



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

November 2014

P.O. Box 592 • Lincoln, MA 01773

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

### **Calling all Nisei, Sansei and Yonsei:**

### **Documenting the Japanese American Experience**

**Saturday, November 22, from 11 am to 4 pm**

**Outside the Lines Studio, 70 Colby Street, Medford (near Tufts)**

Filmmaker Matthew Hashiguchi will be documenting the stories of New England Japanese Americans. Matthew is a JACL member from the mid-West and he will be collecting these stories for *Good Luck Soup*, a web-based documentary he is developing. He plans to conduct and record audio interviews about the Japanese American experience. He is also interested in scanning family photographs taken before, during and after World War II. A flyer for the event with more details is attached to the newsletter cover email. To participate, **reservations are necessary**. To make a reservation contact Matthew by phone at 216-409-2724, or email:

[matthew.hash@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.hash@gmail.com).

### **George Takei at the Boston Asian American Film Fest**

**Monday, November 3, at 7 pm**

**Somerville Theatre, 55 Davis Square, Somerville**

Tickets are still available for the screening of *To Be Takei*, a documentary about Takei and his husband Brad as they prepare for the opening of Takei's dream project *Allegiance*, a musical based on his World War II experiences. The film also covers a look into his life history, from his work on *Star Trek* to his more recent advocacy for marriage equality and civil rights. The film will be followed by a Q&A with Takei. Tickets are \$25, with a discount of \$5 for JACL members and friends (use discount code BFF). Tickets at the door will be \$30. For details and to make a reservation go to:

<http://www.baaff.org/to-be-takei.html>.

### **Racism Study at UMass Boston**

Participants are being sought for a study that examines experience and impact of racism on people of color. Dr. Karen Suyemoto, associate professor, and Dr. Tahirah Abdulla, assistant professor, in the Department of Psychology at UMass Boston, hope to contribute to developing ways to decrease the detrimental effects of racism on foster empowerment for people of color. Participation in this online study will take 30-45 minutes. Participants must be 18 or older, understand written English, and identify as a person of color or racial minority. Those completing the survey will be entered in a raffle to win one of several \$200 gift cards or to have a \$10 donation made to the Southern Poverty Law Center. For more information, go to: [www.tinyurl.com/race-study](http://www.tinyurl.com/race-study).

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

The Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center has unveiled its online photo exhibit titled *A Day in the Life of Asian Pacific America*. The photographs were created in the course of a single day (May 10, 2014) by more than 300 photographers and filmmakers from throughout the world. To see the exhibit go to: <http://smithsonianapa.org/#go>.

## **Programs of Interest on WGBH**

### **Neighborhood Kitchens: *Mei Mei Street Kitchen***

Sat, Nov 8, at 4 pm on Ch 2

Sun, Nov 9, at 4 pm on Ch 44

### **America by the Numbers with Maria Hinojosa: *Pass or Fail in Cambodia Town***

Sun, Nov 9, at 5:30 pm on Ch 44

Fri, Nov 14, at 10 pm on Ch 44

### **Neighborhood Kitchens: *Oishii***

Sat, Nov 15, at 4 pm on Ch 2

Sun, Nov 16, at 12 pm on Ch 2 & at 4 pm on Ch 44

### **Independent Lens: *Muscle Shoals & Waiting for a Train: The Toshi Hirano Story***

Mon, Nov 24, at 10 pm on Ch 2

Check any program schedule changes at: <http://www.wgbh.org/schedule/index.cfm>.

## **Scholarship for Asian American law school students**

The Infinity Law Group LLC of Quincy is offering a \$1000 scholarship to law students of Asian heritage. The scholarship is intended to encourage more Asian Americans to consider law as a career. It is open to any student who will be attending law school in the Spring. Deadline for application is January 12, 2015. For more information and application forms, go to: <http://www.infinlaw.com/scholarship/>.

## **EVENTS IN NEW ENGLAND**

### **Book Talk: *Chinese Yankee* by Ruthanne Lum McCunn**

**Thursday, November 6, at 6 pm**

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

*Chinese Yankee* is the story of real life enslaved Thomas Sylvanus (Ah Yee Way) who fought for his freedom in the Civil War and continued to battle for his rights until he died in 1891. He was an orphan brought to America for schooling in the mid-1850s. At the age of 16, he was blinded after joining the Freedom Army. He reenlisted twice and survived the war with broken health and lame. This program is sponsored by the Chinese Historical Society of New England, Asian American Resource Workshop and the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center. For questions and to reserve a seat, go to: [info@chsne.org](mailto:info@chsne.org).

### **Job Fair: *Boston Career Forum 2014***

**Friday to Sunday, November 7 to 9, from 9 am to 3 pm**

**Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, 415 Summer Street, Boston**

This is the world's largest Japanese-English bilingual job fair sponsored by the New England JET Alumni Association. It is open to Japanese-English bilinguals (at minimum conversational level in both languages), who are graduating, seeking internships, or working professionals. For more information and to register go to:

[http://www.nejetaa.com/index.php?option=com\\_jevents&task=month.calendar&Itemid=72](http://www.nejetaa.com/index.php?option=com_jevents&task=month.calendar&Itemid=72).

### **Symposium: *Constitutional Revision in Japan***

**Friday, November 14, from 4 to 6 pm**

**Belfer Case Study Room S020, Japan Friends of Harvard Concourse**

**CGIS South Building, 1730 Cambridge Street, Cambridge**

A panel discussion featuring Richard J. Samuels, Director, Center for International Studies, MIT; Shiela Smith, Senior Fellow for Japan Studies, Council on Foreign Relations; and Keigo Komamura, Professor, Faculty of Law, Keio University, Japan. Moderator is Helen Hardacre, Reischauer Institute Professor of Japanese Religions and Society, Harvard University. This program is free and open to the public. For more information go to: <http://rijs.fas.harvard.edu/programs/forum.php>.

### **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Boston Tea Party – Japanese Tea Ceremony**

**Sunday, November 16, from 10 -11:30 am; 11:40 am-1:10 pm; and 1:20-2:50 pm**

**Sanzashi-An Tea House, Showa Boston, 420 Pond Street, Boston**

Each session includes Thin-tea and an incense ceremony. Registration deadline is November 10. Tea tickets are \$20. The Boston Tea Party is presented by Kyoko Wada, Urasenke Tea Instructor and sponsored by MIT Spouses & Partners. For more information and to register, go to: <http://web.mit.edu/chado/www/event/btp/btp14.html>.

### **AARW PopUp Restaurant Fundraiser**

**Monday, November 17, 6 pm and 8 pm seatings**

**Mei Mei, 506 Park Drive, Boston**

The Asian American Resource Workshop is offering a night of community, fun and delicious food. All proceeds from this 3-course, sit-down dinner will be donated to the AARW. The sample meal includes: Starter – salmon poke/assorted allium/smoking sesame oil. Main – slow roasted pork/miso dashi reduction/daikon sprouts/jasmine rice. Dessert – deep fried mochi/strawberry red bean dip. Tickets are \$40. For reservations and information go to:

<http://www.eventbrite.com/e/aarw-popup-restaurant-fundraiser-tickets-13861739837?aff=zvents>.

**Asian Community Development Corporation Annual Meeting & Dinner  
Tuesday, November 18, with 5:30 pm Reception and 6 pm Dinner & Meeting  
Hei La Moon Restaurant, 88 Beach Street, Boston**

This year's theme is *A-VOYCE Reunion*, to celebrate the restarting of ACDC's youth leadership program and celebrate their youth. Tickets are \$25 to members, \$40 to non-members. Reservation deadline is November 10. For information and reservations go to: <http://asiancdc.org/content/annual-meeting-dinner>.

**BAASIC 2014 Conference: *Intersections & Boundaries***

**Friday, November 21, from 12:30 to 5:30 pm**

**Microsoft NERD Center, 1 Memorial Drive, Cambridge**

The Boston Asian American Students' Intercollegiate Coalition (BAASIC) hopes to redefine what it means to be Asian American in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. At this year's conference, they will examine the connections we share as individual cultural groups, the obstacles that prevent us from claiming a sense of equality and the social justice movements that inspire change. To register and for more information, go to:

[www.baasic2014.org](http://www.baasic2014.org).

**Taiko Workshop with Elaine Fong**

**Saturday, November 22 from 10 am to 1 pm**

**Boston Center for Adult Education, 122 Arlington Street, Boston**

A workshop with Elaine Fong, the founder of Odaiko New England. No experience needed. Wear loose and comfortable clothing and shoes. Cost \$48, for BCAE members \$41. For more information and to register go to:

[http://www.bcae.org/index.cfm?method=ClassInfo.ClassInformation&int\\_class\\_id=11895&int\\_category\\_id=0&int\\_sub\\_category\\_id=0&int\\_catalog\\_id=0](http://www.bcae.org/index.cfm?method=ClassInfo.ClassInformation&int_class_id=11895&int_category_id=0&int_sub_category_id=0&int_catalog_id=0)

**The Genki Spark Taiko Workshop for beginners**

**Saturday, November 22, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm**

**Brookline Ballet School, 1431 Beacon Street, Brookline**

The Genki Spark offers a two-hour introductory workshop open to all ages (over 7), no experience necessary. Cost: \$30. Information: <http://www.thegenkispark.org>.

**Quincy Asian Resources Annual Meeting**

**Tuesday, November 25, at 6 pm**

**Thomas Crane Public Library, 40 Washington Street, Quincy**

Quincy Asian Resources, Inc., celebrates another successful year of serving the community and a meeting, dinner and refreshments. Reservation deadline is Friday, November 21. For information and reservations call 617-472-2200 or go to:

[www.quincyasianresources.org](http://www.quincyasianresources.org).

## **Symposium: *Historic Preservation in Japan & Boston***

**Tuesday & Wednesday, December 2 & 3**

**Harvard Art Museum, 32 Quincy Street, Cambridge &  
Boston Children's Museum, 308 Congress Street, Boston**

This is a 2-day symposium on architectural preservation in Japan and New England as part of the 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Boston-Kyoto Sister-City relationship. The program will feature presentations by international architects, scholars, and specialists in historic preservation. This event is co-sponsored by The Japan Society, The Toshiba International Foundation, The Reischauer Institute, Harvard Art Museum, and The Children's Museum. The symposium is open to the public and all are welcome. Details are coming on the Japan Society website at:

<http://www.japansocietyboston.org/event-1760640>.

## **29<sup>th</sup> Annual Harry H Dow Memorial Legal Assistance Fund Dinner**

**Friday, December 5, at 6 pm**

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

The Dow Legal Assistance Fund provides resources to ensure Asian Americans have access to the legal system. Keynote speaker will be Vijay Prashad, PhD, Professor of International Studies at Trinity College, Hartford, CT. Tickets are \$125. Public Interest tickets are \$75. For information or reservations, email [dowfund25@gmail.com](mailto:dowfund25@gmail.com) or call Fred Dow at 617-640-4008.

## **Odaiko New England: *Winter Extravaganza***

**Saturday, December 13, all day**

**ACAS, 29 Montvale Avenue, Woburn**

Drop by and see Odaiko New England's taiko projects. They'll be getting into the spirit of the holidays with plenty of Taiko. Suggested donation is \$10. For more information, go to: [http://onetaiko.org/web/ai1ec\\_event/winter-extravaganza/?instance\\_id=1029](http://onetaiko.org/web/ai1ec_event/winter-extravaganza/?instance_id=1029).

## **EXHIBITIONS IN NEW ENGLAND**

### **Attleboro Arts Museum**

**86 Park Street, Attleboro**

**Nov. 11 to 15**

#### ***Under Lock and Key***

An exhibit inspired by the City of Attleboro's reading of the novel *When the Emperor was Divine* by Julie Otsuka. Artists were invited to share images triggered by reading the book. Exhibition reception on Wednesday, November 12 from 7 to 8:30 pm. The reception is free and open to the public, but reservations are requested by November 11. For reservations and more information, call 508-222-2644, ext 10.

## Fuller Craft Museum

455 Oak Street, Brockton

through Nov. 11 ***Game Changers: Fiber Arts Masters and Innovators***

Featured are fiber artists who are recognized for continuously experimenting with traditional techniques and materials as well as developing revolutionary approaches. Asian American artists featured include Lucy Arai, Mary Lee Hu, Naomi Kobayashi, Chunghie Lee, and Kay Sekimachi.

For more information go to:

<http://fullercraft.org/event/game-changers-fiber-masters-and-innovators/>.

## Worcester Art Museum

55 Salisbury Street, Worcester

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.

through Jan. 11 ***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.

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

## Museum of Fine Arts, Boston

465 Huntington Avenue, Boston

through July 19 **Playing with Paper: Japanese Toy Prints**

By the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, color woodblock printing in Japan was so inexpensive that it could be used to make toys for children. This exhibit features colorful board games, paper dolls, cutout dioramas and pictorial riddles, as well as prints showing how the toys and games were enjoyed.

For more information go to: <http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/playing-with-paper>.

## Institute for Contemporary Art

100 Northern Avenue, Boston

through Jan 4 **Fiber: Sculpture 1960 – present**

Fiber artists are featured in this exhibit. Artists include Naomi Kobayashi, Kay Sekimachi, Haegue Yang

For more information go to: <http://www.icaboston.org/exhibitions/exhibit/fiber/>.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING ELSEWHERE

### PHILADELPHIA

#### Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival

November 12 to 22

International House of Philadelphia, 3701 Chestnut Street, University City & Asian Arts Initiative, 1219 Vine Street, Chinatown, Philadelphia

The Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival (PAAFF) features ten days of Asian American and international films. Special festival events include an open mic night, karaoke, discussions and a celebration of the 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the PAAFF. Most tickets are \$8 and \$6 for students and seniors. For program schedules and to order tickets, go to: <http://phillyasian.festivalgenius.com/2014/films/page/4>

### CALIFORNIA.

#### Heart Mountain Town Hall Event & Film

Saturday, November 22 at 2:30 pm

San Jose Buddhist Church Betsuin Gymnasium, 640 N. Fifth Street, San Jose

The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation (HMWF), in partnership with the Japanese American Museum of San Jose, is coming to San Jose for a special town hall event. The program includes an update on the development of the camp site and outreach to former Heart Mountain internees to invite them to share their stories for the interpretive center at the Heart Mountain historic landmark site. The Town meeting will be followed by a screening of *The Legacy of Heart Mountain* at 4 pm. It will be followed by a panel discussion featuring the film's co-producer David Ono and members of the cast. Both events are free and open to the public, but reservations are required. To reserve a spot, email: [events@heartmountain.org](mailto:events@heartmountain.org).

#### Japanese American Museum San Jose

535 N. Fifth St., San Jose, CA

phone: 408-294-3138

current

***Executive Order 9066: Memories and Artifacts.*** An exhibit highlighting photographs and artifacts that have been recently acquired or otherwise not been displayed as part of the permanent exhibits on the forced removal, incarceration and resettlement of Japanese Americans.

November 8

**Winter Boutique**

10am-4pm

The annual JAMs Winter Boutique featuring Japanese inspired art work, carfts, clothing, accessories, jewelry, washi designs, stationery, food and a silent auction. The following authors be present:

**Lora Nakamura, *Bonsai Babe*; Kim Oshiro & Jean Yee, *Simon the Skinny*; Tom Graves, *Twice Heroes*.** Admission is free on the day of the Boutique.

Museum events are free with admission, but RSVPs are required for most. For reservations, email [PublicPrograms@jamsj.org](mailto:PublicPrograms@jamsj.org) or call 408-294-3138. Information: [www.jamsj.org](http://www.jamsj.org).

**Japanese American National Museum****100 North Central Ave., Los Angeles, CA****phone: 213-625-0414**

**Oct.11 to Apr.26** *Hello! Exploring the Supercute World of Hello Kitty.* An exhibition celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Hello Kitty, her colorful history and influence on art and culture.

**current*****Common Ground: The Heart of Community***

This exhibit incorporates hundreds of objects, documents and photographs collected by the museum and chronicles 130 years of Japanese American history, beginning with the early days of the Issei pioneers through the World War II incarceration and to the present.

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