# Coming Events

**Sep 22**  
**Berkeley Nikkei Seniors Group** at the  
North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Ave., Berkeley. This group meets every 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month. For information contact Howard Fukuda (howardfukuda@gmail.com)

**Sep 29**  
**Contested Histories**; Hear JANM Clement Hanami and Nancy Ukai; at JSei; see attached flyer

**Oct 6**  
**Panel Discussion and For the Sake of the Children**; Rosie the Riveter Visitor Center; see article inside

**Oct 13**  
**Angel Island Pilgrimage with Nichi Bei Foundation**; see article inside

**Oct 14**  
**Allegiance with the Berkeley JACL**; Contra Costa Theater; see article inside

**Nov 15**  
**Deadline for submitting ads in the Pacific Citizen**; see article inside

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**Making Noise** is a means to exercise your right to express your views, humor, concerns, or anything else of interest. We will be happy to print it in our Newsletter. Please write to the JACL Berkeley Chapter newsletter, c/o Berkeley JACL, P.O Box 7609, Berkeley, CA 94707-0609. **MAKE SOME NOISE!!!**

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**From Executive Order 9066 to Executive Orders today: Our Rights, Our Democracy, Our Humanity**

*Misako Shigekawa had two children while incarcerated at Poston including daughter, Marlene, and son, Gerald. Marlene is the executive producer of a new documentary.*  
*Photo courtesy of Marlene Shigekawa.*

Berkeley JACL is co-sponsoring a free screening of the documentary “For the Sake of the Children,” which will be shown Saturday October 6, at 11 AM. at the Rosie the Riveter visitor center in Richmond, a National Park Service site.

Marlene Shigekawa, a Lafayette sansei who is the film’s producer, asks: “What is the impact of the Japanese American internment on you and your family?” For Marlene, this is a personal question. She and her brother were both born at Poston, Arizona. Before her mother, Misako, died at age 103, Marlene interviewed her for the documentary.

The film will be followed by a panel discussion that will include Nisei Carolyn Adams, a Berkeley JACL board member and survivor of the Tule Lake camp; Cast member, Mary Higuchi; Marlene Shigekawa, Executive Producer and Co-Director. Wendy Tokuda, former KPIX anchor will moderate

Reservations are required and can be made at Tel: 510-232-5050 x0.  
Seating is limited to 49. To view the trailer, go to [www.forthesakeofchildren.org](http://www.forthesakeofchildren.org).  
Address: 1414 Harbour Way South, Suite 3000. Richmond, CA 94804
Making Noise

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Half Of What?

By Ken Yabusaki

The April 6-19, 2018 issue of the Pacific Citizen featured the article, “Hapa Days are Here Again”. I, including many Hawaiians and Hawaiian linguists am disturbed over the continued misuse of the word, “Hapa”, a transliteration of the English word, “half”. In the mid-1990s, I approached the student organization “Hapa Issues Forum” (HIF) at the University of California at Berkeley about their misappropriation of the term, “Hapa”. At the time, some Hawaiians felt the manner in which HIF used “Hapa” was a form of “cultural prostitution”. HIF went even so far to use “Hapa” as the title of their newsletter, “What’s Hapaning”. The response I received from HIF in the 1990s was, we understand your discomfort, but we're going to use it the way we like. They even set me up to join a panel discussion on the use of “Hapa” where I was attacked and called a hypocrite because I referred to myself as a “Kotonk” which they thought was a Hawaiian word. After I enlightened them that “Kotonk” was a term the Nisei soldiers called Mainland soldiers during basic training in ridicule of having hollow heads that made the sound, “Kotonk!” To their credit, the HIF eventually changed its name to the “Multi-cultural Student Union” and refer to themselves as “mixed race” rather than “Hapa”.

I have always contended how can one feel whole when Hapa means “half” in Hawaiian? What's wrong with saying one is “mixed race”? I was told back in the 1990s by HIF that “Hapa” was a Hawaiian word for mixed race (Wrong) and it diffused to the West Coast and accepted and endeared by multiracial Japanese Americans. Acceptance, however, has no relevance to cultural sensitivity and correctness. I people who actually thought “Hapa” was a Japanese word. In the context of the Hawaiian language “Hapalua” is the correct way to say “half”, not “Hapa”. In the 1990s I asked Haunani Trask, who was deeply involved with the Hawaiian Sovereignty Movement on what she felt about HIF misusing the word, Hapa. Trask told me its misuse was oppressive and a form of colonialism. I then asked a Hawaiian language club the same question. The club had no problems with using “Hapa” if it was used properly. For example, a multiracial person (e.g. Caucasian and Japanese descent) should be called Hapalua Haole or Hapalua Japanese. Literally, HIF would mean “half of an issues forum” or anyone being “Hapa” is literally accepting they are “half”. However, what does one mean by “half”? If most multiracial persons were to breakdown their “racial-ness” they would discover they are not half this or half that, but perhaps 1/8, 1/4, 1/16, etc. of this or that racial group. Personally, I feel many think the word, “Hapa”, is cute or exploit it for personal convenience without being sensitive to the Hawaiian culture —especially in the context of a culture that was decimated by colonialism.

In conclusion, in spite of the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s, racism is still alive and well in the U.S. We speak of race as if it were something “pure”, but somehow we tend to mix race and culture and end up with misappropriations like the use of “Hapa”. Race and culture are like apples and oranges. If I were racially African but born and raised in Japan, learned its language and every custom of being Japanese, I would be more “Japanese” than a Japanese American born in the U.S. who only knows English and the culture of Hollywood. Until we are aware that a culture binds people together and that all forms of prejudice are culturally based then, the hullabaloo about white supremacy, multiculturalism, multiracial issues, are really about the anthropological notion of “my own group” and the “outsider”. It’s more important to ask “Who are you?” versus “What are you?” and if we deconstruct the origins of the human race, from a biochemical and evolutionary vantage points, that is, down to our DNA, “We are all mongrels”.

Four Berkeley JACL Awarded 2018 National JACL Scholarships

By Ron Tanaka

The chapter proudly announces that National JACL has awarded four scholarships to Berkeley chapter members: two (2) freshman scholarships, one (1) graduate scholarship, and one (1) special awards scholarship.

Freshman Scholarships

Kailee Nabeta (Boise State University)- Recipient of the Patricia & Gail Memorial Freshman Scholarship -- Established by Harry K. and Tomoko Ishimoto, in memory of their two daughters who passed away together in an auto accident in January 1969. Both were students at Dorsey High School in Los Angeles. A graduate of Rio Americano High School in
Sacramento, Kailee was recognized as an Academic All-American for her high GPA and outstanding swimming times achieved at both Section and California State competition. An outstanding student athlete, Kailee was awarded an athletic scholarship to Boise State University. She will major in Kinesiology.

**Luka Uchiyama** (Cal Poly – San Luis Obispo)- Recipient of the Deni & June Uejima Memorial Freshman Scholarship -- The Uejimas were very committed to the Japanese American community and longtime members of the San Gabriel Valley JACL. Deni served multiple terms as the chapter’s president. They bequeathed this endowment to reach out to and support the community’s young leaders. A Castro Valley High School (CVHS) graduate, Luka achieved high academic status and was named a CVHS Scholar Athlete in swimming and cross country. Active in the community, she organized a blood drive to benefit the Stanford medical center, organized the Castro Valley Canned Food Drive, collected funds to benefit the Adopt-A-Family program, and volunteered in the Walk To End Alzheimer’s. She will attend Cal-Poly San Luis Obispo and major in Bioresource and Agricultural Engineering.

**Graduate Scholarship**

**Mali McGuire** (University of the Pacific School of Dentistry – SF)- Recipient of the Dr. Kiyoshi Sonoda Memorial Graduate Scholarship -- A graduate of the University of Southern California School of Dentistry, Dr. Sonoda established a successful dental practice in Los Angeles. An active member of the JACL beginning in 1945, Dr. Sonoda was one of the first life members of the One Thousand Club and a past president of the West Los Angeles JACL Chapter. This scholarship is restricted to students studying in the field of dentistry. Mali received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology with a minor in Studio Arts in May 2017 and a Master of Science degree in Healthcare Systems Engineering in May 2018 from Loyola Marymount University. Since July 2018, Mali has been in dental school at the University of the Pacific Arthur A. Dugoni School of Dentistry in San Francisco.

**Special Awards Scholarship**

**Kai Henthorn-Iwane** (Loyola Marymount University)- Recipient of the Henry and Chiyo Kuwahara Creative Arts Special Award -- This scholarship was established to encourage creative projects that reflect the Japanese American experience and cultural representation. All technical work of the applicant should be at the university level. Kai is a June 2018 graduate of Berkeley High School and is enrolled at Loyola Marymount University as a Studio Arts major.

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Please support the Berkeley JACL by submitting a “Season’s Greeting” or advertisement in this year’s Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue. This is our chapter’s largest (and only) fundraiser for the year. Your past support helped us present several major community events in 2017 and 2018: “Talk-story and Treasures - Artifacts Tell Tales We Must Not Forget,” “Art Then & Now - A Thread that Connect Us,” and “An Afternoon of Artist Gene Sogioka’s Poston – former Disney artist’s watercolors unveiled.”

Last year our active Civil Rights Committee organized a well-received panel discussion, “Conversations for Action: Strategies to Connect Us” which brought together diverse representation from various minority organizations for coalition building. This year’s event, “Intersecting Identities within the Japanese-American Community” focused on building awareness, creating meaningful dialog and learning how to support and uplift different identities within our community.
With your help, we can continue to award grants and scholarships, support activities for our seniors, sponsor youth involvement in the Nikkei community including participation at the JACL National Convention, host relevant and culturally sensitive events, maintain civil rights and hate crime awareness and print our wonderful newsletter. We are counting on your generosity to assist us in these worthy endeavors by placing a holiday ad in the Pacific Citizen.

The ad rate remains unchanged at $25 per column inch. A 2 column x 2 inch (business card size) ad costs $100. There are a variety of ad sizes to choose from. Each column is approximately 1¾” wide. We encourage you to increase the size of your ad – the additional income for the chapter is appreciated! Please don’t hesitate to contact us with any questions. **The deadline for the holiday greetings is November 15.**

However, if you need additional time, please give one of us a call and we’ll work with you to ensure your submission appears in the Pacific Citizen Holiday Issue.

Renewals are as simple as (1) sending us your approval via email OR (2) calling by phone to give us “the go ahead” OR (3) returning the ad form to the address noted below. Please let us know if you have any changes (new graphic, change greeting, update year, etc.). Renewal forms will be emailed/snail mailed to you in October. If you wish to place a new ad, please email us your ad copy or business card and graphics, if any.

Payment: Your check should be made payable to Berkeley JACL and mailed to **PC Holiday Ads – Berkeley JACL, c/o 928 Fresno Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94707.** Sorry, but we are unable to accept credit card payments.

Should you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact our holiday ad coordinators at berkeleyjacl@gmail.com. We deeply appreciate your generous support. Thank you very much!

**2018 JACL National Convention Recap**

*By Jim Duff*

**Redress, Resistance and Reconciliation**, the theme of this year’s National JACL Convention held in Philadelphia was particularly meaningful as we celebrated the 30th anniversary of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988. Plenary sessions included (1) several prominent individuals currently working in the film industry shared their perspectives on Nikkei contributions to the Asian American Cinema Movement; (2) Panelists Grant Ujifusa, Karen Narasaki and Stuart Ishimaru discussed their involvement and perspectives on how the struggle for redress fits into America’s broader civil rights struggle; (3) Denso Executive Director Tom Ikeda spoke about their ongoing programs. Workshops offered included presentations and discussions on the **#metoo** movement, hate crimes, caregiving, the Kakehashi program, storytelling, preservation of Japanese American confinement sites grant program and an introduction to core elements of live performance.

**JACL continues to be relevant in civil rights and social justice issues, passing the following resolutions:**

- **ER-1:** Advocates for the right of due process and equal rights for all and calls for an end to indefinite detention and the separation of families seeking asylum in the USA. Included was the opposition to building new detention facilities.
- **ER-2:** Calls upon Congress to curtail the discriminatory policies and practices of the travel ban.
- **R-1:** Hiring new staff to fill Regional Director vacancies in the Pacific Southwest and Midwest.
- **R-2:** Establishment of a National Young Professional Caucus.

The proposed change to the by-laws reverting from annual back to a biennial convention was narrowly defeated.

Among the many convention highlights was the election of young leaders to the JACL National Board. The energy and enthusiasm of these new board members was contagious and spread quickly amongst the delegates and boosters. We are proud to have young JACLers stepping forward and picking up the reins to strengthen the legacy of our civil rights organization.

The Berkeley Chapter was well represented at the 2018 National JACL Convention by a youth dominated delegation comprised of Lindsey Kawahara, Cole Huster and Yumi Kobayashi. They fearlessly addressed the National Council expressing astute comments and queries. Jim Duff was the lead delegate with Valerie Yasukochi attending as a youth mentor and proxy for the Contra Costa and Japan chapter.

Please see the Pacific Citizen Issue No. 3326 Aug. 3-23, 2018 for further details about the convention and some great photos of your chapter representatives!!
We look forward to seeing you next year in Salt Lake City to celebrate JACL’s 50th Convention!

Berkeley JACL Chapter Representatives: Valerie Yasukochi, Cole Huster, Lindsey Kawahara, Yumi Kobayashi, and Jim Duff

JACL Convention Experiences

By Lindsey Kawahara

As a new JACL member, I was not sure what to expect at the 2018 National JACL Convention in Philadelphia PA, but I ended up having an inspiring experience that gave me a new appreciation and excitement about the organization. While a year with the Berkeley Chapter gave me an opportunity to engage with our local members and community, the national convention showed me the depth of JACL’s history and the scope of its influence across the country. I was unsure about how to navigate the convention and interact with other JACL members, but having veteran Berkeley members like Jim Duff and Val Yasukochi there made it feel familiar and comfortable.

While the convention had many activities from film screenings to a nightlife event at the Barnes Foundation art museum, I was particularly impressed with the presentation and discussion of the emergency resolutions against the Muslim Travel Ban and the indefinite detention of undocumented immigrants. The discourse was civil and it was great to see we were united in standing up for other marginalized groups. It was also exciting to see the newly elected national board comprised of younger individuals and the broad support of growing JACL’s youth and young adult programming. Even when the other chapters were split on our district’s constitution and bylaws proposal to return to biannual national conventions, it was interesting to hear everyone’s perspectives and empowering to feel that we as a district had voiced the concerns of smaller chapters and informed the national board of significant financial issues that need to be addressed.

I also appreciated hearing from this year’s convention speakers, which included actors, filmmakers, and Densho’s Executive Director, Tom Ikeda. Their general message about the importance of telling our stories and having representation resonated. They not only gave me hope about our growing voice, but also reminded me how critical it is that we support each other in those efforts. Hearing from other chapters about what they were doing to continue telling our history and engage with and grow their community further moved me to encourage my friends to get involved and be a part of its continued growth.

I cannot thank the Berkeley JACL enough for the unique opportunity to experience the national convention with such incredible people. I am excited about continuing to grow in JACL and stay inspired.

By Cole Huster

Being on the board of the Berkeley JACL for two years, I really wanted to understand how JACL operated at the national level. My sister had gone to convention the year prior, and said that it was a great way to do that, as well as meet lots of people who are also passionate about the organization. I was very eager to attend, and the Berkeley JACL as well as the NCWNP was generous enough to offer me scholarships, so that I could do so without having to worry about my travel or rooming expenses.

As the convention was in Philadelphia, it was a very unique experience for me. It was the farthest and longest I have ever travelled alone, but was generally too excited to feel homesick or lonely at any points. There was so much to do, so many things to learn, and so many people to meet that I found myself wishing that there were more hours in the day to do everything that I wanted to in Philly. Indeed, the time that I got to spend with other young Japanese-Americans was probably what I valued most from the convention experience. I had never before been in an environment where the element that tied me with such a large group of my peers was my Japanese American identity. The National Youth / Student Council (NY/SC) provided us the opportunity to meet and spend time together throughout the convention. Being a member of this friend group and going to events together produced a feeling that I had not felt in those circumstances before: pride. I was proud to be spending time with youth who were drawn together by an identity that they all shared -
and wanted to learn more about. Exploring the Philadelphia streets and listening to G Yamazawa, a Japanese American rapper, at the Barnes Foundation, was completely unique experiences for me. We also did what young people love to do: have fun- a self-care night with face masks, and sharing stories in a hotel room until the early hours of the morning, just to name a few examples.

With all of this fun going on, there still was a convention to attend (which is not to say that it was not exciting). We sat through National Council Meetings where we discussed issues prominent to the Japanese American community. We passed resolutions opposing the Muslim ban and the separation of families seeking asylum along our southern border, as they remind us so strongly of the Incarceration that tore apart many of our families and communities. I even spoke in front of the delegates to support the resolution on the table, and it was a very empowering experience.

I learned a lot about the role that an individual can play in our democracy, however insignificant you might feel at a given point in time, and I met so many wonderful people who I will certainly be keeping in touch with, at Convention. It was truly a unique experience, and I am extremely grateful for the opportunity that I was given to attend.

**Heart Mountain Pilgrimage**

_By Amelia Huster_

This past summer, my grandmother took a very brave step. She courageously decided to visit a place that had only occupied her imagination, a place that represents great trauma and pain but had no real shape. I was honored to join her. During World War 2, my great grandmother and grandfather were forced to pack up, leave their plum farm and “relocate” to barren, dry and dusty Heart Mountain Wyoming. It was here where my grandmother was born. This July, I visited Heart Mountain Wyoming on a pilgrimage with her and my family.

I had grown up hearing few stories of “camp”. My grandma would tell me about the lamb curry her mom ate almost every night and how she despised lamb curry to that day. I always wondered what else there was to “camp” behind the little snippets I would hear about nonchalantly. Discussing the incarceration came with a feeling of deep embarrassment and shame for my great grandma, great grandpa, and even my grandma, which is why it was rarely discussed. While completely normal, I never really understand why this was the case. I understood the sensitivity around the subject, but it was in no way their fault let alone was it a reflection in any way of their character or personhood, so it was hard for me to understand the shame that it brought. This disgraceful, dehumanizing violation of civil rights and disregard of shared humanity had happened to them and it seemed obvious to me that my family would know it was not a reflection of them. When I visited the incarceration site, it became clearer to me the emotional implications that being incarcerated could have on a family.

When we stepped onto the site, there was nothing but highway and dry land as far as the eye could see. A sense of complete isolation came over me almost immediately. How could thousands of people spend years of their life here and remain in good spirits, let alone sane? As we continued walking through the site, we were allowed to enter an original barrack where internees were housed during their years spent incarcerated. They were tiny and made out of wooden planks. We learned that as the months went on, the planks would stretch and let in dust and snow and rain as the seasons changed. How frustrating it must be for the inside of your “home” and all of your belongings to be covered in dust and damaged by snow. As the day went on, we got to visit and stand on the land where the hospital my grandmother was born was located. We learned that an internee suffering from colon cancer was prescribed with laxatives and eventually passed away due to lack of treatment. We learned of a patient that was denied access to their medical specialist and inevitably went blind. How dehumanizing it must have been to watch your spouse, sibling, parent, grandparent, friend or child suffer great pain with no real care. When I saw firsthand and got to learn more about all of these conditions in which my family were thrown into, I could begin to understand how they could shape someone for the rest of their lives. Hearing stories is one thing; the power of place is another.

A crazy thing about being somewhere that you have only pictured in your imagination is all of these stories you have heard now have a place, which makes them more real and impactful. I thought of my great grandmother, barely an adult, being thrown into the back of a flatbed truck while in labor, being driven to this site to give birth and then driven right back to her barrack to raise her baby daughter. I thought of all the young men who honorably fought for their country when their country would not fight for them and I thought of my great grandfather being sent to prison for resisting to fight for a country that denied him and his family basic human rights. I thought about the honor
and patriotism in both of those choices. I thought about the young children who spent their most developmentally influential years behind barbed wire and their parents who made the best life for them that they could with what they had. I thought about friendships made and lives lost.

When I think about how different generations think about camp, I have learned that those who lived camp feel pain, embarrassment and shame. These feelings make camp extremely difficult to talk about. The adult children of these people feel anger for their parents and great grandparents and they hold their anger for them in a place of love and compassion. The children of these adults are confused, curious, and want to know more about what happened to their great grandparents during their time in camp. I am so proud of my grandma for going on this journey and I am in awe of her ability to face feelings of sadness and discomfort head on. I feel honored that I got to watch her grow in this way and I hope that everyone who had family incarcerated and those who didn’t can experience a pilgrimage during their lifetime and have the same experience that my family had.

During a one-week display at J-Sei in Emeryville, Berkeley JACL board member Nancy Ukai will speak about rescued camp artifacts from the Eaton auction in 2015. The lecture is 1 p.m. on Sat. Sept. 29.

The public sale of some 450 items that were collected in 1945 by Allen Eaton was stopped by a social media protest. The collection was acquired by the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles.

Curator Clement Hanami will speak about the process of researching the artifacts and their makers. At 4 p.m. filmmaker Steven Okazaki will show his Academy Award-winning short documentary, “Days of Waiting,” about the artist Estelle Ishigo, a white woman at Heart Mountain who accompanied her nisei husband to the Wyoming concentration camp.

For more information: call 510-654-4000. Address: 1285 66th Street; Emeryville, CA 94608.

Angel Island pilgrimage Sat. Oct. 13

An annual pilgrimage to Angel Island, the historic immigration station through which many picture brides, Japanese American immigrants and WWII innocent inmates from Hawai‘i passed, will take place Sat. Oct. 13. It is sponsored by the Nichi Bei Foundation in partnership with other community and state groups. Kenji Taguma, president of the Nichi Bei Foundation, calls Angel Island the “Plymouth Rock” for Japanese Americans, but notes that many Nikkei are not aware of its historical significance.

Sonoma State University president Judy Sakaki will speak and 10 volunteers genealogists will provide free family history consultations. Ancestry.com has donated 50 free DNA kits. Historical exhibits will be displayed.
Transportation is via ferry from SF Pier 41 or Tiburon Ferry. To order a ferry package and/or a bento, see [https://www.nichibei.org/angel-island-pilgrimage/](https://www.nichibei.org/angel-island-pilgrimage/).

The Berkeley JACL has a limited number of tickets for $29.00 to see a new musical inspired by a true story, *Allegiance* follows the Kimura family, whose lives are upended after Pearl Harbor when they and 120,000 other Japanese-Americans are forced to abandon their homes and settle in war relocation camps. An uplifting testament to the power of the human spirit, the Kimuras fight between duty and defiance, and as long-lost memories are unlocked, they find it is never too late to recognize the redemptive power of love.

UPDATE: Berkeley JACL’s group tickets are sold out but you can still purchase tickets for other show times at [http://ccct.org/](http://ccct.org/).

Co-Presidents: Tiffany Ikeda, Nancy Ukai
Secretary: Lindsey Kawahara
Treasurer: Tak Shirasawa

Moving and changing your address? Send us a Change of Address card at:
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