



New England Chapter News

Japanese American Citizens League

October 2021

Visit our web site: www.nejacl.org

2020 Census: Asian Americans populations are growing

UMass Boston's Institute for Asian American Studies (IAAS) compared Asian American population numbers between 2019 and 2020 and has found that our numbers have grown faster than any other major racial or ethnic group in Massachusetts. Asian Americans of a single race number over half a million (7% of the state's population), while multi-race Asian Americans boost the number to 582,000 (8% of the population). In individual cities and towns, Asian Americans make up significant portions of the population. In Lexington, the Asian American population almost doubled from 2019 to 2020 to become 33.1% of Lexington's total population. To see where other cities stand, go to IAAS's web site and click on the Table for "Population of Asian Americans in Selected Cities and Towns":

https://www.umb.edu/iaas/census/census_2020

Public Comments needed to protect Minidoka Historic Site

The preservation of the Minidoka incarceration site is being threatened by a proposed wind project on land adjacent to it in Idaho. Written public comments are needed to help protect Minidoka. The **deadline** for these public comments has been **extended to October 20th**.

The proposed Lava Ridge Wind Project is a 400-unit wind turbine field on 73,000 acres adjacent to Minidoka. If completed, will be one of the largest in the US. Several turbines are slated to be installed on the historic footprint of the camp and almost all turbines are completely visible from the site. For details about this project and how you can submit your

public comment, go to: [https://jacl.org/minidoka-call-to-](https://jacl.org/minidoka-call-to-action?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=f7427764-1bdd-405d-b7ba-909880273c80)

[action?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=f7427764-1bdd-405d-b7ba-909880273c80](https://jacl.org/minidoka-call-to-action?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=f7427764-1bdd-405d-b7ba-909880273c80)

UC Berkeley Seeks Oral History Participants

An Oral History project at the University of California is seeking Japanese Americans who have parents, grandparents or great grandparents who were incarcerated at Manzanar and Topaz. Through new oral history interviews, the project will document the ways in which intergenerational trauma and healing occurred after WWII. These interviews will examine and compare how private memory, creative expression, place, and public interpretation intersect. By addressing intergenerational memory of the incarceration, the project will address the harms of the past.

For more **information** about the project and to **volunteer or nominate** someone for the project, go to: [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScW-](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScW-TmKBkrnuNSipRUYAYYBmD4-NSIVO4EJyhBT0-6ZvYIKhQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0&eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=f7427764-1bdd-405d-b7ba-909880273c80)

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[6ZvYIKhQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0&eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=f7427764-1bdd-405d-b7ba-909880273c80](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScW-TmKBkrnuNSipRUYAYYBmD4-NSIVO4EJyhBT0-6ZvYIKhQ/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1&flr=0&eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=f7427764-1bdd-405d-b7ba-909880273c80)

Apply now for 2022 JACS Grants

Grant applications are being accepted for the 2022 Japanese American Confinement Sites (JACS) program. Grants are awarded to organizations and entities working to preserve historic Japanese American incarceration sites and their history, including private nonprofit organizations, education institutions, and state, local and tribal governments and other public entities. Past grants have helped support development of Interpretive/Learning/Visitor Centers at camp and detention sites, museum exhibitions, research projects, oral histories, and development of films and videos. Grants will be awarded through a competitive process and require a 2:1 Federal to non-Federal match (\$2 Federal to \$1 non-Federal match). The minimum grant request accepted is \$5,000. The program is administered by National Park Service. **Deadline** for grant applications is **November 9, 2021**. **Information:** <https://www.nps.gov/jacs/index.html>

New e-magazine from the Japanese Government

We've just received information about a new online magazine being offered by the Japanese government. Granted it is a PR effort on Japan's part, but if you are interested in recent developments in areas of policy, technology, the environment, healthcare, or just want an over view of today's Japan, this magazine may help. The articles are short and the photography beautiful. For a look at the first issue or to subscribe, go to: https://www.japan.go.jp/kizuna/about_kizuna.html

LECTURES, DISCUSSIONS & MISC.

***Onigiri Action 2021* kicks off campaign October 5 to November 5**

Onigiri Action is an international program that started in Japan and has been introduced in the United States. It is a project of Table for Two, a global initiative to combat hunger through several unique programs that include food education for K-12 students, working with corporations and organizations to offer healthier food options to the public, and promoting healthy eating in general.

Participants in Onigiri Action are asked to make an onigiri (Japanese rice ball) and take a picture. For each photo Onigiri Action receives, five school meals are donated to children in need around the world through Table for Two. Since its launch in 2015, the campaign has provided 5.4 million meals. This year, participants are being asked to create onigiri that reflect special aspects of their home state. For example, from Hawaii someone submitted a Spam musubi! Organizers are hoping to have onigiri from all of our 50 states.

For more **information:** <https://usa.tablefor2.org/onigiri-action>

Coming Out, Coming Home

Saturday, October 9, 10:30 am (Mountain Time)

virtual, registration required

Salt Lake City JACL is hosting an event that includes a viewing of a video of an *Okaeri* panel discussion featuring Japanese American LGBTQ+ sharing their stories and experiences as Nikkei. The video will be followed by a facilitated discussion of the Utah community's experiences. **Information and registration:**

https://instructure.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJMsdUGsqTWiGNAH4uW_I5iqTUGIEC-KIATW?fbclid=IwAR1s4QM3bYUK8b0jKICtHw6KED1zWLabulzPok-UC-QHvb9FbSD1IAh1Wbw&eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=f7427764-1bdd-405d-b7ba-909880273c80

Interactive Workshop: Anime Subtitling 101

Tuesday, October 12, 7 pm (Pacific Time)

virtual, registration required

Learn how to subtitle your favorite anime. Your instructors will be from JVYA (Japan Visual media Translation Academy), the home of experts in translating Japanese content for worldwide audiences. They will demonstrate how to create subtitles, have the characters speak naturally in English while remembering to make the context understandable for viewers. Don't worry about your level of Japanese language, all materials will be provided with word-to-word translation. This event is free and open to everyone 18 years of age and older. Sponsored by the Japan Foundation of Los Angeles.

Information and registration: <https://www.jflalc.org/ac-others80>

Aging Allies? Demographic Changes in the Indo-Pacific Region

Tuesday, October 19 at 4:30pm (Pacific Time)

virtual, registration required

The Indo-Pacific region is facing big demographic changes. By 2050 the populations of China, Japan and Russia (three of the region's most powerful military countries) will shrink by 1000 million, while the population of Asia as a whole will increase by more than 700 million. What are the national security implications of these changes? The speakers examining this question will be Andrew L. Oros, Professor of Political Science and International Studies at Washington College, and Ellis S. Krauss, Professor Emeritus, University of California, San Diego, School of Global Policy and Strategy. The program is free and open to the public and sponsored by the Japanese Forum for Innovation and Technology at UC San Diego.

Information and registration:

https://ucsd.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DAdAWIguSvuvNI-GlohPcA

Genetic Genealogy: What's All the Fuss about DNA?

Wednesday, October 20, 6:30 to 8 pm (Pacific Time)

virtual, registration required

Linda Harms Okazaki presents an introductory discussion about genetic genealogy in this basic course designed for those who are new to genetic testing. You'll learn about the common brands of test, types of tests available, interpretation of the results, and connecting with potential relatives. Ethics and privacy concerns will be discussed. Okazaki has been researching her husband's Japanese ancestry since 2012 and is a charter member of the Nikkei Genealogical Society. Her column, *Finding Your Nikkei Roots*, is published bimonthly in the *Nichi Bei Weekly*. Registration is \$25. The program is sponsored by the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California. **Information and registration:**

<https://www.jcccnc.org/events/whats-all-the-fuss-about-dna-an-introduction-to-genetic-genealogy/>

Densho's Anniversary Gala: 25 Years of Story

Saturday, October 23, from 5 to 6:30 pm (Pacific Time) virtual, registration required

Join Densho as it celebrates its 25th anniversary with an event featuring music, dance, art and intergenerational conversation. Featured artists and speakers include traci kato-kiriyama, Gerry and Gail Nambu, Sean Miura, Miya Sommers, and many others. Densho has grown from a grassroots operation to a robust organization and trusted steward of Japanese American history. The anniversary gala is free and open to the public.

Registration: <https://densho.org/25gala/>

Information about Densho: <https://densho.org/about-densho/>

Coffee Life in Japan

Thursday, October 28 at 6 pm (Eastern Time)

virtual, registration required

The speaker is Merry White, Professor of Anthropology at Boston University and an expert on Japanese education, family, social change, and food culture. She is the author of the award-winning book, *Coffee Life in Japan*. This program is free with a suggested donation of \$10 to \$20. Sponsored by the Japan Society of Boston. **Information and registration:**

<https://www.japansocietyboston.org/event-4464109?CalendarViewType=1&SelectedDate=10/27/2021>

2021 JACSC Education Conference

Friday/Saturday, October 29 to 30

virtual, registration required

Join the Japanese American Confinement Sites Consortium (JACSC) for its second virtual education conference. The program begins with a special event on Friday (Oct. 29) and continues with education sessions all day Saturday (Oct. 30). The Consortium was founded on the principle of bringing together practitioners in preservation, education and advocacy related to the Japanese American experience. The program is free and open to the public.

Information and registration:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd4I_svnRkotBbgcevaYBIVBS7B1AQta9lr_Xc1PEPmlyM5UA/viewform

<https://www.jacsc.org/2021conference?eType=EmailBlastContent&eld=f7427764-1bdd-405d-b7ba-909880273c80>

EXHIBITIONS

MASS MoCA

87 Marshall Street, North Adams, MA

phone: 413-662-2111

Glenn Kaino: *In the Light of a Shadow*

thru September 5, 2022

In the Light of a Shadow is inspired by the connection between two protests -- the tragic events known as "Bloody Sunday" from Selma, Alabama and Derry, Northern Ireland. The installation spans the entire football-field size Building 5 gallery and provides an immersion experience of moving shadows and evocative soundscape.

Information: <https://massmoca.org/event/glenn-kaino-in-the-light-of-a-shadow/>

WORCESTER ART MUSEUM

55 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA

Japanese Screen: *Parodies and Legends*

thru December 2021

A handscroll by painter Furuyama Moromasa representing one of the most elaborate and extensive work by the artist. It contains 20 separate paintings, each approximately four feet long. The screen will be unrolled in stages to exhibit different portions of the scroll.

Information: <https://www.worcesterart.org/exhibitions/japanese-screens/>

Kimono Couture: The Beauty of Chiso

through July 3, 2022

virtual exhibit

The **Worcester Art Museum** is partnering with Chiso, the distinguished, 465-year-old, Kyoto-based kimono house to present a view of the world of traditional kimono design and artistry. Over the course of 10 videos, the virtual exhibit provides a rare, behind-the-scenes look at the creation of the *Worcester Wedding Kimono*, the first kimono ever commissioned as a work of art by an art museum. For **information** and access to the video series, go to:

<https://www.worcesterart.org/exhibitions/kimono-couture/>

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

465 Huntington Avenue, Boston

Conservation in Action: Japanese Buddhist Sculpture ongoing

A rare, behind the scenes look at the conservation of seven Buddhist sculptures. Visitors are invited to watch as conservators study and treat the sculptures in a public conservation studio. The wooden figures – images of worship depicting Buddhas, Guardian Kings, and a Wisdom King – are decorated with polychromy or gilding and date from the 9th to 12th centuries. The conservation project occupies an entire gallery in the Museum, allowing visitors to observe the techniques employed by conservators as they carefully clean the sculptures and secure areas of loose paint, lacquer, and gilding. **Information:** <https://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/conservation-in-action-japanese-buddhist-sculpture-in-a-new-light>

Japanese Garden, Tenshin-en

ongoing

Amid the disruption of the pandemic of the last year and a half, many of us may have forgotten about a Japanese Garden right in the heart of Boston. Dedicated in 1988, *Tenshin-en*, or the “Garden of the Heart of Heaven,” is a contemplative Japanese garden. It is named for the Museum’s curator of Chinese and Japanese Art, Kakuzo Okakura (known in Japan as Okakura Tenshin), who worked at the MFA from 1904 until his death in 1913. The entrance to the garden, pre-COVID, was across the street from the Museum parking garage and open parking lot on Museum Road. For more **information** on the garden, go to:

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

ELSEWHERE

JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

100 North Central Avenue, Los Angeles

Film: *City of Ghosts!*

Friday, October 22 from 6:30 to 9 pm

in person event

Join the museum for a free family friendly outdoor screening of *City of Ghosts!* The program is a blend of animated characters and life-action settings and tells the story of a group of ghost-loving kids in LA who learn about the rich history of their city through encounters with friendly neighborhood ghosts. A special feature before the film will be a conversation with creator Elizabeth Ito, director and writer Ako Castuera, and stars Atomic Nancy and Zen Sekizawa on telling stories related to the Japanese American community.

Information: <https://www.janm.org/events/2021-10-22/outdoor-screening-city-ghosts>

Mine Okubo's Masterpiece: The Art of Citizen 13660

Through February 20, 2022

Mine Okubo's graphic memoir, *Citizen 13660*, was first published in 1946. Through nearly 200 illustrations, Okubo captures how World War II and the subsequent incarceration upended her life. This is the first time the materials comprising Okubo's book will be exhibited. Included will be sketches she completed while she was incarcerated at Tanforan and Topaz, original drawings that she created, as well as a draft of the final manuscript.

Information: <https://www.janm.org/exhibits/mine-okubo-masterpiece>

A Life in Pieces: The Diary and Letters of Stanley Hayami through January 9, 2022

The exhibit brings to life Hayami's writings from camp and his wartime letters with a 3D virtual experience that can be accessed by smartphone. In 1944, at the age of 19, he was drafted into the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. He was killed in Italy while trying to rescue a fellow soldier during combat. The exhibition will have its world premiere at the 2021 Tribeca Festival in the Immersive Category. For information: janm.org/a-life-in-pieces.