

# DAY OF REMEMBRANCE 2016

## IS IT 1942 AGAIN?

OVERCOMING OUR FEARS AND  
UPHOLDING CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS  
FOR ALL



SATURDAY, FEBRUARY, 20 2016, 2-4PM

JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

100 N. CENTRAL AVE. LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

EVENT IS PAY-WHAT-YOU-WISH AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

### SPONSORING ORGANIZATIONS



# DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

## IS IT 1942 AGAIN?

OVERCOMING OUR FEARS  
AND UPHOLDING  
CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS  
FOR ALL

On February 19, 1942, President Franklin Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, making it possible for the U.S. military to forcibly remove and incarcerate 120,000 Japanese Americans solely on the basis of race. Each year, communities across the country hold Day of Remembrance programs to recall this shameful chapter in U.S. history and honor the courage and perseverance of the Japanese Americans who were incarcerated.

Our history reminds us how fear and prejudice can threaten the civil liberties of all people. Recently, Muslim Americans and refugees seeking to enter the U.S. have faced backlash after terrorist attacks in Paris and San Bernardino. The 2016 Los Angeles Day of Remembrance program, *Is It 1942 Again? Overcoming Our Fears and Upholding Constitutional Rights for All*, will explore parallels between the experiences of those groups and Japanese Americans during World War II.

# PROGRAM SCHEDULE

## -VIDEO EXCERPT

*Something Strong Within*  
Produced by Robert Nakamura

## -OPENING

Welcome by G.W. Kimura, Ph.D. (Cantab.)  
President and CEO of the Japanese American  
National Museum

## -COMMEMORATION AND REMEMBRANCE

Roll Call and Moment of Silence  
Recognition and Appreciation for the  
American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) -  
Anthony Marsh, AFSC Leadership and  
Planned Gift Officer

## -SPEAKERS

The Honorable Norm Mineta,  
former U.S. Secretary of Transportation

Maytha Alhassen, Provost Ph.D. Fellow  
in American Studies and Ethnicity,  
University of Southern California

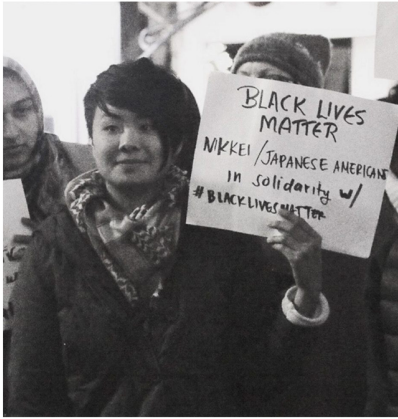
## -CALL TO ACTION

Representative Judy Chu

## -CLOSING AND RECEPTION



# EMCEES



**TRACI ISHIGO**

traci ishigo is a community organizer and solidarity builder informed by the personal, the Japanese American experience, and her work within diverse communities. traci currently works at the Japanese American Citizens League-Pacific Southwest District as the Program Coordinator of efforts such as the #VigilantLove Coalition (a cross-community coalition against violence and Islamophobia), Bridging Communities (a solidarity Japanese and Muslim American arts fellowship), and the Nikkei LGBTQ Initiative.

Bruce Embrey, born and raised in Los Angeles, is the co-chair of the Manzanar Committee, co-founded in 1970 by his mother Sue Kunitomi Embrey. The Manzanar Committee established the annual Pilgrimage which led to the creation of the Manzanar National Historic Site.

Bruce has been a labor organizer, educator, community organizer and political consultant. He has worked for immigration reform, fair housing, civil rights and to expand representation of communities of color in city, county and state government for more than four decades. Bruce was raised with the belief that our democracy is a work in progress that we must continually strive to improve it.



**BRUCE EMBREY**



# SPEAKERS

## Hon. Norm Mineta

Chair, Board of Trustees, JANM

Chair, Executive Committee, JANM

Former Vice-Chairman, Hill & Knowlton Strategies

Former Secretary of Transportation, United States

Department of Transportation, Washington, D.C.

Former Secretary of Commerce, United States Department of Commerce, Washington, D.C.



Secretary Mineta has a public service record that spans 30 years, which includes a 21-year career with the U.S. House of Representatives, before joining Lockheed Martin IMS in 1995. President Clinton appointed him to his Cabinet as Secretary of Commerce, making him the first Asian American Cabinet member. He was appointed by President George Bush as Secretary of Transportation at the start of the President's term and was reappointed to serve a second term. Earlier in his political career, Mr. Mineta served as a member of San Jose's Human Relations Commission and its city council, then as vice mayor, and mayor. He was the first Japanese American to be elected mayor of a major U.S. city. A highlight of his political career was the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which redressed the injustices endured by Americans of Japanese ancestry during World War II. He has served on numerous Boards throughout his career and was Vice-Chairman of Hill & Knowlton Strategies, based in Washington, D.C.



**Maytha Alhassen**, born to Syrian parents in Southern California, is a University of Southern California (USC) Provost Ph.D. Fellow in American Studies and Ethnicity, studying race and ethnicity, social justice and the arts, travel and global flows, gender, media, and narrative healing. Her work bridges the worlds of social justice, academic research, media engagement, and artistic expression. Artistically, Alhassen writes and performs poetry and has worked as a performer and organizer for the play, "Hijabi Monologues." Alhassen regularly appears

Al Jazeera English social media focused program "The Stream" as a guest co-host/digital producer, and as a commentator on HuffPost Live, Fusion Network, Pivot, and the Young Turks. Alhassen has written for CNN, The Huffington Post, Mic, Counterpunch, the collection "I Speak For Myself: American Women on Being Muslim," and in academic journals and books. Alhassen received her B.A. in Political Science and Arabic and Islamic Studies from University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) and her master's in Sociocultural Anthropology from Columbia University.

# SPEAKERS CONT.



**Anthony Marsh** is the Leadership and Planned Gift Officer for the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). Previously, he served as Program Director for AFSC's Los Angeles office for over five years. A Los Angeles native of mixed Japanese and African-American ancestry, Anthony has dedicated his career to serving the community and building a foundation for peace and social justice. He has over a decade of experience working in both the private and public sectors including: directing community relations and college counseling at Pilgrim School, a private school in Los Angeles; coordinating the 90th Anniversary

National Conference for the Fellowship of Reconciliation, the largest interfaith peace organization in the U.S.; and leading policy change within the L.A. County's juvenile corrections system through the Children's Planning Council. He is a graduate of Stanford University, where he earned a B.A. in History with honors and distinction, and holds a Master of Arts degree in Religion from Princeton University.

## American Friends Service Committee

The American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) is a peace and social justice organization founded by the Quakers (also known as the Religious Society of Friends) in 1917. AFSC's work is united by "the unfaltering belief in the essential worth of every human being, nonviolence as the way to resolve conflict, and the power of love to overcome oppression, discrimination, and violence." It employs more than two hundred staff working in dozens of programs throughout the United States and works in thirteen other countries around issues related to peacebuilding, immigrant rights, restorative justice, economic justice, and other causes. AFSC's original mission grew from the need to provide conscientious objectors with a constructive alternative to military service and to assist civilian victims of World War I. By the mid-1920s it focused on improving racial relations in the U.S., as well as exploring ways to prevent the outbreak of another conflict before and after World War II. The AFSC publicly opposed President Franklin D. Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066 calling for the relocation and internment of Japanese Americans. Under Clarence Pickett, AFSC's then executive secretary, it released a statement to members of the Quakers stating, "...we should share in such ways as our limited resources permit in breaking the force of this calamity which has come upon the Japanese population." AFSC assisted Japanese Americans in a variety of ways. Friends offered support by purchasing the homes and businesses of interned Japanese Americans and returning their property to them upon their release. AFSC also led efforts through the National Japanese American Student Relocation Council (NJASRC) to find colleges and universities in Midwest and Eastern states that would be willing to receive released Japanese Americans. Under the sponsorship of the AFSC, the Council ultimately helped more than 4,000 students resettle to pursue their higher education at more than 600 institutions. Additionally, the AFSC established hostels in various cities where individuals who were released from camps could live while looking for work or locating family members.

To this day, AFSC continues its pursuit of peace and social justice through its programs addressing a wide range of issues affecting communities around the world.

# CALL TO ACTION

**Historic Wintersburg** is a rare, Japanese-owned, pre-California Alien Land Law of 1913 property. Representing over a century of Japanese American history, it is a "site of conscience." Everyone associated with the Historic Wintersburg property was forcibly removed and incarcerated during WWII after Executive Order 9066. Historic Wintersburg was named one of America's 11 Most Endangered Historic Places in 2014 and a National Treasure in 2015 by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Washington, D.C. Help us save this important place in American history! Learn more at [www.HistoricWintersburg.blogspot.com](http://www.HistoricWintersburg.blogspot.com)

**"Only the Oaks Remain"** The Tuna Canyon Detention Station Coalition will open its long awaited Traveling Exhibit this fall. Sponsored by the National Park Service Japanese American Confinement Sites grant. [www.tunacanyon.org](http://www.tunacanyon.org)

**Kodomo No Tame Ni:** For The Sake Of The Children/Liberty and Justice For All is the theme for the 47th Annual Manzanar Pilgrimage, sponsored by the Manzanar Committee, scheduled for 12:00 PM on Saturday, April 30, 2016, at the Manzanar National Historic Site. Each year, more than 1,000 people from all walks of life attend the Pilgrimage, including students, teachers, community members, clergy, and former incarcerated. The afternoon event Manzanar At Dusk program is scheduled from 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM that same evening. The Manzanar Pilgrimage and the Manzanar At Dusk programs are free and are open to the public. Bus transportation will be available. For more information, call (323) 662-5102 or send e-mail to [47thpilgrimage@manzanarcommittee.org](mailto:47thpilgrimage@manzanarcommittee.org).

**Sustainable Little Tokyo:** Little Tokyo is at a crisis moment, with threats from rail construction, gentrification, speculation, and other market pressures on the community. To survive this, we need community support – from regularly visiting and patronizing Little Tokyo despite construction, to shopping at the family-owned small businesses. Also, support the movement for Little Tokyo's self-determination and join Sustainable Little Tokyo! For more information, visit us at [www.sustainablelittletokyo.org](http://www.sustainablelittletokyo.org), or contact [sustainable@littletokyola.org](mailto:sustainable@littletokyola.org).

**The Gardena Valley JCI** invites you to their 2016 Day of Remembrance commemoration on Saturday, Feb. 27, 2 – 4:00 p.m. Writer and filmmaker Karen Ishizuka is the featured speaker of the program entitled "Power of Words: Continuing a Community Discussion". The JCI is located at 1964 W. 142nd St., Gardena.

**The #VigilantLove Coalition** is a solidarity community of diverse organizations working actively to ensure the safety and justice of Arab, Middle Eastern, Muslim, Sikh, and South Asian Americans in Los Angeles County. The coalition meets monthly with additional working groups, including policy advocacy, educational culture shift, and media communications. Our next meeting date is Tuesday, February 23, at 7 PM; if you'd like to join us, please contact organizers ([tishigo@jaclpsw.org](mailto:tishigo@jaclpsw.org), [spirzada@cair.com](mailto:spirzada@cair.com)) to RSVP.

**The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)** is a nonprofit 501(c)(3), grassroots civil rights and advocacy group. CAIR is America's largest Muslim civil liberties and advocacy group, with regional offices in more than 20 states. CAIR's mission is to enhance the understanding of Islam, encourage dialogue, protect civil liberties, empower American Muslims, and build coalitions that promote justice and mutual understanding. The Greater Los Angeles Area chapter is one of the oldest and largest CAIR chapters across the country. CAIR-Los Angeles is a household name among Southland Muslims, and a reliable resource and partner for media, public officials and policymakers, advocacy groups, and the interfaith and progressive communities.

# CALL TO ACTION CONT.

**Bridging Communities** is a solidarity arts fellowship for college students, organized by the JACL-Pacific Southwest District and the Council on American Islamic Relations-Los Angeles. Informed by the experiences of Muslim and Japanese American communities during times of war in the United States, the Bridging Communities Fellowship strives to promote and strengthen the opportunities for young Muslim and Japanese American leaders to connect across similarities and differences, in order to build understanding, consciousness and greater solidarity amongst our communities. Please help us raise the necessary funds to host this invaluable program in 2016-2017 by donating to <http://igg.me/at/bridgingcommunitiesLA>.

## RESOURCES

"Remember that consciousness is power. Consciousness is education and knowledge. Consciousness is becoming aware...Tomorrow's world is yours to build." - Yuri Kochiyama

<http://time.com/4152095/rep-mike-honda-japanese-internment-camp/>  
"Mike Honda: What My Time in a Japanese Internment Camp Taught Me About Hate"

<http://www.whyislam.org/>

The project's foremost aim is to provide accurate information about Islam, the fastest growing religion in the world which is practiced by over 1.6 billion people across the globe. In doing so, it hopes to dispel popular stereotypes and persistent misconceptions about Islam and Muslims.

<http://www.muslimspeakersnetwork.org/>

The Muslim Speakers Network, formerly Islamic Speakers Bureau of Southern California, is an educational organization that promotes religious literacy and mutual respect through on-site presentations and interfaith dialogues to schools, colleges, universities, churches and other community organizations.

<http://www.shuracouncil.org/>

Islamic Shura Council is an umbrella organization of Mosques and Muslim organizations serving over half a million Muslims in Southern California, since 1995.

<http://www.rafu.com/2015/12/message-of-tolerance-in-little-tokyo/>

Learn about the #VigilantLove candlelight solidarity vigil against violence and Islamophobia held in Little Tokyo, which gathered over 350 community members on December 10, 2015.

"9066 to 9/11: America's Concentration Camps, Then...and Now?"

This 20-minute documentary will serve as an invaluable educational tool and a primer on the Japanese American camp experience and its relevance today. It focuses on the parallels between the post-September 11 treatment of Arab Americans and Muslims in this country with treatment of Japanese Americans after the start of World War II. Revealing striking similarities, the video addresses the mistreatment of immigrants in the United States, as well as the lack of historical memory by lawmakers and the public about America's concentration camps during World War II. A production of the Japanese American National Museum's Frank H. Watase Media Arts Center. Available for purchase at [janmstore.com](http://janmstore.com).

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Greater Pasadena Area Chapter JACL | San Fernando Valley Chapter JACL  
Greater L.A. Chapter JACL | Venice West Los Angeles Chapter JACL  
Riverside Chapter JACL | Ventura County Chapter JACL  
South Bay Chapter JACL | Downtown Los Angeles Chapter JACL  
San Gabriel Valley JACL | SELANOCO Chapter JACL | Hollywood Chapter JACL  
San Diego Chapter JACL  
Asian American Drug Abuse Program | Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance  
Japanese American Bar Association | Historic Wintersburg | Islamic Shura Council  
Muslim Public Affairs Council | Pilipino Workers Center | Tuna Canyon Coalition  
Council on American Islamic Relations- Los Angeles

## SPECIAL THANKS

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Kay Ochi - NCRR  
Mark Robbins - JANM  
Koji Steven Sakai - JANM

## 2016 DAY OF REMEMBRANCE ORGANIZED BY:

Japanese American Citizens League - Pacific Southwest District  
[www.jaclpsw.org](http://www.jaclpsw.org) | 213-626-4471  
Japanese American National Museum  
[www.janm.org](http://www.janm.org) | 213-625-0414  
Manzanar Committee  
[www.manzanarcommittee.org](http://www.manzanarcommittee.org) | 323-662-5102  
Nikkei for Civil Rights & Redress  
[www.ncrr-la.org](http://www.ncrr-la.org) | 213-283-0366