

INAUGURAL

MINORU YASUI DAY MARCH FOR JUSTICE

On February 25, 2016, in an intensely bi-partisan year in the legislature, the **Minoru Yasui Day Bill** passed unanimously, making every March 28 Minoru Yasui Day in the State of Oregon. March 28 is the day that Minoru "Min" Yasui deliberately violated the racially discriminatory military curfew that eventually led to the forced removal of all persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast during WWII, the majority of whom were U.S. citizens. His deliberate intention was to initiate a case to test the constitutionality of the curfew imposed upon Americans.

In honor of the Inaugural Minoru Yasui Day, Oregon Nikkei Endowment organized the **Minoru Yasui Day March for Justice**. An estimated 350-400 people, ages 7 to 103, retraced the steps Min made from his law office located in what was once the heart of Portland's Japantown to the Portland downtown police headquarters where he was arrested and jailed. Marching in the ranks were Portland's Mayor Charlie Hales, Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum, Min's daughter Holly Yasui, and the legislators who were instrumental in the bill's passage, State Representatives Brian Clem and Mark Johnson and Senator Chuck Thomsen.

People traveled from as far away as Hood River to participate and carried placards with Min's photos and quotes. A special historical reenactment by Heath Hyun Houghton and



OREGON NIKKEI ENDOWMENT

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Photographs Courtesy of Curtis Suyematsu, Reflections Photography

Participants, including Mayor Charlie Hales, Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum, State Representative Mark Johnson and Min's daughter Holly Yasui, celebrate the first Minoru Yasui Day as they march through the streets of downtown Portland.

Garland Lyons opened the program that took place in the foyer of the former police headquarters. A reception followed in the law offices of Stoll Berne. Special thanks to Barry and Jordan Menashe (owners of the building), Stoll Berne for graciously opening their offices for the reception, Curtis Suyematsu/Reflections Photography for capturing the historic event, Homer and Miki Yasui for hosting the reception, and to Sharon Ogata and her team for the amazingly delicious food that was enjoyed by all.



George and Keiko Nakata with grandson Will Mayer.



IF YOU
BUILD IT,
THEY WILL
COME...
EASE
THE PAIN...
GO THE DISTANCE...

Sentiments from the voice in the 1989 film, *Field of Dreams* starring Kevin Costner, a baseball fantasy about an Iowa corn farmer who, after hearing voices builds a baseball diamond on his land that lures old players from the magical cornfields.

This came to mind as over 150 volunteers joined together on May 28 for Field in a Day, that reconstructed the baseball elements of Center Field at the Minidoka National Historic Site in Idaho. The backstop, bleachers, player's benches, scoreboard, field and interpretive elements were built as they looked in historic photographs, in one day of hard labor and often backbreaking work. This, so that the field which was so much more than a sports field, could help interpret life in the camp

during WWII for those that come to visit the site.

This project was in partnership with the National Parks Service and Friends of Minidoka. Important collaborations like these are taking place throughout the country. Elements of the camps are either located and brought back to the historical sites, or restored or reconstructed as interpretive features to help tell the story of what was once there. They are built so those that come will see and feel the imposing threat of the guard towers, the brutal exposure of barracks and small living quarters to the elements of mother nature, or see the lack of regard for implementing the simplest of dignity saving measures for the functions of daily life.

To support these endeavors, the All Camps Consortium was formed and leadership from national Japanese American stakeholder organizations including Oregon Nikkei Endowment and all 10 War Relocation Authority confinement sites convened in Washington, D.C., from May 12-14. Dialogue ensued to establish a successful and sustainable network and to support the mission to build stake holder organizations' capacity to individually

and collectively preserve, protect, and interpret historic sites, artifacts, and experiences *and* elevate the social justice lessons of the Japanese American WWII experience to highlight ways that civil and human rights abuses put at risk the rights of all Americans. *Build so people will come, ease the pain* of those that suffered injustices from those abuses in the past and *go the distance* to prevent others from being subjected to those abuses now and in the future.

In that vein, Oregon Nikkei Endowment continues to grow, expand and build on our foundation so a broader audience will come to experience and learn from our exhibits, programs and events. Our lease at our present location expires in 3 years but perhaps more important, we need at least double the amount of space to meet our needs. We will be launching a capital campaign, so if you believe in our mission and the work we do, we need your support to ensure the future of the organization and to build a larger Legacy Center. We need you to go the distance with us to ensure the lessons of the past mistakes are not forgotten and never repeated.

—Lynn Fuchigami Longfellow



IN APPRECIATION OF LYNN GRANNAN



Dear Friends,

Amidst all the projects, and the hustle-bustle of exhibits going up and coming down, and treasures being archived, I would like to take a moment to recognize Lynn Grannan who recently retired herself from the Board of Directors. Lynn is a long-time, nearly original board member who has graciously served as the board secretary for many years. She has worked tirelessly on so many projects and her positive "gambatte" attitude has been a source of strength for the

organization. Although she is stepping away from

the board for more chances to smell the roses, she has promised me that she will still come by to volunteer on projects. So if you see Lynn Grannan please thank her for all she has done for O.N.E. and remind her that Connie appreciates her and has a seat waiting for her on the board if she gets tired of smelling the roses.

—Connie Masuoka, President, O.N.E.



Over the past year, Oregon Nikkei Endowment has been honored to feature groundbreaking exhibitions touring across our country. The changing gallery at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center most recently hosted ***Uprooted: Japanese American Farm Labor Camps during World War II***. This nationally acclaimed traveling exhibit by the Oregon Cultural Heritage Commission uncovers the rarely told story of some 33,000 Nikkei who left concentration camps to work as seasonal farm laborers.

Featuring a selection of images from federal photographer Russell Lee's documentation of camps in Oregon and Idaho, this community-based exhibit brings



Loud radio program. Morgen Young, consulting historian and project director of *Uprooted*, also presented a lecture on the exhibit to an overflowing crowd at the Epworth United Methodist Church

Above: Oregon Heritage Cultural Commission welcomed *Friends of O.N.E.* to the *Uprooted* preview and special receptions.

Below: Nisei panelists shared memories about "The Camp Without a Fence" at Epworth United Methodist Church.



Photograph Courtesy of Rich Iwasaki

to light new research and shares firsthand accounts from farm laborers themselves. During its display from February 11 to June 19, 2016, *Uprooted* was viewed by hundreds of visitors, including dozens of school groups, before it headed to the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles.

During its run, the exhibit was prominently featured on Oregon Public Broadcasting's *Think Out*

in Portland. Joining Morgen were special guests who spoke about their experience of being incarcerated at what became known as "The Camp Without a Fence," the first farm labor camp located outside of Nyssa, OR.

As we continue to bring first-class exhibits and programs to our museum, we're pleased to announce the opening of ***Unsettled/Resettled: Seattle's Hunt Hotel***. On view between July 7

to September 25, this traveling exhibit from the Japanese Cultural & Community Center of Washington addresses a lost chapter of Pacific Northwest history. *Unsettled/Resettled* recalls a time when thousands of Nikkei returned homeless and jobless to their former communities in the Seattle area immediately after World War II.

Interviews, archival footage, photographs, and artwork recount the resettlement experience of the families and individuals who found lodging at the Seattle Japanese Language School from 1945 until 1959, when it operated as a temporary hostel. *Unsettled/Resettled* is the result of years of in-depth research, knocking on doors, following leads, and reaching out to community members located far and wide. Stay tuned for some exciting programs around this inspiring exhibit which will take place throughout the summer.

—Todd Mayberry



As the school year draws to a close, I would like to highlight the work of students and teachers in the Northwest and the ways in which the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center and the volunteer guides and speakers support them. I begin with account from Kirsten Parrott, teacher, Beaumont Middle School.

On Thursday, May 26, my 8th graders presented projects centered around the oral history of a Japanese American's experience during World War II. These projects, spotlighted at the Expo Center, began with our field trip to the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center. From that trip, students wanted to know more, and we used the Densho Project's online archive for them to listen to interviews and find primary sources related to their person's experience. I have never seen students so curious, self-motivated, and intrigued by history! Their research led to amazing writing of each student's person, along with insightful reflections.

Second grade students at Buckman Elementary School became History Detectives as they tried to answer the question, "What happened to old Japan Town in Portland?" In the unit developed by Buckman teacher Jamie Brown, the students examined photographs and maps from the Legacy Center's Museum in a Suitcase. Guides led the classes through the museum and the Japanese American Historic Plaza. Chisao Hata, Arts Integration Director at Buckman, worked

with teachers and students using the experiences of her family to make the history come to life. Taiko drummers from Unit Souzaou taught students basic drumming. In the culminating performance, *Gambatte...Be Strong*, created by Ms. Hata, students used dance, song, drumming, and drama to tell a story of immigration, community, forced removal, and enduring strength.

Sarah Whitcher, middle school teacher from Southwest Charter School wanted a student project that could support the goals of our museum and help her students connect events of World War II to the local community. A model of the Portland Assembly Center was proposed. The stu-

Amy Wright brought her Jefferson High School students to the Legacy Center and Historic Plaza as part of their unit on WWII Japanese American incarceration. In a final assignment, her students were to write a piece of historically accurate fiction set during the time. In class students learned about events and people of the period. When students arrived at the museum for more research, they received a short introduction, and then moved about the exhibit collecting information and details for their writing. Ms. Wright said, "They really take this history to heart and write beautifully. We ended the year with the idea—How do we prevent this from ever happening again?"



Beaumont Middle School student event at the Portland Expo Center.

dents visited the Legacy Center, the Japanese American Historic Plaza, and walked through old Japan Town. They visited the Portland Expo Center, site of the former Portland Assembly Center. They used the O.N.E. interviews in the Densho Visual History Collection to learn about the people who had been detained there. Students presented their 3D model, their research and answered questions in April. The model was on view at the center for two weeks.

The Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center and Japanese American Historic Plaza are excellent resources for teachers and students. I continue to be impressed by the volunteer guides and speakers who work with teachers and make sure that all students have a meaningful experience.

—Cynthia Basye





Photographs Courtesy of Rich Iwasaki



4th Annual Cherry Blossom Bazaar Another Great Success!

• • •

Once again, people lined up for the doors to open at our annual rummage sale of Japanese collectibles, held April 9 and 10. Despite the number of items snatched up at the Friday night preview fundraiser, there were still plenty of treasures to be found.

Items ranged from lacquerware, dishware, and artwork to kimono, yukata, dolls and ikebana supplies. There was something for every age, taste, and budget!

Special thanks to John Beardsley and Fountain Village Development for donating the wonderful space for the event and for the tremendous leadership of the Committee Co-Chairs, Jere Okada, Marilyn Sholian and Cherie Yokota. Thanks to their efforts, the dedicated volunteers, and the generosity of the donors, the event was the most successful to date, grossing close to \$9,000.

Inspiring Action and Igniting Justice

Inspired by the life and legacy of Minoru Yasui, Oregon Nikkei Endowment presented the **Inspiring Action and Igniting Justice Symposium** on April 23, 2016, at the World Trade Center Portland. Senator Ron Wyden participated with remarks for the opening session followed by a day-long symposium featuring presentations and breakout sessions on Cross Cultural Activism, Law and Social Change, and Education: Roots to Results. Lunch included a keynote address by Karen Narasaki, who serves on the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights. The symposium closed with Holly Yasui, Min's daughter, presenting the screening of documentary-in-works on her father called *Never Give Up*.

The goal of the event was to inspire action, ignite justice, and empower the participants with the idea that one person can and does make a difference to make their world a better place. In addition, the symposium received accreditation so attendees could receive CLE (Continuing Law Education) access to justice credits.

The symposium was made possible through tremendous support from the following sponsors: Portland JACL (Sustaining Sponsor), Markowitz Herbold (Supporting Sponsor), Japanese Ancestral Society of Portland (Contributing Sponsor), Kodachi Law, Oregon State Bar Diversity, and Inclusion Department and Innovative Housing, Inc./Lyndon Musolf Manor (Community Sponsor). Our deep appreciation is extended to session organizers June Schumann, Duncan Hwang, Cynthia Basye, Sarah Segal, and



Photographs Courtesy of Rich Iwasaki

Holly Yasui and Senator Ron Wyden welcoming participants to the symposium.

Chris Ling as well as the following distinguished panelists:

Chisao Hata
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The Honorable Adrienne Nelson
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In addition to our sponsors, organizers and panelists, we wish to express special thanks to Portland General Electric and World Trade Center Portland, Iwasaki Bros., and to the many volunteers that helped throughout the day.



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Oregon Nikkei Endowment is pleased to announce that we're hard at work on our next community-based exhibition, **Captain Hardy and the Black Ship Scroll**. Scheduled to open this fall at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, this innovative exhibit will feature a true treasure of our permanent collection, and reveal the intriguing story behind the person who once owned it.

Thanks to funding by the Oregon Heritage Commission, this future exhibit will display one of a handful of existing water-color scrolls which depict the first Perry Expedition to Japan in 1853. But first, before we share our Black Ship Scroll, there is more work behind-the-scenes to care for it and uncover the story it can tell.

On June 6, Exhibit Committee members were able to learn more about this priceless and irreplaceable artifact from paper conservator Elizabeth Chambers and art historian researcher Lynn Katsumoto. As our investigation continues, the committee's next step is to attempt to solve the mystery behind the former owner of the scroll, Portland's own Captain William H. Hardy.

Although celebrated at the time in both the United States and Japan, was Hardy really the last surviving member of Commodore Perry's expeditions? Come find out the answer to this question and more when the exhibit opens on October 15.

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BREAKING THE SILENCE

Stories of Courage from Our Elders

On May 3, Oregon Nikkei Endowment, in partnership with Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education, presented "Breaking the Silence—Stories of Courage from our Elders." The Pacific Northwest College of Art hosted this event on their campus. The organizations had two goals for the event: to focus on the role that storytelling plays in the healing process after trauma and to build understanding of Holocaust history and the history of Japanese American incarceration during World War II.

The organizations were privileged to have four panelists who shared their experiences of World War II and also talked about their lives after the war and the lessons we can learn from them.

Eva Aigner is a survivor of the Budapest Ghetto in Hungary. Her extended family did not survive the Holocaust. **Leslie Aigner** and his mother and sister lived in the Budapest Ghetto and were taken to Auschwitz. Leslie's mother and sister did not survive the camp. Leslie was in Dachau when it was liberated by American troops in April 1945. Eva and Leslie married before emigrating to the United States. **Taka Mizote** grew up in Hillsboro, Oregon on her family's farm. Her father volunteered the family to work

in farm labor camps in eastern Oregon during the war. Taka's husband, Jim, was a member of 442nd Regimental Combat Team, some of whom helped to liberate sub-units of the Dachau camp. **George Nakata** grew up in Portland where his family ran a hotel. During the war, George and his family were removed to the Portland Assembly Center and later sent to the Minidoka concentration camp in southern Idaho. After the war, he returned to Portland with his family. Each of these individuals continues to share their experiences with the Oregon community.

Linda Tamura was moderator for the panel. Linda is the author of *Nisei Soldiers Break Their Silence: Coming Home to Hood River* and *The Hood River Issei: An Oral History of Japanese Settlers in Oregon's Hood River Valley*.

Special guests, Donna Okimoto, Cheryl Russell, and Debbie White-

cotton were introduced near the end of the panel discussion. Their father, Harold Okimoto, had been a member of the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion. The daughters shared their father's memorabilia from the war including his journal noting the liberation of a Dachau sub-unit.

During the planning of the program, Sandra Oberdorfer, then Program and Education Manager for OJMCHE, shared the Hebrew phrase "Tikkun Olam."

Moderator Linda Tamura is joined by "Breaking the Silence" panelists.

She said the phrase means "world repair" and it has come to stand for a person's responsibility to repair the world through social action. In closing, Linda Tamura talked about "Tikkun Olam," and "gaman" (perseverance) and the connections between communities during the war. The event was attended by over one hundred people and many had questions and words of thanks for the panelists.

The Oregon Nikkei Endowment and Oregon Jewish Museum and Center for Holocaust Education are planning partnered events for the coming year that will continue to focus on the strength and courage represented by "Tikkun Olam" and the perseverance represented by "gaman."



Photograph Courtesy of Rich Iwasaki



NISEI SOLDIERS INSPIRE FUTURE GENERATIONS

On May 12, 2016 the National Veterans Network, Smithsonian's National Museum of American History, and the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center launched "The Nisei Soldier Congressional Gold Medal" digital online exhibition that centers on the outstanding military service of Nisei soldiers during World War II, including those who served in combat, in supporting roles, and as part of the Japan Occupation. The exhibition shares the life stories of 12 soldiers, and can be viewed at cgm.smithsonianapa.org and americanhistory.si.edu.

A Portland veteran, the late George Hara, is one of the featured 12 soldiers. Fourteen mem-

bers of the Hara family traveled back to Washington DC to participate in the launch and related festivities that included a reception at Ambassador Kenichiro Sasae's residence. "Our father was a proud Nisei... for those of us who follow, the loads on our backs are lighter because he challenged discriminatory limits. His legacy is a grateful, nurturing family guided by his successes, compassion, generosity and love of life."

In addition, a video about the Nisei Soldiers and introduction to the exhibition have now been added to the Nisei Soldier Con-



Members of the Hara family on their way to the reception at Ambassador Sasae's residence.

gressional Gold Medal display in the Price of Freedom: Americans at War exhibition in the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History in Washington DC, providing exposure to millions of visitors each year.

MEMORIAL & TRIBUTE GIFTS

NOVEMBER 1, 2015
TO JUNE 15, 2016

In memory of Lily Kajiwaro

Alice Ando
Chizuko Chambers
Ben & Darlene Demise
Sho & Loen Dozono
Ray & Yasuko Fields
Becki Fujii
Ed & Aya Fujii
Betty Jean Harry
Haruko Hiromura
Jayne & Shinya Ichikawa
Kurtis Inouye
Ken & Katie Kawazoe
Alice A. Kida
Ami Kinoshita
Michiko Kornhauser
Connie Masuoka
Nobuko Masuoka
Hiroshi & Janie Matsushima
Misao Minagi
Sumi Murakami
Debra Oyamada
Shiuko Sakai
Hiroko Stacey
Julia Stevens
Don Davis & Diane Takeuchi
Misano, Sue & Peggy Takeuchi
Frank & Alice Tanaka
Jean Tateishi
Lewis & Jean Tomita
Tatsu & Ruth Watanabe

In memory of Harue "Mae" Ninomiya

Charles & Kinuko Akiyama
Bill Durig
Ray & Yasuko Fields
Ed & Aya Fujii
Frank & Janet Fujitani
Mary Anne Grams
Lynn & Scott Grannan
Marcia Hara
Betty Jean Harry
Nelson Hiraoka
Mae & Jeffrey Hirata

Sumi Ikeda
Kurtis Inouye
Michael & Janice Ishii
Shoun & Grace Ishikawa
Valerie & Carl Itamura
Wesley Itamura & Dolly Nguyen
Art Iwasaki
Ronald & Linda Iwasaki
Hisa Iwata
Dana Kakishita
George & Amy Kanegae
Doug & Valerie Katagiri
Yoichi Kitayama
William & Nami Kolda
Mary Komachi
Michiko Kornhauser
Edna Koyama
Penny Lee
Jean Matsumoto
Hiroshi & Janie Matsushima
Misao Minagi
Taka Mizote
June Moriyasu
Samuel Naito
Verne & Aki Naito
Joanne Nehler
Ricki Ninomiya
Lillian Okazaki
Douglas Onchi
Joe Onchi
Debra Oyamada
Carrie Saito
Karen & Rick Saito
Linda Saito, Nozaki Family
June Schumann
Marilyn Sholian
Nancy Soga
William Stack & Becky Shoemaker
Linda Tamura & Michael J. Lee
Jean Tateishi
Henry & Atami Ueno
Barbara Uyesugi
Alice Watanabe
Tatsu & Ruth Watanabe
James W. Wilson, Jr.
& Lucy (Hartman) Wilson
Nancy Wissbaum
Marleen Yann
Homer & Miki Yasui
Linda Zeuthen

In memory of Mary Iwasaki

Nina & Yick Chinn
Ed & Aya Fujii
Frank, Janet & Jennifer Fujitani
Lynn & Scott Grannan
Betty Jean Harry
Art Iwasaki
Jana Iwasaki
John Iwasaki
Marcia Iwasaki
Ronald & Linda Iwasaki
Timothy Wilson & Christi Iwasaki
Doug & Valerie Katagiri
Michiko Kornhauser
Sylvia Lee
Lynn Longfellow
Kim Stone & Robert Maeda
Don & Kiyo Maekawa
Kiyono Maekawa
Sanaye Maekawa
Misao Minagi
Taka Mizote
Sumi Murakami
Samuel Naito
OHSU Gabriel Park
Carrie Saito
Nancy Soga
Rose Sorensen
Frank & Alice Tanaka
Jean Tateishi
Tatsu & Ruth Watanabe
Kent & Carol Wong

In memory of Florence & Yoshio Teshima

Kimberlee Bratcher Lafferty
Todd Bratcher

In memory of Haru Furukawa

Cyndi Furukawa, Furukawa Family
Ronald & Linda Iwasaki
Linda Soga
Jean Tateishi
Tatsu & Ruth Watanabe

In memory of Frances Soejima

Dan Hinatsu
Lilly Irinaga
Jean Matsumoto

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Betty Jean Harry
Ron Ikata & Patricia Iboshi
Sue Nakamura

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Hisa Iwata
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In memory of Margie Ogawa

Susan Boulot
JoAnn Ogawa Kruger

In memory of Fumi & George Shinoda

Anne Shinoda-Mettler

In memory of Robert T. Iwata, M.D.

Yoko Iwata

In memory of Ben T. Ishida

Sumie Ishida

In memory of Benny Tano

Ronald & Linda Iwasaki

In memory of Mitsuko Hasuike

Betty Young & the Family of
Mitsuko Hasuike

In memory of George Kajiwaro

Hiroshi & Janie Matsushima

In memory of Ned Takasumi

Yone Hara

In memory of Kaz Oda

Mike Iseri

In memory of Bob Hayman

Nancy Ewert

In memory of Dr. Jim Tsujimura

Yoichi Kitayama

In memory of Richard Iwata

James Mita

In memory of George & Tomiko Iwasaki

Marcia Iwasaki

In memory of Harry & Kazuko Morioka

Eric Ballinger

In memory of Hermann Bretsch

Katie Bretsch

In memory of John & Esther Doi

Joi Doi

In memory of Kazuko Hara

Debra & Randy Giltz

In memory of Teddy Sato

Mary Komachi

In memory of Mineo Inuzuka

James Mita

In honor of the 25th Anniversary of the Japanese American Historical Plaza

Jocelyn White & Lynn Nakamoto
Joe & Toby Onchi

In honor of Hank Mishima

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In honor of Henry Sakamoto

Ellie Gilbert

In honor of Robin Yasui & Ray Estacio

Sonia Sheck

In honor of Martha & Yoji Matsushima

Michelle Davis





Russell (left) and his host at one of the 442nd/100th memorials.

RUSSELL YAMADA

You are one of the newest volunteer speakers at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center. What inspired you to become involved?

After I retired, I was looking for a way to contrib-

ute, to combine my skills and interests toward some purpose that would help society. I think the message of the O.N.E. advocating for social justice and human rights is important. The rhetoric that we hear today in politics can be frightening to students. We can present a positive message in schools.

Can you tell us a little bit about yourself? *I grew up in Newberg, graduated from Newberg HS, and then went to Oregon State University. My wife Sylvia and I live in Corvallis. We have two children and two grandchildren. I recently retired from the dentistry after 42 years.*

You have spoken various groups. How do you prepare for these different audiences? *The Deepwood Museum in Salem was more interested in local history. I did some research on the early Nikkei homesteaders in the area.*

I had lunch with my aunt and uncle at Ikoinkai one day. As we were talking with people, I learned about families that had lived in the Salem area and came back after the war. There were only five families that came back—not very many.

I spoke to the Unitarian Church in Salem as part of their commemoration of the Day of Remembrance. We had a social justice perspective and I talked about civil rights and the loss of civil rights for Japanese Americans.

For the school groups, I work with the teachers and follow their parameters. One middle school group had read Farewell to Manzanar, so I reread the book. When a teacher sends questions from students, I try to address them. I explain to students how the experiences of Japanese Americans during the war were a “perfect storm.” They were caught between the war and the effects of Pearl Harbor and the onslaught of racism that had built over many years.

With each speaking invitation, I share some of my family’s experiences. My mother’s family was in the labor camp at Nyssa. My fa-

ther and four uncles served in the U.S. Army during the war. Each time I speak I do more research. I learn more about the history and my family’s experience.

Can you tell us about your recent trip to Europe? *When I was young we visited my grandfather’s grave in Emmett, ID. Across from his grave were graves from two young Nisei soldiers, Max and Earl Hosoda. One died in Italy and one in Bruyeres, France, during the liberation of the town from the Germans. I wanted to learn more about these soldiers and the 442nd Regimental Combat Team who were part of the liberation. I found an organization in Bruyeres, the Peace and Freedom Trail Association. I contacted a member and he took us around the battlefields and monuments dedicated to the liberating soldiers. We visited the Epinal American Cemetery where U.S. soldiers are buried. Bruyeres and Honolulu are Sister Cities because of the Nisei soldiers. I want to make sure that people here know about Peace and Freedom Trail Association.*

What would you say to others about preserving and sharing this history? *The family stories and the history of Japanese Americans deserve to be remembered. It is so easy to lose things, our family’s history. If we don’t carry on, some remembrances will be lost forever.*

There are many ways to volunteer at Oregon Nikkei Endowment. We are always looking for docents, tour guides and front office help, along with volunteers for special projects and events. Contact us at info@oregonnikkei.org or call us for ways you can volunteer.



WELCOME TO NEW AND RENEWING FRIENDS OF OREGON NIKKEI ENDOWMENT

November 1, 2015 to June 15, 2016

All Friends of O.N.E. receive free admission to the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center all year long, a 10% discount on gift shop purchases, a subscription to the newsletter, and special invitations to event openings and programs. There is sure to be a category just right for you! *For more details call 503.224.1458*

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My support will help ensure that the history, art and culture of the Nikkei are preserved and shared with the community for generations to come.

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MISSION

The mission of Oregon Nikkei Endowment is to preserve and honor the history and culture of the Japanese Americans in the Northwest, to educate the public about the Japanese American experience during World War II, and to advocate for the protection of civil rights for all.

The Oregon Nikkei Endowment newsletter is published to inform the Japanese American community, its friends, supporters, and the general public of its ongoing work in promoting an appreciation of the culture and historic legacy passed on to us by our immigrant forebears.

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SAVE THESE
DATES!

September 8, 2016, 5:30pm

ANNUAL BANQUET / Multnomah Athletic Club
Keynote Speaker: **The Honorable Noman Y. Mineta**
Awards: *Paving the Way*—Iwasaki Bros.
Heart of the Community—Jere Okada

October 9, 2016, 10am–12:00pm

VISION AND VIGILANCE, Minoru Yasui,
An Oregonian Civil Rights Hero / Gerding Theater
Exhibit, excerpted readings from Citizen Min
and facilitated roundtable discussions led by
diverse community leaders.

October 15, 2016–January 15, 2017

EXHIBIT / Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center
Captain Hardy and the Black Ship Scroll

May 6, 2017

75TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR OF EO9066
Portland Expo Center
Pilgrimage to the site of the
Portland Assembly Center