



New England Chapter News Japanese American Citizens League

MAY 2025

www.nejacl.org

FESTIVALS, PROGRAMS, EVENTS

Proleung Khmer (Khmer Soul) -

A 50-Year Journey of Remembrance and Resilience

May Events in Lowell, MA: <https://www.proleungkhmer.org/events>

This community-driven initiative commemorates the Khmer genocide. April 17, 2025 marked the 50th anniversary of the takeover of Phnom Penh by the Khmer Rouge. A series of cultural events, performances and educational programs honor the lives lost, celebrate the resilience of survivors, and uplift the Khmer American community. **INFO:** <https://www.proleungkhmer.org/>

An Afternoon with Novelist Aoko Matsuda:

On Maintaining a Feminist Writing Practice Across Languages

Thursday, May 1 at 4:30 pm

Harvard University, Tsai Auditorium, GCIS South Bldg., 1730 Cambridge St., Cambridge

Aoko Matsuda is an award-winning writer and literary translator known for her imaginative storytelling and sharp social commentary themed around gender discrimination, feminism, and Japanese society. Joining the conversation are writer and translator **Polly Barton**, literary scholar **Hitomi Yoshio**, and moderator **Tomiko Yoda**, Takashima Professor of Japanese Humanities at Harvard University. A book signing follows the discussion. Presented by the **Harvard Department of East Asian Languages and Civilizations, Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies at Harvard University, and Japan Forum.**

INFO: <https://rijs.fas.harvard.edu/events/afternoon-novelist-aoko-matsuda-maintaining-feminist-writing-practice-across-languages>

Book Talk: Good Soil: The Education of an Accidental Farmhand

Thursday, May 1 at 7 pm

Porter Square Books, 1815 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge

Jeff Chu talks with author **Kristin T. Lee** about his new book – a meditation on nature, heritage, and belonging. **INFO & RSVP:** <https://www.portersquarebooks.com/event/jeff-chu-author-good-soil-conversation-kristin-t-lee>

2nd Annual Boston Asian Restaurant Week – May 2 to May 11

BARW spotlights the vibrant and diverse tapestry of AAPI culture and cuisine in the Greater Boston area, showcasing the rich flavors and traditions that make our community truly exceptional. Get ready to savor every moment of this mouthwatering journey!

INFO: <https://www.bostonasianrw.com/>

Participating Restaurants: <https://www.bostonasianrw.com/gallery>

Boston Red Sox vs. Minnesota Twins – AAPI Heritage Night

Friday, May 2 at 7:10 pm

Fenway Park, Boston

<https://www.mlb.com/redsox/tickets/promotions/cultural-and-identity-celebrations/aapi>

Brookline's 3rd Annual AANHPI Heritage Celebration

• Saturday, May 3 – 11 am to 1 pm – Brookline Public Library, 361 Washington St.

Keynote by Patricia Park, author of *Imposter Syndrome*; Student Performances.

• Saturday, May 3 – 1 to 3 pm – Korean Church of Boston, across from the Town Hall on Holden Street – Arts & Crafts, Games, Puppetry, Food & more!

Presented by the Brookline Asian American Family Network, Brookline Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Community Relations, Public Schools of Brookline, and Public Libraries of Brookline. INFO: <https://baafn.weebly.com/2025-aanhpi-heritage-month.html>

3rd Annual Asian Street Food & Music Festival

Sunday, May 4 – 11 am to 6 pm (Rain Date: Sunday, May 18) Harvard Square, Cambridge

A full day with delicious street food, live performances, and an Asian Beer Garden presented by the Harvard Square Philippine American Alliance and Harvard Square Business Assn.

INFO: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100091487566589>

Kaji Aso Studio presents A Japanese Cultural Afternoon

Sunday, May 4 – 3 to 5 pm

40 Saint Stephen St., Boston

Featuring a group exhibit of calligraphy and *sumi* painting; a Japanese calligraphy demonstration; Japanese art songs; and announcement of the Kaji Aso Studio International Haiku Contest winners. Free admission; donations are welcomed. RVSP to:

administrator@kajiasostudio.com. INFO: <https://www.kajiasostudio.com/copy-of-recent-concert-available>

Book Talk:

Empty Vessel: The Story of the Global Economy in One Barge

Tuesday, May 6 at 7 pm

Harvard Book Store, 1256 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge

Ian Kumekawa, historian of economic thinking and capitalism, talks with author Maya Jasanoff. *Empty Vessel* explores the world of offshore capitalism over the last 40 years and presents a history of global political economy in the late 20th century, centered on a single barge. INFO: <https://www.harvard.com/event/ian-kumekawa>

Hybrid Talk: *Creating Culture in America, AAPI Diaspora Lives*

Wednesday, May 7 at 5:30 pm in-person reception; 6 pm talk

Massachusetts Historical Society, 1154 Boylston St., Boston

Program includes a performance and a panel considering cultural practices the Asian American and Pacific Islander diaspora have created in Massachusetts. Speakers discuss what traditions their families brought to Massachusetts and how these intermingled with other cultures to form new observances. They also examine what has been lost and the challenges that prevented certain customs from continuing in new environments. Speakers: Dr. Harleen Singh, Brandeis University; Tuyet Tran, Southeast Asian Coalition of Central MA; moderator: Lisong Liu, MA College of Art & Design. INFO & Registration: <https://www.masshist.org/events/AAPI-2025>

Virtual Community Meeting:**ACCESS-PD Study – Findings & Recommendations****Wednesday, May 7 from 12 to 1 pm**

Learn about Parkinson's Disease among Asian Americans and how to better support aging individuals and families in our AANHPI communities. The **ACCESS-PD** (Advancing Comprehensive Care & Enhancing Service Standards in Parkinson's Disease among Asian Americans) research team from **Asian Women for Health** and **Tufts University School of Medicine** share key findings, recommendations and resources. Speakers: **Alice Tang**, Professor, Public Health & Community Medicine, Tufts University School of Medicine; **Victoria Zhang**, Master of Public Health Candidate, Tufts University School of Medicine; and **Catherine Chung**, Senior Program Manager, Asian Women for Health. **Register at:**

https://wellforce.zoom.us/join/register/wLBGLDyRUG4h1m0kJCaw?mc_cid=fc79b8a337&mc_eid=d276ec4c4d#/registration

In-Person Event:**GBH Amplifies presents AANHPI Community Conversations****Thursday, May 8 from 12:45 to 2:30 pm****GBH Studio at the Boston Public Library, 700 Boylston St., Boston**

Join two discussions elevating local voices in AANHPI leadership and help broaden the reach of community conversations already taking place in Massachusetts neighborhoods. First, **Ben Hires**, CEO of BCNC (Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center), welcomes **Q.J. Shi**, Senior Director, Asian Business Empowerment Council, and **Yvonne Hao**, former Secretary of the Executive Office of Economic Development, for a discussion on AANHPI small businesses. Next, **Mai Du**, owner & chief instructor of Wah Lum Kung Fu & Tai Chi Academy in Malden & Quincy, welcomes **Connie Chin**, Executive Director, Global Arts Live, and **Myra O. Liwanag**, Executive Director, Iskwelahang Pilipino, for a discussion about education and cultural preservation. Free Event; registration encouraged. **INFO & Registration:**

<https://www.wgbh.org/events/gbh-amplifies-presents-aanhpi-community-conversations>

Fill A Bag Book Sale**Saturday, May 10 from 3 to 6 pm. Panethnc Pourovers, 186 West Squantum St., Quincy**

Bring a bag or use one of theirs and fill the bag with as many books as you want. \$15 per bag.

INFO: <https://panethnicipourovers.org/event/fill-a-bag-sale-2025/>

Book Talk: *The Wanderer's Curse: A Memoir***Wednesday, May 14 at 7 pm****Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St., Brookline**

Jennifer Hope Choi talks about her debut book with **Tiana Clark**. A Korean mother runs off to Alaska, sparking a greater season of wandering. Could her daughter be destined for the same? When Jennifer Hope Choi first stumbled upon the "curse" known as *yeokmasal*—an allegedly inheritable affliction causing one to roam farther and farther from home—she immediately consulted her mother who quipped, "Oh yeah, I have that." **INFO & RSVP:**

<https://brooklinebooksmith.com/event/2025-05-14/jennifer-hope-choi-tiana-clark-wanderers-curse>

Book Talk: *The Emperor of Gladness***Friday, May 16 at 7 pm****First Parish Church, 1446 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge**

Ocean Vuong discusses his new book – a novel about chosen family, unexpected friendship, and the stories we tell ourselves in order to survive – with **Emiko Tamagawa**, senior producer for *Here & Now's* arts and culture segments.

INFO & Tickets: <https://www.harvard.com/event/ocean-vuong>

Hybrid Talk: *Breaking Silences: Using Intimate Biography to Uncover the Lives of Thomas Wen Yi Liao and Mary Mon Toy*

Thursday, May 15 at 4:15 pm in-person reception; 5 pm talk begins

Massachusetts Historical Society, 1154 Boylston St., Boston

The program's guests—a first-time author and a veteran novelist—spent decades researching family histories shadowed by war, global politics and anti-Asian racism. **Kim Liao** discovered a many-layered story suppressed both in her family and by the Taiwanese government featuring her grandfather, a leader of the Taiwanese independence movement after World War II. **Marnie Mueller**, born in a Japanese American concentration camp in 1942 and later befriended by **Mary Mon Toy**, a talented “showgirl” incarcerated in a different camp, became her friend's executor. After Mon Toy's death in 2009, a hidden life story emerged that begged to be told alongside Mueller's own long-concealed history. Learn about “intimate biography” from two authors who are inventing the form. Speakers: **Kim Liao**, John Jay College of Criminal Justice (CUNY); **Marnie Mueller**, novelist; and moderator: **Megan Marshall**, Emerson College.

INFO & Registration: <https://www.masshist.org/events/breaking-silences>

2025 Boston AAPI 5K

Saturday, May 17 at 8:30 am Starts at the Metropolitan District Commission Pavilion

Celebrate Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Raise funds for these local nonprofit organizations: **Asian American Resource Workshop (AARW)** • **Asian and Pacific Islanders Civic Action Network (APIsCAN)** • **Asian Community Development Corporation (ACDC)** • **Asian Sisters Participating in Reaching Excellence (ASPIRE)** • **Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence (ATASK)** • **Asian Women for Health (AWFH)** • **Boston Road Runners** • **Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center (BCNC)** • **Chinese Progressive Association Boston (CPA)** • **JB Line, Inc.** • **OCA-New England Chapter (OCA-APAA NE)** • **The Chinatown Project**. To donate, go to: www.movement.cc/events/2025_boston_aapi_5k

Belmont Celebrates Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage First Annual AAPI Fair

Sunday, May 18 from 2 to 5pm

Beech Street Center, 266 Beech St., Belmont

The fair features local AAPI clubs, organizations, businesses and food vendors.

INFO: <https://www.bcahbelmont.org/aapi-fair>

Book Talk: *Transplants*

Tuesday, May 20 at 7 pm

Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard St., Brookline

Daniel Tam-Claiborne talks with **Aube Rey Lescure** about his novel following two young women in pursuit of kinship and self-discovery. They yearn to survive in a world that doesn't know where either of them belong. **INFO & RSVP:**

<https://brooklinebooksmith.com/event/2025-05-20/daniel-tam-claiborne-aube-rey-lescur>

Book Talk: *The Gate, the Girl and the Dragon*

Wednesday, May 21 at 7 pm Porter Square Books, 1815 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge

From author/illustrator **Grace Lin** comes a new full-color illustrated story about a lion cub and a girl who must open a portal for the spirits, based on Chinese folklore. **INFO & RSVP:**

<https://www.portersquarebooks.com/event/grace-lin-author-gate-girl-and-dragon-conversation-tui-t-sutherland>

Anime Boston

Friday, May 23 to Sunday, May 25 Hynes Convention Center, 900 Boylston St., Boston

Anime Boston celebrates Japanese culture and media, including anime, manga and video games. **Odaiko New England** presents a lecture/demonstration on **Sunday/May 25 at 2 pm.**

INFO: <https://www.animeboston.com/>

Panethnic Pourovers Inaugural AAPI Heritage Month Event**Underserved AAPI & BIPOC Festival & Vendor Market**

Saturday, May 24 from 11 am to 5:30 pm The Foundry, 101 Rogers St., Cambridge

Panethnic Pourovers, Nine Winters Bakery, and NAAAP Boston team up to present a

Vendor Market that features AAPI + BIPOC small businesses, creators, artists and

organizations. **INFO:** www.panethnicpourovers.org; www.bit.ly/pepomarket2025

2nd New England Hong Kong Festival

Saturday, May 31 from 11 am to 5 pm (Rain Date: Sunday, June 1)

Seven Hills Park, 78 Meacham Rd., Somerville (outside Davis Sq. MBTA Red Line station).

The Festival brings the Hongkonger community together and celebrates Hong Kong culture.

Through food, music, performances, games and interactive activities, they create a space for

people to gather and build connections. **INFO:** <https://newenglandhkfest.com/>

46th Annual Boston Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival

Sunday, June 8 from 12 to 5 pm

John W. Weeks Footbridge on the Charles River, between JFK St. and Western Ave.

Features dragon boat races, performances, arts & crafts, and food trucks.

INFO: <https://www.bostondragonboat.org/>

CONCERTS, FILMS, PERFORMANCES**Film: *Chungking Express***

Thursday, May 1 at 8:30 pm

Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle St., Cambridge

This 1994 film is one of the defining works of '90s cinema and made director **Wong Kar Wai** an instant icon. Two heartsick Hong Kong cops, both jilted by ex-lovers, cross paths at the Midnight Express take-out restaurant stand, where the ethereal pixie waitress Faye works.

INFO & Tickets: <https://brattlefilm.org/movies/chungking-express/>

Concert: *A Beethoven Celebration*

Saturday, May 3 at 8 pm

Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston

Featuring: **Joseph Lin**, violin, **Claire Bourg**, violin, **Hsin-Yun Huang**, viola, **Raman**

Ramakrishnan, cello, and **Helen Huang**, piano. Presented by the **Foundation for Chinese Performing Arts.**

INFO & Tickets: <https://www.chineseperformingarts.net/contents/season/20250503/index.html>

Concert: *North Star Boys*

Tuesday, May 6 at 8 pm

The Sinclair Music Hall, 50 Church St., Cambridge

North Star Boys is an 8-member Asian American content group.

INFO: <https://kprofiles.com/north-star-boys-members-profile/>

Tickets: <https://www.eventticketscenter.com/north-star-boys-cambridge-05-06-2025/6957164/t>

Films at the Harvard Film Archive

24 Quincy St., Cambridge

- **Monday, May 5 at 6 pm:** *Youth (Spring) (Qingchun)* Directed by Wang Bing.
<https://harvardfilmarchive.org/calendar/youth-spring-2025-05>
- **Friday, May 9 at 6 pm:** *Document of Collison: The Whiplashed Ones (Dokumento Rinka: Muchiutareru Mono)* Directed by Ko Hiroh.
<https://harvardfilmarchive.org/calendar/document-of-collision-the-whiplashed-ones-2025-05>
- **Saturday, May 10 at 9:15 pm:** *Mother (Madeo)* Directed by Bong Joon-ho.
<https://harvardfilmarchive.org/calendar/mother-2025-05>

Film: *Shashin Koshien: A Summer in 0.5 Seconds*

Tuesday, May 6 from 7:30 to 10 pm Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline

A fictionalized film about the annual photography competition in Higashikawa, Hokkaido, called *shashin koshien*. The contest has grown in popularity and receives submissions from more than 500 schools to determine Japan's best high school photography team. Directed by Hokkaido native, Hiroshi Sugawara. Zoom Q&A with the director following the film. Presented by Japan Society of Boston's 2025 Hokkaido Fair. INFO: <https://japansocietyboston.wildapricot.org/event-6140110>

Concerts at MGM Music Hall at Fenway

2 Lansdowne St., Boston

- **Japanese Breakfast – The Melancholy Tour – Wednesday, May 7 at 8 pm**
<https://www.ticketmaster.com/japanese-breakfast-the-melancholy-tour-boston-massachusetts-05-07-2025/event/01006190C9AB4777>
- **One OK Rock Detox Tour North American Tour – Sunday, June 1 at 8 pm**
<https://www.ticketmaster.com/one-ok-rock-detox-north-american-boston-massachusetts-06-01-2025/event/01006231A1653362>
- **BINIVERSE World Tour – Wednesday, June 4 at 8 pm**
<https://www.ticketmaster.com/biniverse-world-tour-boston-massachusetts-06-04-2025/event/0100624D9F013D59>
- **BIBI First World Tour – Saturday, June 7 AT 8 pm**
<https://www.ticketmaster.com/2025-bibi-1st-world-tour-eve-boston-massachusetts-06-07-2025/event/01006264CA56389B>

Ani-Mania! at the Coolidge Corner Theatre

290 Harvard St., Brookline

- **Wednesday, May 7 at 7 pm:** *Millennium Actress*
<https://coolidge.org/films/millennium-actress>
- **Sunday, May 11 at 1:30 pm:** *The Tale of the Princess Kaguya*
<https://coolidge.org/films/millennium-actress>
- **Thursday, May 15 at 9:30 pm:** *Vampire Hunter D*
<https://coolidge.org/films/vampire-hunter-d-1985>
- **Sunday, May 18 at 2 pm:** *Weathering with You*
<https://coolidge.org/films/weathering-you>
- **Wednesday, May 21 at 7 pm:** *Belladonna of Sadness*
<https://coolidge.org/films/belladonna-sadness>
- **Sunday, May 25 at 1 pm:** *Ghost in the Shell* and *Ghost in the Shell 2: Innocence*
<https://coolidge.org/events/ghost-shell-double-feature>
- **Tuesday, May 27 at 7 pm:** *Neon Genesis Evangelion: The End of Evangelion*
<https://coolidge.org/films/neon-genesis-evangelion-end-evangelion>
- **Wednesday, May 28 at 7 pm:** *Inu-oh*
<https://coolidge.org/films/inu-oh>

Co-presented by the Japan Society of Boston.

INFO & Tickets: <https://coolidge.org/programs/ani-mania>

2025 Spring Taiwan Film Festival of Boston <https://taiwanfilmfest.org/>

Thursday, May 8 at 7 pm Gleason Public Library, Hollis Room, 22 Bedford Rd., Carlisle
Free screening of *Wild Road* and *The Tale of Ino Yumin*.

INFO & RSVP: <https://gleasonlibrary.assabetinteractive.com/calendar/taiwanese-documentaries/>

Ladies of Laughter with headliner Alyce Chan

Friday, May 9 at 8 pm The Center for Arts in Natick (TCAN), 14 Summer St., Natick

In celebration of Mother's Day weekend, **Ladies of Laughter** presents: **Alyce Chan**, speaker, writer, producer and stand-up comedian with a global presence. **Poppi Champlin** seen at comedy clubs across the country in her "Queer Queens of Comedy" show. **Erin Jackson**, one of the fastest-rising comedians in New York City. INFO: <https://www.ladiesoflaughter.org/>.

Tickets: <https://tcn.org/events/ladies-of-laughter-3/>

Chorus Boston 2025 Spring Concert

Saturday, May 10 at 3:30 pm; doors open at 3:15 pm

Calvary United Methodist Church, 300 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington

Chorus Boston is an amateur Japanese choir group in the Boston area. Program includes music from Studio Ghibli films and poetry from Tanikawa Shuntaro arranged for chorus.

Conductor: **Yuko Farrell**. Pianist: **Kyoka Minami**. **Free Admission**. **Questions?** Please contact: chorusbostonjc@gmail.com. INFO: <https://www.japanesechorusboston.org/>

CHUANG Stage and Company One Theatre present**Play: *Learning How to Read by Moonlight***

- Friday, May 16 to Saturday, May 24 BCA Plaza Theatre, 539 Tremont St., Boston
- Thursday, May 29 to Sunday, June 1 Pao Arts Center, 99 Albany St., Boston
- Thursday, June 5 to Sunday, June 8 The Umbrella Arts Center, 40 Stow St., Concord

Presented by **CHUANG Stage** and **Company One Theatre**. While his mother struggles to earn money in New York City and his father waits alone in Manila for their daily phone calls, 6-year-old Eddie learns English from his imaginary friend. Between the War on Drugs in the Philippines and the anti-immigrant movement in the United States threatening their humanity, will this undocumented family be able to pursue their dreams and address unspoken truths?

Gaven D. Trinidad's play is a musical and multilingual journey of childlike wonder. To spotlight Boston's community leaders and activism, a new narrator (a fellow artist, community organizer, or elected official) joins the storytelling every night. The play is spoken in English and Tagalog with subtitles. INFO & Tickets: <https://companyone.org/learning-how-to-read-by-moonlight/>

Concert: *Naruto: The Symphonic Experience*

Sunday, May 18 at 8 pm Orpheum Theatre, 1 Hamilton Pl., Boston

This live concert brings the anime *Naruto* to life on a grand scale. The 2-hour event features a film montage of iconic scenes from over 220 episodes, synchronized to a live orchestra performing **Toshio Masuda's** original score. INFO: www.narutoinconcert.com

Tickets: <https://bit.ly/3BdHAaE>

Film: *Happy Together*

Tuesday, May 20 at 7 pm Coolidge Corner Theater, 290 Harvard St., Brookline

Directed by **Wong Kar-wai** (1997). INFO: <https://coolidge.org/films/happy-together>

UNIQLO Festival of Films from Japan

Museum of Fine Arts, Remis Auditorium, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston

- Thursday, May 22 at 7 pm – *Sunset Sunrise*
- Friday, May 23 at 7 pm – *Between the White Key and the Black Key*
- Saturday, May 24 at 2:30 pm – *Cottontail*
- Sunday, May 25 at 2:30 pm – *Shadow of Fire*
- Thursday, May 29 at 7 pm – *Look Back*
- Friday, May 30 at 7 pm – *Bushido*
- Saturday, May 31 at 2:30 pm – *River*
- Sunday, June 1 at 2:30 pm – *My Sunshine*

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

Studio Ghibli Fest 2025

Studio Ghibli is celebrating its 40th anniversary as one of the most globally influential and treasured animation houses in film history. With legendary filmmakers like Isao Takahata, Hiromasa Yonebayashi, and Hayao Miyazaki, Studio Ghibli has carried the torch for traditional hand-drawn animation by crafting masterpieces that have inspired audiences and artists for generations. To find a movie theater near you, click on “Get Tickets” and enter your zip code.

May 17-21 *Kiki's Delivery Service*

June 22-24 *The Secret World of Arrietty (15th Anniversary)*

July 19-23 *My Neighbor Totoro*

INFO & Additional Films: <https://www.fathomentertainment.com/series/studio-ghibli-fest/>

Concert: Boston Pops - *Music of the Cosmos*

Guest Narrator: George Takei

Friday, May 23 and Saturday, May 24 at 7:30 pm

Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., Boston

Join the **Boston Pops** in a multimedia program that explores the intersection of music, space, and science fiction. Featuring **George Takei** as a cosmic storyteller and developed in partnership with the **Museum of Science, Boston** and its **Center for Space Sciences**.

Conductor Keith Lockhart.

INFO & Tickets: <https://www.bso.org/events/music-of-the-cosmos-boston-pops-2025>

ANNOUNCEMENTS**Japanese American National Museum Podcast:*****Japanese America – Season 2 – Episode 3: Bridging Generations: The Cultural Impact of Baseball in Japanese American Life***

Hosts **Koji Sakai** and **Michelle Malizaki** explore the connections between baseball and cultural identity within the Japanese American community. Special guest **Jason Murai**, president of the **Japanese American Baseball Organization**, shares insights into the **Sansei Baseball League's** role in fostering cultural identity and community spirit. Through anecdotes and reflections, the episode underscores baseball's enduring impact on Japanese American heritage, resilience, and representation in sports, celebrating figures like **Shohei Ohtani** who inspire future generations. <https://japaneseamerica.buzzsprout.com/>

Sansei Baseball League's website: <https://www.sanseibaseball.com>

2025 Boston Asian American Film Festival – Open Call for Films

BAAFF is seeking narratives, dramas, comedies, shorts, documentaries, animations, music videos and experimental films for their 17th annual film festival in October at ArtsEmerson. Regular Deadline: **May 15**. Late Deadline: **June 15**. Submit at: <https://filmfreeway.com/baaff>

BAAFF Seeks Volunteers

Help plan and support the annual film festival; *Projecting Connections*; *Shared Stories*, and other year-round activities. Join the BAAFF family and have some fun! <https://baaff.org/staff>

Tickets on Sale for Boston Red Sox vs. Detroit Tigers

Japanese Celebration - Friday, September 26 at 7:30 pm

<https://www.mlb.com/redsox/tickets/promotions/cultural-and-identity-celebrations/japanese>

2025 INCARCERATION CAMP PILGRIMAGES

Japanese American Memorial Pilgrimages - <https://www.jampilgrimages.org/pilgrimages>

Ireichō Tour to Former Confinement Sites & Other Places

- May 2025 to July 2026 <https://www.janm.org/exhibits/ireicho/venues>

- Amache – May 16-18
<https://amache.org/pilgrimage/>
- Crystal City – October 9-12
<https://www.crystalcitypilgrimage.org/>
- Heart Mountain – July 24-26
<https://www.heartmountain.org/visit/events/pilgrimage/>
- Jerome/Rohwer – May 21-24
<https://jeromerohwer.org/>
- Minidoka – July 11-13
<https://www.minidokapilgrimage.org/>
- Poston – October 24-25
<https://www.postonpreservation.org/>

2025 CONVENTIONS

JACL National Convention – July 17-20 – Albuquerque. NM

Theme: *Voice in Unity* <https://jacl.org/2025-national-convention>

OCA National Convention – July 24-27 – Seattle, WA

Theme: *Passage to Seattle: From AYPE 1909 to AANHPI Rising 2025*
<https://www.ocanationalconvention.org/>

NAAAP Leadership Convention – August 14-16 – Kansas City, MO

Theme: *Spaces: By Us., For Us. With Us.* <https://leadershipconvention.org/>

EXHIBITS

ICA Watershed Boston Harbor Shipyard & Marina, 256 Marginal St., East Boston ***Chiharu Shiota: Home Less Home* May 22 to September 1**

In her awe-inspiring installations, **Chiharu Shiota** (born 1972 in Osaka, Japan; lives and works in Berlin) foregrounds stories of migration, home, connection, memory, and consciousness. For the ICA Watershed, Shiota presents two signature, large-scale installations that consider the ways humans collect memories and form connections as they move and travel: a site-specific iteration of ***Accumulation – Searching for the Destination*** (2014/2025) and a newly commissioned installation, ***Home Less Home*** (2025).

<https://www.icaboston.org/exhibitions/chiharu-shiota/>

Pao Arts Center 99 Albany St., Boston Chinatown ***Celebrations in Perseverance: Public Art in Chinatown, 2024-2025* through June 30**

Exhibit showcases temporary public art and performance place-based projects created as part of the **2024-2025 Un-monument Initiative**. These six projects created space for joy and community celebration of cultural identity, through uplifting Chinatown as a neighborhood, cultural hub, and monument within the city of Boston.

<https://www.paoartscenter.org/events/celebrations-in-chinatown>

Outdoor Installation: Zhidong Zhang's *Far Away, From Home* **Auntie Kay & Uncle Frank Chin Park in Boston Chinatown through October**

<https://www.rosekennedygreenway.org/yearofthedragon/zhidong>

Museum of Fine Arts 465 Huntington Ave., Boston **• *Arts of Japan* on-going**

<https://www.mfa.org/gallery/arts-of-japan>

• *Qi Baishi: Inspiration in Ink* May 3 to /September 28

Living in a time of civil and political turmoil, **Qi Baishi** (1864–1957) was renowned for his modernization of Chinese ink painting. Conveying rural sentiments with bold landscapes, lifelike animals and plants, and lively and amusing figures, Qi's paintings of mundane objects and everyday life broke social and cultural barriers. Marking the 160th anniversary of Qi's birth, this exhibit features nearly 40 works—almost all on loan from the Beijing Fine Art Academy—and offers a rare opportunity to examine the breadth of his artistic vision and inspiration.

<https://www.mfa.org/exhibition/qi-baishi-inspiration-in-ink>

• *Japanese Garden – Tenshin-en – The Garden of the Heart of Heaven* (outdoors)

<https://www.mfa.org/collections/featured-galleries/japanese-garden-tenshin-en>

***Illuminate: Contextualizing Asian American Women's Stories through the Archives* to January 23, 2026**

Harvard Radcliffe Institute, Schlesinger Library, 3 James St., Cambridge

Illuminate spotlights the stories and lives of Asian American women whose collections are held in the Schlesinger Library. It provides viewers an opportunity to contextualize the often invisible and forgotten histories of Asian and Asian American women in the U.S., examining how understandings of race, ethnicity, gender, citizenship, and migration impact the collective memory of a nation. <https://www.radcliffe.harvard.edu/event/2025-illuminate-exhibition>

Griffin Museum of Photography67 Shore Rd., Winchester
through June 29**New Horizons: Contemporary Korean Photography**

- Friday, May 9 – 6 to 8 pm: Reception for Artists
- Saturday, May 10 – 5:30 to 7:30 pm: Korean Cultural Night

Curated by Joanne Junga Yang, the exhibit showcases the captivating works of seven contemporary Korean photographers: Ok Hyun Ahn, Seongyoun Koo, Anna Lim, Soosik Lim, Hyundoo Park, Jiyeon Sung and Sun Hi Zo.

<https://griffinmuseum.org/show/koreancontemporary25/>

Peabody Essex MuseumEast India Sq., 161 Essex St., Salem
opens May 17• **Korean Art**

PEM's collection explores art, culture, and life in Korea from the late Joseon dynasty (1392–1910) to today, a time of significant transition and global connection. Their early Korean collection was primarily formed by Edward Sylvester Morse, director of the Peabody Academy of Science (a predecessor to PEM), who pursued Korean acquisitions from 1880-1914. PEM's connection with Korea was also strengthened by Yu Kil-Chun (1856-1914), the reformist scholar and politician who with other early travelers between the U.S. and Korea donated many meaningful and foundational works to the museum's collection. PEM's **Yu Kil-Chun Gallery of Korean Art and Culture** brings to life the stories of these early pioneers, presented alongside the museum's renowned Korean textile collection, 19th-century paintings and contemporary works by Nam June Paik (1932–2006) and other Korean and Korean American artists.

<https://www.pem.org/exhibitions/yu-kil-chun-gallery-of-korean-art-and-culture>

• **Jung Yeondoo: Building Dreams**

opens May 17

This exhibit by Jung Yeondoo highlights two major multipart photographic works: *Evergreen Tower* (2001) and *Bewitched* (2001-ongoing).

<https://www.pem.org/exhibitions/jung-yeondoo-building-dreams>

• **K-Pop Dance Party – Thursday, May 15 – 9 pm to 12 am**

<https://www.pem.org/events/k-pop-dance-party>

• **Saturday, May 17 – 10:30 to 11:15 am – Artist Talk: Jongkuk Lee**

<https://www.pem.org/events/artist-presentation-jongkuk-lee>

• **Saturday, May 17 – 1 to 2 pm – Artist Talk: Jung Yeondoo**

<https://www.pem.org/events/artist-talk-jung-yeondoo>

• **Saturday, May 17 – 1 to 3:30 pm – Korean Paper Accessories with Jongkuk Lee**

<https://www.pem.org/events/korean-paper-accessories-with-jongkuk-lee>

• **Saturday, May 17 – 2 to 4 pm – The New York Korean Performing Arts Center**

<https://www.pem.org/events/the-new-york-korean-performing-arts-center>

• **Sunday, May 18 – 10:30 am to 3:30 pm – Creative Foundations: Korean Papermaking with Jongkuk Lee**

<https://www.pem.org/events/creative-foundations-korean-papermaking-with-jongkuk-lee>

• **Sunday, May 18 – 2 to 3 pm – Concert: G-Hwaja**

<https://www.pem.org/events/g-hwaja>

• **Thursday, May 22 – 1 to 2 pm – The Korean Art Gallery and Jung Yeondoo: Building Dreams with Jiyeon Kim and Stephanie Tung**

<https://www.pem.org/events/jiyeon-kim-and-stephanie-tung-korean-gallery-and-jung-yeondoo>

• **Sunday, May 25 – 2 to 3 pm – Concert: Iseul Kim's Two Voices Ensemble**

<https://www.pem.org/events/iseul-kims-two-voices-ensemble>

Worcester Art Museum

55 Salisbury St., Worcester

- **Reflections of A Changing Japan: The Evolution of Shin Hanga** through June 29

Shin Hanga, or “new prints,” emerged in Japan in the early 1900s as a resurgence of the styles and techniques of traditional ukiyo-e printmaking from the Edo period. As Japan industrialized and “Westernized” during the early 20th century, *Shin Hanga* artists began to revive this former style while embracing new artistic techniques and subject matter. This exhibit explores the rise and fall of this pivotal movement in Japanese printmaking.

<https://www.worcesterart.org/exhibitions/reflections-of-a-changing-japan-the-evolution-of-shin-hanga/>

- **Lecture: Japanese Printmakers in New England (1900-1960)**

Sunday, May 18 at 2 pm

Tuckerman Hall, 10 Tuckerman St., Worcester

A panel discussion between **Fiona C. Rosedahl**, the exhibit curator, and two leading scholars on early 20th-century Japanese art: **Dr. Kendall Brown** (California State University Long Beach) and **Dr. Alice Tseng** (Boston University). They will explore the presence of *shin hanga* in New England, the movement’s regional audience, and the inter-museum relationships that fostered connections with Japanese printmakers in the early 20th century.

<https://www.worcesterart.org/events/talk-japanese-printmakers-in-new-england-1900-1960/>

- **Guided Exhibit Tours – Saturdays at 1 pm**

<https://www.worcesterart.org/series/tour-of-reflections-of-a-changing-japan-the-evolution-of-shin-hanga/>

- **Form/Function: Contemporary Japanese Ceramics**

on-going

<https://www.worcesterart.org/exhibitions/asian-art/>

The William Benton Museum of Art

University of Connecticut, 245 Glenbrook Rd., Storrs, CT

Minnie Negoro: From Heart Mountain to UConn

through July 27

<https://benton.uconn.edu/minnie-negoro-from-heart-mountain-to-uconn/>

ELSEWHERE**Musical: *Maybe Happy Ending***

continues on Broadway

Belasco Theatre, 111 West 44th St., New York, NY

INFO & Tickets: <https://www.maybehappyending.com/>

Museum of Chinese in America

215 Centre St., New York, NY

- **With A Single Step: Stories in the Making of America**

on-going

<https://www.mocanyc.org/event/with-a-single-step-2/>

Isamu Noguchi Foundation and Garden Museum

9-01 33rd Rd. (at Vernon Blvd.), Long Island City, NY

Against Time: The Noguchi Museum 40th Anniversary Reinstallation

thru Sept 14

<https://www.noguchi.org/museum/exhibitions/view/against-time-the-noguchi-museum-40th-anniversary-reinstallation/>

Smithsonian American Art Museum

8th and G Streets, NW, Washington, DC

- **Pictures of Belonging: Miki Hayakawa, Hisako Hibi, and Miné Okubo**

through Aug 17

<https://americanart.si.edu/exhibitions/pictures-of-belonging>

- **Sightlines: Chinatown and Beyond**

through November 20

<https://www.si.edu/exhibitions/sightlines-chinatown-and-beyond:event-exhib-6754>

Morikami Museum & Japanese Gardens

4000 Morikami Park Rd., Delray Beach, FL

• **Women of Yamato****May 1 to August 24**

Before the War Brides, there were picture brides. Exhibit showcases how Japanese women played a pivotal role in shaping the early Japanese American community. Between 1907 and 1924, these women traveled to the U.S. to marry men they had never met, helping to establish vibrant immigrant communities.

• **Japanese War Brides: Across A Wide Divide****May 3 to August 17**

Exhibit explores the lives of more than 45,000 Japanese women who immigrated to the U.S. in the aftermath of World War II. It illuminates previously unknown American immigration stories and offers space to rethink how we hate, why we love, and what it means to be American.

<https://morikami.org/upcoming-exhibitions/>

• **The Art of Peace: Jizai Okimono from A Private Collection****to September 28**

The 19 sculptures showcasing *jizai okimono* – realistic representations of animals and mythical beasts with joints that allow full range of motion. <https://morikami.org/current-exhibitions>

• **Roji-en: Garden of the Drops of Dew** <https://morikami.org/gardens/>**The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston**

1001 Bissonnet, Houston, TX

Toshiko Takaazu: Worlds Within**through May 18**

<https://www.mfah.org/exhibitions/toshiko-takaazu-worlds-within>

Topaz Museum, 55 West Main St., Delta, UT<https://topazmuseum.org/>**Brigham City Museum of Art & History**

24 North 300 West, Brigham City, UT

Uncovering the Journey: Japanese American Pioneers in Box Elder County

- through June 21

<https://brighamcitymuseum.org/uncovering-the-journey-japanese-american-pioneers-in-box-elder-county>

41st Los Angeles Asian Pacific Film Festival – May 1-8

Visual Communications presents a robust lineup of in-person programming, along with virtual programming for audiences in Southern California and beyond. <https://vcmedia.org/festival>

Japanese American National Museum 100 North Central Ave., Los Angeles, CA

While the museum and store are closed until late 2026, there are programs and events in their Little Tokyo campus, throughout Southern California, and beyond. <https://www.janm.org/events>

Go For Broke National Education Center

355 East 1st St., Los Angeles, CA

Defining Courage - Hours: Fri - 2:30 to 4:30 pm; Sat & Sun - 11:30 am to 5 pm

<https://goforbroke.org/defining-courage-exhibition/>

Chinese American Museum

425 North Los Angeles St., Los Angeles, CA

(BE)Spoken: Poems from Our Asian American Voices**May 16 to January 8, 2026**

This exhibit spotlights spoken word artists by blending their poetry, performances and storytelling into bold imagery and installation. It dives into stories of identity, resilience, justice, and community. With each voice, the exhibit shines a light on the complex, evolving narratives of Chinese American and AAPI communities – past, present, and future.

<https://camla.org/upcoming-events/>

Japan House Los Angeles

6801 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles, CA

Neo-Japonism | Samurai and Beyond: Exploring Tradition through Technology

- through September 1

<https://www.japanhousela.com/exhibitions/neo-japonism-samurai-beyond-tradition-technology-nhk-taiga-japanese-drama-3dcg/>**The Huntington Library, Art Museum and Botanical Gardens**

1151 Oxford Rd., San Marino, CA

- **Mineo Mizuno: Homage to Nature**

through May 25

<https://huntington.org/exhibition/mineo-mizuno-homage-nature>

- **Mineo Mizuno: In the Huntington Art Gallery**

on-going

<https://www.huntington.org/exhibition/mineo-mizuno-huntington-art-gallery>

- **Japanese Heritage Shōya House**

<https://huntington.org/japanese-garden/shoya-house>**Fresno Art Museum**

2233 North First St., Fresno, CA

- **Art of the Word: Once Upon a Book – Featuring the Illustrations of Grace Lin**

- through June 29

<https://fresnoartmuseum.org/exhibitions/next-exhibitions/grace-lin>**Japanese American Museum at San Jose**

535 North 5th St., San Jose, CA

NI DO TO: A Transplanted Pilgrimage

through July 13

This transformative lobby experience of shared connection journeys through ancestral joy, historical trauma, and community resilience with the narrative of Japanese American incarceration through various interactive technologies: film, hologram, video game, and visual art. <https://www.jamsj.org/ndt>

43rd CAAMFest – May 8-11

The Center for Asian American Media's film festival returns to Japantown in San Francisco.

<https://caamfest.com/2025/>**Asian Art Museum**

200 Larkin St., San Francisco, CA

- **Shinoda Toko: Abstract Calligraphy**

through September 15

<https://exhibitions.asianart.org/exhibitions/shinoda-toko-abstract-calligraphy/>

- **Yuan Goang-Ming: Everyday War**

to July 7

<https://exhibitions.asianart.org/exhibitions/everyday-war/>**Portland Japanese Garden**

611 SW Kingston Ave., Portland, OR

- **Earthen Elegance: The Ceramic Art of Bizen**

through June 9

<https://japanesegarden.org/events/earthen-elegance-the-ceramic-art-of-bizen/>

- **Natural Patterns: Katazome Stencil Dyeing**

through September 15

Primarily used for elaborate patterns on kimono and *yukata*, **katazome** is a method of using exquisitely cut paper stencils and resist paste to dye fabrics. Today, *katazome*-created designs can be stand-alone art pieces, or are often found on *noren* curtains, futon covers, and *furoshiki* gift wraps. <https://japanesegarden.org/events/natural-patterns-katazome/>

Japanese American Museum of Oregon

411 NW Flanders St., Portland, OR

Sadako and Paper Cranes: Through Our Eyes

through September 7

In observance of 80 years since the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, this exhibit examines the devastation of nuclear war through the eyes of Sadako Sasaki, a young girl who experienced it. Alongside her story will be original works from artists **Erin Shigaki, Lynn Yarne, Marie Johnston, Maya McDarragh**, and six Grant High School students who contribute to ongoing discussions about peace and nuclear disarmament. <https://jamo.org/sadako/>

Wing Luke Museum

719 S. King St., Seattle, WA

- ***Side by Side: Nihonmachi Scenes by Tokita, Nomura, and Fujii***

through May 11

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

- ***Ten Thousand Things***

through Spring 2027

<https://www.wingluke.org/ten-thousand-things>

- ***Lost and Found: Searching for Home***

through September 2026

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

- **Additional exhibits:** <https://www.wingluke.org/exhibits>