November 4, 2026
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...)
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ed. by Douglas Ikemi (dkikemi@gmail.com)

Back issues of the newsletter for all of 2000-2024 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.
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Loyalty, Belonging, and the Cost of Being Accused in U.S. Academia
Nov 18, 2026 01:00 PM in Pacific Time (US and Canada)
This webinar explores the physical, mental, and emotional burden of being wrongfully suspected of disloyalty. Drawing on the experiences of scholars like Yanping Chen, Jane Wu, and Anming Hu, our speakers will discuss how suspicion affects individuals, their families, and the wider academic community.
https://committee100-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/3017919080344/WN_ZCIm9-JvTdKJM3gWhHqLNw?utm_source=%2A%2APublic+Events+and+Marketing+List+aka+PML+%5B12%2F2024%5D&utm_campaign=2bce23ef09-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2026_04_22_04_03_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-a8f59c739a-535314899&mc_cid=2bce23ef09&mc_eid=7314aa6a6d#/registration

THURSDAY, NOV 12, 2026
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Decisions That Defined Us: Korematsu v. The United States
$20, $10 for LA Local and JANM Members
6:00 PM - 9:00 PM PST
Japanese American National Museum
Democracy Center
100 North Central Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90012
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-11-12/decisions-defined-us-korematsu-v-united-states

As a valued friend of Foundations and Futures, we cordially invite you to a free webinar series co-sponsored by the UCLA Asian American Studies Center, UCLA Center X, the American Federation of

Teachers (AFT), and the National Education Association (NEA). The Teaching Asian American and Pacific Islander Histories Webinar Series will take place once a month on Mondays throughout the school year and will highlight chapters from the Foundations and Futures Multimedia Textbook.
You can register for a webinar at this link: bit.ly/TeachingAAPI.
Each webinar session will take place via zoom on a Monday from 4:00-5:30 PM Pacific Time.

November 9	Asian American Popular Culture: Representation, Propaganda, and the Media Jeff Yang
January 11	Asian American Exclusion: Aliens Ineligible to Citizenship Russell Jeung
February 8	Asian Americans in the US South: Labor, Civil Rights, and Identity Heidi Kim
March 8	South Asian Americans before 1965: Stories of Perseverance, Activism, and Cultural Exchange (chapter forthcoming) South Asian American Digital Archives (SAADA)
April 12	Vietnamese American Experiences: Learning From Refugee Experiences Thuy Vo Dang
May 10	Youth Organizing: Building Multiracial Solidarities Veronica Terriquez

Plein Air Painter TOKIO UEYAMA (1889-1954) | UC Irvine Langson Orange County Museum of Art Presents “Tokio Ueyama: The Hollows Between Mountains” | Segerstrom Center for the Arts campus | Sept. 26, 2026 – Feb. 28, 2027
https://langson.uci.edu/exhibition/tokio-ueyama-the-hollows-between-mountains/

Skip Spring Cleaning—Scrub Nothing With Us!

https://blog.janm.org/2025/05/13/skip-spring-cleaning-scrub-nothing-with-us/

Closed for Renovation
JANM’s Pavilion is closed for renovation and will reopen in late 2026. While the museum and store are closed, join us for programs and events on our Little Tokyo campus, throughout Southern California, and beyond.

Ongoing

From APA Justice:

March 24, 2026 webinar, “Mass Surveillance and the ICE Crackdown: What the AAPI Community Needs to Know.”
A recording of the webinar is available here: https://www.youtube.com/watch? (1:04:32)
The webinar examined the intersection of mass surveillance and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) crackdowns affecting Asian American and Pacific Islander communities. It featured Mayor Kaohly Her of St. Paul, Minnesota, alongside a panel of experts discussing current surveillance programs and their real-world impacts.

On April 1, the Supreme Court will hear oral arguments in *Trump v. Barbara* — a case that could overturn 127 years of precedent and redefine who gets to be an American citizen. You can listen to the oral argument live on Wednesday here.
C100’s “Equity Pulse” webinar brought together legal experts Wendy Feng, Arjun Shenoy, Tony Wang, and Jennifer Wu to break down what's at stake and how communities can prepare.
The webinar walked attendees through the history of birthright citizenship under the Fourteenth Amendment, the landmark Wong Kim Ark case of 1898, and what Executive Order 14160 would change — specifically targeting children born to parents who are not U.S. citizens. The discussion covered the role of amicus briefs filed in the case, the possible Supreme Court outcomes, and the real-world consequences for families, including challenges related to passports, federal benefits, and the risk of statelessness.
Watch the recording to understand the legal arguments, possible Supreme Court outcomes, and how organizations and families can respond. Communities that understand what's coming can mobilize, advocate, and protect their rights.

Watch recording

https://www.committee100.org/events/equity-pulse-birthright-citizenship/?utm_source=%2A%2APublic+Events+and+Marketing+List+aka+PML+%5B12%2F2024%5D&utm_campaign=f7cfa396f0-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2026_03_04_04_09_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_-1f43640b5c-535314899&mc_cid=f7cfa396f0&mc_eid=7314aa6a6d

"The Alien Enemies Act of 1798: Understanding 1941 and 2025"
Youtube recording of event I watched online
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=srIKBsRnm2s

KCLS Author Voices: Kiku Hughes [recording]
Saturday, May 17, 2-3:30 pm PT
IN-PERSON or VIRTUAL

Join King County Library System and Densho at the Bellevue Library (or virtually!) for a conversation with Kiku Hughes, author of Displacement. Get an insight on the historical and personal impact that the WWII Japanese American incarceration camps have had, and the intergenerational issues they've left behind.
Watch the recording at:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8kQ03HD7By8
I watched the original webinar back in May and I finally got around to reading my digital version of the graphic novel *displacement*. As the author acknowledges, the time travel structure is inspired by Octavia Butler. I thought it is one of the better fictionalized accounts of life in the camps.

Henry Sugimoto's Artistic Evolution
https://www.janm.org/exhibits/henry-sugimoto/bioStep into the captivating world of Henry Yuzuru Sugimoto, a Japanese American artist whose journey
from Wakayama, Japan, to Hanford, California, and ultimately to the bustling streets of Manhattan,…

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)

Debut! Yuri Kochiyama Digital Exhibition and Collections Webinar!
UCLA AASC Events
Last month [July 2024], presenters took us on a tour of:
Online exhibit tracing Yuri's journey of politicization & growth to becoming an organizer & social movement activist
New digital collections containing over 4,000 unique images from her collection housed at UCLA
Resources and reflections to learn from Yuri and the life she led
In case you missed it, we are including the links to the full webinar recording, resource list, and live digital exhibit and collections website below. We encourage you to share these with friends, colleagues, and community.
Zoom Webinar Recording
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bsqsWMsSg-4
Further Reading & Resources
LIVE: Yuri Kochiyama Digital Exhibit and Collections
A UCLA AASC Website
https://learn.aasc.ucla.edu/kochiyama/-

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

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

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:

The Art of Kintsugi on Ceramics & Beyond
Sep 12, 2026 - Oct 18, 2026
Curated by Japanese art historian Meher McArthur, the exhibition traces the evolution of kintsugi through three thematic sections.
When
Sat, Sep 12, 2026 to
Sun, Oct 18, 2026
Tuesdays - Sundays • 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Special Classical Dance Demonstration: October 18, 2026 • 2:00 pm
Where
George J. Doizaki Gallery
244 S. San Pedro St., Lobby, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Price
Free, RSVP now required.
https://jaccc.org/events/healing-with-gold-the-art-of-kintsugi-on-ceramics-beyond/

(Be)Spoken: Poems from Our Asian American Voices
May 16, 2025 - September 6, 2026
CAM presents our newest exhibition, (Be)Spoken: Poems from Our Asian American Voices, open from May 16, 2025 – September 6, 2026.
https://camla.org/current-exhibits/#bespoken-poems-from-our-asian-american-voices

The Icon: Anna May Wong, open from May 16, 2025 – August 30, 2026, pays tribute to the trailblazer and icon who challenged conventions against all odds.
https://camla.org/current-exhibits/#the-icon-anna-may-wong

SATURDAY, AUG 15, 2026
11:00 AM - 3:00 PM
2026 Natsumatsuri Family Festival
Terasaki Budokan
249 S Los Angeles St
Los Angeles, CA 90012
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-08-15/2026-natsumatsuri-family-festival

Of special note in LAist
This LA museum is standing up to Trump's whitewashing, vowing to 'scrub nothing'**:**
https://laist.com/news/politics/this-la-museum-is-standing-up-to-trumps-whitewashing-vowing-to-scrub-nothing?utm_campaign=20251215_20251215+LA+Report+AM&utm_medium=email&utm_source=sfmc_&utm_content=&utm_term=163028387

Upcoming performances of Tan Tran goes to Washington performed by the East West Players
https://www.eastwestplayers.org/tam-tran-tour

KOYOMI Installation
Wed, Jun 3, 2026-Tue, Jun 23, 2026, Tuesdays - Saturdays • 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Free at the JACCC
https://jaccc.org/events/koyomi-installation/

Join Committee of 100, APA Justice, and US-China Education Trust on Wednesday, June 3, at 4:00 PM ET / 1:00 PM PT for the third webinar in our series on U.S. foreign policy and its effects on Chinese American communities. Drawing on historical precedent and today's climate, our panelists will explore how periods of international tension have influenced immigration policy, citizenship rights, and the daily lives of people caught in between.
https://mailchi.mp/committee100/foreign-policy-has-a-human-cost-lets-talk-about-it?e=7314aa6a6d

Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Heritage Month - In-Person Program
Wed, May 13, 3:30pm - 4:30pm
Meeting Room, Lennox Library
Join us as we recognize and celebrate the culture, contributions, and heritage of Asian Americans, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islander Americans. Follow by fun art activity. For ages 5 - 12 with parent or caregiver.
REGISTER

https://visit.lacountylibrary.org/event/16308145

7th Annual Earth Day at Little Tokyo Farmers' Market
Sat, Apr 25, 2026
9:00 am-2:00 pm
Isamu Noguchi Plaza
244 S. San Pedro Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Admission is free, no RSVP needed.
Bokashi Composting Workshop + Food Scrap Dye Demo: $12.51 (includes fees)
Enjoy a full day of activities, including local nonprofit tabling, a clothing swap, a hand-drawn photo booth, compost distribution, performances, and a community clean-up to celebrate our planet and the plants that sustain us. Bring a tote bag or old T-shirt for live screen printing and upcycle it with an Earth Day design.
https://jaccc.org/events/7th-annual-earth-day-at-little-tokyo-farmers-market/

SATURDAY, MAR 21, 2026
2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
JANM Book Club: Crown City with Naomi Hirahara
Meet Edgar Award-winning author Naomi Hirahara during an exclusive conversation and pre-event book signing of her new book, *Crown City*, for JANM Members.
1:00 PM – 1:45PM
Japanese American National Museum
Democracy Center
100 North Central Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90012
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-03-21/members-only-meet-and-greet-naomi-hirahara

2026 SAN GABRIEL LANTERN FESTIVAL
Saturday, March 21, 2026
10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 22, 2026
10:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
San Gabriel Mission District
320 S. Mission Drive
This FREE Event Will Feature:
•Amazing Lantern displays unveiled for the first time
•Live Performances
•Street Foods
•Shopping
•Much More!
https://www.sangabrielcity.com/1517/Lantern-Festival

Masters of Carpentry: Melding Forest, Skill and Spirit
Dates
November 20, 2024 – January 22, 2025
Times
Mon-Fri | 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Sat-Sun | 11:00 AM – 8:00 PM
Location
JAPAN HOUSE Gallery, Level 2
Masters of Carpentry | Exhibition | JAPAN HOUSE Los Angeles

(Be)Spoken: Poems from Our Asian American Voices
CAM presents our newest exhibition, *(Be)Spoken: Poems from Our Asian American Voices*, open from May 16, 2025 – January 8, 2026. The exhibition is co-curated by rapper and poet, Jason Chu and features seven spoken word artists: Tanzila “Taz” Ahmed, arianna lady basco, Emdash, Sun Luu, Michelle Myers, STEADY, and Catzie Vilayphonh.
425 N. Los Angeles Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
https://camla.org/current-exhibits/#bespoken-poems-from-our-asian-american-voices

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This Weekend and more:

SATURDAY, NOV 07, 2026
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Two Buses Set Out: Japanese American Photography, History, and Memory
$10, $5 for Seniors, Free for JANM Members and college students with ID
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM PST
Japanese American National Museum
Democracy Center
100 North Central Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90012
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-11-07/two-buses-set-out-japanese-american-photography-history-and-memory

PREVIOUSLY:

COMPASSION IN A WAR ZONE:The Story of Taro Higa
When: Sunday, November 1st (11:30 a.m. following Shotstuki Monthly Memorial Service)
Where: SFVHBT, 9450 Remick Ave
All welcome to attend our 10am service prior to the screening. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with special guests. Light refreshments to follow in the social hall.
SPACE IS LIMITED
PLEASE RSVP: sfvhbt@sfvhbt.org or (818) 899-4030
https://www.sfvhbt.org/compassion-in-a-war-zonethe-story-of-taro-higa/

THURSDAY, OCT 15 - THURSDAY, OCT 22, 2026
Film Series “Everything in This House is Gay (and Asian)”
$5 Adults, FREE for JANM Members
Japanese American National Museum
Democracy Center
100 North Central Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90012
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-10-15/film-series-everything-house-gay-and-asian

SATURDAY, OCT 24, 2026
4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
Screening and Conversation: Hello Maggie! with Animator Willie Ito
$5 General, FREE for JANM Members and Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation Members4:00 PM - 5:30 PM PDT
Japanese American National Museum
Democracy Center
100 North Central Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90012
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-10-24/screening-and-conversation-hello-maggie-animator-willie-ito

Season Opening Concert
Tulips in Harmony
“Blooming Concert”
Support Kumamoto!
Tickets are sold
www.palosverdesperformingarts.com
$25 +handling fee for members
$35 + handling fee for general admission
$20 + Handling fee for Senior
Sunday October 25, 2026
3:30 PM

@Norris Theatre
https://www.tulipsinharmony.org

The 19th OC JAPAN FAIR
OCTOBER 16-18, 2026
Grab your friends, and celebrate the largest Japanese cultural festivals in Southern California. Enjoy the experience of tasting, shopping, and learning about Japanese culture. There will also be a cosplay show, tuna cutting show, popular Japanese artists/comedians performances, traditional instrument performances, games, kimono models meet and greet, and more!!
10/16 (FRI) 4:00PM-10:00PM
10/17 (SAT) 12:00PM-10:00PM
10/18 (SUN) 11:00AM-7:00PM
OC FAIR & EVENT CENTER
88 Fair Dr, Costa Mesa, CA 92626
https://www.oc-japanfair.com/#info

2026 AKIMATSURI FALL FESTIVAL
Saturday, October 10
12pm-6pm
ESGVJCC (In front of the Center)
1203 W Puente Ave
West Covina, CA 91790
https://www.esgvjcc.org/2026-akimatsuri-fall-festival/

SATURDAY, OCT 03, 2026
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Banned Book Week: Books & Ballots
Japanese American National Museum
100 North Central Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Banned Book Week (October 4-10) celebrates the freedom to seek and share ideas. To kick off the week, stop by the banned book cart, curated by Bloom Wild Book Shop, for books that reflect the history of book bans.
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-10-03/banned-book-week-books-ballots

World of Japanese Synth-Pop, New Wave & Art Rock
Oct 2, 2026 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm
Listen to a world of Japanese synth-pop, new wave, and art rock in JACCC's beautiful zen garden.
When

Fri, Oct 2, 2026
7:00 pm- 10:00 pm
Where
TWCCC & James Irvine Japanese Garden
244 S. San Pedro Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Price
$15.00 (+$1.50 fee)
This event is 21+.
https://jaccc.org/events/world-of-japanese-synth-pop-new-wave-art-rock-a-listening-party/

OBRAS DE LUZ (Works of Light) at the Mercado La Paloma
July 15 - September 25, 2026
View the photo exhibition about the SoCal Japanese American Community through the lens of Rafu Shimpo photojournalist Mario Gershom-Reyes.
uly 15 - September 25, 2026
Mercado La Paloma
3655 S Grand Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90007
HOURS:
Sunday–Thursday, 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
Friday–Saturday, 9 a.m.–10 p.m.
FREE ADMISSION
https://www.janm.org/exhibits/mario-reyes-mercado

FRIDAY, SEP 18, 2026
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM
End of Summer at Descanso Gardens
FREE for JANM Members Only
Friday, Sep 18, 2026
5:00 PM - 7:00 PM PDT
Descanso Gardens
1418 Descanso Drive
La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-09-18/end-summer-descanso-gardens

Asian Mid-Autumn Festival
SUNDAY | SEPTEMBER 13* | 11 AM – 3 PM
KEY COURTYARD | FAMILY FESTIVAL
Bowers Museum
2002 North Main Street
Santa Ana, California 92706
https://www.bowers.org/index.php/programs/family-programs/asian-mid-autumn-festival-2

SECOND SUNDAYS: FALL HARVEST
Huntington Gardens
Sun., Sept. 13, 2026, 11 a.m.–2 p.m.
Free with general admission
Celebrate the start of fall with a community harvest. Learn all about harvesting rice at the Shōya House and harvest herbs grown at The Huntington's Kitchen Garden at this event for visitors of all ages.
https://www.huntington.org/event/second-sundays-fall-harvest

SATURDAY, SEP 05, 2026
2:00 PM - 3:30 PM
Unearthing History: Japanese American Resilience in Southern California Gardens
$5 general; FREE for members of JANM, Nikkei Genealogical Society, and Descanso Gardens

Japanese American National Museum
Democracy Center
100 North Central Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Tickets at
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-09-05/unearthing-history-japanese-american-resilience-southern-california-gardens

Long Beach Buddhist Church Obon [probably the last of the season!]

Saturday
ay Aug. 29
3-9:30 PM
2360 Santa Fe Ave., Long Beach, CA 90810
https://www.longbeachbuddhistchurch.com/obon-festival

FAB (Festival of AAPI Books) Long Beach 2026
Saturday, July 11, 2026 from 11AM to 4PM
Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library,
5870 Atlantic Avenue, Long Beach CA 90805
https://belcantobooks.net/fab-long-beach

Lotus Festival
July 11-12
12-8PM Sat
12-7PM Sun
Echo Park

https://recreation.parks.lacity.gov/sites/default/files/images/lotus/2026/pdf/LOTUS%20FESTIVAL%20FLYER%202026%20(Sri%20Lanka)%2004162026.pdf

Venice Obon
The 2026 Venice Hongwanji Buddhist Temple Obon Festival will be held on July 18-19 from 3PM to 9PM. We invite you all to join us in person for some delicious food, fun games, our opportunity drawing, silent auction, and of course Bon Odori (dancing), which will run from 7:00PM-8:30PM both days. We are returning to our traditional food offerings of chicken teriyaki, fried wonton, andagi (Okinawa dango), hot dogs, chili, and shave ice. Our Obon Festival is open to the public.
12371 Braddock Dr, Culver City, CA 90230
https://vhbt.org/2026/04/24/2026obon/

2-YOKAI
Artists Lives and Practices
How to live and make art in L.A.
Artist Talk: Andy Fedak, Bruce Yonemoto, in conversation with Ana Iwataki
Join Andy Fedak and Bruce Yonemoto as they share insights into their collaborative relationship, the support ecosystem that artists need to thrive, and the intersection of their ideas that led to the works in the exhibition.
Saturday, July 11
3–5 p.m.
Art Center
South Campus
950 S. Raymond Avenue
1111 S. Arroyo Parkway
Pasadena, CA 91105
https://www.artcenter.edu/connect/events/2-yokai.html#:~:text=The%20exhibition%20brings%20together%20animation%2C,understand%20our%20own%20contemporary%20world.\

Festival of AAPI Books
Saturday, July 11 · 11:00am – 4:00pm
Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library
5870 Atlantic Ave, Long Beach, CA 90805, USA
https://belcantobooks.net/fab-long-beach

GVJCI Matsuri Fundraiser
June 27, 10AM-7PM
https://www.jci-gardena.org/matsuri-2026.html

SUNDAY, JUN 28, 2026

Film Screening—“Nobuko Miyamoto” at the Huntington Library (San Marino, CA)
Huntington Library
1151 Oxford Rd,
San Marino, CA 91108
tickets at:
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-06-28/film-screening-nobuko-miyamoto-huntington-library-san-marino-ca

2026 West Covina Obon Festival
June 27 3-9PM
203 W Puente Ave.
West Covina

San Fernando Valley Hongwanji Buddhist Temple Obon Festival (
June 26-27 4:30-10PM, 4:30-9Pm Sun.
12953 Branford, Pacoima

THIS LAND IS ... COMMUNITY FESTIVAL
Sun., June 28, 2026, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
Reservations are required for all visitors and Members. Capacity is limited.
The Huntington, various locations
https://www.huntington.org/event/land-community-festival

Senshin Obon
June 27, 2026
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
1311 W 37th St, Los Angeles, CA 90007
https://senshintemple.org/obon/

Tam Tran Goes To Washington at Venice Branch Library
June 27, 2026
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM
https://www.eastwestplayers.org/tam-tran-tour

Valley Japanese Community Center Obon
June 20-21 3-9PM
Valley Japanese Community Center
8850 Lankershim Blvd., Sun Valley, CA

https://www.facebook.com/people/Valley-Japanese-Community-Center/100064332083816/

World-renowned sculptor Eugene Daub will present a free program about his historical

artworks from 5:30 to 7 p.m. June 11 in the El Segundo Public Library's Community Room.

https://www.dailybreeze.com/2026/06/02/world-renowned-sculptor-to-talk-sculpting-through-history-in-el-segundo/

Bando Ryu Kyo no Kai 3rd Annual Yukata Kai
Summer Dance Festival
Sunday - June 14th, 2026
1:30 PM - 4:00 PM
Bento & Admission Pre-sale:
Adults: $25 | Children: $15
(Reserve by June 3)
Admission Only:
Adults: $8 Pre-sale | $10 at Door
RSVP & Information:
uskabuki.info@gmail.com | (760) 503-5088
San Fernando Valley Japanese American Community Center
12953 Branford Street, Pacoima CA 91331
https://www.sfvjacc.com

Historycraft
HistoryCraft invites you to move beyond the history textbook and into a hands-on, collaborative storytelling adventure through the Japanese American World War II experience.
HISTORYCRAFT SESSIONS
May 30, 2026 from 2:00pm to 4:00pm at the Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute (Printable Flyer)
CLICK HERE TO REGISTER
https://historycraft.live/

SATURDAY, MAY 09, 2026
2026 Nikkei Children's Book Festival
$10 General, Free for Youth (under 18), JANM Members
Saturday, May 09, 2026
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM PDT
Japanese American National Museum
Democracy Center at JANM

100 North Central Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90012
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-05-09/2026-nikkei-childrens-book-festival

2025: 25th Annual US Sumo Open Event - Walter Pyramid, Long Beach (The Largest Sumo Tournament in North America)
https://www.japanese-city.com/calendar/events/index.php?eID=35071

Book Club: They Called Us Enemy by George Takai
In-Person Program
Saturday, May 09
2:00pm - 3:30pm
Live Oak Library
Join us for a community reading program of exceptional scope – one book for all of the west coast. This special book club will feature discussion about They Called Us Enemy by George Takei.
One Book, One Coast brings together library systems across California, Washington State, and Oregon for a shared community reading program that celebrates literacy, learning, community, and civil discourse.
Learn more about this initiative at LACountyLibrary.org/one-book-one-coast/
AGE GROUP: | Older Adults | Adults |
https://visit.lacountylibrary.org/event/16319276

Author Talk with Art Nomura
In-Person Program
Saturday, May 09
4:00pm - 5:00pm
Add to Calendar
Culver City Julian Dixon Library
Meeting Room
Born in Manzanar Concentration Camp, raised in South LA, East LA, and OC, author Art Nomura currently lives in Culver City. His latest book, Mizuko: True Spirit, is an epic American-immigrant tale of hardship, assimilation, and triumph. For adults.
Please register to attend.
https://visit.lacountylibrary.org/event/15982498

MAY2
Tam Tran Goes To Washington at Echo Park Library
May 2, 2026
2:00 PM – 3:30 PM
https://www.eastwestplayers.org/tam-tran-tour

West Covina Cherry Blossom Festival
WHEN
Saturday, April 25, 2026
1pm – 6pm
WHERE
Plaza West Covina
112 Plaza Dr
West Covina, CA 91790
DETAILS
The ESGVJCC is excited to partner once again with Plaza West Covina and the City of West Covina to present the 2026 Cherry Blossom Festival! This annual festival marks the beginning of spring; the newly emerging blossoms represent hope, beauty, and new life.
Join us at Plaza West Covina to learn more about Japanese culture, indulge in exquisite Japanese and Japanese-American flavors, enjoy traditional music and dance performances, shop at an array of different vendors, and watch Japanese taiko drums and martial arts performances.
https://www.esgvjcc.org/2026-cherry-blossom-festival/

The Chinese American Museum and El Pueblo de Los Angeles Historical Monument celebrate the Year of the Horse with our annual Spring Festival on Saturday, April 25th from 12 – 5 pm. Kick off Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) month with an exciting day of multicultural performances and family friendly activities!
This event is FREE to the public and no registration is required.
https://camla.org/springfest/

Bunka Sai
April 18, 2026, 11:00am – April 19, 2026, 5:00pm
Ken Miller Recreation Center
3341 Torrrance Blvd.
https://www.torrancesistercity.org/bunkasai.html

West Covina Cherry Blossom Festival
Saturday, April 18 · 1:00 – 5:00pm
Plaza West Covina
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cherry-blossom-festival-2026-tickets-1983985426819

April 19 Shoseian Tea House Cherry Blossom Festival
10AM-3PM
Brand Park

1601 West Mountain Street,
Glendale, CA, 91201,
https://www.glendaleteahouse.org/tickets/march-2025-cherry-blossom-festival-jyyka

April 19 Bowers Museum Cherry Blossom Festival
11AM-3PM
2002 North Main Street
Santa Ana, California
92706https://www.bowers.org/index.php/programs/family-programs/japanese-cherry-blossom-festival

LA Times Festival of Books
April 18-19
https://www.latimes.com/events/festival-of-books

SATURDAY, APR 11, 2026
7:30 PM - 10:30 PM
Film Screening—"Third Act" at Hammer Museum (Los Angeles)
JANM is proud to present *Third Act* and Robert Nakamura retrospective at the Hammer Museum in Los Angeles on Saturday, April 11, 2026. Generations of artists call Robert A. Nakamura "the godfather of Asian American media," but his son and the director of JANM's Frank H. Watase Media Arts Center, Tadashi Nakamura, calls him Dad. As Parkinson's disease clouds Robert's memory, Tad sets out to retrieve his story—and in the process discovers his own.
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-04-11/film-screening-third-act-hammer-museum-los-angeles

Monterey Park Cherry Blossom Festival
April 11, 2026, 11:00am – April 12, 2026, 12:00pm
Barnes Park
350 S Mc Pherrin Ave, Monterey Park, CA 91754, USA
https://www.montereypark.ca.gov/673/Cherry-Blossom-Festival

Storrier Stearns Japanese Garden in Pasadena
7th Festival of Tea, April 12, 2026
SOLD OUT
https://japanesegardenpasadena.app.neoncrm.com/np/clients/japanesegardenpasadena/event.jsp?;=&event=1612&

Hanamatsuri Flower Arrangement Exhibition
Apr 4, 2026 - Apr 5, 2026
Step into a world of vibrant flowers, sacred rituals, and timeless traditions as we celebrate Hanamatsuri, the Festival of Flowers...

Gallery Hours: 11:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Grand Opening: Saturday, April 4, 2026 | 11:00 am
Where
George J. Doizaki Gallery
244 S. San Pedro St., 1st Floor Lobby, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Free, no RSVP needed.
https://jaccc.org/events/hanamatsuri-flower-arrangement-exhibition-2026/

OC JAPAN FAIR 2026
APRIL 3-5, 2026
DATE & TIME
4/3 (FRI) 4:00PM-10:00PM
4/4 (SAT) 12:00PM-10:00PM
4/5 (SUN) 11:00AM-7:00PM
PARKING
PARKING FEE $15
Gate 1 (follow signage upon arrival for Gates and Parking directions as Gate 1 may change)
ADDRESS
OC FAIR & EVENT CENTER
88 Fair Dr, Costa Mesa, CA 92626
https://www.oc-japanfair.com/#info

Cherry Blossom Cultural Festival | City of Torrance
The 2026 Cherry Blossom Festival - Sunday, March 29, 2026, from 11 AM to 4 PM at Columbia Park.
https://www.torranceca.gov/services/cultural-services-division-arts-and-classes/cherry-blossom-cultural-festival

Film Screening — “Third Act” (Films of Remembrance 2026)
SATURDAY, MAR 28, 2026
11:00 AM - 7:30 PM
This screening of *Third Act* is the showcase presentation of the 15th Annual Films of Remembrance, presented by the *Nichi Bei Foundation*. Films of Remembrance showcases films commemorating the forced incarceration of Japanese Americans in American concentration camps during World War II. To learn more about the full schedule of films and to purchase tickets, visit filmsofremembrance.org
$25 general/$20 members (JANM Members can use the Nichi Bei Members ticket link)
Japanese American National Museum
Democracy Center
100 North Central Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90012
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-03-28/film-screening-third-act-films-remembrance-2026

The Women of Flower Drum Song
SUNDAY, MAR 29, 2026
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Join the Democracy Center for Women of Flower Drum Song, which brings together extraordinary performers from across the musical's history to explore how representation in the arts expands our understanding of belonging, strengthens civic identity, and reminds us that American culture is built from many cultures.
$20 General / $5 Members / $5 Student - Doors open at 1:30 p.m.
Tickets go on sale March 9
Members pre-sale: February 24-March 8
Japanese American National Museum
Democracy Center
100 North Central Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90012
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-03-29/women-flower-drum-song

March 28 Films of Remembrance
Tateuchi Democracy Forum, Little Tokyo
https://jacl.org/events/2026-films-of-remembrance-la

March 29 Films of Remembrance
Gardena Valley Japanese Cultural Institute.
Buy tickets at

https://2026.filmsofremembrance.org/tickets-passes/gardena-tickets/

Turandot
Puccini's final and most monumental opera comes alive in a dazzling new Pacific Opera Project production of *Turandot*,
When
Sat, Mar 14, 2026
Sun, Mar 22, 2026
March 14, 2026 | 7:30 pm
March 15, 2026 | 3:00 pm
March 22, 2026 | 3:00 pm
Where
Aratani Theatre
244 S. San Pedro Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Price
$15.00-250.00 (+ $3.50 fee)
https://jaccc.org/events/turandot/

HENRY ERNIE NISHII, PRESIDENT, HISTORIC WINTERSBURG CONSERVANCY ON JAPANESE AMERICAN HISTORY IN ORANGE COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
Saturday, March 14, 2026 | 2:00 p.m.
Norma Hertzog Community Center
1845 Park Avenue, Costa Mesa
Admission:
Members: Free Member RSVP
Non-members: $15 Non-Member RSVP
https://costamesahistory.org/costa-mesa-historical-society-news/henry-ernie-nishii-president-historic-wintersburg-conservancy-on-japanese-american-history-in-orange-county-california/

Tsunagi Matsuri, a free, student-led Japanese American cultural festival, will be held on Sunday, March 8, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. in Isamu Noguchi Plaza, 244 S. San Pedro St. in Little Tokyo.
https://rafu.com/2026/02/nikkei-student-union-to-present-tsunagi-matsuri-in-little-tokyo/

Feb 28 Gardena Valley JCI Day of Remembrance.
2-4PM
This year's program, Then and Now: From WWII Incarceration to Today's ICE Raids— Justice Demands Our Voice, features excerpts from the film *Betrayed: Surviving an American Concentration Camp*. A panel discussion gives context to historical events and examines the parallels with today's ICE raids on immigrant communities.
1964 W 162nd St, Gardena, CA 90247

Alhambra Lunar New Year Festival
Celebrate the Annual Event on February 28, 2026
Main Street, Alhambra
MAIN STAGE ENTERTAINMENT
9:00 AM Northrup School Mandarin Dual Language Immersion Students
9:30 AM Opening Ceremony with Elected Officials
9:55 AM
Lion Dance and Money God
10:30 AM Dragon Dance Parade
10:55 AM
Dragon Dance at Main Stage
11:00 AM Asian Arts Talents Foundation Youth and Teens Performance
12:00 PM
Fried Music
12:30 PM
Silk Fan Dance

1:00 PM
Japanese Taiko Drums
1:30 PM AATF Vietnamese and Chinese Traditional Dance
2:00 PM
US Kung Fu Center
2:15 PM
Calligraphy Demonstration
2:45 PM
Jung Im Lee Korean Dance Academy
3:15 PM
Rock Band Camp Revolution ft. The Horsemen
3:45 PM AUSD Middle School Honor Band
4:30 PM
Closing Program
https://www.alhambralunarnewyear.com

Feb 28, March 1
Firecracker events are sold out, but you can still watch in LA Chinatown.

2026 Los Angeles Day of Remembrance
FREE, all invited.
Saturday, Feb 21, 2026
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM PST
Los Angeles Hompa Hongwanji Buddhist Temple
815 East First Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Tickets at
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-02-21/2026-los-angeles-day-remembrance

127th Annual Golden Dragon Parade
February 21, 2026
1-4 PM
ChinatownLos Angeles, CA (map)

Defining Courage
Feb 19, 2026 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Defining Courage honors the extraordinary story of Japanese American soldiers who fought bravely for their country during World War II
Tickets:
https://jaccc.org/events/defining-courage-2026/

Short Films Honoring the Day of Remembrance: Executive Order 9066
In person: Academy Museum Director and President Amy Homma, Academy Governor Chris Tashima, and filmmaker Reina Higashitani
Thu, Feb 19, 2026 | 7pm
Ted Mann Theater
Get tickets:
https://www.academymuseum.org/en/programs/detail/short-films-honoring-the-day-of-remembrance-executive-order-9066-019aeffd-0ae0-2880-c047-a353fb9b16ab

Art Exhibition
Package Craft: From Candy Box to Sculpture
November 22, 2025 - February 18, 2026
Mon-Fri: 12-6pm, Sat: 10am-3pm
Closed on Sundays, Nov. 27-29 and Dec. 25-Jan. 3
Opening Reception RSVP PREFERRED
Fri. November 21, 2025, 7-8:30pm
Artist Talk, Demonstration & Coffee with Japanese Sweets
At the Japan Foundation, Los Angeles
JFLA 5700 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 90036
Admission FREE
https://www.jflalc.org/event-details.php/315/package-craft-from-candy-box-to-sculpture

Tam Tran Goes To Washington at Sierra Madre Playhouse
Feb 21, 2026, 11AM-12”30PM
Sierra Madre Playhouse87 West Sierra Madre BoulevardSierra Madre, CA, 91024United States (map)
https://www.eastwestplayers.org/events/tam-tran-goes-to-washington-at-expo-park-library-t9ypj-nwh
The annual Los Angeles Day of Remembrance commemorates the signing of Executive Order 9066
FREE
Saturday, Feb 21, 2026
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM PST
Los Angeles Hompa Hongwanji Buddhist Temple
815 East First Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Tickets at
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-02-21/2026-los-angeles-day-remembrance

Lunar New Year Celebration at South Coast Botanic Garden

South Coast Botanic Garden is excited to host its Lunar New Year Celebration this February! With its winter blooms and lush green foliage, the Garden provides a stunning setting to celebrate the Year of the Horse with Chinese, Vietnamese and Korean traditions.
Three live performances featuring lion dancers, martial artists, folk dancers and drummers will take place each Saturday and Sunday at 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., and 3:00 p.m., available for a modest additional fee. See you there!
https://southcoastbotanicgarden.org/lunar-new-year-celebration-at-south-coast-botanic-garden/

2026 Community Lunar New Year Celebration
Feb 15 @ 12:30 PM - 5:00 PM
10858 Culver Blvd
Culver City, CA 90230, USA
Join us for a joyful Lunar New Year Community Celebration hosted by ICEA in partnership with the Wende Museum, bringing families together to celebrate Asian culture through performances, traditions, and community connection.
Hosted by
International Children Education Association
This special afternoon is designed for all ages and offers a vibrant mix of cultural activities and live performances in a welcoming, family-friendly setting.
Event Schedule
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM - Outdoor Activity

- 1:00 PM – Lion Dance
- 1:30 PM – Dragon Dance
- 2:00 PM – Magic Show
- 2:30 PM – Sichuan Face-Changing

3:00–5:00 PM – Stage Performances
https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/2026-community-lunar-new-year-celebration

Feb 15, 2026 Day of Remembrance: Stories of Incarceration Through Media and Art
12:30 PM
Screening of short film:
Misadventures of a Nisei Week Queen
Centenary United Methodist Church, 300 S. Central Ave, LA 90013

Feb 13-15 USVA Tet Festuval
Golden West College
4-10PM Friday
11AM-10PM Sat
11AM-9:30PM Sun

Tickets at
https://tetfestival.org/

Lunar New Year Celebration at South Coast Botanic Garden
Feb 7,8,14,15, 21, 22
Interactive Stations will be available in the Garden from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Dottie's at the Koi Pond will be serving a signature menu from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
An add-on show will take place inside our Hall on Saturdays and Sundays at 11 a.m., 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.
For addmission and show tickets, see website:
https://southcoastbotanicgarden.org/lunar-new-year-celebration-at-south-coast-botanic-garden/

San Gabriel River Park Lunar New Year
February 7, 10AM-1PM
https://www.instagram.com/p/DTdS3TnlPH7/

JANM Book Club: The Poet and the Silk Girl with Satsuki Ina and Adrian Tomine
$5 General, Free for Youth (under 18), JANM Members
Saturday, Feb 07, 2026
2:00 PM - 3:30 PM PST
Japanese American National Museum
Democracy Center
100 North Central Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Tickets at
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-02-07/janm-book-club-poet-and-silk-girl-satsuki-ina-and-adrian-tomine

Tết Lunar New Year Festival
February 7, 2026
1 - 6 p.m.
Centennial Park
https://www.santa-ana.org/tet-lunar-new-year-festival/

Monterey Park Lunar Festival
January 31- February 1, 2026, Downtown Monterey Park
The City of Monterey Park, event producer World Journal and all our food vendors, entertainers and merchants invite you to celebrate the arrival of the Year of the Horse in Monterey Park.Saturday, January 31, 2026, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.
Sunday, February 1, 2026, 10 a.m.-7 p.m
Free admission

Entertainment, food, family activities, and vendors
Downtown Monterey Park on Garvey Avenue between Garfield and Alhambra Avenues.
https://www.montereypark.ca.gov/669/Lunar-New-Year-Festival

Chino Lunar New Year
Celebrate the Year of the Horse! Join the City of Chino and the California Culture Festival for our first annual Lunar New Year Celebration—a vibrant two-day event filled with culture, community, and celebration. Experience dazzling live performances, savor delicious food from local vendors, and explore unique artisan booths offering one-of-a-kind finds. Best of all, admission is free—bring your family and friends and make it a weekend to remember!
Saturday, January 31, from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m
Sunday, February 1, from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Chino Civic Center, 13220 Central Avenue, Chino
https://www.cityofchino.org/1733/Lunar-New-Year

Lunar New Year Festival Concert 2026
January 31, 2026 7:00 PM
San Gabriel Mission Playhouse
https://www.sgsymphony.org/concerts/lunar-new-year-concert-2026

FRIDAY, JAN 23, 2026
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
Echoes of History: Inspiring Civic Action and Democracy Building
Japanese American National Museum
Democracy Center
100 North Central Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90012
Tickets
IN-PERSON

- $150 Individual
- $100 JANM Members
- $50 Students with ID

VIRTUAL

- $25 Live Stream

https://www.janm.org/events/2026-01-23/echoes-history-inspiring-civic-action-and-democracy-building

2026 Riverside Lunar Festival
Where: Mission Inn Avenue (Downtown Riverside), between Lime & Orange
Saturday, January 24: 11 AM – 8 PM
Sunday, January 25: 11 AM – 7 PM
Admission: FREE for everyone!

https://www.calfestival.com/riversidelunarfestival

21st Annual New Year Shikishi Exhibition
Jan 10, 2026 - Jan 24, 2026
George J. Doizaki Gallery
244 South San Pedro St., Lobby, Los Angeles, CA 90012
https://jaccc.org/events/21st-annual-new-year-shikishi-exhibition/

From Kyoto: Japan Craft 21 Online Presentation to Feature Masterworks of 25 Japanese Ceramics Superstars on Jan. 26 at 5PM, PT
North America West Coast: Monday, January 26, 5 pm
Registration: https://forms.gle/royZH8utXJZgEE3r6
[from Cultural News]

SATURDAY, JAN 17, 2026
Undercurrents: Tracing Shared Histories from Japan to California
PROGRAM TIME
January 17, 3 p.m.–6:30 p.m. PST
January 18, 8 a.m.–11:30 a.m. JST
FREE: Virtual Only, but registration required to receive Zoom link
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-01-17/undercurrents-tracing-shared-histories-japan-california

Asian American Expo Jan 17-18 10AM-7PM
Pomona Fairplex
https://www.asianamericanexpo.com/Visitors?section=About

Yuubi: Elegance & Grace of Nihon Buyo
Jan 18 1:30-5PM
Aratani Theatre, 244 S San Pedro St., LA
https://my.jaccc.org/fy26-rentals/260118-yuubi-elegance-and-grace-of-nihon-buyo

SUNDAY, JAN 11, 2026
11:00 AM - 4:30 PM
2026 Oshogatsu Family Festival—Year of the Horse
JACCC Plaza
244 San Pedro Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
https://www.janm.org/events/2026-01-11/2026-oshogatsu-family-festival-year-horse
9th Annual Cultural Ikebana Exhibition
George J. Doizaki Gallery

Jan. 10-11 | 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Experience the beauty and symbolism of Japanese flower arranging. An opening ceremony begins at 11:00 am.

21st Annual New Year Shikishi Exhibition
George J. Doizaki Gallery
Jan. 10-24 | Tues-Sun 12:00 pm – 4:00 pm
After an eight-year pause, the Shikishi Exhibition returns, bringing together artists of all ages to share their hopes for the year ahead.
[from Cultural News]

Lunar New Year
Sunday, January 11 · 10:00am – 6:00pm
Torrance will celebrate the Lunar New Year with a festival and show on Sunday, Jan. 11. This will be the second year the city will hold a festival to complement the South Bay Chinese American Association of California's Lunar New Year, which has been a tradition in the South Bay for 21 years.
Torrance Cultural Arts Center and is open to the public
The 22nd annual Chinese American Lunar New Year Show – "a spectacular performance blending music, dance and culture" – will run from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. and tickets cost $50 each. The show will take place inside the James R. Armstrong Theatre, 3330 Civic Center Drive, next to the Cultural Arts Center.
southbaychinese.org.

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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):

Watched the Japan Foundation webinar:
How Dragons and Bells Make Rain in Japan
Dragons don't really want to listen to bells; they just like them.

Previously:

I watched the UCLA Asia Pacific Center webinar:
Out of Sight, At Sea: Migrant Labor and the Hidden Worlds of Global Seafood
and learned a little bit about the questionable labor conditions under which our seafood is processed at sea. Staying away from fresh or frozen fish.

I made a trip to the Point Fermin Lighthouse and climbed up to the Korean Friendship Bell:
https://douglas-ikemi.smugmug.com/Point-Fermin-2026

I did make it to the Mercado La Paloma to see the pop up photo exhibit, Works of Light. Many of the photos brought back memories.

I also now have the photo galleries of the Huntington:
https://douglas-ikemi.smugmug.com/Huntington-Gardens

and Bowers:
https://douglas-ikemi.smugmug.com/Bowers-Mid-Autumn-Festival-

When I visited the Huntington Gardens 2 weeks ago I took the guided tour of the exhibit This Land Is learned that part of exhibit featured the story of the Kuromi Family flower farm. You can also watch a video at
https://www.huntington.org/watch-read-listen/videos-and-recorded-programs/los-feliz-flower-farm-kuromi-family-story
You can learn more about the other parts of the exhibit at
https://www.huntington.org/exhibitions/this-land-is

I went to the Mid-Autumn Festival at the Bowers Museum which was very well attended. Missed the dance performances due to scheduling but did watch the Chinese tea ceremony and sampled some tea as well as listiening to the youth orchestra perform on traditonal instruments.

At the JANM Democracy Center I attended the panel discussion:

Unearthing History: Japanese American Resilience in Southern California Gardens

Unfortunately due to the acoustics I was only able to follow about half of the presentations, but I did learn a few things about bonsai and the Storrier Stearns Garden and Lotusland.

I made it to the Long Beach Buddhist Church Obon.

This event is getting bigger every year and the variety of food and refreshment available has increased, as well as the entertainment.

I've been on vacation and I'll try to mention more of the places I visited in the future.

I would like to mention my visit to the Lordsburg-Hidalgo County Museum where they had exhibits on the Japanese and Japanese American prisoners held there at the DOJ camp, which later became a POW camp. They gave me directions on how to drive out to the locationof the camp, but you can't go too far since what is left is on private property. I did buy a book there:
Confinement in the Land of Enchantment
about confinement centers in New Mexico.

I was surprised to learn at the museum that there were still Japanese American farmers in New Mexico who were not confined and even employed POWs as laborers. More after I read the book.

I went to the Gardena Valley JCI for their Matsuri. Photos at:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/Gardena%20Valley%20JCI%202026/index.html

I made it to part of the festival at the Huntington Library. JANM had a table. There was also a big Ondo/Fandango community dance among many other entertainments.
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/Huntington%20June%202026/index.html

I finally made it to a performance of Tam Tran goes to Washington by the East West Players at the Bellflower Library. Poignant story with a minimalist stage.

After that I dashed over to Sun Valley, detouring around the big fire, to see the Obon festival. My photos at:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/SunValleyObon2026/index.html

I attended the lecture by sculptor Eugene Daub. Although he didn't discuss it in this presentation, he did create with Louis Thiele Quaintance works dedicated to the Japanese incarceration during World War II. Two similar sculptures are located in San Francisco, San Jose and Los Angeles. The latter is located at 1st Street and Judge John Aiso Street, 248 1st Street, Little Tokyo, Los Angeles, California, USA. Daub also created noted works depicting Civil Rights leaders.

https://www.publicartinpublicplaces.info/from-injustice-to-redress-2006-by-eugene-daub-and-louis-quaintance

https://eugenedaub.com/japan-town/#:~:text=A%20three%2Dpanel%20relief%2C%20triangular%20in,to%20the%20internment%20during%20WWII.

Also finished reading Lament in the Night by Shōson Nagahara, a collection of two novellas depicting the life of the Japanese Issei in the 1920s. Gives me some idea of the lives of my grandparents and what LA was like at the time. Available on Amazon.

Caught up with my reading. Did come across:

Learned about Dr. Mabel Ping-Hua Lee and her role in the women's suffrage fight.

https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/vote-not-all-women-gained-right-to-vote-in-1920/?utm_source=Iterable&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=campaign_18009116&utm_Newsletter=American_Experience

You can also look her up in Wikipedia.

And Meteorologist Tetsuya Theodore "Ted" Fujita, also on American Experience
https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/features/mr-tornado-remarkable-mind/?utm_source=Iterable&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=campaign_17931846&utm_Newsletter=American_Experience

Update, photos now available.
I've been on vacation for the last 2 weeks. Two notable stops were:

Bainbridge Island Japanese Exclustion Memorial. Photos at:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/Bainbridge%20Japanese%20Memorial%202026/index.html

Weaverville Joss House.
Hopefully, photos next newsletter as well as some descriptions.
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/Weaverville%20Joss%20House%202026/index.html

Also visited small Japanese gardens with descendants of the Hiroshima tree.
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/Dallas%20Japanese%20Garden%202026/index.html
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/Douglas%20County%20Discovery%20Garden%202026/index.html

Traveled to San Diego and among other things visited the Friendship Japanese Garden. Wow, it has really grown. My photos at:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/SanDiegoJapaneseGarden2026/index.html

Also visted the Mingei Museum:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/Mingei2026/index.html
In my opinion, it has become the Mingei Restaurant with an upstairs gallery.

Went out to the Whale of Day festival at Pt. Vicente. Not much of AP relevance, but the interpretive center does have a couple of photos from the days when Japanese Americans farmed on the Palos Verde Peninsula.

Not too far from there at White Point was a Japanese American resort at one time. Just finished reading Lament in the Night by Shoson Nagahara. Some of the scenes in the novella take place at the resort, called the White Point Hot Spring Hotel, but often referred to as Radium Springs. Built in 1917 by the Tagami brothers, it was destroyed by the 1933 earthquake.

I attended Bunka Sai in Torrance on Saturday. My photos at:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/BunkaSai2026/index.html
Very big and plenty of good entertainment.

On Sunday I visited the LA Times Festival of Books:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/FestivalofBooks2026/index.html
Very crowded. Saw a panel at the new Podcast Stage. Got to talk to author Naomi Hirahara about her two newest books, Evergreen and Crown City. I'll have to look into them since they take place on turf I know.

Crossed the street to check out Earth Day at the Natural History Museum:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/EarthDay2026/index.html

I attended both days of the ever growing Monterey Park Cherry Blossom Festival. My photos at:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/MPKCherryBlossomSat2026/index.html
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/MPKCherryBlossomSun2026/index.html

I drove out on Saturday to the OC Japan Fair. Amazing how it has grown. This time allowed for how most of the entertainment is in the evening. My photos at:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/OCJapanFair2026/index.html

I made it to the ever expanding Torrance Cherry Blossom Festival. This year I was smarter and brought a folding chair. My photos at:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/TorranceCherryBlossom2026/index.html

I was going to participate in the local Westchester No Kings demonstration, but I dumped my motorcycle on the way back from the Native Plant Festival in Claremont. I should have just one to the demonstration that I saw in Claremont. It looked like a pretty big one. No serious harm to me, or so I think. Might as well post photos of the Native Plant Festival.
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/NativePlantFestival2026/index.html

Went to the San Gabriel Lantern Festival. My photos at:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/SGLantern2026/index.html

I also went to the Studio Ghibli Ponyo exhibit at the Academy of Motion pictures:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/Academy2026/index.html

I did make it out to Tsunagi Matsuri at the JACCC courtyard. I got there late, but caught the tail end of the cosplay contest and a musical performance. It was very well attended.

I managed to finish the Firecracker 5K virtual walk and the 20 mile bike ride virtual ride. Down from the 10K and 50 mile last year. All for charity.

I made it to the very hot Saturday morning performances at the Alhambra Lunar New Year Festival. Looked like they had an interesting program but I was melting and I wanted to also go to the Gardena Valley JCI DOR. My Alhambra photos are at:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/AlhambraLunar2026/index.html

I did make it to the Gardena Day of Remembrance program which consisted of a film showing and a panel discussion, both of which were very good.

Saturday I attended the Golden Dragon Parade in LA Chinatown. My photos at:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/GoldenDragon2026/index.html

Sunday I went to the Huntington Gardens for their Lunar New Year. Could only get at 1PM. I had booked tickets 2 hours after they became available, and that's the best time I could get. Once again, I missed the Peking opera, but I did see the Korean dance performance.
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/HuntingtonLunar2026/index.html

I went to the South Coast Botanical Garden Lunar New Year Festival. I missed the performances which were sold out and I was too late for the pop up Palos Verdes High School, so my coverage was limited. Photos at:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/SCBGLunar2026/index.html

I also drove to the UVSA Tet Festival at Golden West College:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/Tet2026/index.html

I went to and enjoyed the San Gabriel River Park Lunar New Year Festival. It eventually attracted quite a crowd for the small venue. My photos at
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/SGRiverParkLunar2026/index.html

From there I dashed to the JANM Democracy Center to the see
JANM Book Club: The Poet and the Silk Girl with Satsuki Ina (mom) and Adrian Tomine (son). I was impressed enough to buy the eBook version.

I honored the national ICE Out strike on Friday and Saturday, but on Sunday I made it out to the Bowers Museum Lunar Festival. My photos at:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/BowersLunar2026/index.html
This festival was packed so I didn't catch all of it and I took a break inside the museum to see Global Threads. Originally I wasn't planning on seeing this one, but it turned out to be very worthwhile and I learned a lot. Highly recommended.
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/GlobalThreads2026/index.html
for information about the exhibit itself:
https://www.bowers.org/index.php/exhibitions/current-exhibitions/global-threads-india%E2%80%99s-textile-revolution

and then dashed over to the first time ever Chino Lunar Festival for a few hours
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/ChinoLunar2026/index.html
This festival was organized by the same people who put on the Riverside and Rancho Cucamonga festivals.

Made it out to the Riverside Lunar New Year Festival. My photos at
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/RiversideLunar2026/index.html
Included are photos of the historical Harada House which is undergoing retoration. For more info see the Wikipedia entry at
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harada_House
Also photos of the Martin Luther King statue and memorial.

Also went to the Boyle Heights talk by Prof. George Sanchez at the Homestead Museum. Learned that Boyle Heights had a very diverse population at one time, including a lot of Japanees. You can read more in Sanchez's book:
Boyle Heights: How a Los Angeles Neighborhood Became the Future of American Democracy (American Crossroads) (Volume 59) 2021

Made it to the revived Shikishi exhibit at the JACCC on its last day. Kind of restrained compared to past exhibits, but I like some of the presentations and at least it is back.

Feeling cheap so I skipped the big ticket events and went to a couple of free ones that were new to me:

On Saturday I went to the Rancho Cucamonga Lunar New Year Festival. Nice event. My photos at:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/RCLunar2026/index.html

and then on Sunday I went to the LA Central Library where they had a small belated Japanese New Year evet:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/LALibrary2026/index.html

Also gave myself a little tour of the library.

I made it to the belated JANM shogatsu celebration at the JACCC courtyard. A much welcomed collaboration made for a better venue and experience. Instead of the rain on the real Jan 1, we had a beautiful sunny day. Also took in the ikebana display; very convenient. My photos at:
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/Shogatsu2026/index.html

I cut it short so I could zoom down to Torrance for their Lunar New Year Festival, in this case very early. I caught the tail end but did get to see and hear (in spite of a generator running very loudly) the youth orchestra. In a future without scheduling conflicts, I would like to experience more of it.
http://ikemi.info/Graphics2026/TorranceLunar2026/index.html

Happy New Year!

I used the rain as an excuse to catch up with my reading.

Watched the webinar:
From Past Prejudice to Present Policy: The Impact of Land Ownership Exclusion Laws on Diverse
Communities presented by the Committee of 100
Watch the webinar replay and sign up for January events

Recording for The Impact of Land
Ownership Exclusion Laws on
Diverse Communities webinar is now
available.

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Resources:
LACMA calendar: http://www.lacma.org/events/Calendar.aspx
UCLA Asia Institute calendar:
http://www.international.ucla.edu/asia/events/index.asp?
action=monthview
Japanese American National Museum
http://www.janm.org/events/
CAMLA
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, Daily Breeze and other sources:
Supreme Court may strike down school policies that limit Asian students

Judge dismisses Trump administration lawsuit against Harvard over demand for admissions data
By Michael Casey
and Jaweed Kaleem
Nov. 3, 2026 Updated 2:07 PM PT
https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2026-11-03/federal-judge-dismisses-lawsuit-against-harvard-over-federal-demand-for-admissions-data

A new president takes charge at Caltech as uncertainties linger over JPL, Trump and AI
By Jaweed Kaleem
Staff Writer Follow
Oct. 29, 2026 Updated 1:38 PM PT
https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2026-10-29/caltech-president-ray-jayawardhana-trump-nasa-jpl-ai

99 Ranch Market to close two California locations
y Ella Chakarian
Staff Writer Follow
Oct. 30, 2026 1:47 PM PT
https://www.latimes.com/business/story/2026-10-30/99-ranch-market-to-close-two-california-locations

Meet California's first Latino governor. No, not Xavier Becerra
By Patt Morrison
Columnist Follow
Nov. 4, 2026 3:03 AM PT
https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2026-11-04/meet-californias-first-latino-governor-no-not-xavier-becerra

Langqiao Helps to Bridge a Community in Vermont
By Bai Shuhao
Oct. 31, 2026 6:07 PM PT
https://www.latimes.com/specialsupplements/china-watch/story/vermont-traditional-chinese-bridge-langqiao

Making China Their Second Home
By Chen Nan
Oct. 31, 2026 6:07 PM PT
https://www.latimes.com/specialsupplements/china-watch/story/us-musicians-tianjin-juilliard-cultural-exchange
Rowing to the Same Beat, a World Away

https://www.latimes.com/specialsupplements/china-watch/story/boston-hangzhou-sister-city-cultural-exchange

Bonding on Both Sides of the Ball
By Sun Xiaochen
Oct. 31, 2026 6:06 PM PT
https://www.latimes.com/specialsupplements/china-watch/story/us-china-youth-basketball-hoops-beyond-beijing

Once globally preeminent, US universities are sliding into decline
That falloff in confidence began before the current political attacks and is largely because of people's skepticism about what they're getting for their money, Pew's and other surveys show.
By Stacker
PUBLISHED: October 29, 2026 at 5:00 AM PDT | UPDATED: October 29, 2026 at 8:00 AM PDT
https://www.dailybreeze.com/2026/10/29/us-universities-decline/

Marigolds anchor Día de los Muertos altars, believed to guide spirits home
In Mexico, the flowers are known as cempasúchil, which translates from the Aztec language Nahuatl as "flower of 20 petals." They are often called African marigolds despite being native to Mexico.
By ASSOCIATED PRESS
PUBLISHED: October 29, 2026 at 7:40 AM PDT
https://www.dailybreeze.com/2026/10/29/marigolds-dia-de-los-muertos/

Takei Mourns the Passing of His 'Star Trek' Co-star
11/01/2026
https://rafu.com/2026/11/takei-mourns-the-passing-of-his-star-trek-co-star/

GLA JACL and Faith UMC at 'No Kings' Rally
10/31/2026
https://rafu.com/2026/10/gla-jacl-and-faith-umc-at-no-kings-rally/

JACL Statement on Raid of Rep. Omar's Home
10/31/2026
https://rafu.com/2026/10/jacl-statement-on-raid-of-rep-omars-home/

Staged Reading of Korematsu Play at JANM
10/31/2026
https://rafu.com/2026/10/staged-reading-of-korematsu-play-at-janm/

Real-Life Mother and Daughter Lead Shaw's 'Mrs. Warren's Profession' at Pacific Resident Theatre
10/29/2026
https://rafu.com/2026/10/real-life-mother-and-daughter-lead-shaws-mrs-warrens-profession-at-pacific-resident-theatre/

TRADITION 2026 | LA's 33 Strings Announces 2nd Annual Concert & Fundraiser to Support Japanese Cultural Preservation and Community Outreach at Pasadena Unitarian Church | Saturday, November 21, 5:30PM-8:00PM
November 2, 2026
https://www.culturalnews.com/?p=51774

ENGLISH RAKUGO 2026 | Not Lost in Translation | In Little Tokyo, Zenshuji Soto Mission Presents English Rakugo by Eiriku on Sunday, November 15, 1PM – 2:30PM | Free Admission
Nov 4, 2026
https://www.culturalnews.com/?p=51893