



New England Chapter News *Japanese American Citizens League*

Fall 2010

P.O. Box 592 • Lincoln, MA 01773

Two authors featured in book talks

Cultures of War: Pearl Harbor/Hiroshima/9-11/Iraq will be discussed by its author **John Dower** on Thursday, Sep. 23 at 6 pm at the MIT Student Center, Room 306, 84 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge. Dower is a Pulitzer Prize winning author and MIT Professor of Japanese History. Books will be available for signing following the talk. This event is free and open to the public, but RSVPs are requested.

For more info and to RSVP go to: <http://www.us-japan.org/boston/Calendar.html>

Erika Lee, co-author of ***Angel Island: Immigrant Gateway to America***, will be featured in a book talk on Friday, Oct. 1 at 11 am, at the Chinese Progressive Association, One Nassau St., Boston. This event is sponsored by the Chinese Historical Society of New England (CHSNE). The book, co-authored with Judy Yung, draws on extensive new research including immigration records, oral histories, and inscriptions on the barrack walls. The authors produce a sweeping, yet intensely personal history of Japanese picture brides, Chinese paper sons, Korean students, South Asian political activists, Filipino repatriates, Russian and Jewish refugees, Mexican families and many others from around the world. For info contact CHSNE at 617-338-4339 or visit: info@chsne.org.

Play reading at Smith: *Shikataganai (It can't be Helped)*

A new play by Kendra Arimoto, *Shikataganai (It can't be Helped)*, will have its premiere reading at Smith College on Thursday, Oct. 14, at 7:30pm at Smith College's Earle Recital Hall. This one-night only event will be free and open to the public. Arimoto is a young Yonsei playwright who began collecting stories for her writings at the age of eight. In her play she injects American history with the intensity and passion of live theater to give an unexpected artistic twist to an historic subject. A fierce writer, actor and activist, Arimoto combines a lifetime of training with generations of oral history to put Japanese Americans on the national stage. She has received the 2010 James Baldwin Fund Prize for Multicultural Playwriting from the Five College Multicultural Theater Committee and an excerpted reading at the WORD! Festival.

Nominations for ASPIRE's 2010 Outstanding Woman of the Year

Asian Sisters Participating in Reaching Excellence (ASPIRE) is looking for young Asian American women who are role models for their peers and are committed to ASPIRE's mission of empowerment. The winner will receive a trip to Boston to receive her award

at the Oct. 16 Asian American Women in Leadership Conference. Application deadline is Sep. 30, 2010. For info and applications go to: www.girlsaspire.org.award.

2010 Boston Asian American Film Festival, Nov. 11 to 14

The 2010 Boston Asian American Film Festival will be held from November 11 to 12. This event is presented by the Asian American Resource Workshop and features work by Asian American filmmakers. More details to come.

Asian American Women in Leadership Confab Oct. 16

Discovering the Leader Within is the theme of this year's 6th Annual Asian American Women in Leadership Conference set for Saturday, Oct. 16 from 8:30am to 4pm at the Boston University Photonics Center, 8 St. Mary's St., Boston. Featured will be workshops, networking lunch and keynote speakers: Linda Chin, President of the Asian Task Force Against Domestic Violence, and Jeannie Suk, Assistant Professor of Law, Harvard Law School. This event is sponsored by Asian Sisters Participating in Reaching Excellence (ASPIRE). For info visit: www.girlsaspire.org.

Volunteers, contributions needed at Ricesticks and Tea

Ricesticks and Tea (RST) is a food pantry program serving the Boston area's Asian community. It serves low income and non- or limited English speaking immigrants, providing culturally appropriate food staples. Food items distributed include jasmine rice, cooking oil, dried red beans, tofu and Asian noodles. RST benefits up to 120 families each month who represent more than 300 kids, adults and seniors. The program is entirely volunteer run. They welcome contributions and volunteers. For more info contact: ricesticksandtea@gmail.com.

CALENDAR

Saturday, Sep. 22. Beginning and intermediate calligraphy classes with Michiko Imai are being offered at the Kaji Aso Studio, 40 St. Stephen St., Boston, from Sep. 22 through Nov. 10. Beginner classes are on Wednesdays from 4 to 5pm and the fee is \$100 plus materials fee of \$5. Intermediate classes are on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 7pm and fee is \$200. For more information and to register, call 617-247-1719 or go to: www.kajiasostudio.com.

Saturday, Sep. 25. The Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center's **25th Annual Oak Street Fair** will be held Saturday, Sep. 25 from 11am to 2pm at the Josiah Quincy School Playground at the corner of Oak St. and Shawmut Ave., in Boston. Rain location: Josiah Quincy School Cafeteria, 885 Washington St., Boston. A day for children and families featuring sushi making, face painting, hula hoop contests, Chinese calligraphy, free dental and health screenings, and much more. Free and open to the public. For info call 617-635-5129 or visit: www.bcnc.net.

Thursday, Sep. 30 and Friday, Oct. 1. An **Ikebana demonstration and workshop** will be presented by Eikou Sumulra, a Sogetsu master instructor from Tokyo. The

demonstration will be held Thursday, Sep. 30 at 10am, at New Bridge on the Charles, 5000 Great Meadow Rd., Dedham. The workshop will be held the following day on Friday, Oct. 1, at 9:30 am, at Elm Bank, East Wing, 900 Washington St., Wellesley. For more info call 508-270-6759, or go to: www.ikebanaboston.org/.

Saturday, Oct. 2. The **Boston Asian American Students Intercollegiate Conference** (BAASIC) brings together Boston Asian college students with a full day of workshops, performances and speakers. For more info contact info@baasic.org or visit: www.baasic.org.

Sunday, Oct. 3. A **benefit concert** featuring Asian American musicians Tiger Okoshi, Ryo Goto, Pei-Shan Lee, Soichi Muraji and Joinatsuru Yanai will be held Sunday, Oct. 3, at 3pm at the Center for the Arts at Thayer Academy, corner of Central Ave. and Washington St., Braintree. Proceeds from the concert will benefit the Japan Society of Boston and the Boston Higashi School. Tickets are \$35, Students \$15. For more info and tickets go to: http://www.us-japan.org/boston/BHS-JSB_Concert.html.

Sunday, Oct. 17. A day-long **TakeTiNa workshop** will be held Sunday, Oct. 17 from 10am to 6 pm at the Concord Masonic Temple, 58 Monument Square, Concord, MA. The workshop, led by Elaine Fong, is a whole-body experience that enables you to use rhythm as a doorway to healing. Participants will be guided into multilayered rhythmical movements using steps, claps and rhythmical chanting that leads to a state of expanded awareness. Registration: \$75 early bird special until Sep. 25, \$90 after. Make checks payable to Odaiko New England and mail to Elaine Fong, 68 Parkman St., #3, Brookline, MA 02446.

Tuesday, Oct. 26. The **Yoko Miwa Trio** will be featured at Schuller's Jazz Club at the DoubleTree Guest Suites in Boston on Tuesday, Oct. 26 at 8pm. For more program and ticket info, go to: <http://www.scullersjazz.com/attractions/detail.htm?id=913>.

At the Boston Museum of Fine Arts

Under the Skin: Tattoos in Japanese Prints. Through January 2, 2011.

Luxuries from Japan Cultural Exchange in the 17th and 18th Centuries. Through January 17, 2011.

Heaven and Hell in Japanese Art. Through May 1, 2011.

Visit the MFA website: www.mfa.org