

New England Japanese American Citizens League

Spring 2009 Newsletter

Bento & Baseball on June 20th

Save the date, Saturday, June 20, for our second annual Bento & Baseball event in Lowell. This year we'll be featuring the film *Kokoyakyu*, a documentary about a high school baseball tournament in Japan. Join us for all or part of the day. A flyer with complete details is enclosed with this newsletter. We'll be starting at 2 pm with the film, followed by the potluck bento at 3:15, and then a Lowell Spinners baseball game at the nearby stadium. Reserve your seat today.

APA programming on WGBH

WGBH will host a sneak preview of Arthur Dong's new film *Hollywood Chinese* on Thursday, May 21, from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Dong examines cinema history from a Chinese American perspective. The film will be followed by a panel discussion featuring Ty Burr, Boston Globe film critic. RSVP is required. Go to: www.wgbh.org/hollywoodchinese.

Among the programs featured on WGBH radio and television during Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in May are:

Sunday, May 10, 9pm on WGBH Radio 89.7

Arts & Ideas, *Crossing East*, host George Takei

Tuesday, May 12, 10pm, Ch. 2

Patsy Mink: Ahead of the Majority

Thursday, May 14, 8pm, Ch. 2

Heart Strings: The Story of the Kamaka Ukelele

Tuesday, May 19, 10pm, Ch. 2

Most Honorable Son

Wednesday, May 27, 9pm, Ch 2

Hollywood Chinese

Sunday, May 31, Ch 44

Becoming American: Personal Journeys:

12:30pm, David Ho & Shirley Young

1pm, Gish Jen & Samuel Ting

1:30pm, Maya Lin

Check www.wgbh.org for the complete schedule and repeat broadcasts of some of these programs.

Children's Museum celebrates Asia

On Fridays in May, the Boston Children's museum will explore APA cultures with special programs from 6 to 8 pm. It starts with Lei Day and ends with the Dragon Boat Race. For info call 617-426-6500 or visit www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org.

MAP for Health Film Festival

Massachusetts Asian and Pacific Islanders (MAP) for Health is co-presenting three films at the Boston Gay and Lesbian Film Festival that address sexuality in an API context.

Wednesday, May 6, 7pm at the Museum of Fine Arts

I Can't Think Straight

Monday, May 11, 7pm at Fenway Health

It's My Life

Wednesday, May 13, 7pm at the Museum of Fine Arts

The New Twenty

For tickets: www.bostonlgbtfilmfest.com

For info on MAP for Health: www.mapforhealth.org

Odaiko New England's May concerts

Odaiko New England will be featured in the *Spring Thunder Festival* in Concord on May 8 and will present its *reVision Concert* in Arlington at the end of May.

The May 8 *Spring Thunder Festival* will be hosted by Concord-Carlisle's Taiko After Dark and feature performances by Odaiko ensemble members, community members and students. It will be held Friday, May 8, at 8 pm in the Concord-Carlisle High School Auditorium, 500 Walden St., Concord. The program is free (donations

appreciated) and open to the public.

Odaiko New England's *reVision Concert* will be presented twice, on May 30 at 8pm and on May 31 at 3pm at the Arlington Regent Theatre, 7 Medford St., Arlington. The concert will explore new realms of movement and rhythm while honoring the traditions and spirit of wadaiko (Japanese drumming). For more information go to www.onetaiko.org. For tickets call 781-646-4849 or go to www.regenttheatre.com.

ASPIRE hosts Mother's Day Brunch

ASPIRE (Asian Sisters Participating in Reaching Excellence) hosts a special event for families to celebrate the mothers in their lives on Saturday, May 9, from 11am to 2pm at the Hyatt Regency, Riverside Pavilion, 575 Memorial Drive, Cambridge. Frances Rivera (Ch. 7 news anchor) will emcee a program featuring a raffle and live and silent auctions. Tickets are \$50 with proceeds benefiting ASPIRE. For info go to www.girlsaspire.org.

Free concert honors John Manjiro

A concert commemorating the life of John Manjiro will be held on Friday, May 8, at 5:30 pm, in Rainbow Hall on the Showa Boston campus, 420 Pond Street, Boston. Manjiro was a 14-year-old Japanese fisherman who was rescued by an American whaling ship in 1841 and brought to Massachusetts. He later played a vital role in assisting the Japanese Shogunate negotiate a treaty with Commodore Perry. The concert will feature works by European and Japanese composers. The concert is free and open to the public.

Walking tour of Chinatown

Ever wonder how Chinatown was established in Boston? You can learn about this and much more on the walking tour offered by the Chinese Historical Society of New England. Tour dates are May 9, June 13, July 11, August 8, September 12 and October 10. The tour is 90 minutes long and begins at 10 am at the Historical Society office at 2 Boylston Street in Boston. Reservations are required. Registration is \$15. To register call 617-338-4339 or go to info@chsne.org. For more info go to www.chsne.org.

Two AA Mayors featured at OCA banquet

Mayor Lisa A. Wong of Fitchburg, MA and Mayor Allan W. Fung of Cranston RI will discuss *The Road to Mayor* at a banquet co-sponsored by the New England Organization for Chinese Americans and the Rhode Island Association of Chinese Americans. The 9-course Chinese banquet will be held on Saturday, May 16, from 6 to 9pm at the Hei La Moon Restaurant, 88 Beach St., Boston. Tickets must be purchased in advance; no tickets at the door. Tickets: \$50 adults, \$25 youth/students, and \$10 children 12 and under. For info go to www.ocanewengland.org/events.html.

MAP Awards Ceremony and Reception

MAP for Health is commemorating National Asian & Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day with a gala awards ceremony and reception on Tuesday, May 19 at 6pm at the Calderwood Pavilion of the Boston Center for the Arts, 527 Tremont St, in Boston's South End. The program will honor The Asian Mental Health program of Cambridge Health Alliance and Coco Alinsug, Executive Director of the North Shore Alliance of GLBT Youth and Recruitment Manager of The Fenway Institute at Fenway Health. Tickets are \$100 until May 14 and \$125 after. For info email events@mapforhealth.org, call 517-426-6755 or go to www.mapforhealth.org.

AARW seeks volunteers

The Asian American Resource Workshop is looking to people to help plan and put on its 30th anniversary celebration. Interested? Contact Yvonne Ng at yvonneng@yahoo.com.

Empowering Women & Minorities

A distinguished panel of experienced leaders will be featured in a seminar titled *Empowering Women & Minorities: Strategies for Success in a Tough Economy*. They'll offer tips on how to sharpen your professional skills for a job search in all industries, whether you're in high tech, health care, finance, non-profit, media, academia or law. The program will be held on Wednesday, May 20, from 6 to 8:30pm at Deloitte LLP, 200 Berkeley St, 8th floor, Boston, and is sponsored by World Unity, Inc., and Deloitte LLP. The panelists will be from Aerotek, EMC, WCVB and El Planeta. Light food and beverages provided. Limited seating. Pre-register by May 14th at www.worldunityinc.org.

Reception for Photo Exhibit Opening

Positive Images Through the Asian Lens is a photo project presented by MAP for Health to increase the visibility of local Asians/APIs living with HIV as they share their stories. An opening reception will be held Thursday, May 21, from 7 to 10 pm at the Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center, 48 Ash St., Boston. For info call 617-426-6755, ext. 202 or email mappositiveimages@gmail.com.

NAAAP Annual Awards Dinner

Excellence Now, Leaders Tomorrow is the theme of this year's National Association of Asian American Professionals (NAAAP) Awards dinner that will be held Friday, May 22, from 6:30 to 10:30pm at the Boston Marriott Long Wharf Hotel, 296 State St., Boston. NAAAP's scholarship awards will honor outstanding high school seniors who have demonstrated leadership qualities. Keynote speaker is Dr. Mary Lee, Associate Provost at Tufts University. Tickets are \$45 for NAAAP members and \$75 for non-members. For info go to www.naaapboston.org.

ACDC's Inspiration Gala on May 28th

The Asian Community Development Corporation (ACDC) Inspiration Gala will be held Thursday, May 28, at 6pm at the State Room, 60 State Street, 33rd floor, Boston. The evening will be highlighted by the presentation of the Caroline Chang Leadership Award and the first ever ACDC Inspiration Award. Tickets are \$150 to benefit ACDC's community programs. For info go to www.asiancdc.org or contact Iris Tan at iris.tan@asiancdc.org.