

THE APPA Newsletter
Feb. 23, 2010

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>

Jan 22 - Feb 13 A Play "Kataki" (The Enemy), War from the Pacific Brought to the Hollywood Stage

War is coming. Starting Jan. 22, thru Feb. 13, Hollywood will be taken back into the pacific front of World War II when Kataki opens at the McCadden Theatre located at 1157 N McCadden Pl. in Hollywood's Theatre Row every Friday and Saturday 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm and Sunday 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm.

One American soldier and one Japanese soldier will be stranded together on an island in the Pacific with nothing but a solitary battle knife separating them.

The Los Angeles stage will for the first time witness the English and Japanese languages sharing the same stage when Shimon Wincelberg's Kataki is remade since its original 1959 Broadway debut.

Kataki tells the story of an American soldier, who regains consciousness after crash landing on a deserted island somewhere in the Pacific Ocean during the war. He awakens to find himself in the hands of a Japanese Imperial soldier, his enemy combatant.

With their respective languages of little use and one bayonet between them serving as judge, jury, and executioner, two soldiers must find ways communicate and coexist. The only possible alternative would be the extermination of either one of them.

This incredibly unique production brings together the creative team comprised of Director Peter Haskell and the Prince Livingston Players which includes Stars/Producers Fernando Aldaz and Yas Takahashi all of which come from a strong foundation and belief in truthful and riveting acting that captures the real essence of human nature.

A graduate from Harvard University, Haskell's directorial approach is heavily influenced by his long time mentor Peter Kass, who was a member of the Original Group Theatre, founded on the revolutionary acting approach that gradually swept the United States in the 30s and 40s that eventually came to be known as 'Method' acting.

Haskell also brings to the table his United States armed forces expertise having served in the 11th Airborne Division from May 1954 thru April 1956. Haskell's creative approach to Kataki is also influenced by his experience of three uncles who served the armed forces during the Second World War.

Aldaz, who plays Alvin, brings to the table his extensive training having studied at the Circle in the Square Theatre School on Broadway and the Stella Adler Academy of Acting in Los Angeles.

Takahashi who plays Kimura, completes this versed creative triad, having been born in Osaka, Japan and a member of Los Angeles's only Japanese theatre company, "Arigato-Kai," Takahashi also received his acting foundation from the Stella Adler Academy of Acting of Los Angeles.

Audiences will get an authentic taste of the war's pacific front conflict when this creative teams' vision hits the stage at the end of January. Tickets can be bought online at the Kataki official webpage, www.kataki2010.com or at the door of the McCadden before show times. Additional information is available at Kataki's official [Facebook page](#).

Your individual reservation number is: (323) 960-7721.

[from Cultural News, <http://archive.constantcontact.com/fs026/1102629591878/archive/1102918859079.html>]

2009-2010 International Human Rights Film Series

The UCLA International Institute is proud to present the second annual Human Rights Film Series, featuring monthly presentations of recent documentaries and feature films, on human rights issues that receive little attention in the United States. These films stand out for their depiction of issues on terms dictated from within the countries and cultures that they examine. Featuring commentary from filmmakers and scholars, each screening will also be an opportunity for public discussion about the issues.

All films screened at James Bridges Theater, 1409 Melnitz, UCLA

Sponsored by the International Institute, African Studies Center, Asia Institute, Center for European and Eurasian Studies, Latin American

Institute, Center for Near Eastern Studies, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, and the UCLA School of Law International Human Rights Program, and Human Rights Watch

The Bitter Taste of Tea: A Journey into the World of Fair Trade

Wednesday, January 20, 2010, 6:30 pm

A film by Tom Heinemann and Erling Borgen, Denmark, 2008.

Reception at 6:00. Screening followed by a forum on tea and fair trade.

Co-sponsored by the Asia Institute

Burma VJ: Reporting from a Closed Country

Friday, November 20, 7:00 pm

A film by Anders Østergaard, Norway/Sweden/Denmark/UK, 2008.

Reception at 6:30

Co-sponsored by the Center for Southeast Asian Studies, the Asia Institute, and Human Rights Watch

The Reckoning: The Epic Story of the Battle for the International Criminal Court

Wednesday, October 21, 6:00 pm

A film by Paco de Onís, Peter Kinoy, and Pamela Yates, USA, 2009.

Wednesday, February 24: (Film TBA)

Co-sponsored by the Center for European and Eurasian Studies

Wednesday, March 31: (Film TBA)

Co-sponsored by the Latin American Institute

Reception at 6:00 pm. Screening at 6:30 pm followed by a discussion with Maximo Langer, UCLA School of Law, and

Cesare Romano, Loyola Law School.

Co-sponsored by the UCLA School of Law International Human Rights Program and Human Rights Watch.

For more info visit www.international.ucla.edu/humanrights

Hollywood Chinese: The Arthur Dong Collection Exhibition / October 23, 2009 – May 31, 2010

Hollywood Chinese: The Arthur Dong Documentary Collection presents selections from over 800 pieces of movie memorabilia that was collected during the ten-year research for Arthur Dong's groundbreaking film, Hollywood Chinese. Through posters, lobby cards, film stills, and scripts and documents dating from 1912, visitors journey into a

vivid and graphic study of how Chinese have been imagined in the movies, reflecting the social and cultural history of the Chinese in America during the last century. In addition to iconic depictions evidenced by material from films such as *The Good Earth*, *The Vengeance of Fu Manchu*, *Charlie Chan in Honolulu*, and *Flower Drum Song*, highlights of the collection include the surviving archive of pioneer Chinese American filmmaker James B. Leong, who produced the 1921 film, *Lotus Blossom*, in Los Angeles.

Filmmaker Arthur Dong is the Guest Curator for this exhibition.

The Chinese American Museum

425 N. Los Angeles Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

(The cross street is Arcadia)

camla.org

Jan 3 - Feb 28, 2010 12th Annual Shikishi Exhibition

Japanese American Cultural and
Community Center

Doizaki Gallery

244 South San Pedro Street

(between 2nd and 3rd Streets)

Los Angeles (Little Tokyo), CA 90012

(213) 628-2725

Indian Miniature Painting

February 24 – May 16, 2010

In the Focus Gallery

As a companion exhibition to *Beyond the Page: Contemporary Pakistani Art*, the museum will display a range of classical miniature painting from its collection to connect visitors to this centuries-old artistic tradition in South Asia. The exhibition will focus on three genres in miniatures, Power, Pantheon and Portraiture, depicting images of rulers, deities and individuals. The conversation between these classical examples and the contemporary manifestations in *Beyond the Page* will engender a more complete understanding of the continuum between tradition and contemporary culture.

Curated by Bridget Bray.

Related Events:

Saturday, March 20, 2pm

Lecture: An exploration of the diverse beauty and rich history of Indian miniatures with curator Bridget Bray.

Pacific Asia Museum

46 North Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, California 91101 (626) 449-2742

www.pacificasiamuseum.org

Japan in Blue and White

March 25, 2010 – March 6, 2011

In the Frank and Toshie Mosher Gallery of Japanese Art

In Japan, the pairing of blue and white has resulted in some of the most dramatic and uniquely Japanese designs. Indigo blue dye has been used to embellish textiles for centuries, while the mineral cobalt oxide has been used since the 17th century as an underglaze pigment on ceramics. In the early 19th century, a third blue pigment, Prussian blue, was imported from Europe and was so popular that it gave rise to a type of woodblock print known as aizuri-e, or "pictures printed in blue." These three blue pigments were originally employed for practical reasons – indigo dye repelled mosquitoes, cobalt oxide is one of the most stable underglaze ceramic pigments, and Prussian blue was colorfast. Mainly drawn from the Museum's collection, the exhibition will focus on blue and white ceramics, textiles and woodblock prints to illustrate the history of three blue pigments and their development in Japan.

Guest-curated by Meher McArthur

This exhibition was made possible by Setsuko Oka in honor of Grace Oka Latham Pacific Asia Museum

46 North Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, California 91101 (626) 449-2742

www.pacificasiamuseum.org

CAVE QUEST

By Les Thomas

Directed by Diane Rodriguez

Featuring: West Liang & Kim Miyori

World Premiere!

The search for inner peace is often a life long journey. However, Justin Yi plans to condense that journey into minutes by packaging it into a \$49.95 video game. In order to create the game, he tracks down Padma, a legendary American Buddhist nun in a Tibetan cave high in the Himalayas. Padma hasn't spoken in five years, but that's okay, he's only looking for the bullet points of enlightenment. When Justin's charm and fervor falls short, he embraces darker tactics and the cave becomes an arena for a conflict of wills and surprising revelations that changes the course of their lives.

Performance Run ~ February 18 - March 14

Wednesday - Saturday @ 8pm, Sunday @ 2pm;

Tickets \$25 - \$35

Next Generation Community Night ~ Wednesday, February 24 @ 7pm

Free Pizza, Soda & Beer w/ Live Music! \$1 Opportunity Drawing Tickets!

[\(Download a flyer here\)](#)

Post Show Discussions ~ Thursday, February 25; Sunday, February 28; Thursday March 4

A chat with the artists after the show.

Wine Down Friday ~ Every Friday February 19 - March 12 @ 7pm

Enjoy a complimentary glass of Red or White wine 1 hour prior to curtain.

Student Rush Tickets ~ 30 minutes prior to any regular performances

\$15 Wed & Thurs; \$20 Fri - Sun

Come to one of these CAVE QUEST shows at East West Players and you could win a PS2 Slim!!

Just purchase your ticket, enjoy the show, and one lucky winner will be drawn to win!
Check it out!

~Thurs, February 25

~Wed, March 3

~Thurs, March 4

~Wed, March 10

~Thurs, March 11

(All 8pm shows)

For more information, please call East West Players at (213) 625-7000 or email info@eastwestplayers.org.

120 Judge John Aiso St.

Los Angeles, CA 90012

www.eastwestplayers.org

Asia America Symphony's 2010 season brings world renowned musicians to Los Angeles

The Asia America Symphony Association (AASA) led by Music Director & Conductor, David Benoit announces its 2010 Concert Season, featuring a line-up of world renowned and celebrated artists.

Heading up the concert series on Saturday, February 20 is the nation's most sought after cellist, Ben Hong presenting a diverse program of "Classical and Jazz" with the David Benoit Trio and musicians of the Asia America Symphony Orchestra followed by one of the major voices in today's chamber jazz scene, Er-hu and premier violinist, Meg Okura, performing for the first time with the David Benoit Trio on March 20.

Two other outstanding performances include the Asia America Youth Orchestra in concert on April 18, premiering David Benoit's new composition, "Native California", and the finale concert featuring platinum selling artist and six-time Grammy nominee, saxophonist, Dave Koz performing with the Asia America Symphony Orchestra under Music Director and Conductor, David Benoit on June 5.

Mr. Benoit also announced AASA's Annual International Composition for Orchestra Competition open to all young composers up to 25 years of age.

Monetary prizes are awarded to winners in two youth divisions.

CONCERT I: Saturday, February 20, 2010 - 8pm / Harlyne J. Norris Pavilion, Rolling Hills Estates

Evening with BEN HONG, the David Benoit Trio and members of the Asia America Symphony Orchestra

Called a "Ninja Cellist" by Soloist film actor, Jamie Foxx, Ben Hong is anything but your typical cellist. In addition to being the youngest cellist of the Los Angeles Philharmonic as Assistant Principal Cellist, Ben's desire to grow musically has resulted in a number of diverse performance opportunities.

Most recently, Ben was hired by Dreamworks to train several cast members of the movie, "The Soloist", including Academy Award winner, Jamie Foxx and Tom Hollander. He also served as an on-set technical advisor. The movie is based on Steve Lopez's columns in the Los Angeles Times about Nathaniel Anthony Ayers, a former Juilliard

student who ended up on the streets of Los Angeles, homeless and schizophrenic, yet held tight to his music.

Ben's playing is featured on the film's soundtrack. He will be performing with the David Benoit Trio and members of the Asia America Symphony Orchestra: concertmaster, Yun Tang and principal clarinetist, Darryl Tanikawa in a program of classical and jazz.

Ticket Prices: \$50 Preferred, \$35 General Seating; Harlyne J. Norris

Pavilion, 501 Indian Peak Road, Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

CONCERT II: Saturday, March 20, 2010 - 8pm / Harlyne J. Norris Pavilion, Rolling Hills Estates

Electric Violin & Er-hu Virtuoso, MEG OKURA with the David Benoit Trio

A native of Japan, composer, Er-hu player and premier jazz violinist, Meg Okura has appeared in over fifty albums, movie soundtracks, television programs and music videos.

Juilliard trained, Ms. Okura has performed with musical icons such as David Bowie, Mary J. Blige, Michael Brecker, Philip Glass, Ziggy Marley, Lee Konitz, Lenny Kravitz, and Kanye West.

Directing the Pan Asian Chamber Jazz Ensemble, Meg is inventing and defining "world chamber jazz" today.

Performing together for the first time with the David Benoit Trio, this concert will invigorate your musical senses and is not to be missed.

Ticket Prices: \$50 Preferred, \$35 General Seating; Harlyne J. Norris Pavilion, 501 Indian Peak Road, Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274

CONCERT III: Sunday, April 18, 2010 - 7pm / James Armstrong Theatre, Torrance
ASIA AMERICA YOUTH ORCHESTRA

Music Without Borders

The Asia America Youth Orchestra (AAYO) will debut the world premiere performance of David Benoit's new composition, composed specially for AAYO, "Native California", spotlighting many members of its orchestra in a variety of musical styles.

Also featured will be AAYO violin virtuosos, Eleanor Dunbar and Jessie Chen performing Bach's Double Violin Concerto.

The Asia America Youth Orchestra was founded in 2001 by Music Director and Conductor, David Benoit, to provide opportunities for young musicians from all cultures, races and backgrounds to play in a professional-level ensemble.

Ticket Prices: \$40 Preferred Seating, \$25 General Seating; James R.

Armstrong Theatre, 3330 N. Civic Center Drive, Torrance, CA 90503.

CONCERT IV: Saturday, June 5, 2010 - 8pm / Aratani Japan America Theatre, JACCC, Los Angeles

ASIA AMERICA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

David Benoit, Music Director and Conductor
with special guest, saxophonist DAVE KOZ

A Night at the Movies

Platinum selling artist, humanitarian, radio host and six-time Grammy nominee, saxophonist Dave Koz will join Music Director & Conductor David Benoit and the Asia America Symphony Orchestra performing music from his "At The Movies" CD.

A 2009 recipient of a "star" on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, Dave Koz has played with musical luminaries such as Burt Bacharach, Ray Charles, Natalie Cole, Celine Dion, Kenny Loggins, U2, Barry Manilow, and Rod Stewart.

Also featured in this concert will be the fantastic music of John Williams.

Ticket Prices: \$100 VIP Seating with post-concert reception, \$75 Premier Seating, \$50 General Seating; Aratani Japan America Theatre, 244 South San Pedro St. Los Angeles, CA 90012.

[from Cultural News]

March 7 Classical piano concert by Junko Ueno Garrett

Musicale at Newport Beach Library, 3PM

"A World Journey on the Keyboard"

music of Gershwin, Granados, Piazzolla, Kapustin, Rachmaninov, Mompou

<http://www.city.newport-beach.ca.us/nbpl/Events/calendar.html>

<http://junkopiano.com/en/concerts/>

March 7 **New Year Celebration 12-4PM**

Celebrate the Year of the Tiger with performances, stories, and more. Fun for all ages!

Sponsored by the Chinese Arts Council.

Free for members, included with museum admission for non-members.

Pacific Asia Museum

46 North Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, California 91101 (626) 449-2742

www.pacificasiamuseum.org

March 11 Authors on Asia

7PM

Dean King: *Unbound: A True Story of War, Love and Survival*

Join acclaimed author Dean King as he discusses his latest book, *Unbound: A True Story of War, Love and Survival*. *Unbound* tells the story of the 30 women who participated in China's Long March during the Communist Revolution.

As part of his extensive research in Chinese historical archives, Dean trekked the snowy mountains and high-altitude swamps of northwestern Sichuan – the deadliest section of the Long March, and interviewed the last surviving woman Long Marcher who trekked with Mao.

Book signing included. Program is free for museum members and included with museum admission for non-members: \$9 general, \$7 students and seniors. RSVP to (626) 449-2742, ext. 20.

Pacific Asia Museum

46 North Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, California 91101 (626) 449-2742

www.pacificasiamuseum.org

March 11, Hiromi Uehara in Concert

Thursday, 8pm

The Jazz Bakery's "Movable Feast" series and JACCC are proud to present the brilliant young Japanese fusion jazz piano virtuoso, Hiromi Uehara. She is heralded as one of the brightest new lights on the jazz landscape on both sides of the ocean. Hiromi's

unique piano styling is a melding of power; grace and passion that displays an astonishing range of mood and emotion.

Making a very rare appearance in Southern California, the protégée of such jazz veterans as pianist Ahmad Jamal and bassist Richard Evans, Hiromi is the latest artist on the Jazz Bakery's "Movable Feast" roster that has included Ernie Andrews, Dori Caymmi, Mose Allison, Hubert Laws and Bill Henderson. Hiromi's Little Tokyo concert performance follows on the heels of her most recent releases, Hiromi Live in Concert and Hiromi's Sonicbloom Live in Concert.

For information or to purchase tickets visit the Jazz Bakery website at www.jazzbakery.org or call (310) 271-9039

\$35 General Admission

\$20 Seniors/Students. Limited seats available and ID is required at will call.

JACCC Members' discount available by purchasing tickets directly through the Jazz Bakery. Membership ID is required at will call.

VENUE: The Japan America Theatre

Japanese American Cultural and

Community Center

244 South San Pedro Street

(between 2nd and 3rd Streets)

Los Angeles (Little Tokyo), CA 90012

(213) 628-2725

Aratani/Japan America Theatre Box Office Info:

(213) 680-3700

Mar 11-13 Wakayagi school dancers to perform for "Memoirs of a Geisha" music at Pacific Symphony concert,

Dancers of Wakahisa-Kai, a Wakayagi School group in Orange County will perform for "Sayuri's Theme from Memoirs of a Geisha" in "A Salute to John Williams" concert by Pacific Symphony at Orange County Performing Arts Center Renee and Henry Segerstrom Concert Hall from Mar 11-13 at 8:00 p.m.

Having a long-standing collaborative relationship with Steven Spielberg, John Williams has composed numerous original music for hit movies as Jaws, Close Encounters of the Third Kind, Star Wars, E.T., The Extra-Terrestrial, Hook and Jurassic Park. Williams also composed music for Memoirs of a Geisha (2005) because Spielberg was a producer for the film.

Wakahisa-Kai lead by Mme Hisame Wakayagi (photo) of Cypress performed at the similar concert for "Sayuri's Theme" with Pacific Symphony in August 2007.

Two of Wakahisa-Kai members danced in the movie Memoirs of a Geisha.

Dancers who are dubbed as Group Yume (Dream), are Kiyoka Wakayagi, Ayaka Wakayagi, Shiho Wakayagi, Hisaki Wakayagi, and Sophia Jeon. The choreographer of the stage is Mme. Hisame Wakayagi. Shuho Wakayagi helps the stage.

Mme. Hisame Wakayagi has taught Japanese classical dance in Orange County for near 15 years. Her studios are located at Cypress, Costa Mesa, Culver City and Sawtell in West Los Angeles. She is also the president of the Asian Traditional Dance and Music Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization to spread Asian dance in Orange County.

Music in "A Salute to John Williams" includes Superman, ET, Harry Potter, Jurassic Park, Star Wars, Jaws, Raiders of the Lost Ark, and Memoirs of a Geisha. Orange County Performing Arts Center is located at 615 Town Center Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626. Tickets are \$185 - \$25. To buy tickets, visit www.ocpac.org.
[from Cultural News]

Mar 23, Nibei Foundation's Japan Study Club
A Half Century of Filmmaking: Akira Kurosawa and World Cinema
Prof. Stephen Prince, Department of Theatre & Cinema, Virginia Tech
Tuesday, dinner at 6:30 p.m. lecture at 7:30 p.m.
\$10 including dinner
Terasaki Foundation Laboratory Building, 11570 Olympic Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90064
RSVP by Thursday, Mar 18 by email japanstudies@nibei.org or call (310) 479-6101 ext 134. www.nibei.org
[from Cultural News]

March 31 Jero in Concert 8PM Aratani Theatre
www.jaccc.org

April 24 Hidden Legacy, A Tribute to Teachers of Japanese Traditional Arts in the WRA (War Relocation Authority) Camps
For one performance only actual artists who taught and learned Japanese Traditional arts during the camp period will be presented in performance and discussion.
Koyasan Buddhist Temple
342 E. 1st St., Los Angeles
Suggested donation:
\$20 General Admission, \$15 Seniors with ID
Call 213-628-2725, x133, kelly@jaccc.org
<http://www.jaccc.org/events.htm>

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

This Weekend (and earlier/later)

ASCENDING DRAGON MUSIC FESTIVAL

Friday, February 26, 2010, 8:00 pm

Pacific Asia Museum

FREE

An unveiling of Southwest Chamber Music's historic Ascending Dragon Music Festival and Cultural Exchange. Sponsored in part by the State Department, this musical exchange with Vietnam is the largest ever in the nations' shared history. Grammy Award-winning conductor and Artistic Director Jeff von der Schmidt will give an overview of the project's performances and community events.

http://www.swmusic.org/ascending_dragon/ascending_dragon_home.html

Feb. 26 Japanese Garden at California State University, Long Beach to Host "Kimono In Color: A Spectrum of Seasons"

How the beauty of changing seasons is reflected in harmonious colors of kimono in ancient and modern Japanese culture is the topic of the Winter Lecture titled "Kimono in Color: A Spectrum of Seasons," presented by Earl Burns Miller Japanese Garden at California State University, Long Beach (CSULB).

The program takes place Friday, Feb. 26, in the Daniel Recital Hall on the CSULB campus. Light refreshments will be served at 7 p.m. followed by the program at 7:30 p.m.

Kimono will be displayed and Alison Redfoot-DiLiddo, the garden's assistant director for education, will discuss examples of color use in kimono, the imagery of the four seasons based on the garden's kimono collection and the garden itself, as well as her research into this topic.

Admission is free to members of the Friends of the Japanese Garden and \$10 for non-members.

Seating is limited and reservations are required by calling the garden's Education Department at (562) 985-8420.

www.csulb.edu/~jgarden

[from Cultural News]

Feb 27 Koto musician Yukiko Matsuyama to present new CD concert, Yukiko Matsuyama & The Koto Yuki Band

Saturday, Feb 27, at 8:00PM

Remo Recreational Music Center

7308 Coldwater Canyon, North Hollywood, CA 91605

Tickets are \$15 in advance sale, \$18 at doors

Ticket info: (760) 576-KOTO (5686)

www.KotoYuki.com

To celebrate the release of a new CD "Creme Brulee," koto musician Yukiko Matsuyama and the Koto Yuki Band will perform at Remo Recreational Music Center in North Hollywood on Saturday, Feb 27 at 8:00 p.m.

It's a joyful blend of Smooth Jazz, New Age & World Music that will excite and delight the audiences.

A native of Osaka, Japan, Yukiko is blending the traditional sound of the koto with western music. "It's definitely not what comes to mind when one imagines traditional Koto music." says one critic.

The band features Diana Dentino on keys, Vince VanTrigt on bass, Voyce McGinley III - drums & percussion with Special Guests: Remo Signature artist Leon Mobley - percussion, & Greg Vail - sax & flute. Tom Kurai of the Taiko Center of Los Angeles will be opening the show.

Yukiko Matsuyama bridges eras and cultures. Her compositions for koto and western instruments delve into a joyous and celebrative blend of world and pop music.

She delivers the sounds of the ancient 7th century instrument with authority and grace while managing to infuse elements of jazz, pop, new age, and world music into her mesmerizing compositions.

Born in Osaka, Japan, Matsuyama was classically trained at the Ikuta School of Koto from age 9. She received her professional certification and teaching credential in 1986. In 1993 Matsuyama came to Los Angeles and began composing original music, blending the traditional sound of the koto with western music. She has released three original recordings, Kazaguruma, Tsubomi, and Koto and has just finished her fourth CD Creme Brulee.

Matsuyama has performed with a diverse array of artists including the Paul Winter, John York (The Byrds), Rei Aoo Dance Planet, Hirokazu Kosaka, Billy Mitchell, Tadashi Namba, Akihiro Ito, Hirotaka Ogawa, Diana Dentino (Kitaro & Peabo Bryson), Koji Nakamura, Dave Iwataki (Hiroshima), Mike Bennett (Hilary Duff), & Dr. Reed Gratz (Buddy DeFranco).

She's performed at the Japan America Theatre, the John Anson Ford Theatre, the Grand Canyon National Park, the Los Angeles County Museum of Art, the Huntington Library, and many music festivals, cultural and community events, universities and schools. Matsuyama also performs several times a year in Japan.

A 13-string zither or harp, the Koto is Japan's national instrument.

www.KotoYuki.com

[from Cultural News]

The Grateful Crane Ensemble Presents The Betrayed

Saturday, February 27 * 11 AM & 3 PM

Sunday, February 28 * 2 PM

\$23.00 members; \$25.00 non-members. To purchase tickets, please call (323)

769-5503

A Play by Hiroshi Kashiwagi Directed by Darrell Kunitomi Southern California Premiere Award-winning Nisei playwright, actor, poet, and author Hiroshi Kashiwagi's Southern California premiere of his new two-act play about a young Nisei couple torn apart over the infamous loyalty questions #27 & #28. Forty years later, we meet Tak and Grace again, and learn how these questions and the decisions they made back then affected them for the rest of their lives.

APANESE AMERICAN NATIONAL MUSEUM

369 East First Street

Los Angeles, California 90012

phone: (213) 625-0414

February 28, 2010 "The Harimaya Bridge" Film Screening

Date: Sunday,

Time: 2:00 PM

Location: Aratani Japan America Theatre in Little Tokyo

244 S. San Pedro St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

The Aurora Foundation is proud to present "THE HARIMAYA BRIDGE" Film Screening.

Q&A with Director Aaron Woolfolk(2002 Aurora Challenge Grant Winner) & Special Guest right after the screening

The screening will be presented at the Aratani Japan America Theatre in downtown Los Angeles.

Tickets \$12 + \$2 handling fee + \$1 shipping fee(optional)

<http://www.auroraevent.org/JLSF/index.php/AURORA-EVENTS/qthe-harimaya-bridgeq-2010-film-screening.html>

Feb 27-28 Chinatown Firecracker 5/10K Feb 28

The 10K course is a challenging run through the hills of Elysian Park. From N. Broadway, the course winds up into the park to it's highest elevation (see elevation map). The course winds through tree-lined rolling hills with the summit of Angels Point providing spectacular 180 degrees of the city.

The early morning vistas of downtown Los Angeles to the south and neighborhoods to the north from the various vantage points in Elysian Park are quite breathtaking and not commonly seen, even by longtime Angelenos.

Whatever your competitive level, enjoy the scenery and the camaraderie of fellow runners.

There is no vehicular traffic to contend with. Mile markers indicate where you are. Split times are called out by supportive course workers.

5K and 10K Starting times will stagger to accommodate all entrants.

Entry fee includes a complimentary "Carbo-Load" meal on Saturday.

Note: Course descriptions and images may change without notice due to construction, accessibility and other factors beyond our control.

The 5K run/walk is an up and back loop that takes participants to Dodger Stadium. The course begins on North Broadway for approximately 1/3 mile, then turns left onto Bishops Road. An immediate right turn at Stadium Way takes you over the 110 freeway toward Dodger Stadium for about a 1 mile uphill climb. This distance includes a right at Lookout Dr., then onto Lilac Terrace which leads again onto Stadium Way. A U-turn a little past Elysian Park Ave. returns you to Stadium Way directly to Bishops Road, then onto North Broadway toward the finish line. There is one water station on the course.

5K and 10K Starting times will stagger to accommodate all entrants.

Entry fee includes a complimentary "Carbo-Load" meal on Saturday.

Feb 27

20+ Mile Ride

Similar to the route from the 2009 inaugural event, this is a loop from Chinatown to Griffith Park and back. This year, a portion of this ride uses the L.A. River bike path. Fully supported with a refreshment stop near half distance in Griffith Park. Since this ride is mainly on city streets, young riders are not encouraged to participate. Return to Chinatown for post-event refreshments, a Carbo-Load meal and Nite n' Day entertainment. This ride is suggested for beginner to intermediate riders. Mostly flat with a few rolling hills.

42+ Mile Ride

A ride to provide separation between you and other riders. This ride has a mixture of flats and challenging hills with an emphasis on the latter. After a relatively sedate ride into Griffith Park, you'll encounter the first climb in the hills toward Travel Town. After a

brief stop for refreshments in the park, it's onto a rather flat ride through Glendale (Glenoaks Blvd.) to Chevy Chase Dr. Then prepare for a 4 mile climb to the top of Linda Vista for another rest area. Another short climb on Figueroa St. leads you downward toward the Rose Bowl in Pasadena via the lush neighborhoods near Descanso Gardens. A final rest stop at the Rose Bowl begins the mostly downhill finish through the streets of South Pasadena and neighborhoods north of Chinatown via the Arroyo Seco Bike Path. Be prepared for cool weather, quiet streets, scenic vistas and out of the seat climbing. Ride level: Intermediate to advanced. Refer to the enclosed map and elevation chart. If this were a spicy barbecued chicken dish, it would be an 8 on a scale of 1-10. The Los Angeles Firecracker Run Committee, Inc. (LACFRC, Inc.) is a community based-based, 501.3(c)(3) non-profit organization with a non-salaried group of volunteers who donate their time and energies to organize and stage an annual run/walk event and to promote activities beneficial to the Los Angeles Chinatown community. The "Firecracker Run" is recognized as one of the best organized events in the running community. For 31 years, the event remains participant-oriented; to make his/her participation as memorable and enjoyable as possible.

<http://firecracker10k.org/>

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.pacificasiamuseum.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.

Kim Yuna takes center stage in figure skating

South Korean has the weight of a country's expectations when she takes to the ice for the women's figure skating short program tonight.

By Philip Hersh

February 23, 2010 6:18 p.m.

<http://www.latimes.com/sports/olympics/la-sp-olympics-figures24-2010feb24.0.5143032.story>

For Pakistani women, dupattas are more than a fashion statement
The long scarves that many wear with traditional shalwar kameez outfits are laden with religious and cultural significance. For some it's a sign of Islamic modesty, for others a cumbersome relic.

By Mark Magnier

February 23, 2010 5:40 p.m.

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nation-and-world/la-fg-pakistan-scarf24-2010feb24.0.3450523.story>

'Arts of Ancient Viet Nam'

The expansive exhibition of artifacts from the land's historical cultures is on view at the Asia Society in New York.

By Louise Roug

February 21, 2010

<http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/news/la-ca-viet-art21-2010feb21.0.2665178.story>

Cultural divide: In American mosques, how much English is too much?

RACHEL ZOLL

AP Religion Writer

February 20, 2010 9:08 p.m.

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/world/wire/sns-ap-us-rel-islam-in-english.0.2156174.story>

Young Asian American skaters dream they can soar

Their role models are Olympians, and their dedication is strong.

By Ching-Ching Ni

February 21, 2010

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-asian-skating21-2010feb21.0.6258184.story>

Erhu soloist added heartfelt tone to 'Up in the Air'

By Cristy Lytal

February 21, 2010

<http://www.latimes.com/entertainment/news/la-ca-working-hollywood21-2010feb21.0.1333901.story>

Charmette Bonpua dies at 44; chief of staff to L.A. City Councilman Herb Wesson
She served behind the scenes for several powerful California officials.

Times Staff Reports

February 19, 2010 9:18 p.m.

<http://www.latimes.com/news/obituaries/la-me-charmette-bonpua20-2010feb20.0.1854687.story>

Obama meets Dalai Lama; Only one photo allowed; China still steamed; Democrat flies to Vegas party

February 19, 2010 | 12:44 am

Andrew Malcolm

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/washington/2010/02/dalai-lama-obama-china.html>

Everybody hates Ohno: In South Korea, American speedskater is reviled, mocked and jeered

JEAN H. LEE

Associated Press Writer

February 19, 2010 2:55 a.m.

<http://www.latimes.com/sports/nationworld/wire/sns-ap-oly-sho-hating-ohno.0.5636608.story>

Young, educated and jobless in China

With millions graduating from college each year and few jobs awaiting them, the country's central planners worry that a mass social experiment that created a class of professionals is backfiring.

By David Pierson

February 18, 2010 5:56 p.m.

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-china-grads19-2010feb19.0.4022980.story>

Scientists find great genetic differences among southern Africans

The genomes of four Bushmen and one Bantu were sequenced or partially sequenced.

'If we really want to understand human diversity, we need . . . to study those people,' the study's lead author says.

By Thomas H. Maugh II

February 18, 2010

<http://www.latimes.com/news/nation-and-world/la-sci-african-genomes18-2010feb18.0.1286695.story>

UC San Diego condemns student party mocking Black History Month

Officials are probing the off-campus 'Compton Cookout' and its Facebook invitation to see if they violated the university's code of conduct and whether sponsors should be disciplined.

By Larry Gordon

February 18, 2010

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-ucsd18-2010feb18.0.5698009.story>

Execs can't win in testifying on Capitol Hill

Toyota's president is likely to learn what other corporate kings have when appearing at congressional hearings.

By Kathleen Hennessey and Walter Hamilton

February 24, 2010

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-ceo-grilling24-2010feb24.0.3319368.story>

Boyle Heights celebrates its ethnic diversity

In the 1940s, the Eastside neighborhood was often called one of the largest and earliest showcases for multicultural harmony in Los Angeles.

By Teresa Watanabe

February 22, 2010

<http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-boyle-heights22-2010feb22.0.3234338.story>