



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

September 2017

P.O. Box 592 • Lincoln, MA 01773

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

### **NY Times on Japanese American Incarceration**

A friend called our attention to an August 11 item on the Opinion page of the *New York Times*. We were surprised and pleased to find an article by Tom Brokaw about the friendship between Norman Mineta and former Senator Alan Simpson. Mineta and Simpson first meeting as young boys during WWII – Mineta in the Heart Mountain camp and Simpson a Boy Scout living in Cody, Wyoming. The two met again in 1970 in Washington, DC -- Mineta, a liberal Democrat in the House of Representatives and Simpson, a conservative Republican in the Senate. The story is recounted by Brokaw who points to it as an example of what is missing in the “hyper partisan political climate in Washington today.” Brokaw attended the Heart Mountain Pilgrimage this summer where he met the two men. To see article, go to:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/08/11/opinion/brokaw-norman-mineta-alan-simpson.html?smid=nytcore-ipad-share&smprod=nytcore-ipad>

### **Scapegoat Cities podcasts to feature JA stories**

New England JACL Board member Jim McIlwain has provided us with information on a series of Japanese American incarceration stories that will be released as podcasts on the Scapegoat Cities web site beginning September 6. The introductory episode giving an overview of the series is currently available at: <https://scapegoatcities.org/>.

The podcasts were developed by Eric Muller, Professor of Law at the University of North Carolina. Muller has researched war-era Japanese American incarceration for more than 20 years, writing numerous scholarly articles and three books on the subject. He plans to produce a total of ten episodes and will release the first two on September 6. The rest will be released bi-weekly. For a news item with details about the podcasts: <http://www.dailytarheel.com/article/2017/08/professors-new-podcast-revisits-stories-of-japanese-american-internment>

### **Call for Essays on Colorism Among Asian American Women**

Nikki Khanna, Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of Vermont, is accepting submissions for an anthology, *Shades of Prejudice: Asian American Women on Colorism in America*. She asks: how has your skin shade (and other “racialized” physical features like eye color, eye shape, and other facial features) influenced your life? For more information, go to: <http://www.nikkikhanna.com/call-for-essays.html>

## EVENTS IN NEW ENGLAND

Tuesday  
Sept. 5  
7-9 pm

### **Odaiko New England Introductory Taiko Workshop** **ACAS, 29 Montvale Avenue, Woburn**

New drummers can learn taiko fundamentals, including form, vocalization, and ensemble drumming. No experience necessary. Workshop fee: \$35. To register, go to: [http://onetaiko.org/web/calendar/cat\\_ids~16,14,17/](http://onetaiko.org/web/calendar/cat_ids~16,14,17/)

Thursday  
Sept. 7  
5 to 8 pm

### **Pao Arts Center Open House** **One Greenway, 99 Kneeland Street, Boston**

Tour the new theater and gallery and learn about discount rental opportunities. Light refreshments. To register: <https://bcnc.net/pao-rsvp/>

Thurs&Fri  
Sept. 7&8  
6:30 pm

### **Film: *Paper Lanterns*** **Japan Society of Boston, Anchor Room, 50 Milk Street, Boston**

A special screening of *Paper Lanterns* with Director Barry Frechette and Producer Peter Grilli presented by the Japan Society Boston. The story of Shigeaki Mori and his tireless efforts to find the relatives of 12 Americans who were prisoners of war in Hiroshima during World War II and were killed. Admission is free to Japan Society members. \$10 for non-members. Reservations recommended:

For September 7, go to <http://www.japansocietyboston.org/event-2615438>

For September 8, go to: <http://www.japansocietyboston.org/event-2476137>

## **MARTHA'S VINEYARD INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL**

Friday  
Sept. 8  
4:30 pm

### **Film: *After the Storm*** **Capawock Theatre, 43 Main Street, Vineyard Haven**

The story of a prizewinning author who wastes his money on gambling and can barely pay child support. He struggles to take back control of his life and make amends with his young son. Admission is \$15 adults and \$10 for children. For more information, go to: <http://mvfilmsociety.com/2017/08/mviff-2017-after-the-storm-umi-yori-mo-mada-fukaku/>

Saturday  
Sept. 9  
7 pm

### **Film: *Mainland*** **Martha's Vineyard Film Center, 79 Beach Road, Vineyard Haven**

Filmed over three years in China and the US, *Mainland* is a coming of age tale that follows two teenagers from China's wealthy elite attending a boarding school in blue-collar rural Maine. As their visions of the American dream gain clarity, worlds collide and their relationship to home takes on a new aspect. Information: <http://mvfilmsociety.com/2017/08/mviff-2017-mainland-with-director-miao-wang-and-producer-damon-smith/>

Saturday  
Sept. 9  
9:15 pm

### **Film: *The Departure*** **Capawock Theater, 43 Main Street, Vineyard Haven**

A documentary about Ittetsu Nemoto, an aimless and rebellious former punk rocker-turned-Buddhist priest. He is known in Japan for saving the lives of countless suicidal men and women through his wise and compassionate counsel. As Nemoto approaches middle-age with a wife and young boy of his own, he learns his life is at risk from heart disease. For more information, go to:

<http://mvfilmsociety.com/2017/08/mviff-2017-the-departure/>

Sept. 8-14  
various  
times

**Film: *Columbus***  
**Brattle Theatre, 40 Brattle Street, Cambridge**

When a renowned architecture scholar falls ill during a speaking tour, his son (John Cho) finds himself stranded in Columbus, Indiana. The son strikes up a friendship with a young architecture enthusiast (Haley Lu Richardson) who works at the local library. As their intimacy develops, they explore the town and their conflicted emotions. A debut film for writer/director/editor Kogonada who will attend the film showings for Q&A on Sunday, Sept. 10 at 4:30 and 7:15 pm. For more information and show times, go to:

<http://www.brattlefilm.org/2017/09/08/columbus-2/>

Saturday  
Sept. 9  
9 am to  
4 pm

**18th RI Chinese Dragon Boat Races & Taiwan Day Festival**  
**Festival Pier, along the Pawtucket River, Pawtucket, RI**  
**Parking & Shuttle: 175 Main Street (entrance on Roosevelt Avenue)**

Featured are amateur/corporate dragon boat racing teams, cultural performances, art & crafts tables, and the popular dumpling-eating contest. Also offered are a large selection of vendors, interactive activities, the Narragansett Beer Garden, and food trucks. This event is free and open to the public. For more information, go to: <http://www.dragonboatri.com/site/>

Tuesday  
Sept. 12  
12 to 1 pm

***Ideas for Supporting the Japanese Community in Boston***  
**Meridian Room, 50 Milk Street, Boston**

A Japan Society Brown Bag session with Satoko "Lisa" Watanabe, an experienced social worker who had established a help-line for Japanese-speaking people around Boston. Join her in a discussion of ideas about supporting our Japanese friends around Boston. For more information and to register, go to:

<http://www.japansocietyboston.org/event-2643131>

Thursday  
Sept. 14  
4 to 7 pm

**Tufts University Medical Center Hiring Fair**  
**Revere Hotel, Grand Master Ballroom, 200 Stuart Street, Boston**

Onsite interviews with Tufts medical Center Human Resources representatives and hiring managers will be offered. Also on hand will be representatives from locally based career centers and training and education programs to help participants explore different career building and advancement opportunities. For more information and to register, go to: <https://www.tuftsmcjobfair.org/>

Saturday  
Sept. 16  
6 to 8 pm

**The Genki Spark Workshop for Beginners**  
**Brookline Ballet School, 1431 Beacon Street, Brookline**

The Genki Spark is a multi-generational Asian women's arts and advocacy group that uses Japanese taiko drumming, personal stories, and creativity to build community, develop leadership, and advance respect for all. Pre-registration required. Fee: \$30 for a 2-hour session. For more information and to register, go to: <http://www.thegenkispark.org/public-workshops.html>

Tuesday  
Sept. 19  
7 pm

**Book Talk: *Jasmine Toguchi, Mochi Queen***  
**Trident Booksellers & Café, 338 Newbury Street, Boston**

Debbi Michiko Florence joins four other kidlit authors discussing their newest books. Florence is an author of nonfiction books for children in the Kaleidoscope Kids Series, *China and Japan*. She is a sansei living in Connecticut and this is the first in her series of Jasmine Toguchi stories. For more information on this event, go to: <https://www.tridentbookscafe.com/event/meet-middle-grade-authors>

Saturday  
Sept. 23  
11 am to  
2 pm

**32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Oak Street Fair**  
**Josiah Quincy Elementary School Playground**  
**Oak Street and Shawmut Avenue, Boston**

Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center's free fun fair for children of all ages. Featured are activities, games, and the famous watermelon-eating contest. For more information, go to:

<https://bcnc.net/upcoming-events/2017/9/23/32nd-annual-oak-street-fair>

Saturdays  
Sept.  
23 & 30  
2:05 pm

**Film: *The Napping Princess***  
**The Luna Theater, 250 Jackson Street, Lowell**

An animated film that takes place in the year 2020, three days before the opening of the Tokyo Olympics. Combining dream fantasy and mystery, a young girl seeks answers to her father's disappearance. From director Kenji Kamiyama (*Ghost in the Shell* and *Eden of the East*). For more tickets and information:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/napping-princess-tickets-37423854757>

Sunday  
Sept. 24  
2 pm

**Tea Ceremony at the Art Complex**  
**The Art Complex Museum, 189 Alden Street, Duxbury**

The tea ceremony is conducted in the Complex Tea Hut designed by Gofu Sano and built in Kyoto in 1969. It was reassembled in Duxbury in 1975. Admission is free. For more information, go to: <http://www.artcomplex.org/tea.html>

***Golden Door or Border War?***  
***United States Immigration from the 19<sup>th</sup> Century to Today***  
**Boston Athenaeum, 10½ Beacon Street, Boston**

A three-part series investigating the turbulent past and present of immigration in the US. Free and open to the public. For more information, go to:

<http://www.bostonathenaeum.org/events/4906/boston-roots-trump-anti-immigrant-playbook>

Tuesday  
Sept. 26  
12 to 1 pm

***The Boston Roots of the Trump Anti-Immigrant Playbook***

Lecture by Neil Swidey, nonfiction author and staff writer for *Boston Globe Magazine*.

Tuesday  
Oct. 17  
12-1:30 pm

***Boston and the Chinese Exclusion Act***

Panel discussion with Tunney Lee, Professor emeritus of Architecture and City Planning at MIT; Lisong Liu, Associate Professor of History at Massachusetts College of Art and Design; and Shauna Lo, Assistant Director of the Institute for Asian American Studies at UMass, Boston.

Tuesday  
Dec. 12  
6 to 7 pm

**Poets' Theater**

An original performance based on immigration-related materials from the Athenaeum's collections.

Friday  
Sept. 29  
6 pm

**Chinese Historical Society Annual Meeting & Banquet**  
**Hei La Moon Restaurant, 88 Beach Street, Boston**

The Chinese Historical Society of New England (CHSNE) is celebrating its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary featuring videos by Kenneth Eng and Sojourner Awards to Caroline Chang, CHSNE founding member and lifelong activist, and to the American Legion Boston Chinatown Post 328. Tickets are \$125. Reserve your seat by Monday, September 18. For information and tickets, go to:

<http://www.chsne.org/chsne25/> or [www.mkt.com/chsne](http://www.mkt.com/chsne)

***Kodo Incense Appreciation***

**Cambridge Innovation Center, 1 Broadway, 11<sup>th</sup> Floor, Cambridge**

Masataka Hata, President of Shoyeido Incense of Kyoto, will instruct participants in the art of incense appreciation. The Shoyeido Incense Company was established in 1705 and became the world's premiere incense-making company and the preferred supplier to most temples in Japan. Seating is limited to 12 people per session. Admission is \$15 for Japan Society members and \$30 for non-members.

For the 1 pm seating, go to: <http://www.japansocietyboston.org/event-2618165>.

For the 3 pm seating, go to: <http://www.japansocietyboston.org/event-2618166>

Oct. 19-22

***The 2017 Boston Asian American Film Festival***

Save the dates. Festival schedule will be announced in early October. For information, go to: <http://www.baaff.org/>

Sunday  
Oct. 21  
9am-5pm

***The Science of Anime***

**Boston Museum of Science, 1 Science Park, Boston**

The New England Anime Society has joined with the Museum of Science to explore *The Science of Anime*. The two groups are taking reservations now. For information and reservations, go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/119093478631708/>

Tuesday  
Oct. 24  
6 pm

**Book Talk: Myers+Chang at BCNC**

**Pao Arts Center, One Greenway, 99 Kneeland Street, Boston**

The Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center presents an evening with Boston chef and James Beard Award winner, Joanne Chang. She will be introducing her new book *Myers+Chang at Home*. Admission will include a copy of the book and sweets and savories from Myers+Chang. Tickets are \$50. Seating is limited and tickets must be purchased by October 16. For more information:

<https://bcnc.net/upcoming-events/2017/10/24/myers-chang-at-bcnc>

Chang will also have a book event on Thursday, October 5, at 7 pm at Wellesley Books, 82 Central Street, Wellesley. Tickets are \$34 for admission and a copy of the book. For more information:

<http://store.wellesleybooks.com/event/joanne-chang>

- Dec. 1 - 31 **Theater: *Hold These Truths***  
**Lyricstage, 140 Clarendon Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, Boston**  
 A play by Jeanne Sakata and directed by Benny Sato Ambush. *Hold These Truths* is the true story of Gordon Hirabayashi, a Japanese American college student who resisted incarceration during World War II. Michael Hisamoto plays Hirabayashi. For more information and tickets, go to:  
<http://www.lyricstage.com/productions/production.cfm?ID=131>

## EXHIBITIONS IN NEW ENGLAND

### BOSTON MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

465 Huntington Avenue, Boston

- Sep. 30 to  
June 3,  
2018 ***Black and White: Japanese Modern Art***  
 Centered around a newly acquired, large-scale calligraphy by Inoue Yuichi (1916-1985), this exhibition showcases a selection of avant-garde works in the monochrome aesthetic shared widely in Japan and beyond during the postwar period. Among the nine works on view are prints, ceramics and sculpture, primarily drawn from the MFA's collection. For more information, go to: <http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/black-and-white>
- through  
Dec. 10 ***Showdown! Kuniyoshi vs. Kunisada***  
 Rival artists Utagawa Kuniyoshi and Utagawa Kunisada were the two bestselling designers of *ukiyo-e* woodblock prints in 19<sup>th</sup> Century Japan. Kunisada was known for his portraits of Kabuki actors, sensual images of women and the luxurious settings he imagined for historical scenes. Kuniyoshi is remembered for his action scenes of tattooed warriors and supernatural monsters as well as comic prints and forbidden political satire in disguise. The exhibit features 100 works, drawn entirely from the MFA's Japanese collection. For more information, go to:  
<http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/showdown-kuniyoshi-vs-kunisada>
- Oct. 18 to  
Apr. 1,  
2018 ***Takashi Murakami: Lineage of Eccentrics***  
 Contemporary works by Takashi Murakami, one of the most imaginative and important artists working today, are juxtaposed with treasures from the MFA's collection of Japanese art. Murakami and Japanese art historian Nobuo Tsuji selected the objects in the exhibition, including paintings and sculpture created by the artist in direct response to Japanese masterpieces from the MFA's collection. For more information, go to:  
<http://www.mfa.org/exhibitions/takashi-murakami>
- Sep. 13 to  
Sep. 2,  
2018 ***Last Defense: The Genius of Japanese Meiji Metalwork***  
**Worcester Art Museum, 55 Salisbury Street, Worcester**  
 The exhibit focuses on the genius and versatility of metalworkers during the Meiji Restoration (1868-1912). With the decline of the samurai class, the armor-maker metalworkers applied their skills and artistry to develop new types of metal products, from toys to decorative art. For more information, go to:  
<http://www.worcesterart.org/exhibitions/last-defense-japanese-metalwork/>

Sep. 14 to  
Dec. 16

**On View: *In Living Color***

**Pao Arts Center, One Greenway, 99 Kneeland Street, Boston  
for GPS directions use: 66 Hudson Street, Boston**

The collective photographic works of David Kong and his mother Wen Kong celebrating the movement, color and light of the living world. Opening reception: Thursday, Sept. 14, from 6 to 8 pm. Gallery Talk and Photo Walk with David Kong: Saturday, Nov. 4, from 3 to 4:30 pm. Closing Celebration: Saturday, Dec. 16, 3 to 5 pm.

For more information, go to:

<https://bcnc.net/upcoming-events/2017/5/6/on-view-living-in-color>

through  
Nov.

***China Comes to Tech: 1877-1931***

**MIT's Maihaugen Gallery of Hayden Memorial Library, Building 14N-130  
160 Memorial Drive, Cambridge**

An exhibit to commemorate the 140<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first students from China to enroll at MIT. The exhibition is free and open to the public. Open Monday through Friday from 10am to 5 pm. A companion website, *China Comes to MIT*, is accessible at

<http://chinacomestomit.org/>.

**BOSTON CHILDREN'S MUSEUM**

**308 Congress Street, Boston**

Sep. 5-30  
11:10 am  
to 1:50pm

**Japanese House: *Haiku about the Big Autumn Moon***

Visit an authentic silk merchant's home from Kyoto. Experience Japanese life, customs, ceremonies, art, architecture and seasonal events in this 100-year-old-house. Learn about the custom of mid-Autumn Moon celebrations and *Tsuki-usagi* (a rabbit in the moon) and write your own haiku to appreciate the season. For more information go to:

<http://www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org/calendar?date=2017-09-16>

through  
Sep. 10

***Train, Train***

Art created by members of the "Art Thinking" project team at Tohoku University of Art & Design in Japan. After the devastating earthquake and tsunami in their hometown on 3.11, the university decided to use Art to make the world a better place and to connect with their friends all over the world. *Train, Train* invites visitors on an imaginary adventure into the future. Artists use trains as their storytellers and invite viewers to reflect on their lives through these stories. For more information go to:

<http://www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org/exhibits-programs/exhibits/japanese-house-gallery>.

# WHAT'S HAPPENING ELSEWHERE

## NEW YORK

through  
Sept. 10

***Sour, Sweet, Bitter, Spicy:  
Stories of Chinese Food and Identity in America***

**Museum of Chinese in America, 215 Centre Street, New York City**

This film/exhibit weaves together the complex story of Chinese food in America through the oral histories of 33 Chinese home cooks and pioneering chefs such as Martin Yan, Ken Hom and Cecilia Chiang. Also featured are new restaurateurs including Peter and Lisa Chang, Jason Wang, Vivian Ku, and Danny Bowien. For more information, go to: <http://www.mocanyc.org/exhibitions/current/>

Tuesdays  
beginning  
Sept. 26  
6 to 8 pm

**Combat for the Stage with Michael G. Chin  
Pan Asian Repertory Theatre, 520 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, New York City**

A five-week comprehensive introduction to unarmed fighting for the stage. Open to all levels. Students will be trained in the safe use and execution of hand-to-hand fighting techniques including basic skills such as punches, slaps, chokes, falls and throws and how to incorporate them into choreography and scene work. Tuition is \$200. For more information, go to: <http://www.panasianrep.org/workshops.shtml>

## WASHINGTON, D.C.

Nov. 11-14

**2017 US-JAPAN Annual Conference**

**JW Marriott, Washington DC, 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW**

Registration is now open for this year's US-Japan Council Annual Conference. This year's topic is *Unity in Diversity: Shaping the Future Together*. Individual speakers and panels will discuss how to respect differences of opinion and find common ground to work together toward mutually beneficial goals. The program also plans to showcase and examine how global perspectives and diversity empower both the United States and Japan. For conference and registration information, go to:

[http://www.usjapancouncil.org/2017\\_us\\_japan\\_council\\_annual\\_conference](http://www.usjapancouncil.org/2017_us_japan_council_annual_conference)

through  
Feb. 19,  
2018

***Righting a Wrong: Japanese Americans and World War II*  
Documents Gallery, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, National Museum of American History  
14<sup>th</sup> Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C.**

*Righting a Wrong: Japanese Americans and World War II* is an exhibit now featured at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History through. Documents, articles and art exhibited include the original Executive Order 9066; original artwork by Roger Shimomura who spent several years in Minidoka (Idaho); and other historic images and objects. For more information, go to:

<http://americanhistory.si.edu/exhibitions/righting-wrong-japanese-americans-and-world-war-ii>.



## CALIFORNIA

### JAPANESE AMERICAN MUSEUM OF SAN JOSE

535 N. Fifth St., San Jose, CA

phone: 408-294-3138

Thursday  
Sept. 14  
1 pm

**Thursday Cinema: *American Pastime***

Based on true events, the film is set in the Topaz incarceration camp and tells the story of a camp guard and minor league baseball player hoping for one last shot at the Major Leagues. To reserve a seat contact [PublicPrograms@jamsj.org](mailto:PublicPrograms@jamsj.org) or call 408-294-3139.

Wednesday  
Sept. 27  
7 pm

**Meet the Authors: *Fred Korematsu Speaks Up***

Laura Atkins and Stan Yogi will discuss their new book about Korematsu. This event is free and open to the public. Seating is limited. Reserve a seat by contacting [PublicPrograms@jamsj.org](mailto:PublicPrograms@jamsj.org) or call 408-294-3138.

current

***Exquisite Art Under Adverse Conditions***

***From the Japanese American Incarceration Camps 1942-1945***

The art and craft created by many Japanese Americans who were forcibly held in camps during World War II. Using natural material from the 10 desolate incarceration camps, the artwork comes alive in a very natural way. For more information:

<http://www.jamsj.org/exhibit/exquisite-art-under-adverse-conditions>

current

***Sports in the Japanese American Community***

Sports have always played an integral role in the Japanese American community.

Sumo, kendo, judo, Asahi baseball and Zebras basketball were all very popular pre-war sports. For more information:

<http://www.jamsj.org/exhibit/sports-in-the-japanese-american-community>.

current

***The Barracks Room***

An accurate recreation of a family's living quarters at the Tule Lake camp. Most of the furnishings and other items in the room are genuine artifacts from the camps. For more information: <http://www.jamsj.org/exhibit/the-barracks-room>

### JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

100 North Central Ave., Los Angeles, CA

phone: 213-625-0414

Sep. 17 to  
Feb. 25,  
2018

***Transpacific Borderlands:***

***The Art of Japanese Diaspora in Lima, L.A., Mexico City and Sao Paulo***

The exhibit examines the experience of artists of Japanese ancestry born, raised or living in either Latin America or predominantly Latin American neighborhoods in Southern California. For more information: <http://www.janm.org/exhibits/transpacific-borderlands/>

ongoing

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

This exhibit incorporates hundreds of objects, documents, and photographs collected by the Japanese American National Museum and chronicles 130 years of Japanese American history. For more information: <http://www.janm.org/exhibits/commonground/>

ongoing

***Sadako's Crane***

Sadako Sasaki was born in Hiroshima and was two years old when the atomic bomb was dropped on that city. When she was 12 and hospitalized for leukemia, she learned of the Japanese belief that anyone who folds 1000 cranes would be granted a wish. Although she folded 1,300 cranes, she died on October 25, 1955. Since then Sadako and the crane has become immortalized as a symbol for world peace. One of the original cranes folded by Sadako was presented to the museum by her family and is on display. For more information: <http://www.janm.org/exhibits/sadako-crane/>

**Mingei International Museum**

**Balboa Park, Plaza de Panama, 1439 El Prado, San Diego, CA**

**through  
Oct. 8**

***Kanban: Traditional Shop Signs of Japan***

Kanban is a fusion of art and commerce, and refers to the traditional street signs Japanese merchants displayed to advertise their businesses. Created from wood, bamboo, iron, paper, fabric, lacquer, and even stone, kanban form a rich, visual vocabulary of traditional advertising. For more information, go to:

<https://mingei.org/exhibitions/kanban/>