

FEBRUARY 16, 2008 DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

2:00 PM Japanese American National Museum, 369 E. First St. Los Angeles, CA 90012

Organized by: the Japanese American National Museum, Nikkei for Civil Rights & Redress and the JACL Pacific Southwest District

From the
Commission Hearings
to the
Civil Liberties Act
and
Beyond...
The
Power of
Grassroots Activism:
Unleashing
Community
Voices

Anniversary
of Redress



Day of Remembrance 2008

Program Description

The Day of Remembrance is held each year to commemorate President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066 on February 19, 1942. EO 9066 authorized the unconstitutional forced removal of 120,000 Japanese Americans from the west coast and Hawai'i during World War II.

On August 10, 1988 President Ronald Reagan signed the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 which legislated monetary reparations and a governmental apology to each eligible person who had been incarcerated and whose rights had been violated almost 50 years earlier. This bill included an education fund to support projects and activities that would educate the American public about the injustice of the incarceration of Japanese Americans. The Civil Liberties Act was won through a grassroots campaign and the efforts of the entire community along with many justice minded people. This 2008 Day of Remembrance program celebrates the grassroots activism starting with Japanese Americans testifying at the Commission Hearings in 1981 through letter writing and lobbying for redress to the current demand for compensation to Japanese Latin Americans. The Day of Remembrance is widely commemorated by communities across the nation.

About the Cover Artist:

Karl Tani



Karl Tani was born in downtown Los Angeles, CA. His father was a gardener and his mother a housewife. He and his family were moved to Jerome, Arkansas and then to Gila, Arizona during the evacuation of Japanese Americans during World War II. They returned to downtown Los Angeles at the end of the war where he started elementary school. Karl and his family then moved to Venice, California 3 years later when his parents bought a house. He graduated from Venice High School and earned a BA degree in art from UCLA. Karl's graphic design career began in Los Angeles, then went to Santa Fe, Tulsa, San Diego and now Orange. Currently he also teaches 3 digital media classes at Santa Ana College and Santiago Canyon College. Karl enjoys traveling and has been to India, Europe, China, New Zealand, Fiji and Mexico, as well as across the U.S.

Program Emcees:

June Kizu

June Kizu was a founding member of LACRR (Los Angeles Coalition for Redress and Reparations). This was the first grass roots group in Los Angeles to specifically pursue redress and reparations for the Nikkei community members who were directly impacted by the Executive Order 9066. She remained active for several years as the movement grew through the National Coalition for Redress and Reparations. She testified on behalf of NCRR at the 1981 CWRIC hearings in Los Angeles and traveled to Washington to lobby for the NCRR redress bill. She recently retired as a teacher after many years of service to Los Angeles Unified School District and served on the Asian Pacific Committee of the United Teachers of Los Angeles.

She recently retired as a teacher after many years of service to Los Angeles Unified School District.

Craig Ishii

Craig is a recent graduate of UCLA, majoring in history and economics. He was an active member of the Nikkei Student Union (NSU) at UCLA where he was involved in a variety of cultural, political, and community issues. Through the NSU he was introduced to the Asian Pacific Coalition which helped him to realize his duties as an Asian American. He is anxious to work on the programs established by the JAACL in the areas of tolerance, diversity, and education.

During his junior year at UCLA, Craig served as Internal Vice President for the NSU. He was Board President of the NSU during his senior year. Through his participation with NSU, Craig became involved with the JAACL. Craig is inspired by the commitment of the many generations of Japanese Americans who came before him.

2008 Day of Remembrance

Welcome

Akemi Kikumura-Yano, Japanese American National Museum
Emcees: June Kizu (NCRR) and Craig Ishii (JAACL PSW)

“Unleashing Community Voices” Performance

Traci Kato-Kiriyama, Creative Director

Statement on the Day of Remembrance

Nikkei for Civil Rights & Redress

Snapshot of the Collegiate DOR Scene

UCR Nichibei Bunka Kai, USC Nikkei, UCSD Nikkei Student Union

Personal Perspectives on DOR

Penny Ishizuka, Stacy Iwata

Campaign for Justice: Redress Now for Japanese Latin Americans

Congressman Xavier Becerra, Christine Oh

Gosa

HanNuRi Korean American Cultural Troupe

Closing

Reception

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 1, 2008

Dear Day of Remembrance Participants:

As members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we thank you for your observance of the "Day of Remembrance." We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the organizers for their steadfast work to increase public awareness about the significance of this day in our nation's history.

This year marks the 30th anniversary of when the "Day of Remembrance" was first commemorated in Seattle, Washington on February 19, 1978. On that same day in 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 leading to the reprehensible internment of persons of Japanese ancestry. These legal residents and American citizens faced humiliation such as being branded as "enemy aliens" and severe restrictions including travel limitation, seizure of personal property, forced relocation, and use in prisoner exchanges. When President Gerald R. Ford issued Proclamation 4417 to formally terminate EO 9066, America finally began a healing process that continues to this day.

The "Day of Remembrance" has become an important institution in the Japanese American community; however, its message of tolerance has transcended the cultural and ethnic divide. On this day, along with ceremonies to observe the tragedy suffered by thousands of people of Japanese descent, Americans of all walks of life come together to unite against bigotry and extremism that threaten the values and traditions that make America the shining symbol of democracy, freedom and human rights. In 2004, the House of Representatives unanimously affirmed this with passage of H.Res. 56, a resolution supporting the goals of the Japanese American, German American and Italian American communities in recognizing a national Day of Remembrance to increase education about the World War II experience of their communities, and provide an opportunity for all people to reflect on the importance of justice and civil liberties during times of crisis and war.

This year also marks the 20th Anniversary of the enactment of the Civil Rights Act of 1988 in which Congress and the president recognized the egregious actions of the United States Government against persons of Japanese ancestry during World War II. Despite the passage of this historic legislation, there are hundreds of Japanese Latin Americans who have yet to receive appropriate redress. While we work to ensure timely passage of legislation that would address the indignities suffered by this wronged group, we encourage you, along with community leaders, activists and volunteers to redouble efforts to increase awareness of this vitally important issue and the cause of Japanese Latin Americans.

Thank you for continuing the tradition of the "Day of Remembrance."

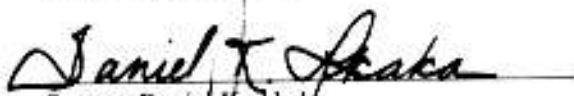
Sincerely,



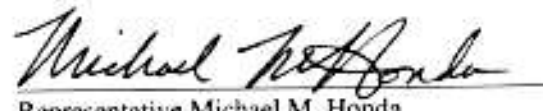
Senator Daniel K. Inouye
Executive Board Member



Representative Xavier Becerra
Executive Board Member



Senator Daniel K. Akaka
Executive Board Member



Representative Michael M. Honda
Chairman

- 1 -

PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER

About today's Performers and Performances: Traci Kato-Kiriyama



Traci Kato-Kiriyama is an interdisciplinary artist, arts producer, and community organizer. She is the founder of the Tuesday Night Cafe Project, a multi-disciplinary, free-to-the-public performance space that gathers local Los Angeles artists and the Asian Pacific Islander community in the downtown and Little Tokyo regions of the city. Her dedication to the community centers around her work with youth

in projects that include *Eskwela Kultura*, the *Khmer Girls in Action*, and the Hmong community stories project with Nobuko Miyamoto at the University of Wisconsin.

Recently, Kato-Kiriyama accepted the position of Program Coordinator at the Asian American Resource Center at Pomona College. As an "Artist in Residence" at the AARC, she will continue her work in the arts community drawing upon her depth of experience from performing with spoken word and theater based group "zero 3", and collaborations with organizations such as Great Leap, Gabriela Network, Khmer Girls in Action, FilAm Arts and Asian Youth Center.

"Unleashing Community Voices" Performance

This year's DOR will feature a multi-media performance piece created and directed by Traci Kato-Kiriyama, performance artist and arts producer. The performance will highlight the grassroots community activism of Nikkei for Civil Rights & Redress (NCCR) in the redress campaign that contributed to the passage of the redress legislation.

The piece will highlight the stories of activists from the past and present focusing on what inspired them to act and speak out on behalf of the community. The stories will be connected to activism in the present and all woven together with multimedia and taiko drumming.

The piece will feature community voices from Kay Ochi, Kathy Masaoka, Suzy Katsuda, Frank Emi, Jim Matsuoka, Sean Miura and Traci Kato-Kiriyama. Multimedia images were provided by NCCR, and Tari Ikeda. Video editing was done by Lushun Quon. Taiko pieces performed by Progressive Taiko members, Jason Osajima, Kene Kubo, Minoru Nishida and Joel Mankey.

Congressman Xavier Becerra

First elected to the House of Representatives in 1992, Representative Xavier Becerra is Assistant to the Speaker of the House and is the only member from Southern California currently serving on the powerful House Committee



on Ways and Means. His committee is responsible for formulating our nation's tax, Social Security, Medicare, trade and income security laws. As Assistant to the Speaker, Rep. Becerra wields a strong voice in House Leadership, helping to set priorities and drive the legislative decision making process.

The first Latino to serve on the Ways and Means Committee, Rep. Becerra has used his position to increase opportunities for working families, to improve the Social Security program for women and minorities, to combat poverty among the working poor, and to strengthen Medicare and ensure its long-term viability. Rep. Becerra currently serves on the Health, Oversight, and Social Security subcommittees. He is also a member of the House Committee on Budget, which oversees the federal budget process.

Rep. Becerra is a member of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) where he served as Chair during the 105th Congress (1997-98). The Congressman is also a member of the Executive Committee of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus. At the international level, he serves as Vice Chair of the U.S.-Korea Interparliamentary Exchange, and is Co-Chair of the Congressional Friends of Spain Caucus.

Prior to his election to Congress, Rep. Becerra served one term in the California Legislature as the representative of the 59th Assembly District in Los Angeles County. He is a former Deputy Attorney General with the California Department of Justice. The congressman began his legal career in 1984 working in a legal services office representing the mentally ill.

Rep. Becerra is married to Dr. Carolina Reyes. They are the proud parents of three young daughters: Clarisa, Olivia and Natalia. The Becerra family resides in the Los Angeles neighborhood of Eagle Rock.

Nichibei Bunka Kai University of California, Riverside

Nichibei Bunka Kai is about educating students about Japanese American culture. However, it is also about bringing together those who are interested in Japanese culture and building relations based on our common interest. Our club is composed of a very diverse group of students. We have students from UC Riverside who study many different majors and come from various backgrounds, but we also invite students from other schools and extension students from Japan to participate as well.

Nikkei Association University of Southern California

With a tradition of serving Japanese American students since before World War II, it is only natural that the USC campus is home to the USC Nikkei Association. Founded in 1995 by Kori Hojo, the USC Nikkei Association (also known as simply "Nikkei") seeks to provide a place for Trojans to explore Japanese American culture and to find a community of students and faculty alike with similar interests. As we continue our thirteenth year as a recognized organization, we also continue a tradition of growth with expanded service projects, fresh ideas for our annual Day of Remembrance, and the first Japanese American culture show to be performed on the USC campus. USC Nikkei is proud to take part in this year's Day of Remembrance commemoration and looks forward to another year with its Little Tokyo neighbors.

Nikkei Student Union University of California, San Diego

The Nikkei Student Union (formerly known as the Japanese American Society established in 1988) is the oldest and largest Japanese-interest organization on the UCSD campus, allowing Japanese American, Japanese and any other interested students to interact in a socially conducive environment while promoting awareness of the JA and Japanese culture, history and other issues. With over 120 members, NSU holds about 15-20 general body meetings and well over 20 cultural and social events throughout the academic year, including a Day of Remembrance, Culture Show, Iron Chef and participating in the annual Pilgrimage to Manzanar. Also, as a member of the Intercollegiate Nikkei Council, UCSD NSU participates in numerous JA community events while networking with other Nikkei student organizations as well as non-profit organizations throughout the southern California community.

Penny Ishizuka



From Aiea, Hawaii, Penny Ishizuka is a third year Biomedical Engineering major. Currently the president of the USC Nikkei Association after a year as secretary, Penny is also the treasurer of the USC chapter of the Society of Women in Engineering and is a member of USC's Kazan Taiko group.

Stacy Iwata



Stacy Iwata is a junior at UCSD, pursuing a major in Psychology and a minor in Japanese Studies and considering a career in Human Resources. She is an alumni of the Nikkei Community Internship and is this year's president of the Nikkei Student Union at UCSD. When she isn't busy with academics, NSU or her part-time job at the UCSD School of Medicine-Dean's Office, she enjoys watching movies, cooking, shopping and watching the Los Angeles Kings' hockey games.

HanNuRi Korean American Cultural Troupe Performance Piece: Gosa

"Gosa" is a Korean worship ritual to the ancestors and the heavens for the well-being of family and community, and for the remembrance of those who have passed away. Today's "gosa" has been adapted to honor the past activism against the injustice experienced by Japanese Americans, and to pray for present and future generations of activism addressing unresolved redress issues and current and future civil liberties challenges.

NCRR Website Introduces the Day of Remembrance Archives



The Nikkei for Civil Rights & Redress (NCRR) is pleased to introduce the Day of Remembrance Archives, a new exhibit located on the existing NCRR website <<ncrr-la.org>>. NCRR invites community members and interested individuals to view the retrospective of the past DOR programs.

Each February, from 1982 to the present, NCRR has hosted the DOR in Los Angeles to acknowledge President Roosevelt's signing of Executive Order 9066 on February 19, 1942. The order allowed the military to forcibly remove and incarcerate over 110,000 men, women and children in America's concentration camps during World War II. The DOR program has traditionally honored the Issei and the Nisei who suffered the dire effects of the unconstitutional and unwarranted incarceration.



In addition, each year the program updated the community on the progress of the campaign for reparations and called for participation and action to advance the community's campaign. The guest speakers and performers at the DORs have represented redress issues and other community concerns. Keynote speakers have included Congressional representatives Robert Matsui, Norman Mineta, Alan Cranston, and Mervyn Dymally. The social justice issues of Arab and Muslim Americans and the forced repatriation of Mexican Americans in the 1930's have been presented in recent DOR programs.

Community activists have been honored at the program with NCRR's Fighting Spirit Award. Recipients have included Frank Emi, James Omura, Bert Nakano, Alice Nishimoto and Carmen Mochizuki, Jim Saito and Michi Weglyn.



Performance artists have participated in the DORs to enhance each program. Artists have included David Iwataki, Traci Kato-Kiriyama, Johnny Mori, Jude Narita, Lane Nishikawa, Keiko & Kazu Matsui, Visiting Violette and Zero 3.

In addition, visual artists have supported the DOR events through their gift of art work. Each year, a community artist created a design to be used as the DOR poster. During the 1980s and 1990s, the posters were distributed throughout the community to announce and promote the program. Contributing artists have included David Monkawa, Miles Hamada, Tony Osumi, Wes Senzaki, Qris Yamashita and Mike Nakayama.

Each year's DOR program can be accessed through the NCRR website. The previous 26 DOR posters are the portals to each year's program. By clicking on the date below each poster, the viewer can find the program summary, photos, speeches, and news articles about each event.



The Archive project is funded by a grant from the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP). The second phase of this project will feature documents and photos that record NCRR's work during the 1980's and 1990's redress campaign. The Redress Campaign Archives will be available to the public by the summer of 2008.

For further information, contact NCRR at ncrrla@yahoo.com or at (213) 680-3484.

Program Sponsors:

JACL Ventura County Chapter
JACL San Fernando Valley Chapter
JACL Orange County Chapter
JACL Riverside Chapter
JACL Greater LA Singles Chapter
JACL San Gabriel Valley Chapter
JACL Gardena Valley Chapter
JACL SELANOCO Chapter
JACL Greater Pasadena Chapter
JACL Venice Culver Chapter
JACL West LA Chapter
JACL Downtown Chapter
Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance
Council on American Islamic Relations
Japanese American Bar Association
Japanese American Historical Society of Southern California
Korean Immigrant Workers Association
Little Tokyo Service Center
Manzanar Committee
Muslim Public Affairs Council

Program Endorsers:

Campaign for Justice
J-Town Voice
Japanese American Cultural and Community Center
Organization of Chinese Americans
South Asian Network
Visual Communications

Special Thanks:

Carrie Morita	Jim Matsuoka	Evelyn Yoshimura
HyunJoo Lee	Frank Emi	Wendy Mori
Feast From the East	Progressive Taiko	June Hibino
Melvin Tabilas	Lushun Quon	...and to all the many volunteers

Day of Remembrance Committee:

Kay Ochi
Kathy Masaoka
Suzy Katsuda
Miyako Kadogawa
Chris Komai
Alayne Yonemoto
Melvin Tabilas
Craig Ishii

2008 Day of Remembrance Organized By:

Nikkei for Civil Rights & Redress - www.ncrr-la.org - 213.680.3484
Japanese American National Museum - www.janm.org - 213.625.0414
Japanese American Citizens League Pacific Southwest District - www.jaclpsw.org - 213.626.4471

