



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

May 2013

P.O. Box 592 • Lincoln, MA 01773

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

### **Volunteers Needed for Sakura Matsuri**

The NE JACL will have a table at the Brookline Sakura Matsuri on Saturday, May 11 starting at noon at the Brookline High School, 115 Greenough Street, Brookline. The event will feature food, music crafts, games and dancing. It is sponsored by The Genki Spark and the Brookline High School Japan Program.

The event will run from 12pm-3pm. We would love to have people volunteer to sit at the NEJACL table. Perhaps you could volunteer for an hour, or throughout the festival. We will have membership flyers and host a fun game. Last year it was a trivia game on Japanese American trivia.

Please email Erin Hashimoto-Martell ([ehashimoto@gmail.com](mailto:ehashimoto@gmail.com)) if you are able to volunteer, and for what time. We look forward to seeing you there!

### **Masaoka Congressional Fellowship Available**

JACL is accepting applications for the 2013-2014 Masaoka Congressional Fellowship. The program places a fellow in the Washington, D.C., office of a member of the House of Representatives or Senate for a period of six months. Deadline for application is May 17. For more information go to: <http://www.jacl.org/leadership/masaoka.htm>.

## **Four Festivals in May to celebrate Japan**

### **Arlington Sakura Matsuri**

**Friday, May 3, from 6 to 8 pm**

**Ottoson Middle School, 869 Massachusetts Avenue, Arlington**

Hosted by the Arlington Nagaokakyo Sister City Exchange, this event will feature Japanese songs, taiko drums and traditional Japanese dancers. Admission is \$10 per family or \$5 for individuals.

### **Japan Festival 2013**

**Sunday, May 5, from 2 to 7 pm**

**Kaji Aso Studio, 40 Saint Stephen Street, Boston**

The Kaji Aso Studio will feature demonstrations of tea ceremony and calligraphy, a haiku contest and traditional music. Admission is \$10, students and seniors are \$8.

### **The Brookline Sakura Matsuri**

**Saturday, May 11 from noon to 4 pm**

**Brookline High School, 115 Greenough Street, Brookline.**

The event will feature food, music crafts, games and dancing. It is sponsored by The Genki Spark and the Brookline High School Japan Program. Suggested donation: \$5 to \$10. For more information go to: <http://www.thegenkispark.org>.

### **Boston's 2013 Japan Festival**

**Sunday, May 19, from 10 am to 6 pm**

**City Hall Plaza at Government Center, Boston**

The event will include Japanese food, arts, crafts, Japan related information, and stage performances and is sponsored by the Consulate-General of Japan in Boston and other affiliated organizations in Boston. For more information, go to: <http://www.japanfestivalboston.org>.

## **EVENTS IN NEW ENGLAND**

### **Gov. Patrick's Asian Pacific American Heritage Month Kickoff**

**Wednesday May 1, from 5:30 to 7:30 pm**

**Josiah Quincy School, 885 Washington Street, Boston**

This event is hosted by The Governor's Asian American Commission/Advisory Council. For event information or to RSVP contact: Christina Chan at [CChan84@gmail.com](mailto:CChan84@gmail.com) or Leverett Wing at [Leverett.L.Wing@gmail.com](mailto:Leverett.L.Wing@gmail.com). The program will have a live webcast: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/governor-deval-patrick-s-asian-american-commission>.

### ***Merchants in the Age of Exclusion: a Migration-oriented Business Model and the Spread of Chinese Food in the US, 1894-1943***

**Thursday, May 2, from noon to 1:30 pm**

**Campus Center, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Room 2540, UMass Boston**

Heather Lee looks at the 1915 court case United States vs. Lee Chee, which provided a legal precedent for thousands of Chinese laborers to immigrate to the US during the era of the Chinese exclusion (1882-1943). This loophole in US immigration laws enabled Chinese to develop the Chinese restaurant industry into what exists today.

### ***Asian American Women in the Public Sector***

**Thursday, May 9, from 6 to 8 pm**

**Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center, 38 Ash Street, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Boston**

Part of the ASPIRE (Asian Sisters Participating in Reaching Excellence) free speaker series that explores topics impacting Asian American girls and women and giving them exposure to Asian American women leaders. For more information and to register go to: <http://aspire-public-sector.eventbrite.com>.

***Heart of the Community: a gourmet dim sum breakfast***

**Friday, May 10, from 7:30 to 9 am**

**China Pearl Restaurant, 9 Tyler Street, Boston**

The Asian Community Development Corporation sponsors this fundraiser that includes breakfast, a tea tasting, a silent auction and red envelope drawing. Keynote speaker is Young K. Park, President and Principal of Berkeley Investments, Inc. Tickets: \$100.

For more information go to:

<http://asiancdc.org/content/heart-community-gourmet-dim-sum-breakfast>.

**New England Premiere: *She Kills Monsters***

**Saturday, May 11, at 7:30 pm**

**Boston Center for the Arts, Plaza Theater, 539 Tremont Street, Boston**

A play by Qui Nguyen, resident playwright of Brooklyn's Vampire Cowboys Theatre.

Tickets: \$20-30. Box Office: 617-933-8600. For more information and to purchase tickets go to:

[http://www.companyone.org/Season14/She\\_Kills\\_Monsters/synopsis.shtml](http://www.companyone.org/Season14/She_Kills_Monsters/synopsis.shtml).

**7<sup>th</sup> Annual Asian American Unity Dinner**

**Tuesday, May 14, from 6 to 9 pm**

**Boston University, Metcalf Hall at George Sherman Union**

**775 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston**

This year's event sponsored by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Asian American Commission will celebrate "Asian American Healthcare Leaders." Keynote speaker and Outstanding Achievement Award recipient will be Dr. Thomas H. Lee, Network President for Partners Healthcare System and CEO of Partners Community Healthcare.

Tickets: \$125. For more information and to purchase tickets go to:

<http://unitydinner2013.eventbrite.com>.

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual Asian American/Pacific Islander Mental Health Forum**

**Friday, May 17, from 8:30 am to 4 pm**

**Simmons College, 300 The Fenway, Boston**

This year's theme is *Making the Invisible Visible: How do we educate, engage, empower and enable consumers and their families?* For questions contact Lisa Colozzo, Training Coordinator at the Massachusetts Department of Mental Health, 617-626-8335 or email: [COStaffDev@massmail.state.ma.us](mailto:COStaffDev@massmail.state.ma.us). To register go to:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/AAPI2013>.

**6<sup>th</sup> Annual Quincy Asian Resources Community Banquet**

**Friday, May 17, from 6:30 to 10 pm**

**Quincy China Pearl Restaurant, 237 Quincy Avenue, Quincy**

A banquet to honor those who have contributed to the Quincy Asian Community.

Tickets are \$55. For more information go to:

<http://www.quincyasianresources.org/en/banquet2013>.

***The State of Asian Women's Health in Massachusetts***

**Wednesday, May 29, from 8 am to 3 pm**

**Federal Reserve Building, Harborside, New England Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor**

**600 Atlantic Avenue, Boston**

Presented by Asian Women for Health, this event is for policy makers, service providers and community-based organizations that serve Asian Women. The program will highlight service gaps and needs for Asian women in MA; identify three top priorities for program focus; and provide a venue for stakeholders to engage and collaborate.

Hosted by Mabel Lam, Ph.D., president of the MA Psychological Assn. and co-founder of Jasmine Asian Women Giving Circle. Keynote speakers are Marian Mehegan, DDS, MPH, Regional Women's Health Coordinator for USDHHS OASH, Region I, and Chris Chanyasulkit, member of the MA Governor's Asian American Commission and MA Commission on the Status of Women. Admission is free with breakfast and lunch included. For information and to register go to:

<http://macompncancer.org/collaborative-events/>.

**EXHIBITIONS IN NEW ENGLAND**

***Lethal Beauty: Samurai Weapons and Armor***

**through May 5, open daily except Tuesdays**

**Currier Museum, 150 Ash Street, Manchester, NH**

The exhibit features 63 works by 30 master craftsmen from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries including suits of armor, helmets, warrior hats, facemasks, long and short swords, daggers, rifles and more. The oldest sword dates from the 1200s and is so finely crafted, it has retained its lethal edge. Also showcased is a pair of folding screens by a Kano school artist and a seven-piece set of sword fittings, both from the 1600s depicting battle scenes from the famous *Tale of the Heike*. For more information phone 603-669-6144 or go to: <http://www.currier.org/nowonview.aspx>

***Grandpa: Photos by An Rong Xu***

**through May 17, hours: Monday to Saturday, 10am to 7 pm**

**Gallery 360, Northeastern University, 360 Huntington Avenue, Boston**

Grandpa is the living memory of a man whose journey shaped the artist's life and bridges the gap between the generations. Artist's reception on Friday, April 4, from 5 to 7 pm, in Gallery 360. It is free and open to the public. For more information contact:

[asianam@neu.edu](mailto:asianam@neu.edu)

***Portugal, Jesuits, and Japan: Spiritual Beliefs and Earthly Goods***

**through June 2, Hours: Mon-Fri, 11am-4pm, Sat & Sun 12-5pm**

**McMullen Museum, Boston College, 140 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston**

The exhibit examines cultural exchanges from the mid-16<sup>th</sup> to the mid-17<sup>th</sup> Centuries through the movement of goods on Portuguese ships. The viewer travels through the

complex landscape of the religious ideas, customs and artistic styles. For more information go to:

[http://www.bc.edu/bc\\_org/avp/cas/artmuseum/exhibitions/archive/jesuits/index.html](http://www.bc.edu/bc_org/avp/cas/artmuseum/exhibitions/archive/jesuits/index.html).

### ***Extending Tradition: Pottery by Yoshinori Hagiwara***

**through June 3**

**Pucker Gallery, 171 Newbury Street, Boston**

Hagiwara's work is inspired by the work of Shoji Hamada whose work in the 1920s was to create "arts which are useful for daily life." His work reflects this philosophy and his own artistic expression. Opening reception on Saturday, April 6 from 3 to 6 pm. The artist will be present and the public is invited to attend. For more information go to:

[www.puckergallery.com](http://www.puckergallery.com).

### ***Samurai!***

**through August 4**

**Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston**

This exhibit will feature more than 140 remarkable objects from the 12<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> Centuries that illuminate the life, culture and pageantry of the Samurai from the Ann and Gabriel Barbier-Mueller Collection, one of the best and largest collections in the world. Highlights will include helmets of lacquered metal adorned with emblems often inspired by nature and full suits of exquisitely crafted armor, weapons, horse armor and accoutrements used for both battle and ceremonies. For more information go to:

<http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/samurai>.

### ***Toshio Shibata: Constructed Landscapes***

**through October 6**

**Peabody Essex Museum, 161 Essex Street, Salem**

Shibata is one of Japan's preeminent landscape photographers, known for exploring the delicate balance between human-made structures and nature. This exhibition of 28 large format works will be the artist's first solo in an American museum since 1995 and the first time his color pictures will be shown in America.

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

### ***Luxury on Paper: The Art of Surimono***

**through December 1**

**Museum of Fine Arts Boston, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston**

*Surimono* are small, exquisite 19<sup>th</sup> Century color prints that were produced on commission for private, individual customers. This collection features prints grouped by their subjects: kabuki theater, literary and historical references, beautiful women, animals and objects. For information: <http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/luxury-paper>.

## TELEVISION & FILM FESTIVALS

### Asian American Heritage Month on WGBH

Various dates and times in May on WGBH 2 and 44.

Listed below are the initial broadcasts of the programs. These programs will be rebroadcast at other times on other WGBH channels. For complete schedules go to: <http://www.wgbh.org/programs/index.cfm?MM=1>.

- May 2**      ***POV: In the Matter of Cha Jung Hee***  
at 10 pm on WGBH 2
- May 3**      ***Independent Lens: A Village Called Versailles***  
at 2 pm on WGBH World
- May 4**      ***Anna May Wong: In Her Own Words***  
at 6 pm on WGBH 44
- May 6**      ***Independent Lens: Seeking Asian Female***  
at 10 pm on WGBH 2
- May 10**     ***Jake Shimabukuro: Life on Four Strings***  
at 9 pm on WGBH 2

***You Don't Know Jack Soo*** is scheduled for May broadcast, but we were not able to find a date or time for it before sending this newsletter out. If you are a member of WGBH and receive a program guide, it should be listed.

### The 2013 Boston LGBT Film Festival

May 2 to 12, various locations in Boston

This year the Festival will feature several films by and about Asian Americans.

- Sunday**      ***Mama Rainbow***  
**May 5**      **1 pm, Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle Street, Cambridge**  
Documentary featuring six mothers in China talking freely about their gay and lesbian children. In Mandarin with English subtitles.
- White Frog***  
**7 pm, Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle Street, Cambridge**  
Film directed by Quentin Lee and featuring actors Harry Shum, Jr., B.D. Wong, Joan Chen, Booboo Stewart, and Gregg Sulkin.
- Wednesday** ***Family Blessings***  
**May 8**      ***A Night in the Woods***  
                 ***Chicks and Love***  
**7 pm, Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston**  
The films were created through the Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project.
- Sunday**      ***Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow***  
**May 12**     **4 pm, Museum of Fine Arts, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston**  
A 2013 film from Taiwan in Mandarin with English subtitles, directed by Arvin Chen.

For more information on the LGBT Film Festival go to:

[www.bostonlgbtfilmfest.net/program/](http://www.bostonlgbtfilmfest.net/program/).

***Pacific Heartbeat*****Tuesdays, from 7 to 8 pm****On WGBH World, check with your cable provider for channel**

A five-part anthology series that examines the lives and traditions of the natives of the Pacific Islands, including their music, culture, language, and contemporary issues.

***Hula: Language of the Heart******Let's Play Music! Slack Key with Cyril Pahinui & Friends******Na Lani 'Eha from 'Iolani Palace: The Music of Hawaiian Royalty******Tonga: The Last Place on Earth***

For more information go to: <http://worldchannel.org/programs/pacific-heartbeat/>.

**WHAT'S HAPPENING ELSEWERE****Minidoka Pilgrimage****Thursday, June 20 to Sunday, June 23**

Registration is now open for the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Minidoka Pilgrimage. For more information and to register, go to: <http://www.minidokapilgrimage.org>.

***Dojoji: The Man Inside the Bell*****May 18 to June 9, Tuesdays to Saturdays at 7:30 pm, Sundays at 2:30 pm****Clurman Theatre, 410 West 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, New York City**

The Pan Asian Repertory Theatre presents Dojoji, a dance-drama reimagining an ancient legend. A story of eternal love, destiny and power of transformation which spans Japan 929 AD to the anime and harajuku worlds with music, dance and multimedia. Written by Ernest Abuba, with choreography by and in collaboration with Sachiyo Ito and directed by Tisa Chang. Tickets are \$50. For reservations go to: <http://www.telecharge.com/eventoverview.aspx?cityName=NY%20City%20Area&productId=9682>.

For more information go to: [www.panasianrep.org](http://www.panasianrep.org).

**Book Talk: Naomi Hirahara****Saturday, May 4, at 1 pm****Japanese American Museum of San Jose****535 North Fifth Street, San Jose, CA**

Hirahara will discuss her latest book, *Strawberry Yellow*, the fifth in her Edgar-winning detective series. This series features a Japanese American gardener and reluctant detective, Mas Arai. For more information go to:

<http://www.jamsj.org/news-and-events/2013/5/retro/1>.

***Portraiture Now: Asian American Portraits of Encounter*****May 11 to September 22****Japanese American National Museum****369 East 1<sup>st</sup> St., Los Angeles, CA, Los Angeles, CA**

The diversity of contemporary Asian American identity through the groundbreaking work of seven visual artists – CYJO, Zhang Chun Hong, Hye Yeon Nam, Shlizu Saldamando, Roger Shimomura, Satomi Shirai, and Tam Tran. Also on exhibit are ***Visible & Invisible: A Hapa Japanese American History*** through August 25 and ***American Heroes: Japanese American World War II Nisei Soldiers and the Congressional Gold Medal*** through June 9. For more information go to: [www.janm.org](http://www.janm.org).