



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

September 2014

P.O. Box 592 • Lincoln, MA 01773

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

### ***Pilgrimage to the Past:***

#### ***Tule Lake and the Japanese Incarceration***

**Thursday, September 25, from 6 to 8 pm (doors open at 5:30)**

**Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center, 38 Ash Street, Boston**

This summer members of The Genki Spark taiko group joined nearly 400 others in a pilgrimage to Tule Lake to learn more about the history of the camp and to honor those who had been incarcerated. On Thursday, September 25 they will present a program featuring a report from that trip and remarks by Ken Nomiya who will share his family's experience at Tule Lake and current restoration efforts. The program is sponsored by The Genki Spark, co-sponsored by the New England JACL, and is free and open to the public. Space is limited, so register early. To register, go to:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pilgrimage-to-the-past-2014-tule-lake-and-the-japanese-incarceration-registration-12795197781>.

### **Two JACL members featured in local publications**

New England JACL members, Kyoko Kondo and Yutaka Kobayashi, were featured in two Wellesley publications recently.

An artist profile in the *Wellesley Weston Magazine* this summer spotlighted Kyoko Kondo and the origami art she creates. She has taught origami and displayed her work in New York City, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Hawaii and Massachusetts. The magazine article follows Kyoko from when she first started folding paper cranes as an eight-year-old to her work today that includes creating original origami. To see the article, go to:

<http://wellesleywestonmagazine.epubxp.com/i/305082/7>. (click on the origami butterflies)

The Wellesley Townsman featured a story about Yutaka Kobayashi and the three gold awards he won from the United States Tennis Association as the top ranked player in the US for men over 90. Yutaka is a regular tournament player and has often found himself squared off against men his age who once played in Wimbledon and Davis Cup tournaments. For the complete story on Yutaka, go to:

<http://wellesley.wickedlocal.com/article/20140702/News/140708910>.

### **Massachusetts Asian American Commission seeks members**

Applicants are being sought to fill seven vacancies on the Massachusetts Asian American Commission. More information and application forms are available at

<http://www.aacommission.org/about/membership/>.

## **New Report on AAPI Economic Status since 2009**

The Department of Labor recently released a report on the economic status of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders since 2009. The report includes data for six AAPI ethnic groups and compares their employment, educational and economic statistics to those of whites, blacks and Latinos in the US. The report is called *The Economic Status of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the Wake of the Great Recession* and can be read at this site:

<http://www.dol.gov/sec/media/reports/20140828-AAPI.pdf>

(Note: if this does not work, copy the URL above and place it manually in your search engine)

## ***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>.

## **EVENTS IN NEW ENGLAND**

### ***Lantern Festival***

**Saturday, September 6, from 11 am to 9 pm**

**Boston's Chinatown Gate, on the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway**

The first Lantern Festival presented by the City of Boston, Chinatown Main Street and Greenway Conservancy. Colorful lanterns will mark the transition from summer to fall in New England. Featured will be moon cake samplings from local bakeries, food vendors, arts and crafts vendors, folk dances, lion dance, music, martial arts and tai chi demonstrations. For more information call 617-350-6303 or go to:

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

### ***9<sup>th</sup> Annual Films at the Gate***

**Friday to Sunday, September 12-14**

**6 pm, live performances. 7:30 pm or Sundown, main feature**

**Boston's Chinatown Gate, Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Greenway**

The Asian Community Development Corporation presents its annual *Films at the Gate*. The featured films are *Fearless Hyena* on Friday, *The Woman Knight of Mirror Lake* on Saturday, and *Come Drink with Me* on Sunday. The program is free and open to the public. For more information go to: <http://asiancdc.org/content/9th-annual-films-gate>.

### **Odaiko New England at the Wakefield World Music Festival**

**Saturday, September 13, 1 to 6 pm**

**Wakefield Opera House, 2 High Street, Sanbornville, NH**

Odaiko New England will be performing at 1 and 5:40 pm, with a workshop at 3:50 pm. All performances and events are free. For more information go to:

<http://wakefieldoperahouse.org/worldmusicfestia.html>.

## **UMass Amherst Asian Arts & Culture Program – Fall Performances**

**Wednesday, Sept. 17, Sheng Dong – *Music from Taiwan***

**Tuesday Sept. 23, *Japanese Shomyo Buddhist Chants & Shirabyoshi Songs***

**Tuesday, Sept. 30, *The Art of the Geisha***

All programs begin at 7:30 pm in the Bowker Auditorium, Stockbridge Hall on the UMass Amherst campus. Tickets are \$15 general admission and \$10 for seniors and youth.

For more information and to reserve tickets go to:

<https://umafacweb1.admin.umass.edu/Online/PerformingArts?sessionlanguage>.

## **AARW Annual Benefit: *Just Eats***

**Saturday, September 20, from 6 to 9 pm**

**MIT Media Lab, 75 Amherst Street, Cambridge**

The Asian American Resource Workshop honors community leaders at its annual dinner/benefit. This year's event at the MIT Media Lab will feature pan-Asian cuisine, an auction and raffle, topped off with a dessert buffet. Admission: Members \$50, non-members \$65. After September 5, prices increase by \$10. For more information and reservations, go to: <http://www.aarw.org/justeats>.

## **The Genki Spark taiko workshop for beginners**

**Saturday, September 20, from 6 to 8 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>.

## **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/>.

## **4<sup>th</sup> 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. Other program organizers are The Urban Risk Lab at MIT, TEWASSA, and Satsuki Kai USA. The program is free, however donations are encouraged and appreciated. The day's program includes:

12:30 pm ***Nuclear Nation: The Fukushima Refugees Story***

2 pm Discussion with director Atsushi Funabashi

3:30 pm ***X Years Later***

5 pm Discussion with director Hideaki Ito

6 pm ***Radioactive***

7 pm Reception at Itadaki Boston, 269 Newbury Street, Boston

## 2014 Boston Asian American Film Festival

Thursday, October 23 to Sunday, October 26

Times and locations vary

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

Volunteers are needed, go to: [www.baaff.org/volunteer](http://www.baaff.org/volunteer).

## EXHIBITIONS IN NEW ENGLAND

### ***Game Changers: Fiber Arts Masters and Innovators***

through November 23

Fuller Craft Museum, 455 Oak Street, Brockton

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/>

### **Exhibits at the 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/>.

### **Exhibits at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston**

465 Huntington Avenue, Boston

through Sep. 8

#### ***Fired Earth, Woven Bamboo – Contemporary Japanese***

***Ceramics and Bamboo Art.*** A celebration of Japanese decorative arts. More than 60 dramatic ceramics and baskets are complemented by contemporary Japanese quilts and fabric screens and an example of sophisticated paper sculpture.

For more information go to: <http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions>.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING ELSEWERE

### WASHINGTON

#### **Densho: *Sushi & Sake Fest***

Wednesday, October 1, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm

MOHAI, South Lake Union, 860 Terry Avenue N, Seattle, WA

Annual fundraising event for Densho: The Japanese American Legacy Project at the Museum of History and Industry. Tickets are \$100. Must be 21 or older to attend. For more information go to: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/750115>.

#### ***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](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>.

#### **Exhibits at the Japanese American National Museum**

100 North Central Ave., Los Angeles, CA phone: 213-625-0414

through Sep.14 ***Perseverance: Japanese Tattoo Tradition in a Modern World.***

An exploration of the artistry of traditional Japanese tattoos and their rich history and influence on modern tattoo practices. A photographic exhibition by Kip Fulbeck and Takahiro Kitamura.

through Sep.14 ***Dodgers: Brotherhood of the Game.*** The LA Dodgers' rich history in civil rights, community building, and globalization is explored through the stories of Hideo Nomo, Chan Ho Park, Jackie Robinson and others.

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.

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

**Exhibits/Events at Japanese American Museum San Jose**

535 N. Fifth St., San Jose, CA

phone: 408-294-3138

current

***Executive Order 9066: Memories and Artifacts***

This new exhibit explores what Japanese American life was like before Executive Order 9066, how life disrupted by incarceration and how people tried to recover their lives when they returned to their communities. Artifacts from the museum's permanent collection.

**Thurs, Sept. 4****Film: *Yuri Kochiyama: Passion for Justice***

This documentary chronicles the history of this remarkable women who touched the lives of thousands of political activist in many diverse communities. Time of the showing will be announced on the museum's website.

**Sat, Oct. 4*****Nikkei Angel Island Pilgrimage***

A pilgrimage to rediscover the history of the Japanese and Japanese American legacy at Angel Island.

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