

THE APPA Newsletter  
Jan 27, 2009  
See This Weekend

Lunar New Year

MISSION STATEMENT:

Promote full utilization of the capabilities of the Enterprise's employees and champion the betterment of the company and community. Promote interest in Asian Pacific issues and culture and act as a bridge to all groups within our community. (substitute in your Enterprise and company, etc...)

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ed. by Douglas Ikemi  
(dkikemi@pacbell.net)

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Back issues of the newsletter for all of 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2008 and 2009 are available at

<http://www.ikemi.info/APPA/newsletters>.

(Rehosting plans have been cancelled for the time being.)

if you want to look up some past event.

This newsletter was originally published under the auspices of the Hughes Asian Pacific Professional Association (no longer extant). It currently has no affiliation and is available to anyone who is interested in downloading it.

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Please send in information on cultural events and news items to dkikemi@pacbell.net.  
The mac.com address will be shut down soon. Thanks to those who have.

Long range calendar items:

Chinatown Farmers Market EVERY THURSDAY FROM 2-6PM, the Chinatown Farmers' Market takes place at Hill & Alpine bringing fresh fruits and produce by California Farmers to the Chinatown Community. FRIED BANANA, FRIED YAM, HAWAIIAN CHICKEN. We invite you to come and experience the Chinatown Farmers' Market. Free parking with purchase.

The Downtown Arts District/Little Tokyo Farmers' Market  
Weller Court 2nd & San Pedro in Little Tokyo Summer Hours 10-3pm  
Features fresh produce, Hawaiian Chicken, more food gifts...and live jazz band.  
Tuesdays from 10 a.m.- 3 p.m.

The weekly market is held every Tuesday from 10 a.m.- 3 p.m year round, rain or shine. Sponsored by LARABA the market will include farm-fresh produce, Asian produce, organic produce, eggs, seafood, cheese, olives, olive oils, flowers, plants, bread and prepared foods and more. Hawaiian Chicken, Roasted corn on the cobb Local businesses interested in having a prepared food booth at the market or individuals interested in volunteering at this non-profit event, please contact Susan Hutchinson at

323-660-8660 for more information

Los Angeles Public Library Celebrates our DiverseCity  
<http://www.lapl.org/kidspath/events/diversecity/index.html>

The major cross streets are First and Temple Streets. The theatre is approximately 1/2 mile east down First Street from the Music Center.

Contact numbers and email:

(213) 625-7000 telephone

(213) 625-7111 fax

[info@eastwestplayers.org](mailto:info@eastwestplayers.org)

October 10, 2008 - January 24, 2009

A Special World of

TOMIHIRO HOSHINO

Watercolor Exhibition of deeply moving poems and superbly wrought flower paintings

9:30 am - 6:00 pm (Monday - Saturday)

Sunday by appointment only, call 626 584 8841

Free Admission

Inspired by nature's simple truths, Tomihiro's images and verse give a rare insight into the depths of misery he faced and eventually overcame when in 1970, at the age of 24, the artist was left paralyzed from the neck down. His work also allows a glimpse of the heights the human spirit can scale. Holding a brush in his mouth, each stroke on paper brims with hope, courage, and an earnest joy of living. His art is a profound gift to all of us.

2430 E. Colorado Blvd., Pasadena 91107, 626-584-8841

[www.shumeiarts.org](http://www.shumeiarts.org)

\*Asian Roots, American Reality: Photos by Corky Lee

EXHIBIT DATES: November 16, 2008 – May 31, 2009

Asian Roots, American Reality: Photographs by Corky Lee showcases the work of New York-based photojournalist, Corky Lee, who is widely known as the most prolific photographer documenting the Asian Pacific American experience. For the past 30 years, Lee's images have increased the visual presence of the Asian Pacific American community while chronicling its expansion and evolution. The Chinese American Museum is proud to debut 88 timeless photographs from Corky Lee's career in his first major retrospective and only West Coast premiere.

425 North Los Angeles Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Tuesday – Sunday

10am to 3pm

\$3 General

\$2 Seniors (60+) and Students with I.D.

213-485-8567 or 213-485-8484

<http://camla.org/info.htm>

January 4 - March 1, 2009 11th Annual Shikishi Exhibition

JACCC's Annual Shikishi Exhibition welcomes in the new year with over a hundred shikishi designed and transformed by local and international artists, children and the elderly, community

organizers and dignitaries. The exhibition, which is open to anyone with a creative spark and wants to express their hopes and aspirations for the New Year, features shikishi art work that is inspired by this year's theme Hatsu Shibai (First Performance) and the Ox, the animal sign for 2009.

George J. Doizaki Gallery

Free Admission

Gallery Hours:

Tuesday-Friday, 12 noon to 5pm

Saturday & Sunday, 11am to 4pm

Closed Mondays and Holidays

Japanese American Cultural and  
Community Center

244 South San Pedro Street, Suite 505

(between 2nd and 3rd Streets)

Los Angeles (Little Tokyo), CA 90012

(213) 628-2725

Aratani/Japan America Theatre Box Office Info:

(213) 680-3700

[www.jaccc.org](http://www.jaccc.org)

Feb 3 Chamber Music with Yuja Wang

**8:00 PM**

Walt Disney Concert Hall ([Map/Directions](#))

111 South Grand Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

323.850.2000

[http://www.laphil.com/tickets/performance\\_detail.cfm?id=3663](http://www.laphil.com/tickets/performance_detail.cfm?id=3663)

Friday, February 6, 2009, Noh, Pathos Behind the Mask

7pm

Aratani/Japan America Theatre

This rare and exciting performance and lecture/demonstration will introduce audiences to the performing arts of the royal court.

In this one time only event, Noh principal actor and lecturer Shizuka Mikata of the Kanze School in Kyoto, Japan will bring his keen understanding and traditional training to the United States for the first time for this touring program.

Shizuka Mikata was born in Kyoto in 1966 as the eldest son of NOH performer Ken Mikata. He made his first appearance on the professional stage at the early age of 5, followed by his first leading role at 12. Mikata went on to apprentice with the legendary NOH master and Japanese living national treasure of Japan, Kurouemon Katayama.

Through the Japan Foundation's International program, Shizuka Mikata will be joined by four outstanding figures, actor Michiharu Wakebayashi, flute player Manabu Takeichi, Kutsuzumi drummer Ichiro Kichisaka and Otsuzumi drummer Masaru Kawamura. Together these classically

trained Noh performers of the Kanze School will demonstrate with awe inspiring precision the true movements, sound and stories from the elusive art.

Accompanying this program will be a classically designed stage, wardrobe, musical instruments and images of Noh performance in Japan.

About Noh

Uniquely subtle and regal, Noh, one of the oldest forms of performing arts in the world today, has been performed since the 14th century in Japan. Veiled in a fog of intrigue and mystery, Noh features rhythmic musicians, choral chanters and masked actors as they tell the stories handed down over generations.

In Noh, tradition dictates each performer to practice the fundamental movements, songs and dances independently, making each performance fresh to the audience and performers. A hybrid of improvised tradition, "Noh: Pathos Behind the Mask" will examine and demonstrate the many unique cultural traditions that have been handed down for generations.

Supported by

Consulate-Generals of Japan in Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, and Denver

Miyake Hotel Los Angeles

Kanze School of Noh in Kyoto, Japan

Japan America Society of Southern California

Japan Society of Northern California

Japanese American Cultural and Community Center

244 South San Pedro Street, Suite 505

(between 2nd and 3rd Streets)

Los Angeles (Little Tokyo), CA 90012

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Saturday, Feb 7, 2009 Books & Conversations

Mei Ling in China City by Icy Smith 2:00 PM

Through her new children's book, Mei Ling in China City—a true story of friendship between a Chinese American girl in China City and a Japanese American girl in a concentration camp—author Icy Smith (Sui Bing Tang) will present the history of the Los Angeles's early Chinatowns, and the Chinese and Japanese American experiences during World War II.

For sale through the Museum Store.

JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

369 East First Street

Los Angeles, California 90012

phone: 213.625.0414

fax: 213.625.1770

janm.org

31st Annual Los Angeles Chinatown Firecracker 5k/10k Run

Kiddie Run / Fun Walk | Sunday, February 08, 2009

Celebrate the Year of the Ox

Saturday – February 7, 2009

(Pre-Registration / Late Registration Pick Up)

10:00am - 3:00pm - T-shirt and bib pick-up for pre-registered runners and on-site late registration. (Chinatown Central Plaza). Parking lot next to Wonder Bakery on N. Broadway.

Same Day Event - Firecracker Night n' Day, co-sponsored by BID, [click here for details](#).

Sunday – February 8, 2009

(Race Day)

5:00AM - Course, sound system & vendor booth set up; volunteer check-in

6:00AM - Race day (late) registration and bib pick-up (ends when your event begins)

7:00AM - Pre-Race activities

7:15AM - Official Welcome

- 7:30AM - Opening Ceremonies

- 7:30AM - National Anthem 7:45AM - Lion Dancers perform

- 7:50AM - Lighting of 100,000 firecrackers to chase away evil spirits and signal runners to be in place.

8:00AM - 5K Firecracker Run & 5k Walk start

8:30AM - 10K Run start

9:00AM - 5K Awards Presentation

9:30AM - 10K Run Awards Presentation

9:45AM - Firecracker Kiddie Run start

Registration fees:

	Early Reg. ( post mark by Jan 26, 2009)	Late Reg.	Race Day
(after Jan 26, 2009) Registration			
(S,M,L,XL shirt) \$25	\$25	\$30	\$30
(XXL shirt) \$27	\$27	\$32	\$32
Kiddie Run			
(Youth Med. shirt)\$10	\$10	\$15	\$15
Group 10+			
(mail group entries together)			
\$22/person			
\$30/person			
\$30/person			

<http://www.firecracker10k.org/>

Feb 8 Kodo

7:30 PM

Walt Disney Concert Hall ([Map/Directions](#))

111 South Grand Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

323.850.2000

[http://www.laphil.com/tickets/performance\\_detail.cfm?id=3667](http://www.laphil.com/tickets/performance_detail.cfm?id=3667)

Feb 15 JACCC Film Series

2PM

TRANSCENDING: THE WAT MISAKA STORY

A documentary film about Wat Misaka, the first Asian American pro basketball player. A Nisei who was born, raised and is still living in Utah, he was the very first draft pick of the New York Knicks, in 1947. [TRANSCENDING - THE WAT MISAKA STORY is a documentary film about Wat Misaka, the first Asian American pro basketball player. A Nisei who was born, raised and is still living in Utah, he was the very first draft pick of the New York Knicks, in 1947. Overcoming the national political climate during World War II, Wat was a star player for the University of Utah 1944 and 1947 championship teams, taking 2 years off in between to serve in the U.S. Army. His perseverance and loyalty to his teammates, other Nisei friends \(including those interned at Topaz\) and his family are a testament to the unflappable Japanese American spirit.](#)

[This film includes in depth interviews with Wat and his family, teammates from his championship teams \(including All-American star Arnie Ferrin of the Minneapolis Lakers\) sports authorities \(including Knicks Historian Dennis D'Agostino and ubiquitous New York sportscaster Spencer Ross\), and many who continue to look up to him as both a role model and personal hero. The film also has video clips from his 1944 and 1947 college games, rare footage from a visit to the Topaz Internment Camp, and countless photos of his triumphant career.](#)

[Directed by award winning filmmakers Bruce Alan Johnson and Christine Toy Johnson, this project was awarded two consecutive grants from the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program. Plans are in motion to have screenings and accompanying panel discussions on exclusion at universities across the country.](#)

\$10 General Admission

\$8 Senior/Student/Groups

\$7 JACCC, JANM and VC Members

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(213) 680-3700

Feb 26 , 27 Sarah Chang Plays Mendelssohn

Walt Disney Concert Hall ([Map/Directions](#))

111 South Grand Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

323.850.2000

8PM Thu

[http://www.laphil.com/tickets/performance\\_detail.cfm?id=3680](http://www.laphil.com/tickets/performance_detail.cfm?id=3680)

11AM Fri

[http://www.laphil.com/tickets/performance\\_detail.cfm?id=3681](http://www.laphil.com/tickets/performance_detail.cfm?id=3681)

8PM Sat

[http://www.laphil.com/tickets/performance\\_detail.cfm?id=3682](http://www.laphil.com/tickets/performance_detail.cfm?id=3682)

February 28, 2009 JACCC Film Series

7:30pm

The World Premiere of Tadashi Nakamura's film

A SONG FOR OURSELVES (2009)

The third and final film in Tadashi Nakamura's trilogy following *Yellow Brotherhood* and *Pilgrimage, A*

*Song for Ourselves* is a personal journey into the life and music of Asian American Movement troubadour Chris Iijima.

During the 1970s when Asians in America were invisible to the country--and more importantly even to themselves--the late Chris Iijima's music provided the voice and identity an entire generation had been in search of. Through animated photographs, intimate home movies, archival footage and Chris' own songs, *A Song For Ourselves* shows how Chris' music unleashed the contagious energy of the Asian American Movement with an unrelenting passion for social justice and a life well lived.

Director's Statement:

The Asian American Movement not only worked for social justice, it created the community into which I was born and raised. When I asked what the early movement was like, my mom simply played an old record for me. This was my first introduction to Chris Iijima. When I got to know Chris myself, rather than seeing him as an OG from the past, I looked up to him as a role model for the present. When Chris got sick, the community that was created over thirty years ago came together from all parts of the country to care for him and his family in a way that made me realize the lasting power of the Movement.

*A Song For Ourselves* is my attempt to capture the essence of this community I am grateful and proud to be a part of.

This premiere screening will also feature LIVE performances by BLUE SCHOLARS, BAMBU, KIWI and special guest artists Nobuko Miyamoto and Charlie Chin.

\$10 General Admission

\$8 Groups 10+

Limited \$50 VIP tickets; comes with your choice of a DVD of the film OR a mixtape by DJ Phatrick

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March 15, 2009 JACCC Film Series

11am (English), 2pm (English), 5pm (Japanese)

TOYO'S CAMERA - Japanese American History during WWII (2009)

A Documentary told through Toyo Miyatake's photographs~

While cameras were prohibited in internment camps, there was one photographer who smuggled in a lens and built a camera with it, to capture life behind barbed wired. That

photographer was Toyo Miyatake. Toyo's photographs of internment camp capture the compelling stories of Japanese Americans during World War II in this feature documentary.

The works of Toyo's mentors and companions, 20th century's famed photographers Ansel Adams and Edward Weston, are also uncovered in this film. Close to 500 riveting photographs of Japanese Americans in internment camp come to life on the big screen. Coupling with Toyo's photographs is Grammy and Golden Globe Award winning artist, Kitaro's euphonious music. The powerful and vivid songs dramatically add energy to Toyo's photographs. The film ends with "Kenji," a song by Mike Shinoda from the band Linkin Park, who wrote this song based on his grandfather's internment.

[www.toyoscamera.com](http://www.toyoscamera.com)

Presented by UTB and JACCC

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(213) 628-2725

Aratani/Japan America Theatre Box Office Info:

(213) 680-3700

Please note the 11am and 2pm screenings are in English and the 5pm screening is in Japanese and not subtitled.

\$10 General Admission

\$7 Advance tickets

The Samurai Re-Imagined: From Ukiyo-e to Anime

The Samurai Re-Imagined explores the roots of the popular Japanese art forms of manga (graphic novels) and anime (animation) in the traditional arts of Japan by examining images of the iconic warrior, the samurai.

Pacific Asia Museum

46 North Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena California 91101 [[Google Map](#)]

Hours: Wed – Sun: 10:00am-6:00pm

The Torrance Cultural Arts Center announces its 2009 season of "Works in Progress" program. Once World War II ended, Japanese Americans began telling their story for the first time. Works in Progress follows their evolving story from that moment to the present.

FEB 16, 2009 (MON) Screening of Rabbit in the Moon by Emiko Mori

FEB 25, 2009 (WED) Storytelling performance of HEROES/MY FRIEND TED by Alton Takiyama-Chung

MAR 25, 2009 (WED) Music and stories of the Asian American movement with Nobuko Miyamoto & Charlie Chin.

APR 29, 2009 (WED) Story of Japanese Americans during WWII, BIG HEAD, by Denise Ueyhara

MAY 27, 2009 (WED) Multimedia performance IT'S GREAT 2B AMERICAN by Dan Kwong

For more information contact the Torrance Cultural Arts Center at (310) 781-7171 or visit [www.torrancelive.us](http://www.torrancelive.us)



## JUNE

### Oodles of Noodles

Torino Plaza Torrance Cultural Arts Center, 3330 Civic Center Drive N.

<http://www.ci.torrance.ca.us/3398.htm>

Oct 24-25, 2009 Japan Expo

There doesn't appear to be a Japan Expo for 2008, or I missed it

[www.japanexpo.org](http://www.japanexpo.org)

See LA Library DiverseCity events at <http://www.lapl.org/kidspath/events/diversecity/index.html>

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This Weekend (and earlier/later)

### Golden Dragon Parade

Saturday, January 31, 2009

In celebrating over one hundred years of tradition, the Chinese Chamber of Commerce of Los Angeles presents the 2008 Golden Dragon Parade. With over 110,000 individuals lining the parade route and thousands viewing the telecast each year, this colorful celebration along North Broadway in Chinatown has become the premiere cultural event in the Southern California Asian-American Community. Since the mid-1980's, the Golden Dragon Parade has expanded to include almost two dozen floats, multiple marching bands, government officials, various dignitaries, entertainers, local business leaders and cultural groups. The parade's theme emphasizes ethnic diversity, Chinese Culture and exposure to Chinese-American businesses. The parade continues to be a rich and diverse experience for Angelenos of all ages and ethnicities.

The day of the Lunar New Year is the most celebrated holiday of the year for nearly 1.5 million persons of Chinese, Korean, and Vietnamese descent in Southern California. It is celebrated with colorful festivals, parades, and most importantly, large family gatherings.

It is also a time when ancestors are fondly remembered and families give thanks for their blessings. Red packets of money ("Lai See" or "Hung Bao") and firecrackers add fun and excitement to the Chinese New Year celebration.

We invite you to be a part of this important annual celebration - as a spectator, participant or sponsor.

Please contact us for further information as needed.

Saturday, January 31, 2009

2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. 110th Annual Golden Dragon Parade

10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Los Angeles Chinatown Lunar New Year Festival

Los Angeles Chinatown

Sunday, February 1, 2009

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Lunar New Year Festival Los Angeles Chinatown

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Little King & Queen Contest

Chinese New Year Festival Site

<http://www.lagoldendragonparade.com/>

Feb 7 Chinese New Year Celebration

Valley Blvd from Del Mar to Almansor, 11AM

Jan 31 Little Tokyo Walking Tour 10:15

Relive history and learn about present-day Little Tokyo with National Museum docents. \$8 Members; \$13 non-members, includes Museum admission. Comfortable walking shoes and clothes recommended. Weather permitting.

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janm.org

Jan 31 Remembering Michi Weglyn and Walter Weglyn

2PM

In honor of the 10th anniversary of the passing of Michi Nishiura Weglyn, a panel of distinguished educators, friends, artists and biographers will come together to remember and share memories of both Michi and Walter Weglyn.

Phil Nash, Esp., Writer, lawyer, professor, and close friend of Michi Weglyn

Dr. Bob Suzuki, President emeritus Cal Poly Pomona

Sharon Yamato, Writer, biographer, and filmmaker

Nancy Kapitanoff, Producer, writer, director, and creative artist.

Presented in collaboration with the Michi & Walter Weglyn Endowed Chair of Multicultural Studies at California State Pomona.

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phone: 213.625.0414

fax: 213.625.1770

janm.org

Jan 31 Studio Lab Project

7PM

East West Actor's Conservatory in association with the National Museum presents a culmination of work performed by the students of the Musical Theatre Studio Lab Project.

JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

369 East First Street

Los Angeles, California 90012

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janm.org

Event: The second annual LA Tet Festival, year 2009

Objective: To preserve and promote the Vietnamese Culture in Southern California

Theme: Flowers of the Spring

Date: Feb 07 - Feb 08, 2009

Attendance: Expect 40,000 people

Overview of Event:

Lion and Dragon Dance  
Fire Cracker  
Miss & Mrs. LA Tet Beauty Pageant  
Children's Traditional Costume Contest  
Karaoke Contest  
Martial Art Demonstration  
Cultural Dances  
Traditional and Modern Fashion Shows  
Traditional Music Performances  
Orchid & Bonsai Exhibits  
Arts and Crafts Exhibit  
Health and Science Fair  
Multi-ethnic Entertainment  
Carnival Rides  
Food Fair  
Live Entertainment  
Contact:  
LA Tet Festival 2009  
9098 Bolsa Ave. Westminster, CA92683  
Tel: (714) 270-4515  
Fax: (714) 903-3759

#### Union of Vietnamese Students Association of Southern Californai Tet Festival

##### Time

Friday, January 30th, 2009, 2pm - 10pm

Saturday, January 31st, 2009, 10am - 10pm

Sunday, February 1st, 2009, 10am - 9pm

##### Price

The non-refundable, non-transferable, per-day admission charges are as followed:

General: \$5

Children(48" and under): \$4

Babies and Toddlers: FREE

Happy Hours: On Saturday, January 31, 2009 from 10am till 2pm ONLY, anyone that wears a complete outfit Áo Dài (Vietnamese Traditional dress) will get a FREE admission into the festival during those hours.

##### Location and Parking

The 2009 Tết Festival will take place at the Garden Grove Park (9301 Westminster Blvd., Garden Grove, CA 92844). On Westminster Blvd between Brookhurst St and Magnolia St.

FREE all-day parking will be available at Bolsa Grande High School, which is located just east of Garden Grove Park, right next to the festival ground.

There will also be FREE parking and FREE shuttle service to and from the Tet Festival for Saturday (12pm - 10pm) and Sunday (12pm - 9pm) at the Westminster Civic Center (8200 Westminster Ave, Westminster, CA 92683). On Westminster Blvd between Magnolia St. and Beach Blvd.

Email: [LATETFEST@AOL.COM](mailto:LATETFEST@AOL.COM)

Visit:

[WWW.LATETFEST.NET](http://WWW.LATETFEST.NET)

[http://www.tetfestival.org/media/images/poster\\_2.jpg](http://www.tetfestival.org/media/images/poster_2.jpg)

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Where I went last weekend (or the weekend before):

See [dkikemi.blogspot.com](http://dkikemi.blogspot.com)

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Resources:

LACMA calendar:

<http://www.lacma.org/events/Calendar.aspx>

UCLA Asia Institute calendar:

<http://www.international.ucla.edu/asia/events/index.asp?action=monthview>

Japanese American National Museum

<http://www.janm.org/events/>

Chinese American Museum

<http://camla.org/events/calendar.htm>

Korean Cultural Center

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

Japanese American Community Cultural Center

<http://jacc.org/>

Pacifica Asian Museum

<http://www.pacificasianmuseum.org/calendar/whatsnew.htm>

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Links to selected articles from the LA Times. To actually access the articles, you may have to sign up for a free account.

Lunar New Year a time to reconnect with Asian homeland

For Sadie and Sophie Larson, adopted from China and Vietnam by American parents, the holiday is a time to learn more about the customs and traditions of their birthplaces.

By My-Thuan Tran

January 26, 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/orange/la-me-lunar26-2009jan26.0.4907227.story>

Full text of Barack Obama's 'We Are One' speech, Jan. 18, 2009

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/washington/2009/01/obama-text.html>

BOOK REVIEW

'How to Live' by Henry Alford

The author interviews older adults, famous and not, for insights into life.

By Paula L. Woods

January 27, 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/features/books/la-et-book27-2009jan27.0.6267306.story>

Bento boxes for kids' lunches

Amy Scattergood

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/dailydish/2009/01/bento-boxes-for.html>

Whale hunt update: IWC to consider easing ban to reduce Japan's annual kill

11:02 AM, January 27, 2009

Pete Thomas

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/outposts/2009/01/news-itemthe-in.html>

Japan's sumo fans hold on despite

At a Tokyo arena's back gate, the faithful jostle for a glimpse of the wrestlers, still giants in the fans' eyes.

By John M. Glionna

January 24, 2009

scandals<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-fg-sumo24-2009jan24.0.999241.story>

An introduction to MUAC, Mexico's new modern art museum

Deborah Bonello in Mexico City

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/laplaza/2009/01/a-modern-monstr.html>

Mexico City opens the 1st of 300 planned soup kitchens

Unemployment and food prices are on the rise, prompting the municipality to set up a feeding network. Officials hope to dish out 65,000 free or inexpensive meals a day.

By Deborah Bonello

January 27, 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-fg-mexico-soup-kitchen27-2009jan27.0.768094.story>

Lunar New Year: The Year of the Ox

Millions of Chinese gave a boisterous farewell to a tumultuous 2008 marked by a massive earthquake, the Olympics and a global economic crisis. Here an offering of incense sticks is made at the Ditan Temple Fair during Lunar New Year celebrations in Beijing.

This is the Year of the Ox, a Chinese Zodiac symbol that represents prosperity through fortitude and hard work.

January 26, 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/immigration/la-fg-lunar-newyear26-pg.0.1695117.pho.to-gallery>

Chinese business executive gets life term in tainted-milk case

Two men receive the death penalty. Parents of sickened babies say they will fight for more compensation.

By Barbara Demick

January 23, 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-fg-china-milk23-2009jan23.0.7578157.story>

At 70, celebrated inventor's start-up makes progress with Pentagon

By Peter Pae

January 26, 2009

At age 60, C. Kumar N. Patel had a resume of accomplishments few scientists could match.

<http://www.latimes.com/business/smallbusiness/la-fi-laser26-2009jan26.0.2988346.story>

Chinese media censor Obama's inaugural speech

References to dissent and communism are cut in translations.

By Barbara Demick, Reporting from Beijing

January 22, 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/news/politics/inauguration/la-fg-china-censor22-2009jan22.0.5641912.story>

Carnegie Hall, OC's Segerstrom Center partner for Chinese culture festival

9:00 AM, January 21, 2009

Diane Haithman

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/culturemonster/2009/01/carnegie-segers.html>

WTO backs U.S. in piracy dispute with China

Associated Press

January 27, 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-china27-2009jan27.0.6913305.story>

Migrant factory workers at a loss as China's economy slumps

With factories closing amid a plunge in orders, the crush of jobless workers raises the specter of more social turmoil and conflicts over land and farming rights.

By Don Lee Reporting from GAOSHIBEI, China

January 23, 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-chinamigrant23-2009jan23.0.3404505.story>

China denies charge of currency manipulation

Tannen Maury / European Pressphoto Agency

Treasury secretary nominee Timothy Geithner said China was manipulating its currency to keep it low.

Treasury nominee Timothy Geithner's comment surprised Beijing officials, who say they fear the U.S. is headed toward protectionism. But it gives hope to some in the U.S. who favor taking a hard line.

By Don Lee

January 26, 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-fi-china-geithner26-2009jan26.0.4396732.story>

Corruption derails travel plans for many Chinese

Rampant corruption has made buying tickets hard for most Chinese, who end up using scalpers, especially during the peak Chinese New Year season when 200 million people go to their hometowns.

By Barbara Demick

January 26, 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-fg-china-train-tickets26-2009jan26.0.3557386.story>

Shark fin availability lessens on China-based website

9:15 AM, January 22, 2009

Kelly Burgess

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/outposts/2009/01/shark-fins.html>

'Little Armenia' sign in Hollywood feels strange, but right

Hector Tobar

January 27, 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-tobar27-2009jan27.0.5410628.column>

Gustavo Dudamel's first Los Angeles Philharmonic season

1:15 PM, January 22, 2009

Mark Swed

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/culturemonster/2009/01/gustavo-dudamel.html>

Little Tokyo market, a onetime rising sun, is poised to set

Mitsuwa Marketplace, a symbol of the area's boom times for much of its 24 years, will close Sunday. Its new owners plan to offer more non-Japanese products when it re-opens next month.

By Teresa Watanabe

10:50 PM PST, January 23, 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-mitsuwa24-2009jan24.0.4223023.story>

Little Mirai Nagasu relies on a big support group

U.S. women's figure skating champion, a 5-foot-3 15-year-old from Arcadia, has a posse of coaches, stylists, costumers and choreographers to help her pursue another national title.

Helene Elliott

January 22, 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/sports/columnists/la-sp-elliott-figure-skating22-2009jan22.0.3317139.column>