



PACIFIC CITIZEN

CELEBRATING
97
Years

A ceremony was held on March 24 to officially unveil a new mural featuring L.A. Dodgers superstars Shohei Ohtani, Roki Sasaki and Yoshinobu Yamamoto.

PHOTO: GEORGE TOSHIO JOHNSTON



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Newest Robert Vargas Mural Is Unveiled as 2026 MLB Season Gets Underway.

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Houston Hosts New Baseball Exhibit.

JACL Marks 80th Anniversary of Tule Lake Closure

March 20, 1946, was the end of WRA's administration of 10 camps that held America's ethnic Japanese.

By P.C. Staff

The Japanese American Citizens League issued a statement following the 80th year since the federal government shuttered the last of the 10 World War II-era concentration camps administered by the federal government.

Those camps, operated by the War Relocation Authority, incarcerated more than 125,000 U.S. citizens of Japanese ancestry and legal Japanese residents then-ineligible to become naturalized U.S. citizens.

Originally known as the Tule Lake WRA Center, but later dubbed the Tule Lake Segregation Center, it was located in the northernmost part of California, just south of the state's border with Oregon. With a peak population of 18,789 inmates, it was the largest of the 10 WRA centers.

"Tule Lake embodies the many abuses of power, losses of civil rights and liberties and human suffering

that our community and ancestors experienced during the Second World War," the March 30 statement read. "The people confined within Tule Lake faced ever-changing and uniquely brutal circumstances that are important to remember and reckon with if we are to truly learn from the totality of what the Japanese American community faced in the 1940s."

JACL's statement also noted how the federal government's issuance of a loyalty questionnaire, with its contradictorily worded Questions 27 and 28 that could only be answered "yes" or "no," would give rise to an intracommunity rift between those who answered "yes-yes" and "no-no," swell the center's population with "no-no" transferees from the nine other camps and change Tule Lake to becoming a segregation center.

"Between December 1944 and the early months of 1945, 5,589 Nisei

renounced their United States citizenship," the statement continued. "Of that number, 5,461 were incarcerated at Tule Lake, and their reasons for renouncing were complex, including protest of the government's injustice, the context of government disinformation and an absence of trusted sources of information, combined with anxiety over their future in America. Adding to the complexity and cruelty under the authority of the Alien Enemies Act, the United States could now treat citizens who renounced their citizenship as enemy aliens. In doing so, many renunciants were sent to Department of Justice or Immigration and Naturalization Service internment and detention sites throughout the country, including Santa Fe, New Mexico, Crystal City, Texas and Fort Lincoln in Bismarck, N.D. For some individuals, the consequences were even more severe, with thousands who had renounced their citizenship

being subject to deportation to Japan, a country that, for many, was unfamiliar or entirely unknown to them."

The statement also contained the following: "As we mark the 80th anniversary of this date, we honor the survivors who continue to tell their story and whose memories demand that we do better. We remember those who suffered and those who lost their lives behind barbed wire due to violence, neglect and mistreatment. Their experiences compel us not only to reflect but also to persist in the work of repair, ensuring that this history is told with honesty, care and justice for all."

To read the National JACL's entire statement, visit tinyurl.com/mw5kzxe.



P.C. Goes Digital First; Spring Campaign 2026 Is Vital Now

By P.C. Staff

The Pacific Citizen newspaper announces a new digital-first approach, marking its response to the growing, ever-evolving needs of the rapidly changing newspaper industry.

As readers increasingly look online to access the latest news information, the P.C. will feature first all articles on its website (www.pacificcitizen.org) in addition to continuing to provide its bimonthly

printed edition for our dedicated readers and subscribers who prefer the traditional format they value.

We aim to meet and exceed audience expectations and continue to provide important AANHPI news and JACL information that our readers have supported since the P.C.'s inception in 1929, nearly 100 years ago.

This transition is something the P.C. staff is working diligently on to ensure the timely posting online of stories, while adapting workflows to

support the high standard of reporting that has defined this publication in its history. Our goal is to strengthen the connection we share with our No. 1 priority — our readers.

As the P.C. moves ahead with these important updates, we are also prioritizing our Spring Campaign fundraising initiative, as raising funds now is the lifeblood to ensuring the newspaper can continue beyond 2026, especially as JACL works to address its current fiscal deficit challenges and pass a new budget

at its National Convention in July.

Funds raised through the P.C.'s Spring Campaign 100 percent directly support this newspaper. Donations raised pay for freelance writers, photographers and a graphic artist, vital computer and software upgrades, printing and mailing costs — all essential to ensuring that this historic publication can continue to adapt, grow and better serve future generations.

Thank you from all of us for your support. Help save the P.C.!

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Harry Honda dedicated 61 years to promoting the Pacific Citizen, providing thoughtful coverage of JACL chapter activities, national news and events and issues of general interest to Japanese American and Asian American readers. The fund was launched with a generous donation from author and activist Grant Ujifusa, whose intent was to support the Pacific Citizen in hiring outside contributing writers. This support helps expand and strengthen coverage from across the country for our national readership.



Editor Emeritus Harry Honda as drawn by Pete Hironaka

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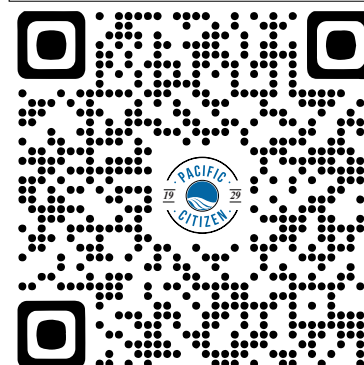
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TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS OF REMEMBRANCE

Freedom Walk Returns to the Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism During World War II

By Matthew Marumoto,
JACL National Daniel K.
Inouye Fellow

The 28th Annual Freedom Walk was held at the Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism during World War II, a short walk from the United States Capitol in Washington, D.C., on March 28.

The Freedom Walk, organized by the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation, the Japanese American Veterans Assn., the D.C. chapter of the JACL and Ekoji Buddhist Temple, is held each year to raise awareness of the incarceration and displacement of Japanese Americans during the Second World War. This year's ceremony held additional special meaning, as it also marked the 25th anniversary of the memorial's opening in 2001.

Beneath the blossoming cherry trees, the crowd filled the grounds of the memorial as Nen Daiko's taiko drums thundered through the crisp spring air. The ceremony then welcomed a keynote address by Takeshi "Tak" Furumoto, who was born in the Tule Lake Segregation Center and went on to become a decorated Vietnam War veteran and an activist preserving the history of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. Furumoto, donning the same jungle fatigues he wore in Vietnam, was joined onstage by his wife, Carol Furumoto.

Following President Franklin D. Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066 on Feb. 19, 1942, Furumoto's family spent six months

in the Santa Anita relocation center before being moved to the Rohwer Incarceration Camp in Arkansas.

While in Rohwer, his parents answered "no-no" to the Loyalty Questionnaire in 1943. Furumoto said that his parents answered "no-no" because the government had taken their business from them and left them with only \$4.

Additionally, his parents still had family in Japan whom they feared they would never see again if they disavowed the emperor. The War Relocation Authority moved Furumoto's parents to the Tule Lake Segregation Center, which held others who similarly answered "no-no" on the questionnaire.

In 1944, Furumoto was born incarcerated behind the guarded barbed-wire fences of Tule Lake. After the Second World War, he and his family were deported to Japan. Furumoto grew up in Hiroshima, where his family lived with his grandparents, who were survivors of the atomic bombing.

In 1956, the Furumoto family returned to the United States. He recalled that despite being incarcerated and later deported, his father still saw opportunity in America.

"He had street smarts, and he really made it in 1938. But, all of his effort was taken away when President Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, and with the flick of a pen, incarcerated 120,000 people like us. But my father never forgot; America does give an opportunity, even though he only had an eighth-grade education," Furumoto told the audience.



Tak Furumoto delivers a keynote address at the 28th Annual Freedom Walk at the Japanese American Memorial on March 28. Also pictured are JACL Norman Y. Mineta Fellow Katie Masano Hill and Navy Lt. Daniel Wong.

Although he had been born behind barbed wire, Furumoto volunteered to serve in the U.S. Army, where he would serve as an intelligence officer. He recounted guarding Highway 1 near Parrot's Beak during the United States incursion into Cambodia in 1970.

For his service in Vietnam, Furumoto was awarded the Bronze Star Medal. He returned home bearing the invisible wounds of war, including what he called a "serious case" of post-traumatic stress disorder and the lasting effects of Agent Orange.

While he healed, Furumoto relied heavily on his wife to support their



Carol Furumoto briefly speaks to the audience next to her husband, Tak.



Tak and Carol Furumoto (center) with (from left) Ben De Guzman, D.C. Mayor's Office on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs; Martha Watanabe, Freedom Walk Committee; and David Moran, chair of the National Cherry Blossom Festival

PHOTOS: MATTHEW MARUMOTO

family and run their real estate business. In 1993, he received a letter of apology from President Bill Clinton, which he read aloud to the audience.

This letter followed the enactment of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which provided a formal apology and redress payments to survivors of the incarceration.

Furumoto recognized that for many, redress was too little, too late.

"It took about six years to pay us the \$20,000 reparations in this apology letter," he said. "But you know what? The 60 percent who really needed to read this letter had passed away. They were not able to

read this letter. And the \$20,000? How in the world can you replace four years of your lives?"

More than 80 years after the signing of EO 9066, Furumoto sees the lessons of incarceration as not merely historical. They are a warning.

"After 84 years, it is happening again in the United States," he said. "I have to give the people in Minnesota a lot of credit for standing up and safeguarding our Constitution. The ICE agents disappeared. You know who did that? It's us. It is us who protect our country, and we must continue to be proactive." ■

JACL Chapters Participate in 'No Kings' Rallies

"No Kings" demonstrations were held across the country on March 28, with attendees rallying against President Trump's policies, the rising cost of living in the U.S. and the current war with Iran. Throughout the day, crowds gathered to march, sing and wave flags in major cities throughout the U.S. Among them were several JACL chapters, including Florin-Sacramento Valley and Mount Olympus.

In Sacramento, more than 50 members, friends and allies convened at the Sacramento "No Kings" Rally following a prerally gathering and march to the state capitol building led by Iwa Daiko drummers, according to Andy Noguchi, co-president of Florin JACL-Sacramento Valley.

The chapter's contingent included Florin



Members of Florin-Sacramento Valley gathered at the California state capitol building for the "No Kings" rally on March 28.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF JOSH KAIZUKA AND JUDY FUKUMAN

JACL-SV, Parkview Presbyterian Church, Physicians for Social Responsibility, Iwa Daiko and youth reps.

In Utah, the Mount Olympus chapter gathered at a "No Kings" rally at the state capitol building and were joined by former JACL National Executive Director and President Floyd Mori.

The chapter also participated in an anti-ICE protest at the governor's mansion in March following the opening of an ICE detention center in Salt Lake City.

And on Jan. 27, in a vote of 30-10, the California Senate passed Sen. Scott Wiener's (D-San Francisco) bill SB 747, the No Kings Act, a first-in-the-nation legislation to hold



Former JACL National Executive Director and President Floyd Mori joined JACL Mount Olympus chapter members at the Utah rally.

PHOTO: COURTESY OF KAREN OKAWA

"ICE, Border Patrol and other federal officers accountable for lawless behavior, closing a legal loophole that holds federal officers to a different standard than state and local law enforcement for constitutional violations."

"These agents must face real consequences for terrorizing our communities," said Wiener.

The vote makes the "California Senate the first legislative body in the country to pass the groundbreaking ICE accountability legislation." The bill heads next to the Assembly. ■

'BURN ORDER' DISCUSSION WELCOMES A SPECIAL GUEST

MS Now's Rachel Maddow joins a JA community event in Denver to discuss her new audio series.

By Gil Asakawa,
P.C. Contributor

MS Now anchor and journalist Rachel Maddow's "Burn Order" podcast, a six-episode audio series digging into the Japanese American incarceration from its roots in racism and EO 9066 to the journey that resulted in the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, should be required listening for everyone. Especially Japanese Americans.

So, when Millie King of the Japanese American Resource Center of Colorado, and Brian Lee, pastor of Simpson United Methodist Church in the Denver suburb of Arvada, decided to organize a community potluck dinner and discussion session for "Burn Order," they invited members of their organizations and Tri-State Denver Buddhist Temple and Mile High JACL to first listen to the podcast and then come ready to talk about each episode in small groups.

The idea came out of a Jan. 10 memorial service for JA community leader Calvin Hada, where some attendees had listened to "Burn Order," but others hadn't. So, the group got the word out to ask people to listen to the series and then planned the potluck.

Once it was on the books for Feb. 21, the organizations invited people to attend if they had listened to the podcast episodes, which are all available on Maddow's MS Now page, complete with transcripts and archival supplementary materials.

And then they got word of an uninvited — but very welcome — guest.

Maddow's staff, which is nothing if not fastidious with researching the topics for her reports, MS Now shows, documentaries and the podcasts, came across an announcement for the community

gathering to discuss the episodes — and they contacted King. The chance to join a discussion with an audience, which Maddow rarely does, appealed to her.

Maybe it's the Colorado setting — one of the podcast's executive producers is Michael Yarvitz, whose wife is Japanese American, and her family "self-evacuated" to the state to escape incarceration at the start of World War II. Maddow has done public panels and presentations, including a kickoff MS Now event at the Orpheum Theater in Los Angeles last November, but no one in Denver was prepared to hear from her live over Zoom.

But Maddow arranged to dial in and greet the group after their separate table discussions. King and Lee figured it would be a brief selfie moment with a celeb. Instead, Maddow stayed online and on camera for 45 minutes, engaging with the Denver audience and even getting emotional about the history that she had uncovered — a history that, as King said to the journalist, many in the audience knew personally as descendants of survivors or, in King's own case, as survivors themselves.

Even though she is an activist in the community, King acknowledged as she introduced Maddow to the audience and thanked her for the podcast series, "It is a story that many of us, even as survivors and descendants, do not know the details. And for our younger generations, it's even worse because they are not getting this kind of information."

Maddow broke in and gushed her appreciation in return. "Allow me just for a second. Let me just say how moving, how moving it is to me that you guys listened together, that you listened at all, but that you listened together and put all of this deliberate thought and effort into talking about it amongst yourselves

MSNow's Rachel Maddow talks about her "Burn Order" podcast via Zoom during the Feb. 21 Denver discussion event.

PHOTOS:
GIL ASAKAWA

Maddow

and seeing what it evoked for you, and the study guide and everything is just incredibly moving to me," she said.

"I don't always know how the things that I do resonate out there in the world," Maddow continued. "And for you guys to be coming together and listening to this and talking about it and letting me crash your party today and talking about it a little bit — it's just unbelievably rewarding and moving to me."

When the audience started asking questions like the history of Japanese Latin Americans, Maddow admitted that there were so many directions she and her cowriters could have taken and that they had to leave many stories on the cutting room floor. That, of course, left the audience wondering if she would follow up with another series revisiting the wartime JA experience.

"Whenever you're producing something, it's always a funnel, you know. You start with X amount of stuff, and then you have to get it down to 0.1x maybe, before you actually come up with the story that you can tell, so that it has a plot and propulsion and can hold people's attention on that stuff," Maddow said. "But with this, in particular, compared to everything else that we've done, we just felt like we could have done 10 series, you know, not like if this was a six-episode series. We could have done 10 more of these with that many episodes, I mean, and even stuff that we did touch on, there's so much more to say."

Another thread Maddow could

have followed was the largely unknown stories of the 5,000 JAs who voluntarily self-evacuated during a period from the West Coast to states such as Colorado and Utah to avoid the concentration camps.

Maddow greeted Mike Ishii, co-founder of Tsuru for Solidarity, who was in Denver for a Day of Remembrance event. Maddow has done events with Satsuki Ina, the other founder of Tsuru. She lauded the work that Tsuru does in educating people about JA history and equating the past with the division and trauma of the current American political landscape.

After a lineup of local community leaders asked their questions, 17-year-old Sophie asked a final question about the emotions that the research about incarceration brought up in Maddow. Her parting words: "You know, the government does things wrong. The world does terrible things, and some people prove themselves willing and able and up to the task of fighting for what's right in those difficult circumstances. And you know, may that be you, may that be all of us. I think it's a model of a worthy life."

The conversation was sincere, and Maddow was generous to share so much of herself with a room full of Japanese American strangers.

Pastor Lee, when asked how this happened, simply explained it as "dumb luck." The church and community groups hadn't planned on hosting an event for Maddow, but her participation catapulted the event's success into another level



Event co-organizer Millie King of the Japanese American Resource Center of Colorado



Co-organizer Brian Lee, pastor of the Simpson United Methodist Church in Arvada, Colo.

completely. He also credits folks in the community who had listened to the podcast who thought having an event to bring groups together and discuss it would be powerful.

Once Maddow's office contacted them, King stayed in touch and worked out the details. "She was so honest," said King of Maddow. "And I love that it was so open-ended that I bet she does do more. I hope so."

The archived recording of Rachel Maddow's talk with the audience in Denver is available online at <https://www.ms.now/rachel-maddow-presents-burn-order>.



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THE FINAL DAY

A rare eyewitness account of Tule Lake's final day is shared at Marysville JACL's Day of Remembrance.

By Ron Nakano, Marysville JACL

A rare firsthand account describing the final day of the Tule Lake Segregation Center was shared publicly during Marysville JACL's annual Day of Remembrance event, held at Ettl Hall in Yuba City, Calif., on Feb. 21.

The account was written on March 20, 1946, by 16-year-old Mari Hannan, whose father was an Army lawyer sent to Amache and Tule Lake to help Japanese Americans. The Hannan family made many Japanese American friends during their time there.

Mari Hannan documented the chaotic final hours of the camp through notes and photographs, describing the uncertainty families faced as lists were posted determining who would be freed and who would be deported to Japan.

Reading from her sister's writings, speaker Helen Hannan Parra described the moment when one imprisoned man discovered he would be released.

"He let out a shriek," Mari Hannan wrote. "He kept yelling, 'I'm free. I'm free.'"

Others were not so fortunate. Mari

Hannan in her writings also described seeing families processed for deportation to the Crystal City Internment Camp before being sent to Japan. Among those families was 1-year-old Shigemi Ikejiri, a girl that Mari Hannan had become particularly close with during her time at Tule Lake. She gave Shigemi two dolls to take with her, which the young girl clutched to her on the final day.

"It surprised me how emotional I got at the end," said former El Camino High School teacher Janice Wong of the DOR event. "When Helen Hannan Parra talked about how excited people were when they learned they were free, I literally started crying — and the two women in front of me were crying, too."

The account was part of a program titled "Tule Lake: An Inside Look," which featured speakers who shared personal stories and historical perspectives on the camp's complex history.

The event was hosted by David Kiyoshi Tom and opened with remarks from Judge Johnny Cepeda Gogo, who described his 48-Star Flag Project, which has welcomed Japanese American incarceration survivors and their descendants to sign a historic American flag to preserve their stories.

One of the program's featured speakers was Tule Lake survivor



Marysville DOR speakers included (from left) Jan Morrill, Jim Tanimoto, Wayne Merrill Collins and Helen Hannan Parra PHOTO: STEVEN SASAKI/@SASAKI.PHOTOGRAPHY

Jim Tanimoto, who will turn 103 in June. Tanimoto is the last surviving member of the "Block 42 Resisters," a group of men who refused to answer controversial Loyalty Questionnaire questions during the war.

Tanimoto described how the men were threatened with a \$10,000 fine, jailed in county facilities and transferred to a Civilian Conservation Corps camp near Tulelake. He also recalled being forced out of their barracks in the middle of the night while guards loaded rifles in front of them.

Author Jan Morrill, whose mother was incarcerated at Tule Lake, discussed several tragic incidents in the camp that illustrated the pressures inmates faced, including the fatal shooting of James Okamoto by a guard who was fined only \$1 for "misuse of government property."

Another speaker, Wayne Merrill Collins, spoke about the legacy of

his father, Wayne Mortimer Collins, a San Francisco attorney who spent more than two decades fighting to restore the citizenship of more than 5,400 Japanese Americans who had renounced their citizenship while imprisoned at the Tule Lake Segregation Center.

His efforts ultimately helped thousands reclaim their rights as American citizens.

Another speaker, Yukio Kawatani, appeared in a pre-recorded video. While he, his mother and sisters were imprisoned in the camp, three of his brothers served in the U.S. military, and his father and two brothers were deported to Japan.

The Day of Remembrance event highlighted the personal stories behind one of the most difficult chapters in American history and the importance of preserving them for future generations.



Mari Hannan documented what was happening on the last day of Tule Lake, March 20, 1946, to people including little Shigemi Ikejiri, both shown in this photo. Ikejiri's family was then sent to Crystal City, Texas, and deported to Japan.

PHOTO: MARI HANNAN/COURTESY OF HELEN HANNAN PARRA

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The mural remained covered before its grand unveiling.

PHOTOS:
GEORGE
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A large crowd awaits the unveiling of the new Dodgers mural on the side of the DoubleTree by Hilton Torrance.



Artist Robert Vargas speaks at the Torrance, Calif., unveiling of his new mural.



WITH NEW MURAL, TORRANCE SAYS 'PLAY BALL!'

Newest Robert Vargas mural featuring three Los Angeles Dodgers from Japan is unveiled as the 2026 Major League Baseball season begins.

By George Toshio Johnston,
P.C. Senior Editor

Under a sky the color of Dodger blue with some wispy clouds as white as the team's jersey, the local DoubleTree by Hilton in Torrance, Calif., was the site of the unveiling of the newest megamural painted by Robert Vargas.

Dubbed "Samurai of the Diamond," the concrete canvas celebrated three Japanese members of the repeat World Series champion Los Angeles Dodgers baseball team: Shohei Ohtani, Roki Sasaki and Yoshinobu Yamamoto.

That the Dodger spirit permeated the crowd of more than 300 was evidenced by the overwhelming number of Ohtani jerseys, with a handful of other marquee names like (Mookie) Betts, (Fernando) Valenzuela and someone in a (Kobe) Bryant jersey who didn't get the memo that it was a Dodgers, not a Los Angeles Lakers, event.

The March 24 unveiling took place almost exactly two years after the March 27, 2024, unveiling of Vargas's "L.A. Rising" mural on the side of Little Tokyo's Miyako Hotel that featured Ohtani only, as a batter and pitcher. As with the 2024 mural, Vargas painted this new mural freehand.

Although no actual Dodger players were present for the reveal, the event nonetheless featured remarks and appearances from such celebrities and dignitaries as emcee Tamlyn Tomita and fellow actor Edward

James Olmos; Mayor George Chen; Torrance City Councilmembers Jeremy Gerson, Jonathan Kaji, Sharon Kalani, Bridgett Lewis, Aurelio Mattucci and Asam Sheikh; hotel owner Andre Koo; and taiko drumming courtesy of the Los Angeles Taiko Collective.

A paint-flecked Vargas was on hand to receive recognitions like a key to the city and make some remarks just a couple hours after finishing his 10-daylong labor, which coincided with an unseasonable heat wave.

"This mural is a follow up to the mural that I created in Little Tokyo, which was a groundbreaking mural for the time," the Boyle Heights native said. "I remember painting that mural and people asking, 'Why Shohei Ohtani, he hasn't played a game in a Dodgers uniform yet?'"

That was, as Vargas noted, two championship parades and for Ohtani, two consecutive National League MVP awards ago.

Whether this new mural augurs a three-peat by summer's end, only time will tell. But the unveiling of Vargas's handiwork was still compelling enough to gain the respect of Angels fan Donna Duperron.

"I was here when he was starting it, and then to see the finished product was really neat," the president and CEO of the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce told the *Pacific Citizen*.

Also really neat: With a smartphone and QR code, both the 2024 and 2026 murals use augmented

reality to animate the paintings.

"I'm glad that we could finally have this day and have Robert's masterpiece delivered here, not just to our local residents, but to L.A. County, Southern Cal and the world," Kaji said, who noted earlier that he, like Vargas and Olmos, was also born in the East Los Angeles neighborhood of Boyle Heights. "As he said, it represents unifying the community through sports, through cultural exchange and through inspirational art."

That unifying spirit continued the following Sunday. With help from Carlos Gonzalez-Gutierrez, consul general of Mexico, Vargas and Olmos reprised their Torrance appearance in Little Tokyo at L.A. Rising Fest, which had the subtitle "Uniting Cultures and Communities."

Serving as master of ceremonies was Little Tokyo Business Assn. President David Ikegami. Entertainment was provided by Bando Ryu: Kyo no Kai dancers and Mariachi Lindas Mexicanas.

In Torrance, Vargas noted that his 2024 mural ushered in a new era of "what's possible." Kaji concurred. "Year Two, Yoshi proved himself in the World Series. Next up is Sasaki. Let's see how he does this season, and maybe he'll be the one to deliver a back-to-back-to-back," he said.

One thing that is not is doubt: The promotional power of these Dodgers stars for the Japanese market. Japan-based clothing retailer Uniqlo recently inked a naming rights deal with the Dodgers to have the playing field designated Uniqlo Field at Dodger Stadium.

Located a few blocks from the DoubleTree in Little Tokyo is a Tokyo Central supermarket adorned with posters featuring Ohtani's image and likeness to help sell Ja-

Actress Tamlyn Tomita served as the event's emcee.



Torrance City Councilmember Jonathan Kaji (left) and Pacific Citizen Editorial Board member Mitchell Matsumura



Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Donna Duperron with an in-progress photo of the Vargas mural.

Torrance Mayor George Chen welcomes the crowd to the ceremony.



Members of Mariachi Lindas Mexicanas and Bando Ryu: Kyo no Kai performed at L.A. Rising Fest.

PHOTOS:
SUSAN YOKOYAMA



Edward James Olmos speaks at the L.A. Rising Fest in Little Tokyo on March 29.



Consul General of Mexico Carlos Gonzalez-Gutierrez

pan-based Ito En's bottled green tea.

Yamamoto, the 2025 World Series MVP, is also a most valuable pitchman for Sato Pharmaceutical Co. Ltd.'s Yunker quick energy jelly.

For those desiring a little more zip behind the lip, there's Nikaido, which bills itself as the "Official Shochu of the Los Angeles Dodgers." Those who prefer sake, meantime, can avail themselves to the Dodgers-branded Hakkaisan Junmai Daiginjo premium Japanese sake. ■



Hakkaisan Junmai Daiginjo sake with the Dodgers logo

Posters for Japanese beverages such as shochu and green tea featuring the Dodgers and Shohei Ohtani.



Yoshinobu Yamamoto's likeness helps sell Yunker Energy jelly.

PHOTOS: GEORGE TOSHIO JOHNSTON



Scan the QR code to see an augmented reality animation of the players featured on the Torrance mural.



'Ponyo' Swims to Academy Museum

Los Angeles exhibition of 2008 Studio Ghibli *anime* to continue through January 2027.

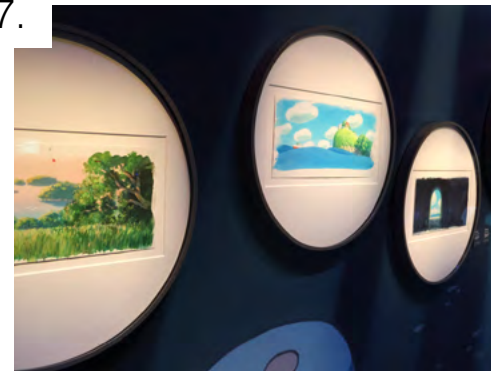
By P.C. Staff

If you were between the ages of, say, 7 to 12 in 2008 or so (or were the parent of a child in that age range) and have fond memories of watching the strangely delightful Japanese animated movie titled "Ponyo" at the movie theater or later, perhaps on a now-antiquated device known as a DVD player, then the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures has a treat for you.

In cooperation with the Japanese studio that produced it, the Museum is presenting "Studio Ghibli's 'Ponyo,'" a detailed exhibition of the behind-the-scenes making of the *anime*, which was directed by Hayao Miyazaki, Japan's most-widely acclaimed animation director.

Miyazaki and Studio Ghibli (pronounced jib-lee) won Best Animated Feature Oscars for "Spirited Away" (2002) and "The Boy and the Heron" (2023). Interestingly, "Ponyo" did not receive an Oscar nomination in the feature animation category at the 2009 Academy Awards.

The movie is about the misadventurous love story between Sōsuke and the eponymous Ponyo, a mischief-making "goldfish princess"



The background art for "Ponyo" on display at the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures

A closeup of background art used in the production of Studio Ghibli's "Ponyo"

PHOTOS: GEORGE TOSHIO JOHNSTON

Ponyo runs atop ocean waves



who takes human form after bonding with the 5-year-old boy when he finds her floating near his seaside home.

The exhibition features preproduction storyboard art and other production art, film from the voice acting sessions and various displays including a light table used by Studio Ghibli animation artists.

As for how the Academy Museum became Studio Ghibli's choice for the exhibition, Assistant Curator Emily Rauber Rodriguez said, "We're a great place for a lot of people to come to, to be able to see

their stuff," noting that "We will take care of their materials. We respect the materials."

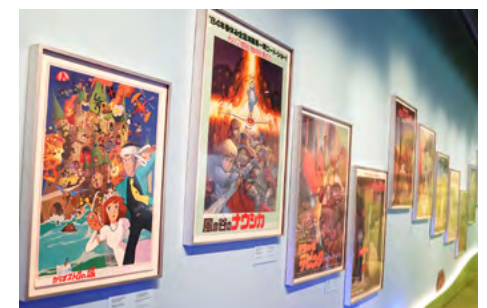
Rodriguez said the exhibition was intended to create a "cross-generational moment" for "Ponyo" fans, youngsters and adults alike.

"Studio Ghibli's 'Ponyo'" runs through Jan. 10, 2027. The Academy Museum of Motion Pictures is located in Los Angeles at 6067 Wilshire Blvd.

For details on hours, parking and other exhibitions, visit academymuseum.org.



The Academy Museum of Motion Pictures Assistant Curator Emily Rauber Rodriguez (left) and Senior Exhibitions Curator Jessica Niebel stand in front of the "Ponyo" one-sheet for the Japanese market.



A display of movie posters for various anime movies directed by Hayao Miyazaki



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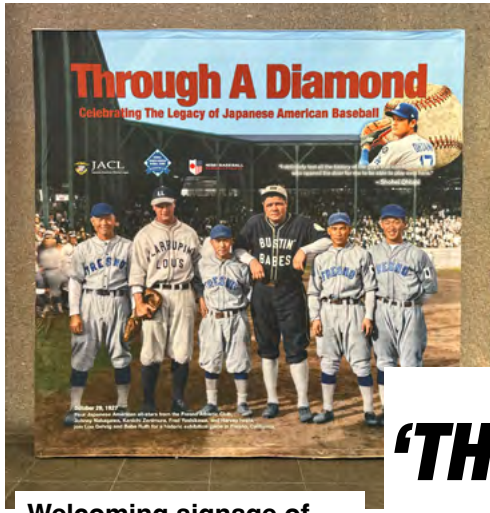
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Welcoming signage of the new exhibit, a joint presentation by the JACL, the Nisei Baseball Research Project and JACL Houston chapter, now open thru June 1



The baseball exhibit is currently featured at the Houston Central Library Jesse H. Jones Building, which welcomes some 25,000 visitors monthly.



The exhibit honors early Japanese American baseball players and their impact on U.S.-Japan relations.

PHOTOS: GARY NAKAMURA

'THROUGH A DIAMOND'

The new 'Celebrating the Legacy of Japanese Baseball' exhibit honors a storied history and its impact on U.S.-Japan relations.

By JACL Houston Chapter

The Houston Central Library was the site of the opening reception for the new National Japanese American Baseball Exhibit "Through a Diamond: Celebrating the Legacy of Japanese Baseball" on March 6.

The special evening reception took place inside the Central Library's Jesse H. Jones Building by the Main

Celebrating the exhibit's opening are (from left) Kerry Nakagawa, Larry Oda, Consul General Zentaro Naganuma, Gary Nakamura and Bill Staples.

PHOTO: PAUL SHINKAWA

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- JAPAN SPRING COUNTRYSIDE HOLIDAY TOUR** (Ernest Hida) Apr 13-25
Tokyo, Shimoda, Commodore Perry sites, Shizuoka, Mt Fuji, Lake Kawaguchi, Matsumoto, Tsumago/Nagome, Gero Onsen, Toba, Nagoya.
- NEW YORK CITY HOLIDAY TOUR** (Carol Hida) Apr 23-28
New York City Tour, Statue of Liberty, Ferry Cruise of New York Harbor, 9/11 Memorial & Museum, 2 Broadway Shows.
- PANA CONVENTION** (Ernest Hida) June
Sao Paulo-Brazil.
- MT RUSHMORE-YELLOWSTONE HOLIDAY TOUR** (Carol Hida) Jun 20-28
Rapid City, Mt Rushmore, Crazy Horse Memorial, Billings, Little Big Horn National Monument, Cody, Yellowstone National Park, Jackson, Grand Tetons National Park, Salt Lake City.
- GRANDPARENTS-GRANDCHILDREN JAPAN TOUR** (Ernest Hida) Jun 21-Jul 1
Tokyo, Hakone, Atami, Hiroshima, Kyoto. Craftmaking hands-on experiences.
- ALASKA HOLIDAY CRUISE** (Carol Hida) Jul 18-25
Vancouver, Sail Inside Passage, Juneau, Skagway, Cruise Glacier Bay, Ketchikan - "Salmon Capital", Vancouver. Koningsdam - Holland America Cruise.
- JAPAN AUTUMN COUNTRYSIDE HOLIDAY TOUR** (Ernest Hida) Oct 5-19
Hokkaido-Tohoku. Kushiro, Lake Akan, Sounkyo, Asahikawa, Sapporo, Otaru, Noboribetsu, Lake Toya, Hakodate, Aomori, Lake Towada, Morioka, Hiraizumi, Naruto Onsen, Matsushima, Mito, Tokyo.
- AUSTRALIA-NEW ZEALAND HOLIDAY TOUR** (Ernest Hida) Oct 26-Nov 11
Sydney, Cairns, Melbourne, Queenstown, Rotorua, Auckland.
- CHRISTMAS MARKET CANADA HOLIDAY TOUR** (Carol Hida) Dec 1-7
Vancouver City Tour, Grouse Mountain Skyride, Shipyards Christmas Market, Ferry to Victoria Island, Butchart Gardens, High Tea at Fairmont Empress Hotel, Victoria Christmas Market & Fair, Van Dusen Festival of Lights.

For more information and reservations, please contact:

AMERICAN HOLIDAY TRAVEL
312 E. 1st Street, Suite 240 * Los Angeles, CA 90012
Tel: (213)625-2232 * Email: americanholiday@att.net
Ernest or Carol Hida

Items on display have been collected over decades and showcase the history of Japanese American baseball.

PHOTOS: GARY NAKAMURA



Arroyo Grande YMBA team jersey (circa 1937) and Cortez Wildcats team jersey (circa 1938)



➤ In his remarks, Naganuma noted that baseball has strengthened the bond between Japan and the U.S. and led to an understanding and cultural growth of both countries. In addition, he expressed his hope that the exhibit will allow the contributions of Japanese Americans to be passed on to future generations.

Guests were invited to take a close look at a wide variety of historical artifacts on display that ranged from wool baseball jerseys worn by Japanese American Issei and Nisei pioneer baseball players, as well as 100-year-old mitts, catcher's mask and baseball cleats.

It also features more than a dozen artistic hanging banners that educate the public about the history of Japanese American baseball before World War II and during incarceration, as well as how the sport helped heal

the wounds of war after WWII and promoted friendship between the U.S. and Japan.

"It's still a hidden legacy," said Nakagawa to KHOU. "Most of these prewar baseball players were marginalized, forgotten and invisible. It's fantastic to be in one of the largest cities in the nation to share our artifacts, share their stories and keep their spirits alive."

Said Nakamura to the *Pacific Citizen*, "This traveling baseball exhibit is very personal to me, since my late father played baseball while growing up in California. Before WWII, my dad played baseball with some of the legendary Japanese American pioneer baseball players on the Central Coast, and he was the starting third baseman for his high school team. . . . During WWII, my dad volunteered for the U.S. Army's Military Intelligence Service from Gila River camp to

prove his loyalty to the country of his birth, and he became a highly decorated WWII veteran.

"My hope is to gently educate the American public about our Japanese American experience through baseball, so that we can increase understanding among various cultures," Nakamura continued. "Since baseball is truly an international sport that brings people together from different backgrounds, I am hopeful that our exhibit might help in our collective efforts to fight against bigotry, racism and discrimination in the U.S."

The exhibit will be on display at the Houston Central Library, the flagship library of the Houston Public Library system, through May to celebrate national AANHPI Heritage Month and will close in early June. The library welcomes an estimated 25,000 visitors every month,

making it the most popular public library branch in the State of Texas.

Running concurrently with the exhibit in Houston, the traveling exhibit will make its debut in Los Angeles on May 1 in Little Tokyo at the Japanese American National Museum's Democracy Center in conjunction with the 2026 L.A. Asian Pacific Film Festival.

From there, the exhibit will travel up the coast to California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo from mid-May, where it will be on display at the university's main library for one month until graduation weekend in mid-June.

Plans are under way to take the traveling exhibit to several other cities in California during 2026 and to numerous other states over the next four years.

"The end goal," said Staples to KHOU, "I feel for the work that



I've been doing is making sure that we raise enough awareness that we can eventually have a permanent exhibit, maybe someplace like in Cooperstown."

If you are interested in hosting the National Japanese American Baseball Exhibit in your city or if you have any questions about the exhibit, contact Gary Nakamura via email at gnakamura@jacl.org.

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A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

CALENDAR

NATIONAL

JACL National Convention
Las Vegas, NV
July 29-Aug. 2
Paris Las Vegas Hotel & Casino
3655 S. Las Vega Blvd.

Join JACL at its 56th National Convention themed "Reigniting Our Purpose and Mission!" where the organization will gather to reinvigorate the spirit of advancing our community forward with renewed action and impact. Events include the Chapter Awards Luncheon, National Council and 2026 National Board Elections, Sayonara Gala, workshops, mixers and much more! Early bird registration ends soon!
Info: Visit www.jacl.org/2026-national-convention.

Ireicho Tour to Former Confinement Sites & Other Places
National Stops:
April 8-11: Honolulu, HI
May 1-2: Topaz, UT
May 10-11: San Francisco, CA
July 4-5: Tule Lake, CA
Info: Visit <https://www.janm.org/exhibits/ireicho/venues>.

INTL.

'Return to Paueru Gai: 50 Years of Powell Street Festival' Exhibit
Burnaby, B.C.
Now Open
Nikkei National Museum & Cultural Centre, Karasawa Gallery
6688 Southoaks Crescent
This exhibit, curated by Emiko Morita, celebrates the art and activism of the Japanese Canadian community's annual festival through photographs, video and installations. It honors early Japanese settlers and the Japanese Canadian community.
Info: Visit <https://centre.nikkeiplace.org>.

NCWNP

'I Am an American' Exhibit
San Francisco, CA
Thru Aug. 31
MIS Historic Learning Center at the Presidio of San Francisco
220 Halleck St.
Price: \$15; Free for Veterans, Children 12 and Under, NJAHS Members.
This new traveling exhibit tells the storied history of the Nisei soldiers who served during WWII and features artifacts, first-hand accounts and evocative images

that reveal how the Nisei soldier's service became a defining testament to courage, sacrifice and belonging.

Info: Visit nvnvets.org/exhibit.

'The Volunteer' Screening
Sacramento, CA
April 18; 1 p.m.
Buddhist Church of Sacramento
2401 Riverside Blvd.

Price: Free
This program features a screening of the documentary "The Volunteer," directed by David Brodie, and tells the story of Vietnam veteran Bruce Nakashima. Following the film will be a Q & A session that will include the film's director.
Info: For questions, contact John Yoshikawa at spyron@aol.com **or call** (916) 320-2111.

Northern California Cherry Blossom Festival
San Francisco, CA
April 11-12 and 18-19
Price: Free

This 58th annual event celebrates spring and the beauty of Japanese culture with the community. Come experience live entertainment, cultural displays, food and much more for the entire family!
Info: Visit sfcherryblossom.org.

'House Meeting(s): Opening the Door for Redress in San Jose'
San Jose, CA
Now Open

Japanese American Museum at San Jose
535 N. Fifth St.

This exhibit looks at the Japanese American redress movement through everyday places and the eyes of everyday people. House meetings were informal gatherings and this space within the home was essential to the movement where trust could be built before conversations moved beyond the home.
Info: Visit www.jamsj.org.

2026 Tule Lake Pilgrimage 'Resistance & Solidarity'
Tulelake, CA
July 3-6

Tule Lake Segregation Center
Price: \$700 All-Inclusive Fee
Save the date for the Tule Lake Pilgrimage and reserve your spot now as space is limited. The four-day event includes charter bus transportation, lodging, meals and all activities including tours and a memorial service.
Info: Registration now open. Limited spots. Visit <https://www.tulelake.org> **for further details.**

PSW

Delicious Little Tokyo
Los Angeles, CA
April 18; Noon-5 p.m.

Price: \$45 Each Tasting Tour
This year's event highlights the Little Tokyo Historical Society as it celebrates 20 years of sharing and preserving the heritage of Little Tokyo. Enjoy food history tours, J-Town Bingo, community booths and more. Tastings at various beloved legacy businesses are including in each tour \$45 ticket.
Info: Visit filmsofremembrance.org.

Caregiver Conference West
Los Angeles
Los Angeles, CA
April 19; 11:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Price: Free
"Cultivating a Community of Care" is the theme of this conference that will connect caregivers with resources to strengthen their support network. This is an in-person and live-streamed event. Registration is available on a first-come, first-serve basis.
Info: To register, visit <https://give.keiro.org/event/caregiver-conference-west-los-angeles/e745379>.

The 57th Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage
Lone Pine, CA
April 25; Noon

"Lessons From Manzanar: Vigilance Is the Price" is the theme of this year's pilgrimage. Presented by the Manzanar Committee, this community gathering will remember the lessons of the World War II incarceration in the context of the current political climate. Reservations for bus transportation will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. The program will also feature the Manzanar At Dusk Program, following the main event.
Info: Visit www.manzanarcommittee.org; **to reserve bus seats, visit** <https://bit.ly/manzanarbus2026> **and** <https://gvjci.wufoo.com/forms/q1on4szl0f4a129/>.

Author Talk by Art Nomura
Culver City, CA
May 9; 4-5 p.m.
Culver City Julian Dixon Library
4975 Overland Ave.

Price: Free; Registration Encouraged
Born in Manzanar Concentration Camp and a professor emeritus at Loyola Marymount University, Art Nomura will talk about his book "Mizuko: True Spirit," an American immigrant tale of hardship, assimilation and eventual triumph.
Info: To register, Visit LACountyLibrary.org/Events.

'Darkness and Humanity: The Complete Akira Kurosawa'
Los Angeles, CA
Thru May 30

Academy Museum of Motion Pictures
6067 Wilshire Blvd.
Price: Museum Admission
Presented entirely on 35mm film, this series of 28 screenings covers the director's key contributions to the jidai-geki samurai genre, as well as his contemporary gendai-geki dramas.
Info: Visit <https://www.academyfilmuseum.org/>.

PNW

'Minidoka on Our Minds' Exhibit
Portland, OR
Thru June 14
Japanese American Museum of Oregon
411 N.W. Flanders St.

Price: Museum Admission
This exhibit celebrates 25 years of preservation at the site where many Nikkei from Oregon and Washington were incarcerated during WWII. Artwork by survivors, descendants and Japanese American youth explore the park's history.
Info: Visit <https://jamo.org/minidoka/>.

'The Yasui Family: An American Story' Exhibit
Portland, OR
Thru Sept. 6
The Oregon Historical Society
1200 S.W. Park Ave.

Through photographs, personal journals, documents and objects, this exhibition explores how the Yasui family reflects the complexity of the American story.
Info: Visit ohs.org.

MDC

Minnesota Japanese American Veterans Graveside Decorating
Minneapolis, MN
May 16
Fort Snelling National Cemetery
7601 34th Ave. S.

The Twin Cities JACL invites all to commemorate the service and sacrifice of Minnesota Japanese American Veterans by decorating gravesites at the cemetery. Volunteers are also needed to decorate gravesites of veterans whose family members are not able to attend.
Info: Please RSVP by May 13 to chiratadulas@tcjacl.org.

EDC

Cherry Blossom Celebration
Boston, MA
April 18; 1-4 p.m.
Arnold Arboretum
125 Arborway

Price: Free

Celebrate Japanese culture amongst the arboretum's beautiful cherry blossoms with taiko drumming performances, traditional Japanese dance, Japanese games and calligraphy, family activities and the inside scoop on the arboretum's own cherry collection.

Info: Visit <https://arboretum.harvard.edu/event/cherry-blossom-celebration/>.

'Courage and Compassion: Our Shared Story of the Japanese American World War II Experience'
Delray Beach, FL
May 9-Aug. 30

Morikami Museum and Japanese Gardens
4000 Morikami Park Road
Price: Museum Admission

This exhibit brings the national story of the Japanese American war sacrifice home to Florida, exploring the legacy of the historic Yamato colony and its residents, who faced their own challenges during the war.

Info: The museum is open Tuesday-Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information, visit morikami.org.

'The Many Lives of the Nakagin Capsule Tower' Exhibit
New York, NY
Thru July 12

Museum of Modern Art
11 W. 53rd St.
Price: Museum Admission
The exhibit brings together original drawings and models with ephemeral photographs and films to explore how this structure became a hive of creativity.
Info: Visit <http://www.moma.org/calendar/exhibitions/5830>.

'Masako Miki: Midnight March'
Boston, MA
Thru May 31
MassArt Art Museum
621 Huntington Ave.

Price: Museum Admission
The exhibit is an experiential world populated by semi-abstracted felted wool sculptures set within a galaxy. Referencing nature, Japanese supernatural beings and Shintoism, Miki creates new mythologies that reflect the complexity of multicultural identities and worlds.
Info: Visit <https://maam.massart.edu/exhibitions>. ■

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In MEMORIAM

(Note: Boldfaced names in the PDF version of this are active hyperlinks.)

Akagi, Joe Louis, 96, Gulf Breeze, FL, Oct. 9, 2025.

Aoki, Annie Yemiko, 95, Hilo, HI, Oct. 23, 2025.

Aoki, Edwin, 93, Honolulu, HI, Nov. 7, 2025.



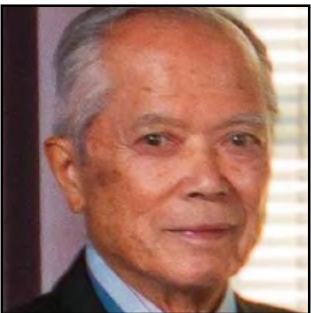
Aoki, Grace, 94, Portland, OR, Sept. 3, 2025.



Aoki, Mark Keoki, 62, Aiea, HI, Oct. 12, 2025.



Bryan, Kiyo Nagata, 80, Hubert, NC, Dec. 27, 2025.



Gima, Charles, 96, Los Angeles, CA, March 23.

Haage, Hanako, 97, Everett, WA, Jan. 31.

Kagihara, Sharon, 79, Waipahu, HI, Jan. 4.

Kimoto, Ok Yern, 94, Honolulu, HI, Dec. 13, 2025.



Lindley, Kimiko, 97, Monticello, IN, July 23, 2025.

Matsui, Kimie, 102, Honolulu, HI, Jan. 12.

Miwa, Hiroko, 89, Pasadena, CA, Feb. 18.

Nishimoto, Wallace S., 98, Torrance, CA, Feb. 14.

Nozaki, Henry Akio, 93, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA, Sept. 28, 2025.



Nozaki, Naomi, 89, Rancho Palos Verdes, CA, Jan. 12.



Oka, Robert M., 98, Salinas, CA, March 20.

Ota, Hiroshi, 104, Los Angeles, CA, Jan. 4.

Ota, Nancy, 85, La Palma, CA, Oct. 26, 2025.

Oya, Larry, 72, Bellingham, WA, Jan. 6.

Sambol, Kimiko (Hitsunoue), 97, Chicago, IL, March 2.

Sera, Rumiko Mizusawa, 92, Rosemead, CA, Feb. 5.

Springsteen, Kimi Jong-Soon, 90, St. Petersburg, FL, Nov. 9, 2025.



Tahira, Kimiyo 'Kimi,' 85, Benecia, CA, Dec. 1, 2025.

Takaki, Kimiko, 74, Redwood City, CA, Feb. 16.

Teruya, Edwin Tsutomu, 87, Los Angeles, CA, Jan. 21.



Umphress, Irene Masako, 94, Jurupa Valley, CA, March 2026.

Yamada, David, 83, Greeley, CO, Aug. 14, 2025.

Yamada, Tony Tsunehisa, 85, Lehi, Utah, Nov. 13, 2025.



Yogi, Kimiko, 92, Gardena, CA, Aug. 5.

Yokoe, Kimiko, 98, Port Townsend, WA, Feb. 7.

Yonemura, Tim Muneo, 72, Torrance, CA, Oct. 21, 2025. ■

News Briefs

California Woman Who Embezzled Instant Ramen Maker in Hot Water

The U.S. Department of Justice announced that a Huntington Beach, Calif., woman who pleaded guilty last October to 10 counts of embezzlement was sentenced April 2 to 30 months in federal prison. U.S. District Judge Fred W. Slaughter also ordered Tae Miyaji Jones, 50, to repay the nearly \$2.9 million she misappropriated between December 2017 to July 2023 from her employer. Her LinkedIn profile had listed her as an accounting manager at Garden Grove, Calif.-based instant ramen company Sanyo Foods Corp. of America. According to the DoJ, she had "transferred company funds from her employer's corporate accounts to her personal bank accounts to finance personal expenses."

Sony, Honda Pull Plug on Afeela, Torrance, Calif.-Based EV Undertaking

Just days after Sony Honda Mobility of America Inc. held a grand opening in Torrance, Calif., for its electric vehicle partnership, the joint venture between Sony Group Corp. and Honda Motor Co. Ltd. on March 25 announced the end of the initiative to produce the Afeela 1 luxury car and other Afeela-branded automobiles. SHM said it will issue refunds to those who bought reservations to purchase the Afeela 1, which had a starting list price of \$89,000.

JANM's 'Our Promise' Fundraising Campaign Tally Passes \$100M Mark

The Japanese American National Museum announced March 24 that its years-long initiative to raise funds to "... revitalize, amplify, deliver and secure the museum's future and to support the museum's renovation of its public galleries and a new core exhibition" had as of Dec. 31, 2025, reached \$108 million. Dubbed "Our Promise," the fundraising campaign began in 2019. Its goal to raise \$65 million was increased to \$85 million at its April 6, 2024, annual fundraising gala. (June 7, 2024, *Pacific Citizen*, tinyurl.com/55bp3xet). According to its news release, the museum's board of trustees raised \$9.8 million; its Volunteer Committee Campaign raised \$3.3 million; and 3,450 JANM members contributed \$15.3 million. Among the 41 "leadership gifts" of more than \$500,000 apiece, there were two unrestricted gifts of \$10 million in 2021 and \$20 million in late 2025 from philanthropist MacKenzie Scott. Excluding anonymous donors, other "leadership gifts" came from Toshizo Watanabe Family Foundation, Ford Foundation, Perenchio Foundation, Kosasa Family, Yoshimi and Kikuko Nakauchi Trust, Weston & Megumi Koyama (in honor of), Mitsuye Uchida Trust, Aratani Foundation, Ty T. Dote, LA Arts Recovery Fund, Tanaka Charitable Remainder Unitrust, Yamagata Foundation, Wendy Shiba and Lawrence Pittman, Earl K. and Katherine F. (Muto) Moore Foundation, The Ahmanson Foundation, Teru Kawa, Yoichi Komiyama Family, William T. Fujioka and Darlene K. Kuba, Joe T. Kikue Shikami Trust, Takeo Yuki Charitable Trust, Toyota Motor Sales U.S.A. Inc., Setsuko Oka Trust, Tsutomu Ige Trust, Doizaki Family, Robert T. and Carolyn D. Fujioka, George and Brad Takei, Ken and Jo Ann Hamamura, Samuel H. Yamashita, Harold and Barbara Mikami Keimi, John Morey and Donna Ikeda, Rod and Elsie Nakamoto Family, Suzukamo Family, Gene & Mary Ochi/The Tambour Foundation, MUFG Bank Ltd. and the W. M. Keck Foundation. Closed for renovation, JANM's Pavilion is slated to reopen in late 2026. JANM's gala fundraiser is May 30.

Duly Noted: Liu to Give Keynote at '26 UCLA School of Law Commencement

California Supreme Court Justice Goodwin Liu will deliver the speech on May 15. ... The Japan Society of Boston will on April 21 present New England JACL chapter board member Christine Pilcavage its Thayer Award for serving as managing director of the MIT-Japan Program.

— P.C. Staff

PLACE A TRIBUTE

'In Memoriam' is a free listing that appears on a limited, space-available basis. Tributes honor your loved ones with text and photos and appear in a timely manner at the rate of \$25/column inch.

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