Jerome + Rohwer Pilgrimage 評

Sponsored by Japanese American Memorial Pilgrimages



<u>Ruth Asawa</u>



Ruth Asawa *With looped wire sculptures, 1998* Photo: Laurence Cuneo © Estate of Ruth Asawa, courtesy David Zwirner Activist, sculptor, and educator Ruth Aiko Asawa was born in 1926 in Norwalk, California to Japanese immigrant parents who made a living as truck farmers. As a child, Asawa dreamed of being an artist while she helped out on the family farm. In February 1942, Asawa was separated from her father when he was arrested by the FBI and taken to Lordsburg, NM. Four months later, the rest of the family was taken to the Santa Anita Assembly Center, where they were housed in former horse stalls before being moved to Rohwer, Arkansas. Despite the trauma of incarceration, Asawa was able to draw for hours every day. When she was moved to Arkansas, she became the art editor of the camp's high school yearbook.

In 1943, Asawa obtained permission to attend college. With funds from a Quaker scholarship, she enrolled at Milwaukee State Teachers College in Wisconsin with the intent of becoming an art teacher. However, she was unable to complete her degree because prejudice against Japanese Americans prevented her from getting the classroom teaching hours that were required. In 1946, Asawa transferred to Black Mountain College in North Carolina, where she studied with Buckminster Fuller and Josef Albers. While she was at Black Mountain, Asawa took a trip to Mexico in 1947. While there, a craftsman taught her how to make wire baskets using a looping technique which she would later develop into her suspended wire sculptures.

Kimiko Marr is the co-founder of Japanese American Memorial Pilgrimages. She and her partner, Marissa Fujimoto, have been attending pilgrimages and filming oral histories for the past three years. They recently received a Japanese American Confinement Sites grant to continue their work.

Kimiko is fourth generation Japanese American. Though her family was incarcerated in Topaz, UT during WWII, she decided to start organizing pilgrimages to the Arkansas camps because of her friend, Frank Inami, whose family was incarcerated there.



JAPANESE AMERICAN MEMORIAL PILGRIMAGES

<u> Kimiko Marr</u>



SCHEDULE 뷔

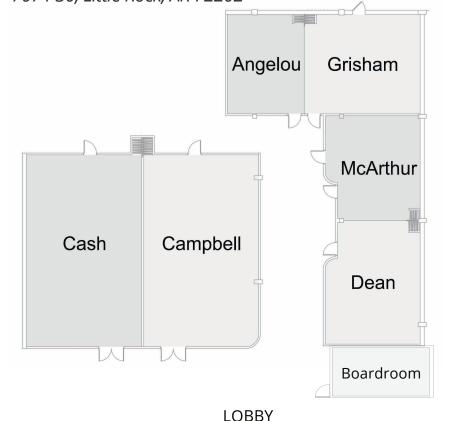
Thursday, April 11		
TIME	ΑCTIVITY	LOCATION
5:00 - 5:30pm	Opening Remarks	Cash/Cambell
5:30 - 6:30pm	"American Sutra: Buddhism and the WWII Japanese American Incarceration" - Duncan Ryuken Williams, Author	Cash/Cambell
6:30 - 7:30pm	Dinner - <i>provided</i>	Cash/Cambell
8:00 - 9:30pm	"Finding Your Nikkei Roots in the US" - Linda Harms Okazaki, past president of California Genealogical Society	Cash/Cambell
	Friday, April 12	
TIME	ΑCTIVITY	LOCATION
8:30 - 9:00am	Opening Remarks	Cash/Cambell
9:00 - 10:00am	A: Relocation, AR followed by panel discussion with Richard Yada, Rose Sasaki, Ethel Toda	A: Cash/Cambell
	B: CONTESTED HISTORIES-Clement Hanami, JANM	B: Angelou/Grisham
10:00 - 11:00am	A: ContinuedRelocation, AR followed by panel discussion with Richard Yada, Rose Sasaki, Ethel Toda	A: Cash/Cambell
	B: "The Grassroots Struggle for Redress and Reparations and the Relevance to Today" June Hibino, NCRR	B: Dean/McArthur
11:00 - 12:00pm	A: "Resettlement - Chicago" - Michael Takada, JASC; Jason Matsumoto, Full Spectrum Features; Lisa Doi, JACL	A: Cash/Cambell
	B: "Back to California: Stories of Rohwer Families Returning Home" - Brian Niiya, Densho	B: Dean/McArthur
12:00 - 1:00pm	A: "Japanese American Life in Jim Crow Virginia" - Regina Boone, Richmond Free Press; Emma Ito, Library of Virginia	A: Cash/Cambell
	B: Rohwer Reconstructed - Angie Payne, Center for Advanced Spatial Technologies	B: Dean/McArthur
1:00 - 2:00pm	Lunch - <i>provided</i>	Cash/Cambell
2:00 - 3:00pm	Children of the Camps - MOVIE	Cash/Cambell
3:00 - 5:00pm	Multi Gen Sessions >> See MAP on PAGE 4	
5:00 - 6:00pm	Dinner - <i>On your own</i>	
6:00 - 7:30pm	2nd Friday Art Night	The Butler Center
8:00 - 9:00pm	A: Social Hour / Obon Dancing	A: Cash/Cambell
	B: Meeting for discussion of starting a "Friends of Rohwer" / "Friends of Jerome" group	B: Dean/McArthur

비 SCHEDULE & HOTEL MAP

Saturday, April 13		
TIME	ΑCTIVITY	
8:00am	Bus departs for McGehee	
10:00am	Stop at Rohwer Cemetery	
12:00pm	Arrive McGehee / Lunch - <i>provided</i>	
1:00pm	Museum Anniversary Program	
3:30pm	Depart for Jerome Monument	
4:30pm	Return to McGehee for dinner	
5:00pm	Dinner at Hoot's <i>provided</i>	
5:30pm	Walter Imahara, "Remembrance of Jerome-Rohwer"	
7:30pm	Depart for Little Rock	
9:30pm	Arrive at hotels in Little Rock	

Comfort Inn & Suites Presidential Hotel

707 I-30, Little Rock, AR 72202



MULTI-GENERATIONAL GROUPS

- Cash/Cambell
- Group 1
- Group 2
- Group 3
- ■Group 4

Angelou/Grisham

- ■Group 5
- ■Group 6
- ■Group 7
- Group 8

Dean/McArthur

- ■Group 9
- Group 10
- Group 11

Boardroom

Group 12

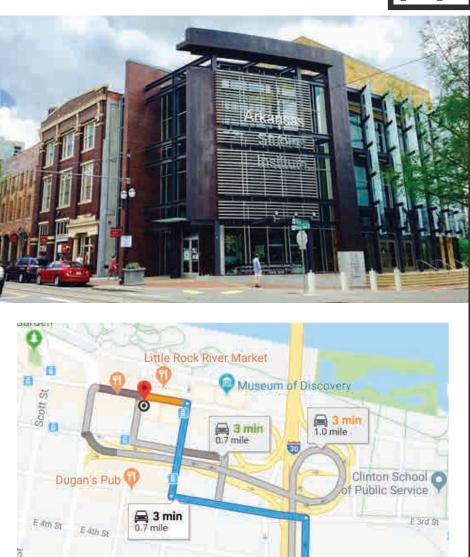
The Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, a department of the Central Arkansas Library System (CALS), was created in 1997 through an endowment by the late Richard C. Butler Sr. for the purpose of promoting a greater understanding and appreciation of Arkansas history, literature, art, and culture.

THE ROSALIE SANTINE GOULD -MABEL JAMISON VOGEL COLLECTION

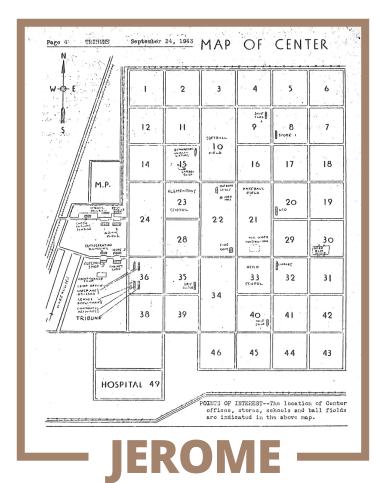
In 2010, Rosalie Santine Gould of McGehee donated her remarkable collection of artwork and other materials from the World War II-era Japanese American internment camp at Rohwer to the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, a department of the Central Arkansas Library System. There were ten such camps around the country, most in the western United States. Two were in Arkansas, at Jerome and Rohwer.

Gould was named in Vogel's will as the recipient of the entire collection, includes hundreds which of documents and photographs dealing with the schools, the "town" government, and many of the people who lived in the camp. A particularly important feature of the collection is a set of 185 handwritten autobiographies of internees dating from 1942. The collection is also noteworthy because the camp sent several hundred men to Europe as part of the U.S. Army's famous 442nd Regimental Combat Team, which is said by many to have been the most highly decorated American combat unit of World War II. Camp newsletters and other documents attest to the pride internees at Rohwer took in the service these men offered their country.

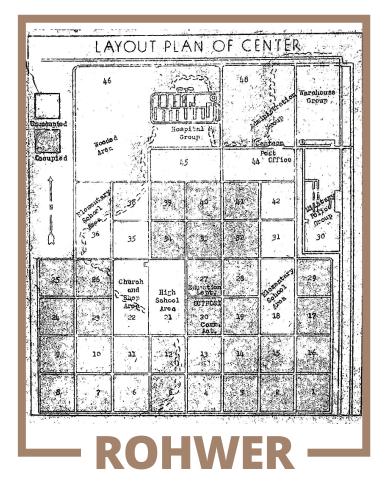
BUTLER CENTER



Library Square, 401 President Clinton Ave, Little Rock, AR 72201

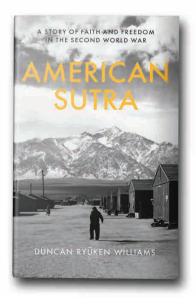


Location: Southeast Arkansas Date opened: October 6, 1942 Peak population: 8,497 Births: 230 Deaths: 76 Enlisted from camp: 247 (combined with Rohwer) Date closed: June 30, 1944 Newspaper: Denson Tribune



Location: Southeast Arkansas Date opened: September 18, 1942 Peak population: 8,475 Births: 418 Deaths: 168 Enlisted from camp: 247 (combined with Jerome) Date closed: November 30, 1945 Newspaper: Rohwer Outpost

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS 뉟타



American Sutra

Duncan Ryuken Williams, Author

This groundbreaking history tells the little-known story of how, in one of our country's darkest hours, Japanese Americans fought to defend their faith and preserve religious freedom. The mass incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II is not only a tale of injustice; it is a moving story of faith. In this path-breaking account, Duncan Ryuken Williams reveals how, even as they were stripped of their homes and imprisoned in camps, Japanese American Buddhists launched one of the most inspiring defenses of religious freedom in our nation's history, insisting that they could be both Buddhist and American.

Children of the Camps

Documentary

Children of the Camps is a one-hour documentary that portrays the poignant stories of six Japanese Americans who were interned in US concentration camps during WWII.

The film captures a three-day intensive group experience, during which the participants are guided by Dr. Satsuki Ina, a university professor and therapist, through a process that enables them to speak honestly about their experiences and the continuing impact of internment on their lives today.

Dr. Ina, who was born in the Tule Lake internment camp, has developed and conducted this workshop for more than ten years for other former child internees.

The workshop participants openly share their pain as they watched their parents endure, how their families were torn apart, and ultimately how they survived in a world that had accused and ostracized them at a young age simply because of the color of their skin.

More generally, the documentary sheds light on the deeply damaging personal impact of racism and offers an opportunity for viewers to understand the consequences of growing up as a scapegoated minority group member.

Woven through the program are Dr. Ina's insights, historical photographs and film footage, and an overview narrated by award-winning poet and author Lawson Fusao Inada.



EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

ROHWER RECONSTRUCTED

INTERPRETING PLACE THROUGH EXPERIENCE

Rohwer Reconstructed

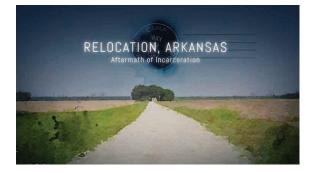
Angie Payne, Center for Advanced Spatial Technologies

In the incredibly short span of about four years, 1942 to 1946, some five hundred acres of the Mississippi River Delta in southeast Arkansas were transformed from a tree-covered swamp, to a barren military-style camp, to a resourceful community of more than 8,000 involuntary residents, and then wiped clean of almost all traces of this community and replaced with productive farmland. Rohwer Reconstructed: Interpreting Place through Experience tells the story of this ephemeral landscape and the people who created it, helping ensure their legacy is preserved for future generations. The project was made possible by a grant from the Japanese American Confinement Sites (JACS) grant program, administered through the National Park Service. Project team members and collaborators include the Center for Advanced Spatial Technologies, Fay Jones School of Architecture + Design, and Special Collections at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville; the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, the University of Arkansas Little Rock – Center for Arkansas History and Culture, and the Arkansas State Archives in Little Rock; and Arkansas State University in Jonesboro.

Relocation, Arkansas

Documentary

In 1942, nearly 120,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry were forced into prisons in the interior because they looked like the enemy. Two of those prison camps were in Arkansas, a land of deep racial divide. Paul Takemoto's mother and grandparents had been imprisoned in one of the Arkansas camps. Ashamed of his heritage and deeply rebellious, he didn't want to know the details. A man of powerful revelations: of his past, of his parents' past and what they mean to his self-identity, he grieves over lost time and years spent



fighting a ghost he never understood. After the war, Richard Yada's family refused to return to California, where violence against Japanese Americans was worse then it had been before the war. They became sharecroppers in Arkansas. But a code of segregation in the South ruled every interaction. A person could be only black or white. Where did these non-white, non-black newcomers fit in? Mayor Rosalie Gould's deep Southern accent belies a fierce determination. Her neighbors threatened her life because she had the audacity to see the prisoners not as the enemy, but as Americans who had been wronged. Relocation, Arkansas – Aftermath of Incarceration weaves these remarkable stories into a surprising tale of prejudice and perseverance, hurt and healing, and ultimately, the triumph of reconciliation.

EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS 님



CONTESTED HISTORIES Art and Artifacts from the Allen Hendersbott Eaton Collection

Contested Histories

Clement Hanami, Japanese American National Museum

Allen Hendershott Eaton's historic 1952 book, Beauty Behind Barbed Wire: The Arts of the Japanese in Our War Relocation Camps, explored art and craft objects created by persons of Japanese descent while wrongfully incarcerated in the World War II American concentration camps. It was one of the first books to examine any aspect of the lives of the 120,000 inmates. In the course of conducting research for the book and a never-realized exhibition of camp artifacts, Eaton amassed a significant personal collection of such artifacts.

After many years of lying forgotten in storage, the collection was inherited by a family friend of Eaton's, who in April 2015 attempted to put it up for auction. An outcry arose from Japanese American community leaders and activists, who rallied successfully to stop the insensitive sale of these important artifacts of Japanese American history. Ultimately, the collection was transferred to the Japanese American National Museum for safekeeping.

The display includes physical or digital representation of every item in the collection—more than 400 individual photographs, sculptures, paintings and watercolors, jewelry items, vases, beads, nameplates, and other items handmade by Japanese Americans while enduring incarceration in the WWII camps. In addition to providing the opportunity to see a collection that inspired strong emotions and decisive actions within the Japanese American community, Contested Histories is intended to help gather information about each individual object so that the museum's efforts to preserve and catalog the collection can be as complete as possible. Camp survivors and their family members and friends will be encouraged to share with JANM information they know or remember about the objects, including who is depicted in the many photographs, most of which were shot by photographers working for the War Relocation Authority.



SPEAKERS



Angie Payne

Center for Advanced Spatial Technologies

Angie Payne, research assistant at the Center for Advanced Spatial Technologies (CAST), specializes in 3D modeling, documentation, and visualization of heritage sites and objects. She enjoys working with archaeologists and historians to create accurate, detailed visualizations of historic landscapes and implementing new technologies to revive the stories of the past. She received her Masters in Anthropology in 2005 from the University of Arkansas and has worked at CAST for 16 years.

Brian Niiya Content Director, Densho

Brian Niiya, content director, Densho. A Sansei born and raised in Southern California to Nisei parents from Hawai'i, Niiya has been a public historian specializing in Japanese American history for over thirty years. He has held various positions at the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, the Japanese American National Museum, and the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i that have involved managing collections, curating exhibitions, developing public programs, and producing videos, books, and websites. The editor of the Encyclopedia of Japanese American History, first published in 1993 with a second edition in 2000, he is currently the editor of the online Densho Encyclopedia.





Clement Hanami

Vice President of Exhibitions and Art Director at JANM

Mr. Hanami is currently the Vice President of Exhibitions and Art Director at the Japanese American National Museum and primarily responsible for the design, installation, fabrication and maintenance of the Museum's major exhibits. He co-managed the collaborative Arts partnership project Finding Family Stories and co-designed the exhibit Common Ground: The Heart of Community with ADOBE LA. His most recent projects include curating the exhibitions Instructions to All Persons: Reflections on Executive Order 9066 and Transpacific Borderlands: The Art of Japanese Diaspora in Lima, Los Angeles, Mexico City, and São Paulo. He taught New Genres at the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts for 20 years. He received a Getty Visual Arts Fellowship in 2000 and a COLA Artist Award in 2007 given by the Department of Cultural Affairs, City of Los Angeles

Duncan Ryūken Williams Author "American Sutra"

Duncan Ryūken Williams was born in Tokyo, Japan to a Japanese mother and British father. After growing up in Japan and England until age 17, he moved to the U.S. to attend Reed College and graduate Harvard University, where he received a Ph.D. in Religion. Williams is currently the Director of the USC Shinso Ito Center for Japanese Religions and Culture. Williams is the author of The Other Side of Zen and editor of 7 books including Issei Buddhism in the Americas, American Buddhism, Hapa Japan: History, Identity, and Representations of Mixed Race/Mixed Roots Japanese Peoples, and Buddhism and Ecology. His latest book is American Sutra: A Story of Faith and Freedom in the Second World War (Harvard University Press, 2019).



SPEAKERS

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Emma Ito

Education and Program Specialist - Library of Virginia

Emma Ito received her B.A. and M.A. in History at Virginia Commonwealth University. Her Master's thesis was on the experiences of the Japanese and Japanese Americans in Virginia, with a focus on the time periods of Jim Crow and World War II. Emma works full time at the Library of Virginia as an Education and Program Specialist, where she coordinates and implements the Library of Virginia's educational programs and outreach for K-12 students, teachers and the public. Emma is involved in the Library of Virginia's newest exhibition, New Virginians: 1619-2019 & Beyond; explores the historical and continuous journey toward the ideals of America and seeks to foster an honest discussion about the immigrant and refugee experience and Virginia's increasing diversity.





Jason Matsumoto

Co-Founder and Director of Operations, Full Spectrum Features

Jason Matsumoto is the co-founder and director of operations at Full Spectrum Features, a Chicago-based film production company with a mission to increase diversity in front and behind the camera. He is also the director and composer for Ho Etsu Taiko, a Chicago-based music ensemble that blends the deep-rooted culture of Japanese-American taiko with influences that are inspired and cultivated by the diversity of its performing members. Jason earned a business degree from the University of Washington in Seattle and spent one year in Japan as a study-abroad student attending Sophia University in Tokyo. Prior to becoming a film producer, Jason spent 10 years at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange as a Director on the firm's strategic pricing team.

June Hibino

Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress, (NCRR)

June is a Sansei who was born and raised on the East Coast but has lived in Los Angeles for many years. Her mother and her mother's family, originally from Stockton, were incarcerated at Rohwer. June is a member of Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress (formerly the National Coalition for Redress/Reparations) and its newer sister organization, Nikkei Progressives, and was active in the redress & reparations movement in the 1980s in San Francisco and Los Angeles. Through NCRR and NP, June remains active in social justice issues, such as opposing the Trump administration's Muslim ban and Islamophobia and supporting the civil and human rights of immigrants and asylum seekers.





Lisa Doi

President of Japanese American Citizens League, Chicago Chapter

Lisa Doi is the President is the Japanese American Citizens' League, Chicago Chapter. With JACL, Chicago, Lisa has participated in and led the Kansha Project, a youth leadership and identity development program for college aged Japanese Americans from the Midwest centered on incarceration history. Lisa received a B.A. in Anthropology & Urban Studies from the University of Pennsylvania and an M.A. in Social Science from the University of Chicago, where her research focused on the resettlement and dispersal patterns of Nikkei in Chicago.



SPEAKERS



Linda Harms Okazaki

Past President, California Genealogical Society

Linda Harms Okazaki is a fourth-generation Californian who is passionate about teaching people to research, document, and share their personal family histories. Her areas of research include upstate New York, England, Australia, Japan, Japanese Americans during WWII, and the use of DNA in genealogy. She is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists, the Genealogical Speakers Guild, and the Daughters of the American Revolution. Linda currently serves at the past president of the California Genealogical Society and is a board member of the Nichi Bei Foundation. Ms. Okazaki holds a Master of Arts degree in Education.

Mike Takada

CEO - Japanese American Serivce Committee

Mike Takada is currently CEO at the Japanese American Service Committee. With over 30 years of experience in the financial sector, Mike oversees strategic planning, project management, financial management, and organizational leadership at JASC, translating JASC's Mission into active services and programs. Mike also has extensive board governance experience having served as past president and board member of JASC, the Unitarian Church of Evanston and Evanston's Kid Can Dance program. He received his MBA from DePaul University and BA from Boston University. Born and raised in Chicago, Mike is the son of a Nisei father from Los Angeles (Amache) and a Shin Issei mother from Tokyo.





Regina H. Boone Photojournalist

Regina H. Boone, is an award-winning photojournalist, who has spent more than 20 years documenting human resiliency in her hometown of Richmond, VA. working for her family's newspaper, the Richmond Free Press, to Detroit where she worked for nearly 15 years at the Detroit Free Press. In 2017, Time magazine used a portrait of hers as its cover image documenting the Flint water crisis. Following graduation from Roland Park Country School in Baltimore in 1988, she attended Spelman College. After receiving a BA in Political Science in 1992 Regina taught English on the JET Program while living in Osaka for three years. Once her time in Japan was over Regina backpacked solo through Thailand, Indonesia, India, Nepal, Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Egypt and Holland. Later she studied photojournalism as a graduate student at Ohio University. In 2017, she completed the Knight-Wallace Fellowship at the University of Michigan, where she began researching her grandfather, Tsuruju Miyazaki, and his wrongful arrest on December 7, 1941 in Suffolk, VA. Her father was just three-years-old. In 2014, as Regina's father lay dying, he asked her to tell their family's story. She has been searching ever since.

TENUGUI & STAMP 님



Masao Okayama

This image shows a pastel drawing on denim of Rohwer Japanese American Relocation Camp, signed by Masao Okayama, who was probably a student at the camp. Students used donated denim and pastels in their art classes at Rohwer. This is one of two pastel drawings held by the Arkansas State Archives. This piece comes from the Joseph Boone Hunter Collection. Joseph Boone Hunter worked at Rohwer Relocation Camp, where he was in charge of the school, hospital, and social welfare, as well as providing church services.

Masao Okayama was born on July 31, 1928 on Terminal Island, Los Angeles. His family was sent to the Santa Anita Assembly center and then to Rohwer, Arkansas. Masao would have been in high school when he created this beautiful drawing. On May 9, 1944 the Okayama family left Rohwer for Tule Lake where they stayed until January 1946.

JEROME STAMP

ROHWER STAMP

The pilgrimage stamps are intended to be used in a pilgrimage book which is a cross between Japanese pilgrimage books and the National Parks Service passport book. Many of the other camp pilgrimages have had their own designs created.



The Asawa Family Regina H. Boone The Butler Center Lisa Doi Marissa Fujimoto Susan Gallion Kay Garling Roberts Clement Hanami Linda Harms Okazaki June Hibino Janice Hirohama Linda Hubbs Walter Imahara Satsuki Ina Emma Ito Claude Kansaku Stephen Kitajo Marion Kovinick Jason Matsumoto Brian Niiya Don Nobori Ed & Lois Oda Angie Payne Paula Pope Tiana Pyer-Pereira Kanji Sahara Gordon Sakaue Rose Sasaki Vivienne Schiffer Gary Shimasaki Fred Shimasaki Michael Takada Ethel Toda Paul Tomita Ashley Williams Duncan Ryuken Williams Glenn Yabuno Richard Yada Yuriko Yamaki

This pilgrimage is dedicated to Frank Kaoru Inami



This pilgrimage is dedicated to Frank Kaoru Inami. I was lucky enough to visit Jerome and Rowher for the first time with Frank. His family was incarcerated at both camps before he enlisted in the army. Frank served in the Military Intelligence Service during the war. He was also a Korean War veteran. Frank passed away in 2017 just a month shy of his 96th birthday.

-Kimiko



Our purpose is to create a centralized website that promotes and educates people about the WWII Japanese American incarceration camps. As a resource for all the pilgrimages, we will provide pertinent information on traveling including dates, costs, registration and lodging. We will conduct interviews to share the pilgrimage experience in order to encourage the younger generations to attend and learn more about their families' legacies. The interviews will be presented in short documentaries designed to express the importance of pilgrimage as a way to learn about this piece of America's history. Our stories will not only focus on survivors, but also how the incarceration continues to impacts their descendants and our society as a whole.

NWFF and JAMP were selected by the National Park Service (NPS) as recipients of a nearly \$200,000* grant to increase awareness of the Japanese American Confinement Sites, encourage more pilgrimages, and document the stories of those incarcerated (while there's still time).

The National Park Service grant is a "match grant" where applicants are required to match the grant award with \$1 in non-federal funds or "in-kind" contributions for every \$2 in federal money. With a \$200,000* authorized grant we are looking to raise \$100,000**. NWFF is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit.

2018 JAPANESE AMERICAN CONFINEMENT SITE GRANT

The National Park Service announced in the summer of 2018 more than \$1.5 million in Japanese American Confinement Sites grants. The money will fund, restoration, and education projects related to the detainment of Japanese Americans by the U.S. government during World War II. These projects will help tell the story of the more than



120,000 Japanese Americans, two-thirds of whom were U.S. citizens, who were imprisoned by the U.S. government following the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941.

NORTHWEST FILM FORUM

Northwest Film Forum (NWFF) is a non-profit that incites public dialogue and creative action through collective cinematic experiences. Their vision is to empower people to express themselves and connect with each other through visual storytelling and culture. The Japanese American Memorial Pilgrimages (JAMP) has partnered with Northwest Film Forum to share the stories of those who were incarcerated in WWII, bringing awareness so nothing like this happens again.



JAPANESE AMERICAN MEMORIAL PILGRIMAGES DONATE NOW! Make Checks out to: NORTHWEST FILM FORUM

Write in the Memo: Japanese American Memorial Pilgraimges or JAMP

ORTHWEST



Ruth Asawa Japanese American Internment Memorial, (detail), 1994 Federal Building, San Jose, CA Cast bronze 60" x 14'4" x 18" Artwork © Estate of Ruth Asawa, courtesy David Zwirner