



THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER OF THE JACL

Oct. 2-15, 2015

PACIFIC CITIZEN



NEVER FORGET

**San Diego JACL hosts
a gala honoring Nisei
veterans and their
lasting legacy.**

(Pictured) Former Staff
Sgt. Frank M. Wada,
who served in the
442nd/100th Regimental
Combat Team during
World War II, was an
honored guest at the
San Diego Gala.

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**NPS Now Accepting
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New Ishiuchi Miyako
Exhibition.** **Page 7**

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RAICES Conference
in Texas.** **Page 9**

NPS IS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR CONFINEMENT SITES GRANT PROGRAM

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National Park Service is now accepting applications for \$3 million in grants to preserve and interpret U.S. confinement sites and other locations where more than 120,000 Japanese Americans were imprisoned during World War II. The deadline for applications is Tuesday, Nov. 10.

“Telling the difficult stories of our nation’s history, along with its successes, is an important responsibility of the National Park Service, and preserving the experiences of Japanese Americans imprisoned during World War II is one of those important but challenging stories that must be told,” NPS Director Jonathan B. Jarvis said. “These grants support projects that are vivid reminders of the continuing need to guard the constitutional rights of all Americans against injustice, prejudice and fear.”

Congress established the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program in 2006 to preserve and explain the places where Japanese American men, women and children — most of them U.S. citizens — were incarcerated after Japan attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941. The grants are awarded to eligible groups and entities, including nonprofit organizations, educational institutions and state, local and tribal governments for work to preserve confinement sites and their histories.

In establishing the program, Congress authorized up to \$38 million in grants that can be awarded over the life of the program, with funds appropriated annually. Grant money can be used to identify, research, evaluate, interpret, protect, restore, repair and acquire historic confinement sites. To date, the program has awarded more than \$18 million in grants to 148 projects involving 19 states and the District of Columbia.

In fiscal year 2015 (Oct. 1, 2014-Sept. 30, 2015), the NPS distributed 20 grants totaling more than \$2.8 million. The president’s budget for fiscal year 2016 seeks \$3 million for the next round of program grants.

Grants can be used for a variety of efforts, including the design and construction of interpretive centers, trails, wayside exhibits and other facilities, oral histories and site-history research, school curricula and purchase of nonfederal land at authorized sites.

The program requires applicants to raise project funds from other sources to “match” the grant money, which is awarded after a competitive review of project proposals. Successful grantees must

match \$1 in nonfederal funds or “in-kind” contributions to every \$2 they receive in federal money. Matching funds can be raised and spent during the grant period and do not have to be “in the bank” when a group applies for a grant. Applicants can receive up to two grants a year.

More than 60 historic sites are eligible for grant-funded work. They include the 10 War Relocation Authority centers that were set up in 1942 in seven states: Granada (Amache), CO; Gila River and Poston, AZ; Heart Mountain, WY; Jerome and Rohwer, AR; Manzanar and Tule Lake, Calif.; Minidoka, Idaho; and Topaz, Utah. Also included are more than 40 other sites, including “assembly centers” and U.S. Army and Department of Justice detention and internment facilities.

For more information, including the 2016 application materials, visit <http://www.nps.gov/jacs/>.

Tule Lake at
Castle Rock



PHOTO: COURTESY OF DENSHO

HOW TO REACH US

Email: pc@pacificcitizen.org
Online: www.pacificcitizen.org
Tel: (213) 620-1767
Fax: (213) 620-1768
Mail: 250 E. First St., Suite 301
Los Angeles, CA 90012

STAFF

Executive Editor
Allison Haramoto

Assistant Editor
Tiffany Ujiye

Business Manager
Susan Yokoyama

Production Artist
Marie Samonte

Circulation
Eva Ting

The **Pacific Citizen** newspaper (ISSN: 0030-8579) is published semi-monthly (except once in December and January) by the Japanese American Citizens League, *Pacific Citizen*, 250 E. First St., Suite 301, Los Angeles, CA 90012. Periodical postage paid at L.A., CA. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to National JACL, 1765 Sutter St., San Francisco, CA 94115

JACL President: David Lin
National Director: Priscilla Ouchida

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Periodicals paid at Los Angeles, Calif. and mailing office.

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Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

1) Publication Title: Pacific Citizen 2) Publication Number: 0030-8579 3) Filing Date: Sept. 29, 2015. 4) Issue Frequency: Semi-monthly, except once in January & December 5) Number of Issue Published Annually: 22 6) Annual Subscription Price: \$40 7-9) Mailing Address/Publisher: Japanese American Citizens League dba Pacific Citizen (Los Angeles County) 250 E 1st Street, Suite 301 Los Angeles, CA 90012-3819 Contact Person Manager: Allison Haramoto; Telephone: (213) 620-1767 10) Owner: Japanese American Citizens League dba Pacific Citizen 1765 Sutter Street San Francisco, CA 94115 11) No known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities 12) Tax Status Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months 13) Publication Title: Pacific Citizen 14) Issue Date for Circulation Data Below: 09/29/15 15) Extent and Nature of Circulation: Membership Benefit and Paid Subscription a. Total Number of Copies (Net Press Run) Average No. Copies Each Issue During Preceding 12 Months: 8,328 No. Copies of Single Issue Published Nearest to Filing Date: 8,050 b. Paid Circulation 1. Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 Average: 7,550 Single Issue: 7,500 2. Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 Average: 680 Single Issue: 510 c. Total Paid Distribution Average: 8,230 Single Issue: 8,210 f. Total Distribution Average: 10,623 Single Issue: 10,100 g. Copies not Distributed Average: 98 Single Issue: 40 h. Total Average: 8,328 Single Issue: 8,050 i. Percent Paid Average: 100% Single Issue: 100% 16) Publication of State of Ownership: Publication of this statement will be printed in the Oct. 2, 2015 issue.

The P.C.’s mission is to “educate on the past Japanese American experience and preserve, promote and help the current and future AAPI communities.”

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A MOTHER'S TAKE

COURAGEOUS CONVERSATIONS

By Marsha Aizumi

With the Supreme Court ruling in favor of same-sex marriage for all states this year, the JACL delegates voting in favor of an emergency resolution to be a “vibrant ally” to the transgender community in July and Caitlin Jenner bringing transgender visibility to the forefront, you would think that as a mother of a transgender son, I would feel overjoyed to know that the world is moving in the right direction of equality for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community.

While I celebrate these victories and applaud all the work that is being done, there are still reasons for me to be scared for Aiden's future. One of them is a California initiative called the “Personal Privacy Protection Act.”

If this initiative becomes law and a transgender person doesn't use a bathroom in accordance with their biological sex, then the law puts a civil bounty of no less than \$4,000, plus attorney's fees, for that “willful violation” in the use of public bathrooms.

I shudder to think of this becoming law because many years ago, Aiden had to endure the embarrassment of being handcuffed by mall security with plastic ties because he went into the female restroom, and women thought he was a guy.

This was at a time when he was still identifying as female. From that time on, I am sure that he never felt safe in the women's restroom. Once he even told me when a woman glared at him as he walked into the women's restroom, he pulled up his T-shirt to prove he was in the



Gender-neutral bathrooms make it easier for individuals to feel safe when using them.

right place. After Aiden transitioned to be male and began to use the men's restroom, he hasn't had to endure the humiliation of these types of incidences.

Now, where would my son feel safe if this initiative becomes the law? If he goes into the restroom of his

biological sex, I have no doubt that he will be harassed and humiliated once again. There is no way that he will be seen as female.

Going into the men's restroom, there is a possibility that a civil bounty of no less than \$4,000, plus attorney's fees, will be placed upon him. It is a no-win situation that could only bring the potential of physical harm to my son.

So, what are some possible solutions?

One solution would be to have designated gender-neutral bathrooms. This would be a bathroom that can be used by anyone. When I have used a gender-neutral bathroom, I know there might be men in there. Perhaps the first few times, it felt strange to me. I was not used to it. Now, I don't think anything of it. I remember watching a television program called “Ally McBeal” and going to a trendy restaurant in Chicago — both had co-ed bathrooms. I thought it was kind of hip and fun. I wasn't afraid.

Not all bathrooms have to be gender neutral, but having a few makes it easier for individuals, especially transgender individuals, to feel safe. It doesn't cost a lot of money to make a bathroom gender neutral. I have attended conferences where they have just slapped on signs that say “Gender Neutral.” My husband replaced a women's bathroom sign with one that showed both males and females could use it. The cost was minimal.

>> See CONVERSATIONS on page 12



A YONSEI TRANSPLANTED

DO YOUR HOMEWORK

By Matthew Ormseth

When Duke University freshman Brian Grasso learned that the book assigned for his summer reading project grappled with themes of sexual identity, parenthood and finding the courage to be the person you know yourself to be, he did what we would expect any decent, 18-year-old kid in the US of A to do: He refused to read it, and he took to Facebook to call foul, naturally.

In his post on Duke's Class of 2019's Facebook page, Grasso wrote, “I feel as if I would have to compromise my personal Christian moral beliefs to read it,” due to the book's “graphic visual depictions of sexuality.”

The book in question was “Fun Home,” a graphic memoir written by Alison Bechdel; “Fun Home” details Bechdel's childhood in Pennsylvania, her gradual awareness of her homosexuality and eventual coming out and her complicated relationship with her closeted father.

The book, far from being the tawdry pornographic rag that Grasso, the Duke freshman, made it out to be, has been lauded by critics, spending two weeks at the top of the *New York Times*' best seller list and selected as one of the paper's top books of 2006.

However, the validity of Grasso's claim that the book is

“immoral,” as he went on to state in an opinion piece for the *Washington Post* in the wake of the controversy, is beside the point.

Christian moralizing does not disturb me. Attempts at censorship — “Fun Home” was removed from a city library in Missouri, the University of Utah and the College of Charlestown — do not disturb me either: In the digital age, so long as people *want* to read a particular book, they'll be able to get their hands on it.

What disturbs me about the Grasso case is that it's the perfect distillation of an attitude so pervasive among my generation — an attitude of absolute self-assurance, marked by the total absence of that quivering question: *What if I might be wrong?* This self-certainty reigns unchecked because, as Grasso so aptly demonstrated, we refuse to read anything that might tell us we are.

It would be one thing if Grasso had read “Fun Home” before objecting to its depiction of a lifestyle that he considers immoral — only Grasso didn't even read the book. Grasso claims he looked up a summary of the book online, which is where he learned of, in his own words, the memoir's “pornographic nature.” And so rather than actually opening up

his own copy of “Fun Home” and determining the morality or immorality of Bechdel's memoir for himself, he kept it shut — and his mind shut, too.

I'm going after Grasso, but I'm guilty of the same crime, in a way. We all are.

We look for sources of information that tell us that we're right — articles, essays, the dialogues of particular politicians — because we can't stand being wrong. And in some ways, the diversification of the media has pandered to our self-certainty.

Most news agencies now cater to a particular clientele. Comprehensive newspapers and news stations that count both the religious and the areligious, both conservatives and liberals alike among their ranks, the kind of institutions that can hold contrasting points of view simultaneously without imploding are few and far between.

So now, many of us patronize bookmarked news sites that slant decidedly in our favor; we turn the TV off when a politician we don't like is speaking; we scroll through our Twitter feeds for news, which contain only the thoughts of people whom we made a conscious decision to follow.

>> See HOMEWORK on page 12

JACL NAMES MERISSA NAKAMURA AS ITS NEW MINETA FELLOW



2015-16 JACL
Norman Y. Mineta Fellow
Merissa Nakamura

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Merissa Nakamura has been selected as the 2015-16 JACL Norman Y. Mineta Fellow.

Nakamura is working out of the organization's Washington, D.C., office and began her yearlong fellowship on Sept. 21.

Nakamura is a Yonsei hailing from Salt Lake City, Utah. As an undergraduate, she served as the JACL Salt Lake City Chapter president and youth representative and was an active student leader in the University of Utah's Asian American Student Assn.

Previously, Nakamura worked with the University of Utah student population to examine the campus climate for LGBTQ students in an effort to create discrimination documentation and policy recommendations.

She is passionate about creating safer spaces for those in the LGBTQ community and hopes to continue building relationships with queer and transgender communities of color. Nakamura is honored to be selected for the fellowship and looks forward to working with the Japanese American community and broader Asian American Pacific Islander community.

— National JACL Staff

LOCAL SAN BRUNO OFFICIAL SPEARHEADING EFFORT TO BUILD TANFORAN MEMORIAL

Foster City Councilman Steve Okamoto is spearheading an effort to build a memorial to recognize the trials and tribulations of those who were held captive in a Japanese internment camp at the Tanforan race track in San Bruno, Calif., during World War II.

Nearly 8,000 people of Japanese descent were forced to live at the Tanforan race track, most of whom made their home in a horse stable or barrack built along the race track's infield during the war.

If approved, the memorial would consist of a sculpture inspired by a famous picture of two young girls who lived at the camp that was taken by famed photographer Dorothea Lange. It would be placed in a plaza located in San Bruno's Bay Area Rapid Transit station and the Shops at Tanforan.

Okamoto, who lived in the Tanforan race track along with his parents and siblings in 1942, is set to host an event on Oct. 31 to kick off the memorial's fundraising

campaign.

Notable local officials including Sen. Jerry Hill (D-San Mateo) and U.S. Rep. Jackie Speier (D-San Mateo) are scheduled to attend the event.

RHAA Architecture is slated to build the memorial, which will also include a reconstruction of a horse stable door that will be inscribed with the nearly 8,000 names of those who once lived at the camp.

A smaller plaque is currently located outside the Shops at Tanforan to recognize the internment camp and its history there, but Okamoto is hoping that the larger memorial will finally give Tanforan the long-overdue recognition it deserves.

The goal is to build the memorial quickly, as many of the relocation camp's occupants are elderly. Of additional importance is its educational value to inform current and future generations of its importance.

News Briefs/APAs in the News

Four Keiro Facilities Set to Be Sold for \$41 Million to Pacifica Companies



LOS ANGELES — Four Keiro facilities — Keiro Retirement Home and Keiro Intermediate Care Facility in Boyle Heights, Keiro Nursing Home in Lincoln Heights and South Bay Keiro

Nursing Home in Gardena — are set to be sold to Pacifica Companies for \$41 million; escrow is set to close early next year.

Last week, Keiro and Pacific formally agreed upon conditions approved by the Attorney General. Conditions of the sale require Pacifica to operate the facilities for the next five years in the way Keiro has provided, including its handling of policies and insurance, resident care, Japanese cultural services and number of beds.

Keiro Senior HealthCare will continue to operate as a nonprofit organization. Representatives of the organization say it will use the net profit of the sale, about \$37 million, to expand its program to educate the Japanese American community about aging.

Pacifica Companies is a for-profit real estate company based in San Diego. It owns hotels and housing in the U.S., Mexico and India, as well as operates 55 senior facilities in 14 states.

ABC Reaches a Historic High for Featuring 18 Asian Regulars in Its Fall Season

The Asian Pacific American Media Coalition announced Sept. 17 that ABC will feature a historic high 18 Asian regulars on its new fall primetime schedule.

The previous record of 16, held by NBC, was reached during the 2007-08 season.

Joining returning shows "Fresh Off the Boat" and "Marvel's Agents of S.H.I.E.L.D." will be "Dr. Ken," starring Ken Jeong and Suzy Nakamura, and "Quantico," starring Bollywood star Priyanka Chopra.

"This marks a remarkable comeback for ABC," said Daniel M. Mayeda, co-chair of the APAMC. The organization has met annually with the top four networks to advocate for more diversity and inclusion on television since 1999. "A few years ago, ABC had the lowest number of Asian Pacific Islander regulars amongst the top four networks. Now, they're the acknowledged leader in diversity and APIs are a significant part of that success story," he said.

Hanya Yanagihara Among Six Authors Shortlisted for the 2015 Man Booker Prize



LONDON — Hanya Yanagihara, along with authors Marlon James, Tom McCarthy, Chigozie Obioma, Sunjeev Sahota and Anne Tyler, have been announced as the shortlisted authors for

the 2015 Man Booker Prize for Fiction.

The six authors were announced by Chair of Judges Michael Wood at a press conference on

Sept. 15.

The Man Booker Prize promotes the finest in fiction by rewarding the very best book of the year. The prize is the world's most important literary award and has the power to transform the fortunes of authors and publishers.

Yanagihara, from the United States, is the author of "A Little Life" (Picador), the story of four college friends who confront the bleakness of life.

In a recent interview, Yanagihara said of her book, "It should feel like a binge, somewhat, an experience that demands your attention and surrender: the small and large moments that punctuate any human life distilled into a concentrate."

The winner will be announced at a formal dinner in London and broadcast by the BBC.

Popular Mark Keppel High School Basketball Coach Joe Kikuchi Arrested

MONTEREY PARK, CALIF. — Joe Kikuchi, 56, of Monterey Park, Calif., was arrested Sept. 24 on multiple felony counts of sexual assault, including lewd and lascivious acts against a minor. Kikuchi, who resigned his position as the girls' basketball coach at Mark Keppel High School on Sept. 15, is accused of having an ongoing sexual relationship with one of his players, a 16-year-old junior.

Police began investigating Kikuchi on Sept. 15 following a report made by an Alhambra Unified School District administrator, who heard rumors of an "intimate" relationship between the coach and a female student. That administrator then alerted the Alhambra Police Department.

Mark Keppel Principal Jacinth Cisneros and Assistant Principal Khevin DeVaughn were also placed on indefinite administrative leave as the district begins its own investigation.

Kikuchi, a widely popular coach who transformed the school's basketball program into a powerful CIF state contender, is set to appear in court Oct. 23 for his arraignment.

Tad Egawa Named General Counsel of California Department of Housing and Community Development



SACRAMENTO — Tad Egawa, 48, of Sacramento was named general counsel at the California Department of Housing and Community Development, Gov. Jerry Brown announced on Sept. 2.

Egawa, who earned his J.D. degree from the University of Southern California School of Law, has been assistant commissioner of legal affairs at the California Bureau of Real Estate since 2013.

Prior to that he was deputy attorney general at the California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General from 2009-13 and a shareholder at McDonough, Holland and Allen PC in 2009, where he was counsel in 2007-08.

This position does not require Senate confirmation and the compensation is \$145,008. Egawa is a Republican.

LEARNING HOW TO SAY GOODBYE

Author Marie Mutsuki Mockett reflects on a nation's mourning and takes a personal journey to Japan through her latest book.

By P.C. Staff

The Newport Beach Public Library Foundation welcomed author Marie Mutsuki Mockett on Sept. 24 to speak about her new book "Where the Dead Pause and the Japanese Say Goodbye."

Several years after her father died unexpectedly, Mockett found herself in a dark place, and she turned to Japan for closure.

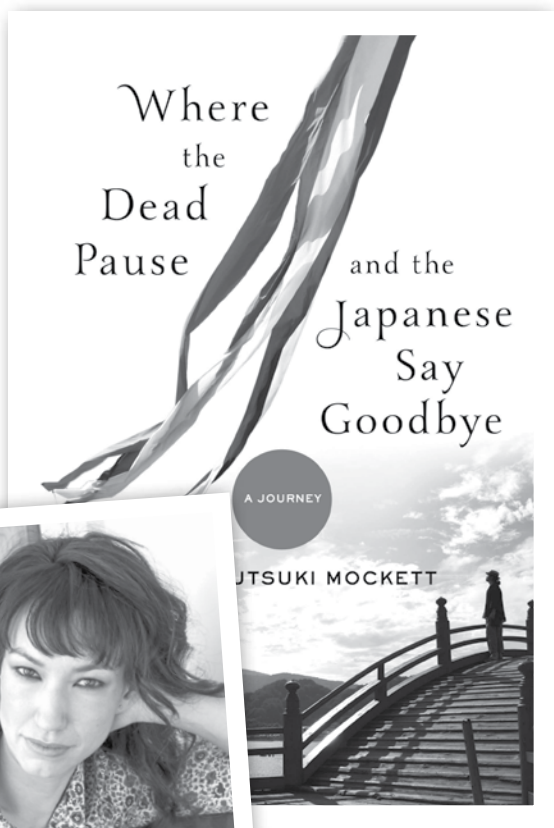
Mockett's family owned a Buddhist temple located 25 miles from the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant. In March 2011, the earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan devastated the surrounding community. As Japan mourned the thousands of people lost in the disaster, Mockett begged her cousin, the temple's priest, to leave, but he refused. In his response, he told her that he needed to stay to take care of the souls of the community's ancestors.

The author's personal journey to Fukushima began as a way to start a dialogue with tsunami survivors. The narrative in her newest book follows her into the homes of tsunami survivors and into temples, where she spent hours in meditation and discovery.

In a recent NPR interview with Melissa Block, Mockett found comfort in mourning, saying that "of course, grief is special and private, and everyone's grief is unique, and the person that we have lost is unique. But there are all of these wonderful traditions, which take individual pain like that and cast it against the backdrop of human suffering."

Where the "Dead Pause and the Japanese Say Goodbye" also looks at traditions like paper lanterns in honor of the dead, or *Toro nagashi*. The tradition is often carried on during Obon, a period in August when the spirits of one's ancestors return home. During this time one can go to temples or locations to purchase a paper lantern to write down the name of those they have lost. From there, people can visit a river or ocean and place the lantern on the water to be carried away by the current.

Mockett also visited Mount Doom during her time in Japan, and she recounts



her journey in the book. Considered one of Japan's most sacred places, Mount Doom sits in the northern

region of Japan and is an extinguished volcano. It was Mount Doom that was the inspiration for Mockett's title, as a river, Sanzu-no-Kawa, runs from the lake through the mountain before emptying into the ocean. Many stories originate from the river, as it was thought to carry the souls of the dead seen walking along the river through Mount Doom before pausing. Here they slip into the underworld and is considered the last place to say goodbye.

The library and its guests held the reading along with a short question and answer session where guests were able to have a copy of "Where the Dead Pause and the Japanese Say Goodbye" personally signed by Mockett.

The Library Journal also gave the book a review as "Mockett mixes memoir, travelogue and a study of the sociology of death to look at how the unique character of Japanese spirituality helps individuals and the nation cope with loss . . . This illuminating journey through loss, faith and perspective will appeal on both readers of Pico Iyer and current nonfiction on death culture . . . The author's unique access to Buddhist priests gives the reader a rare view into one of the richest death cultures in the world."

FORMER JACL SCHOLARSHIP WINNER PUBLISHES MEMOIR

Diana Morita Cole publishes 'Sideways: Memoir of a Misfit'

Former JACL scholarship recipient Diana Morita Cole's memoir, "Sideways: Memoir of a Misfit," is set to be released on Oct. 22 at an event in Nelson, British Columbia, at the Touchstones Nelson: Museum of Art and History. "Sideways" is published by Diaspora Press with funding from the Columbia Basin Trust and the Columbia Kootenay Cultural Alliance.

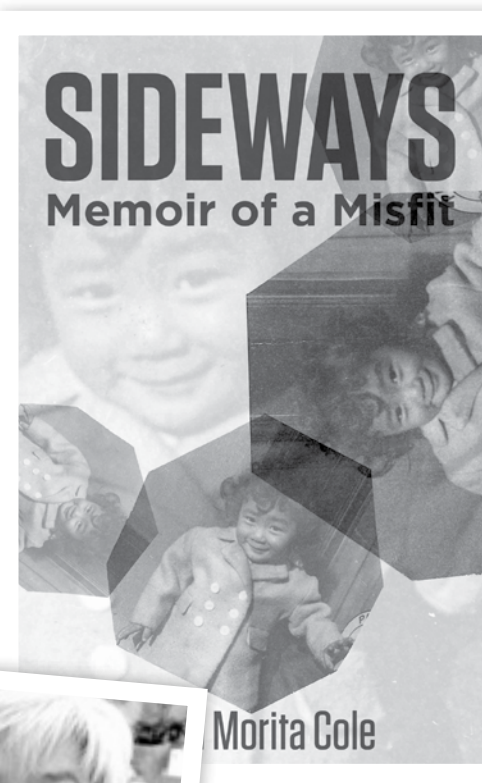
"Sideways" chronicles the childhood of a Japanese American born a prisoner in Minidoka after her family was expelled from Hood River, Ore., in 1942. As Cole set out to research and write her memoir, she was amazed to discover the depths of anger Japanese people experienced during the war.

"It was a really mind-blowing experience to realize that this wasn't just unique to my country and to my family, but it was happening throughout the Pacific Rim," Cole told the *Nelson Star* in a recent interview. "I would be misrepresenting myself if I said I'm not angry, but one has to channel that anger into something productive. I'm trying to achieve some form of transcendence, of self-understanding, but I also want to add to the literature that examines the displacement, imprisonment and resettlement of the Nikkei in the Americas."

According to Martha Nakagawa of the Archives of the University of California, Los Angeles, "Sideways shatters any myth that newborn babies and children were unscathed by their unlawful imprisonment inside American concentration camps during World War II. [Cole's] amusing and piercing revelations about the exile and resettlement of the Morita family are a welcome addition to the history of the Japanese Americans. Cole's book concludes with a soaring anthem to the Japanese-Canadian experience."

Cole's story begins inside her mother's womb, where she overhears the internment camp doctor speculate that her 44-year-old mother may not survive childbirth. "Luckily, I, a mere fetus at the time, had big ears, so I turned a somersault in utero — one of my rare moments of grace — and my 44-year-old mother survived," said Cole.

Rita Takahashi, professor of social work and gerontology at San Francisco State University, said, "Sideways: Memoir



of a Misfit' is about imprisonment — based only on ancestry — and resettlement. It is the very portal through which we view the hidden aspects of three important cultural icons: William Hohri, who led a massive class-action lawsuit against the United

States; Iva Toguri, who was convicted of treason and subsequently pardoned; and Roy Miki, who was born in exile in Canada."

The first chapter in "Sideways" was published in the *New Orphic Review* and shortlisted in the Open-Season Competition of the Malahat Review creative nonfiction category for 2013. Cole's book was also nominated for the Pushcart Prize Anthology for 2015.

In addition to her writing career, Cole, who has lived in Canada for more than 40 years, has initiated projects to help diminish racism and foster justice, peace and environmental awareness.

She is also the founder of the Seventh World, an association of biracial couples that created a writing contest for London Ontario K-12 children to promote racial harmony. This program has since been implemented in several other communities throughout southwestern Ontario.

Cole currently resides in Nelson, British Columbia.

For more information on how to order "Sideways: Memoir of a Misfit," email info@diasporapress.net or visit www.diasporapress.net.

PHOTOS: WILLIE SAKAI

SAN DIEGO VOWS TO NEVER FORGET

The City of San Diego proclaims Sept. 19 as **'Never Forget'** Day during the San Diego JACL gala, which also honored Nisei Veterans and commemorated the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII.

By *Tiffany Ujiiye*,
Assistant Editor

Cooled wine glasses and spirits tapped one another throughout a special evening dedicated to the 100th and 422nd Regimental Combat Team, the Military Intelligence Service and Nisei veterans of World War II and their families. All were gathered at the Marriott Mission Valley on Sept. 19 as the San Diego Japanese American Citizens League presented "Never Forget," a gala commemorating the 70th anniversary of the end of WWII. Also featured was a special preview of Lane Nishikawa's newest documentary "Never Forget."

Special recognition was given not only to the Nisei veterans who served during WWII but also the San Diego JACL, as the chapter was presented a proclamation from the City of San Diego proclaiming Sept. 19 as "Never Forget" Day.

"We give thanks for the Nisei generation and those who served our generation so well and made history so

well," said San Diego City Councilmember Chris Cate, who gave the proclamation for Mayor Kevin Faulconer. "Remembering the Japanese Americans and never forgetting that history and generation is critical."

The proclamation comes after a long-standing partnership between the Asian American community in San Diego and local politicians. San Diego JACL worked with then-Assemblyman Marty Block when Block was the primary co-sponsor of the Assembly Bill that created Fred Korematsu Day in California.

"I know that San Diego's entire Asian American community is very proud to have a Filipino American on our City Council," Former JACL National President and current Pacific Southwest District Governor David Kawamoto said. "We are extremely grateful to State Sen. Marty Block for the wonderful proclamation he provided for our gala."

Actress Tamlyn Tomita and Lee Ann Kim, executive director of Pacific Arts Movement and a longtime news anchor for KGTV-10, the ABC affiliate in San Diego, warmly welcomed the evening's attendees.

The gala also welcomed performances by Stacy Yamamoto-Squires, who sang the "Star-Spangled Banner," and multiplatinum songwriter Harold Payne, who played "Quiet Heroes."

"Since 1990, the U.S. War Department estimates that we lose 1,100 World War II veterans each day. Tonight, we have 33 Nisei veterans represented by their families," Kim said.

Veterans and their families included Joseph and Ernest Coz, George Furuya, Dr. Shigeru Hara, Fred M. Hashiguchi, Henry Hashiguchi, Leo Hashiguchi,

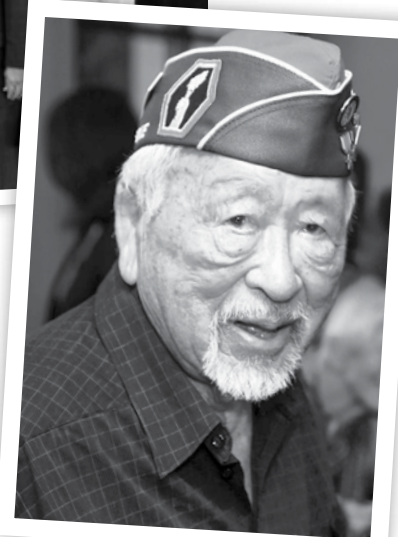
(From left) Actress Tamlyn Tomita and Lee Ann Kim, executive director of Pacific Arts Movement and KGTV-10 anchor



(Top) "Allegiance" producer Wendy Gillespie and gala committee chair Robert Ito during the reception



(From left) JACL's Carol Kawamoto, Sheldon Arakaki, Ken Inouye, David Lin, David Kawamoto and Priscilla Ouchida



(Above) Masayoshi Tsuida served in Company C for the 442nd/100th Regimental Combat Team.

chi, Toru Charles Iguchi, Martin Lloyd Ito, Masami Iwataki, Harry Hareo Kawamoto, Satoshi Kida, Yasuichi Jim Kimura, Minoru Koide, James Kondo, Koji Konishi, James Suikichi Matsumoto, Shigeru Moriyama, Thomas Mukai, Isamu Okamoto, Kiyoshi Okamoto, Noboru Sakaguchi, Fred Segawa, Harry Shinagawa, Roy Tadashi Sameda, Abe Tsukasa Takehara, Jack Tanabe, Joseph Tanabe, Robert Tanabe, Henry Tani, Edward Urata, Ted Teruo Wada, George Chiyoji Yano and Giichi Yoshikawa.

A moment of silence was given to the brave soldiers and their families, and a special recorded message from Adm. Harry B. Harris Jr., commander of the U.S. Pacific Command, was played. Adm. Harris is the first Asian American to achieve the rank of admiral and the highest-ranking Japanese American in the U.S. Armed Forces.

In keeping with the theme, JACL San Diego Chapter President Michael Kurima stressed the importance of the gala and to never forget that "the heroics of the 442 and the incarcerations we endured during the war may just be stories from a movie or a book to the younger generation." He went on to say that the "gala and the documentary that Lane is putting together are pieces of a program that will help inform our children and our children's children on the sacrifices our community has made and the bravery and allegiance that we have shown."

Actor-activist George Takei also gave the veterans and guests a special message from New York. "[My] spirit joins all of you at the gala, commemorating the end of the World War II. On booth coasts there in San Diego and here in New York, we pay tribute to the veterans and support the courage," said Takei.

Takei went on to remind everyone how the veterans "opposed unjust internments. They are the forgotten heroes . . . and we recognize the great legacy of the amazing Nisei generation. Tonight, we pledge we will never forget."

The gala's theme echoed filmmaker-actor Nishikawa's newest documentary "Never Forget," which is currently in production. Attendees were given an exclusive preview of the documentary, which highlights local San Diego Japanese American veterans, their families and the families of those veterans who have passed away.

Nishikawa has written plays and films about the Nisei soldiers for the majority of his career, and he has attended big reunions across the nation looking to remember and honor those who served.

"It is my way of saying 'thank you' to them for their courage and sacrifice; time is not on our side," Nishikawa shared with the P.C. "It is a chance to share their legacy with the generations that have followed. It also is a way that we can ensure that grandchildren and great-grandchildren understand, reflect upon and own that legacy, so that they can pass it on to future generations."

>> See SAN DIEGO on page 8



Screening of Lane Nishikawa's 'Never Forget'



San Diego JACL Chapter President Michael Kurima



A LIGHT THROUGH THE BLACK AND WHITE

The J. Paul Getty Museum showcases the work of celebrated Japanese photographer Ishiuchi Miyako in a new exhibition.

By Alissa Hiraga,
Contributor

Elements of violation, loss and redemption are at play in Ishiuchi Miyako's grainy black-and-white photographs. If these photographs eerily manage to stir a sense of familiarity within us, perhaps it's because these elements are not unlike what we attempt to confront and reconcile in our own lives.

These works introduce us to a fascinating artist, and now, the general public will get an inside look into her work in a new exhibit entitled "Ishiuchi Miyako: Postwar Shadows" at the J. Paul Getty Museum, Getty Center, in Los Angeles. The exhibit, which is set to run from Oct. 6-Feb. 21, 2016, will feature more than 120 photographs that represent the evolution of the artist's career, from her landmark series "Yokosuka Story" (1976-77) that established her as a photographer to her current project "(ひろしま) Hiroshima" (2007-present) in which she presents images of garments and objects that survived the atomic bombing of Hiroshima.

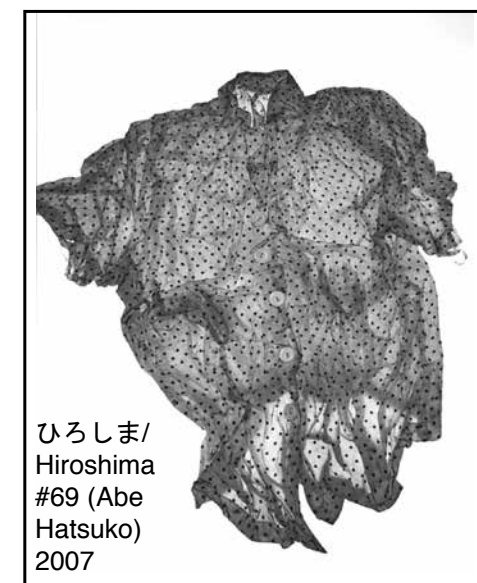
"About eight years ago, the Getty Museum began a concerted effort to expand our East Asian photography holdings and since that time work by Japanese photographers has become an important part of the collection," explained Timothy Potts, director of the J. Paul Getty Museum. "As part of this effort, the museum acquired 37 photographs by Ishiuchi, many of them gifts of the artist, which constitute the largest holdings of her work outside Japan."

Added Potts, "Particularly poignant during this 70th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima, and shown for the first time in an American institution, is Ishiuchi's '(ひろしま) Hiroshima,' a delicate and profound series of images depicting objects affected by the atomic blast."

Ishiuchi's captivating career began fortuitously, when she received photographic equipment as a gift in 1975. Born as Fujikura Yōko (Ishiuchi adopted her mother's maiden name) in 1947 postwar Japan, she would emerge from the male-dominated photography world and create powerful works from the spirit of the female perspective.

"I feel that the exhibition of my personal photographs in America is a very meaningful event. Thanks to this, I have been able to experience the inevitable connection between the times I have lived through and the history of war in Japan," said Ishiuchi. "I do not wish for viewers to get any particular message from my photographs. There are no captions, and I am happy if viewers think of my works in their own individual words, linger before my photographs, look at them carefully and feel something."

Ishiuchi added, "The title 'Hiroshima' ('(ひろしま)') is written in the Hiragana script, giving it a particularly feminine feel, so please remember these four Japanese characters."



As Ishiuchi Miyako explained, "I do not wish for viewers to get any particular message from my photographs. There are no captions, and I am happy if viewers think of my works in their own individual words, linger before my photographs, look at them carefully and feel something."

Amanda Maddox, assistant curator in the Department of Photographs at the J. Paul Getty Museum, curated the exhibition. Maddox points to Ishiuchi's intent to use photography as a vehicle to transform memories or themes with negative connotations of war, death, scars, fear into positive, even beautiful images.

"Recognition that this approach informs her choice of subject and the emotional contents of her photographs makes the work that much more powerful," said Maddox.

Ishiuchi's first major series, "Yokosuka Story," focuses on the "effect of America in Japan, Japan in America." The disturbing byproduct and symbol of war and occupation is an American naval base in Yokosuka.

The postwar experience is a dominant theme in Ishiuchi's works.

"I began taking photographs out of a desire to measure my own footsteps, to turn my memories into photos," said Ishiuchi. "I started with landscapes of Yokosuka, the city where I grew up. I printed images of the painful experiences of my youth, from ages 6-19, in photographs. These became my first three works, 'Yokosuka Story,' 'Apartment' and '[Endless] City Nights.' As part of the first generation of baby boomers born after the war, my personal history is, of course, in-

tertwined with the history of war in Japan."

The photographer's "On the Body" series focuses on the human body undergoing the natural aging process and the scars caused by injury and trauma. In describing how the series was born, Ishiuchi discovered an important link to her previous work.

"When I turned 40, I began to feel that my hands and feet bore the traces of 40 years of time, and beginning with '1-9-4-7,' my interest turned to the body," Ishiuchi said. "'Scars' is a series about physical scars. Scars are proof that one is alive, giving form to the past and embodying memory. . . . While photographing 'Scars,' I realized that my debut work, 'Yokosuka Story,' was about the scars of the city and the scars of history because this city is inextricably linked with war. Then, 'Yokosuka' developed into 'Hiroshima.' All these works are on the same line of development."

The series also portrays the rekindling of a mother and daughter relationship.

"Ishiuchi photographed her camera-shy mother for three separate series, 'Body and Air,' 'Scars' and 'Mother's,' all of which will be featured in the exhibition," observed Maddox. "Through these various projects, Ishiuchi found that photography allowed her to forge a stronger relationship with

her mother, someone whom she never felt particularly close to. Their collaboration in photographs, revealed in works produced before and after her mother's death, enabled Ishiuchi to understand her mother's complexities in greater depth."

Ishiuchi's current project "(ひろしま) Hiroshima," shown for the first time in an American institution, features images of garments and objects remaining after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. A watch, blouse, gloves — we've all possessed and treasured such things. Images of these objects, broken and no longer in possession by their owners, won't soon leave the mind or heart. One such image is that of the tattered blouse worn by a mother who was holding her one-month-old daughter when the atomic bomb was dropped. Seventy-years later, these objects endure to remind us that we are not far from one another.

Ishiuchi's works are also a visual journal, where we are privy to witnessing a journey unfold and where dark corners and shadows are defeated by refusing to look at life solely through a rearview mirror. She is able to share what is deeply personal without manipulation. We are able to make the journey our own.

>> See **BLACK AND WHITE** on page 8

CONVERSATIONS >> continued from page 7

Exhibition Information

"Ishiuchi Miyako: Postwar Shadows" is on view at the J. Paul Getty Museum, Getty Center, from Oct. 6, 2015, to February 21, 2016.

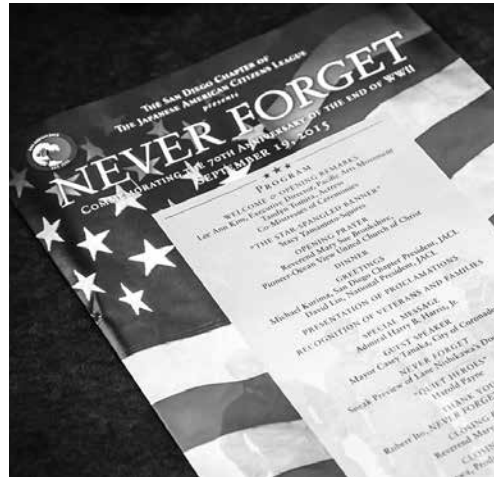
An English-language, fully illustrated scholarly catalog complements the exhibition and contains essays by Maddox, poet Itō Hiromi and Miryam Sas, professor at the University of California, Berkeley. The catalog also contains a comprehensive chronology of Ishiuchi's life and career.

A conversation between Ishiuchi and Christopher Phillips, curator at the International Center of Photography in New York, will take place on Oct. 7, 2015, at the Getty Center.

The Center for Photographs is concurrently presenting "The Younger Generation: Contemporary Japanese Photography," which features the works of five contemporary women.

For more information, visit www.getty.edu.

SAN DIEGO >> continued from page 6



The gala's official program

Guest Speaker Chris Ward presented the San Diego JACL Chapter with a special placard. Ward serves as the chief of staff to State Sen. Marty Block, representing the communities of the Third City Council District and most of the City of San Diego. "Never Forget" Committee Chair Robert Ito received the proclamation onstage from Ward.

"We pay special respect and are greatly indebted to the U.S. Armed Forces who fought World War II to secure the principal of thousands of Japanese Americans," Ward said while holding the placard onstage, stating the resolution to recognize profound gratitude to the Nisei generation.

Howard Ou, field representative of Congressman Scott Peters, gave another proclamation to the San Diego JACL Chapter to "honor the past and look bravely into the legacy of our future on the city, state and federal level."

Amongst the evening's notable guests was "Allegiance" Producer Wendy Gillespie, who made a special announcement: Attendees would receive a special discount for tickets to the play "Allegiance," starring Takei.

"Allegiance" is the highly anticipated play inspired by the true-life experience of its star, Takei, and is scheduled to premiere on Broadway this fall.

Gillespie asked guests to also support "Sponsor a Student" (www.inspirechangebroadway.org), which allows young students to watch the historical play.

JACL National President David Lin also gave a special message.

"It's a special pleasure to be here in beautiful San Diego. Thank you for having me here, and on behalf of JACL National, we extend a very warm welcome to the gala in commemoration of our Nisei veterans," said Lin. "Founded in 1929, JACL is the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization in the U.S. JACL has always been in the forefront of championing the rights not just for Japanese Americans but all Americans. JACL San Diego has been doing an amazing job furthering the JACL mission."

Lin went on to give special thanks to David and Carol Kawamoto, Kurima and the San Diego Chapter's members and volunteers.

JACL National representatives included

JACL Executive Director Priscilla Ouchida, Pacific Northwest District Governor Sheldon Arakaki, Pacific Southwest District Governor David Kawamoto and former National President Ken Inouye.

Local politicians and honorary committee members in attendance that night included California State Sen. Marty Block; City of Coronado Mayor Casey Tanaka; San Diego County Board Supervisor Vice Chair Dave Roberts; Armita Pedramrazi, representative of Congresswoman Susan Davis; Lee Hernandez, senior field representative of California State Assembly Member Shirley Weber; Sal Giametta, chief of staff for Supervisor Ron Roberts; Honorary Consul General for Japan in San Diego Kate Leonard; Arthur Nishioka of Kyocera International; Wendy Urushima-Conn of the Asian Business Association San Diego; and Gary Himaka of VFW Post 4851.

Kurima also thanked his chapter and the grant sponsors who provided support for both the evening's gala and the "Never Forget" documentary. The Pacific Southwest District JACL Trust Fund Grant and the National JACL Legacy Fund Grant were major supporters.

"The decision our Nisei soldiers made over seven decades ago paved the way for Japanese and Asian Americans, and we are still feeling the effect today," Nishikawa said. While the gala was for only one evening, Nishikawa's "Never Forget" continues production to inform and educate the children and grandchildren of the Nisei soldiers. "They are becoming the Nisei soldier's voice," he said. "They will never forget."

Polaris Tours 2015 Schedule

Oct. 04 ~ Oct. 14	Let's Go Hokkaido: "Sapporo, Sounkyo, Shiretoko, Tomamu, Toyako"
Oct. 08 ~ Oct. 19	Jewels of Morocco: "Casablanca, Fez, Erfoud, Ouarzazate, Marrakesh"
Oct. 18 ~ Oct. 27	Autumn Japan: "Hiroshima, Kyoto, Kanazawa, Takayama, Tokyo"
Oct. 19 ~ Nov. 01	Italy: "Rome, Pisa, Florence, Milan, Venice, Capri, Amalfi Coast, Pompeii"
Oct. 22 ~ Nov. 02	South Korea (West Coast): "Jeonju, Yeosu, Gwangju, Boseong, Jeju"
Nov. 01 ~ Nov. 11	Islands of Okinawa & Shikoku: "Naha, Takamatsu, Matsuyama, Kochi"
Nov. 30 ~ Dec. 10	South America Escape: "Rio de Janeiro, Iguassu Falls, Buenos Aires"



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OCTOBER 2015



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RAICES CONFERENCE ON 'THE NEW AMERICAN: INTERNMENT CAMPS' Features JACLers

The nonprofit organization welcomes JACLers to speak at its two-day event.

RAICES (Refugee and Immigrant Center for Education and Legal Services), a nearly 30-year-old nonprofit organization dedicated to providing low cost or pro bono legal services to immigrants and refugees, hosted a conference titled "The New American: Internment Camps — A Closer Look at 'Family Detention'" at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas, on Sept. 4-5, and among its invited speakers were several JACL members from across the country.

Approximately 100 attendees representing faith groups, academics, immigration activists, community groups — all those interested in helping immigrant detainees — participated in the two-day conference, which was headed by RAICES Executive Director Jonathan Ryan.

Since the conference's theme drew comparisons of World War II Nikkei incarceration and present-day refugee detainees, conference organizers invited JACL speakers to participate in it.

The conference's first panel addressed the historical perspective of family incarceration, which featured Hiro Nishikawa from the Philadelphia JACL Speaker's Bureau.

Using slides of archival photos from Poston, Ariz., where he was incarcerated as a 4-year-old child, Nishikawa showed what life was like inside the camp. Images of bath facilities, the infirmary, baseball field, funerals and other pictures depicting everyday life were shown, and Nishikawa also provided commentary on the trauma and impact on family dynamics that life in camp had on its occupants.

"As a 5-year-old kid suffering from Chick-enpox in the summer of 1943 in a Poston, Ariz., barrack, I could not imagine attending a conference about detention of women and children refugees in Texas in 90-plus-degree

weather in 2015. Despite the passage of eight decades, Carl Takei's descriptions of the inside of Dilley (detention center) made me remember 'scratching away,'" Nishikawa recollected. "Dr. Satsuki Ina's discussion on the 'trauma of captivity' made me remember hearing as a kid, the word 'suicide' — because Mr. So and So (an older bachelor) was found hanging by his neck from a rafter in his barrack room. The conference organizers were quite insightful in drawing parallels between the Nikkei WWII camp experience and the current detention of migrant refugees from Central America. The conclusion was: These facilities need to be closed down — soon."

Given the misleading use of "internment" by the U.S. government during WWII, the "Power of Words Handbook," published by the JACL, was also distributed to conference attendees to help them understand the history more precisely.

The event's next panel focused on what happens to families behind bars. Satsuki Ina, a retired professor from California State University, Sacramento, and a psycho-therapist in treating trauma, discussed the

"trauma of captivity."

As one born in Topaz, Utah, Ina pointed out that the trauma suffered by Nikkei during incarceration without legal justification has been seen in Central American women and children detained recently.

Ina also mentioned that today's political and economic rationale to justify incarceration is adding insult to injury for those seeking protection from harm. She concluded by saying that seeking asylum is not a crime.

In a panel comprised of lawyers fighting back with activism and community engagement, Carl Takei, a Yonsei staff attorney at the National Prison Project of the American Civil Liberties Union, shared his recent (May 2015) experience in visiting the Dilley, Texas, detention camp as part of a NGO (nongovernment organization) team to interview mothers in detention.

Cameras were not allowed inside the detention center, and Takei commented on his frustration with the misleading images available from the Corrections Corp. of America, which owns and operates the Dilley facility.

The CCA images (pleasant, homelike setting) did not reflect the reality he saw inside

RSVP to Attend - New American "Internment Camps": A Closer Look at "Family Detention"



For over a year, the Obama Administration has been imprisoning asylum seeking mothers and children in three different "family residential centers." Despite claims by ICE that they care for the "health, safety, and care" of those families, reports of medical abuses, inadequate education, limited access to legal counsel, and mistreatment emerge from these detention centers daily. The current incarceration of families reckons back to a time of incarceration of Japanese Americans in so-called "internment camps."



(From left) Carl Takei, Jonathan Ryan, Satsuki Ina and Hiro Nishikawa

the Dilley center. By showing his own hand-drawn sketches and photos of Manzanar barrack interiors, Takei conveyed his observations of Dilley.

He also urged the importance of getting the voices of the detained mothers and children inside the center out to the world.

The conference concluded with multiple group discussions on how best attendees can take the lessons learned and proceed to the next steps of seeking action with lawyers, community activists and faith-based organizations.

In a statement released by JACL on June 4, "The Japanese American Citizens League renews its call on the Department of Homeland Security to end its family detention program that has led to the building of detention facilities for women and children in remote and desolate places such as Dilley and Karnes in Texas and Artesia in New Mexico."

The statement went on to mention that "last September, JACL joined with numerous organizations in condemning the opening of additional facilities used to detain families who fled violence in Central America seeking asylum in the United States. JACL questions this tactic of using detention to deter individuals from seeking asylum in the United States to escape violence."

— **Hiro Nishikawa, Philadelphia Chapter**
with additional reporting by the P.C.

GOOD LUCK SOUP INTERACTIVE SET TO LAUNCH

The community storytelling project and interactive documentary focuses on the post-WWII experience of Japanese North Americans

SAVANNAH, GA — Filmmaker and Georgia Southern University Assistant Professor Matthew Hashiguchi and his team announce the launch of Good Luck Soup Interactive, a documentary revealing the Japanese American and Japanese Canadian experience from the end of the World War II internment camps until the present day. The interactive documentary can be experienced on any web-connected computer, tablet or mobile device.

Good Luck Soup Interactive utilizes the power of the Internet, new

media and web interactivity to not only tell this story but also create a community storytelling approach.

Those with Japanese American or Japanese Canadian backgrounds are able to share their own cultural experiences through the site's submission form.

The individual stories from different generations, people and places are then organized into a series of seven chapters within the interactive website and when viewed together reflect the universal themes of immigration, integra-

tion and identity from the perspective of Japanese North Americans.

The accessibility and interactivity of the Internet allows Hashiguchi and his team the ability to showcase and update the diverse experience of those with Japanese ancestry, from past to present, and to educate a broad audience on their unique history and changing identity within North American culture.

Good Luck Soup Interactive continually compiles this shared experience by actively collecting sto-

ries, photographs and information through self-uploaded submissions and curated content.

It is the first part of a transmedia documentary project that includes both a feature-length film ("Good Luck Soup") and a web-based interactive documentary (Good Luck Soup Interactive).

The film will be released in 2016 and focuses on one Japanese American family's experiences as Japanese Americans in the Midwest following World War II.

Good Luck Soup Interactive can be accessed by visiting www.goodlucksoup.com.



The documentary "Good Luck Soup" is set to be released next year. It focuses on one Japanese American family in the Midwest following World War II.

A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS

CALENDAR

NCWNP

Expression of Courage — HATWALK 2015

San Jose, CA

Nov. 21; 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Pagoda Lounge, Fairmont Hotel
170 S. Market St.

The Asian American Cancer Support Network Organization brings the community together for a Hatwalk to learn about the resources available and fundraise for those affected by cancer. The showcase is in collaboration with Allison Gryphon and the Why? Foundation.

Info: Visit www.aacsn.org.

San Francisco APILO/AABA Clinic

San Francisco, CA

Nov. 25; 5:45-8 p.m.

UC Hastings School of Law
100 McAllister St.

The Asian American Bar Assn. in the Greater Bay Area is hosting its monthly clinic with the Asian Pacific Islander Legal Outreach. The clinic serves to ensure low-income Bay Area residents receive free legal information and advice from AABA volunteers.

Info: Visit <http://www.aaba-bay.com>.

Kimochi Silver Bells: Arts, Crafts and Food Fair

San Francisco, CA

Dec. 12; 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

St. Mary's Cathedral
1111 Gough St.

Price: Free

Don't miss this one-stop shopping event for all your holiday gifts at the annual Kimochi Silver Bells event. This all-day event will feature Asian- and Pacific Islander-themed arts, crafts and foods from more than 90 vendors. Vendors include the Soap Nymph, Jade Chocolates, Beefy & Co., Pigs Fly, Sente, Patricia Jeong and Totally Oishii.

Info: Visit www.kimochi-inc.org, call (415) 931-2294 or email kimochikai@kimochi-inc.org.

PSW

'Taking Risks, Changing the Game'

Las Vegas, NV

Jan. 28-29; 6:30-7 p.m.

The Venetian Hotel
33555 S. Las Vegas Blvd.

The Asian American Business Development Center brings this event that encourages Asian American businesses to be more active on issues that affect them in government. Major themes will come together at the Roundtable Idea Labs, offering new ways to advance businesses and development.

Info: Call (212) 966-0100 or email info@aabusinessroundtable.org.

EDC

NAAAP DC Symposium: Future-Proofing Asian Professionals

Washington, D.C.

Nov. 7; 7 a.m.-6:45 p.m.

Washington Center
1005 Third St. N.E.

The National Association of Asian American Professionals is hosting this all-day event to help Asian Americans be better prepared for their own futures with topics such as workplace environments, diversity in corporate American and immigration law and financial strategies. Info: Visit <http://www.naaapdc.org/symposium-2015/>.

'Allegiance'

New York, NY

Nov. 8

Longacre Theatre
220 W. 48th St.

George Takei's "Allegiance" is a dramatic musical that tells the story of siblings Sammy and Kei Kimura. Together, they face the challenges and struggles of the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II. Info: Visit www.allegiancemusical.com.

Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival

Philadelphia, PA

Nov. 12-22; 6-11 p.m.

International House of
Philadelphia

3701 Chestnut

Price: Tickets vary

The Philadelphia Asian American Film Festival welcomes its eighth annual film festival this year. Over 11 days, the festival will include 20 film screenings, speaker panels, cooking events and special events. Each will highlight guests from today's most popular Asian American filmmakers, actors and directors.

Info: Visit www.paaff.org.

ASPIRE Forum: Who Am I? Boston, MA

Nov. 14; 1-5 p.m.

Simmons College
300 Fenway

The Asian Sisters Participating in Researching Excellence (ASPIRE) hosts this forum event to inspire Asian American female students in high school and college. The evening hopes to engage guests on a number of topics regarding their identity and improve their coping skills, self-confidence, mental and career outlook.

Info: Email info@girlsaspire.org.

MDC

EXPO ASIAN 2015

Plano, Texas

Oct. 20; 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Marriott Legacy Town Center
7121 Bishop Road

The Greater Dallas Asian American Chamber of Commerce is hosting the annual Business Expo, with "Divinity Diversity" as its theme. The expo allows attendees to experience the world of business within Texas for Asian Americans. Participants will also be able to interact with state lawmakers.

Info: Email Irma@gdaacc.com or call (972) 241-8250.

Asian American Voices: Power in Unity

Chicago, IL

Oct. 27; 5-8 p.m.

New Furama Restaurant
2828 S. Wentworth Ave.

The Chinese Mutual Aid Assn. hosts its 34th annual Dinner Gala, celebrating the goals and visions of the organization in and around the Chicago area.

Info: Email michellew@chinesemutualaid.org or call (773) 784-2900.

NAPABA Convention

New Orleans, LA

Nov. 5-8

Hilton New Orleans
2 Poydras St.

The National Asian Pacific American Bar Assn. is hosting its National Convention in New Orleans this year. The convention will engage in legislative and policy advocacy. In particular, the event will promote APA political leadership and the legal community at large.

Info: Visit www.napaba.org or call (202) 775-9555.

Eighth Annual Austin Texas Asian American Film Festival

Austin, TX

Nov. 12-15; 7-10 p.m.

Marchesa Hall and Theatre

6226 Middle Fiskville Road
Price: Early Bird Pass \$35 and Standard Pass \$45

The Austin Asian American Film Festival showcases the best in Asian and Asian American Cinema in order to celebrate communities, entertain and enlighten the public and creative talents of AAPI artists. Among the films to be showcased are "Seoul Searching," "The Killing Fields of Dr. Haing S. Ngor" and "Atomic Heart."

Info: Visit <http://aaafilmfest.com/contact/>.

Asian American Pacific Islander Health Summit

Houston, TX

Nov. 20; 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Rice BioScience Research
Collaborative
6500 Main

This year's summit will be geared toward helping guests understand

and recognize AAPI health issues and concerns. Topics during the summit include health, elderly health, health data gap and immigrant health. Info: Call (832) 393-4738 or email Beverly.gov@houstontx.gov.

PNW

Hello! Exploring the Supercute World of Hello Kitty

Seattle, WA

Nov. 14

Experience Music Project
Museum

325 Fifth Ave. N.

The Experience Music Project Museum will be hosting the "Hello! Exploring the Supercute World of Hello Kitty" exhibit this fall. The event will display the world of Hello Kitty and how it transformed America, blending Japanese and American cultures together. The program will also help celebrate Hello Kitty's 40th anniversary celebration.

Info: Call (216) 770-2700 or email experience@EMPmuseum.org.

20th Annual Japanese American New Year Celebrations Mochitsuki

Portland, WA

Jan. 31

Portland State University

1825 S.W. Broadway
Portland's annual Japanese New Year celebration has been going on since 1996. The goal of Mochitsuki is to celebrate tradition by sharing Japanese and Japanese American culture.

Info: Visit www.mochipdx.org.

ADVERTISE HERE

Events in the calendar section are listed based on space availability. Place a 'Spotlight' ad with photos of your event for maximum exposure.

FOR MORE INFO:
tiffany@pacificcitizen.org
(213) 620-1767



Memoriam

Aoki, Dave Yukio, 86;



Gardena, CA; Sept. 9; he was predeceased by his wife, Bessie "Boots" Wong; he is survived by his children, Brenda Aoki, Laura Ishikawa, Donna Yamada, Lisa Toailoa, Theresa Pereira and David Aoki Jr.; sister, Ester Kuratani; brother, Huch Aoki; gc: 14.

Arase, Paul, 94;



Torrance, CA; Aug. 26; he was a MIS veteran of WWII; he is survived by his companion, Shirley Shishido; son, Randal (Shinko) Arase; gc: 2; ggc: 1.

Ariyasu, Chiyeko Maxine, 90; Los Angeles, CA; Aug. 8; she was predeceased by her husband, Jim Masaru Ariyasu; son, Bruce Ariyasu; sister, Miyeko Wakano; sister, Misako Miyake; daughter-in-law, Beverly Ariyasu; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 1.

Egusa, Morey, 95; Stockton, CA;



Aug. 20; he was predeceased by his wife, Michie; son, Don; he is survived by his sons, Bob (Jeanne) and Jay; sister, Matsumi Hada; gc: 2.

Eto, Yoshiaki, 92; Los Angeles, CA; Sept. 25; he is survived by his wife, Mieke Eto; children, Takashi (Midori), Hiroshi (Mitsuko) and Isao Eto; sister, Nobuko Shibata; gc: 4.

Fugami, Caryn Taka, 63; Long Beach, CA; Sept. 14; she is survived by her husband, Clyde Fugami; siblings, Jo Ann Kaba, Gary Taka and Barbara Serhal; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Fukunaga, Tsutomu, 91; Los Angeles, CA; Sept. 10; he is survived by his goddaughter, Laura Quan; family members, Robert, Jennifer and Jonathan Quan; he was predeceased by his parents, Chikamatsu and Ichi Wakida Fukunaga.

Goya, Iris Itsumi, 88;



Gardena, CA; Sept. 8; she is survived by her husband, Masao Goya; brother, Kenneth Ishida; nephews, Harold and Gordon Murai; she is also survived by many other family and friends.

Haramoto, Sumi, 88; Gardena, CA; Sept. 14; she is survived by her sister, Sachiko Tsutsui; brother-in-law, Terumi Mitsuda; nephew and nieces, Minoru (Masumi), Midori Mitsuda and Asami (Alex) Engelman; she is also survived by many other relatives.

Higa, Edward Kiyoshi, 80;



Azusa, CA; Sept. 7; he is survived by his wife, Kimiko Higa; children, Larry (Patty) Higa, Kimberly (John) Carter, Kevin and Kenneth Higa; siblings, Tamiko Sukimoto, Kei (JoAnn) Higa and Kaz

(Harvey) Lane; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 5.

Higa, Kiyotaka 'Peter,' 83; Monterey Park, CA; Sept. 17; he was a WWII veteran; he is survived by his children, Irene Chunglo, Adienne (Davis) Doi, Gregory Ito, Emily Kanemaru, Bradley "Tom" (Anna), Jason and Roger (Grace) Ito; sister, Haruko Cullum; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 7.

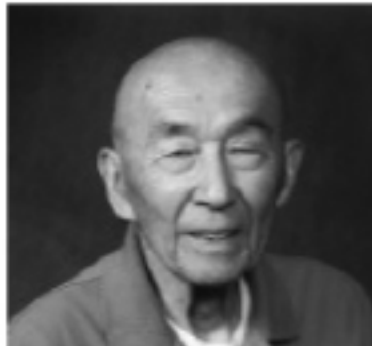
Ikegami, Toshiko, 89; Gardena, CA; Sept. 15; he is survived by his wife, Taiko Ikegami; sons, Hideyuki Brian Ikegami and Eijiro Scott (Mikiko) Ikegami; gc: 2.

Ito, Masaru, 95; Anaheim, CA;



Aug. 6; he is survived by his wife, Haruko Higa; children, Scott (Susan), Ben and Megumi Higa; siblings, Yasuko (Jihei) Kishimoto, Masanao, Michiko and Hitoshi (Yumiko) Higa; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 2.

Jinde, Seichi, 91;



Los Angeles, CA; Sept. 20; he is survived by his children, Bonnie (Glenn) Watje, Iris (Wilbur) Takashima and Joyce (Kirk)

Edson; sisters, Jeanne (Ben) Chomori and Emi Jinde; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 8; ggc: 9.

Kimura, Yoshiko, 92; Burbank, CA; Sept. 20; she is survived by her children, Susan (Peter) Hom, Janis (Henry) Banuelos, Dennis (Lorraine) and Ronald (Lisa) Kimura; she is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 9.

Morita, Yoshiko, 94;



Culver City, CA; Sept. 12; she was predeceased by her husband, Masanori "Sam" Morita; daughters, Carleen Morita Sagara and Noriko Morita; she is survived by her son, Herbert (Carol) Morita; daughters, Beverly (Donald) Ikeda and Nancy (Roy) Uyeda; gc: 13; ggc: 6.

Nakama, Helen Hifumi, 79; Los Angeles, CA; Sept. 15; she is survived by her loving daughters, Stacie and Lori Nakama; sisters, Janet Matsumoto and Emiko Okanashi; she is also survived by nieces, nephews and other relatives.

Ozaki, Bill Saburo, 91; San Dimas, CA; Sept. 14; he is survived by his sons, Robert (Masako) and Glenn (Jill) Ozaki; gc: 6; ggc: 9.

Sugita, Choyo, 89; Fullerton, CA; Aug. 3; he is survived by his daughters, Sherrie (Robert) Henson, Susan Reed and Ellyn (Steven) Mori; son, Craig Sugita; siblings, Akira Sugita and Takako Yamashiro; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 5.

Takayasu, Takeo, 84; Gardena, CA; Sept. 10; he is survived by his wife, Kazuko; daughter, Midori Nishikawa; siblings, Kenyu (Yoshiko) and Seiko (Katsuko) Takayasu, Kyoko (Tokuta) Maeshiro and Kensho Takayasu; he is also survived by many great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 3.

Tamae, Grace Takeko, 84; Gardena, CA; Aug. 11; she is survived by her son, Vincent (Elaine) Tamae; sister, Yuriko Unten; brothers-in-law, Seiki (Yoko) and Robert (Lisa) Tamae; sister-in-law, Clara Uyema and Betty (Seizu) Ganeku; she is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 1.

Tanaka, Fred, 96; Cerritos, CA; Sept. 15; he is survived by his wife, Joyce Tanaka; children, John Tanaka and Traci (Matthew) Hall; sister, Rose Nakamura; sister-in-law, May Tanaka; brother-in-law, Paul Yamamoto; he is also survived by many nieces, nephews and other relatives; gc: 2.

Toji, Robert Kazunobu, 93; Los Angeles, CA; Aug. 9; he is survived by his wife, Suzanne Mayumi Toji; children, Marcus Mamoru Toji, Jared and Kirk Nishikawa; siblings, Dean (Gisele) Toji, Suzanne (Michael) Tobin and Gail Finney; sister-in-law, Jamie (Tim) Tostubo; he is also survived by many other relatives and friends.

Yano, Masakazu 'Mas,' 92; Ontario, OR; Aug. 4; he was predeceased by his wife, Harumi Yano; son, David; brother, Yukio; sister-in-law, Mary; parents, Masayuki Yano and Yoshiko Kayahara; he is survived by his children, Ron Yano, Betty (Yano) Goding and Dick Yano; brothers, Terou, Shero, Hesa and Jimmy Kayahara; gc: 9; ggc: 3.

CORRECTION

Maruki, Dennis Noboru, died at 71 and is survived by his wife, Tanikawa "Aileen" Maruki.

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CONVERSATIONS >> continued from page 3

Another solution is just to be aware. A sign that says "Women" on it does not make that restroom safe for women, just like a sign that says "Men" does not make the restroom safe for little boys. We must all be vigilant and aware to keep ourselves and our children safe.

Actually, I think having gender-neutral bathrooms could be a safe solution. Fathers can take their daughters and mothers can take their sons into gender-neutral bathrooms and not feel like their children are too old to be with them. I always worried when my son got to be the age where it was uncomfortable for me to take him into the women's restroom, and so I would wait nervously outside the men's restroom for him to emerge safely.

Fear is a very overpowering feeling. People use fear to control others, and that fear creates stories that swirl in our heads and moves us from a place of compassion and humanity. The only way that I was able to overcome the fear that entered my life when Aiden came out as lesbian, then transgender,

was to learn more about the subject I feared, so I could make a decision on who I was going to be. I moved toward the fear and gathered the facts rather than jump to conclusions. I wanted to make informed decisions, not ones based in fear.

Do you want to know more about being transgender, this bathroom initiative or the LGBT community? Please reach out to me (maizumi8888@gmail.com) or someone at work or school to have a real conversation.

Let's talk about our fears and learn the facts so that we don't perpetuate myths and stereotypes that are untrue and make our world less humane. WE can find our voices by courageously using them. The world will not change with silence . . . only with courage and only with love.

Marsha Aizumi is an advocate in the LGBT community and the author of the book "Two Spirits, One Heart: A Mother, Her Transgender Son and Their Journey to Love and Acceptance."

HOMEWORK >> continued from page 3

When we try to shield ourselves from ideas or opinions that differ from our own, we run the risk of cementing personal suspicion into certainty, and inking into fact. How Grasso expects to learn anything in the next four years at a university as elite and demanding as Duke is beyond me.

The ability to take points of view not necessarily aligned, or even totally misaligned, with your own into consideration is crucial to existing in a fluctuating, complicated world. How can we ever grow intellectually without being exposed to new ideas that challenge or displace our existing ones?

Grasso's case is not an isolated incident — just a few weeks after the Duke controversy, a student at another North Carolina university — this time the University of North Carolina — indicted his school's administration for its choice of readings in a course on the Sept. 11 attacks.

Freshman Alec Dent (note, a freshman, again) claimed that the course's booklist was "sympathetic towards terrorists." Yet once



Alison Bechdel's graphic memoir "Fun Home" spent time at No. 1 on the *New York Times*' best seller list.

again, Dent had neither read the books in question, nor taken the course.

But in an article written for the news website *The College Fix*, Dent assured us that "you don't have to read 'Poems From Guantanamo' to realize they're sympa-

thetic to the prisoners there." This intransigence would be laughable if it wasn't so pervasive.

Reading "Fun Home" won't turn you into a lesbian any more than reading "Poems From Guantanamo" will turn you into a terrorist. What reading "Fun Home" might do though is reveal the difficulty, but also the necessity, of no longer repudiating who you truly are, a struggle not unique to the LGBT community but rather one that all of us — gay, straight, what have you — can relate to and learn from.

Reading "Poems From Guantanamo" might show us that no matter what you've been accused of, or who you've been made out to be, everyone deserves to be treated as a human being and that injustice committed for justice's sake is still injustice.

Worst of all, reading "Fun Home" and "Poems From Guantanamo" might show us that we're wrong. Imagine that.

Matthew Ormseth is currently a student at Cornell University majoring in English. He seeks to give an honest portrayal of life as both a university student and member of the Millennial generation.

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