

OCT. 21-NOV. 3, 2011



# PACIFIC CITIZEN

COMEDIAN RANDALL PARK PAGE 9



## HEART MOUNTAIN IN PHOTOS

Photos taken by Frank and George  
Hirahara tell heartfelt stories.

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PHOTOS COURTESY OF WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY



Children  
of 'tiger  
parents'  
sound off.

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**APAs  
becoming  
citizens.**

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# JACL Holds Successful 2011 National Gala



(L-r) David Kawamoto, JACL national president, honoree Wat Misaka and Floyd Mori, JACL national director.

first person of color to play in the NBA; Don Wakamatsu, the first Asian Pacific American to become a major league baseball manager, Cappy Harada (posthumously), who contributed to diversity in the MLB; the Hon. Eni Faleomavaega, a strong supporter of diversity; and Comcast/NBC, a corporate partner committed to

diversity and support of organizations such as the JACL.

AT&T and Eli Lilly were diamond-level sponsors of the gala. Other sponsors included: Comcast, Southwest Airlines, AARP, Aratani Foundation, UPS, Norman and Deni Mineta, National Education Association, U.S. Navy, OHA/Office of Hawaiian Affairs, David and Carol Kawamoto, Annie E. Casey Foundation, George and Nobuko Azumano and GEICO.

Groups that purchased tables or made significant donations were: the University of Maryland Asian American Studies Program, JACL Eastern District Council, Washington, D.C. JACL, Japanese American Veterans Association, Caesar's Entertainment, Dr. Craig Uchida, John Tagami and Roberto Llamas, UNITEHERE, Red Cross, Paramount, CBS, Larry and Anne Oda and Donna Cole.

JACL national board members in attendance included David Kawamoto, national president; Gail Sueki, vice president for general operations; David Lin, vice president for membership and services; Larry Oda, secretary treasurer; Toshi Abe, EDC district governor; Chip Larouche, PNW district governor; and Stephanie Nitahara, MDC district governor.

Past JACL national presidents who attended the gala were: Oda, Lillian Kimura, and Floyd Mori.

"The gala has given the JACL the opportunity to honor some outstanding individuals, members of Congress, and corporations who have contributed to diversity and have made it a better world for all of us and our posterity," said Mori. ■

The JACL held its fifth annual gala event Sept. 29 in Washington, D.C.

Norman Y. Mineta, former U.S. secretary of transportation, served as honorary chairman of the event.

The gala, themed a "Salute to Champions," honors outstanding individuals who have contributed to JACL's mission. This year, the honorees were individuals who broke barriers in athletics.

Awards were presented to: Wat Misaka, the

## COMMENTARY

# JACL National Board Seeks Director Applicants

By Gail Sueki



With Floyd Mori stepping down as JACL national director at the end of this year, the JACL wishes Floyd well on his future endeavors as we assess changes that will bring challenges but will also bring opportunities for improvement.

To determine the key qualities needed for our future national director, the national board was asked to rank certain qualities from highest to lowest. That list was compiled and the top results were the following: program planning and management; knowledge of JACL; corporate fundraising; organizational management; personnel management; and financial management including budgeting and projections.

The priorities outlined by the national board show a high desire for improvement in the basic tenets of running a highly effective organization. Towards that end, I am heading up two major components to fulfill the road to better organizational management.

The first major element is overseeing the process of hiring our next national director. The second of these areas is implementing the process of reviewing our operations via the completion of yearly reviews of our national director, *Pacific Citizen* editor and our staff. I'll write more on reviews in a future column.

The process of hiring a national director involves three key steps:

1. Identifying key skills and characteristics for the next national director;
2. Organizing the personnel committee and

determining the selection committee and process; and

3. Getting the word out.

The national board has the final decision in hiring the national director.

The first step in this process of identifying key skills and characteristics for the next national director is largely complete. The factors, listed above, along with additional criteria from the personnel committee and the national board will form the basis of our selection focus.

The second step involves the personnel committee who is tasked to review candidates to make a recommendation to the national board.

The personnel committee is composed of the vice president for general operations - chair, *Pacific Citizen* editor (Caroline Aoyagi-Stom), governor's caucus chair (Chip LaRouche - PNW), national director (Floyd Mori), staff representative (Bill Yoshino - MDC regional director), three delegates-at-large (Judith Aono, Betsy Sato and Milo Yoshino), president - ex-officio (David Kawamoto) and legal counsel - ex-officio (Floyd Shimomura).

Finally, the last key step is getting the word out. Please think about potential candidates who may be interested in being our future national director. The best candidates will likely learn about

the position through word of mouth, so while the board has been recruiting, we are also relying on the membership to spread the word.

We appreciate the support and efforts of our members and friends. We are proud of our accomplishments and look forward to bigger and better things in the future. ■

*Gail Sueki is the national JACL vice president for general operations.*

## JACL NAT'L DIRECTOR JOB DESCRIPTION

### DUTIES:

The national director shall administer the affairs of the organization and shall implement the policies of the national council as directed by the national board and shall be directly accountable to the national board through the president.

The national director shall supervise the national headquarters and all staff members, with the exception of the editor/general manager of the *Pacific Citizen* and *Pacific Citizen* staff.

### LOCATION:

The JACL national headquarters is located in San Francisco. The position may be based out of a currently existing regional office in San Francisco, Seattle, Chicago, Washington, D.C. or Los Angeles.

### COMPENSATION:

Commensurate with qualifications and experience.

### APPLICATION PROCESS:

Please send a CV/résumé, cover letter and application to the vice president for operations at [vpoperations@jacl.org](mailto:vpoperations@jacl.org).

The application can be found on the JACL website at [www.jacl.org](http://www.jacl.org).

**The application filing deadline is Nov. 14, 2011, 5 p.m. PST.**

The JACL is an EOE.

**'The best candidates will likely learn about the position through word of mouth, so while the board has been recruiting, we are also relying on the membership to spread the word.'**

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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. 1st Street, 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 Kawamoto  
National Director: Floyd Mori

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Periodicals paid at Los Angeles, Calif and mailing office.

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Allow 6 weeks for address changes.

To avoid interruptions in delivery, please notify your postmaster to include periodicals in your change of address (USPS Form 3575)

# Hirahara Collection of Heart Mountain Photos Worth a Thousand Words

**Patti Hirahara donated what is said to be the largest collection of Heart Mountain photographs.**

**By Nalea J. Ko  
Reporter**

From his home in Anaheim, Calif. Tom Hide, 84, recalls images of everyday life at Heart Mountain during World War II. His memories are still crisp in his mind of the time when his family — including his brother, two sisters and parents — left their home in Yakima Valley, Wash. for the internment camp in Wyoming.

The Japanese American remembers his boyish joy of not having to do chores at camp, playing softball games with Block 15, city boys picking fights with country boys, and teenager girls sneaking behind the latrines to meet boys.

But he also has memories of the hardships endured by the Issei, or first generation JAs, who saw the erosion of their family life in the camp setting. He recalls seeing the Issei struggle with camp life, many of whom lost their businesses and homes following the bombing of Pearl Harbor.

These memories are preserved in black and white images stored in Hide's photo album. Hide's lifelong friend Frank Hirahara, who was born and raised in Yakima Valley, took some of those photos in Hide's personal photo album.

"Like they always say: photos are worth a thousand words. So it's always nice to have photos," Hide said with a laugh.

A far larger collection of over 2,000 Heart Mountain images taken from 1942 to 1945 by Frank Hirahara and his father, George, was donated in September to Washington State University, or WSU. The donation, which was gifted by Frank's daughter Patti, is said to be the largest collection of Heart Mountain images.

"Everybody keeps saying it's our history, but it's not. It's the history of all those internees at Heart Mountain from 1942 to 1945," said 56-year-old Patti Hirahara. "It's more important that it be given out for everyone to see. I would be selfish to keep it."

With the help of a National Park Service grant of \$49,217, an online database with about half of the photos will be available online in October of 2012. Those handling the collection at the university are scanning the images to start the database.

"It's going to be such a tremendous resource for understanding life at Heart Mountain," said Trevor Bond, head of WSU's manuscripts, archives and special collections.

After her father Frank Hirahara passed away in 2006, Patti Hirahara discovered the boxes of negatives among his belongings. She also discovered many other Hirahara artifacts from the family's days in Yakima Valley.

In a rental van Patti Hirahara and her husband packed up those family artifacts and donated them to Yakima Valley Museum in 2009. They brought with them enough artifacts to create a 2,000-square-foot

exhibit, which will run through 2013.

"My great grandparents and my grandparents are buried in Yakima," Patti Hirahara said. "I think for them they're happy because their possessions are brought back to them."

The Hirahara family took root in Yakima in 1909 when Motokichi Hirahara, Frank's grandfather, relocated there from Japan.

George Hirahara was four years old when his family settled in the United States. He owned and operated the Pacific Hotel, which is still standing, until the outbreak of WWII. In Heart Mountain George Hirahara was a member of the camp's camera club and worked as a "refrigeration man" for the complex.

Under the family's barrack, George Hirahara built a dark room. There the elder Hirahara and his son Frank processed their photo negatives.

Frank Hirahara was photo editor of his high school yearbook in 1944, but only had a budget of \$150. The makeshift darkroom helped Frank Hirahara produce the yearbook with a small budget, Patti Hirahara says of her father.

"My grandfather was very good at carpentry and using his hands. So he would work at night in secret," Patti Hirahara said. "Since he was a refrigeration man in camp that's I think where he got most of the parts and things."

This year Patti Hirahara donated photos processed in her family's makeshift darkroom.

The news of the photo donation inspired other JAs to donate their wartime memorabilia to the collection. Hide donated his track sweater and other curios from around WWII.

"We were both on the track team," Hide said. "Frank and I both earned a sweater that had a '48, which would be the year you would graduate." Another track sweater with Frank Hirahara's name sewn into the tag is also a part of the collection.

As news of Patti Hirahara's photo donation spread, former Heart Mountain internees inquired about the people captured in the images.

Togo Nishiura, 80, was a pre-teen when his family was interned at Heart Mountain. Although he did not know the Hiraharas at camp, Nishiura came to know Patti Hirahara after news broke of her donation.

He e-mailed Patti Hirahara a photo of an *obutsudan*, a religious shrine, built by his grandfather and great uncle in Heart Mountain for Buddhist minister Rev. Tesshin Shibata. Nishiura was hoping to identify the photographer of the image in his possession.

"I received an immediate answer by e-mail. She said that she was looking at the negative of the photo as she wrote!" Nishiura said. "There are several more photos from my grandmother's album related to the Buddhist church which may also be taken by the Hirahara photographers. I look forward to finding them also."

Others contacted Patti Hirahara after hearing about her donation, hoping to locate their relatives who were interned at Heart Mountain in the photographs.

Kenneth Nishiyori, 48, was hoping to find



PHOTO: NALEA J. KO



PHOTO: WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

After her father passed away in 2006, Patti Hirahara (above) discovered boxes of negatives among his belongings. The photos shed light on life in Heart Mountain.

his father's family in some of the Hirahara photographs.

"Unfortunately, she said her records didn't list anyone from my family in the photos," Nishiyori said, adding that he hopes the online database will yield better results. "Although, there are some 2,000 of them and maybe when I see the photos I might be able to pick out someone from the family in the background somewhere."

The photos were stored in envelopes marked with the Heart Mountain barrack numbers. Patti Hirahara says she was unable to find the Nishiyori family barrack number, but there is a chance the family was captured and not identified.

Former internees like Hide helped Patti Hirahara identify some of those in the images.

"She would go through it and then she would bring it over and say, 'who's this? Who's that?'" Hide said. "Her father was taking a lot of pictures, but she didn't know who they are. So she'd bring them over and I'd try to identify them for her."

When the photos go digital in October of 2012, those working on the collection will attempt to identify those in the images.

Patti Hirahara says she felt an urgency to donate the collection this year because many of those who were interned in Heart Mountain are no longer living.

"Since my family's ties here in America ends with me, it's better to give now because once I'm old I won't remember either," Patti Hirahara said. "So it's a good time to be able to tell this story and to talk with people." ■



# Asian American Groups Work to Boost U.S. Citizenship Numbers



Asian Pacific Americans take part in a U.S. citizenship ceremony in Los Angeles Sept. 28.

**Organizations like the Asian Pacific American Legal Center (APALC) are holding free citizenship workshops in California in an effort to help Asian Pacific Islanders become United States citizens.**

By Nalea J. Ko  
Reporter

Cindy Fernando, 34, says she wanted to vote for President Barack Obama in the 2008 election but had not begun the process to become a United States citizen. Now Fernando, who relocated from the Philippines in the 1990s to California and held a green card, is on her way to becoming naturalized.

She passed her citizenship interview Sept. 27 and expects to attend an oath ceremony next month. Fernando, a home health worker, says now she will get a second chance to vote for Obama in the 2012 election.

"I really wanted to vote last election, two years ago," Fernando said. "I'm not American yet legally. But I did really want to participate. I wanted to make sure that I did my part because to me I thought this last election was very important. Unfortunately I couldn't do that."

Fernando is one of many Southern Californian residents who have attended the free citizenship workshops held by the Asian Pacific American Legal Center, APALC.

The workshops are being held in California with the goal of helping Asian Pacific Islanders, and others, who are eligible to become U.S. citizens.

"Just in California alone there's 800,000 APIs that are eligible to become citizens. This is pretty huge in light of the fact that

nationwide 2.9 million APIs are eligible. That's a huge chunk that actually live in our state," said Connie Choi, a staff attorney at APALC. "So there's a huge gap in terms of people who actually applied versus people who are actually eligible to apply."

About 74 percent of newly naturalized citizens in the 2009 fiscal year reside in California, New York, Florida, Texas, New Jersey, Illinois, Virginia, Massachusetts, Washington and Maryland, according to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

The next APALC immigration clinic will be held Nov. 3 in Buena Park, Calif. At the workshops, immigration attorneys are on hand to consult with applicants. In-language resources are also available.

APALC is partnering with seven organizations to hold the workshops. Organizations like the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials (NALEO), International Rescue Committee, Catholic Charities, and others are working together to help eligible immigrants become citizens.

"Asians and Latinos are the two fastest growing communities in California," said Elisa M. Sequeira, NALEO program manager. "After this last census we saw that they're the reason why California keeps growing. As far as legal permanent residents California has 2.3 million legal permanent residents who can apply for citizenship. 1.8 million are either Asian or Latino."

"So we need to make sure that both of our communities are participating and are becoming citizens so that they can have more political power," she added.

U.S. Rep. Judy Chu and California Assemblyman Mike Eng also co-sponsored an Oct. 15 workshop held in El Monte, Calif.

"It's to ensure that people become U.S. citizens if they want to," Eng said about the goal of the workshops. "Many people want to petition relatives, they want to vote, they want to qualify for jobs only a U.S. citizen can qualify for. They want to travel with less difficulty. So this is really a win-win to a lot of them to do that."

Every year about 680,000 citizens are naturalized in ceremonies nationwide and around the world, according to USCIS. The top countries of origin for newly naturalized citizens in the 2009 fiscal year were Mexico, India, Philippines, China and Vietnam.

For many eligible immigrants, without help from community organizations like APALC, the naturalization process can be confusing.

Army Pfc. Vinh Nguyen, 22, came to the U.S. legally with his mother when he was an infant. The resident of Orange, Calif. is of Vietnamese descent, but was born in the Philippines.

The 22-year-old says he filled out his naturalization form in 2009, but was not naturalized until Oct. 13 because

his paperwork was misrouted and other problems.

Nguyen, who is part of the ROTC program at Cal State Long Beach, said telling his story in an article published in the *Orange County Register* on Sept. 29 helped speed up his citizenship process, among other things.

"It was more relieving than anything," Nguyen said of the ceremony held in Los Angeles on Oct. 13.

Nguyen celebrated his citizenship with a dinner at Black Angus steakhouse. A U.S. Army reservist, Nguyen says he looks forward to voting in the next presidential election.

"I think voting is the most important thing you can do to serve your country, have your say in the government," Nguyen said.

For others the cost of applying for citizenship can also be a barrier.

"To apply for citizenship it's very expensive. For somebody who is under 75 years old it's \$680. If you're 75 or older it's \$595. It's pretty cost prohibitive," Choi said.

Applicants can apply for a fee waiver based on their inability to pay for immigration services.

For Fernando she says applying for her U.S. citizenship was long overdue.

The Los Angeles resident says she has not told her parents, who are citizens, that she has started the process to becoming naturalized.

She hopes to surprise them after attending the naturalization ceremony next month.

"I'm just going to surprise them because my mom probably thought I just put it off again and [was] not listening to her," Fernando said with a laugh.

"I'm just going to wait and see how shocked they are because they have no idea. I told my fiancée, 'Don't tell them until I get it.' I know they'll be proud of me." ■

*'Asians and Latinos are the two fastest growing communities in California. After this last census we saw that they're the reason why California keeps growing.'*

— ELISA M. SEQUEIRA  
NALEO  
PROGRAM MANAGER

# Offspring of 'Tiger Parents' Sound Off

Despite growing up in intense households, many of these so-called 'tiger children' say they will practice this controversial parenting style with their own kids.

By Christine McFadden  
Correspondent

When Masaru Oka, a Shin Nisei or second generation Japanese American, misbehaved as a child, his parents would lock him in the garage.

"Our garage has a door that opens into the dining room area," he said. "Everyone else would be eating dinner and they would lock me in the garage. I would be hollering and kicking the door and demanding to be let out."

This happened often, said Oka, 23, but not because he was what many would call a bad kid. He grew up playing the piano and went on to study at a prestigious university.

Call it tough love — generations of parents who aggressively push their children to reach the pinnacle of excellence.

These parents aren't a recent phenomenon, but earlier this year author and Yale law school professor Amy Chua coined the phrase "tiger mothers" from her book "Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother."

And suddenly the world had a phrase to describe parents who demanded nothing less than perfection, especially in the Asian Pacific American community. Chua argued Asian mothers were superior to "Western parents" in raising stereotypically successful kids.

Despite growing up in intense households, many of these so-called "tiger children" say they will practice this controversial parenting style on their own kids.

"I definitely value the combination of strictness and guidance," said Oka. "You need to be good at something to really like it. You have to build that competency."

## Tiger Parents, Helicopter Parents

"A lot of these things sound terrifying," said Chris, a second generation Vietnamese American who graduated from Yale in 2008, about the strict parenting style.

Chris, who declined to reveal his last name, went to Brunswick High School in Greenwich, Connecticut — Chua's children's rival high school. He started playing piano at the age of four. Family gatherings would often turn into fierce piano competitions between cousins.

Joan Hara, a principal at an Oregon elementary school with a high percentage of APA students, is no stranger to APA "tiger



Chris, a second generation Vietnamese American who graduated from Yale in 2008, started playing the piano at a very young age.

parents." She recently held a workshop for her staff to educate them about Asian culture.

"I think they [tiger parents] have a right to parent their kids the way they feel they should be parented," said Hara. "Who's to say who's right?"

Hara, who is half Japanese and half Chinese, admits she was a "maybe a little bit" of a tiger mom to her son, Alex, 17.

"We wanted Alex to be a well-rounded person, so we got him into music, sports, and made sure he did well academically," she said. "But we also gave him the opportunity to choose what he wanted to do."

While Alex wasn't allowed to quit piano lessons, he was allowed to swim and join a bowling league.

"I just want him to have a happy life, that's all," said Hara. "To be happy and financially independent."

Hara is what Susan Tatsui-D'Arcy, founder and director of Merit Academy, a kindergarten through 12th grade college advisory institution in Soquel, Calif., would classify as an "American Tiger Mom."

She describes it as: "a parenting style that looks at providing the best that you can for your children." Where it departs from the "tiger" parenting path is the encouragement of engaging in the child's passions.

In her new book, "Our Entitled Children: An American Tiger Mom's Story," Tatsui-D'Arcy also describes so-called "helicopter mothers," who constantly hover over their children and prevent them from doing things on their own.

She works as a college admissions counselor and has encountered many tiger parents.

"Sometimes I just say 'You need to stop, this is not okay,'" Tatsui-D'Arcy said about strict parenting practices. "In our society in America it's not healthy and it's not

fair to the student ... It's cruel and unfair to the children. It's like raising a child in Candyland and saying, 'I'm sorry, you can't have candy.'"

A self-classified American tiger mom, Tatsui-D'Arcy has raised her daughters to follow their passions. Both are successful young women — one is a student at Stanford Medical School and the other recently



'I would raise my kids the same way,' said Chris. 'I would be a tiger dad.'

graduated from Claremont McKenna College — who she says were also able to engage in a social life.

When asked if he would become a "tiger dad," Oka admitted that he would definitely use some aspect of the parenting, but was looking for more of a balance, perhaps becoming an American tiger dad.

He wishes he could talk to his parents about more personal aspects of his life.

"I don't think I've ever talked about anything relationship-related to my parents,

ever," he said. "It'd be nice."

Jordan Wu, a second generation Taiwanese American, plays the violin and gets good grades, but says it's not because of his parents.

"Kids should take a little bit of responsibility," said Wu, 17.

He hasn't had a birthday party in eight years and makes his own cake on his birthday. Gifts are not exchanged at Christmas. Instead, Wu buys presents for himself with his own money.

"I'm gearing towards being completely independent," he said.

Oka's parents have also pressured his younger sister, Hiromi, to follow in his footsteps, namely by taking up piano and running track.

"I'm not sure if she actually ever liked it," said Oka.

For Hiromi, 18, piano lessons were a struggle and often led to tears.

"It was kind of a joke that every time she came back from a lesson. We'd ask her, 'Did you cry?'" said Oka. "And then when she did, my dad would be like, 'Why are you crying? You're so weak. Why can't you take it?'"

Hiromi is currently a freshman at Georgetown University, an academic accomplishment in the eyes of many parents.

Others agree with the pure tiger parent stance.

"I agree [with Chua] that Western parents are too sensitive about self-esteem and don't push their kids hard enough," said Ronan Sato, who is currently in his third year at Oxford University.

"Effort and repetition do have an important place in acquiring any skill and you can only pick up that skill by doing it," he said. "And that obviously includes being forced to do it."

Chris agrees.

"I would raise my kids the same way," admitted Chris. "I would be a tiger dad." ■



## Senate Apologizes to Chinese for Past Discrimination

**The resolution now heads to the House where the Speaker says he will not bring the issue to the floor.**

By Pacific Citizen Staff

In a move that harkens back to the Japanese American redress days, the U.S. Senate has passed a resolution that apologizes to the Chinese for the discriminatory laws they once endured in this country, including the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act.

Senate Resolution 201 passed by unanimous consent on Oct. 6. The bill now heads to the House where it will have a more difficult time with Speaker of the House John Boehner, R-Ohio, saying that he will not bring the issue to the floor for discussion.

This "cannot undo the hurt caused by past discrimination against Chinese immigrants, but it is important that we acknowledge the wrongs that were committed many years ago," said Sen. Scott Brown, R-Mass, the lead sponsor of the Senate resolution in an interview with the *Los Angeles Times*.

The companion bill in the House is sponsored by Rep. Judy Chu, D-El Monte, the first Chinese American woman to be elected to Congress whose grandfather was among those Chinese who were forced to face these discriminatory laws.

"The thousands of Chinese Americans around this country with similar family histories will celebrate the passage of the Senate resolution," said Chu to the *Times*. Her

grandfather operated a Chinese restaurant in Watts, working long hours to make ends meet.

The Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 banned Chinese from becoming U.S. citizens and had the effect of halting Chinese immigration to this country for a decade.

The law was eventually repealed in 1943 once China became a U.S. ally during World War II.

The resolution explained that these Chinese workers "faced grueling hours and extremely harsh conditions in order to lay hundreds of miles of track and were paid substandard wages" and without their efforts construction would have been "seriously impeded."

The Senate action is the first time the U.S. has apologized for these discriminatory laws against the Chinese.

The Congress has apologized before including to Japanese Americans for their forced incarceration during WWII.

The current Senate resolution does not include any monetary payments for the Chinese.

"History can be an important teacher to present and future generations. Because Chinese American and Asian American history has been ignored by most historians, this is a milestone in bringing to American minds that bias and prejudice may create decades of pain and suffering," said Floyd Mori, JACL national director. "This is a significant reminder of a chapter in American history that needs to be understood." ■



## Bilingual Voting Ballots Ordered in 25 States

**Included among the changes are increased assistance for the Indian, Vietnamese and Taiwanese communities.**

By Associated Press and Pacific Citizen

WASHINGTON—In the run-up to the 2012 elections, the federal government is ordering that 248 counties and other political jurisdictions provide bilingual ballots to Hispanics and other minorities who speak little or no English.

That number is down from a decade ago following the 2000 census, which covered 296 counties in 30 states. In all, more than 1 in 18 jurisdictions must now provide foreign-language assistance in pre-election publicity, voter registration, early voting and absentee applications as well as Election Day balloting.

The latest requirements, mandated under the Voting Rights Act, partly reflect second and third generations of racial and ethnic minorities who are now reporting higher levels of proficiency in English than their parents. Still, analysts cite a greater potential for resistance from localities that face tighter budgets, new laws requiring voter IDs at polls and increased anti-immigration sentiment.

For the first time, people from India will get election material in their native language in voting precincts in Los Angeles, Chicago and New York due to their fast population growth. Vietnamese and Taiwanese will get their own voting assistance in several new areas, including parts of Washington state, Texas, Massachusetts and California. Asian Bangladeshi must be provided for the first time in Hamtramck, Mich, which neighbors Detroit.

"We would like to be in a society where everyone has equal opportunities to vote, but that's not the reality we're living in today," said James Thomas Tucker, a former Justice Department attorney who is now a voting rights lawyer in Las Vegas. Tucker

said the law has been key in the election of new Hispanic and Asian officials in many places, even as he noted that a vocal English-only language movement and new budget constraints on local governments could stir fresh tensions.

"Some jurisdictions will see pushback," he said.

The Voting Rights Act provision, first approved by Congress in 1975, requires states, counties and political subdivisions to supply versions of ballots and election materials in other languages if a Latino, AA, American Indian or Alaskan minority group makes up more than 5 percent of the voting-age population or at least 10,000 citizens.

The minorities must be unable to speak or understand English well enough to vote in elections, a proficiency level determined by those who indicate in census surveys that they don't speak English "very well." The minority group also should have literacy rates ranking below the national average.

"Section 203 breaks down language barriers by allowing voters to understand and participate in the election system," said Terry Ao Minnis, director of census and voting programs at the Asian American Justice Center.

Eugene Lee, voting rights project director at the Asian Pacific American Legal Center, noted the significant impact that language assistance has had on voting and the election of AAs in places such as California.

In Los Angeles County, officials will now be required to offer materials in Cambodian and Asian Indian languages in addition to Spanish, Chinese, Filipino, Japanese, Korean and Vietnamese.

The language requirements already have drawn fire from some Republicans, who complain they are too burdensome on local governments.

The continuing demands for bilingual balloting come at a time when residents in the U.S. are increasingly likely to speak a language other than English at home, but who are also now more likely to have lived in the U.S. for at least a decade and be naturalized citizens who vote. ■

### NEW BOOK NOW AVAILABLE!

*Our Entitled Children:*

AN AMERICAN TIGER MOM'S

*Story*

By Susan Tatsui-D'Arcy

This is a book about how a mother helped her daughters get into Stanford and Claremont McKenna, without being a Tiger Mom. It's a reflection on how our children became so entitled, and what we can do to fix it. A story of how an American Tiger Mom prepared her children to conquer the world at age eighteen.

*Our Entitled Children: An American Tiger Mom's Story* is available in print (Amazon.com) for \$19.95 and ebook (Kindle, Nook, iBook) for \$9.99.



#### About the author:

Susan Tatsui-D'Arcy, M.A. is the founder & director of Merit Academy, one of the top private schools in the country, as well as the college advisor and time management consultant for Merit Educational Consultants, LLC. She has worked in the education field for more than 30 years.

Her books on education, college admissions, time management, & parenting are all available at [www.meritworld.com](http://www.meritworld.com).

See featured article on Page 5.





(L-r) Manjit Singh, Floyd Mori and Jaideep Singh.

## JACL's Mori Receives SALDEF Award

Floyd Mori, JACL national director, was honored with the Dorothy Height Coalition Building Award at the SALDEF (Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund) National Gala in Washington, D.C. recently.

In addition to his work with SALDEF, Mori has been on the executive council of LCCR (the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights) for the past six years and has also served as chair of NCAPA (National Council of Asian Pacific Americans).

Also honored at the event was Lakhwinder "Rana" Singh Sodhi who was presented with the Bhagat Singh Third Community Empowerment Award. Sodhi's two brothers were murdered after 9/11 and he has worked to

educate fellow Americans in preventing hate crimes.

Naindeep Singh received the SALDEF Youth Leadership Award.

Although not in attendance, former Sec. of Transportation Norman Mineta was awarded the SALDEF Public Service Award for his contributions to the betterment of society.

Sen. Dick Durbin, D-IL, was honored with the Dalip Singh Saund Legislative Leadership Award.

Mori represented national JACL at the funeral for Surinder Singh, a Sikh man who was fatally gunned down in a Sacramento suburb while walking with his friend, Gurmej Atwal, who also died. ■

## Groups Propose 'Unity Map' for NYC Redistricting

The map accounts for the growth of Asian Americans, who now account for 13 percent of the city's population.

By Cristian Salazar  
Associated Press

NEW YORK—Civil rights groups working to protect the voting rights of blacks, Latinos and Asian Americans say they have a vision for redrawing state legislative districts in the city to reflect the demographic changes of their communities.

Calling it a "unity map" for new state Assembly and state Senate districts, the groups unveiled a proposal Oct. 4 in a bid to shape the debate surrounding how election lines are redrawn.

"We now have clear indications of where there has been tremendous expansions by communities, particularly Latino and Asian, and where the black community has shifted," said Esmeralda Simmons, the executive director of the Center for Law and Social Justice.

"We want to make sure our communities get their fair share of districts," she said.

State legislative district boundaries are remapped every 10 years to reflect demographic changes demonstrated by the federal census — a politically contentious process that is known as redistricting.

The groups said they followed the "one person, one vote" requirement of the U.S.



Constitution and mandates of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 in developing their maps — criteria that the designers of any new election maps will have to abide by. They also said they had sought to respect "communities of interest" that are bound by some common denominator, and to try to follow neighborhood lines.

The Center for Law and Social Justice, based at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn, developed the district maps with LatinoJustice PRLDEF, Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund and the National Institute for Latino Politics.

The maps take into account the rapid growth of Asians, who now account for 13 percent of the city's 8 million people; and the increase in Hispanics, now 29 percent of the city's population. The maps also aim to protect black districts.

The groups said they submitted the proposal to the state task force responsible for redrawing the legislative district boundaries.

Assemblyman John "Jack"

McEneny, a Democratic member of the task force, said they welcomed the proposal and would consider it.

"What we would hope is that it be comprehensive," he said. "No tunnel vision."

Juan Cartagena, the president and general counsel of LatinoJustice PRLDEF, said the maps were a first step.

"It doesn't mean anything until we take the next step and galvanize our communities, looking for the right candidates, and making sure that whoever gets elected from the new district responds to the needs of the community," he said.

It could also be ignored by whoever ends up redrawing the district lines — whether it is a task force or the courts.

But Margaret Fung, executive director of the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund, said that was unlikely to happen.

"It makes more sense for them to recognize the demographic change," she said. ■

## Former Governor Joins U.S. Senate Race in Hawaii



By Kevin Freking  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON—Linda Lingle, a former two-term governor of Hawaii, announced Oct. 11 that she is entering the state's Senate race, giving Republicans hope of capturing the seat being vacated by Democrat Daniel Akaka, who is retiring.

Lingle, 58, said that one of her strengths is getting people to work together regardless of party affiliation, a concept that she believes is in short supply in Washington.

"If elected, first, foremost and always, my decisions will put Hawaii people first as we decide the critical issues facing our state and country," Lingle said in a statement.

Lingle was the state's first

female governor and served from 2002-2010. She won with about 62 percent of the vote in her second race.

Her victories indicated she can appeal to moderate Democrats, which could be critical in an election cycle that features native son President Barack Obama at the top of the Democratic ticket.

Lingle praised Akaka, as embodying "the spirit of aloha in Washington, D.C." and serving the state for 34 years.

Lingle also served for two terms as the mayor of Maui. In a radio interview, she stressed that she would focus on curbing government regulation and spending.

Rep. Mazie Hirono and former Rep. Ed Case are competing for the seat in next year's Democratic primary. ■

## Calif. Governor Signs Bill Requiring Accurate Collection on Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders

The bill requires the disaggregation of data on Asian American ethnic groups.

Legislation requiring state agencies to collect and post information about job programs participation and employment and housing discrimination faced by Asian Pacific Americans, Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders was signed by Gov. Jerry Brown Oct. 9.

Assembly Bill 1088, introduced by Assemblymember Mike Eng, D-Monterey Park, requires two key state agencies to include the full spectrum of APA ethnicities in their data collection, consistent with those groups reported by the U.S. Census.

"Because information about these communities is frequently

reported under one or two large categories, the experiences of specific ethnicities can be masked, preventing policy-makers, advocates and elected officials from understanding the real issues that affect our communities," said Eng.

AB 1088 requires that data collected by the California Department of Industrial Relations and the Department of Fair Employment and Housing be disaggregated using the same categories used by the Census Bureau, including Bangladeshi, Fijian, Hmong, Indonesian, Malaysian, Pakistani, Sri Lankan, Taiwanese, Thai and Tongan. The data would also be made more accessible online.

"Asian Americans, as well as Native Hawaiians and other Pacific Islanders, make up 15.5

percent in the state of California, and represents the fastest growing racial/ethnic group in the state, increasing nearly 34 percent since 2000," said Sefa Aina, a commissioner on the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders.

California Assemblymember Warren Furutani has also introduced a resolution to recognize the contributions of Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders.

Assembly Current Resolution 67 "sends a strong message to our NHPI Californians that we acknowledge their sacrifices and contributions to the success of California," said Furutani.

With a 2010 population of 284,000, the Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander community in California is one of the largest in the United States. ■





## for the RECORD

BY JOHN TATEISHI

### Japanese American Farmers and WWII

Several years ago, I spoke at a university where students surprisingly knew a lot about the internment — surprising because this wasn't on the West Coast, wasn't in an area where there was a significant Japanese American or Asian American population. This was the University of Kentucky, deep in the heart of bluegrass country.

During a Q&A, someone challenged a comment I had made that the economic impact to JAs as a result of the internment was made particularly harsh by the enormous loss experienced by JA farmers who lost large expanses of valuable farm lands.

The student said he understood how this would be true in places like the Central Valley in California but wondered how that impact could have been felt in metropolitan areas where most JAs resided.

The significance was that at the outbreak of WWII, most of America was still largely rural: the Midwest, the South and Mountain states, and yes, even the West Coast.

Places like L.A., San Francisco and Seattle were surrounded by family-owned farms, many by JA farmers. I grew up in West L.A. where most of the enclaves of communities like

Sawtelle (where I lived) were surrounded by farmlands. Places like Mar Vista and Venice and Culver City on the Westside, or south to Gardena, areas like Compton or Lawndale or Inglewood had miles of family farms, much of it owned by Nisei.

What's known today as the Peninsula south of San Francisco and the Silicon Valley area around San Jose were virtually all agricultural land, as was the East Bay. From Half Moon Bay down to Santa Cruz and Monterey and Watsonville, and over to Hollister, JA farms gave energy to the agricultural life of the coastal areas.

Consider this: when Nisei farmers consulted with their local farm bureau offices in 1942 to ask about the rumors of an evacuation and whether they should even consider planting their crops, they were assured that they would be there for the Spring harvest and were urged to plant as usual. So they borrowed heavily from their local banks for seed and other necessities as they normally did.

What I found in my research during the Redress Campaign was that just about all of the JA farming communities were hit with the so-called evacuation notices just weeks before the harvest, and there was no way the Japanese farmers could recover from the enormous losses they incurred by leaving their crops behind untouched. In no

way could that have been mere coincidence, especially when you consider that harvest comes at different times based on regional climates.

Once again, the student acknowledged that the exclusion was wrong and even heartless, but he wondered if the huge economic loss could be attributed to the loss to the farming communities because, after all, these were not huge farms for the most part and were all pretty much family farms. True, but then Japanese farmers in the Central Valley had valuable family-owned properties and had a monopoly on truck farming, a multi-million dollar industry by 1941.

Besides, what did it matter whether farms lost were smaller family farms or larger farms owned by Japanese cooperatives? The loss was equally devastating. It was the family farms that drove the agricultural economy of this country for two centuries until Ronald Reagan killed many of the small farms subsidies that spelled sure death to family farming and gave rise to the agribusiness corporate model (and to tasteless produce and fruit!) we know today.

Prior to that, small towns existed across the country because of these family farms, and as they disappeared, so did the heart of small-town America. Similarly, all the *Nihonmachi* that existed (there were 47 of them) along the three Coastal states virtually disappeared when farms owned by Nisei were lost during the war or as young JAs left the farms for the big cities.

So as I explained all this to the student who asked the question, I asked him and the audience to consider how much their parents would lose if they suddenly lost their properties in that beautiful bluegrass and farm-rich country of Kentucky. If they suddenly were forced to leave on military-controlled transportation, taking only what they could carry. Did it matter whether they lived on one of those beautiful ranches with thoroughbreds roaming pasturelands, or they lived in a modest home in town? How then do you equate the loss of freedom?

The dialogue that followed was interesting, and as we explored these and other questions, I thought about how these students, out in the hinterlands of Kentucky, understood enough about the internment to fill an auditorium.

Redress and the long fight to educate the public, I thought. Twenty years later it was still paying important dividends. ■

John Tateishi is the immediate past JACL national director.



## the right PLACE

BY JAMES KUMPEL

### Asian Americans and Higher Education

In the most recent *Pacific Citizen*, it was interesting to see two articles that highlight troubling issues that face the Asian American community: affirmative action and skyrocketing tuition. In the first article, "Protesting Pastries for Affirmative Action," multicultural student groups protested a UC Berkeley bake sale that featured various discounts depending on race, ethnicity and gender. Protesters who were offended by the event seem to have missed the point that California Senate Bill 185 is an attempt to overturn the state's "color-blind" college admissions policy by injecting greater subjectivity in considering race, gender, ethnicity and national origin toward some "optimal" racial mix.

Most colleges do not consider socioeconomic, ideological viewpoints, military or rural backgrounds as relevant factors in achieving diversity. Rather, according to Princeton University lecturer Russell Nieli, diversity is generally characterized by a black and Hispanic student mix, since AAs are viewed as "over-represented" in university settings. Indeed, Thomas Espenshade and Alexandria Radford reviewed admissions data from eight highly competitive public and private universities and found that AA students were held to far higher standards than even the white majority. Specifically, to have equivalent probability of admission as a black student with an 1100 SAT score, Hispanic students would need a 1230, white students would require a 1410, and AAs would need a 1550.

This disparity in standards should be unacceptable to AAs, many of whom are either immigrants themselves or children of immigrants who did not speak English as a primary language. The 1996 referendum that banned government entities from discriminating on the basis of race helped to raise the AA student mix to 40% in California public universities. Clearly a reversal of this ban would threaten meritorious AAs, undermining the very premise of Dr. Martin Luther King's dream.

The second article, "Students Struggle With Rising Tuition", highlights the difficulties many AA students face in coping with escalating tuition during this extended jobless economic recovery. Indeed, when we evaluate Bureau of Labor Statistics data since 1978, consumer prices have tripled, housing values have quadrupled, and college tuitions have grown a staggering ten-fold. That's right, the housing bubble

that helped take down this economy in 2008 is nothing compared to the tuition increases that represent a monstrous overhang to parents and future students alike.

I think the source of the problem with tuition increases is similar to that with healthcare and housing. Whenever something is subsidized, the out-of-pocket cost to individuals goes down, reducing the pressure to manage operations efficiently and increasing the societal costs. With the creation of Medicare and Medicaid in 1965, per capita healthcare inflation has since exceeded the CPI for each of the last 45 years with Medicaid growing 1000-fold during that period. Medicare and Medicaid have created long-term unfunded liabilities and the tab has been left with the disenfranchised youth and future generations.

The Community Reinvestment Act and other policies were designed to increase home ownership among lower income people. However, the resulting adjustable rate mortgages that helped banks comply with these requirements hid the true

cost of ownership, fueling a housing bubble and a spate of foreclosures that ultimately precipitated the Great Recession, trillions in deficits and structural unemployment and underemployment that we have not seen in 80 years.

When the Obama Administration pushes for all children to have a guaranteed college education, it appears that Washington refuses to acknowledge that the best of intentions can create unintended consequences. Subsidizing anything creates incentives to overconsume, increasing demand, and pushing up pricing well beyond a normal market clearing rate. Restricting these subsidies and grants may be painful but necessary to focus on the essential elements of a college education, rather than the non-core programs that have helped to drive up the cost of education to ungodly levels.

We are at a point where we need to more narrowly define the vital functions of government (and education) and leave the "optional" elements to market forces. That is what helped deliver the two longest periods of peacetime expansion (under Reagan and Clinton/Gingrich) in our country's history. ■

James Kumpel is a JACL New York chapter board member and former JACL scholarship winner.

*'Redress and the long fight to educate the public, I thought. Twenty years later it was still paying important dividends.'*

**'... AA students were held to far higher standards than even the white majority.'**



# Funnyman Randall Park Talks Seriously About Comedy

Actor Randall Park's new short film "Siamese Dad" will show at the San Diego Asian Film Festival on Oct. 23.

By Nalea J. Ko  
Reporter

Actor Randall Park, 37, has played many roles ever since pursuing acting as a professional career in his late 20s, but when the camera is off the actor is self-described as shy and says he has been that way since his childhood.

That shyness disappears, however, around his friends and when he slips into character, Park says.

"I get into a different zone when I perform. I don't look at it so much as something to be shy about," Park said in a phone call with the *Pacific Citizen*. "But when I perform or audition or do stage stuff, all that goes out the window, which might be a reason why I do it because it's freeing."

Park, with his subtle comedic style, slipped into the character of Russell, a stay-at-home scientist in his new short film "Siamese Dad."

The short, which Park also wrote and directed, will show at the San Diego Asian Film Festival on Oct. 23 alongside the film "Ties That Bind." The eight-day festival kicked off Oct. 20.

"We are here to serve the filmmakers and make sure that their work, that may not be able to be picked up by a major distributor, can still be seen," said Dan Matthews, the festival's marketing and public relations director. "These are stories that are very important and relevant and definitely do have an audience."

The film "Siamese Dad," is a six-minute short about a Korean American father (Charles Kim) and son (Randall Park) who become conjoined after a science experiment. It is one of a slate of shorts set to show at the festival.

Others include Andrew Ahn's film "Andy," ManSee Kong's "Room #11," and Peter Jin's

"Portrait of Leonore," among others.

"We've got a great short films program this year. In particular, my favorite is always the animation program curated by San Diego animator and native, Sam Chen," Matthews said. "It's a collection of really bizarre and beautifully created short films from around the world."

In addition to showcasing his short film, Park is scheduled to co-host on Oct. 22 the San Diego Asian Film Festival's gala at the Sheraton San Diego Hotel & Marina.

Park is no stranger to creating short films and webisodes in addition to his regular TV, commercial and film work. Last year Park won best actor for his short "Blueberry" at the NBC Universal Short Cuts Film Festival. In the film, which he also wrote, Park played a cash-strapped lonely guy looking for a low-priced female escort.

The film projects Park writes and stars in are often off-colored, racy and unconventional but never lacking in humor. And most of his work has an underlying message.

"I think the seed to a lot of the things that I write comes from opinions I have or political views, or just things that kind of get me riled up emotionally," Park says. "The comedy that I do has some sort of a message, but it may not be immediately apparent."

Born to "working, middle class" Korean Americans, Park grew up in Los Angeles, Calif. His father ran a one-hour photo business, which struggled after the widespread use of digital cameras. Those experiences have impacted Park's film creations.

"I feel a lot of what I write — not everything — it's kind of more skewed to that perspective," Park said. "Also just being a minority, having grown up in a very diverse community and seeing all sides of the socio-economic spectrum, I feel like all of those angles make their way into my work."

Park went on to attend the University of California, Los Angeles. After college he helped



Park, with his subtle comedic style, slipped into the character of Russell, a stay-at-home scientist in his new short film "Siamese Dad," (left) which will screen at the San Diego Asian Film Festival on Oct. 23.

co-found the Asian Pacific American theater troupe "Lapu, the Coyote That Cares" in 1995.

Like many other performers of APA descent, Park's parents were not too excited when he decided to pursue a career as an actor.

"So for a lot of years at the beginning I kind of just didn't really bring it up with them. I kind of kept it a secret almost," Park said.

Over time as he gained more success in the business, Park says, his parents came around to accept his career choice.

Many of the friends he has met throughout his journey as an actor

also appear in the webisodes he makes like "Dumb Professor" and "Dr. Miracles."

"It's a lot easier just to ask your friends if they're free to be in something then holding cast calls," Park said laughing. "Everything that I do is on such a kind of low budget, just kind of quick, get-it-done type of style that it's easiest to just ask my pals."

His wife, Jae Sue Park, also makes guest appearances in his projects.

"She's an actress as well. So she's made her way into a lot of shorts that I've done," Park said with a laugh. "That's not why

I married her. But for sure it's definitely one of the perks."

These days Park can also be seen acting in commercials or as a series regular as Martin Fukanaga on Nickelodeon's "Supah Ninjas." He will also appear in next year's "Five Year Engagement" directed by Nicholas Stoller.

As for his future plans, Park simply hopes to continue making audiences laugh.

"I just want to keep working and doing good work," Park said. "I want to keep working and keep being productive and keep having fun doing it. That's the ultimate goal I guess." ■





## Marine Suicide Sparks Hazing Inquiry

**Lance Cpl. Harry Lew, the nephew of U.S. Rep. Judy Chu, died in April.**

By Audrey McAvoy  
Associated Press

HONOLULU—In the chilly pre-dawn hours of April 3 in Afghanistan, Marine Lance Cpl. Harry Lew crouched down in the foxhole he'd been ordered to dig for disciplinary reasons — he'd repeatedly fallen asleep on guard duty — placed the muzzle of his gun in his mouth and pulled the trigger.

Three Marines — Lew's squad leader, a sergeant, and two of his fellow lance corporals — have been charged with wrongfully humiliating and demeaning Lew. The two lance corporals have also been charged with assault, and one was charged with cruelty and maltreatment.

A military Article 32 hearing on whether the men should be court-martialed on these charges was held last month at Marine Corps Base Hawaii in Kaneohe Bay.

In a case with mild echoes of the 1992 Hollywood movie "A Few Good Men," the hearing into the 21-year-old's suicide sought to determine whether Lew's fellow Marines hazed him in the hours leading up to his death. Testimony was also given that the Marines were trying to help Lew.

The commander of the Hawaii-based 3rd Marine Regiment, Col. Nathan Nastase, will determine whether the three Marines will be tried after he reviews the recommendations of the officer who presided over the hearing.

The hearing depicted a squad of Marines actively fighting on the front lines while at the same time dealing with Lew's problems. Commanders said in retrospect Lew may have been suffering from depression or some other medical condition.

Lew had fallen asleep several times on watch duty, when his life and the lives of his fellow Marines depended on him being awake and alert. His leaders tried various approaches to keep him awake, including taking him off patrols so he could get more rest, according to testimony at the hearing.

But on Lew's last night, those efforts escalated into alleged acts of violence and humiliation, according to the charges heard. The Marines are accused of punching and kicking him, making him do push-ups and pouring sand in his face.

Lew, the nephew of U.S. Rep. Judy Chu of California, joined the Marine Corps after graduating from Santa Clara High School and studying at Mission College in California. His first assignment was to join the 2nd Battalion, 3rd Marines at Kaneohe Bay.

In November, he deployed to Afghanistan. Four months into his tour, the Marine Corps sent Lew to join a squad at Patrol Base Gowragi — a remote outpost in Helmand province the U.S. was establishing to disrupt Taliban drug and weapons trafficking.

That night, Lew fell asleep during watch duty — the first of four times he would do so in 10 days.

A few days later, while the squad was on its own ambush patrol, he dozed off while on watch.

On April 2, the executive officer of the regiment, a lieutenant colonel, and the battalion executive officer, a major, found Lew sleeping on watch duty while they toured the base at 11 a.m. Lew's head was tilted back, his mouth was open, and his eyes were closed, testified Capt. Michael Regner, the Golf Company commanding officer who escorted the other officers.

The platoon's commander, 1st Lt. Jameson Payne, testified that removing Lew from the outpost wasn't an option.

"There was no reserve of Marines to replace a Marine who was tired. Everyone was tired," Payne said at the Article 32 hearing, which is similar to a civilian grand jury proceeding.

Lew was found asleep on watch again the night of April 2 after he didn't respond to a radio check at 11:15 p.m.

Johns woke up another Marine who was due to relieve Lew at 1 a.m. and had him take over the job early. Lew was ordered to dig a foxhole deep enough for him to stand in, so he would stay awake while on watch.

After 2 a.m. Lance Cpl. Charles Orozco III told Lew to do push-ups, crunches and planks. Orozco also told Lew to hoist a sandbag while exercising, and, according to the command's investigative report on the incident, stomped on Lew's back and legs if Lew failed to do his repetitions properly.

The alleged forced exercising is at the heart of Marine rules which prohibit hazing.

Johns, Jacoby and Orozco each faces possible charges of wrongfully abusing, humiliating and demeaning Lew.

Lew left a note scrawled on his arm: "May hate me now, but in the long run this was the right choice I'm sorry my mom deserves the truth."

To Lew's aunt, what happened was clear torture.

"Harry's death was a tragedy that could have been prevented. He was a patriotic American who volunteered to serve his country. No one deserves being hazed and tortured like he was, especially by (those) who are supposed to be fighting on the same side of the war," the congresswoman said in a statement. "The military justice system must hold any wrongdoers accountable." ■

## National Newsbytes

By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

### Dan Choi Suffers Setback in Protest Case

WASHINGTON—A gay West Point graduate discharged from the military for revealing his sexual orientation has been dealt a setback in a court case resulting from his arrest during a White House demonstration.

The chief judge of the U.S. District Court in Washington ruled Oct. 11 that a judge overseeing Dan Choi's trial cannot take into account whether prosecutors were treating Choi's November 2010 protest differently because its subject was "don't ask, don't tell."

Chief Judge Royce C. Lamberth wrote in an opinion that Choi's attorney should have raised the issue of harsher treatment before trial and he cannot now use it as a defense.

### UIC Gets \$2 Million Grant to Help Asian Pacific American Students



CHICAGO—The University of Illinois at Chicago says it has received a \$2 million grant to help recruit and retain APA students.

The five-year grant comes from the U.S. Department of Education. It'll fund academic and writing skills development, college preparation, career advancement and financial aid.

Kevin Kumashiro, a UIC professor of Asian American studies and education, says the federal support recognizes the challenges faced by APA students, especially those who are learning English and those who have limited financial resources.

About 20 percent of UIC students identify as APA.

### No Bias Charge for CU Student Over Dorm Assault

BOULDER, Colo.—Prosecutors have declined to file a charge of bias-motivated crime against a University of Colorado student accused of punching another student who is half Asian.

The *Daily Camera* reports 19-year-old Thomas Frank Ross is charged with two counts of second-degree assault.

Witnesses told police Ross and 18-year-old Chris Tetreault were in a student's room on Sept. 30 with a group playing video games when Ross said a bad smell in the room was because of Tetreault eating Asian noodles.

A police report says Ross told officers he didn't know Tetreault was half Asian.

### Japanese American WWII Veterans Honored at Honolulu Ceremony



SGT. JOE TAKATA

HONOLULU—Japanese Americans killed in action during World War II were honored at a Sept. 25 National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific service in Honolulu.

The memorial honored fallen members of four segregated units: the 100th Infantry Battalion, the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the Military Intelligence Service and the 1399th Engineer Construction Battalion.

The Oahu AJA Veterans Council began holding the annual ceremony at Punchbowl in 2006. It's held each year on the Sunday closest to the anniversary of the date the first American of Japanese ancestry was killed in action in WWII.

Sgt. Shigeo "Joe" Takata of the 100th died on Sept. 29, 1943, after being mortally wounded when German soldiers opened fire on him while he was leading his squad. ■



## APAs in the News

By Pacific Citizen Staff

### Rep. Honda Receives President's Award



Rep. Mike Honda with Karen Narasaki of AAJC.

**Rep. Mike Honda** has received the prestigious President's Award during the Asian American Justice Center's (AAJC) American Courage Awards dinner.

Through his critical work on legislation such as the Reuniting Families Act, the DREAM Act, and the Strengthen and Unite Communities with Civics Education and English Development (SUCCEED) Act, Honda was given the President's Award for exemplifying his dedication to advancing justice and equality for all.

Other awardees that night included Wade Henderson, president and CEO of the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights; **Jose Antonio Vargas**, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and founder of Define American; and **Stewart Kwoh**, president and executive director of the Asian Pacific American Legal Center

### Arizona JACLers to be Honored

Three Arizona JACLers have received prestigious awards for their dedication to the community.

**Mas Inoshita**, past Arizona JACL president, will receive the Wilbur Murra Lifetime Achievement Award from the Arizona Council for Social Studies (ACSS). The annual award, which recognizes an individual who has made long-term contributions to social studies education, will be presented Oct. 28.

**Marian Tadano Shee** will receive the Outstanding Alumni Award from the University of Arizona Asian American Faculty Staff and Alumni Association. Her husband, **Jim Shee**, will also be honored at the Oct. 28 awards dinner.

**Madeline Ong Sakata**, Asian Chamber of Commerce executive director, will be awarded the JACL Pacific Southwest District's Community Honoree Award at its 15th annual awards dinner Oct. 29.

### JACCC's Executive Director to Step Down

**Chris Aihara**, the executive director of the Japanese American Cultural & Community Center of Los Angeles, is stepping down from her leadership position at the end of the year.

After over 25 years, Aihara "feels it's time for the next generation to lead the JACCC to its next phase," according to an Oct. 12 press release.

During her tenure, the JACCC brought and toured Bunraku National Puppet Theatre to sell out crowds, and produced and celebrated its 30th anniversary with Japan's singing sensation, Jero.

### Lu Becomes New WHIAAPI Co-chair

President Barack Obama has tapped **Christopher Lu**, assistant to the president and cabinet secretary, to co-chair of the **White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders**.

The initiative was created to help expand and improve APA access to federal services and protections. Lu replaces former Commerce Sec. **Gary Locke**, who had co-chaired the White House Initiative before becoming the U.S. Ambassador to China.

Obama has also announced his intent to appoint Olympic skating champion **Apolo Ohno**, professor **May Chen** and **Dr. Tung Thanh Nguyen** to the **President's Advisory Commission on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders**.

They will join 17 other members of the commission to provide advice to Obama and the co-chairs of the White House Initiative. ■

## California Governor Signs Ban on Shark Fin Trade

**The ban, which some in the Asian American community have criticized as an attack on their culture, will take effect Jan. 1, 2012.**

By Judy Lin  
Associated Press

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—California's governor announced Oct. 7 that he signed a bill banning the sale, trade and possession of shark fins to protect the world's dwindling shark population.

Gov. Jerry Brown signed AB376 over objections that the fins are used in a soup considered a delicacy in some Asian cultures.

California joined Hawaii, Washington, Oregon and Guam in the ban that environmental and animal rights activists hailed for closing off Pacific ports in the U.S. to the shark fin trade.

"The practice of cutting the fins off of living sharks and dumping them back in the ocean is not only cruel, but it harms the health of our oceans," Brown wrote in a statement.

The bill had split the Asian delegation in the California Legislature.

Assemblyman Paul Fong, D-Cupertino, who authored the bill, said it was needed to protect endangered shark species, but others called the measure racist because the fins are used in a soup. The fins can sell for \$600 a pound, and the soup can cost \$80 a bowl.

The California market for shark-fin soup is the largest outside Asia. During a legislative debate,



Sen. Ted Lieu, D-Torrance, noted the bill would ban only part of the shark while permitting the continued consumption of shark skin or steaks.

"I respect the governor's decision and now hope the proponents of AB376 will focus on protecting sharks, such as the spiny dogfish shark, from being endangered due to consumption of its meat, such as in steaks and fish and chips," Lieu said in a statement.

Critics of shark finning, which already is restricted in U.S. waters, estimate that fishermen kill 73 million sharks each year for their fins. They said it is particularly cruel because the wounded sharks often are returned to the ocean to die after their fins are removed.

"Californians can be proud of their role in giving these remarkable top predators a chance to recover their populations and helping to restore balance to our oceans," said Assemblyman Jared

Huffman, D-San Rafael, who co-authored the bill.

Brown said researchers have estimated that some shark populations have declined by more than 90 percent.

"In the interest of future generations, I have signed this bill," he wrote.

The ban was supported by celebrities, including actress Bo Derek and retired NBA center Yao Ming of China. It also was backed by the Humane Society of the United States and Humane Society International, and other environmental advocates.

Brown signed another bill by Fong, AB853, that allows existing stocks of on-hand shark fins to be sold until July 1, 2013. It also makes it clear that sport fishermen who catch a shark can still eat the fin or have the shark stuffed and mounted as a trophy.

The ban will take effect Jan. 1, 2012. ■

## NY to Provide More School Help to NYC Immigrants

By Michael Gormley  
Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y.—New York City schools will provide more help to immigrants and other English language learners and their families under a plan approved by the state Oct. 12.

State Education Commissioner John B. King Jr. says the city plan will provide more options, support and services, including 125 new bilingual programs over the next three years. Parents will have a choice of the traditional approach of English as a Second Language or bilingual education, with some instruction carried out in Spanish or another language.

"English language learners are facing serious obstacles to academic success," King said. "This is a situation that has been under-attended to. Any plan is only

as good as its implementation and so we will be vigilant."

Students who primarily speak Spanish and other students speaking any of the dozens of languages other than English had a graduation rate of just 41.5 percent in June. Just 7 percent of English language learners who were freshmen in 2006 were considered ready for college or a career, according to the state education department.

"We know that when these students become proficient in English and no longer need additional services, they perform even better than their peers and boost our system as a whole," said city schools Chancellor Dennis M. Walcott.

New York City schools will hire more bilingual teachers and create a warning system to alert when the students' test scores show concerns.

The programs will include services for students considered "long-term" English language learners and more quickly identify students who need bilingual services.

The state and city will also work to resolve a shortage of bilingual teachers, exploring alternatives to certification beyond the traditional education requirements and creating incentives to bolster their numbers.

Khin Mai Aung, the director of the educational equity project at the Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund, which has advocated for improving programs for English language learners, agreed it was the right move. But she said more needs to be done.

"More needs to be done on the administrative side for schools to make sure that ESL and bilingual staff are deployed to schools that need them," she said. ■



## Clinton: U.S.-Japan Remains a Cornerstone Alliance



By Pacific Citizen Staff and Associated Press

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton says the United States' alliance with Japan will remain its cornerstone relationship in the Asia-Pacific as it expands engagement in the region.

Clinton spoke Oct. 7 at the annual U.S.-Japan Council conference in D.C., adding that the U.S. is in the midst of a strategic pivot to deepen its ties in the East as the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq wind down. She noted that U.S. aid involving 20,000 American personnel after the quake and tsunami that struck northeast Japan in March underscored the strength of the alliance.

"Our strongest relationships have not lived only in the halls of power; they live in the hearts and minds of the American and Japanese people not just in some cold assessment of our common interests, but in the warmth of common experiences, family ties, friendships, and the common values that bind us together," said Clinton.

During the annual conference, community organizations from across the U.S. were recognized

for their contributions to relief and rebuilding efforts after the March 11 earthquake and tsunami. The efforts of both large-scale and grassroots organizations shows the diversity of Americans that support Japan and believe in the importance of an enduring U.S.-Japan partnership, said U.S.-Japan Council President Irene Hirano Inouye who was in Japan on March 11.

"Japanese Americans played a catalytic role in their communities because of their shared heritage with the people of Japan," she said.

The organizations recognized included the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (\$3.6 million raised), GlobalGiving (\$5.9 million raised) and the Japan-America Societies (\$21 million raised).

The U.S.-Japan Council established the U.S.-Japan Council Earthquake Relief Fund. More than \$2.6 million has been donated to the fund and disbursements have been made exclusively to Japanese Non-Governmental Organizations/Non-Profit Organizations to support this growing sector in Japan. ■



PHOTO: TOYO MIYATAKE STUDIO

Chris Tashima plays Sei Fujii.

## Sei Fujii Film Begins Filming

"Lil Tokyo Reporter," a short film about Issei newsman Sei Fujii, started shooting on Sept. 28 on location in Downtown, Los Angeles.

The drama, based on Fujii's life, takes place in Little Tokyo in 1935, during the Great Depression. As a newspaperman, he faces the dilemma of exposing a corrupt gambling establishment or keeping quiet to save the face of the Japanese community.

In the film, Academy Award winner Chris Tashima will play Fujii, who teamed up with civil rights attorney, J. Marion Wright, to defend Japanese Americans against unjust laws, unethical business practices and racism in California.

"As a community leader, Fujii not only overcame the odds, he became a man of great accomplishment, paving paths for all of us today," said Tashima. "It is vital that we strive to honor these histories — American stories which help to complete the picture of how diverse, vibrant and unique our country is."

"With this film, we hope to open doors," said Jeffrey Chin, the film's director. "Until we establish strong roots for the Asian American community ... Until we establish in the media ... respect will not exist because people won't know." ■

For information and to make a donation: [www.ltreporter.com](http://www.ltreporter.com).

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# San Fernando JACL Co-Sponsors 'Honor Thy Children' Program

**The program was devoted to a healthy appreciation and support of all children, especially gay, lesbian and transgender individuals.**

**By Patricia Takayama**  
Special to the *Pacific Citizen*

Al and Jane Nakatani, previous recipients of the National Education Award and founders of the Honor Thy Children non-profit educational organization, were the featured speakers at the Sept. 24 tolerance event at the Little Tokyo Democracy Center in Los Angeles.

Over 150 people attended the program, which was devoted to a healthy appreciation and support of all children, especially gay, lesbian and transgender individuals.

The Nakatanis shared the stories about their three sons who died in their 20s. Two sons contracted HIV/AIDS and the other was killed in a name-calling altercation. The couple spoke about how the Asian culture of silence and *gaman* created a distance between them and their sons.

At 15, Glenn, their eldest son, ran away from home because he didn't want to reveal that he was gay and endure his parents' disapproval and shame. The Nakatanis

spoke of the misunderstanding that being gay is a choice.

The couple praised their youngest son, Guy, for his courage to speak at high schools in Santa Clara County school district about his HIV/AIDS experience. Guy inspired the Nakatanis to continue the educational work after his death.

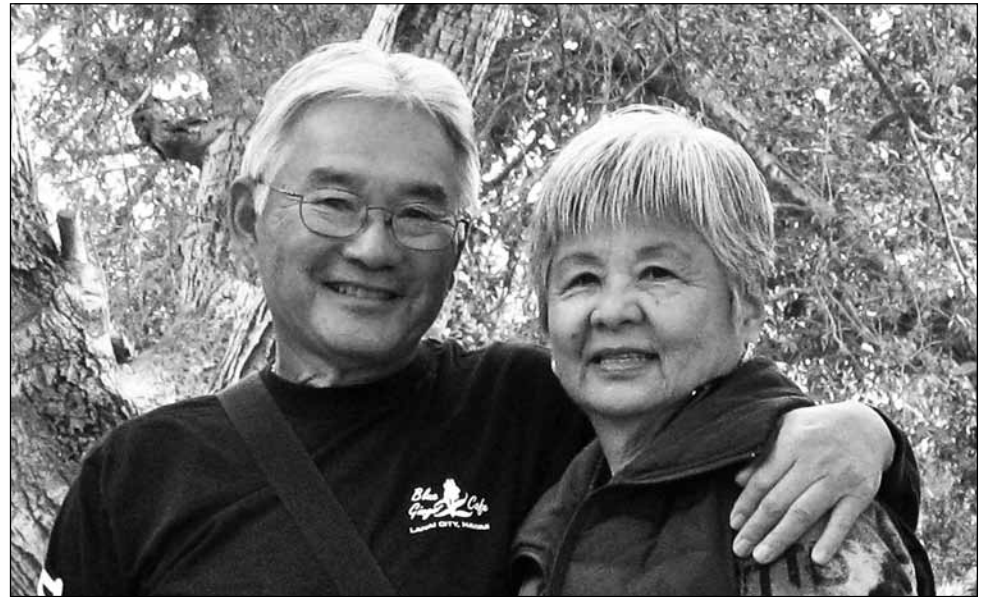
Molly Fumia chronicled the family's experiences in a book. Filmmaker Francisco J. Leon made the film based on the Nakatani family, "Honor Thy Children," which was shown as part of the program.

Marsha Aizumi and Kristel Yoneda also spoke at the event. As the parent of a transgender child, Aizumi described the isolation and loneliness her child endured and the sadness her husband experienced through losing the child they had raised and gaining a new one in the transition.

Yoneda, 27, spoke of the solitary life she experienced as a child, which changed while attending Washington University. Yoneda also spoke about the "It Gets Better" campaign, an online project she participated in.

Phil Shigekuni, a San Fernando Valley JACL member, moderated the program.

In 1994, Norman Mineta, then Congressman for the San Jose area, publicly announced his support for marriage equality. Mineta equated the denial of marriage rights



The Nakatanis often speak about the loss of their three sons when promoting tolerance.

to incarceration in camps and California's anti-miscegenation laws prohibiting interracial marriages. The San Fernando Valley JACL declared its support of marriage equality shortly thereafter.

The event was sponsored by the Japanese American National Museum, the San Fernando Valley JACL, Chatsworth West United Methodist Church, Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress, Asian Pacific Islander Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians

and Gays (API PFLAG), Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team (APAIT), Gay Asian Pacific Support Network (GAPSN), API Pride Council and API Equality Los Angeles.

DVDs of "Honor Thy Children" were donated in memory of co-producer Judi S. Kaminishi and were distributed free of charge to everyone who attended the program. ■

## COMMENTARY

### Remembering 9/11 - We Will Never Forget

**By Sharon Hayashi**

I have been a member of national JACL and the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL since 1963. Since my retirement, after 30 years of taking a company I started in Watsonville international, I have relocated back to Watsonville, Calif.

I volunteered to join the organizers of the city's 9/11 tenth year anniversary memorial event sponsored by the Santa Cruz County Fair in northern California. With years of event planning, marketing, and public relations experience, I became the volunteer production coordinator. The preparation of our "Remembering 9/11 — We Will Never Forget" ceremony was a tremendous community effort hosted by all of Santa Cruz County's first responders.

I had the privilege of introducing Randy Soard's Faces of the Brave artwork to the 3,000 attendees who came to pay tribute to those who gave their lives on Sept. 11. He is a longtime friend and world-renowned artist who created the artwork to honor those who protect us and to keep alive the memory of the best of humanity by putting their "faces" before the public.

It is the only known 9/11 memorial tribute artwork project of its type to be approved and legally authorized by the surviving families of the fallen heroes of 9/11. Over 500 surviving families were invited to participate. It took Randy over five years to obtain the releases and permission of the

surviving families to use their lost loved ones images in his artwork.

Currently, Faces of the Brave is on display in firehouses, EMS facilities and first responder organizations worldwide in 22 countries, 130 U.S. embassies and Times Square. It has been gifted to President Bill Clinton, numerous celebrities and dignitaries. Over 30 Santa Cruz County first responder agencies were gifted with Faces of the Brave to display at their individual agencies as our tribute to them.

**'The preparation of our "Remembering 9/11 — We Will Never Forget" ceremony was a tremendous community effort ...'**

Our 9/11 memorial event was conducted at the Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds Ocean Speedway Center. The field was filled with hook and ladders holding a giant-size American flag, mobile command units, police, sheriff and highway patrol vehicles, American Red Cross units, Fallen Officer Foundation unit, rescue helicopter and hospital units, and the Salvation Army.

Our program opened with the national anthem sung by a local singer, invocation by a police chaplain and testimony from a 9/11 survivor. The local VFW color guard gave a 21-gun salute, there was a fly over, and American flags were passed out for the tribute ceremony.

We ran a live broadcast so people who were not able to attend in person could still be part of it. ■

*Sharon Hayashi is a member of the Watsonville-Santa Cruz JACL.*



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#### ESCORTED TOURS & CRUISES SCHEDULED FOR 2011

December 3-12	<b>Yamato Christmas Markets of Europe Tour</b> – 10 days/8 nights visiting Prague, Rothenburg, Dinkelsbuehl to Ulm, Neuschwanstein, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Salzburg, Vienna.	Philippe Theriault
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#### PROPOSED TOURS FOR 2012

Feb. 22 – Mar. 1 (new dates)	<b>Discover Panama: The Land Between the Seas with Collette Vacations</b> – 9 Days/7 Nights visiting Panama City, Monkey Island, Galeta Marine Lab, Panama Canal Railway, Gamboa, Panama Canal Cruise, Embera Indigenous Village, and Playa Bonita.	Sharon Seto
April 4-18	<b>Yamato Deluxe Spring Tour to Japan</b> – 15 days/13 nights visiting Tokyo, Hakone, Nagoya, Takayama, Kanazawa, Hiroshima, Miyajima and Kyoto. Ask about partial tour participation.	Peggy Mikuni
May 7-17	<b>Yamato Netherland, Belgium &amp; Paris tour with Collette Vacations</b> – 11 days / 9 nights visiting Amsterdam for the Floriade horticultural exhibition held once every 10 years, Brussels, Bruges, Paris, Giverny. Hotel stay in 3 cities, 3 nights each: Amsterdam, Brussels & Paris.	Sharon Seto
May 16 – 28	<b>Yamato RCL 9-day Cruise</b> on the "Enchantment of the Seas," starting from Baltimore and cruising to Bermuda, Boston, Newport (Rhode Island) and back to Baltimore.	Peggy Mikuni
June 17-28	<b>Yamato Hokkaido Tour</b> – 12 days/10 nights visiting Sapporo, Sounkyo, Kawayu Spa, Kushiro, Ikeda, Obihiro, Lake Toya and Hakodate.	Peggy Mikuni
October 15-29	<b>Yamato Deluxe Autumn Tour to Japan</b> – 15 days/13 nights visiting Fukuoka, Nagasaki, Kumamoto, Kagoshima, Hiroshima, Miyajima Kyoto and Tokyo. Ask about partial tours.	Peggy Mikuni

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A NATIONAL GUIDE TO NOTABLE COMMUNITY EVENTS



Kenjiro Nomura's painting "Street" will be among some of the paintings on display.

## Exhibit: "Painting Seattle: Kamekichi Tokita & Kenjiro Nomura" SEATTLE, WA

Oct. 22, 2011-Feb. 19, 2012  
Seattle Asian Art Museum  
1300 1st Ave.

Kamekichi Tokita and Kenjiro Nomura, first-generation Japanese Americans,

were well known in 1930s Seattle for their American realist style of landscape painting. This unique exhibit highlights the landscapes they knew well — neighborhoods in and around Japantown or *Nihonmachi*.

Info: [www.seattleartmuseum.org](http://www.seattleartmuseum.org)

## EDC

### Book Reading by Ha Jin NEWTON, MA

Nov. 8, 7 p.m.  
Newtonville Books  
296 Walnut St.

Ha Jin reads from his book "Nanjing Requiem." He is the award-winning author of "Waiting" and "War Trash."

Info: 617/244-6617 or  
[www.newtonvillebooks.com](http://www.newtonvillebooks.com)

### 2011 Boston Asian American Film Festival BOSTON, MA

Nov. 10-13

#### Various locations

Beantown's Asian American film festival opens with Bertha Bay-Sa Pan's "Almost Perfect" starring Kelly Hu as Vanessa, a single "go-to girl" for her demanding family. When Vanessa runs into the love of her life, her family begins to fall apart. How will she find love?

Info: [www.baaff.org](http://www.baaff.org)

### Play: "Before I Leave You" BOSTON, MA

Oct. 14- Nov. 13

Calderwood Pavilion at the Boston Center For the Arts  
527 Tremont Street

A new play by New England JACLeR Rosanna Yamagiwa Alfaro features New York actor Glenn Kubota as Koji. "Four longtime friends face too much past and too little future in this moving comedy," according to the description.

Info: [www.huntingtontheatre.org](http://www.huntingtontheatre.org)

## NCWNP

### RightsFest SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Oct. 26-28

Various locations

FREE, but reservations required

The Korematsu Institute's annual civil rights

film festival will feature short documentaries about civil rights activism. Each night will close with an in-depth Q&A discussion with film directors and the activists who led the movements represented on screen. The films are: "Always My Son & The Fall of the I-Hotel", "Pilgrimage & Freedom Riders" and "Whose Children Are These?" and "Viva La Causa."

Info <http://korematsuinstitute.org>

### J-Sei's Saturday Morning Series on College Planning ALAMEDA, CA

Oct. 29, 10-11:30 a.m.

Buena Vista United Methodist Church  
2311 Buena Vista Ave.

Are you a parent who's unsure about the best way to research and select the best university for your child? This panel discussion is for you. Among other things, this panel will teach you the secrets to college admission's success. J-Sei, Inc. is a multi-generational and multi-cultural organization that has its roots in Nikkei values and culture.

Info: [www.j-sei.org](http://www.j-sei.org)

### Cast in Bronze: A Terminology Symposium SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Oct. 22, 9 to 9:30 a.m.

JCCNC

1840 Sutter St., Suite 201

The symposium will focus on terminology and remembering the WWII incarceration. Confirmed speakers include scholars and activists who have worked to promote clarity in the language used to describe the Japanese American WWII experience: Roger Daniels, Neil Gotanda, Don Hata, Lane Hirabayashi, Karen Ishizuka, Tetsuden Kashima, and Mako Nakagawa.

Info: Hiroshi Shimizu at 415/566-2279 or [hshimizu@pacbell.net](mailto:hshimizu@pacbell.net)

### Kimochi, Inc.'s "Sansei Live! by the Bay" SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Oct. 22, 7 p.m.-midnight

### Carnelian by the Bay 1 Ferry Plaza

Cost: \$75/ticket

SEE!

This annual fundraiser benefits the work of Kimochi, an organization that provides culturally sensitive, Japanese language-based programs and services to 3,000 Bay Area seniors and their families each year. Entertainment will take place on two stages with performances by popular Bay Area acts Jest Jammin', ScoJourners and Joyo Velarde. There will also be cultural activities including an interactive mochi pounding demonstration by Kagami Kai and hands-on origami making activity with Linda Mihara.

### Exhibit: "Deep Roots, New Shoots"

SAN FRANCISCO, CA

Now through Dec. 30

NJAHS Peace Gallery

1684 Post St.

Curated by J-town Arts and presented by the National Japanese American Historical Society, this project includes an art exhibit and public programs that cover up to 40 years of work by artists rooted in the Bay Area's Asian American communities.

This project will also host art workshops, individual artist retrospectives, visual, literary and performing arts collaborations and panel discussions on issues affecting the Japanese American community.

Info: 415/921-5007

## MDC

### Midwest JACL District Council

Fall Conference

INDIANAPOLIS, IN

Oct. 28-30

Hilton Garden Inn

10 East Market Street

Cost: \$25/registration; includes conference materials, luncheon, dinner at the Skyline Club

Register now to find out the latest in JACL's Midwest District. Planned activities include MDC business meetings as well as a tour of the Asian Art Exhibit at the Indianapolis Museum of Art and optional concert at the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra at Circle Theater. The deadline the register is Oct. 21.

Info: [pastpfct@aol.com](mailto:pastpfct@aol.com)

## PSW

### Film Screening: "Stand Up For Justice" PHOENIX, AZ

Jan. 20, 2012

Phoenix College

1202 W. Thomas Road

The film is about Ralph Lazo, who during WWII chose to go to camp with his friends on the high school basketball team to take a stand for justice. A panel discussion will follow. Panelists will include representatives from JACL, NCRR and the local Latino community.

### West Los Angeles JACL Boutique LOS ANGELES, CA

Oct. 30, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Venice Japanese Community Center

12448 Braddock Drive

This fundraiser supports the West Los Angeles JACL's quarterly newsletter and other chapter related functions. The boutique will feature Asian-themed jewelry, clothing, toys, artwork, music, books and ceramics.

Info: Jean Ushijima at 310/390-6914 or Marisa Tamaru at 310/936-3182

Little Tokyo Community Health Fair

### LOS ANGELES, CA

Oct. 29, 8:30 a.m.-noon

Union Church of Los Angeles

401 E. Third St.

Various free medical screening services will be provided, including free flu shots. Participants should eat a light breakfast and take all usual medications.

Info: 213/473-3035

### Go For Broke's Evening of Aloha

LOS ANGELES, CA

Nov. 5, 7 p.m.

Beverly Hilton Hotel

9876 Wilshire Boulevard

DO!

This year's dinner marks a history-making year for WWII Japanese American veterans, who will be receiving the Congressional Gold Medal. It will also mark the historic gathering of the other WWII veterans of segregated units including the Tuskegee Army and the Navajo Code Talkers.

Chef Roy Yamaguchi of Roy's Restaurants Worldwide and Chef Hirose Akira of Maison Akira are planning the dinner menu.

Entertainment will be provided by jazz musician David Benoit, popular Hawaiian entertainer Daniel Ho, and multi-platinum composer Harold Payne. The Grateful Crane Ensemble and Campus 5 will round out the evening's musical program.

Tickets and info:

[www.goforbroke.com](http://www.goforbroke.com) or 310/201-5033

### Manzanar School Reunion

LAS VEGAS, NV

Aug. 20-22, 2012

California Hotel

12 East Ogden Ave.

Save the date for a fun-filled reunion of high school friends and family members. More details to follow.

### Book Talk and Signing with Professor Min Zhou

LOS ANGELES, CA

Oct. 26, 7 p.m.

Chinese American Museum

425 N. Los Angeles St.

"The Accidental Sociologist in Asian American Studies" recounts Zhou's journey of critically examining the ever-changing experience of Chinese/Asian Americans.

Zhou will discuss how contemporary patterns of Chinese immigration, settlement, and integration differ from those of the past and how Chinese Americans are positioned in 21st-century American society. Particular attention will be paid to the San Gabriel Valley. The talk will be followed by a reception and a tour of the museum. Zhou is the Walter and Shirley Wang Endowed Chair in U.S./China Relations and Communications at UCLA.

RSVP: Mengning Li at

[mli@aasc.ucla.edu](mailto:mli@aasc.ucla.edu) ■

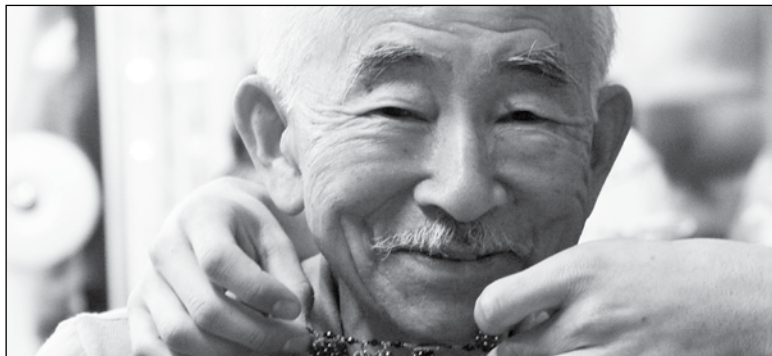
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## Nisei Civil Rights Activist was the 'Epitome of Generosity'



George Yuzawa is pictured here in 2005 during his last trip to Japan.

By Pacific Citizen Staff

George Katsumi Yuzawa, a Nisei civil rights activist whose community activism in New York City spanned over 40 years, passed away Oct. 8. He was 96.

He was active in numerous social and political causes fighting racial discrimination against Asian Pacific Americans, providing aid for senior citizens and organizing Japanese cultural events around New York City.

"He was like the mayor of the Japanese American community here," said New York JACler Lillian Kimura, the organization's first female national president. "He did a lot for everyone here."

In 1973, Yuzawa, a longtime New York JACl member, helped establish the Asian Americans for Fair Media, Inc. to monitor local and national broadcasts and print media for negative APA stereotypes and racial slurs.

Yuzawa and other civil rights

activists launched a successful campaign in the 1970s to get Paris fashion designer Kenzo Takada to stop using his trademarks "Kenzo of J.A.P." and "JAP" on his clothing.

During the height of anti-Japanese sentiment in the 1970s and 80s, Yuzawa protested the International Ladies Garment Workers Union's "Buy American" campaign by, among other things, removing the posters from subway train stations.

According to his daughter Pat Yuzawa-Rubin, he was the "epitome of generosity — giving of his time, his caring, his understanding."

Yuzawa, who was born in Los Angeles, Calif. to Issei parents Tamasaburo "James" and Bun "Mary," was named after George Washington. In 1940, he married Kimiko Hattori, the proprietor of Nippon Produce Market in Los Angeles.

During World War II, Yuzawa

and his family were incarcerated at Santa Anita and at Granada in Colorado. After volunteering to serve in the U.S. Army in 1944, Yuzawa was stationed in Tokyo.

His wartime experience spurred his activism in the Redress Movement of the 1980s.

Yuzawa helped organize the November 1981 New York City commission hearings, which helped lead to a formal apology and monetary compensation from the U.S. government for the WWII incarceration of Japanese Americans.

Yuzawa has received many commendations for his years of service, including the Governor's Award for Excellence from New York Gov. George Pataki. In 1983, the emperor of Japan awarded Yuzawa with the Order of the Sacred Treasure, 5th class.

"He was a strong proponent of leaving the world a better place, a quest he willingly took on daily with his limitless supply of energy," said Yuzawa-Rubin, a Chicago JACL board member and past chapter president.

Yuzawa is survived by his wife of 71 years, Kimiko, children Gene (JoAnne) and Pat Yuzawa-Rubin (Jack), and grandchildren Seth and Emiko Rubin and James Yuzawa.

In lieu of flowers, make a donation to the Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund for the benefit of the George Yuzawa Legacy Fund: P.O. Box 770001, Cincinnati, OH 45277-0053. ■

## IN MEMORIAM

**Doi, Rikio, 85**, Las Vegas, Nevada; Sept. 5, 2011; U.S. Army veteran.

**Horie, Yuezji "Barney", 76**, Honolulu, Hawaii; Sept. 26, 2011; Army and Air Force veteran. Born in Ewa and survived by wife Deanne M., sons Guy and Dean, daughter Brenda Cole, brother Atsushi, five grandchildren and a great-grandchild.

**Ikemoto, Bill Tsutomu, 84**, Gardena, CA; Sept. 23, 2011; MIS veteran.

**Inagaki, John Yukio, 85**, Honolulu, Hawaii; Sept. 20, 2011; MIS veteran.

**Kato, Masao, 84**, San Leandro, CA; Sept. 28, 2011; born in Stockton, CA. Worked for over 25 years at Sunnyside Nursery in Salinas and owned Farmer Joe's Produce in Oakland for over 4 years. Survived by wife of 49 years Wanda, sisters Hanae Watanabe and Terry Sato, and many nieces and nephews.

**Matsunami, Richard Zenji "Z", 85**, Pepeekeo, Hawaii; Sept. 19, 2011; a retired Hawaii County Police Department radio technician and an Army veteran who served in World War II. Survived by wife Faye; sons Ryan, Kevin and Stuart; sister Gladys Yoshimoto; two grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

**Mitani, Don Kiyoshi, 89**, Salinas, CA; Sept. 2, 2011; incarcerated at Tule Lake and later at Heart Mountain during World War II. In 1955, he started Oshita, Inc. with brothers-in-law Frank and Jack Oshita. Survived by wife Sally, three sons and two daughter-in-laws, and four grandchildren.

**Morikawa, Hiroshi, 85**, Honolulu, Hawaii; Sept. 27, 2011; a Honolulu Sign Co. silk screen printer. Survived by son Jon H., daughters Gail C. Camara and Janice Y. Ogoshi, brother Akira and five grandchildren.

**Morishige, Yasuko, 75**, Ontario OR; Oct. 4, 2011; worked for the Ontario School District as an

instructional assistant at Ontario High School, Pioneer Elementary, May Roberts Elementary and Aiken Elementary. She retired in 2003 after 35 years of service. Survived by husband Masao, three sons, Michael (Kelly), Dale, Marc (Heather) and four grandchildren, Noah, Gabriel, Katy and Auburn.

**Nakashima, Richard Yasuyuki "Yas", 92**, Aiea, Hawaii; Sept. 18, 2011; WWII 442nd RCT veteran and a retired Pearl Harbor Public Works Center maintenance supervisor. Survived by wife Gladys Y., son David Y., daughter Christine A. Nakashima-Heise and two grandchildren.

**Yamamoto, George, 87**, Watsonville, CA; Sept. 4, 2011; active member of the Watsonville Buddhist Temple and JACL; worked as a strawberry farmer for over 40 years. Preceded in death by brother Ben. Survived by his wife Sato and sons Jeff (Stephanie), Wayne (Amy), Steve (Theresa), Bruce and Eugene (Pam); grandchildren, great grandson and sister-in-law. ■

### TRIBUTE

## George O. Yasukochi

January 9, 1919 - September 29, 2011



George O. Yasukochi died peacefully on September 29, 2011 at age 92. He will be missed by all of us. He was

truly a free spirit and generous man. He had a love for golf which was only exceeded by his love for life. He is survived by his wife Yasuko Martha Yasukochi, son Glenn Yasukochi (wife Patricia), daughter, Sandra Radel (husband Jim, sons Taylor and Derek), sister Mitsuko Funakoshi, sister Chiyoko Yasutake, brother Ben Yasukochi and many nephews and nieces. Pre-deceased by brother Henry Yamaga.

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## 442nd Veteran to Get France's Legion of Honor

By Associated Press

HONOLULU—A Japanese American veteran of the 442nd Regimental Combat Unit that liberated two northern French towns during World War II was awarded France's highest military honor, the Legion of Honor, at a Honolulu ceremony Oct. 6.

Attorney Patricia Lee, Hawaii's honorary consul of France, presented the award to Kauai resident Masao Tamura, 88, a member of the famed 442nd Regiment.

Tamura was wounded after the towns were liberated, on the second day of a battle to rescue a trapped unit from Texas known as the "Lost Battalion."

Attending the bilingual ceremony were 38 people from one of the liberated towns, Bruyeres, including Deputy Mayor Ludovic Durain. There were also fellow members of the 442nd, one of the most decorated units in the European theater.

Out of gratitude to the 442nd, a sister-city relationship between Honolulu and Bruyeres was established in 1961, Lee said. Wilbert S. Holck, a 442nd St. veteran from Honolulu visited Bruyeres with his family in the late 1950s, where he met Gerard Deschaseaux, who understood some English and was summoned to meet with the Americans. The two men convinced officials in their respective cities to form the sister-city relationship.

Deschaseaux's wife, Marcelle, who was a kindergarten teacher, required students there learn and sing "Hawaii Ponoï," the state song, Lee said. The song was sung at the end of the Oct. 6 ceremony.



442nd RCT veteran Arthur Kurahara in *gassho* at the Nisei Veterans' Center's Sept. 29 joint memorial service for the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

## Nisei Veterans' Center on Maui Gets New Facility

By Associated Press

WAILUKU, Hawaii—The Nisei Veterans Memorial Center on Maui will be able to display memorabilia from Japanese American soldiers of World War II after it finishes building a new Education Center early next year.

The facility is dedicated to recounting the history of the veterans to facilitate the passing down of values, *The Maui News* reported recently.

"The Education Center is in all likelihood going to be the last major facility dedicated to the World War II Japanese American veterans that would have been built and designed during their lifetime," said Brian Moto, general campaign chairman and one of the

center's board members.

Moto's father, the late Kaoru Moto, served as a private first class in the 100th Infantry Battalion and earned the United States' highest military award, the Medal of Honor, along with a Bronze Star and Purple Heart for his heroism.

The center's board members believe the new building will be the "crowning piece" of the "living memorial" that sits on a 6-acre parcel along Kahului Beach Road.

It will house a library, oral histories, and education classrooms. It will have temperature and humidity controls to protect the memorabilia from mold and mildew.

The veterans' center currently has

two other buildings housing a preschool and an adult day care program.

Alexander & Baldwin Inc. donated the land for the center, which has received numerous grants from individuals, corporations and foundations along with money from the government.

The total cost for the veterans' center is nearly \$1.9 million. Of that, some \$1.43 million has already been secured.

Center officials and volunteers are currently making a last push to raise about \$470,000 for the project.

"The story ... of the Nisei soldier is an American story. It is about our country's history and heritage and so therefore it's a story that we hope will inspire and transform all people everywhere," said Moto. ■



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