictorial Arts****through July 8**<https://exhibitions.asianart.org/exhibitions/deities-paragons-and-legends/>• **Into View: New Voices, New Stories****through October 17**<https://exhibitions.asianart.org/exhibitions/into-view-new-voices-new-stories/>**Chinese Historical Society of America****985 Clay St., San Francisco, CA**• **Chinese in the Richmond** <https://chsa.org/chinese-in-the-richmond/>**on-going**• **Living in Chinatown: Memories in Miniature Created by Frank Wong****on-going**<https://chsa.org/collections/living-in-chinatown-memories-in-miniature-created-by-frank-wong/>

Japanese American Museum of San Jose ***Celebrating Kimono: From Garments to Activism***

535 North 5th St., San Jose, CA
through March 10

While Kimono is foundationally a garment, with its patterns, embroidery and color, it is also an art form and a conduit of unspoken communication. This exhibit embraces the many facets of the kimono across centuries and cultures. <https://www.jamsj.org/exhibitions>

Japanese American Museum of Oregon

411 NW Flanders St., Portland, OR

Craft, Community, And Care: The Art and Legacy of Bob Shimabukuro through April 14

Exhibit explores the life of Okinawan American activist, artist and writer **Bob Shimabukuro**.

Instrumental in the Pacific Northwest's Japanese American Redress Movement, Shimabukuro was an acclaimed woodworker and furniture maker known for his design of the Portland restaurant Tanuki. He served as an editor and columnist for *The Pacific Citizen*, the official paper for the JACL, and the *International Examiner* in Seattle. Remembered by a friend as "a bit of a philosopher, a little bit of a dreamer, a social activist, a little bit of an artist, all wrapped up in one," Shimabukuro imbued each of his many endeavors with deep care and dedication to social justice. He once wrote, "We must stand together, in struggle and in solidarity, whenever we can." <https://jamo.org/exhibits/shimabukuro/>

Northwest Nikkei Museum

Japanese Cultural & Community Center of Washington 1414 South Weller St., Seattle, WA

• ***Genji Mihara: An Issei Pioneer*** <https://www.jcccw.org/genji-mihara-an-issei-pioneer>

• ***Unsettled/Resettled: Seattle's Hunt Hotel*** <https://www.jcccw.org/hunt-hostel/>

INFO & Additional Exhibits: <https://www.jcccw.org/museum>

Wing Luke Museum

719 S. King St., Seattle, WA

• ***Sound Check! The Music We Make***

through September 14

<https://www.wingluke.org/soundcheck>

• ***Be Water, My Friend: The Teaching of Bruce Lee***

on-going

<https://www.wingluke.org/exhibit-be-water-my-friend>

• ***New Year's All Year Round: Theater, Dance and Sound***

through January 2025

<https://www.wingluke.org/newyearsallyear>

Television Programs about Japan on GBH

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

- ***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
- ***Newsline in Depth*** – Monday-Friday at 7:27 am - WORLD
- ***Newsroom Tokyo*** – Monday-Friday at 7 am - WORLD
- ***NHK Newsline*** – Monday-Friday at 6:30 pm – WORLD
- ***Trails to Oishii Tokyo*** – Sunday at 10 am – CREATE