



New England Chapter News *Japanese American Citizens League*

November 2012

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Visit our web site: www.nejacl.org

Isamu Noguchi: Bridging Cultures on November 4

New England JACL and the Concord Art Association will host an illustrated talk by Robert J. Maeda at the **Concord Art Association, 37 Lexington Road, Concord, MA, at 2 pm.** He will discuss the life and work of Isamu Noguchi who was one of the 20th Century's most important and critically acclaimed sculptors. Maeda taught Asian Art History at Brandeis University from 1967 to 2000. Late in his career, he became interested in the life and work of the sculptor. Noguchi voluntarily entered the Japanese internment camp at Poston, Arizona, the same camp as Maeda's family. Maeda will discuss Noguchi's art in terms of Noguchi's biracial family, his artistic training and his international reputation.

This event is free and open to the public, but reservations are requested. For reservations, please call the Concord Art Association at 978-369-2578 or email education@concordart.org.

Watanabe to head National Census Committee

Paul Watanabe has been named Chairman of the National Advisory Committee on Racial, Ethnic and Other Populations by the U.S. Census Bureau. Watanabe is Director of the Institute for Asian American Studies at UMass Boston where he is also a Professor of Political Science. He is a member of the NE JACL, the Board of Directors of the American Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, and president of the Board of the Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative Fund, a scholarship organization. The National Advisory Committee will advise the Census Bureau on a wide range of variables that affect the cost, accuracy and implementation of the Census Bureau's programs and surveys, including the once-a-decade census. The Committee, comprised of 21 members from multiple disciplines, will advise the Census Bureau on topics such as housing, children, youth, poverty, privacy, race and ethnicity, as well as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and other populations.

Ricesticks and Tea begins holiday gift drive

Ricesticks and Tea, Boston's only food party providing culturally appropriate food staples to members of the local Asian low income and non- or limited-English speaking community. The program is seeking donations for its annual holiday party to provide gifts for the 323 kids, adults and seniors they serve. You can participate several ways: (1) adopt an individual or family and donate a \$20 gift or gifts for them, (2) donate

money for the purchase of gifts, or (3) volunteer to assist with the holiday party. For more information go to <http://ricesticksandtea.org/>.

Asian Women sought for Taiko Troupe

The Genki Spark is holding a 4-week trial class for Asian women interested in trying their skills with Taiko drums. There is no obligation to join the taiko troupe at the end of the sessions. The four 2-hour classes begin on November 10 from 7 to 9 pm and are held weekly on November 17, 24 and December 1. They are seeking high energy, expressive, progressive, self-identified Asian women of East, South, West, Southeast Asian and Pacific Islander descent of all shapes, sizes, ages and backgrounds. Registration is \$100. For more information, go to: www.TheGenkiSpark.org.

LOCAL EVENTS

Asian Voices from Beantown

Friday, November 2, from 6 to 8 pm

Wolff Auditorium, Tufts Medical Center, 800 Washington Street, Boston

Join the Asian American Resource Workshop (AARW) in celebrating their first publication, *Asian Voices from Beantown – Short Stories and Poetry from the AARW Writers' Group*. The evening will include short talks and readings by the authors. The \$14.95 publication will be available at the discounted price of \$10. To RSVP call 617-426-5313 or email rsvp@aarw.org.

Asian American Women in Leadership 2012 Conference

Saturday, November 3, from 9 am to 5 pm

Paresky Conference Center, Simmons College, 300 The Fenway, Boston

The AAWIL Conference is an interactive one-day event aimed at growing and developing leadership skills. It will focus on increasing awareness of the unique challenges Asian American women face in school, the workplace, and at home and provide direction towards achieving life goals. For more information on speakers, workshops and to register, go to: <http://girlsaspire.org/2012conference/about.html>

Paul Nagano at the *Fenway Open Studio 2012*

Saturday/Sunday, November 3 and 4, from 11 am to 4 pm

Fenway Studio #406, 30 Ipswich Street, Boston

Paul Nagano and 27 other artists are opening their studios for visitors. Paul will feature his watercolors and other works before (and after) SymbALlsm. Visitors are asked to bring canned and non-perishable edible goods in support of the Greater Boston Food Bank. For more information go to:

http://www.fenwaystudios.org/openstudios_4_2318688040.pdf.

Community Report on the Tule Lake Pilgrimage

Tuesday, November 13, 6 to 9 pm (with refreshments)

Wolff Auditorium, Tufts Medical Center, 800 Washington St., Boston

Members of Genki Spark will report on their 4-day pilgrimage to Tule Lake, CA, where 18,000 Japanese and Japanese Americans were incarcerated during World War II.

They will share what they learned during this important event. NE JACLeR Sus Ito will be an honorary guest at this event. For more information go to:

www.TheGenkiSpark.org.

Homeowner Education Course

Saturday/Sunday, November 17/18, from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm

Asian Community Development Corporation, 38 Oak Street, Boston

A course providing a comprehensive overview of the home buying process, from choosing a loan to closing on a home. Topics will include financing options, finding a home, legal issues, and home inspections. Graduates will receive a certificate required for affordable housing lotteries, special loan and assistance programs. They also provide free one-on-one housing counseling for enters, potential homebuyers and those at risk of foreclosure or eviction. To reserve a place in the course contact ACDC by email at chop@asiancdc.org.

ACDC's 25th Annual Meeting and Dinner

Tuesday, November 27, Reception 5:30, Dinner and Program 6:30 to 8pm

Hei La Moon Restaurant, 88 Beach Street, Boston Chinatown

Celebrating 25 years of community building with highlights from 2012. Tickets start at \$25 for members and \$50 for non-members. For more information contact Yanni Poulakos by phone at 617-482-2380, ext. 212 or email yanni@asiancdc.org. For reservations go to:

<http://www.asiancdc.org/content/acdc-25th-annual-dinner-and-meeting>.

Dow Memorial Legal Assistance Fund Celebration

Friday, December 7, from 6:30 to 9:30 pm

Hei La Moon Restaurant, 88 Beach Street, Boston Chinatown

The 27th Annual Dinner in honor of Henry H Dow, the first Asian American attorney admitted to the Massachusetts Bar in 1929. For more information, contact Andrew Leong, 617-233-8871 or email andrewlsleong@gmail.com.

EXHIBITS IN AND AROUND BOSTON

Pilgrimage to Hokusai's Waterfalls

through November 2012

Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury Street, Worcester

The featured exhibit in the museum's newly redesigned Japanese gallery spotlights A Tour of Waterfalls in the Provinces (ca. 1833), a masterpiece woodblock print series by

the Japanese artist Katsushika Hokusai. Also on view is a permanent display of Japanese ceramics, ranging in date from 17th to 21st Century. For more information go to: <http://www.worcesterart.org/Exhibitions/hokusai-waterfalls/>.

Breaking Barriers:

the Ceramic Art of Jeff Shapiro and Shigemasa Higashida

November 10 to December 2

Lacoste Gallery, 25 Main Street, Concord, MA

An exhibition of sculptural ceramics that celebrates the friendship across oceans between a Japanese and an American artist. The artists will attend the opening reception on Saturday, November 10th from 3 to 5 pm. The opening and the show are free and open to the public. For more information contact Lacoste gallery at 978-369-0278 or email info@lacostegallery.com. Gallery hours: Tuesday to Saturday 10 am to 6 pm and Thursday until 7 pm.

Shuki: The Intimate Vessels of Sake

through December 2

Vessels Gallery, 71 Thayer Street (450 Harrison Ave., #71), Boston

An exhibition of contemporary ceramic sake vessels from Japan and America. Gallery hours are Wednesday-Saturday 11 am to 5 pm and Sundays from noon to 5 pm. For more information call 617-426-1950 or go to:

<http://www.vesselsgallery.com/about/index.html>

The Allure of Japan

through December 31, 2012

Museum of Fine Arts Boston, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston

This exhibit celebrates a period around 1900 when America had a fascination for all things Japanese. Included will be a rich display of rarely exhibited American prints, posters, watercolors and decorative arts complemented by a selection the MFA's renowned Japanese collections. For more information go to:

<http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/allure-japan>.

Cats to Crickets: Pets in Japan's Floating World

through February 18, 2013

Museum of Fine Arts Boston, 465 Huntington Avenue, Boston

Urban commoners in 18th and 19th Century Japan enjoyed a hedonistic lifestyle that included the pleasure of the companionship of pet animals. Formerly a prerogative of the nobility, pets were now available to newly affluent commoners as well. Cats and small dogs were especially favored, but monkeys, mice, fish, birds and even singing insects were also cherished. This exhibit is not just for animal lovers, but will also appeal to those interested in early modern Japanese popular culture and fine printmaking. For more information go to: <http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/cats-crickets>.

Grand Tales of the Loom: Four Master Weavers
through January 20, 2013

Fuller Craft Museum, 455 Oak Street, Brockton

Fuyuko Matsubara is among the four weavers featured in this exhibit. She joins Cyndy Barbone, Deborah Frazee Carlson and Bhakti Kiek in exhibiting narrative, symbolic or ethereal woven images. For more information call 508-588-6000 or go to:

<http://fullercraft.org/event/grand-tales-of-the-loom-four-master-weavers/>.

Spotlight on Maki Haku (1924-2000)

through January 2013

Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury Street, Worcester

Japanese artist Maki Haku is famous for his deeply embossed prints of abstract and playfully arranged Chinese characters. For more information go to:

<http://www.worcesterart.org/Exhibitions/maki-huki/>.

WHAT'S HAPPENING ELSEWHERE

JAMsj Winter Boutique

Saturday, November 10, from 10 am to 4 pm

San Jose Buddhist Church, 640 North Fifth Street, San Jose, CA

Start your holiday shopping early at the Japanese American Museum/San Jose's annual boutique. Featured will be items from more than 33 artists and vendors selling a variety of arts and crafts and Japanese-style gifts. . For more details, contact the Japanese American Museum/San Jose by phone, 408-294-3138 or email: mail@jamsj.org.

Silver Winds: The Arts of Sakai Hoitsu (1761-1828)

Through January 6, 2013

Japan Society, 333 East 47th Street, New York City

The first American retrospective of Sakai Hoitsu, master of the bravura gesture, a samurai aristocrat turned Buddhist monk who dedicated his life to art and poetry. The exhibition includes 58 screens, scrolls, painted fans, lacquer ware and woodblock-printed books from public and private collections. For more information call 212-832-1155 or go to: <http://www.japansociety.org/>.

Designing Nature: The Rinpa Aesthetic in Japan

through January 13, 2013

Metropolitan Museum of Art, 1000 Fifth Avenue, New York City

The exhibition features more than 100 works of art created in Japan by the Rinpa-school artists with more than 50 works from the Museum's own holdings and 45 loans from public and private collections. It includes many masters' renowned works in a variety of media – painting, textiles, lacquer ware and ceramics.

For more information call 212-525-7710 or go to:

<http://www.metmuseum.org/exhibitions/listings/2012/rinpa-aesthetic>.

Giant Robot Biennale 3

through January 20, 2013

Japanese American National Museum

369 East 1st St., Los Angeles, CA phone: 213-625-0414

Presenting the creative talents of Japanese and Japanese Americans whose innovative work is having an impact on American culture. Curated by *Giant Robot* co-founder Eric Nakamura, GRB3 presents the work of eight emerging artists along with a customized vinyl figure collection. For more information on all these exhibits, go to: www.janm.org/.

Ongoing Exhibits

Japanese American Museum of San Jose

535 N. 5th Street, San Jose, CA phone: 408-294-3138

Ongoing exhibits include: **Agricultural Exhibit - Yesterday's Farmer: Planting an American Dream; Pioneers of San Jose Japantown; World War II: Assembly Centers and Internment Camps; 100th Infantry Battalion and 442nd Regimental Combat Team; World War II: Military Intelligence Service; Post World War II: Resettlement; and Asahi/Zebros Baseball.** Museum hours: Thursday through Sunday, 12 to 4 pm. For more information go to: www.jamsj.org/.

Secrets Revealed: The Presidio Project

current until 2013 when major exhibit opens

**Visitors Center, Presidio of San Francisco, 105 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, CA**

The exhibit reveals untold stories of Nisei internees, including military enlistees. Their stories are brought to life through an interactive kiosk that presents a special sneak preview of the more extensive exhibits and programs coming to the new Military Intelligence Service (MIS) Historic Learning Center scheduled to open in 2013. This is the site of the US Army's first MIS Language School at the Presidio of San Francisco. Visitors Center hours: Thursday-Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm. For more information go to: <http://www.njahs.org/programs/viewdetails.php?id=317>.