



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

May 2014

P.O. Box 592 • Lincoln, MA 01773

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

### ***Brookline Sakura Matsuri***

**Saturday, May 10, from 12 to 4 pm**

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

Celebrate Spring and Japanese cherry blossoms with this outdoor family festival featuring food music, games, bon odori dancing, and taiko drumming. New England taiko groups performing will include The Genki Spark, Boston Mayake Taiko, Odaiko New England, ShinDaiko Burlington Taiko Group, and Mountain River Taiko, Takahashi Minyo Kai. Food vendors will include Hana Japan, Mochi Kitchen, Ittoku, and baked goods by Brookline High School. Matsuri activities and games include Yo-Yo Fishing, Origami, Make Your Own Hachi Maki, a Yukata Photo Booth, Face Painting, Write Your Name in Katakana, and more. Suggested donation at the door: \$10 to \$20. Presented by Brookline High School Japanese Program and The Genki Spark in partnership with New England Japanese American Citizens League, The Japan Society, Brookline Asian American Family Network, Showa Boston, Amos A. Lawrence School, and William H. Lincoln School. For more information, go to: <http://www.thegenkispark.org>.

### **Two Asian American fellowships seeking applicants**

JACL is accepting applications for the Mike M. Masaoka Congressional Fellowship. The program will place a fellow in a Congressional office for a minimum of six months. A stipend of \$2,200 to \$2,500 a month is provided. Application deadline is Friday, May 9. For questions, contact Rhianna Taniguchi at [rtaniguchi@jacl.org](mailto:rtaniguchi@jacl.org) or Tara Naoko Ohrtman at [tohrtman@jacl.org](mailto:tohrtman@jacl.org). For applications and information go to: <http://jacl.org/leadership/masaoka.htm>.

The OCA-Asian Pacific American Advocates is seeking qualified candidates for the 2014-2015 OCA Civil Rights Fellowship. The application deadline has been extended to May 16. The fellowship is based in Washington, DC, for one year beginning in July 2014. A \$35,000-\$40,000 per year stipend is provided. For more information go to: <https://ocanational.site-ym.com/?CivilRightsFellowApp>.

### **Open call for films for Boston Asian American Film Festival**

The Boston Asian American Film Festival (BAAFF) is accepting submissions for the 2014 Boston Asian American Film Festival. They are looking for narratives, dramas, comedies, shorts, documentaries, animations, music videos and experimental films. Deadline for submissions is June 15.

This year BAAFF is inviting aspiring Asian American filmmakers to submit a five-minute video about their personal experiences in the community to the BAAFF's Short Waves: Stories Shaping Our Community. A panel of judges will select the top submissions and the public will be invited to vote to determine a winner. The winner receives automatic entry in the 2014 Boston Asian American Film Festival. Deadline for entries is May 5. There will be a free community screening of these videos on Thursday, May 29 at 6:30 pm in Wolff Auditorium of Tufts Medical Center, 800 Washington Street, Boston.

The BAAFF is a production of the Asian American Resource Workshop. For more information go to: [www.baaff.org](http://www.baaff.org).

## Asian Pacific American Programming on WGBH

WGBH in Boston is celebrating Asian Pacific American Heritage Month with a full schedule of programming. In that schedule is a three-part series called *Japanese American Lives* airing on Saturdays at 4 pm on WGBH/Channel 44. Here are a few highlights of the programs that will be aired. Many of the programs will be repeated, to get a complete listing, go to: <http://www.wgbh.org/schedule/index.cfm?MM=1>.

Sat, May 3, 4pm, Ch44

*E Haku Inoa: To Weave a Name*

Fri, May 9, 10pm, Ch2

*Jake Shimabukuro: Life on 4 Strings*

Sat, May 10, 4pm, Ch44

**Japanese American Lives**

*Mrs. Judo: Be Strong, Be Gentle, Be Beautiful*

Sat, May 17, 4pm, Ch44

**Japanese American Lives**

*Don't Lose Your Soul/Honor & Sacrifice*

Thu, May 22, 10:30pm, Ch2

*You Don't Know Jack Soo*

Sat, May 24, 4 pm, Ch44

**Japanese American Lives**

*Stories from Tohoku*

Fri, May 30, 9pm, WGBH World *Passing Poston: An American Story*

## ***A Day in the Life of Asian Pacific America***

On May 10 Asian American photographers across the United States and abroad will be taking part in the Smithsonian Institute's *A Day in the Life of Asian Pacific America* project. The Smithsonian collaborated with Flickr to organize this project and has been registering Asian Pacific American photographers, amateur and professional, to take part in this day of taking photos and short videos of Asian American life. The creative works will be featured on Flickr and possibly selected for an online photo/video exhibition by the Smithsonian Institution's Asian Pacific American Center for display from late May to December 2014. For more information on the project go to: <http://smithsonianapa.org/project/life2014>.

## EVENTS IN NEW ENGLAND

### ***Japan Festival***

**Sunday, May 4, from 1 to 6 pm**

**Kaji Aso Studio, 40 St. Stephen Street, Boston**

Program includes:

1:20 pm Ikebana Demonstration by Kazuyo Nishimoto Poister

2:20 pm Tea Ceremony by Kate Finnegan, Jennifer Yeo and Samantha Tanzer

3:40 pm Calligraphy by Michiko Imai

4:30 pm International Haiku Contest Awards

5:15 pm Isaku Kageyama (taiko), Ayumi Yeda (vocal), Geni Shendo (sakuhachi)

Admission: general \$10, seniors and students \$8, children \$4. For more information call 617-247-1729 or go to [www.kajiasostudio.com](http://www.kajiasostudio.com).

### **Gion Festival in Boston**

**Wednesday, May 7, from 5 to 7 pm**

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

For the first time in a thousand years, the music of Kyoto's famous Gion Festival will be performed overseas. The musicians from Kyoto will be dressed in their summer kimonos and will ring the traditional bells to celebrate the 55<sup>th</sup> year of the Kyoto-Japan Sister City relationship. Rain location for the event is Gallery 168. This event is free with the cost of admission to the museum. For more information go to:

<http://www.mfa.org/programs/music/gion-festival-boston-celebrating-55th-year-kyoto-boston-sister-city-relationship>.

### ***Contemporary Japanese Basket Making with Morigami Jin***

**Saturday, May 10 and Sunday May 11, from 12 to 3 pm**

**Druker Family Pavilion, Community Room 159**

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

Morigami Jin, considered one of the most artistically gifted of the younger generation of Japanese bamboo artists, will be demonstrating his basket making techniques. His work can be found at the Denver Art Museum and the Museum on Art and Design in New York City. This program is free with museum admission and visitors are invited to drop in and stay as long as they wish. For more information go to:

<http://www.mfa.org/programs/gallery-activities-and-tours/contemporary-japanese-basketmaking-morigami-jin>.

### **Performance: *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon***

**through May 11, matinee and evening performances**

**Wheelock Family Theater, 200 The Riverway, Boston**

Tickets are now on sale for the East Coast premiere of the stage production of Grace Lin's Newbery honored novel, *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*. The book was inspired by her father's stories of the Jade Dragon and the Old Man of the Moon.

Young Minli sets off on an incredible journey to change her family's fortune and on the way encounters magical creatures including a dragon. Tickets are \$20-\$30 based on

seating. Box Office is open Tuesday-Friday 10am to 6pm, 617-879-2300, or email [tickets@wheelock.edu](mailto:tickets@wheelock.edu). For information: [www.wheelock.edu/wft-where-the-mountain-meets-the-moon](http://www.wheelock.edu/wft-where-the-mountain-meets-the-moon).

### ***Prospects for Japan's Economic Growth***

**Thursday, May 13, from 12:30 to 2 pm**

**Reischauer Institute, Harvard University**

**Porte Room S250, CGIS South Bldg, 1730 Cambridge St., Cambridge**

The panel includes Miho Takizawa, Toyo University, Sinichiro Terada, KDDI Corporation, Hideaki Hirta, Hosei University. The discussant is Walter Hatch, Associate Professor of Government at Colby College.

### **Anti-Defamation League: *Vincent Who?***

**Thursday, May 15, from 6 to 8:30 pm**

**Boston Public Library, Rabb Lecture Hall, 700 Boylston Street, Boston**

The Anti-Defamation League's Asian-Jewish Roundtable presents a special screening of *Vincent Who?*, an award winning film about the murder of Vincent Chin, an incident that helped ignite the Asian American civil rights movement. The film will be followed by Q&A with the writer/producer Curtis Chin. RSVP is required at [www.vincentwho.eventbrite.com](http://www.vincentwho.eventbrite.com).

### **Book Reading: *Savor: Mindful Eating, Mindful Life***

**Thursday, May 15, at 7 pm**

**Eileen Fisher (clothing shop), 53 Central Street, Wellesley**

Wellesley Books presents Dr. Lilian Cheung, Harvard nutritionist, who teamed with author and spiritual leader Thich Nhat Hanh, to write a book that combines Buddhism and nutrition science to end the struggle with food and weight. Free admission. For more information call 781-431-1160 or go to:

<http://www.wellesleybooksmith-shop.com/event/dr-lilian-cheung-savor-mindful-eating-mindful-life>.

### **The 2<sup>nd</sup> State of Asian Women's Health in Massachusetts**

**Wednesday, May 21, from 8 am to 4 pm**

**Tufts University, Sackler Building, Room 114, 145 Harrison Avenue, Boston**

Presented by Asian Women for Health, this event is for policy makers, service providers, health advocates and community based organizations serving Asian women. The program will cover local, regional and national health data on Asian women, identify overlapping trends, share best practices, and facilitate collaborations. Keynote speakers include Jean Yang, Executive Director, Commonwealth Health Insurance Connector Authority, and Lisa Wong, Mayor of Fitchburg. This event is free, but registration is required at: <http://2014awhinma.eventbrite.com>.

For more information on the event, go to: [www.asianwomenforhealth.org](http://www.asianwomenforhealth.org).

## **Films: *The Tales & Tragedies of Kenji Mizoguchi***

**Friday, May 16 to Monday, June 23**

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

A complete retrospective of Kenji Mizoguchi's (1898-1958) work, whose films are considered a foundation for Japanese cinema.

Fri, May 16	7 pm	<i>Ugetsu</i>
	9 pm	<i>Song of Home</i> with live music
Sat, May 17	7 pm	<i>Sisters of the Gion</i>
	9 pm	<i>Oyuki the Virgin</i>
Sun, May 18	5 pm	<i>Ugetsu</i>
	7 pm	<i>Street of Shame</i>
Mon, May 19	7 pm	<i>Utamaro &amp; His Five Women</i>
Fri, May 23	7 pm	<i>Sansho the Bailiff</i>
	9:30	<i>Hometown</i>
Sun, May 25	4 pm	<i>Sansho the Bailiff</i>
	7 pm	<i>The Story of the Last Chrysanthemums</i>
Mon, May 26	7 pm	<i>White Threads of the Waterfall</i>
Sat, May 31	7 pm	<i>The Life of Oharu</i>
	9:30	<i>Miyamoto Musashi</i>
Sun, June 1	5 pm	<i>Women of the Night</i>
	7 pm	<i>Straits of Love and Hate</i>
Fri, June 6	7 pm	<i>Osaka Elegy</i>
	9 pm	<i>The Downfall of Osen</i>
Sat, June 7	7 pm	<i>A Geisha</i>
	9 pm	<i>Poppy</i>
Sun, June 8	5 pm	<i>Osaka Elegy</i>
	7 pm	<i>Portrait of Madam Yuki</i>
Mon, June 9	7 pm	<i>The Life of Oharu</i>
Fri, June 13	7 PM	<i>Miss Oyu</i>
	9 pm	<i>My Love Burns</i>
Sat, June 14	7 pm	<i>The 47 Ronin, Parts I &amp; II</i>
Sun, June 15	5 pm	<i>The Lady Musashino</i>
	7 pm	<i>The Crucified Lovers</i>
Mon, June 16	7 pm	<i>Tales of the Taira Clan</i>
Fri, June 20	9 pm	<i>Victory of Women</i>
Sat, June 21	7 pm	<i>Princess Yang Kwei-fei</i>
	9 pm	<i>The Famous Sword Bijomaru</i>
Sun, June 22	5 pm	<i>The Love of Sumako, The Actress</i>
Mon, June 23	7 pm	<i>The Woman of the Rumor</i>

Tickets are \$9, seniors and students \$7. For more information call 617-495-4700 or go to: <http://hcl.harvard.edu/hfa/films/2014apjun/mizoguchi.html>.

**Classes: *The Art of Flowers*****May 19, from 6 to 8 pm****TOTO Gallery, 123 North Washington Street, Boston**

Classes for beginners are being offered Jorge Padilla-Zamudio, President of the Ikenobo Ikebana Society of Boston. Cost of the class is \$35 and includes flower material. For more information contact: [GloriaEast@Juno.com](mailto:GloriaEast@Juno.com).

**WGBH: Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Celebration****Thursday, May 22, time tba****WGBH Studios, One Guest Street, Boston**

Save the date for this annual event sponsored by WGBH, Boston's PBS station. Co-hosts for the event are Susan Luo, Helen Chin Schlichte and Leverett Wing. A detailed announcement will be sent out soon.

**Taiko Workshops for Beginners****Saturday, May 24, from 6 to 8 pm****Brookline Ballet School, 1431 Beacon Street, Brookline**

The Genki Spark offers a two-hour workshop to introduce you to the power and the fun of taiko drumming. Open to all ages (over 7) and no experience necessary. Cost of the workshop is \$30. For more information, go to: <http://www.thegenkispark.org>.

An additional workshops is scheduled for June 21.

**7<sup>th</sup> Annual Quincy Asian Resources Community Banquet****Friday, May 30, from 6:30 to 9:30 pm****China Pearl Restaurant, 237 Quincy Avenue, Quincy**

Quincy Asian Resources, Inc., will honor individuals and organizations that have shown exceptional dedication to serving the Asian community in Quincy. Also highlighted will be their youth programs and the presentation of community service scholarships. The event will feature a 10-course Chinese banquet, entertainment and a raffle. Tickets are \$60. For more information and reservations go to:

<http://quincyasianresources.org/community-banquet/>.

**AACA Annual Gala****Wednesday, June 4, from 5:30 to 8:30 pm****Boston Park Plaza Hotel, 50 Park Plaza, Boston**

The Asian American Civic Association celebrates 47 years of providing adult education and training programs and social services for immigrants and low income individuals in Massachusetts. The program includes a reception, dinner, live and silent auctions and ethnic performances. Early bird tickets (until May 9<sup>th</sup>) are \$185. Regular price is \$200. For more information and to reserve tickets go to: <http://aaca-boston.org/gala/>.

***Haru Matsuri*****Saturday, June 7, from 12 to 6 pm****Central Square Cultural District, Cambridge**

This year the festival has moved from Copley Square to Cambridge and is being held in conjunction with the Cambridge River Festival. Booths will be located on Massachusetts Avenue, between Prospect and Sidney Streets. Food Booths will be on Sidney Street, between Massachusetts Avenue and Pilgrim Street. For more information go to: <http://www.japanfestivalboston.org>.

**ExprASIANS Talent Show and Mini-Fair****Saturday, June 7, from 3 to 6 pm****Boston Medical Center, Shapiro Building, 725 Albany Street, Boston**

The talent show will showcase Asian cancer survivors and caregivers to raise funds for Asian Women for Health. Also featured will be Asian food, games, and arts and crafts made by the Asian Breast Cancer Project members. General admission is \$20 and \$25 at the door. For more information and tickets go to:

<https://2014exprasians.ticketbud.com/exprasians>.

**EXHIBITIONS IN NEW ENGLAND*****The Stories We Tell*****through June 15****Fuller Craft Museum, 455 Oak Street, Brockton**

Featuring the work of Binh Pho, Tommy Simpson, and Michelle Holzapfel. The multi-media exhibition includes furniture, vessels, sculpture, painted reliefs, ceramics and textile designs -- each reflecting the artists' unique narrative. For more information, go to: <http://fullercraft.org/current-exhibitions/>.

**Exhibits at the Worcester Art Museum****55 Salisbury Street, Worcester****through Aug. 10** ***January to December: Japanese Folk Art Calendars***

In the Prints, Drawings and Photographs Gallery.

**May 7 to Nov.** ***Abstractions in Blue***

Artworks by Japanese Artists from the collection of Joanne and Douglas Wise who viewed Japanese culture from a western perspective with modernist ideals. In the Japanese Gallery.

**through Nov.** ***Majicolor***

Prints by Majima Ryoichi, a Japanese artist who studied in California. His *neo-pop* prints are imaginative and irreverent examples of *East meets West*, rendered in a vivid palette.

For more information go to: <http://www.worcesterart.org/Exhibitions/>.

**Toshio Shibata: *Constructed Landscapes*  
through August 31**

**Peabody Essex Museum, 161 Essex Street, East India Square, Salem**

Shibata is one of Japan's preeminent landscape photographers, known for exploring the delicate balance between human-made structures and nature. For more information, go to: <http://www.pem.org/exhibitions/>.

**Exhibits at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston**

**465 Huntington Avenue, Boston**

**through Sep. 8**     ***Fired Earth, Woven Bamboo – Contemporary Japanese Ceramics and Bamboo Art.*** A Celebration of Japanese decorative arts. More than 60 dramatic ceramics and baskets are complemented by contemporary Japanese quilts and fabric screens and an example of sophisticated paper sculpture.

**through Aug. 17**   ***The Creative Process in Modern Japanese Printmaking.*** In the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, printmaking in Japan became not just a way of producing popular images, but a fine art form. No longer constrained by the requirements of commercial publishing, artists were able to exploit the color woodblock process as far as their imaginations could take them.

**through Jul. 6**     ***Return of the Dragon: Shohaku's Dragon and Clouds***  
The first showing of the recently restored *Dragons and Clouds* (1763) by the celebrated Japanese eccentric artist Sogo Shohaku.

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

## WHAT'S HAPPENING ELSEWHERE

### NEW YORK

**Pan Asian Repertory Theatre: *No No Boy***

**May 14 to 18, matinee and evening performances**

**540 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 314, New York, NY 10018   phone: 212-868-4030**

A drama by Ken Narasaki, adapted from the John Okada novel set in the aftermath of WWII. The play follows draft resister Ichiro Yamada after his release from prison as he struggles to come to terms with his choices. Directed by Ron Nakahara. All performances are at theatres located at Theatre Row, 410 West 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, New York.

For more information: [www.panasianrep.org](http://www.panasianrep.org). Email: [info@panasianrep.org](mailto:info@panasianrep.org).



## WASHINGTON, DC

### Reception: *Marching Forward*

Wednesday, May 14 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm

National Assn. of Broadcasters, 1771 N Street NW, Washington, DC

A reception honoring Todd Endo, a JAACL member who marched from Selma to Montgomery in 1965. Endo will share his experiences as part of a small Asian American contingent that joined the demonstrations. Also featured will be Wade Henderson, President and CEO of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, addressing the current Voting Rights Amendment Act of 2014. Prior registration is necessary by May 10. To register go to:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1XNNYuvw12irplWwsUz\\_OKDdl\\_dvwzIS0PNJqYZpzXFQ/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1XNNYuvw12irplWwsUz_OKDdl_dvwzIS0PNJqYZpzXFQ/viewform).

For questions and accommodations, contact Rhianna Taniguchi at [rtaniguchi@jacl.org](mailto:rtaniguchi@jacl.org).

## CALIFORNIA

### *The Art of Gaman: Arts and Crafts from the Japanese American Internment Camps, 1942-1946*

through May 11

The California Museum, 1020 O Street, Sacramento, California

A showcase of more than 120 artifacts made by Japanese Americans while imprisoned in camps during World War II. The California Museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 am to 5 pm and on Sunday from 12 to 5 pm. Closed Mondays. For directions to the museum, go to: <http://www.californiamuseum.org/directions>.

### Exhibits at the Japanese American National Museum

100 North Central Ave., Los Angeles, CA

phone: 213-625-0414

May 3 from  
11am-2 pm

**Book Talk: *Colors of Confinement***

Prof. Eric Muller, author and curator, will discuss his book featuring the rare Kodachrome Heart Mountain camp photographs taken by Bill Manbo. To attend, call 213-625-0414, ext. 2222, or email [specialevents@janm.org](mailto:specialevents@janm.org).

through Sep.14

***Perseverance: Japanese Tattoo Tradition in a Modern World.***

An exploration of the artistry of traditional Japanese tattoos and their rich history and influence on modern tattoo practices. A photographic exhibition by Kip Fulbeck and Takahiro Kitamura.

through Sep.14

***Dodgers: Brotherhood of the Game.*** The LA Dodgers' rich history in civil rights, community building, and globalization is explored through the stories of Hideo Nomo, Chan Ho Park, Jackie Robinson and others.

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

**Exhibits/Events at Japanese American Museum San Jose**

535 N. Fifth St., San Jose, CA

phone: 408-294-3138

**May 3 at 1pm*****After Camp: Post-War Nisei Life and Politics***

Featuring guest speaker Dr. Greg Robinson, award winning author, *Nichi Bei Weekly* columnist, and professor of history at University of Quebec in Montreal, Canada. He will discuss his work concerning the mid-century Japanese American experience, a large, unexplored area of American history.

**May 10 at 1pm*****Giant Robot and the Super Awesome Art of Today***

Featuring Eric Nakamura, often called the unofficial ambassador of Asian pop culture and the creator of a “zine” called *Giant Robot*. He’ll talk about how the West Coast’s Asian pop culture influenced the art scene and the impact of *Giant Robot*.

**May 17 at 1 pm****Meet the Author: Naomi Hirahara**

The Edgar Award-winning author will introduce *Murder on Bamboo Lane*, the first in her new mystery series that follows Officer Ellie Rush, a 23-year-old hapa bicycle cop for the LAPD.

**May 24 at 1 pm*****The Visioning of Asian America***

Duane Kubo, co-founder of Visual Communications, will present short scenes and clips from many of his film productions.

Events are free with admission, but RSVPs are required.

For reservations, email [PublicPrograms@jamsj.org](mailto:PublicPrograms@jamsj.org) or call 408-294-3138.

For more information on all exhibitions and programs go to:

<http://www.jamsj.org/japanese-american-history-museum-san-jose/news-and-events>.