

THE APPA Newsletter
June 9, 2009

Obon

See This Weekend

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...)

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

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>.

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.

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>

Obon festivals in Southern California
<http://www.japanese-city.com/calendar/events/japanese-city-events-locations-summer-obon-odori-taiko-line-dancing-dango-drums-games-food.php>

June 27 Senshin Buddhist Temple
1311 W 37th St
Los Angeles, CA 90007-3960
Phone: (323) 731-4617
Fax: (323) 731-1318
e-mail: senshinji@gmail.com
<http://www.senshintemple.org/>

June 27 West Covina Buddhist Temple
East San Gabriel Valley
Japanese Community Center
1203 W. Puente Ave. West Covina CA 91790 (626) 960-2566 (626) 337- 9123 (626) 960-0866 fax

West Covina Buddhist Temple's 2009 Obon Festival is scheduled for Saturday, June 27, 2009. The festival lasts all day, starting from 2 pm and lasting until 9:00 pm. Please join us for a day full of Japanese culture, cuisine and of course, the exciting and spiritually meaningful Obon Odori Dancing. Below are some highlights from previous Festivals. See our [Map Page](#) for directions. [E-mail](#) us or call (626) 913-0622 if you have any questions.

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Long Beach JCC Japanese Festival - Ondo Dancing (2 Days)
Two day event - Saturday, June 27 - 3 to 9; Sunday, June 28 - 1 to 7:30, 2009. Ondo Dancing, Taiko, Japanese food & lots of other good things to eat, games, bingo, Center exhibits, rummage sale, demonstrations, performing arts, raffle.

Long Beach Japanese Community Center
(formerly Harbor District Japanese Community Center)
1766 Seabright Avenue
Long Beach, California 90813
P.O. Box 9188

Long Beach, California 90810
(562) 437-9924 (message only)
Website: <http://www.lbjcc.org>
Saturday, 27 June, 2009
03:00 PM - 09:00 PM

June 27-28

Valley Japanese Community Center to host their annual Obon Festival on Saturday and Sunday, June 27th -28th from 5-10PM.

The Valley Japanese Community Center is located at 8850 Lankershim Blvd, Sun Valley, CA. Delicious foods such as Udon, Teriyaki Beef Burgers, Sushi, Chinese Chicken Salad, and Fresh Roasted Corn on the Cob, Gyoza, Chili Rice, Chicken Teriyaki and Homemade baked goods are some of the foods which will be available for purchase.

Demonstrations of Judo, Karate, Kendo and Tea Ceremony will be held. Festival-type games, exhibits of calligraphy/Sumi-E, and schoolwork completed by Japanese School Students will be featured on both days. As a special treat, LA Matsuri Taiko will be giving a special performance/demonstration during the Ondo break.

After the demonstrations, please join in the Bon Odori dances. Bon dances are dances of joy so age or looks or experience should not inhibit anyone from entering the circle of dancers!

Valley Japanese Community Center's Ondo practices start on June 2-19 each Tuesday and Friday night from 7:00PM.

Admission is free and the public is welcome.

For information regarding Ondo, contact Christine Inouye at 818.825.9583.

For general Obon information, contact Ron Nakamura at 818.302.6333

July 11-12 Nishi Hongwanji L.A.

815 East First Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Phone: 213/ 680-9130
FAX: 213/ 680-2210
<http://www.nishihongwanji-la.org/>

July 4 ObonCarnival

San Fernando Valley Hongwanji Buddhist Temple
9450 Remick Avenue
Pacoima, CA 91331
Phone: 818-899-4030
Fax: 818-899-0477
E-mail: sfvhbt@sfvhbt.org
<http://www.sfvhbt.org/>

1993 Glen Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91103
Phone - (626) 798-4781 Fax - (626) 345-9095

July 11-12 Zenshuji Soto Mission 1:30
23 South Hewitt Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

July 11 Oxnard Buddhist Temple
250 South "H" Street
Oxnard, CA 93030
805.483.5948

July 18-19 Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple
Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple
12371 Braddock Drive
Culver City, California 90230
(310) 391-4351
<http://www.vhbt.org/map.htm>

July 18-19 Orange County Buddhist Church 1:00 - 8:00 P.M.
Cultural Exhibits
3:00 to 8:00
Koi Fish, Antique Swords, Ikebana (Flower Arrangements), Tea Ceremony, Sumi-E (Ink Drawings), Kimono Display, Kimekomi Dolls, Bonsai, Chigiri-e (Torn Paper Art), Fabric Dyeing, Japanese School, Dharma School
Stage Performances
Saturday and Sunday
3:45 pm to 7:30 pm
Judo, Aikido, Kendo, Karate, Nihon Buyo (Classical Dance), Koto, Shakuhachi (Musical Instruments), Minyo (Folk Song), Taiko Drums
Chicken Teriyaki, Wonton, Sushi, Udon, Teriyaki Beef, Chow Mein, Corn on the Cob, Teri-Burgers, Dango, Vegetables, Chicken Salad, Snow Cones
909 South Dale Avenue Anaheim, California 92804
TEL: (714)827-9590 FAX: (714)827-2860
E-mail: ocbc909@aol.com
<http://www.bca-ocbc.org/>

July 18-19 Pasadena Buddhist Church
The schedule of events for 2009 is tentative, please check back for updates.
5:00 - 5:30 [Judo Demonstration](#)
5:30 - 6:00 [Aikido](#) Demonstration
6:30 Bon Odori led by Julie Toyama and Sandy Watson. Everyone welcome to participate!
7:00 [Matsuri Taiko performance](#)

Sunday

4:30 - 5:30 Tea Ceremony in the Tea House

5:30 - 6:00 [Naginata Demonstration](#)

6:00 - 6:30 [Kendo Demonstration](#)

6:30 Bon Odori led by Julie Toyama and Sandy Watson. Everyone welcome to participate!

7:00 [Taiko Performance by Hikari Taiko](#)

Food booths served BBQ chicken teriyaki, chow mein, sushi, and snow cones. A few game booths will help entertain the youngsters. Festivities begin at 4:30 and end at 9:00 on Saturday and 8:30 on Sunday.

Each evening, dancers from around the Southland gathered around the yagura and danced the traditional Obon Odori (dances). Dancing is scheduled to begin at 6:30 pm each evening. Obon odori is to dance for joy. Everyone is invited to join in to "just dance" and be accepted as we are.

For more information via the internet, send email to [Jeannie](#).

1993 Glen Avenue

Pasadena, CA 91103

Phone - (626) 798-4781 Fax - (626) 345-909

July 25-26 Higashi Honganji

OBON is a traditional event to honor and express gratitude to the spirits of our ancestors, those before us who provided us with the gift of life. Each year, obon is held as a time to celebrate the return of the spirits of our ancestors.

The Obon Festival features food, games, farmers market, flower market, traditional Bon Odori Dancing, and various types of entertainment. The 2008 entertainment lineup included [June Kuramoto](#) of [Hiroshima](#), [TAIKOPROJECT](#), [hereandnow](#), [The Grateful Crane Ensemble](#), [happyfunsmile](#), Bombu Taiko, and Kitsune Taiko.

The 2009 festival details and entertainment lineup will be determined at a later date, so please check back soon.

MANTO-E -

The tradition of [Manto-e](#) during the Obon Festival is to light the sky with "ten thousand lanterns", originating about 1,200 years ago.

BON ODORI Practice -

Bon Odori practice will be held on Wednesdays and Fridays, so please check back soon for practice dates and times.

505 East Third Street

Los Angeles, CA 90013

Telephone: (213) 626-4200

Facsimile: (213) 626-6850

E-mail: info@hhbt-la.org

<http://www.hhbt-la.org/>

July 25-26 West Los Angeles Buddhist Temple

Obon Saturday, July 25, 5-10pm

& Sunday, July 26, 3-9pm

2003 Corinth Avenue
West L.A., CA 90025
(310) 477-7274
<http://www.wlabt.org/>

August 1, 2 Gardena Buddhist Temple
For more information email: info@gardenabuddhistchurch.org
Copyright 2009 Gardena Buddhist Church
1517 W 166th St., Gardena, CA, 90247
(310) 327-9400
<http://www.gardenabuddhistchurch.org/>

Aug 1

Buddhist Temple of San Diego Obon Odori (1 Day)
BON ODORI: Gathering of Joy (5-9 pm). Our colorful outdoor festivities begin with music, cultural displays, food sales. Family and community are invited to celebrate OBON, the Buddhist holiday dedicated to expressing joy and gratitude for the gifts of life, heritage, and those we have taken for granted or forgotten. We dance out of sheer gratitude for the contributions of people who made possible life as we know it. Japanese food, snacks, gifts, books; a drawing to benefit the temple's youth; and a rousing taiko performances. The unique OBON AGAIN RESALE SHOP offers new and vintage Japanese clothing, ceramics, gifts wares. Free, public welcome.

Schedule

5 pm - 9pm

Dance Time

5:30 p.m.

Location

2929 Market Street San Diego, CA 92102

Contact

(619) 239-0896

btspd@netzero.net

Rev. Tesshi Aoyama

Fowler in Focus: Masks of Sri Lanka

Through August 30, 2009

Brightly painted wooden masks transform Sri Lankan dancers into specific characters that appear in curing rituals or popular entertainment. Ranging from comical to fierce, these unusual masks have long played an important role in performance genres that were created through the mixing of local indigenous religious traditions with strains of Buddhism and Hinduism originally imported from the Indian mainland in the first millennium BCE. The Fowler Museum collections include the most important assemblage of nineteenth and early twentieth century Sri Lankan masks in North America. Fowler in Focus: Masks of Sri Lanka presents twenty-five of these rare masks, as well as newly produced masks representing Singhaya (lion) and Mahasona (Great Graveyard Spirit) in full costume.

Developed in collaboration with David Blundell, associate professor, National Chengchi

University, Taiwan and consultants in Matara, Southern Province, Sri Lanka: Conrad Ranawake, Institute for the Development of Community Strengths, and A. V. S. Ranasinghe, Sri Lanka Mask and Dance Ensemble. The accompanying programs are made possible through the Sri Lanka Foundation and the Yvonne Lenart Public Programs Fund.
UCLA Fowler Museum

Treasures through Six Generations: Chinese Painting and Calligraphy from the Weng Collection

April 11, 2009–July 13, 2009

Boone Gallery

Exhibition of Chinese painting and calligraphy highlights works spanning 900 years. One of the greatest private collections of Chinese art in the nation is showcased at The Huntington in “Treasures through Six Generations: Chinese Painting and Calligraphy from the Weng Collection,” on view April 11 through July 13 in the MaryLou and George Boone Gallery. Based on an exhibition organized in 2007 by the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, The Huntington’s presentation will feature 41 masterworks from a collection that is revered in China as well as in the United States. This past fall, the Weng collection was the focus of an exhibition at the Beijing World Art Museum.

The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens

1151 Oxford Road

San Marino, CA 91108

626.405.2100

http://www.huntington.org/huntingtonlibrary_exhibitions.aspx?id=3674

National Museum Presents!

SPRING ROLLS into JANM

11:00 AM

Celebrate the coming of spring with this hands-on family cooking class of assorted Asian foods including sweet and savory spring and egg rolls and fun noodle soups. \$25 members (for one child & one adult); \$35 non-members, includes Museum admission and supplies. Reservations for Spring Rolls into JANM can be made by calling 213.625.0414 at ext.2222.

This cooking workshop is brought to you in collaboration with Kidding Around the Kitchen. To find out more about Kidding Around the Kitchen, go to <http://www.kiddingaroundthekitchen.com/>

Other Family Events at the National Museum

April 11 – Target Family Free Saturday: What's Cooking?

May 2: Southwest Chamber Music: Music Unwrapped Free Family Concerts

May 9 – Target Family Free Saturday: Aloha!

June 6: Kidding Around in the Kitchen Family Cooking Adventure: Beat the June Gloom

June 13 – Target Family Free Saturday: Try this on for Size!

July 11 – Target Family Free Saturday: Books Galore!

August 8: Kidding Around in the Kitchen Family Cooking Adventure: Summer Boredom Busters

August 15: Summer Festival on the Courtyard

August 29: *Common Ground* Tour for Families

August 29: Taiko for Families

JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

369 East First Street

Los Angeles, California 90012

phone: 213.625.0414

fax: 213.625.1770

www.janm.org

On the Enlightened Path: Jain Art from India

Until July 13, 2009

The Norton Simon Museum presents *On the Enlightened Path: Jain Art from India*, an exhibition that examines the artistic traditions of one of the world's oldest yet least known religions, Jainism. Installed in the rotating Asian gallery on the lower level of the Museum, this exhibition includes approximately 20 sculptures, paintings and manuscripts.

Founded in India in the sixth century BC by Vardhamana Mahavira, Jainism encourages personal meditation, following a strict ethical code and practicing ahimsa, or non-violence and kindness toward every living creature. Followers, called Jains, believe in a lineage of twenty-four liberated souls known as Jinas (conqueror or liberator), who have achieved liberation from the endless chain of rebirth and serve as spiritual guides to others on the same path. The Jain community is comprised of both lay and monastic members. Monks and nuns are either Digambara, which means "sky-clad," and do not wear clothing, or Svetambara, "white-clad," and wear simple white robes. In modern-day India, the Jain community comprises roughly 10 million followers, less than one-half of one percent of the country's population.

On the Enlightened Path features a dazzling selection of traditional Jain artworks from the Norton Simon collections. In the Jain community, illustrated sacred texts such as the Kalpasutra (Book of Sacred Precepts) and sculptures depicting various Jinas are the primary focus of artistic output. The exhibition presents a fine selection of bronze, marble and schist sculptures from the 9th to the 15th centuries, used for worship in both home altars and temples. A colorful and intricate Jain tantric diagram, or Yantra, from the 15th century, rich in cosmic iconography, was used as a meditation aid. Selections of the Museum's rare, complete 16th-century Kalpasutra manuscript, recently donated by Narendra and Rita Parson, are on view for the first time. Together, these works provide visitors an opportunity to learn more about this fascinating religion, its followers, and its dynamic artistic traditions.

Norton Simon Museum, Pasadena, CA

--628-1547

Daughters of India: Photographs by Stephen P. Huyler

Through July 26, 2009

For a country as vast and paradoxical as India, it is impossible to generalize about the role of women in society. Worshiped as shakti, oppressed as chattel—these seeming contradictions have left many Western observers stumbling into stereotypes and misunderstanding. In *Daughters of India*, photographer Stephen P. Huyler celebrates the strength, courage, resourcefulness, and creativity of Indian women from a wide variety of backgrounds. Notably, artistic creativity plays an important part in the lives of many of the women, as they express themselves and address others through paintings, sculpture, embroidery, and the creation of decorative elements in their households (including kolam or rice flower drawings executed on the ground in front of their homes). For others, the full force of their creativity is brought to bear simply in overcoming the severe obstacles presented by poverty, caste prejudice, and other hardships. Taken together, these sensitive photographs form intimate portrayals of the lives, activities, and rituals of these remarkable Indian “everywomen.”

The Fowler Museum thanks Stephen P. Huyler for providing his images for *Daughters of India*, also featured in a new publication of the same name. The accompanying programs have been made possible by the Yvonne Lenart Public Programs Fund and Manus, the support group for the Fowler Museum.

UCLA Fowler Museum

The Fowler Museum is located in the heart of UCLA's north campus. Easy parking is available near the Museum by following these directions:

Enter UCLA from Sunset Blvd. at Westwood. Drive ahead to the Parking Information Booth in Lot 4. Convenient Fowler parking is at the northeast or southeast ends of Lot 4 (see map), where automated pay stations accept \$1 and \$5 bills and credit cards. The parking fee is a maximum of \$9. The Fowler is visible to your left when you ascend from the elevator or stairs (follow pedestrian walkways, indicated by arrows).

<http://www.fowler.ucla.edu/>

Discovering Ganesha: Remover of Obstacles

Through September 20, 2009

Ganesha, the so-called “Elephant God,” is one of the most adored and widely worshipped deities in the Hindu pantheon. In a series of stunning photographs, New York-based artist Shana Dressler investigates contemporary Ganesha festivals in Mumbai. Juxtaposed with classical representations of Ganesha from Pacific Asia Museum’s collection, Dressler’s vibrant photos connect the past and the present of India while illustrating the historical legacy and spiritual significance of Ganesha in Hindu society.

Curated by Yeonsoo Chee.

Pacific Asia Museum, Pasadena, CA

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

Hours: Wed – Sun: 10:00am-6:00pm

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

May 14-July23 Anime Film Festival - Seven films, five nights, and lots of fun!

Seven films, five nights, and lots of fun! Enjoy early Japanese cartoons such as Momotaro’s Sky Adventure (1931) by Yasuji Murata and The Animal Village in Trouble

by Sanae Yamamoto along with popular films including Samurai X and Gundam Wing: The Movie. Stay tuned for more information on film, time and cost.

Pacific Asia Museum

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

Hours: Wed – Sun: 10:00am-6:00pm

NOW EXTENDED TO JUNE 21!!!

[NEXT GENERATION COMMUNITY NIGHT INFO](#)

MARRY ME A LITTLE

Songs by Stephen Sondheim

Conceived and Developed by Craig Lucas & Norman Rene

Directed by Jules Aaron

A compilation of songs, composed by Stephen Sondheim for many of his Broadway musicals but for various reasons didn't make it into the final stage, are woven into a simple tale of two lonely people during one evening in their small, one-bedroom apartments. Featuring songs that were cut from A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM, ANYONE CAN WHISTLE, COMPANY, FOLLIES and A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC.

NOW EXTENDED TO JUNE 21!!!

[NEXT GENERATION COMMUNITY NIGHT INFO](#)

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AN EVENING OF TWO ONE-ACT MUSICALS!!!

Two Musicals, One Evening, One Low Price!

Musical Director ~ Marc Macalintal

Set Designer ~ John H. Binkley

Costume Designer ~ Ivy Y. Chou

Lighting Designer ~ Jeremy Pivnick

Property Master ~ Christopher Scott Murillo

Stage Manager ~ Christine Peterson

Assistant Stage Manager ~ Daniel Reano-Koven

MARRY ME A LITTLE Additional Choreography and Assistant Director ~ Allison Bibicoff

THE LAST FIVE YEARS Assistant Director ~ Nathan Singh

[PURCHASE TICKETS NOW](#)

www.EastWestPlayers.org, or call 213.625.7000

May 7 - June 21, 2009

Wednesday - Saturday @ 8PM; Sunday @ 2PM

David Henry Hwang Theater
120 Judge John Aiso St., Los Angeles, CA 90012
Performance Run May 14 - June 21, 2009
Wed - Sat at 8PM; Sun at 2PM, \$50 Orchestra, \$45 Balcony

June 26, 2009, 7:30pm

FREE Outdoor screening on the JACCC Plaza!

The JACCC and Visual Communications present:

Defending the universe for the last half a century: A triple screening of our favorite robots Astro Boy, Gigantor and Voltron!

Astro Boy: © Tezuka Production / Mushi Production; Gigantor: © Entercolor Technologies Corp; Voltron: © World Events Productions, Ltd.

ASTRO BOY (1963)

The mother Japanese animation, Astro Boy was the first anime series to be broadcast on TV in Japan. The story follows the adventures of a heroic robot named Astro Boy which originated from the manga of the same name, created by legendary Tezuka Osamu.

GIGANTOR (1964)

Set in the "future" year of 2000, Gigantor is the story of a young boy named Jimmy Sparks who lives with his uncle Dr. Bob Brilliant on a remote island. With the help of a huge remote controlled robot named Gigantor, Jimmy fights crime around the world. Gigantor is the American adaptation of the Japanese anime and manga series Tetsujin 28-go by Mitsuteru Yokoyama.

VOLTRON: DEFENDER OF THE UNIVERSE (1984)

A team of five young pilots command five robot lions, which when combined form Voltron. In this undefined future era, the Voltron Force was in charge of protecting the planet Arus (ruled by Princess Allura) from the evil King Zarkon (from planet Doom), his son Lotor, and the witch Haggar, who would create huge Robeasts to terrorize the people of Arus.

Chinatown Cultural Performance (6/27)

Saturday, June 27, 2009

2pm - 4pm

Free to the public

Central Plaza

943-951 N. Broadway

LA Chinatown, CA 90012

Parking around the area is plentiful, and is also easily accessed via Metro Gold Line rail from the Chinatown Station.

Stunning martial arts and Chinese acrobatic acts in a FREE performance in Chinatown's historic Central Plaza. Chinatown's Shaolin Warriors (monks from the famous Shaolin Temple in China) will be showcased, together with acrobats from China.

Hammer Lecture: Hitoshi Abe

Public Program presented by Hammer Museum

Tuesday, June 30, 2009

7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Hammer Museum

Los Angeles, CA

Dr. Hitoshi Abe, professor and chair of the UCLA Department of Architecture and Urban Design, discusses his distinguished career as a practicing architect and a leader in education. Known for architecture that is spatially complex and structurally innovative, the work of Atelier Hitoshi Abe has been exhibited internationally and has received numerous awards. Abe is the subject of a new monograph published by Phaidon.

Special Instructions

ALL HAMMER PUBLIC PROGRAMS ARE FREE. Tickets are required, and are available at the Billy Wilder Theater Box Office one hour prior to start time. Limit one ticket per person on a first come, first served basis. Hammer members receive priority seating, subject to availability. Reservations not accepted, RSVPs not required. Parking is available under the museum for \$3 after 6:00p.m.

http://hammer.ucla.edu/programs/detail/program_id/231

Sponsor(s): [Hammer Museum at UCLA](#)

Asia Society Southern Californias Annual Gala Dinner

Asia Society Southern California honoring Kobe Bryant, Liu Peng, and Timothy J.

Leiweke

Tuesday, June 30, 2009

6:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Beverly Hills Hilton

9876 Wilshire Blvd.

Beverly Hills, CA

Kobe Bryant, Olympic Gold Medalist and the 2008 NBA MVP, will receive the "Global Ambassador Award" at the Asia Society Southern California's Annual Gala Dinner, recognizing him as an outstanding humanitarian building global bridges of good will through sport on Tuesday evening, June 30, 2009, at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. We invite you to join as a sponsor and support his tireless effort to create global understanding through the power of sport.

Bryant's popularity extends beyond the United States and Asia. As a consummate bridge builder, his popularity has risen along with the growth of basketball worldwide. Last summer, Nike China launched a reality TV show called Kobe Mentu or "Kobe's Disciples." The finalists traveled to the U.S. and their experience learning about basketball from Bryant became a six-episode documentary. Bryant's jersey is the most popular piece of NBA licensed apparel in China.

Liu Peng, Minister of China's General Administration of Sports will also be honored at the gala. Many have declared China's 2008 Summer Olympic Games as the best ever and Minister Liu was in charge of making it all happen. As the President of the Chinese Olympic Committee, Minister Liu was "the man" supervising thousands of officials and volunteers, balancing the gargantuan budget and organizing dozens of large-scale events with all eyes of the world on him.

Timothy J. Leiweke, President and CEO of AEG, the Los Angeles-based company that also owns STAPLES Center, will receive the Asia Society "Global Corporate Leadership

Award." Under his leadership, Leiweke has built AEG into one of the world's most innovative and successful sports and entertainment organizations. Recently, in partnership with the NBA, AEG announced plans to build and operate ten new arenas in China in the coming years. As part of this initiative, the joint venture has begun management of the Wukesong arena, site of the 2008 Olympic basketball games, in addition to having begun construction of an arena in Shanghai and breaking ground on another in Guangzhou.

We are reaching out to you today to support the work of the Asia Society Southern California to foster economic development, cultural understanding, and harmony between all people on both sides of the Pacific. For more information on sponsorship and individual tickets please Deb Jordan at 213-613-9934 x 11 or visit

www.AsiaSocietySoCal.org.

Mention UCLA Asia Institute for a discounted price of \$300.

Cost: \$300

For more information please contact

Deb Jordan

Tel: 213-613-9934 x 11

www.asiasocietysocal.org

July 11 – Books Galore!

JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

369 East First Street

Los Angeles, California 90012

phone: 213.625.0414

fax: 213.625.1770

www.janm.org

"BRIDGING THE USA AND JAPAN" CONCERT

Open invitation to join Beethoven's 9th Symphony Chorus for performance of "Ode to Joy" at the Walt Disney Concert Hall, July 10, 2009

In efforts to build bridges of mutual understanding between Japanese Americans and Japanese nationals in Southern California, the Japanese Business Association (JBA) is organizing a choral performance of Beethoven's "Ode to Joy" to take place at the Walt Disney Concert Hall on July 10, 2009.

The JBA is inviting anyone with a desire to sing to join the choir and attend rehearsals that begin in November and continue until the time of the concert in July of 2009. No experience is necessary and the choir is open to ALL. Admission is on a rolling basis.

There is a one time \$40 registration fee and \$5 music score fee.

Weekly rehearsals will be held at the JACCC in Room 204 on Fridays from 6:30pm-8:30pm.

For more information contact the JBA at (310) 515-9522 jba@jba.org

Sunday, July 19, 2009 [Katsudo Shashin: Ohayo](#)

Told with Ozu's signature eye and heart for human tales of daily life, Ohayo (1959) is set in suburban Tokyo neighborhood in 1950's. Two young boys beg their parents

incessantly for a television set and are finally ordered to be quiet. The children take order literally and stop speaking-completely. Their silence begins to take a toll on their family as well as neighbor community.

at 2:00 PM

[Katsudo Shashin: Samurai Saga](#)

Edmond Rostand's play *Cyrano de Bergerac* is brought to the screen by director Hiroshi Inagaki in this 1959 samurai epic. Set in Kyoto, 1599, Komaki (Toshiro Mifune) is a decorated warrior with the heart of a poet, upholding honor in his town and teaching young children calligraphy. He falls in love with his childhood friend, but she sees him only as a friend. Komaki then takes it upon himself to help another man win her heart with his poetry.

at 4:00 PM

Aratani/Japan America Theatre

244 South San Pedro Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Phone: (213) 680-3700

Website: www.jaccc.org

E-Mail: jatevents@jaccc.org

[Map & Directions](#)

The Undiscovered Chinatown Tour (Aug)

Saturday, August 1, 2009

10:30am - 1pm

\$20 per person

Group size is limited.

RSVP via email at info@chinatownla.com or call (213) 680-0243.

chinatownla.com

"The Undiscovered Chinatown Tour" To Uncover History, Treasures, and Great Shopping

Visit a temple, an herbal shop, art galleries, antique stores, and more when guided to the unique treasures--not to mention great bargains--to be found in Chinatown. The 2 1/2 -hour walking tour will be offered on the first Saturday of every month and will take visitors to a number of off-the-beaten-track points of interest, and will guide those interested in shopping to some of Chinatown's best bargains and its trendiest shops. See why Chinatown is touted by *Sunset* and *Los Angeles* magazines as one of the hottest destinations for urban adventurers! Wear comfortable walking shoes and be prepared to wind your way through a myriad of alleyways, plaza stalls, and classical courtyards to discover the charm of L.A.'s Chinatown.

For special tour arrangements or requests, please contact the BID office at (213) 680-0243 or via email at info@chinatownla.com with your need.

2009 North American Taiko Conference

August 7, 8, 9, 2009

Little Tokyo

Los Angeles, CA

<http://www.taikoconference.org/news>

Saturday, August 08-9, 2009 **TAIKO JAM '09**

No one has been presenting taiko longer than the JACCC and the Aratani/Japan America Theatre is still exactly where it's at to get a taste of the four corners of this art form.

JACCC's taiko curators have put together a taiko show that will stimulate, inspire and educate!

Hailing from Las Vegas is the dynamic Kaminari Taiko, from Oregon comes the visually stunning Portland Taiko, and representing Los Angeles are the intense Kishin Daiko and rhythmically creative On Ensemble.

Taiko Jam only happens every 2 years in conjunction with the North American Taiko Conference so don't hesitate and get your taiko jam on!!

at 8:00 PM

Aratani/Japan America Theatre

244 South San Pedro Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Phone: (213) 628-2725

Website: www.jaccc.org

E-Mail: jatevents@jaccc.org

[Map & Directions](#)

Oct 24-25, 2009 Japan Expo

www.japanexpo.org

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

This Weekend (and earlier/later)

Thursday, Jun 11, 2009 An Evening Exploring Shifting Attitudes on Multicultural Families and Intermarriage 6:30 PM

The Asian Jewish Initiative was founded by the Anti-Defamation League in December 2006 as a partnership with Asian Pacific American Legal Center, Japanese American National Museum, Korean American Coalition, Leadership Education for Asian Pacifics and Search to Involve Pilipino Americans to advance alliances and partnerships between Asian and Jewish communities through constructive dialogue, exploration of common ground, joint community projects, and coalition building.

The Asian Jewish Initiative invites you to:

An Evening Exploring Shifting Attitudes on Multicultural Families and Intermarriage

Special guest performance: Kip Fulbeck

Panel discussion:

Grace Yoo, Davi Cheng, Arlene Chernow, David Ono

Cost is \$15 general admission; \$50 sponsorship (includes one signed copy of Part Asian, 100% Hapa) Preregistration and ID required ~ RSVP by June 8 by contacting Elana Wien at (310)446-4228 or ewien@adl.org

JAPANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

369 East First Street

Los Angeles, California 90012

phone: 213.625.0414

fax: 213.625.1770

Friday, Jun 12, 2009 Mixed Roots Film and Literary Festival

The largest west coast Loving Day celebration kicks off the 2nd Annual Mixed Roots Film & Literary Festival on June 12, 2009. The Festival celebrates storytelling of the Mixed racial and cultural experience and brings together innovative artists, film and book lovers, and families for two days of writing and film workshops, readings, film screenings, a special family event and live performance by talented comedians, musicians and actors.

The 2008 festival included appearances by: Rebecca Walker, Kim Wayans, Angela Nissell, Sundee Frazier and Maya Lily. Hapa artist and filmmaker Kip Fulbeck and best-selling writer James McBride were awarded the Loving Prize for dedication to illuminating the Mixed experience. All events are free and open to the public.

For schedule information visit www.mxroots.org

Wang Qingsong

Hammer Project

Sunday, June 14, 2009

Hammer Museum

Los Angeles, CA

Wang Qingsong is an influential contemporary Chinese artist known for his large-scale photographs which explore the political, social, and cultural issues of a rapidly changing China. The Hammer is pleased to present his newest work, Skyscraper (2008).

In Skyscraper, Qingsong employed 30 scaffolding workers from the countryside near Beijing during a month long production, to build a 35meter high 'skyscraper' out of gold-painted iron scaffolding. Using stop-action 35mm film he captures the entire process, but without showing the workers. China has been growing at breakneck speed but what is not always noticed, like Wang's process behind his photos, is the immediate effect and sacrifices of millions of displaced and anonymous people. The end of the film shows fireworks exploding from the top of the skyscraper in a jubilant but dark celebration as we listen to three women sing a Chinese version of "Silent Night, Holy Night."

www.hammer.ucla.edu/exhibitions/detail/exhibition_id/156

Sponsor(s): [Hammer Museum at UCLA](#)

Where I went last weekend (or the weekend before):
See dkikemi.blogspot.com

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://jaccc.org/>

Pacifica Asian Museum

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

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

White House translates Obama's speech into 13 languages (full text, complete video here, in English)

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/washington/2009/06/white-house-translates-obamas-speech-into-13-languages-full-text-video-in-english-here.html>

'Whale Wars' is back and so is controversial Capt. Paul Watson

9:51 AM, June 5, 2009

-Pete Thomas

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/outposts/2009/06/whale-wars-is-back-and-so-is-controversial-capt-paul-watson-.html>

China's porn-blocking mandate leaves PC makers with big tasks

Companies, including those in the U.S., must determine how to incorporate the software. Experts are skeptical of the program.

By David Pierson

June 10, 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-china-censor10-2009jun10.0,1086571.story>

Oldest known pottery found in China

The shards of a cone-shaped vase excavated from a cave in southern China are approximately 18,000 years old, 1,000 years older than any previously discovered pottery.

By Thomas H. Maugh II

June 6, 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-sci-pottery6-2009jun06.0.4455550.story>

Family obligation may lessen depression symptoms for Chinese American teens

2:34 PM, June 4, 2009

Jeannine Stein

http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/booster_shots/2009/06/family-ties-vary-with-different-cultures-with-some-emphasizing-obligation-and-strong-bonds-between-parents-siblings-and-ex.html

North Korean labor camps a ghastly prospect for U.S. journalists

If their sentence is carried out, Laura Ling and Euna Lee face possible torture and even death in North Korea's notorious gulag system, experts say.

By John M. Glionna and Paul Richter

June 9, 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/la-fg-north-korea-camps9-2009jun09.0.3309142.full.story>

First Guantanamo inmate transferred to U.S. for trial

Ahmed Khalfan Ghailani is to appear in a New York court today in connection with the 1998 bombings that killed 224 people at U.S. embassies in Tanzania and Kenya.

By Mark Silva

4:44 AM PDT, June 9, 2009

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-na-guantanamo-trial10-2009jun10.0.6035150.story>