



New England Chapter News *Japanese American Citizens League*

October 2014

P.O. Box 592 • Lincoln, MA 01773

Visit our web site: www.nejacl.org

NE JACL Fall Potluck

Hidden Treasures: Japanese American Artifacts.

Sunday, October 26 from 6 to 8:30 pm

Weston United Methodist Church, 377 North Avenue (Route 117), Weston, MA

Do you have a closet filled with items your family has saved over the years, whether it's from the WWII camps or from your Issei ancestors? You'll have an opportunity to find out more about them from experts at JACL's Fall Potluck on Sunday, October 26. Representatives from the Japanese American National Museum (JANM) in Los Angeles will be discussing their work to collect and catalog photos and memorabilia being donated by Susumu Ito, New England JACL member and 442nd veteran, for a proposed JANM exhibit. **You are invited to bring one or two items to show the JANM representatives and share the stories behind them with the group.** Our speakers and guests from JANM will include Maggie Wetherbee, Collections Manager, and other members of the JANM staff.

Registration is required to attend this event. Please respond by sending an email to yamamoto@nejacl.org and you will receive a confirmation email in return. Be sure to indicate the following:

1. Your name and email address.
2. How many people are attending.
3. Do you plan to bring cultural artifact relating to Japanese American history to share with the group?
4. The category of food you plan to bring:
 - Main course
 - vegetable (salad or side dish)
 - dessert

Please bring one dish per person, each dish should serve 6 or more people.

This event is open to JACL members and friends. Admission is free, but a donation of \$5 a person at the door is appreciated. Register early. If you have any questions, email: Margie at yamamoto@nejacl.org.

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>.

Legislative Fellowship for Asian American Women

The Asian American Women's Political Initiative (AAWPI) is accepting applications for the 2015 State House Fellowship Program. The program provides Asian American Women with an opportunity to participate in state policymaking and experience how the legislature works through a part-time internship at the Massachusetts State House in Boston. Application deadline is October 13. For information call 617-652-0509, or go to www.aawpi.org.

EVENTS IN NEW ENGLAND

Boston Public Library Local & Family History Lecture Series

Wednesday, October 8, at 6 pm

Boston Public Library, Abbey Room, 700 Boylston Street, Boston (Copley Sq.)

Jim Vrabel's *A People's History of the New Boston* provides a grassroots perspective on the tumultuous 1960s and 1970s, when residents of the city's neighborhoods engaged in a level of activism unprecedented in Boston since the American Revolution. Vrabel recounts protests against urban renewal, highway construction, and airport expansion; fights for civil rights, school desegregation, and welfare reform; and uprisings over Vietnam and busing. He also explores how the legacy of that era is present in Boston today. Vrabel is a longtime Boston community activist and historian. The program is free and open to the public. For more information call (617) 536-5400 or go to: www.bpl.org/programs/local_family_history_series.htm.

Speak Your Genki: Asian American Women Open Mic

Thursday, October 9, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm

East Meets West Bookstore, 934 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge

Featuring the stories, poetry, art and narratives of Asian women. Light refreshments will be served. Sponsored by the Genki Spark. Seating is limited. For reservations and more information go to: www.thegenkispark.org.

Newton Community Pride: Asian Festival

Saturday, October 11, from noon to 5 pm

Newton Cultural Center at City Hall, 1000 Commonwealth Ave, Newton

Celebrate Chinese, Korean, Japanese and Taiwanese cultures in Newton with dance, music, food and craft activities for kids. For more information, go to: www.newtoncommunitypride.org/asia-festival.html.

CelebrAsians Benefit Fashion Show

Saturday, October 11, from 7 to 10 pm

The Dance Union, 16 Bow Street, Somerville

Asian Women for Health presents a program featuring Asian women survivors of all traumas (cancer, domestic violence, mental health, etc.) sharing their stories and

modeling creations by leading Asian designers. Tickets are \$85, for reservations go to: <http://celebrasians2014.eventbrite.com>. For more information go to: www.asianwomenforhealth.org.

Film Premiere: *Fred Ho's Last Year*

Monday, October 13 at 6:30 pm

Paramount Center/Arts Emerson, 559 Washington Street, Boston

The Asian American Resource Workshop (AARW) is celebrating its 35th anniversary with a special screening honoring Fred Ho, author, avant-garde jazz composer, and AARW co-founder. Given only one year to live, the film follows Ho as he fights cancer, leads orchestras, gives talks, leads protests, publishes books and produces an elaborate, manga-inspired samurai opera on a New York stage. Tickets are \$10 general admission, \$7.50 AARW members, \$5 students. For more information go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P2L6Qs-szSA>). To purchase tickets, go to: <http://www.baaff.org>.

Book Talk with Francis Fukuyama

Monday, October 13, at 7 pm

Harvard Bookstore, 1256 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge

A discussion with Fukuyama about his latest book *Political Order and Political Decay: From the Industrial Revolution to the Globalization of Democracy*. The noted Japanese American political scientist, political economist and author examines how societies develop strong, impersonal and accountable political institutions. He boldly explores the future of democracy in the face of a rising global middle class and entrenched political paralysis in the West. For more information call 617-661-1515 or go to: http://www.harvard.com/event/francis_fukuyama1/.

Asian American Commission: *Unity Dinner*

Thursday, October 16, from 6 to 9 pm

Boston University, Metcalf Hall, 775 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston

An evening of networking and entertainment as the Asian American Commission honors individuals and organizations making significant contributions to their communities. For more information go to: <http://www.aacommission.org/unity-dinner/>.

Ikebana Demonstration with Sogetsu Master

Friday, October 17, at 9:30 am

NewBridge on the Charles, 5000 Great Meadow Road, Dedham

Ikebana International, Boston Chapter, presents a demonstration with Sogetsu Master Yoka Hosono. The program will also feature work by potters David and Keiko Hergeshimer. For more information contact:

Minal Akkad	508-270-6759	salonindia@aol.com
Tomoko Tanaka	781-237-5739	tomokot@comcast.net

Japan Day at the Mattapan Branch of the Boston Public Library

Saturday, October 18, 3 to 4:30 pm

Library's Community Meeting Room, 1350 Blue Hill Avenue, Mattapan

Explore Japanese culture with MattapAnime, a local club that studies Japanese language and culture and meets at the library. Featured will be popular and classic Japanese literature, manga, anime, and origami. Visit their writing station to practice hiragana and katakana. Challenge your brain with Sudoku and nonograms. Refreshments will be served. The program is free and open to the public. For more information go to: http://www.bpl.org/branches/ma_calendar.htm#/?i=1.

The Genki Spark taiko workshop for beginners

Saturday, October 18, 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>.

4th Annual Boston Japan Film Festival: *Post-Disaster Civil Society*

Sunday, October 19, from 12:30 to 7 pm

MIT, Room 4-370, for location on campus: <https://whereis.mit.edu>

To commemorate the earthquake and tsunami disasters that hit Japan on March 11, 2011, the Japanese Resource Exchange (JREX) has organized annual film festivals to create opportunities for reflection and discussions. The featured film is ***Nuclear Nation – The Fukushima Refugees Story***. The film's director, Atsushi Funabashi, will be on hand to discuss his film. Two additional films will be screened. Program organizers also include The Urban Risk Lab at MIT, TEWASSA, and Satsuki Kai USA. The program is free, however donations are encouraged and appreciated. For complete program and reservation information, go to:

<https://www.indiegogo.com/projects/949026/email/8647558>

2014 Boston Asian American Film Festival

Thursday, October 23 to Sunday, October 26

At various times and locations in Boston

For a full schedule for this year's festival, go to www.baaff.org.

Volunteers are needed, go to: www.baaff.org/volunteer.

Book Signing by Michelle Phan

Friday, October 24, from 6 to 8 pm

Brookline Booksmith, 279 Harvard Street, Brookline

YouTube celebrity Michelle Phan will be signing her book ***Make Up: Your Guide to Beauty, Style and Success – Online and Off***. Her YouTube channel has over 7 million subscribers and she has uploaded over 300 videos with beauty and style advice.

To pre-order a copy of her book call 617-566-6660 or go to:

www.brooklinebooksmith.com/events.

The Japanese Kimono: Now and Then

Thursday, October 30, from 7 to 10 pm

Metcalf Trustee Ballroom, Boston University, 9th fl., One Silber Way, Boston

A delegation from one of the leading kimono schools in Japan will present a retrospective of kimono styles, from modern to ancient. The performance will be from 7 to 8:30 pm in the Ballroom, followed by a reception from 8:30 to 10 pm in the Lounge. The program is free and open to the public. It is presented by the Japan Society of Boston and the BU Center for the Study of Asia. For more information go to:

<http://www.japansocietyboston.org/event-1754310>.

Talk on WWII Camps: *Justice Denied - A Personal Perspective*

Wednesday, October 29, from 7 to 8:30 pm

Attleboro Library, 74 North Main Street, Attleboro

During the month of October, the library is featuring programs and workshops in support of their Big Read project and Julie Ostuka's book, *When the Emperor was Divine*. The program culminates with a talk by Margie Yamamoto, NEJACL co-president, and her illustrated presentation that follows her family's immigration to America, through the internment years, and to the present day. The program is free and open to the public, but registration is requested. To register, call 508-222-0157 or go online at:

<http://attleborolibrary.org/register>.

Book Discussion with Val Wang

Thursday, October 30, at 7 pm

Harvard Book Store, 1256 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge

Val Wang's book, *Beijing Bastard: Into the Wilds of a Changing China* tells the story of a young woman finding her place in the world and of China as its ancient past gives way to a dazzling but uncertain future. For more information call 617-661-1515 or go to

http://www.harvard.com/event/val_wang/.

Asian American Women in Leadership Conference

Saturday, November 1, from 8 am to 5 pm

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

This year's conference, *Making It Count!*, is aimed at growing and developing leadership skills for all age groups. This includes high school to graduate school students and from beginning to seasoned professionals. Keynote speaker is Kelly Zen-Yie Tsai, award winning spoken word poet, filmmaker, playwright, new media and multidisciplinary theater artist. Registration: \$80 for professionals, \$50 for college students, \$30 for high school students. Hosted by Asian Sisters Participating in Reaching Excellence (ASPIRE). For more information go to: www.aawil.org or

www.girlsaspire.org.

2014 Silk Road Gala

Saturday, November 1, from 6 to 10 pm

John Joseph Moakley US Courthouse, 1 Courthouse Way, Boston

The Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence's 21st annual benefit gala will feature reception food from four Boston Asian chefs, a dinner, and desserts by Joanne Chang, of Flour Bakery + Café. Dress is culturally-festive or black tie optional. Tickets are \$200 and available at: www.atask.org.

Kodo: *The Way of Incense*

Saturday, November 8, from 10:30-11:30 am & 1 to 2 pm

Sanzashi-an Tea House, Showa Boston, 420 Pond Street, Boston

Masataka Hata, president of the Shoyeido Incense Company of Kyoto, will instruct participants in the art of incense appreciation. Seating is limited to 12 persons per session. Early registration until October 11 for Japan Society members only.

Remaining seats will be open to non-members after that date. Registration is \$15 for Society members and \$30 for non-members. For more information and to register:

10:30- 11:30 session: <http://www.japansocietyboston.org/event-1770069>

1-2 pm session: <http://www.japansocietyboston.org/event-1770078>

EXHIBITIONS IN NEW ENGLAND

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 19th 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>.

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: www.icaboston.org.

WHAT'S HAPPENING ELSEWHERE**WASHINGTON*****The Art of Gaman: Arts and Crafts from the Internment Camps*****through October 12****Bellevue Arts Museum, 510 Bellevue Way NE, Bellevue, WA**

The exhibit, shown at the Smithsonian in Washington, D.C. in 2010, travels to the state of Washington. More than 120 pieces of arts and crafts from the World War II camps will be on display. Also on exhibit through September 21 is *Folding Paper: The Infinite Possibilities of Origami*. For more information, go to:

http://www.bellevuearts.org/visit_us/index.html.

CALIFORNIA.**Theater: *Valley of the Heart*****through October 12, Thursdays through Sundays****El Teatro Campesino, 705 Fourth Street, San Juan Bautista, CA**

A new play by Luis Valdez, *Valley of the Heart* is a love story about the daughter of an Issei farmer in San Jose and the son of Mexican sharecroppers. It opens just before Pearl Harbor and continues through the onset of WWII and the family's removal to Heart Mountain. For more information and to purchase tickets go to:

<http://www.elteatrocampesino.com>.

Exhibit at the 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 40th anniversary of Hello Kitty, her colorful history and influence on art and culture.

For more information go to: www.janm.org.

Exhibits/Events at Japanese American Museum San Jose

535 N. Fifth St., San Jose, CA

phone: 408-294-3138

October 11 **Open House and Exhibit: *Japanese American Farm House.*** A vintage Japanese American farm house is recreated and features first-hand accounts about life on the farm told by those who lived the experience. Demonstration of tsukemono making.

Oct. 19, 1 pm **Queer Compulsions: *Race, Nation, and Sexuality in the Affairs of Yone Noguchi.*** Dr. Amy Sueyoshi, associate dean of the College of Ethnic Studies at San Francisco State University, discusses her book about Japanese immigrant poet Yone Noguchi, the father of sculptor Isamu Noguchi. She explores Noguchi's interracial and same-sex affairs in which he found romantic fulfillment even in a California which was predominately anti-Japanese and heteronormative.

Oct. 26, 1 pm ***Return to Heart Mountain: A Celebration of Japanese American Baseball.*** A celebration of the 70th anniversary of the famous series of games between the Gila River and Heart Mountain ball clubs. Special guests include former ballplayers who will share stories of their experience. The program will be preceded by an informal social gathering starting at noon (check the JAMsj web site for details).

Museum events are free with admission, but RSVPs are required. For reservations, email PublicPrograms@jamsj.org or call 408-294-3138. Information: www.jamsj.org.