

September 16, 2024

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@gmail.com)

Back issues of the newsletter for all of 2000-2023 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.

Art Exhibition

Inspired by Edo Exhibition

Dates:

August 5 - September 28, 2024

Hours:

Mon-Sat 12:00pm-6:00pm

Closed on Sundays & Holidays (August 12 and 31, September 2)

Location:

The Japan Foundation, Los Angeles Hall

(5700 Wilshire Blvd., #100, Los Angeles, CA 90036)

<https://www.jflalc.org/event-details.php/185/inspired-by-edo-exhibition>

JANM Book Club: Literature of Japanese American Incarceration

Entry included in JANM Admission (\$16 adults, \$9 seniors/students/youth, Free for JANM Members)

Saturday, Oct 12, 2024

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM PDT

Japanese American National Museum

100 North Central Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

[https://www.janm.org/events/2024-10-12/janm-book-club-literature-japanese-american-incarceration`](https://www.janm.org/events/2024-10-12/janm-book-club-literature-japanese-american-incarceration)

[National Bunraku Theater](#)

[Sep 28, 2024 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm](#)

Aratani Theatre

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

Price

Reserved seating: \$35-55 / Members: \$30-50

(+\$3.00-5.50 per ticket fees)

<https://jaccc.org/events/national-bunraku-theater/>

Before YOUR Coffee Gets Cold, Meet Author Toshikazu Kawaguchi

Wednesday, October 2, 7:00pm

Joining Kawaguchi will be **Naomi Hirahara**, Los Angeles-based Edgar Award-winning author, as a moderator and conversation facilitator.

The Japan Foundation, Los Angeles

Main Hall

5700 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 90036

Admission: **FREE**

Registration Required

<https://www.jflalc.org/event-details.php/196/before-your-coffee-gets-cold-meet-author-toshikazu-kawaguchi>

Unmasking Anna May Wong Exhibit

The Chinese American Museum invites you to the opening reception of our latest exhibition, *Unmasking Anna May Wong* on Thursday, May 23rd at 6:30 – 9:00 pm. CAM Members can have a special preview at 5:30pm.

Unmasking Anna May Wong will run from May 24, 2024 – Jan 26, 2025.

<https://camla.org/upcoming-events/>

[EXHIBITION](#)

Mineo Mizuno: Homage to Nature

This site-specific work explores the fragility of the Earth's ecosystem, as well as the destruction of the forest and its potential for regeneration. The sculpture celebrates the beauty of wood in its natural state and emphasizes its potential as a reusable and renewable resource.

May 25, 2024–May 25, 2029 <https://huntington.org/exhibition/mineo-mizuno-homage-nature>

MAR 02 – JAN 05, 2025

Giant Robot Biennale 5

Japanese American National Museum 100 North Central Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

<https://www.janm.org/exhibits/grb5>

Stanford University providing digital collection of Japanese newspaper overseas from late 19th century to 1950s [From Cultural News] <https://hojishinbun.hoover.org/>

Wakaji Matsumoto—An Artist in Two Worlds: Los Angeles and Hiroshima, 1917–1944

This online exhibition also features essays by Karen Matsumoto, Wakaji's granddaughter, and Dennis Reed, the curator of the exhibition

Wakaji Matsumoto | Japanese American National Museum (janm.org)

ONGOING

An American Vocabulary

An American Vocabulary: Words to Action is a collaborative project by visual artist Audrey Chan and rapper jason chu. This set of flash cards portrays figures, events, and practices rooted in...

An American Vocabulary | Japanese American National Museum (janm.org)

EXHIBITION

Stories and Voices from L.A. Chinatown

Explore the history of Los Angeles' Chinatown, the first community in North America to be planned and owned by people of Chinese descent.

Archive Alive: Stories and Voices from L.A. Chinatown (lapl.org)

Previously:

Asian Comics: Evolution of an Art Form MARCH 9, 2024 – SEPTEMBER 8, 2024 Check website for special events related to the exhibiton.

2002 North Main Street, Santa Ana, CA 92706

Asian Comics: Evolution of an Art Form - Bowers Museum

Saturday, Aug 17, 2024

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

[J. T. Sata Exhibition: Curator Tour with Dennis Reed and Robert Hori](#) tickets:

<https://www.janm.org/events/2024-08-17/j-t-sata-exhibition-curator-tour-dennis-reed-androbert-hori>

Descanso Gardens presents “Inspired Edo: 50 finalists of national students art competition” from July 6-29

[Descanso Gardens presents “Inspired Edo: 50 finalists of national students art competition” from July 6-29 | Cultural News](#)

Beyond the Page with Lisa See

By Friends of the Chinese American Museum ([OTHER EVENTS](#))

PICO HOUSE

424 N Main St, Los Angeles, CA 90012

[THURSDAY, JULY 11 2024](#)

[6:30 PM — 8:00 PM PDT](#)

CAM's *Beyond the Page* series features conversations with AAPI authors and focuses on amplifying Asian American voices and their diverse experiences.

Register at

[Beyond the Page with Lisa See Tickets in Los Angeles, CA, United States \(ticketleap.com\)](#)

Another Beautiful Country

Moving Images by Chinese American Artists

On view January 26, 2024 – April 21, 2024

USC Pacific Asia Museum

46 N Los Robles Ave, Pasadena, California 91101 [#LunarNewYear](#) [Current Exhibitions](#) – [USC Pacific Asia Museum](#)

“Elegance and Emotion: The Unique Dolls of Kimiko Muraoka Koyanagi”

Saturday January 13 to Sunday May 5, 2024

The Shumei Hall Gallery, 2430 East Colorado Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91107

info@shumeiarts.org (626) 584-8841 <https://www.culturalnews.com/?p=39163> Sansei

Rocker: Get Ready 'Cuz Here We Come!

May 11, 2024 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Aratani Theatre

Tickets at <https://jacc.org/events/sansei-rocker-get-ready-cuz-here-we-come/>

An Afternoon of Shakuhachi with Kaoru Kakizakai

Apr 7, 2024 3:00 pm - 5:30 pm

TWCCC & James Irvine Japanese Garden

Buy tickets: <https://jacc.org/events/an-afternoon-of-shakuhachi-with-kaoru-kakizakai/>

The 2024 Cherry Blossom Festival - Sunday, April 7, 2024 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Columbia Park.

Join us and experience great performances, unique crafts, and amazing food!

FREE parking and shuttle service at 20420 Madrona Ave., Torrance, CA.

<https://www.torranceca.gov/our-city/citywide-special-events/cherry-blossom-festival>

Lunar New Year Celebration at South Coast Botanic Garden

Our winter blooms and green foliage are a picture-perfect backdrop to usher in the Year of the Dragon, complete with red lanterns and festive activities throughout the entire month of

February. Every Saturday and Sunday, the Garden will host two 30-minute live performances – at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Both shows will feature the same types of performances including lion dancers, folk dancers and drummers. There will also be all-day activity stations taking place on the Lower Meadow from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. as well as classes that can be purchased for an additional fee.

Entrance fee.

Lunar New Year Celebration at South Coast Botanic Garden - South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation

ONLINE LECTURE SERIES 3

NINGYO: THE BEAUTY AND ARTISTRY OF JAPANESE DOLLS

RSVP REQUIRED at

Japan Foundation Los Angeles | (jflalc.org)

High-Definition Kabuki Screening

Acclaimed Kabuki & Taiko Collaboration

Tamasaburo Bando x Kodo Cinema Kabuki: "Yugen"(幽玄)

What is Cinema Kabuki?

Since 2005, Kabuki production company Shochiku Co. Ltd. has released Cinema Kabuki which offers English speakers the unique opportunity to experience full-scale Kabuki performances by some of Japan's biggest stars in high definition on the big screen with English subtitles. This, however, is no regular film screening; Cinema Kabuki allows the audience to vividly experience the excitement of the live stage through the full use and wide-range capability of high-definition (HD) images and 6-channel sound. Enjoy the authenticity of Kabuki as if you were sitting in the best seat of the Metropolitan Opera House!

Date & Time:

Saturday, January 13 @1:00pm

(Door Open @12:30pm)

Pre-screening live Taiko performance by TAIKOPROJECT!!

Venue:

JACCC Aratani Theatre

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

Admission:FREE

*Registration Preferred at

Japan Foundation Los Angeles | (jflalc.org)

Beyond the Great Wave: Works by Hokusai from the British Museum

OCTOBER 21, 2023 - JANUARY 7, 2024

THURSDAY, JANUARY 18, 2024

7:00PM-7:40PM (PT)

THIS PROGRAM WILL BE HELD ONLINE, ADMISSION IS FREE,

Special-Ticketed Exhibition

Please note that *Beyond the Great Wave: Works by Hokusai from the British Museum* is a special-ticketed exhibition and includes General Admission ticket access (including *The Power of Photography* and all 8 permanent galleries). Bowers Museum

2002 North Main Street

Santa Ana, California 9270

BOWERS HOURS

Tuesday - Sunday 10:00 am - 4:00 pm Closed on:

Mondays

Fourth of July

Thanksgiving

Christmas

New Year's Day <https://www.bowers.org/index.php/upcoming-exhibition/beyond-the-greatwave-works-by-hokusai-at-the-british-museum>

Exhibitions - 07.25.2023 - 01.07.2024

POKÉMON X KOGEI |

Playful Encounters of Pokémon and Japanese Craft

Dates

07.25.2023 (Tue.) – 01.07.2024 (Sun.)

Hours

Mon. – Fri. | 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM

Sat.–Sun. | 11:00AM–8:00PM

Location

JAPAN HOUSE Gallery, Level 2

Fee

Free <https://www.japanhousela.com/exhibitions/pokemon-x-kogei-playful-encounters-ofpokemon-japanese-craft/>

This Weekend and more:

Yakult U.S.A. Presents Daniel K. Inouye 100th Birthday Tribute Japanese American History Documentary Trilogy: "Toyo's Camera," "442," and "MIS" Nationwide Free Streaming from Sep. 7-29

For more information, please visit www.jhollywoodnet.com or contact Japan Hollywood Network at info@jhollywoodnet.com.

Streaming films:

Toyo's Camera – Japanese American History during WWII (English with Japanese subtitles)

Directed by Junichi Suzuki

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/ajlHw5hkIJI>

442 – Live with Honor, Die with Dignity (English with Japanese subtitles)

Directed by Junichi Suzuki

Trailer: <https://youtu.be/ZBH4r7mJtck>

MIS – Human Secret Weapon (English with Japanese subtitles)

Directed by Junichi Suzuki

Trailer: https://youtu.be/wsd_54le2B0

Streaming Dates: September 7, 2024 (Saturday) – September 29, 2024 (Sunday)

Streaming Platform: Japan Hollywood Network website (www.jhollywoodnet.com)

<https://www.culturalnews.com/?p=42130>

lecture

ASAKUSA SENSOJI: MY HOME IS A TEMPLE

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

7PM-8:20PM

admission is free, registration is required

5700 Wilshire Blvd., #100 Los Angeles, CA 90036

<https://www.jflalc.org/event-details.php/190/asakusa-sensoji-my-home-is-a-temple>

Previously:

MAR 15 - SEP 15, 2024

J.T. Sata: Immigrant Modernist

Japanese American National Museum 100 North Central Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

<https://www.janm.org/exhibits/jt-sata>

JFFLA [Japanese Film Festival] 2024 will start on Sep.1 for online screenings.

Sep. 13. Welcome Party in The Japan Foundation LA (Guest only)

Sep.14. Theater Screenings

am11-pm5 @Hang on the dream theatre (theater parking)

[1625 Las Palmas Hollywood, CA. 90028](https://www.jffla.org/)

<https://www.jffla.org/>

Sep 10

Lecture & Demonstration: Portable Playable Paper Shamisen Flying the World More details:

<https://www.jflalc.org/event-details.php/188/portable-playable-paper-shamisen-flying-the-world>

Saturday, Sep 07, 2024

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

[JANM Book Club: Cold Tofu, The Early Years 1981-1998](https://www.janm.org/events/2024-09-07/janm-book-club-cold-tofu-early-years-1981-1998)

Entry included in JANM Admission (\$16 adults, \$9 seniors/students/youth, Free for JANM Members)

Japanese American National Museum

100 North Central Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Tickets at:

<https://www.janm.org/events/2024-09-07/janm-book-club-cold-tofu-early-years-1981-1998>

Sunday, Sep 08, 2024

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

[Pioneers to Prodigy: Pioneering Asian Dancers on Film](https://www.janm.org/events/2024-09-08/pioneers-prodigy-pioneering-asian-dancers-film)

\$20 (free to members)

Japanese American National Museum

100 North Central Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Tickets at

<https://www.janm.org/events/2024-09-08/pioneers-prodigy-pioneering-asian-dancers-film>

Free Movie Screening:

"The Wound and the Gift"

(80 mins., 2014)

Directed by Linda Hoaglund

In English

Saturday, September 7, 2024 @11AM (Door Open: 10:45AM)

Venue:

The Japan Foundation, Los Angeles

5700 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 100

Free Admission, No Registration Required

[https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#label/AP/](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#label/AP/WhctKLbFcFqIGXVQPIbJnjxXTGQqZIZDvtMBVnqDImKpBZfgvLINCnSKsRxPVWsLcGVXMIq)

[WhctKLbFcFqIGXVQPIbJnjxXTGQqZIZDvtMBVnqDImKpBZfgvLINCnSKsRxPVWsLcGVXMIq](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/#label/AP/WhctKLbFcFqIGXVQPIbJnjxXTGQqZIZDvtMBVnqDImKpBZfgvLINCnSKsRxPVWsLcGVXMIq)

Chiho Harazaki presents "Echoes in Serenity" exhibit at Shumei Pasadena Center, 2430 E Colorado Blvd, Pasadena, CA 91107, from August 4 through August 28.

Free parking is available under the building. The entrance is on Colorado Blvd.

[from Cultural News]

Saturday, Aug 31, 2024

11:00 AM - 5:00 PM

[Giant Robot x JANM Konbini 2](#)

2 p.m.: Join **James Jean** and **Eric Nakamura** in conversation around art and community. *Included in event admission. Seating is first come, first serve.*

Japanese American National Museum

100 North Central Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

<https://www.janm.org/events/2024-08-31/giant-robot-janm-konbini-2>

[2024 Long Beach Buddhist Church \(LBBC\) Bon Odori Festival Event \(Ondo Dancing, Live Taiko, Food..\) Saturday | Japanese-City.com](#) August 24, 2024 2360 Santa Fe Ave.

Long Beach, CA 90810

Festival Event Schedule

3:00 pm- 4:30: Obon Service

5:00 pm - 5:30 pm: Kokoro Taiko

6:30 pm - 8:30 pm: Bon Odori Dancing

8:45 pm - 9:00 pm: Opportunity Drawing

9:00 pm: Closing Ceremony

2024 - 35th Annual Las Vegas Obon Festival Event (Bon Odori-Folk

10AM-4PM

Bill and Lillie Heinrich YMCA

4141 Meadows Ln, Las Vegas, NV 89107, USA

Thursday, Aug 22, 2024

6:00 PM - 7:30 PM

[Nikkei Uncovered IV: a poetry reading](#) tickets: <https://www.janm.org/events/2024-08-22/nikkei-uncovered-iv-poetry-reading>

Saturday, Aug 24, 2024

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

[Manzanar Baseball Project](#) tickets:

<https://www.janm.org/events/2024-08-24/manzanar-baseball-project>

Plaza Festival

The family-friendly event features food, games, booths, and live entertainment at the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center (JACCC) plaza!

Date/Time: August 17 & August 18, 11 am-4 pm

Enjoy the Nisei Week Taiko Gathering on August 18, featuring taiko groups across Southern California.

Location: JACCC plaza

For questions, email festival@niseiweek.org.

[Plaza Festival - Nisei Week Foundation](#)

[Sat, Aug 10, 2024](#) - [Sun, Aug 18, 2024](#)

JACCC

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

Description

[The Nisei Week Foundation](#) will host various activities over two weekends (August 10-11 & August 17-18) to celebrate the Annual Nisei Week Japanese Festival in Little Tokyo. As part of the festivities, JACCC will present a variety of traditional Japanese art exhibitions on its campus for people of all ages to enjoy. The exhibitions are free and open to the public; no RSVP is required.

Schedule at

[82nd Annual Nisei Week @ JACCC | JACCC](#)

Ondo Public Street Dancing & Closing Ceremony

The public is invited to Nisei Week's finale, the Japanese tradition of dancing in the street with live entertainment, to close out the festival on August 18, beginning at 4 p.m.

Celebrate Little Tokyo's 140th anniversary with a special event at 4:30 p.m., presented by the Little Tokyo Community Council and Little Tokyo Historical Society.

This will be followed by the Ondo and Closing Ceremony at 5 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join Japanese dancing in the street, led by the 2024 Nisei Week Choreographer Hanayagi Rokufukumi.

[Ondo Public Street Dancing & Closing Ceremony - Nisei Week Foundation](#)

"Lanterns of Hope: Remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki" event to be held at Grand Park, Downtown Los Angeles on Friday, Aug. 9 from 6-8:30PM

["Lanterns of Hope: Remembering Hiroshima and Nagasaki" event to be held at Grand Park, Downtown Los Angeles on Friday, Aug. 9 from 6-8:30PM | Cultural News](#)

[2024 Natsumatsuri Family Festival](#)

FREE

Saturday, Aug 10, 2024

11:00 AM - 5:00 PM PDT

Japanese American National Museum

100 North Central Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

[2024 Natsumatsuri Family Festival | Japanese American National Museum \(janm.org\)](#)

Nisei Week Parade

August 11, 4-7PM

[Grand Parade - Nisei Week Foundation](#)

Location: Starts on Central Ave., heads west down 2nd St., north on San Pedro St., and east on 1st St.

Map: Check out the [Festival map](#) for the parade route and closures.

For questions, email parade@niseiweek.org.

[Grand Parade - Nisei Week Foundation](#)

Gardena Obon

SATURDAY AUGUST 3 3PM - 9PM

SUNDAY AUGUST 4 3PM - 9PM

Saturday Aug 3rd

3:30 - Opening Service @ Yagura

4:00 - Intro to Obon

6:30 - Temple Tour

Sunday Aug 4th

3:30 - Atomic Bomb Memorial Service

4:00 - Intro to Buddhism

6:30 - Temple Tour

[GBC | Obon 2024 Home \(gardenabuddhistchurch.org\)](#)

GARDENA BUDDHIST CHURCH

1517 166th St, Gardena, CA 90247, USA info@gardenabuddhistchurch.org 310-327-9400

2024: 3rd Annual Nikkei Celebration Festival Event in Boyle Heights (Parade, Public Ondo, Entertainment & Performances..) Saturday Aug 3

Our parade begins at 5 pm at Saratoga/1st St in front of Tenrikyo Church and ends as we walk into our entertainment area in front of Otomisan (2506 E 1st Street, Los

Angeles, CA 90033), where the stage will be waiting to be opened by our Consulate General of Japan Los Angeles.

• After Parade: Entertainment & Performances • Public Ondo Dancing

<https://boyleheightscommunitypartners.net/2024-3rd%20Annual%20Nikkei%20Celebration/2024-3rd%20Annual%20Nikkei%20Celebration.html>

Saturday, Aug 03, 2024

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM

[JANM Book Club: Most Honorable Son with Gregg Jones](#)

Tickets at

[JANM Book Club: Most Honorable Son with Gregg Jones | Japanese American National Museum](#)

Japan's Taishu Engeki or popular stage star Makoto Matsui to come Aratani Theatre in Little Tokyo on Sunday, August 4 at 2:00PM

[Japan's Taishu Engeki or popular stage star Makoto Matsui to come Aratani Theatre in Little Tokyo on Sunday, August 4 at 2:00PM | Cultural News](#)

The 79th Commemorative Service for Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Victims to be held in Little Tokyo on Sunday, August 4 at 2PM

[The 79th Commemorative Service for Hiroshima-Nagasaki Atomic Bomb Victims to be held in Little Tokyo on Sunday, August 4 at 2PM | Cultural News](#)

Higashi Hongwanji Obon

July 27-28, 3:00pm-9:00pm

[Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple, Los Angeles, Little Tokyo](#)

505 East 3rd Street

Los Angeles, CA 90013

[» OBON FESTIVAL – July 27-28, 3:00pm-9:00pm Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple 東本願寺口サン ゼルス別院 \(hhbt-la.org\)](#)

Vista Obon

Jul 27-28, 2024, 2:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Vista Buddhist Temple, 150 Cedar Rd # B, Vista, CA 92083, USA

[Obon Festival: A Gathering of Joy & Remembrance | Vista Buddhist Templ \(vbtemple.org\)](http://vbtemple.org)

West La Obon

Jul 27-28, 2024

4-10PM Saturday

3-9PM Sunday

2003 Corinth Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90025

[West Los Angeles Buddhist Temple \(wlabt.org\)](http://wlabt.org)

[Anime Exhibition](#)

Jun 29, 2024 - Jul 21, 2024

George J. Doizaki Gallery

Sat, Jun 29, 2024 - Sun, Jul 21, 2024

George J. Doizaki Gallery

244 S. San Pedro St., 1st Floor Lobby, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Tuesdays - Sundays • 12 - 4 pm Description

The **Anime Exhibition** will showcase 100 works by students in Wakayama Prefecture following the theme “Four Seasons.” Through this exhibition, we hope to introduce young anime fans in the U.S. to anime itself and the Japanese customs embedded in it. [Anime Exhibition | JACCC](#)

Zenshuji Obon

July 20 and 21, from 12:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Obon services will be held at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Zenshuji Soto Mission

123 South Hewitt Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Tel: (213) 624-868 www.zenshuji.org

Venice Obon

Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple

[12371 Braddock Drive](#)

[Culver City, CA 90230 310.391.4351 temple@vhbt.org](mailto:310.391.4351%20temple@vhbt.org)

The 2024 Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple Obon Festival will be held on July 20-21 from 3PM to 9PM.

[2024 VHBT Obon – Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple](#)

Orange County Obon

[Orange County Buddhist Church \(OCBC\)](#)

909 South Dale Avenue

Anaheim, CA 92804

Saturday, July 20, 2:00 PM to 8:30 PM

Sunday, July 21, 2:00 PM to 8:00 PM

[7/20-21 ANAHEIM: Orange County Buddhist Church to hold Summer bon Festival | Cultural News](#)

Pasadena Obon

[Pasadena Buddhist Temple](#)

1993 Glen Ave, Pasadena, CA 91103

(626) 798-4781

PasadenaFangha@gmail.com

Obon Festival

Saturday, July 20, 4:00-7:30 p.m.

[7/20: Pasadena Buddhist Temple to hold Obon Festival | Cultural News](#)

Yamatogaku Headmaster to appear at Matsutoyo Kai 59th Anniversary Recital at Ken Nakaoka Community Center in Gardena on Sunday, July 21 at 12PM Tickets \$20 at the door.

1670 W 162nd St, Gardena, CA 90247

[7/21: Yamatogaku Headmaster to appear at Matsutoyo Kai 59th Anniversary Recital in Gardena | Cultural News](#)

J. T. Sata Exhibition: Curator Tour with Dennis Reed and Virginia Heckert

Entry included in JANM Admission (\$16 adults, \$9 seniors/students/youth, Free for JANM Members)

Saturday, Jul 20, 2024

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PDT

Japanese American National Museum

100 North Central Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

[J. T. Sata Exhibition: Curator Tour with Dennis Reed and Virginia Heckert | Japanese American National Museum \(janm.org\)](#)

The Chinese American Museum is excited to host best-selling author Lisa See on Thursday, July 11th at 6:30 pm to celebrate the paperback launch of *Lady Tan's Circle of Women*. Pico House, 424 N. Main St, LA 90012

RSVP at

[Upcoming Events – Chinese American Museum, Los Angeles \(camla.org\)](#)

43RD LOTUS FESTIVAL: JULY 13TH & JULY 14TH

For 2024 the annual Lotus Festival celebrates the people and culture of the Philippines! This joyously fun-filled event will feature live cultural dance and entertainment, artisans, boutiques, community booths, a food court, dragon boat races, a children's area, and an eco-friendly area. The festival is free to attend, the Lantern Launch requires a ticket to be purchased in advance.

Saturday, July 13th & Sunday, July 14th

Echo Park Lake

751 Echo Park Avenue, Los Angeles, California 90026

Saturday July 13: 12:00PM to 9:00PM

Sunday July 14th: 12:00PM to 8:00PM

[43rd Lotus Festival: July 13th & July 14th - Los Angeles Parks Foundation \(laparksfoundation.org\)](#)

[Lotus Festival | City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks \(laparks.org\)](#)

Nishi Hongwanji Obon

Obon Festival Event Times

Sat & Sun: 3:30 - 8:30 pm

Bon Odori Dancing Start

Sat & Sun: 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

[Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple - LA Betsuin](#)

815 First Street

Los Angeles, CA 90012

[Visit Location Website](#)

[L.A. Homba Hongwanji Buddhist Temple | The 2024 Nishi Betsuin Obon Cardinal is coming up! Traditional game booth, produce market, entertainment on stage, and Bingo all await... | Instagram](#)

2024 Sozenji Obon Festival: Live Taiko Performance, Bon Odori Dancing at Sozenji Buddhist Temple (Sunday)

July 14, 1-7PM

[Sozenji Buddhist Temple](#)

3020 W. Beverly Blvd

Montebello, CA 90640-2215

[2024 Sozenji Obon Festival: Live Taiko Performance, Bon Odori Dancing at Sozenji Buddhist Temple \(Sunday\) | Japanese-City.com](#)

SENSHIN OBON

July 6, 2024

4:30pm Senshinji Hatsubon Service

7:00pm Senshinji Bon Odori

9:00pm Omairi in Hondō, Sentō Shōgon (1000 oil lamps)

9:30pm Horaku, Kinnara Taiko

We will be selling Chili Rice (extra \$ with cut up hot dog), Chashu Bao, Soda, Water, and Shaved Ice during the dancing.

Free parking is available across the street at Weemes Elementary School, entrance on 36th place.

Senshin Buddhist Temple © 2024 All Rights Reserved

[Obon | Senshin Buddhist Temple \(senshintemple.org\)](#)

June 29 2024 West Covina Obon Festival

3-9PM

[West Covina Buddhist Temple & East San Gabriel Valley Japanese Community Center](#) West Covina, CA 91790

June 29 10AM-7PM

Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute Matsuri Fundraiser

1964 W. 162nd Street, Gardena, CA 90247

[GVJCI Upcoming Events - GVJCI \(jci-gardena.org\)](http://jci-gardena.org)

DEMOCRACY CENTER

Join us for a FREE Civic Season Celebration!

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

Japanese American National Museum

100 North Central Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

1-6PM

[Civic Season Celebration 2024 | Japanese American National Museum \(janm.org\)](http://janm.org)

Long Beach Annual Japanese Festival Event will be at the Japanese Cultural Center.

June 29, 2024, Saturday

Sat: 3:00 pm - 9:00 pm

1766 Seabright Avenue

Long Beach, CA 90813 USA

[Long Beach Japanese Cultural Center \(lbjcc.org\)](http://lbjcc.org)

2024 Annual Bridge USA Natsu (Japanese Summer Festival Event) Matsuri

June 30th 10AM-7PM

\$10 admission

[Torrance Cultural Arts Center](http://torranceartscenter.org)

3330 Civic Center Drive

Torrance, CA 90503

[Bridge USA | Bridge USA 夏祭り 2024](http://www.bridgeusa.org)

Obon will return this year at San Fernando Japanese American Community Center. It will be held on Saturday, June 29th and Sunday, June 30th.

San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center, 12953 Branford Street,

Pacoima, CA 91331

<https://www.sfvhbt.org/obon-festival/>

Mahjong Mistress x JACCC present

SUMMER GOLDEN HOUR

Sun, Jun 30, 2024 4:00 pm - 8:00 pm

TWCCC & James Irvine Japanese Garden 244 S. San Pedro Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
The event is 21+. **Price:** \$25 Tickets:

[Mahjong Mistress x JACCC present SUMMER GOLDEN HOUR | JACCC](#)

Omotesenke Domonkai Southern California Branch 50th Anniversary Event

Special Lecture by Yuyusai Susho

(15th Generation Grand Tea master "Iemoto" of Omotesenke)

Date/ Time: Sunday, June 23, 2024

- Registration: 10:30 am –
- Tea Offering: 11:00 am –
- Special Lecture: 1:00 pm –

Location: Crystal Cove Auditorium, University of California, Irvine

(4113 Pereira Dr. Irvine, CA, 92617)

Fee: \$30 (Inclusive of tea and sweets)

*Please note that there may be an additional parking fee payable on-site, separate from the event registration fee.

Registration deadline: June 20, 2024 (Thursday) Please note that registration will be closed once capacity is reached, even if it's before the deadline.

<https://www.omotesenke-socal.org/en/news/special-lecture/#!event-register/2024/6/23/omotesenke-domonkai-50th-anniversary-special-lecture-by-the-15th-grand-tea-master-quotiemoto-quot-of-omotesenke>

Venice Japanese Community Center Summer "Natsu Matsuri" Festival

Sat. + Sun., June 22 + 23, 2024

[c33c46_b38f6785c90b4e03b7fdb3c7e240d444.pdf \(vjcc.com\)](#)

2024 - 68th Annual Valley Japanese Community Center OBON Festival: Japanese Food, Dango, Games, Judo, Tea Ceremony

Saturday, June 22 4:00 – 8:00pm ·

[2024 - 68th Annual Valley Japanese Community Center OBON Festival: Japanese Food, Dango, Games, Judo, Tea Ceremony \(2 Days\) | Japanese-City.com](#)

JANM Book Club with Tritia Toyota

Entry included in JANM Admission (\$16 adults, \$9 seniors/students/youth, Free for JANM Members)

Sunday, Jun 23, 2024

2:00 PM - 3:30 PM PDT

Japanese American National Museum

100 North Central Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

[JANM Book Club with Tritia Toyota | Japanese American National Museum](#)

J. T. Sata Exhibition: Curator Tour with Dennis Reed and Naomi Hirahara

Entry included in JANM Admission (\$16 adults, \$9 seniors/students/youth, Free for JANM Members)

Saturday, Jun 15, 2024

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PDT

Japanese American National Museum

100 North Central Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

[J. T. Sata Exhibition: Curator Tour with Dennis Reed and Naomi Hirahara | Japanese American National Museum \(janm.org\)](#)

Jul 20, 2024 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

TAIKOPROJECT returns to Little Tokyo with its 18th annual home concert! Aratani Theatre

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

With special guests MAKANA, Bombu Taiko & Kitsune Intermediates

<https://jacc.org/events/rhythmic-relations-2024/>

Madama Butterfly

Jun 1, 2024 - Jun 9, 2024

With a new bilingual libretto by Artistic Director Josh Shaw and Music Director Eiki Isomura (Opera in the Heights)

Aratani Theatre

244 S. San Pedro St., Los Angeles, CA 90012 <https://jacc.org/events/madama-butterfly/>

THURSDAY, JUN 06, 2024

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM

[Virtual Book Launch: In Search of Hiroshi with Gene Oishi](#)

Join author Gene Oishi, his daughter Eve Oishi, and scholar Koji Lau-Ozawa to celebrate Oishi's newly revised 1988 work, *In Search of Hiroshi*—a powerful memoir about his lifelong struggle to claim both his Japanese and American identities in the aftermath of World War II.

For tickets or Zoom link:

[Virtual Book Launch: In Search of Hiroshi with Gene Oishi | Japanese American National Museum \(janm.org\)](https://www.janm.org/virtual-book-launch-in-search-of-hiroshi-with-gene-oishi)

West Valley Regional Library in Reseda to present Storytelling by Biwa and Performance by Nobuko Miyamoto on Saturday, June 1 at 1PM

Sat Jun 01 2024 at 01:00 pm to 02:30 pm

West Valley Regional Branch Library, 19036 Vanowen Street, Reseda

This program introduces the traditional and modern art of storytelling and music through voice and the biwa, a lute-type stringed instrument.

The program includes: Japanese traditional songs, a biwa storytelling classic, and a contemporary storytelling piece that recounts the Japanese American internment experiences, played on the biwa that survived the turmoil.

Performance by Nobuko Fukatsu (biwa/voice) & guest musician Nobuko Miyamoto (voice/keyboard).

This program is supported by REAB.

<https://allevents.in/reseda/the-art-of-storytelling-and-music-from-japan/10000884344958577>

SATURDAY, JUN 01, 2024

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

[11th Annual Imagine Little Tokyo Short Story Contest Awards Ceremony](https://www.janm.org/events/2024-06-01/11th-annual-imagine-little-tokyo-short-story-contestawards-ceremony)

FREE with in person or virtual tickets

<https://www.janm.org/events/2024-06-01/11th-annual-imagine-little-tokyo-short-story-contestawards-ceremony>

Tippsy Sake Fest

Jun 1, 2024 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Save the date for Tippsy Sake Fest at JACCC!

JACCC

244 S. San Pedro Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012 <https://jaccc.org/events/tippsy-sake-fest/>

Chinese Medicinal Garden Open House Wed., May 22 | 10 a.m.–noon and 1–3 p.m.

[https://huntington.org/event/chinese-medicinal-garden-open-house?
utm_source=The+Huntington&utm_campaign=4dc00136c9-this-week-at-the-huntington-
2024-05-21&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-acbb05ca10-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID
%5D&goal=0_f3661894cf-4dc00136c9-
229794662&mc_cid=4dc00136c9&mc_eid=85fe1fd7c1](https://huntington.org/event/chinese-medicinal-garden-open-house?utm_source=The+Huntington&utm_campaign=4dc00136c9-this-week-at-the-huntington-2024-05-21&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-acbb05ca10-%5BLIST_EMAIL_ID%5D&goal=0_f3661894cf-4dc00136c9-229794662&mc_cid=4dc00136c9&mc_eid=85fe1fd7c1)

Giant Robot × JANM Art Konbini SPECIAL EVENTS

Giant Robot × JANM Art Konbini

Share

About the Event

Join the artists of Giant Robot and JANM for an art market at the Museum! Playing on the idea of the *konbini* or Japanese convenience store, which stocks everything from snacks to household supplies, this Art Konbini will feature art prints, zines, pins, and more!

Saturday, May 25, 2024

11:00 AM - 5:00 PM PDT

Japanese American National Museum

100 North Central Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

2 p.m.: Join **Felicia Chiao** and **Eric Nakamura** in conversation around art and community with a special drawing demo by Chiao. *Included in event admission. Seating is first come, first serve.* <https://www.janm.org/events/2024-05-25/giant-robot-janm-art-konbini>

Loyola Marymount University Library Exhibit

“Sounds, Words, Textures: Resonances of the Buddhist Tradition”

The exhibition showcases rare Buddhist artifacts from the Jim and Jeanne Pieper Collection

Extended to May 24, 2024

Hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

The Mahan Gallery on Level 3 of the William H. Hannon Library Loyola Marymount University
<https://www.culturalnews.com/?p=40950>

‘Terminal Island’ Authors to Speak at L.A. Public Library on May 19, 2PM Central Library
<https://dola.com/events/2024/5/19/lost-communities-of-terminal-island-a-conversation-with-naomi-hirahara-and-geraldine-knatz-tickets>

Spring Tea Tasting, April 27th and May 4th

Join the Chinese American Museum and Wing Hop Fung in Arcadia for an afternoon of learning and tea appreciation. Participants will enjoy a hands-on tea experience with tea

experts as they guide through techniques and traditions that have been cherished for centuries.

<https://camla.org/upcoming-events/#spring-tea-tasting>

Nobuko Miyamoto: A Song in Movement

Experience this new sweeping documentary from JANM's [Frank H. Watase Media Arts Center](#) and PBS SoCal that follows the life of visionary artist-activist Nobuko Miyamoto and her work that changed Asian America forever. May 4, 2024

World Premiere | [VC Film Fest](#) | Aratani Theatre @ JACCC

<https://www.janm.org/mediaarts/featured/nobuko-miyamoto>

WEDNESDAY, MAY 01 - SUNDAY, MAY 05, 2024 [VC Film Fest at JANM](#)

<https://www.janm.org/events/2024-05-01/vc-film-fest-janm> From Cultural news:

5/05 Closing: "Elegance and Emotion: The Unique Dolls of Kimiko Muraoka Koyanagi" at Shumei Hall Gallery

5/02: Opening "Yes, KAWAII is Art – EXPRESS YOURSELF-" in Ovation Hollywood 5/02:

Opening Shizuko Greenblatt "Scene from Childhood" <https://www.culturalnews.com/>

SATURDAY, APR 27, 2024

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

The Importance of Telling the Japanese American Resisters' Story

<https://www.janm.org/events/2024-04-27/importance-telling-japanese-american-resisters-story>

The Cherry Blossom Committee and the City of Monterey Park are delighted to present the return of the annual Cherry Blossom Festival on April 27 & 28, 2024, at Barnes Park, located at 350 S. McPherrin Ave. Entry to the festival is Free.

<https://www.montereypark.ca.gov/673/Cherry-Blossom-Festival>

Fuji Japanese Music, a traditional Japanese music troupe in Los Angeles, will perform three Yamatogaku songs featuring shamisen and narimono percussion accompaniment in OC

Japan Fair at OC Fair & Event Center, 88 Fair Drive, Costa Mesa, CA 92626, on Sunday, April

21, 2024 from 3:30 – 4:00 pm. [from Cultural News] <https://www.oc-japanfair.com/#event-info>

April 18, 19 Art of the Benshi <https://artofthebenshi.org/>

NAKAMISE Street: Experience vibrant world of Japanese tradition and culture at Orange

County Japan Fair in Costa Mesa from April 19-21 [Cultural News]

<https://www.culturalnews.com/?p=40801>

Apr 6, 2024 - Apr 12, 2024

George J. Doizaki Gallery

Hanamatsuri (花祭り) Flower Arrangement Exhibition | JACCC

Apr 5, 2024 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm

TWCCC & James Irvine Japanese Garden

JACCC x In Sheep's Clothing Present Japanese Film & Animation Soundtracks: A Listening Party | JACCC

DŌ (The Way): Year-end Exhibition

Sat, Mar 2, 2024 - Sat, Mar 16, 2024

George J. Doizaki Gallery

244 S. San Pedro St., 1st Floor Lobby, Los Angeles, CA 90012 Tuesdays - Sundays • 12 - 4 pm

DŌ (The Way): Year-end Exhibition | JACCC

SATURDAY, MAR 09, 2024

3:00 PM

Yeisaa nu Chimu-Don-Don: Exploring Cultural Identity through Okinawan Drumming

DEADLINE TO REGISTER Friday, March 8 • 10 a.m. (PST)

Hanamatsuri (花祭り) Flower Arrangement Exhibition

JACCC x In Sheep's Clothing Present

Japanese Film & Animation Soundtracks: A Listening Party

The Zoom link will be emailed within 3-5 business days to the email address provided when registering. If you do not receive it before the program, please contact editor@DiscoverNikkei.org.

Yeisaa nu Chimu-Don-Don: Exploring Cultural Identity through Okinawan Drumming | Japanese American National Museum (janm.org)

[this event was canceled due to weather]

The Chinese American Museum and El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument celebrate the Year of the Dragon with our annual Spring Fest on Saturday, March 2nd 2024, from Noon to 5pm, Rain or Shine!

This event is FREE to the public, with no registration required.

Upcoming Events – Chinese American Museum, Los Angeles (camla.org)

TUESDAY, FEB 27, 2024

7:00 PM - 7:30 PM

Nima Voices: Episode 15—Lee A. Tonouchi

<https://www.janm.org/events/2024-02-27/nimavoices-episode-15-lee-tonouchi>

Firecracker 10K and associated events February 24-25

Downtown LA Chinatown <https://firecracker10k.org/>

SATURDAY, FEB 24, 2024

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM

Our Fragile Democracy: Historic and Present-Day Attacks on Our Civil Rights and Civil Liberties

FREE; tickets required for both in-person and virtual participation

Japanese American National Museum

100 North Central Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

This FREE event will be presented in person and virtually.

Get tickets at: <https://www.janm.org/events/2024-02-24/our-fragile-democracy-historicand-present-day-attacks-our-civil-rights-and-civil>

Best 100 Japanese Posters (1945-1989) Exhibition

Jan 27, 2024 - Feb 18, 2024

Tuesday - Sunday • 12 - 4 pm

George J. Doizaki Gallery

This exhibition features the 'best' 100 Japanese posters of the post-war era. The posters have been compiled to record the works that set an artistic milestone between 1945 and 1989. In one exhibition, it affords the reader a comprehensive overview of the historical highlights of post-war Japanese poster art. [Best 100 Japanese Posters \(1945-1989\) Exhibition | JACCC](#)

THE 125th GOLDEN DRAGON PARADE 第 125 屆羅省金龍大游行 February 17, 2024

The parade usually begins promptly at 1pm and last until 4pm. It is free to view and open to the public, although prime seating at the Grandstand can be purchased in [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com)
Parade route: Hill Street at Temple toward Bernard. Right on Bernard, right on Broadway back to Broadway & Temple, Los Angeles, CA. Festival 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. [lachinesechamber.org](https://www.lachinesechamber.org)

125th Golden Dragon Parade — Chinese Chamber of Commerce (CCCLA)
([lachinesechamber.org](https://www.lachinesechamber.org))

SATURDAY, FEB 17, 2024

2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

2024 Los Angeles Day of Remembrance

Japanese American National Museum

100 North Central Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

FREE, but tickets strongly recommended

Watch the livestream on JANM's YouTube channel (youtube.com/JANMdotorg) at 2 p.m. PST.

2024 Los Angeles Day of Remembrance | Japanese American National Museum (janm.org)

The Alhambra Lunar New Year Festival

Celebrate the 30th Annual Event on February 18, 2024 9AM-5PM

Main St., Alhambra

[Home | Alhambra Lunar New Year Festival](#) 四海迎春過大年 Lunar New Year@PAM

Saturday, February 10th | 11am to 5pm

Join us in celebrating the Year of the Dragon with an afternoon of live performances and art activities for the whole family! Enjoy a traditional lion dance, storytelling, calligraphy, crafts, food trucks, and a chance to view the new special exhibition, *Another Beautiful Country*. This event is free and includes admission to the museum. [USC Pacific Asia Museum](#)

46 N Los Robles Ave, Pasadena, California 91101

#LunarNewYear

Lunar New Year@PAM - USC Event Calendar

Feb 10 Lunar New Year at the LA Arboretum

Lion Dance at 1pm

We celebrate the year of the dragon with special Chinese New Year activities from 9am – 2pm. Included in paid admission; members free. [Purchase tickets in advance here](#). Highlights of the day are:

9am – 1pm – Red Envelope seed give-away (While supplies last).

1pm – Lion Dance and Kung Fu Demonstration by Fong's Kung Fu

1pm – 3pm – Dragon puppet craft. 9am-3pm – Special Library exhibit

2pm – Library tour of Chinese New Year-related plant and book exhibit in the library.

1pm – 2:30pm – [Dragon Egg Workshop for children](#) (Registration and fee required) Come cheer for our lion as it rolls, eats cabbage, and sleeps. The lion dance is joyful and loud. In Chinese culture, it is said to bring good luck and drive away evil spirits.

All events, except the Dragon Egg workshop, are included with paid admission and is free for members.

Please visit our [ticket page here](#), and purchase general admission for February 10. [Chinese New Year / Lion Dance 1pm - The Arboretum](#)

SUNDAY, FEB 04, 2024

Transit Equity Day

Celebrate **Transit Equity Day** on February 4, 2024 with Metro and SoCal Museums to embark on a cultural journey through LA County's vibrant museums and receive perks with your TAP card!

Transit Equity Day highlights the right of all people to affordable public transportation and honors the birthday of Rosa Parks, who took a stand to create a more equitable transportation system for everyone, by offering **free rides systemwide**.

Ride the A or E lines to the Little Tokyo/Arts District Station and show your TAP card at JANM to receive free general admission (one per person). For more information and to plan your trip to these cultural destinations, please visit metro.net/ted.

Glenn Kaino: Aki's Market is inspired by Akira and Sachiye Shiraishi's small neighborhood market (1957–1970) in East Los Angeles. June 30, 2023 - January 28, 2024

Japanese American National Museum

100 North Central Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Glenn Kaino: Aki's Market | Japanese American National Museum (janm.org)

NOV 18, 2023 - JAN 28, 2024

The Bias Inside Us

The Bias Inside Us is an exhibition and community engagement project from the Smithsonian that explores the social science, psychology, and consequences of implicit bias

The Bias Inside Us | Japanese American National Museum (janm.org)

On New Year's Eve, Dec. 31, Japan Hollywood Network (www.jhollywoodnet.com) which provides over-the-air television across the Los Angeles and Orange County area on channel 44.1 (KXLA) will air "Music Station Super Live 2023!" at 1pm for free.

From Cultural News

DEMOCRACY CENTER

Inaugural Norman Y. Mineta Distinguished Lecture

FREE; reservations required

Friday, Jan 26, 2024

4:00 PM - 7:30 PM PST

Japanese American National Museum

100 North Central Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

Inaugural Norman Y. Mineta Distinguished Lecture | Japanese American National Museum
(janm.org)

SATURDAY, JAN 13, 2024

11:15 AM - 1:00 PM

Imagine Little Tokyo Writing Workshop with Susan Ito and Naomi Hirahara

Join award-winning authors Susan Kiyo Ito and Naomi Hirahara for an interactive writing workshop! Participants will learn tips and get advice for writing short stories that they can submit to the eleventh annual [Imagine Little Tokyo short story contest](#).

Participants are also welcome to sign up for a Little Tokyo walking tour with Little Tokyo Historical Society members, preceding the workshop from 10 a.m.–11 a.m. Separate sign ups are required:

Imagine Little Tokyo Writing Workshop with Susan Ito and Naomi Hirahara | Japanese American National Museum (janm.org)

Presented by Little Tokyo Historic Society in partnership with [Discover Nikkei](#), the purpose of the Imagine Little Tokyo short story contest is to raise awareness of Little Tokyo through a creative story that takes place in the historic neighborhood. The story must be fictional and set in a current, past, or future Little Tokyo, Los Angeles. The short story committee will be looking for stories that capture the spirit and sense of Little Tokyo.

Imagine Little Tokyo Writing Workshop with Susan Ito and Naomi Hirahara | Japanese American National Museum (janm.org) Imagine Little Tokyo Writing Workshop with Susan Ito and Naomi Hirahara | Japanese American National Museum (janm.org)

SUNDAY, JAN 07, 2024

2024 Oshogatsu Family Festival—Year of the Dragon

11:00 AM - 5:00 PM PST

Japanese American National Museum

100 North Central Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90012

2024 Oshogatsu Family Festival—Year of the Dragon | Japanese American National Museum
(janm.org)

Los Angeles Daiku, Pasadena Chorale & Orchestra Present New Year's 2024 Daiku Concert
– Beethoven 9

Sun, Jan 7, 2024 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Aratani Theatre

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

Reserve tickets at

Los Angeles Daiku, Pasadena Chorale & Orchestra Present New Year's 2024 Daiku Concert
– Beethoven 9 | JACCC

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Where I went the past weeks and may have heard of at the last minute (and before, since webinars are often still available online):

Visited the Banning House Museum and the Drum Barracks to learn a little more about local history

Previously:

For Labor Day, I went to see the Long Beach Labor Day Parade and Picnic. My photos at:

<http://ikemi.info/Graphics2024/LaborDay2024/index.htm>

I dropped in at the Long Beach Buddhist Church Obon, probably one of the last of the season. I had a traditional refreshment of somen and a chili dog. Large crowd for the venue and they really got into the dancing. My photos at:

<http://ikemi.info/Graphics2024/LBObon2024/index.htm>

I made it to the last day of Nisei Week. Caught a little of the festival on the JACCC plaza, bonsai exhibit, and then the Ondo. My photos at: [Nisei Week closing \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info/NiseiWeekClosing)

Almost the end of the Obon season. Last ones locally are Long Beach and Las Vegas this Sunday.

Attended the Nisei Week Parade; my photos at:

<http://ikemi.info/Graphics2024/NiseiWeek2024/index.htm>

Finally finished reading the sometimes controversial *Two Homelands* by Toyoko Yamasaki.

For more info see Densho: [https://encyclopedia.densho.org/Two_Homelands_\(book\)/](https://encyclopedia.densho.org/Two_Homelands_(book)/)

The story is a highly fictionalized version of the life of scholar, intellectual, community organizer, newspaperman, and soldier in the MIS during World War II, David Akira Itami, merged with the combat experiences of Harry Fukuhara. I have to read

Midnight in Broad Daylight by Pamela Rotner Sakamoto which tells Fukuhara's story.

Itami is considered a Ritchie Boy and there is an online article on him: David Akira Itami: A Kibei Tragedy <https://www.ritchiemuseum.org/post/david-akira-itami-a-kibei-tragedy>

Also there is a chapter on Itami in the book:

[Citizens, Immigrants, and the Stateless: A Japanese American Diaspora in the Pacific \(Asian America\)](#) by [Michael R. Jin](#)

Itami was a much more complex person than the character in *Two Homelands* and conflicted in a different way. If he hadn't committed suicide, he might have played an important role in postwar Little Tokyo.

As a side note, unlike the fictional version, Itami's wife was a nice person and his daughter Michi Itami is a noted visual artist..

A little earlier I finished reading *Masao: A Nisei Soldier's Secret and Heroic Role in World War II*

by Sandra Vea is a biography of Masao Abe, a Kibei and MIS member who experienced a life similar in many ways to the character in *Two Homelands*, but without the internal conflicts, in spite of originally being educated to be a Japanese officer.

On Saturday I attended the Boyle Heights Nikkei Celebration. The parade had only 3 groups participating, but a lot of energy. The stage entertainment was quite good. My photos at: [Boyle Heights Nikkei Celebration \(ikemi.info\)](#)

On Sunday I made it to the Gardena Obon, which was huge.

[Gardena Obon \(ikemi.info\)](#)

On Saturday I dropped in on the Higashi Obon, their first obon back at the temple in 5 (?) years. Lots of food, including udon which hasn't been very common this obon season. Entertainment. My photos at: <http://ikemi.info/Graphics2024/Higashi2024/index.htm>

On Sunday I went to the West LA Obon. This one was really packed, and they had udon, too. <http://ikemi.info/Graphics2024/WLA2024/index.htm>

On Saturday I visited the Venice Obon Festival. My photos at

[Venice Obon Festival \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info)

On Sunday I caught the last day of the manga exhibit at the JACCC:

[Manga Exhibit at the JACCC \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info)

Also made it to the Zenshuji Obon, one of the smallest, but it had a very interesting entertainment lineup this year: [Full disclosure, I donate to Zenshuji] [Zenshuji Obon \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info)

On Saturday visited the Lotus Festival in Echo Park. My photos at:

[Lotus Festival \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info)

Also made it to the Nishi Obon:

[Nishi Obon Festival \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info)

Attended the Senshin Obon. My photos at

[Senshin Obon \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info)

This is the one where you light oil lamps in memory of those who have passed.

Visited the San Gabriel Valley Maturi Fundraiser. My photos at

[Gardena Valley JCI Matsuri Fundraiser \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info)

Sunday made a quick trip to the Bridge America Matsuri in Torrance. Wasn't able to get out the door soon enough, so missed most of the cultural performances. [Bridge Natsu Matsuri \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info)

Sunday made it to The San Fernando Valley Buddhist Temple Obon at the Community Center:

[San Fernando Obon \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info)

Made it to the second day of the Sun Valley Obon. My photos at: [Sun Valley Obon \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info)

Watched the

Irei no Hi: Remembering the Battle of Okinawa

webinar and learned a few things.

Observed Juneteenth at the Huntington Gardens:

[Huntington Gardens \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info)

Saw the Mineo Mizuno: Homage to Nature installation:

[Mineo Mizuno: Homage to Nature | The Huntington](http://ikemi.info)

Didn't notice any special Juneteenth activities, although during the Chinese music recital I looked up Juneteenth on my smartphone, and learned learning about Juneteenth was a way

of observing. Also learned that it means realizing you have the right to choose what you want to do. [not being told by someone who controls your life what to do, as I interpret it]

I watched "My Broken Mariko" online as part of the Japanese Film Festival. The movie portion is finished but you can still watch a couple of TV series:

[JAPANESE FILM FESTIVAL ONLINE 2024 | JFF+ \(jpf.go.jp\)](https://www.jpffest.com/)

I finally made it out to see the Anna May Wong exhibit at CAMLA. It was compact but well done, including clips from some of her movies appearances. My photos at:

[Anna May Wong exhibit at CAMLA \(ikemi.info\)](https://www.ikemi.info/exhibits/anna-may-wong)

Next door in the Pico building (Plaza Building) I accidentally found Hablada en Espanol, and exhibit on the Spanish language versions of Hollywood movies that were shot at night. I got to see a screening of the Spanish language version of Dracula that was quite entertaining and afterwards a panel with producer and director Pancho Kohner, son of the female lead of the film. My photos at:

[Hablada en Espanol exhibit in the Plaza House \(ikemi.info\)](https://www.ikemi.info/exhibits/hablada-en-espanol)

On Sunday I made it to the San Gabriel Japanese Community Center Fun Festival. My photos at:

[San Gabriel Japanese Community Center Summer Fun Fest \(ikemi.info\)](https://www.ikemi.info/exhibits/san-gabriel-japanese-community-center-summer-fun-fest)

While browsing through the original Twilight Zone on Prime, I came across a performance by a very young George Takei in an episode called "The Encounter". Perhaps a problematic portrayal of a very troubled Japanese American and a WW2 vet haunted by his own and external demons.

It's a little far, but the Asian galleries in the Cleveland Museum of Art are quite impressive.

Photos at: <http://ikemi.info/Graphics2024/CMA2024/index.htm> plus, there was a special exhibit on Korean Couture.

Visited Fort Monroe at Hampton Roads and learned about the first landing of African Americans and General Butler's contraband legal maneuver. Better lawyer than a general. My photos at:

<http://ikemi.info/Graphics2024/FortMonroe2024/index.htm>

The Birmingham Botanical Gardens had a large and elaborate Japanese garden. My photos at:

<http://ikemi.info/Graphics2024/BBG2024/index.htm>

The University of Tennessee Botanical Garden had elements of a Japanese garden. My photos at:

<http://ikemi.info/Graphics2024/UTBotanical2024/index.htm>

At the National WWII Museum in New Orleans observed that the Nisei, MIS and 442nd, are given credit for their struggles and achievements.

Paid a visit to Japan House at the University of Illinois at Champaign Urbana. House itself was closed but the grounds were open.

Japan House (ikemi.info)

In addition there were exhibits on Asian cultures at the Spurlock Museum:

Spurlock Museum (ikemi.info)

During my travels discovered the

Mizumoto Japanese Garden in the Springfield Botanic Gardens in Missouri. My photos at:

[Springfield Botanic Garden \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info) (towards the back of the gallery)

Earlier in Amarillo Texas found a Japanese garden in their Botanic gardens. Photos at

[Amarillo Botanical Gardens \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info)

Decided to visit Coachella Valley History Museum

where they have a small Japanese garden. Learned a little about the history of the Japanese

American farmers in the Coachella Valley. My photos at

<http://ikemi.info/Graphics2024/Indio2024/index.htm>

Made a trip to Santa Ana to see the exhibit on Asian Comics at the Bowers Museum. By chance caught the lecture by the curator Paul Gravett. Bought a heavy bag of books.

Went to see the Smithsonian exhibit: The Negro Motorist Green Book Exhibit at the Petersen Automotive Museum.

Highly worth it. Ends March 10.

Green Book Exhibit — Petersen Automotive Museum

Nearby was the compact exhibit on dragons at the Japan Foundation:

TATSU: Depictions of Dragons in Japanese [Japan Foundation Los Angeles | \(jflalc.org\)](http://jflalc.org)

Tried again and this time successfully attended the Lunar New Year Festival at the South Coast Botanic Garden. My photos at:

[Lunar New Year Festival at South Coast Botanic Garden \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info)

Lot of things happened this past weekend, including more Lunar New Year events as well as Day of Remembrance.

I decided to go to the Golden Dragon Parade in Downtown Chinatown on Saturday:

<http://ikemi.info/Graphics2024/GoldenDragon2024/index.htm> and then the Lunar New Year Festival in Alhambra.

<http://ikemi.info/Graphics2024/AlhambraLunar2024/index.htm>

Before the Golden Dragon Parade I managed to get into the Japanese Poster Exhibit at the JACCC:

<http://ikemi.info/Graphics2024/Posters2024/index.htm>

A gift shop at the JACCC is now open depending on when they can get volunteers to staff it.

Worth seeing for the Noguchi lanterns.

I went to the LA Arboretum on Saturday for their Lunar New Year Festival. Parking was terrible and by the time I got in the main events were over. Still it was a great day. Photos at:

[Lunar New Year at LA Arboretum \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info)

On Sunday I tried again at the Huntington Garden. Again, parking was a problem. I missed the Peking Opera but there were still a lot of performances going on.

[Lunar New Year at Huntington Gardens](http://ikemi.info)

Went to the South Coast Botanic Garden for their Lunar New Year Festival, but it was moved indoors due to the weather. Looked like a long line so I took in what was outdoors. Anyway, my photos at

[Lunar New Year at South Coast Botanic Garden \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info) and the event will repeat Saturdays and Sundays for the rest of February.

[Lunar New Year Celebration at South Coast Botanic Garden - South Coast Botanic Garden Foundation](http://ikemi.info)

At the last minute made a quick visit to the Monterey Park Lunar New Year Festival on Sunday. My photos at:

[Lunar New Year \(ikemi.info\)](http://ikemi.info)

Watched the Japan Foundation webinar on Japanese dolls

2024/1/18: Japan Foundation to present Online Lecture "Ningyo: The Beauty and Artistry of Japanese Dolls" by Meher McArthur, Thursday, Jan. 18, 7:00-7:40PM | Cultural News

Missed the Asian Expo due to health issues. Remember to stay home if you are not feeling well!

Made an appearance at the Oshogatsu event at the JANM.

I then took the Metro to Union Station to see the display on the original Chinatown that was located where Union Station now stands.

I then crossed the street to see CAMLA and the last day of the Boba exhibit. My photos at: <http://ikemi.info/Graphics2024/JANM2024/index.htm>

Attended the Shogatsu celebration at Weller Court in Little Tokyo. My photos at:

Japanese New Year at Weller Court (ikemi.info)

Managed to get the virtual JACCC Kotohajime on my Smartphone. Streamed the Drive My Car movie.

Finished streaming the Kurara movie about Hokusai's daughter.

Saw the Viewing Stones exhibit at the Huntington Gardens. Most crowded I've ever seen it. They must be catching on.

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/>
<http://camla.org/events/calendar.htm> Historic Trails, Modern Tales New sites were added to our historic trails. Visit trails.camla.org for a self-guided tour of Chinatown. Use your mobile device along the path and explore the histories of the community. Korean Cultural Center <http://www.kccla.org/>

Japanese American Community Cultural Center <http://jaccc.org/>

USC Pacifica Asia Museum <https://pacificasiamuseum.usc.edu/>

UCLA Asia Pacific Institute <https://www.international.ucla.edu/asia/>

Cultural News <http://www.culturalnews.com/>

Los Angeles Public Library <http://www.lapl.org/events/>

Orange County Agricultural and Nikkei Heritage Museum http://fullertonarboretum.org/museum_nikkei.php

www.golittletokyo.com

Articles from the LA Times and other sources:

[Image](#)

A tender re-creation of K-town beauty pageants in 1980s and '90s L.A.

By Emanuel Hahn

Sept. 12, 2024 3 AM PT

<https://www.latimes.com/lifestyle/image/story/2024-09-12/k-town-beauty-pageants-in-la>

[World & Nation](#)

How a memorial to WWII sex slaves ignited a battle in Berlin

By Max Kim

Sept. 16, 2024 2 AM PT

<https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2024-09-16/japans-campaign-against-memorials-to-comfort-women-comes-to-an-unlikely-place>

Television

‘Shōgun’ wins Emmys for top drama awards including series and lead acting

By Tracy BrownStaff Writer

Sept. 15, 2024 8:23 PM PT

<https://www.latimes.com/entertainment-arts/tv/story/2024-09-15/shogun-emmys-2024-drama-series>

Opinion

Endorsement: Rep. Michelle Steel needs to go. Derek Tran for the 45th Congressional District

By The Times Editorial Board

Sept. 9, 2024 8:14 AM PT

<https://www.latimes.com/environment/story/2024-09-09/endorsement-gop-michelle-steel-needs-to-go-derek-tran-for-congress>