OCA-ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN ADVOCATES, GREATER SEATTLE

APIA HERITAGE MONTH FEATURE:

CELEBRATING
STUDENT
ACTIVISM

“advancing the social, political, and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Americans”
OCA-GREATERTシアAT A GLANCE

1995
OCA-Greater Seattle Chapter was created

1998
Working to defeat I-200

1990-2000’s
Annual Chinatown/International District clean-up at Danny Woo Garden

1998-1999
Protest against Obachine restaurant’s racist decor

2000
Support for the defendant in the Ocean Shores hate crime case
Protest against mistreatment of Dr. Wen Ho Lee

2002
Supported students’ boycott of Abercrombie after release of racist artwork on t-shirts

2006
SECTION 203: Enforcement of Chinese language ballots

2010-2012
The 1882 Chinese Remembrance Project

1998-2004
Breaking the Glass Ceiling Conferences
2011
In memory of Private Danny Chen

2012
The documentary “Lost Years: A People's Struggle For Justice” was shown in May 2012, Seattle International Film Festival

Support for marriage equality act

The OCA team and the Washington United for Marriage API contingent marched at the Seattle Pride Parade

Participated in the Rainier Valley Parade “98118 Got Talent!”

2012+, Support for ACRS Walk for Rice

2013
Protest sale of Tacoma Art Museum’s Young collection; advocating for greater representation of Asian American art at TAM.

2014
Supported former City of Medina Police Chief Jeffrey Chen in his 3-year discrimination case against Medina’s city administration

Joined Asian American alliance to demand that UW reinstate the SE Asian recruiter position

Wrote letters and participated in protest against Gilbert & Sullivan Society's Mikado

2nd annual Pre-Conquest Indigenous Cultures and the Aftermath (PICA) conference

2015
OCA-Greater Seattle Chapter celebrates 20 years as an organization

OCA-Greater Seattle worked with the local chapter of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance, to pass a City of Seattle resolution on expressing regret for the Anti-Chinese legislation passed by the Washington Territory and previous Seattle City Councils, recognizing the past and continuing contributions of the Chinese to Seattle and reaffirming the City’s commitment to the civil rights of all people.

3rd annual Pre-Conquest Indigenous Cultures and the Aftermath (PICA) conference

In memory of Donnie, OCA-Greater Seattle joins others in an effort to rename the International Children’s Park the “Donnie Chin International Children’s Park,” and to establish a memorial or salute to Donnie at the park.
OCA advocates for APIs, empowers students

OCA—Greater Seattle began as the Organization of Chinese Americans. By 2012, we officially changed our name to reflect our membership. I believe this is a step forward with the goals of our organization. We became OCA Asian Pacific Advocates, an advocacy group promoting the social, economic, and political wellbeing of Asians and Pacific Islanders.

Since last year, I have been serving as the OCA—Greater Seattle president. I started as an undergraduate intern and later joined the board. The first program I worked on for OCA—Greater Seattle was the Chinese American Historical Societies conference in 2013. I had the opportunity to work with a number of great intern (still friends to this day) and meet many advocates for our Asian and Pacific Islander communities from Washington, nearby Oregon, California, and even British Columbia. With their encouragement and what I have learned about public service through my work with OCA—GS and other organizations, I am now a graduate student at the Daniel Evans School of Public Affair at the University of Washington.

On behalf of OCA—GS, the following are just a few of the issues and projects we are known for:

2015 City of Seattle Resolution on Chinese Expulsion. Board member Doug Chin authored this Resolution expressing regret for anti-Chinese legislation and recognizing the contributions of Chinese to Seattle. The Resolution is the first of its kind in any city, county, or state that acknowledges the discrimination against Chinese and their contributions to the United States. OCA—Greater Seattle continues to meet with the developers of the Seattle waterfront to install a memorial remembering the expulsion of the Chinese from Seattle.

Donnie Chin International Children’s Park. In 2014, OCA—Greater Seattle awarded Donnie Chin with the Golden Circle Award at our annual Lunar New Year Banquet. This past August, our community lost Donnie Chin, the founder and director of the International District Emergency Center (IDEC). OCA—GS spearheaded the renaming of the International Children’s Park after Donnie Chin to commemorate his work as an advocate for children and as the founder of the International Children’s Park.

Conferences. This past November, OCA—Greater Seattle collaborated with and organized the 3rd Pre-Conquest of Indigenous Cultures and the Aftermath (PICA) conference. The conference explores the cultures of Asians, Pacific Islanders, and Native Americans, among others. Among our collaborators are the Department of American Ethnic Studies—UW Seattle; Heritage University-Yakima; the Muckleshoot Tribe; Hoochlesadah Program, Seattle Public Schools; Haida Tribe; South Shore School; Red Nations Group Edmonds; Filipino American Student Association—UW and more.

Participants and Supporters of local APIA events. Annually, OCA—Greater Seattle participates in the Chinatown-International District Spring Clean, ACRS Walk for Rice, Seattle Asian American Film Festival, and other local activities.

Internships. We have had outstanding intern at OCA. From those I interned with at the CAHS conference, Angelo Salgado, then a UW student, designed flyers for the conference and co-organized the Golden Circle Award in 2014 and 2015. Nowadays, he is working in the graphics department at Microsoft and serves on the OCA-GS Board. Chi Suefun, now treasurer of OCA—GS, is finishing her graduate library studies at UW. Jael Yamamoto, Assistant Coordinator for the CAHS conference, works at SeaMar and is the co-secretary for OCA—GS. Alexia-Rio Osaki worked at the OCA Leadership Summer Internship in Washington D.C. And She Ra “Sera” Wang, an intern from 2013-2015 and current UW student, has been among the most outspoken student leaders, rallying students to protest some of the controversial hiring processes at the University of Washington and the lack of representation for students of color with regards to “Race and Equity.” All while staying on the Dean’s List. I think all OCA—GS interns are grateful for the opportunities we were given to find our voice and enhance our skills while working with OCA—GS.

Public Service. All our board members volunteer to serve because of their commitment to the APIA community and causes. Still, it is nice to earn local and national recognition. There are many service and leadership awards for our board members, so I am only highlighting the past year. Last April and May, OCA—GS Vice President Connie So was the recipient of the Chinese American Citizen Alliance—Seattle Lodge’s Citizen Award and the International Examiner’s Community Voices Award in Community Service. Her family also won the Seattle Parks and Recreation’s “Danny Award” for outstanding community service. In October, OCA—GS received the Northwest Asian Weekly’s Visionary Award for our advocacy. Lastly, OCA National recognized board member Francisco Irgon with the Unsung Hero Award for his continuing work as an activist and community organizer. We hope to see you at our future events and to continue working and advocating for the community together.

Warm regards,

Jacqueline Wu
OCA—Greater Seattle President

OCA—Greater Seattle interns find their passion

If I were to describe myself to someone, I would probably consider myself a “jack of all trades,” and a master of … maybe none. Though consequently, in my passion seeking, I have landed here at this opportunity as a guest Associate Editor for this edition of the International Examiner.

Often, we are so focused on trying to pinpoint our one passion in life that we neglect the notion that as young people, we are powerful human beings. We breed ideas left and right; we breathe words of progression; and our actions shape the future. Therefore, it doesn’t really matter if we carry many interests, what matters is how we impact.

In noting that, I would like to show my admiration for all of my fellow OCA—GS interns—old and new—for all the amazing work that they have done, in all of OCA—GS’s history. In my role of helping with this edition of the International Examiner, I was able to read and learn a lot about the things that interns have done in the past and the present, and I am amazed. From activism, to technology, to finances—OCA—GS interns have somehow managed to make themselves useful in ways that have ultimately led to their growth, whether in life or in career, and often times, this is through randomness of assignment. By simply being involved in an organization that they are passionate about, or even remotely interested in, they are offered opportunities to work on projects that not only expand their thinking, but also trigger interests that sometimes become passions.

As you read through this issue of the International Examiner, which focuses on student involvement, I hope that you are able to feel the same type of inspiration to get involved in the information that we have written about, and if you are interested in getting involved with OCA—GS, you will be gladly welcomed! Though this issue focuses a lot on the engagement of young people, there is absolutely no forgetting of the people who inspired us, and showered us with the opportunities to test ourselves, so I would also like to show my appreciation to all those who have mentored and encouraged us to go beyond the norm. Thank you.

Tran Truong
Associate Editor

Tran Truong is a third-generation Vietnamese-born Chinese, first-generation Asian American. She immigrated to the U.S. when she was four years old and has lived in Seattle ever since. She is currently attending the University of Washington, and will be graduating in June with a B.S. in Biology.

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The history and power of PICA

By Kae Saeteurn
OCA–Greater Seattle

Since its founding in 2013, the Pre-Conquest Indigenous Cultures and the Aftermath (PICA) Conference has continued to serve as an outlet for collaboration to celebrate the histories of local multiracial and multicultural groups.

Conceived between students, faculty, and community members from the University of Washington’s Department of American Ethnic Studies, OCA–Greater Seattle (formerly Organization of Chinese Americans) and Heritage University of Yakima, Washington, the conference is held every November. For OCA–Greater Seattle vice president and UW Asian Ethnic Studies professor Connie So and Heritage University’s Winona Wynn, November is significant. Not only is it Native American Heritage Month, it is also the birth month of Andres Bonifacio and Carlos Bulosan, two important Filipino heroes. November, essentially, is a meaningful and powerful month to emphasize events that occurred before the conquest of multiracial and multicultural groups.

PICA conferences generally span over the course of three days. Reoccurring events include a Native American Heritage Month Potlatch at South Shore K-8 School and the OCA Luncheon that also celebrates and honors Veterans' Day.

The inaugural conference was held in fall 2013 and celebrated cultures prior to colonization as well as international figures and heroes of Asia. Events over the course of this conference included celebrating Native American Heritage Month with a “Native American Testimony,” honoring the birthdays of Andres Bonifacio and Carlos Bulosan, and honoring Veterans at the OCA Luncheon with a “Call to Action” theme.

The 2014 PICA Conference celebrated the 50th anniversary of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, landmark legislation that outlawed discrimination based on race, color, national origin, religion, or sex. Events included the recurring Native American Heritage Month Potlatch, the 40 Year Celebration and Grand Re-Opening of the International Examiner with a focus on Alaskeros, Labor Rights, and Student Activism, and the OCA Luncheon. This conference also had the honor of presenting Maikaru and One Generation’s Time: The Legacy of Slime Domingo & Gene Viernes.

PICA 2015 focused on cultural intersections, including migration, immigration, activism, and education. This conference kicked off with the Native American Heritage Month Potlatch, which focused on the Treaty of New Echota (1835), an act which ceded Cherokee land and also played a role in the Trail of Tears, which was the forced removal of the Cherokee Nation from Georgia in 1838. The OCA Luncheon celebrated Veteran’s Day, screened and debuted Doug Chin’s documentary, API Struggle for Racial Equality, and honored immigration and activism by highlighting significant historical events: 1885 Tacoma Method, 1965 Immigration Act, 1975 Arrival of Southeast Asian refugees and immigrants, and the 1985 creation of the UW Department of American Ethnic Studies.

The 2015 conference also hosted Curtis Chin for the Seattle premiere of his latest documentary, Testes. This film centers on mental health issues and stresses placed upon Asian American students, as well as African American and Latino students, in school performance and acceptance.

Since its founding and formation, PICA, while still relatively young, has garnered and attracted community attendance and support. Among those who have participated include Haida Dance Group, Many Feathers, Sounds’ Segundo, Diane Rosdill and Dale Horn, Youth Speaks, UW’s FASA Sayaw, and Cathay Post Color Guard. Additionally, PICA has received support from the Muckleshoot Tribe, Hoh cheeseheads, UW American Ethnic Studies, UW College of Education, UW Office of Minority Affairs & Diversity, Vulcan, and more.

The reason for PICA’s success, continuation, and growing support is because it empowers community members through its acknowledgment and celebration of multiracial and multicultural groups. In particular, the conference serves as an important source of education and connection for students. The conference is heavily driven by the inclusion and participation of students, and serves as an outlet for communities to learn about one another, celebrate one another, and share and pass on histories and stories.

Jacqueline Wu, president of OCA–Greater Seattle, states, “As a student-led conference, PICA is important in empowering youth and connecting with Asian, Pacific Islander, and Native American communities in the similarities and nuances they share. It is important in resisting historical amnesia that can contribute to the oppression of people of color. [It shows] that we have and continue to be in dialogue with each other rather than be divided, [and] that we can uplift ourselves and each other.”

CHINESE AMERICAN HERITAGE SOCIETIES CONFERENCE

The Chinese American Heritage Societies Conference, “Passage to Seattle—Past, Present, and Future,” was a four-day celebration of Seattle’s Chinatown/International District in April 2013. Speakers presented on a range of topics from commemorating the expulsion of Chinese in Seattle, to seeking redress for past wrongs, to reclaiming the vibrant growth of the community outside of the neighborhood’s borders, to preserving the rich history of our community through jewelry, tours, graphic novels, poetry, museology, and documentaries and film.

The topics reflected how much we locals value and enjoy the historical significance of venues like the Historic Panama Hotel, the Chong Wa Benevolent Association, and the Bush-Asia Center. From the “Past,” in honor of Qing Ming, was a “walk with the ghosts” tour at Pike Place Market and in Underground Seattle and a visit to the Lakeview Cemetery, the final resting place of Geon Dip, Princess Angeline, the Denney Party, and Bruce and Brandon Lee. For the “Present” was a tour of the Danny Woo International Garden, where elderly Asian Americans continue harvesting crops. For the “Future” were screenings of several films including Lost Years, focusing on redress for Chinese Australians, Canadians, and New Zealanders; Chinese Gardens, which examines the Chinese community lost in Port Townsend due to anti-Chinese violence in the late 1800s; and Americanese, an adaptation of Shawn Wong’s novel, American Knees.

OCA–Greater Seattle interns played an essential role in the celebration’s success.
OCA planning anti-bullying conference for community

By Izumi Hansen
IE Assistant News Editor

To increase awareness about bullying, the Greater Seattle chapter of OCA Asian Pacific American Advocates is organizing a event for high school students, parents, and the community.

The board decided to create an event after a report about high school bullying of APIs appeared before the OCA–Greater Seattle board members.

The report found that fewer Asian-American students reported being bullied at school compared to reporting from other ethnic groups. The data for the report came from federal Department of Education and Department of Justice (DOJ).

OCA–Greater Seattle board member Willion Lew is developing the event, which will focus on bullying in relation to API youth. The larger community of students, parents, and community members will be welcome to come to the event, which he hopes will happen later this year.

Lew said that since OCA advocates and supports the API community it should address bullying, which appears to be an issue affecting API youth.

The goals of the event are to raise awareness of the issue of bullying, give API youth and parents the tools and knowledge to be able to address bullying, and work with other communities, like the LGBTQI community, to better prevent bullying and address the effects of bullying.

OCA–Greater Seattle will work in partnership with the Japanese American Citizens League, ACRS’s Get Real Program, Anti-Defamation League, and DOJ to create the event.

“We would lose some valuable insight from other groups [if they weren’t included],” said Lew. Lew hopes that including other groups and inviting anybody who is interested will help increase a network to solidify anti-bullying trainings.

Lew said bullying has changed since he was a boy, when bullying constituted a schoolyard fight where you would make up at the end.

“Today’s bullying, you don’t know if someone is going to pull a knife or a gun on you so it’s incredibly dangerous,” said Lew. Bullying, according to the DOJ, includes harmful acts, real or perceived, repeatedly inflicted on a victim. Bullying can be physical, verbal, or psychological and can happen in person or through technology.

[Bullying] is unwanted aggressive behavior. It’s a power struggle between the two [people],” said Knight Sor, an OCA–Greater Seattle board member and a conciliation specialist for the DOJ’s Community Relations Service.

The Community Relations Service acts as a “peacemaker” for the government when there are community tensions concerning race or national origin. It also helps communities prevent and respond to hate crimes.

Sor said that he and Lew want the event to provide resources, training, and support to increase knowledge and reporting of bullying among APIs. Lew and Sor hope that by helping youth, parents, and community members find resources, bullying will decrease among API and other groups that experience bullying.

API communities have specific barriers that warrant community-specific training concerning bullying. Sor noted the language barrier and the shame factor may influence low reporting of bullying among APIs.

“We want [the issue of bullying] to be out in the open,” said Sor. “It is a perceived notion that Asians do not report crimes. It is the silent factor and we can’t have silence in a democracy.”

Hi everyone. My name is Yongyi Wu, but I like to go by Winnie. I was eight years old when I immigrated to America. Memories of my old life in China come only in bits and pieces. I remember having a goodbye party with my second grade classmates, saying farewell at the airport. I was told not to cry or it would upset both my grandmothers, so I held it together until we were well inside the gates. I remember the excitement of hopping on the airplane for the first time, and here I am 12 years later.

My uncle, who is actually a close family relative, sponsored my family to come to the U.S. to help him with his new restaurant in Pennsylvania. We landed in New York City at night, and the illuminated skyline was so beautiful, it was something that wasn’t able to describe.

We were ushered towards immigration, and there were at least 20 stations of immigration officers at the checkpoint. My English vocabulary was very limited, knowing only the numbers one to 10. I was hoping for one of those numbers so I knew which one to go towards. Little did we know, the lady directing the line said “sixteen” and I remember pure terror because I had no idea what that number was. It dawned on me then how difficult learning English would be, and how much of my old life I was going to school not knowing the language.

After spending a night in another relative’s home in New York, we had dim sum in the morning in Chinatown. I remember asking why the streets were so dirty, thinking it was garbage day, he said.

With Winnie’s permission, we share it with you all:

Associate Editor’s Note:

During the OCA Fall Luncheon last year, OCA–Greater Seattle intern Winnie Wu broker the stage and shared a personal story about how the result of being bullied has impacted her life. It’s a story that many other community-specific training concerning bullying.

“Winnie” was chosen to imitate the sound of my name in the Cantonese dialect, and it would become a target for bullying. For the first few years of elementary school, everything was spectacular. I made friends and got along well with my classmates. But things started to turn when my family moved to Bellevue, Maryland due to family differences. People knew me by my first name as I neglected to tell them that I’d like to go by Winnie, and by the time I remembered to do so, it seemed too late. So I was stuck with my given name, but I didn’t think twice about it. Then trouble started in the beginning of sixth grade, where I was placed in a different classroom that the rest of my friends were from the year before.

Students were sat according to the last names, with desks arranged in an odd squiggly fashion. Coincidentally, I was placed near the back of the room, next to the meanest kid. Bullying started with him calling me names, then he threw insults, made racist remarks, and worst of all, pulled negative facial gestures, like the ever infamous “chinky eyes.” I didn’t know how to fight back, and I didn’t dare tell my parents, so I tried my best to ignore him and not let his remarks get to me. I was incredibly confused as to why he bullied me. He, as a person of color and of ethnic minority in the small town that we lived, should have understood the same difficulties I was going through. Yongyi is my identity, but to other people, Yongyi was the image of an immigrant. For them, Winnie was a closer conception of what it means to be American. But it’s not as simple as changing a name.

As an immigrant, I came to reconnect with my family and for my parents, it was to start a new American Dream. The 1965 Immigration Act enabled that possibility but it did not ensure others being able to connect with me and my culture.

In that small town I felt trapped, but after moving to Seattle, and from the moment I stepped into Cleveland High School, I saw people who looked like me, people of the same ethnic background and likely shared similar experiences. I was never more thrilled.
BULLYING IN THE 21ST CENTURY: AN EIGHTH GRADER’S PERSPECTIVE

By Wen Eckelberg
OCA—Greater Seattle

Everyone knows people should not bully. However, people don’t realize how it still happens in this day and age. While there are programs in schools to enforce a “bully-free” environment, usually sequential steps used to mend rough patches, I always wonder if these means of interference are really enough to make a drastic impact? With the technology our generation has available to use, probably not. We are a generation of proud kids who are sensitive to slights. With all the social media around, it has led to cyber bullying. With cyber-bullying, a means of interference can only come if an outside party is informed. But in order for an outside party to be informed, one of the people involved has to admit they’re being bullied, or are bullying. Then it’s not easy to come to when the people are usually “tough” kids that would rather endure the bullying than be seen as a “wuss” by the millions of people their conversation is available to. This generation would rather “save face” than solve problems, and that’s why it’s important for people to be informed about these sorts of occurrences.

In real life, there is no barrier between you and the person you’re talking to; there’s no denying a statement, or saying whatever you want without receiving an immediate reaction, or hiding the true emotions behind certain words. But online, the computer screen acts like a shield. We convince ourselves that it protects us from the inevitable vulnerability we face in person, but in doing so, it also makes us an easier target; our words can be twisted into anything the reader wants; the words that appear as yours might not even be from you—friends can post through your account, too cowardly to post on their own—but no one will know it’s someone else, so anything they say will be connected to you. A lot of times, when two people start arguing, all of their friends will help gang up on the other person, frequently not even understanding the situation. Overall, social media just turns everything into a big misunderstanding. Being unable to report these sorts of events just spirals things even further, quickly building a messy web.

In many cases, if kids threaten to report bullying, they probably will not follow through with it. A lot of times, the bully starts saying they’re over reacting—“I was just playing with you” or “you are too sensitive” are some of the most common responses by the bully to someone wanting to report a case of cyber bullying. We need to find a way to make sure kids—and parents—understand that reporting bullying isn’t a sign of weakness, but a sign of strength in a moment that can make you feel helpless. I doubt a single workshop can completely solve the problem of cyberbullying, but sharing more information definitely helps.

Wen Eckelberg is a biracial 8th grader of Chinese-German ancestry attending South Shore School in the Rainier Beach community.

OCA Spring Luncheon a time to give thanks

By Tran Truong
OCA—Greater Seattle

Every spring, OCA-GS puts on a luncheon to thank OCA-GS participants and contributors for all the great work that they have done for the community and beyond. With our busy schedules, this luncheon—filled with delicious foods—has served as an excellent way for individuals to get together, hang out, and reconnect, while learning about what OCA-GS is currently involved in.

This year, our Spring Luncheon will be held at Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall. Not only will this be a great opportunity for us to commemorate all the sacrifice that our fallen soldiers have made for our nation, we will also have the chance to enjoy foods from different Asian and Pacific Islander countries, to celebrate Asian and Pacific American Heritage Month.

We invite you all to join us at this special event and learn about how you can be more involved in the API community. We would also like to especially thank the Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall committee for providing a place for us to put on this event.

This luncheon is free for all OCA-GS members. If you are not currently a member, you will have the opportunity to become a member at the luncheon. You will also have an opportunity to pick up your free 2016 OCA-GS T-shirt!

Golden Circle Awards

By Tran Truong
OCA—Greater Seattle

For 16 years now, OCA-GS has organized and put on the Golden Circle Awards and Lunar New Year Banquet. For each of these 16 years, OCA-GS has had the opportunity to honor some of the most extraordinary individuals that our community has ever been lucky enough to possess. At the 2016 Golden Circle Awards, we honored Rod Kawakami, Sharon Maeda, Betty Patu, Fred Yee, and the Southeast Asian American Access in Education organization. These honorees and the honorees preceding them have all created high impact resolutions for the APA community, which has helped the APA community in progressing alongside the rest of society, one step at a time. Therefore, it is with a great nod of respect and appreciation that we recognize even more of these special individuals every year.
Student activism in the San Francisco Bay Area in the 1960s

By Doug Chin
OCA-Greater Seattle

The San Francisco Bay area was electrifying and a particularly exciting time for college students in the '60s. UC Berkeley was the scene of continual protests and demonstrations, beginning with the "Free Speech Movement" followed by protests against American involvement in the Vietnam War, "Peoples' Park," and other anti-establishment causes. "The Berkeley Barb," an alternative weekly, came into existence and became a popular anti-war and anti-establishment newspaper. The composition on the Berkeley City Council changed from liberal to radical.

The anti-war movement was a big thing in the Bay Area. There were protests against the war in downtown Oakland and Army Terminal. Both the Berkeley City Council and San Francisco Board of Supervisors voted to publicly denounce American involvement in the Vietnam War. "Berkeley takes politics seriously," I was told, as I watched television a council meeting that was delayed 30 minutes arguing over whether to "pledge allegiance" because "... there is no liberty and justice for all." It was hilarious, yet indicative of Berkeley politics. While opposition and protests to the war were considerable, so was the emergence of Asian American Studies. By 1972, there were I lived. At about the same time, Bobby Seale and Huey Newton were starting the Black Panther Party at Merritt Community College. It popularly increased among white liberals when Eldridge Cleaver, who wrote a best selling book "Soul on Ice," became its Minister of Defense. The Black Panther Party advocated violence and the use of guns to gain black liberation. Their strategy contradicted Martin Luther King's non-violence tactics, which was highly debated at the time.

Many Black students, and to a much lesser extent, white students, were involved with the civil rights causes and tackling poverty in the Black ghettos of Oakland, Richmond, and San Francisco.

San Francisco, meanwhile, was having its "Summer of Love," when thousands of young people descended there to be part of the hippie counterculture. The flower children just didn't restrict their activity to the Haight-Ashbury area; they were smoking joints and taking acid all over the Bay Area.

In 1965, the United States overhauled its immigration laws to allow 20,000 persons annually from one foreign country to enter America. Consequently, San Francisco's Chinatown had a population surge as immigrants from Hong Kong flocked to an area that was already dilapidated and overcrowded. Largely uneducated with limited English proficiency, the new immigrants were, at best, relegated to menial, low paying jobs with no health insurance, and little, if any, chance for upwards mobility. Conditions in Chinatown were bad to worse and, with the prospects of many more Chinese immigrants arriving, things with looking pretty bleak.

San Francisco State Strike

I had no clue that a year after I transferred from Merritt Community College to San Francisco State I would be involved in the longest student (and faculty) strike in U.S. history. San Francisco State, after all, was not known for student protest. In fact, it seemed like a comparatively peaceful and quiet institution aside from a few anti-war rallies. But, San Francisco State was to attract national attention as the daily protests and demonstrations, which were sometimes violent, continued and the campus closed.

The Black Students Union and the Third World Coalition called the strike at San Francisco State. The Coalition was comprised of other racial minority organizations including the intercollegiate Chinese for Social Action, a Chinese American group headed by Mason Wong.

The student demands centered on the establishment of a School of Ethnic Studies (including a Black Studies Department) with non-white control over the hiring and retention of faculty and the curriculum, and greater admissions of non-white students to the college. The key concept, which student strike leaders said repeatedly at the rallies, was "self-determination," meaning non-whites should determine what was best for them and control their own destiny. As applied to non-white students, it meant learning about your respective racial or ethnic community so that you are better able to improve it.

I went on strike from the beginning, in November of 1968. Typically, there would be a noon rally that began with speeches by student strike leaders, faculty, and black community leaders like Willie Brown, Ron Dellums, Bobby Seale, and Eldridge Cleaver. There was a speaker's platform not too far from the student union cafeteria at the edge of a large green lawn in the middle of the campus. We would engravely march around the green lawn shouting, "On strike, shut it down." Many of the buildings on campus circled the lawn so that the loud noise and shouting could be heard in the classrooms, causing a nuisance and making it difficult to hear any lecture. On a number of occasions, we would actually march through one or more of the buildings, making enough noise to stop any class that was going on.

I routinely drove from Oakland, where I lived, to attend the noon rally and marches because I felt that the number of demonstrators (show of force) was important. Every school day, I would park a few blocks from the campus and pass the busloads of San Francisco policemen and state troopers. There were a couple of hundred or so students attending the rallies and marches at the start. But, as the strike became more violent and disruptive, the police were called in. Ironically, the presence and actions of police and state troopers, who often swung, hit, and chased student demonstrators, brought out larger crowds of demonstrators. I remember vividly one day when police on horses chased us across 19th Avenue, the main street in front of the campus, and around the houses on the other side of street. When the strike was in full swing, there would be a noon rally of about a 1,000 demonstrators; police and state troopers would line-up to the side with helicopters circling overhead.

In March 1969, after five months, the strike was settled and the School of Ethnic Studies established and the number of admissions of non-white students under the Educational Opportunity Program jumped.

It was disappointing, but not surprising, that a relatively small number of Chinese or Asian American students participated in the demonstrations. But, I was pleased to learn that the Asian American classes that began in the fall of 1969 filled up quickly, and that I was able to enroll in one. More importantly, I had learned and changed, gained confidence, and learned how to use the power of the ballot to advance our community causes. And, once again, I am grateful for, it's to have lived in the San Francisco Bay Area in the 1960s.
Section 203: Election Language Access Reflection

By Bruce Huang
OCA–Greater Seattle

Section 203 of the Voting Rights Act, requires that jurisdictions with groups that reach a certain population threshold of voting eligible limited English proficiency speakers, to provide voting material in that population’s respective language. In the year 2000, the population of Chinese-American citizens in King County reached that threshold and so the county began offering ballots and voting pamphlets in Chinese. OCA–Greater Seattle was involved in a committee to hire the first Section 203 staff at King County Elections and provided feedback on its implementation. Though it was a good start, there was still work to be done. Citing the low number of Chinese ballots requested, in 2002 OCA–Greater Seattle was commissioned to lead an outreach program as part of the requirement of Section 203. After forming a coalition and working with the DOJ and King County Elections, there was a 5800% increase in requests for Chinese ballots, reported in a U.S. Senate committee hearing in 2006.

Fast forward a little bit and the Vietnamese speaking community reached the threshold in 2010, and this year, though not a mandate of Section 203, Korean and Spanish were added as additional available voting language material. Sponsored by King County Council Member Rod Dembowski, OCA and other community based organizations in 2015 championed legislation in King County to increase election language access above mandates from the VRA. Today, King County Elections, in collaboration with Seattle Foundation, is funding community groups to increase voter participation within the limited English speaking communities. I will be participating in the review panel.

As for more about myself, I am a board member of OCA–Greater Seattle and a member of King County’s Citizen Elections Oversight Committee (CEOC). The CEOC was created in 2003 and again in 2005 after election difficulties in those preceding years. Naturally a Section 203 position was included in these committees as chaired by our wonderful OCA members, no less. I began serving in 2014. Being a first generation Chinese American, I understood the travails of not being able to read English, having to translate for my parents most of my life. However, for our representative democracy, we want to be inclusive of all our citizens. To remove barriers and provide election materials that all can understand. So everyone can make informed decisions that affect their lives and generations down. This is why I serve and will continue to encourage all to join in on our participatory government.

Intern Spotlight: Redesigning OCA–Greater Seattle’s website

By John Diego, Daniel Hoang, & Huy Nguyen
OCA–Greater Seattle

We started out redesigning and developing OCA–Greater Seattle’s website (ocaseattle.org) for our final in our web development class. Huy Nguyen was the one who suggested we do it in the first place and at the time it made perfect sense—most of us already knew some of the board members and we saw that OCA–GS’s website needed an update to adopt current web technologies.

We treated this just like any other class assignment, but with more detail and care since it was the final project. It was just a fun group project at first, that turned out to be successful since we were all so vested in it and wanted to create something we would all be proud of. Although we did work with other OCA–GS members in developing some features of the new website, we didn’t know OCA would eventually want to use our final design and make our project public.

After a couple months had passed and with class done, we heard that an OCA–GS board meeting was coming up and decided to present the project at the meeting. By now we had experienced what it meant to be a part of OCA–GS; interning with OCA–GS gave us a chance to experience community building, civic engagement, and activism. OCA–GS gave us an opportunity to not only give back to our community, but a chance to build our skills in something we loved for something we were passionate about. The three of us after our presentation got so much feedback from all the board members. It was a privilege to get a chance to do this, so we wanted to ensure that the new website was something everyone would be interested in using. It turned out to be a really successful project presentation and we felt that the final product after all the feedback would be something everyone would love.

What started out as a class project turned out to be really worthwhile in the long run, and for that we are grateful. We did not think we would get the chance to connect our love of technology and design so soon. Our skills are being pushed and we are meeting many AAPI leaders and community members who can support us unconditionally. Ultimately, we are all happy to volunteer our time and actually be able to apply the skills we learned in order to create something that is meaningful for OCA–GS and indirectly, the AAPI community.

Daniel Hoang is currently a senior at the University of Washington, double-majoring in Art (Photomedia) and Informatics.

Huy Nguyen is currently a senior studying at the University of Washington, double-majoring in Informatics and American Ethnic Studies.

John Diego is currently studying at the University of Washington, double-majoring in Informatics and American Ethnic Studies.
OCA—Greater Seattle at Walk for Rice

By Tran Truong
OCA—Greater Seattle

For many years now, OCA-GS has been an active participant in the ACRS Walk for Rice event, which fundraises for the Asian Counseling and Referral Service (ACRS) in order to sustain its ability to buy rice and other food products for the ACRS Food Bank.

Spring Clean efforts to maintain Danny Woo Garden

By Tran Truong
OCA—Greater Seattle

Chinatown-ID is a cultural hub that reflects the identity of the API community. With that, we feel that it is vital for us to nourish and maintain the space that we so pride ourselves for having earned and developed. The Chinatown-ID Spring Clean first began as OCA—Greater Seattle's efforts to maintain the Danny Woo Garden as a public service day project, but it has blossomed into a very collective project that multiple organizations in the ID have taken a grasp of and grown into an amazing annual service day.
Interns bring artistic thinking to OCA–Greater Seattle T-shirts

By Tran Truong
OCA—Greater Seattle

Every year at the Spring Luncheon, OCA-Greater Seattle members receive a free OCA–GS T-shirt. Leading up to that day, one or two of our interested interns work passionately in creating these original designs. The creation of the T-shirt is more than just a fun project for these interns. From initial artistic thinking, to creating the perfect representation, and finally implementation, these past and present interns have really created a standard that has been high from the start. Every year, the design to create something even more spectacular rings high. For that, OCA interns take on this project with pride. Here are the T-shirt designs and their designers from the past.
API Heritage Month Celebration showcases diversity

Photos by Juan Morales

On Sunday, May 1 at the Seattle Center Armory, hundreds gathered to celebrate and experience Asian and Pacific Islander cultural traditions as part of Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month. The Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration welcomed everyone to explore and experience the multifaceted cultural roots of Asia and the Pacific Islands through live performances, traditional food, and hands-on activities.

DUNHUANG CAVE TEMPLES: HISTORY, PRESERVATION & DIGITIZATION

WED MAY 25, 7 PM
ASIAN ART MUSEUM

Mimi Gardner Gates, Curtis Wong, and Ping Foong discuss the exhibitions Journey to Dunhuang: Buddhist Art of the Silk Road Caves, on view at the Asian Art Museum and Cave Temples of Dunhuang: Buddhist Art on China’s Silk Road, currently on view at the Getty Center in Los Angeles.

The evening’s conversation will explore the connective elements of both exhibitions and the imaging methods used to preserve the caves for centuries to come.

Tickets $10; SAM members $5
visitsam.org/tickets

Photo: View of the Northern Mogao Caves. Photograph taken in 1943–44, The Lo Archive.
We express our deepest gratitude to our Chinese American veterans for their sacrifice.

Thank you for your undying dedication to the well-being of the API community. Congratulations to Cathay Post #186 of the American Legion for over 70 years of service!
Entrepreneur, outdoor enthusiast Mina Yoo invents products for multifaceted individuals

Almost five years ago on an airplane, Mina Yoo drew a sketch of a carabiner. Then a new mother, she was frustrated that there was not enough space on the plane to store her belongings comfortably. Today the Qlipter, which has been dubbed the Swiss Army knife of carabiners, is sold through her company Lulabop’s website, REI, Brookstone, and amazon.com.

Yoo is a woman of many hats: she is an entrepreneur, a mother, soon-to-be author, and a former professor at the University of Washington Foster School of Business. Yoo was born in Korea but grew up in Dubai, United Arab Emirates and Jakarta, Indonesia as her father worked in multi-national companies. She came to the United States to study sociology in college, then worked at a marketing and public relations startup company following graduation. Working at the startup company sparked her interest in small businesses and entrepreneurship.

Yoo received her PhD at the University of Michigan, where she studied Indian and Chinese immigrant entrepreneur in Silicon Valley in the late 1990s and early 2000s. She was teaching full-time at the UW when she first started running a business with two partners.

“One thing I’ve realized is it’s hard to run a business part-time,” Yoo said.

She has seen people who keep their full-time jobs to support their businesses but are unable to push their products very efficiently because their full-time jobs are holding them back. “It’s kind of a chicken-and-egg thing,” she said.

When Yoo began working on her company Lulabop, she had an ambitious vision of launching with three different products: a traveling bag, a carabiner, and a piece of clothing. She realized that it was not as easy as she thought. It took her and her team two years of research and development until the finalized version of the Qlipter was finally born. The Qlipter is the first carabiner with a rotating, folding hook that can hold up to 50 pounds.

“There were starts and stops, and I made 500 mistakes. Finding the right people took a really long time,” Yoo said. “It’s a lot of work but it’s the most fun I’ve had professionally.”

The Qlipter was inspired by her own lifestyle as a parent, traveler, and hiker. Yoo strives for her products to be as multifaceted as she is. These days, she is often approached by people with ideas and factories that want her to sell their products through Lulabop. But Yoo is cautious.

“I kind of don’t believe in products that only serves one purpose,” she said. “There’s always a market for cheap products or unique products. But I feel like one of the benefits of having a small company is that you get to be a gatekeeper and do what you want.”

Though Lulabop is a very young business—it only received inventory a month ago—it’s products are being sold in big-box retailers and it’s currently developing relationships with more retailers.

Yoo is realizing she needs to re-strategize and focus on more directed-consumer selling as well. This means that Lulabop’s margin will be greater and it will have more control over their products.

“One of three purchases takes place on Amazon. Our goal is rather than relying on these big bucks retailers who are closing everyday, we want to focus more on the consumers. Basically we’re gonna eat what we kill instead of relying on somebody else to sell our products,” she said.

A year after the Qlipter launched, its younger sibling the Qliplet entered the market. And Yoo has a long list of projects underway: an energy-harvesting product her team is just beginning to prototype and test; a bigger carabiner made of plastic to bring costs down; a traveling bag she plans to revisit in the next year; a board game she is working on with her 5-year-old son; and an invention book for mothers she is co-authoring with a friend.

Yoo gave her parents credit for encouraging her to think outside the box.

“I like to joke that people who come up with good ideas are people who complain a lot. If you think everything’s dandy, why improve on anything?” she said.

This article was written in partnership with CAPE Project, a forum connecting and engaging innovative entrepreneurs by sharing stories of their entrepreneurial journey. It’s a growing community of diverse entrepreneurs, mentors, and investors with connections to the Asia Pacific Rim community. CAPE Project is an initiative launched by Hing Hay Coworks, a program of the Seattle Chinatown-ID Preservation and Development Authority. For a schedule of events and for more information, visit capeproject.org.

Entrepreneur, outdoor enthusiast Mina Yoo invents products for multifaceted individuals

FACES elects new board and celebrates API Heritage Month

IE News Services

Coming into its 26th year, the Filipino American Civic Employees of Seattle (FACES) held its membership meeting, elected half of its Board and adopted its work program for the year.

The mission of the FACES is “to champion the dignity, rights and privileges of all Filipinos; to work with FILAM and mainstream communities, other people of color and allies to influence policies, programs, procedures and practices that affect our common interests and promote cultural awareness and diversity to instill pride in Filipino-American heritage.”

FACES serves as a link for the Filipino and Filipino American community to the City of Seattle and Mayor Ed Murray’s Race and Social Justice Initiative (RSJI), which provides for equal employment opportunity and equal access to the City’s array of community resources and services. As a partner, FACES fosters understanding and collaboration, gives voice to issues and concerns, acts as a bridge to the community for City outreach and civic engagement initiatives, and provides cultural events and translation/interpretation services as needed.

The 2016 Membership Meeting elected the following Officers and Board members:

- Mariano Romulo from Seattle Public Utilities—President
- Andy Ygonia from Department of Finance & Administrative Services—Vice President
- Eloida Ambion from Seattle Public Utilities—Treasurer
- Danny Navarro from Department of Information Technology—Assistant Treasurer

- Rose Almachar Alves from Seattle City Light—Board Member
- Grace Dygico from Department of Neighborhoods—Board Member
- Joaquin Uy from Office of Immigrant & Refugee Affairs—Board Member

FACES is also inviting the community to join them in Celebrating Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month with the free screening of Delano Manongos: The Forgotten History of United Farm Workers and film documentary Marissa Aroy at noon on Friday, May 20 at the Bertha Landes Room.

FACES’ 2016’s work program includes summer fun and training culminating to a conference on October 26 to mark Filipino American History Month. FACES meets every second Thursday of the month. It is an inclusive membership organization. For more information, visit FACESSea.org.
‘Resistance Capital’: Writing in the camps as an act of resistance

By Frank Abe
Special to the IE


I want to thank the author of this study for putting a name to the sense of purpose I felt in writing an essay for the old Northwest Nikkei paper in 1992, on my feelings upon first reading the manifests of the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee. What I was obeying, she says in citing that piece, was my “inheritance of resistance capital”—the idea that writing by Japanese American camp resisters in 1944 created a kind of currency that can be grown and reinvested generations later by their spiritual descendants.

It’s one of several useful rhetorical constructs framed by Mira Shimabukuro, poet and lecturer at the University of Washington, the shell, in her revelatory new work cleverly titled Relocating Authority. Her title plays upon the name of the civilian War Relocation Authority that was created to imprison Japanese Americans in ten wartime incarceration camps, while subverting euphemism to put the authority back where it belongs: in those incarcerated, especially the women, who used the written word to “talk back” as a means to take back some measure of power and self-worth.

It is in part a very personal story, as Mira examines her place in this narrative and the resistance capital she inherited from her father, one-time International Examiner editor Bob Shimabukuro. The audience for much of the book is scholars in the field of cultural rhetorics, with extended meditations that seek, for example, “A Culturally Relevant Model of Nikkei Interjective Rhetoric and Agency”.

Within that discipline, Shimabukuro shows how private scribblings in camp diaries and public statements in handbills were acts of resistance excluded from popular accounts of Japanese American history, which she says “tend to either cover up or downplay the community’s long legacy of dissidence” under the sway of the wartime Japanese American Citizens League and field secretary Mike Masaoka. “In such JACL-inspired chronicles,” she writes, the struggle to survive in camp was always characterized as “a great hardship overcome by the community’s extreme loyalty, obedience, agreeableness, and quiet submission to internment.” Glass, she notes, “is more open-ended in meaning.”

Shimabukuro’s accomplishment is to look beyond such passivity to advance what she calls “writing-to-gamaran” —screwing in writing that which could not be yelled in public. At a reading May 5 at the Wing Luke Museum, she cited an unexpected example: future children’s book author Yosihiko Uchiha, who turned to her diary “to release her own indignation” and “without complaint,” the ethos of the book, “in the ability to endure adversity and quietly accept oppression” with “subversive behavior” and “without complaint,” the ethos of the book, “in the ability to endure adversity and quietly accept oppression” with “subversive behavior” and “without complaint,” the ethos of the book, “in the ability to endure adversity and quietly accept oppression” with “subversive behavior” and “without complaint.”

Perhaps the greatest revelation in the book is that of the organized protest against the draft by the Mothers Society of Minidoka, which Shimabukuro points out actually predated the organized resistance of the Heart Mountain group. These were more than 100 Issei women—our grandmothers!—themselves barred by law from U.S. citizenship, who signed a two-page typewritten letter to FDR and other high officials to restore the citizenship rights of their sons, who after Pearl Harbor were reclassified as 4-C, the designation for enemy aliens. These ba-chan had seen their families stripped of their homes, farms, and businesses; it was the last straw for the government to now want their sons.

Shimabukuro reports the surprising part played in this story by Supreme Court plaintiff Min Yasui. A “folk hero” after challenging the military curfew, Yasui had just been released from the camp, and the Mothers Society invited him to help write their petition. But Yasui in fact favored Selective Service for the Nisei and opposed any draft resistance. He composed a groveling letter to the Issei mothers deemed “too weak.” Three of the Issei women in one block took it on themselves to rewrite the letter to ask Roosevelt to “please consider the suspension of the drafting of citizens of Japanese ancestry” until their citizenship was first reviewed. The argument being formulated by the boys at Heart Mountain.

“These women were careful, thoughtful, and strategic about their public use of language,” says Shimabukuro. Eleanor Roosevelt sent a curt reply, and two months later Yasui would accompany Mike Masaoka’s brother to the jail in Cheyenne, Wyoming, in a failed attempt to interview the Heart Mountain resisters into naming heroes to help the FBI prosecute FPC leaders.

This is original, cutting-edge work. Mira Shimabukuro sets a new standard in camp studies with her finely crafted writing and her framing of “writing-to-redress.” Her recovery of this wide range of writing that challenges authority, much of it by the argument being fashioned by the boys at Heart Mountain was not limited to a relatively small number of dissidents.

By Susan Kunimitsu
IE Contributor

Patti Warashina spent her career working in clay, achieving international renown in that medium. But after five decades, she took a chance on a new material. During a residency at the Museum of Glass in Tacoma in 2013, she began working on a series of glass pieces that she would eventually combine with clay. The results are currently on view in “Beneath the Lotus” at Abmeyer + Wood in Seattle.

“I was very unsure about the imagery I wanted to portray with the blown glass,” Warashina admits that this body of work is an extension of the clay figures she has been making since the 1980s. “The clay work in the show was done in the three years following the residency, building on the glass components conceived by Warashina and executed by the Museum of Glass team.”

Since the 1980s, Warashina’s ceramic work had focused on the figure. In recent years, she has simplified the anatomy, surface textures, and colors of those figures to arrive at a universal, albeit still female archetype. In her most recent works, simple bubble forms of blown glass play well with the formal reductivity of the clay figures with their cylindrical torsos and softly curving limbs.

“In the last seven years I have eliminated the notion of garments on the simplified figure,” she explains. “Clothes make reference to a culture or timeframe, which I was trying to avoid.” She used only clear glass, saying that color added “too much information ... clear glass is more open-ended in meaning.”

Warashina’s figures have a whimsical quality, but they are not cartoons. There is a smart, sometimes cynical edge to the figures fresh from the kiln that helped extend and expand on her ideas. But the bulk of the work in the show was done in one block took it on themselves to rewrite the letter to ask Roosevelt to “please consider the suspension of the drafting of citizens of Japanese ancestry” until their citizenship was first reviewed. The argument being formulated by the boys at Heart Mountain.

Several pieces pose ceramic figures in conversation with limbless ‘glass ghosts’: “Excuse Me,” “You’ve Got Something in Your Eye,” and “Kiss.” Are the ghosts imaginary companions or stand-ins for the loss of face-to-face conversation in a digital society?

Warashina admits that this body of work posed technical challenges when the unpredicted shrinkage of clay met the unpredictable shrinkage of clear glass. Fitting glass hats to clay heads was one instance of these challenges. The crouching figure in “Beneath the Lotus” was one of a few ceramic pieces fabricated in advance of the asylum. Making a dome large enough upon which it stretched the capabilities of the glass-blowing team.

Warashina approached glass as a new material with enthusiasm, but some trepidation. The fully realized work in this show is a tribute to the clarity of her vision, and the skill of her collaborators.

“Thinking Clearly” at Abmeyer + Wood in downtown Seattle through May 31. For more information, visit www.abmeyerwood.com or call (206) 628-9501.
We are bringing back the Reader’s Choice Awards (RCAs) this year! The RCAs recognize exceptional individuals and organizations that support the flourishing of Greater Seattle’s Asian-Pacific Islander (API) community. Winners from 36 categories will be celebrated at a community potluck dinner at Hing Hay Coworks in the Chinatown-ID on Thursday, June 16th, starting at 7:00pm.

If you do not see an individual or organization under a particular category but would like to vote for them, every category includes the option of writing in a name under “Other (please specify)”: Nominations provide suggestions of who some community members believe are the best in a certain category, but voters are encouraged to vote for their own personal favorites.

This survey is also available online. Each individual may only submit the survey ONCE.

Please note: all surveys must be RECEIVED (not postmarked) no later than 5:00pm on June 10, 2016.

FIRST NAME: __________________________ LAST NAME: __________________________

ARTS, CULTURE, & COMMUNITY

1. FAVORITE LOCAL API ARTIST
   - Brandon Thepvongsa (photography)
   - Cora Edmonds (photography)
   - Dean Wong (photography)
   - Lauren Ida (papercut and multimedia)
   - Raychelle Duazo (comics, character design)
   - Other: __________________________

2. FAVORITE LOCAL API PERFORMING ARTIST
   - Jamil Suleman (rap, storytelling, filmmaking)
   - John Eklof (spoken word, professional public speaking)
   - Kathy Hsieh (acting)
   - Laura Wachs (poetry, slam poetry, spoken word)
   - Troy Osaki (poetry, slam poetry, spoken word)
   - Other: __________________________

3. FAVORITE LOCAL API AUTHOR / WRITER
   - Jamie Ford (author, Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet)
   - Ken Mochizuki (author, Beacon Hill Boys)
   - Lawrence Matsuda (author, A Cold Wind from Idaho)
   - Seayoung Yim (playwright, Do It For Umma)
   - Sharon H. Chang (author, Raising Mixed Race)
   - Shawn Wong (author, American Knees)
   - Other: __________________________

4. FAVORITE LOCAL API JOURNALIST
   - Alia Marsha Kusumaningrat (Editor-in-Chief, UW Bothell Husky Herald)
   - Lori Matsukawa (Anchor, KING 5 News)
   - Mary Nam (Anchor, KOMO 4 News)
   - Mimi Jung (Anchor, KING 5 News)
   - Siemny Kim (Anchor, KIRO 7 News)
   - Venice Buhain (News Editor, The Seattle Globalist)
   - Other: __________________________

5. FAVORITE LOCAL API MUSICIAN / MUSICAL GROUP
   - Byron Au Yong
   - Geo / Prometheus Brown
   - Hollis Wong-Wear
   - Lions Ambition
   - Peacemaker Nation
   - Sendai ERA
   - Other: __________________________

6. FAVORITE LOCAL ART GALLERY
   - ArtXchange Gallery
   - Davidson Galleries
   - Greg Kucera Gallery
   - KOBO
   - Other: __________________________

7. FAVORITE COMMUNITY MEETING & EVENTS SPACE
   - Eastern Cafe
   - Hillman City Collaboratory
   - Hing Hay Coworks
   - Nagomi Tea House
   - Panama Hotel Tea & Coffee
   - Other: __________________________

8. FAVORITE LOCAL MUSEUM
   - Burke Museum
   - Frye Museum
   - Northwest African American Museum (NAAM)
   - Seattle Asian Art Museum (SAAM)
   - Seattle Pinball Museum
   - The Wing Luke Museum
   - Other: __________________________

9. FAVORITE LOCAL FAMILY BUSINESS
   - International Model Toys
   - KOBO
   - Momo
   - Sun May Co.
   - Tsue Chong Co.
   - Uwajimaya
   - Other: __________________________

LEADERSHIP & SOCIAL JUSTICE

10. FAVORITE API YOUNG LEADER (15-30)
    - Bao-Tram “BT” Do (APACE)
    - Che Sehyun (Experience Ease)
    - Derek Orbsio Dizon (API Chaya)
    - Ian Galope (UW Lambda Phi Epsilon)
    - Jacqueline Wu (OCA-Greater Seattle)
    - Jintana Lifuyouvong (APACE)
    - John Eklof (South Seattle College)
    - Monica Ng (ACRS)
    - Sam Le (UW Asian Coalition for Equality)
    - Sera Wang (UW Ethnic Studies Student Association)
    - Sonny Nguyen (Washington Bus)
    - Tony Yo (White Center CDA)
    - Tuyen Than (International Examiner)
    - Varisha Khan (Americans for Refugees & Immigrants)
    - Other: __________________________

11. FAVORITE API EDUCATOR
    - Aiko Schaefer (UW School of Social Work)
    - Connie So (UW Dept. of American Ethnic Studies)
    - Enrique “Rick” Bonus (UW Dept. of American Ethnic Studies)
    - Gail Noruma (UW Dept. of American Ethnic Studies)
    - LeLani Nishime (UW Dept. of Communication)
    - Leslie Lum (Bellevue College Social Science Division)
    - Linda Ando (UW Office of Minority Affairs & Diversity)
    - Lynette Finau (formerly South Seattle College)
    - Michelle Liu (UW Dept. of English)
    - “Auntie” Norma Timbang (UW School of Social Work)
    - Rochelle Fonoti (UW Dept. of Anthropology)
    - Roger Rigor (former Seattle School District)
    - Shawn Wong (UW Dept. of English)
    - Stephen Sumida (UW Dept of American Ethnic Studies)
    - Tetsuden Kashima (UW Dept. of American Ethnic Studies)
    - Tey Thach (UW Leadership Programs)
    - Tracy Lai (Seattle Central College)
    - Zer Vue (Renton School District)
    - Other: __________________________
LEADERSHIP & SOCIAL JUSTICE (cont.)

12. FAVORITE API ACTIVIST
- Akemi Matsumoto (APACE)
- Al Sugiyama (Executive Development Institute)
- Bao-Tram ’BT’ Do (APACE)
- "Uncle" Bob Santos (formerly Interim)
- Che Sehyun (Experience Ease)
- Francisco "Frankie" Itrigon (OCA-Greater Seattle)
- Jena Yang (E3! Ambassador Program, White House Initiative on AAPI)
- Jill Mangaliliam (Got Green)
- Joyce Yee (Solid Ground)
- Michael Woo (Got Green)
- Monica Ng (ACRS)
- Rick Pollinang (APALA)
- Sameh Hel (Rajana Society)
- Sarah Tran (Nonprofit Assistance Center)
- Sharon Maeda (formerly 21 Progress)
- Sil Savusa (White Center CDA)
- Sonny Nguyen (Washington Bus)
- Tony Vo (White Center CDA)
- Velma Veloria (former WA State Representative)
- Yu Le (Rainier Valley Corps)
- Yolanda Eng (Urban Impact)
- Zarna Joshi (Women of Color Speak Out)
- Zer Vue (SEAsD)
- Other: 

13. FAVORITE API HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL
- Alison Z. Young, MD (dermatology)
- Benjamin N. Pinto, MD (geriatric medicine)
- Ji Choi, DDS (dentistry)
- Kimo Hirokawa, MD (family medicine)
- Patricia Shigihara, DDS (dentistry)
- Ping Wong, LAC (acupuncture)
- Tamaki Fujino, DDS (dentistry)
- Other: 

14. FAVORITE API EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
- Aurora Martin (Columbia Legal Services)
- Beth Takekawa (The Wing Luke Museum)
- Dorothy Wong (CISC)
- Florentino Francois (Extraordinary Futures)
- Jeffrey Hattori (Kuro Northwest)
- Jill Mangaliliam (Got Green)
- Minh Duc Nguyen (Helping Link)
- Nancy Chang (Reel Girlz)
- Pat Thompson (YES Foundation of White Center)
- Rich Stoltz (OneAmerica)
- Sarah Tran (Nonprofit Assistance Center)
- Sil Savusa (White Center CDA)
- Teresita Batayola (ICHS)
- Other: 

15. FAVORITE API PHILANTHROPIST
- Jerry Lee (formerly MulvannyG2 Architecture Corp.)
- Phyllis Campbell (JP Morgan Chase & Co.)
- Tim Otani (Union Bank)
- Tomo Moriguchi (Uwajimaya)
- Other: 

16. FAVORITE API STUDENT ORGANIZATION
- alpha Kappa Delta Phi (aKDPh) UW
- Asian Coalition for Equality (ACE) UW
- Chinese Student Association (CSA) UW
- Filipino American Student Association (FASA) UW
- Khmer Student Association (KSA) UW
- Our Future Matters (formerly Pacific Islanders)
- Pacific Islander Club (PIC) South Seattle College
- Polynesian Student Alliance (PSA) UW
- United Filipino Club (UFC) Seattle University
- Other: 

17. FAVORITE API SENIOR ORGANIZATION
- Asian Counseling and Referral Service (ACRS)
- Chinese Information & Service Center (CISC)
- Full Life
- International Community Health Service (ICHS)
- Kenwood Northwest (formerly Nikkei Concerns)
- Kin On
- National Asian Pacific Coalition on Aging (NAPCA)
- Other: 

18. FAVORITE LOCAL API POLITICIAN
- Bob Hasegawa (WA State Senator)
- Bruce Harrell (Seattle Councilmember)
- Gary Locke (former WA State Governor)
- Kshama Sawant (Seattle Councilmember)
- Martha Choe (former Seattle Councilmember)
- Mary Yu (WA Supreme Court Justice)
- Pramila Jayapal (WA State Senator)
- Sharon Tomiko Santos (WA State Representative)
- Velma Veloria (former WA State Representative)
- Other: 

19. FAVORITE LOCAL NONPROFIT
- 21 Progress
- Asian Counseling and Referral Service (ACRS)
- Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (APALA)
- Asian Pacific Directors Coalition (APDC)
- Asian Pacific Islander Americans for Civic Empowerment (APACE)
- API Coalition Advocating Together for Healthy Communities (APICAT)
- Helping Link
- National Asian Pacifi c American Women’s Forum (NAPAWF)
- Northwest Immigrant Rights Project (NIRP)
- Rainier Valley Corps
- Real Change Homeless Empowerment Project
- Sanctuary Art Center
- Vietnamese Friendship Association (VFA)
- Washington Bus
- The Wing Luke Museum
- Other: 

20. FAVORITE BUSINESS GIVING TO API CAUSES
- Alaska Airlines
- Amerigroup
- Boeing Employees Credit Union (BECU)
- Boeing
- CenturyLink
- Comcast
- MARPAC Construction
- Other: 

21. FAVORITE HAPPY HOUR
- Alibi Room (Pike Place Market)
- Ba Bar (Seattle U)
- Eastern Cafe (Chinatown)
- Fort St. George (Downtown)
- Japonessa (Downtown)
- Kaname (Japantown)
- Monjii (Belltown)
- Monsoon (Seattle, Bellevue)
- Other: 

22. FAVORITE KARAOKE
- Bush Garden Restaurant (Chinatown)
- EnKorean Karaoke (U District, Bellevue)
- Rock Box (Capitol Hill)
- Star Karaoke (U District)
- Venus Karaoke (Chinatown)
- Other: 

FOOD, DRINKS, & ENTERTAINMENT
23. FAVORITE BAKERY
- Cake House (Chinatown)
- Delite Bakery (Beacon Hill)
- Fresh Flours (Beacon Hill, Ballard, Phinney Ridge)
- Fuji Bakery (Chinatown, Interbay)
- Hikari Specialty Desserts (Wallington)
- Macrina Bakery & Cafe (Belltown, SoDo, Queen Anne)
- Madison Park Bakery (Madison Park)
- Regent Bakery & Cafe (Redmond, Capitol Hill)
- Yummy House Bakery (Chinatown)
- Other: ________________________________

24. FAVORITE CAFE
- Eastern Cafe (Chinatown)
- Dubsea Coffee (White Center)
- Panama Hotel Tea & Coffee (Japantown)
- Tea Republic (U District, Capitol Hill)
- The Station (Beacon Hill)
- Other: ________________________________

25. FAVORITE BUBBLE TEA
- Ambrosia Cafe (Chinatown)
- Bambu (Chinatown, Kent)
- Bubble Tea: Fresh Fruit Juice (Little Saigon)
- Gossip (Chinatown)
- Mee Sum (U District)
- Oasis Tea Zone (Chinatown, U District)
- Pearls Tea & Coffee (Dellridge)
- Sharetea (U District, Renton)
- Young Tea (Chinatown)
- Other: ________________________________

26. BEST INDIAN FOOD
- Annapurna (Capitol Hill)
- Cedars on Brooklyn (U District)
- Chili’s South Indian Cuisine (U District)
- India Bistro (Roosevelt)
- Indian Curry Palace (Tukwila)
- Saffron Spice (Pike Place Market)
- Taste of India (Ravenna)
- Other: ________________________________

27. BEST KOREAN FOOD
- Bomba Fusion (mobile food truck)
- BlueStone (Capitol Hill)
- Cafe GoldinBlack (Queen Anne)
- Girin (Pioneer Square)
- Green House (U District)
- Korean Tofu House (U District)
- Kum Kung San Grill Buffet (Federal Way)
- Seoul Kitchen (mobile food truck)
- Tofully (Chinatown)
- Other: ________________________________

28. BEST VIETNAMESE FOOD
- Green Leaf (Chinatown, Belltown)
- Hue Ky Mi Gia (Little Saigon)
- Long Provincial Vietnamese (Belltown)
- Pho Bac (Rainier, Little Saigon, Denny Triangle)
- Pho Cyclo (Westlake, Capitol Hill, Downtown, SoDo)
- Pho Fushia (Pioneer Square)
- Stateside (Capitol Hill)
- Tamarind Tree (Little Saigon)
- Ten Leaves Bistro (Little Saigon)
- Thanh Vi (Little Saigon, U District)
- The Monkey Bridge (Ballard)
- Vietnam House (Little Saigon)
- Other: ________________________________

29. BEST FILIPINO FOOD
- Big Boy’s (Kent)
- Food & Sh*t (catering)
- Kraken Congee (Pioneer Square)
- Kusina Filipina (Beacon Hill)
- Oriental Mart (aka MiLa’s) (Pike Place Market)
- Xplosive (mobile food truck)
- Other: ________________________________

30. BEST JAPANESE FOOD
- 45th Stop N Shop & Poke Bar (U District)
- Aloha Ramen (Lake City)
- Billy Beach Sushi (Ballard)
- Fort St. George (Chinatown)
- Japonessa (Downtown)
- Kaniya (Japantown)
- Kizuki Ramen & Izakaya (Capitol Hill, Northgate, Bellevue, West Seattle)
- Maneki (Japantown)
- Nijo Sushi Bar & Grill (Downtown)
- Nishino (Washington Park)
- Ramen Man (Wallington)
- Tsukushinbo (Japantown)
- Other: ________________________________

31. BEST CHINESE FOOD
- 663 Bistro (Chinatown)
- Dim Sum Factory (Bellevue)
- Dim Sum King (Chinatown)
- Foo Lam Chinese Restaurant (New Holly)
- Harbor City (Chinatown)
- Ho Ho Seafood Restaurant (Chinatown)
- Honey Court Seafood Restaurant (Chinatown)
- Joyale Seafood Restaurant (Little Saigon)
- Kau Kau (Chinatown)
- Mee Sum Pastry (U District, Pike Place Market)
- Mike’s Noodle House (Chinatown)
- Ocean Star (Chinatown)
- Pacific Cafe (Chinatown)
- Purple Dot (Chinatown)
- Seven Stars Pepper Szechwan Restaurant (Little Saigon)
- Shanghai Garden (Chinatown)
- Tai Tung (Chinatown)
- Other: ________________________________

32. BEST THAI FOOD
- Araya’s Place (U District, Washington Park)
- Bai Tong Restaurant (Redmond, Tukwila)
- Bang Bar (West Seattle)
- Bangkok Basil (Redmond)
- Buddha Ruksa (West Seattle)
- Jhanjay Vegetarian Thai Cuisine (Meridian)
- KaoSorn Thai (Fremont)
- Little Thai Restaurant (U District)
- Lotus Thai Cuisine (Central District)
- Pung Kang Noodle Place (Lower Queen Anne)
- Soi (Capitol Hill)
- Thai Curry Simple (Chinatown)
- Thai On Highland (Renton)
- Thai Recipe Restaurant (Beacon Hill)
- Thai Savon (New Holly)
- Thai Siam (Ballard)
- Thai Tom (U District)
- Tup Tim Thai (Lower Queen Anne)
- Wedgewood II Vegetarian Thai (Capitol Hill)
- Other: ________________________________

33. BEST HAWAIIAN FOOD
- Aloha Plates (Chinatown Uwajimaya)
- Buddha Bruddah (mobile food truck)
- Kuali Family Restaurant (Georgetown)
- Marination Ma Kai (Aiki)
- Ma’ono (West Seattle)
- Ohana (Belltown)
- Other: ________________________________
FOOD, DRINKS, & ENTERTAINMENT (cont.)

34. BEST LOCAL API GROCERY STORE
☐ Fou Lee Market (Beacon Hill)
☐ Hau Hau Market (Little Saigon)
☐ HT Oaktree Market (Aurora Ave)
☐ Island Pacific Supermarket (Rainier Valley)
☐ Lam’s Seafood (Little Saigon)
☐ Mekong Rainier (Rainier Ave)
☐ Seattle Supermarket (Beacon Hill)
☐ Uwajimaya (Chinatown, Bellevue, Renton)
☐ Vienviane Asian Grocery (Hillman City)
☐ Viet-Wah (Little Saigon, Renton)
☐ Other: __________________________

35. BEST DESSERTS
☐ BeanFish (mobile food truck)
☐ Bambu (Chinatown, Kent)
☐ Beard Papa’s (Chinatown Uwajimaya, Lynnwood)
☐ Cakes of Paradise (Georgetown)
☐ Fresh Flours (Beacon Hill, Ballard, Phinney Ridge)
☐ Fruit Bliss Dessert Cafe (Chinatown)
☐ Hardwok Cafe (Little Saigon)
☐ Hood Famous Bakeshop (select stores, by order)
☐ Macadons (Interbay, by order)
☐ Meianna Bakery and Cafe (Hillman City)
☐ Tokara (Phinney Ridge, by order)
☐ Wann Yen (U District)
☐ Other: __________________________

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey!

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Announcements

Press for the People on June 4

With more than one in five of Seattle residents being born outside the U.S, “Press for the People,” an event featuring diverse media outlets will be held at the Youngstown Cultural Arts Center in West Seattle, on 4408 Delridge Way Southwest, Seattle 98106. There will be journalism workshops and conversations with Crosscut, South Seattle Emerald, Low-Power FM radio, The Seattle Globalist, KCTS 9, International Examiner, The Seattle Channel, and Seattle Weekly. Participants will be given a step-by-step guide on becoming a journalist: how to generate ideas, interview, produce multimedia photo, audio, video stories, and connect with editors with whom they can pitch their future ideas. They will also have the opportunity to take part in a Seattle Channel video storytelling booth to share their perspective on local challenges and opportunities. Participants should bring a story of coming to Seattle and story ideas for editors at hosting media outlets. Cost is $40 or pay what you can. ■

Press for the People happens at Youngstown Cultural Arts Center on June 4, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For more information or to register, visit http://crosscut.com/event/press-for-the-people-a-grassroots-media-workshop/.

Ethnic Heritage Council student video contest

Ethnic Heritage Council’s Student Video Contest and Film Festival is seeking entries from King County students in middle school, junior high and high school, and undergraduate students in King County colleges and universities. Participants will select one of the three following topics and express their ideas in a three-minute video: 1: What ethnic heritage means to you past present future. 2: What you love about your culture. 3: Your concerns and issues in your ethnic community. There will be six cash awards for winners, three first place winners will be awarded $1,000, and three second place winners will be awarded $500. Entry form and contest rules are at www.ethnicheritagecouncil.org. Entry forms are due July 1, 2016. Videos are due September 15, 2016. ■

NVC Memorial Day Program May 30

The 71st Annual NVC Memorial Day Program happens Monday, May 30 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. at Lake View Cemetery, 1554 15th Avenue East, Seattle. Each year since 1946, the Nisei Veterans Committee has held a Memorial Day Service to honor all who have died in service of their country, especially members of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team (the most highly decorated unit for size and length of service in the history of the US Military) and the Military Intelligence Service (a group credited by General MacArthur’s staff with shortening the War in the Pacific by two years).

Several hundred Japanese Americans and friends will come out to honor their valor and sacrifice, made all the more remarkable by the fact the U.S. Government had forcibly removed and incarcerated their families at the start of WWII. ■

For more information, visit www.nvcfoundation.org.

MOHAI History Café on Wing Luke

The Seattle Public Library will co-present a panel discussion of the life and legacy of Wing Luke (1925-1965), the first Asian-American elected to office in the Pacific Northwest, from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 19 at the Museum of History and Industry (MOHAI), 860 Terry Ave N., in the museum’s Compass Café.

Panelists will be introduced by Ellen Ferguson, daughter of the Seattle Room’s namesakes Hugh and Jane Ferguson, and will include the following speakers.

• Bob Ferguson, Washington state attorney general
• Ron Chew, executive director of the Wing Luke Museum from 1991-2007 and director of the International Community Health Services Foundation
• Bettie Luke, sister of Wing Luke and vice president of the Seattle Chapter of the Chinese American Citizens Alliance ■

For more information, call (206) 386-4636.

IE COMMUNITY

SUDOKU PUZZLER

By Jun Kamehke

Previous solution
2 5 7 3 9 8 6 1 4
9 8 6 4 7 1 5 3 2
1 2 7 3 5 6 8 9 0
1 3 8 7 2 9 6 5 4
6 2 5 1 9 8 3 7 0
4 6 5 2 7 9 3 8 0
3 7 8 6 2 5 4 9 1
8 1 4 6 3 5 2 7 9
7 2 9 1 8 5 3 4 6

Hard #87
Answers to this puzzle are on Wednesday, June 21.

LIFE IS NOTHING MORE THAN A FLEETING MOMENT, DAPPLED WITH LOVE AND WANDER. EVEN THEN, IT IS STILL BEAUTIFUL.

REX IN PEACE SANTI
Journey to Dunhuang exhibit packs thousands of years of history

By Fred Wong
IE Arts

Asian Art Museum in Volunteer Park is showing “Journey to Dunhuang: Buddhist Art of the Silk Road Caves” from March 5 to June 12, 2016. The exhibit shows black & white photographs taken by James and Lucy Lo in the 1940s, ancient manuscripts that collected, and life size copies of cave murals.

Thousands of years of stories and history are packed behind the objects in this small exhibit.

China has been trading with the West for over 2000 years. The Silk Road refers to a set of “caravan routes that stretched from China, Central Asia, and India to the West. Luxury goods flowed along vast networks—silk, for example, was worth its weight in gold in the Roman Empire,” according to the Seattle Art Museum (SAM). Art travelled the road along with goods, people, ideas, foods, languages, and religions. Buddhism came from India to China along the Silk Road over 2000 years ago.

Dunhuang is at the western edge of China along the Silk Road for a thousand years since the fourth century, it was a bustling desert oasis, “a gateway for the original goods, people, ideas, foods, languages, and religions.” Art travelled the road along with goods, people, ideas, foods, languages, and religions.

In the exhibit, we get to see 31 out of over 2500 of the photos taken by the Lo’s. Every three or four photos are grouped and displayed in “rooms” that are created by long diaphanous floor-to-ceiling fabric panels. The “rooms” are a simple and elegant way to suggest the mystery and intimacy of the caves.

I love the shadows in the photos. You almost imagine those are the shadows caused by the Lo’s. You feel like you are standing next to them as they take the photo. The shadows seem personal, and creative. The perfect photograph is much too highly rated considering the Lo’s technical challenges.

The exhibit shows 12 drawings of life-size copies of the cave murals created by a group of young artists organized by the Lo’s in Taiwan. What must it have been like for the Lo’s to see the murals painted, to see the caves come to life again in front of their eyes in full color, to relive their adventure in a small way. These drawings capture not just the subject matter, but also the condition of the murals, with dirt, grime, cracks, missing paints accurately reproduced.

The exhibit also includes six of the many ancient manuscripts the Lo’s collected; a few really caught my eye and imagination. Two pieces are actual manuscripts over 1000 years old produced in a forthcoming book on early Chinese painting. Two pieces are actual manuscripts over 1000 years old produced in a forthcoming book on early Chinese painting and produced on paper.

In the exhibit, Lucy Lo in the 1940s, ancient manuscripts & white photographs taken by James and Lucy Lo decided to honeymoon in Dunhuang, and art travelled the road along with goods, people, ideas, foods, languages, and religions. Art travelled the road along with weights, people, ideas, foods, languages, and religions. Art travelled the road along with weights, people, ideas, foods, languages, and religions.

There is a museum on the lo’s in the exhibit, Awakened Ones: Buddhas of Asia. And the Getty Museum in Los Angeles will be having a major exhibit on Dunhuang from May 7 to September 3.


Remembering John Matsudaira, Northwest artist

By Alan Chong Lau
IE Arts Editor

It’s 1:30 in the morning, and I’m staring at a framed photo of four Japanese Americans in suits with an elderly, elegant woman with a quizzical look on her face, holding a cat in her lap. Behind them on the wall are abstract paintings of shapes and forms, each framed with sturdy heavy wood that denote an earlier time.

What amuses me is that not all of the people in the composition – a woman with a warm smile, Paul Horii, the tallest of them, appearing to be leaning on a chair, his head in his hands, and a couple of other people, all dressed in suits with an elegant, elderly woman with a quizzical look on her face, holding a cat in her lap, are looking at me. These are photos taken by George Tsutakawa, the owner of the essay, Paul Horiuchi, and George Tsutakawa.

The last time I saw John, I was helping a friend who had attended his memorial service, he mentioned to me that, as a child, he had won a prize for best drawing in the city of Kanazawa, Japan. He would no longer exist? What is most fascinating about Dunhuang is the mixing of cultures, which resulted in mixed marriages, new and mixed religious beliefs, and new art. You can see the actual mixing of cultures in the manuscript, Flower Garland Sutra Volume 77, combines different languages on the same sheet of paper. The Tangut script is itself a mix of the Tangut language and Chinese strokes. It reminds me of square Chinese strokes. It reminds me of square Chinese strokes.

He retired after working over 30 years at Boeing. Even retired, he remained devoted to his good friend and mentor, Paul Horii. In his last years, John would pick up Paul at his home and drive him around to art galleries so he could continue to see art. Bringing up a family and working never left him with enough time to do the painting.

The exhibit also makes me want to learn more about Buddhist art, and Dunhuang. But was sent back to the castle town of Kanazawa, Japan. He would no longer exist? What is most fascinating about Dunhuang is the mixing of cultures, which resulted in mixed marriages, new and mixed religious beliefs, and new art. You can see the actual mixing of cultures in the manuscript, Flower Garland Sutra Volume 77, combines different languages on the same sheet of paper. The Tangut script is itself a mix of the Tangut language and Chinese strokes. It reminds me of square Chinese strokes.

Across from him was John Matsudaira, the Northwest artist.

There is a museum on the lo’s in the exhibit, Awakened Ones: Buddhas of Asia. And the Getty Museum in Los Angeles will be having a major exhibit on Dunhuang from May 7 to September 3.


For those of you interested in finding out more about John Matsudaira, he was interviewed by Deno’s oral history project. Log on to www. deno.org. His work can now be seen in a retrospective show of his work entitled “Against the Moon: The Art of John Matsudaira” along with a group of Northwest Pho- tographers at the Northwest American Art Museum at 190 Sunset Ave 4E in Edmonds, Washington. Hours are Wednesday to Sunday from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and the museum is open every First Thursday of each month from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. For more information, call (425) 336-4869.

The last time I saw John, I was helping a photographer throw blankets over the skylight on his roof so he could take a clearer photo of his world’s fair painting without the distraction of indirect sunlight. His painting was to be reproduced in a forthcoming book on early Chinese artists for a university press. Recently, when I mentioned this to a family friend who had attended his memorial service, she expressed surprise. “Oh, so he is going to be in a book?”

Evidently, when her mother visited him during his last stay in the hospital, he had mentioned to her that his art was finally going to be in a book. Since he was on medication, she wasn’t sure if he was hallucinating, or what he was actually telling her was real.

Once when his friend Paul Horii had a small retrospective at the Museum of Northwest Art in La Conner, John invited us along. He wasn’t sure if he was hallucinating, or what he was actually telling her was real.

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Dean Wong’s Seeing the Light: Four Decades in Chinatown is a gem

By Johnnani IE Contributor

“...You just have to live and life will give you pictures,” Henri Cartier-Bresson, a humanist photographer, once said.

With Bresson’s quotation, so the journey begins. It is an exodus interweaving the words and images of Seattle’s own Dean Wong in Seeing the Light: Four Decades in Chinatown, published by Chin Music Press. It is a journey universal in nature yet specific in action. It embodies the search to find one’s own place in the world; the struggle to find home and the discovery of the significance of what is community.

As a photographer, journalist, and artist, Wong guides us on this vision quest through interwoven first-person stories and poetically crafted images captured in the “Cartier-Bresson decisive moment.” In this mix, Wong creates contextualized slices of life that actually are more expansive than the moments in time that Bresson originally addresses. The vignettes showcased amass into a whole that carries us through the pages of the book and engages us emotionally and intellectually: subsequently reverberating as a social discourse. The balance of words, images and insight is very powerful. A balance that only Wong can achieve.

Through the four decades of his discourse, Wong’s perception has been refined as a native son, resident, journalist, photographer, artist, and community activist. What links us through the four decades and the five different Chinese communities is a consciousness bound together by a shared culture, ethnic identity, and economic struggle. This is an experience that is not exclusive to the Chinese in America but one that Wong presents as shared across ethnic, gender, and generational lines and speaks of a universality woven into a fabric of a new and old American experience.

The photographs are rich in meaning with edge-to-edge details and juxtapositions both poignant and ironic. We are privy to a view akin to a fly on the wall with the ability to allow the action to unfold before us and open a space of greater insight.

The stories speak to an undercurrent of lifeblood, flowing through the crowded streets and cramped work and living spaces. Stories that expand the scope and break the general misconceptions of Chinatowns. They speak to a vibrant community and place; a home. For instance, the stories of Epigina and Jesus Fernandez at the Bush Hotel, photographer Henry Takayoshi, Ryan Rhinehart and Wong’s own family are just a few that speak so loudly, so quietly yet so resoundingly. The layers are multifaceted as images speak contrapuntally to the stories and art times reflect but work in parallel. At other times they intersect directly; but all ultimately flow together in a discourse subtly and in motion.

This book is a gem. A discourse I personally did not want to end. Having had the great fortune of seeing Wong’s photographs on a weekly basis and reading his stories over the past 25 years I wish there was room for more.

Be sure to check out Wong’s upcoming show “New Street Photography” at the Jack Straw Media Gallery located on 4261 Roosevelt Way NE beginning on June 17. Also check out the Snapshots In Time Flickr Gallery of the International Examiner to see more work: https://www.flickr.com/photos/examinerarchives/ albums. You could also check out the Examiner’s Digital Archives for Dean’s stories: http://www.5thavenue.org/digital-archives. And finally, be sure to check the Arts Etc. for more upcoming events involving Dean.

Paint Your Wagon retelling reflects reality of diversity in history

By Roxanne Ray IE Contributor

Every day, the American Dream continues to be explored, pursued and questioned in American daily life, as well as on its theatre stages. The 5th Avenue Theatre joins in this exploration with a new adaptation of Frederick Loewe and Alan Jay Lerner’s classic tale of the California Gold Rush, Paint Your Wagon.

The book for this new adaptation has been developed by writer Jon Marans. “David Armstrong, the Artistic Director of The 5th Avenue Theatre, approached me about the project, asking me if I wanted every single cast member in Paint Your Wagon to be a specific character with their own specific wants,” he said.

But that has been a tall order. “It’s a cast of 23 with some doubling of roles, making it about 28 total characters,” Marans said. “That’s a lot of people for me to dream up, but of course that’s the fun part.”

This goal also entails some compromise. “With a cast this size, I obviously have to continually hone things down to the core dramatic story, which strictly involves ten people,” he said. “It’s a tricky balancing act to include everything in the story while not letting it slow the story down.”

In addition to broadening the narrative and character representations of the prior stage show, this production also augments the music heard by previous theatre audiences. “One of the other tricky parts to writing a brand new book to a pre-existing show is that you only have a limited number of songs at your disposal to tell your new story,” Marans explained. “But we were lucky; we had some extra songs available to us.”

Those songs became key in Marans’s adaptation process. “We found a song that wasn’t in the original version, but had been added during the first national tour,” he said. “We also were able to use two songs that had been written especially for the movie which were also quite helpful in our storytelling.”

Among this team of creatives, Marans has maintained an integral role in the rehearsal process—something not always common for writers. “I’ve been there every minute!” he said. “It’s just me, since sadly the brilliant Lerner and Loewe are no longer alive, so it’s important that I’m around.”

Staying present in the rehearsal room is standard for Marans. “That’s just sort of who I am in all the shows I work on, wanting to be around as much as possible to continually peel back the layers, which was so helpful in clarifying this new ‘make-your-own-rules’ California world,” Marans said.

This writer-director collaboration has extended to the show’s staging. “David is also beautifully collaborative and welcomes thoughts on how I might have seen a scene or a moment,” Marans said. “And since I’m also a director and acting coach, I usually have at least some very preliminary concepts or thoughts in mind.”

Through this process, Marans also learned a lot about the original score and its role in the show. “The music needed to have the same toughness and edge as the new book,” Marans said. “And that’s where Ian brilliantly came in to find a new musical vocabulary to tell our new story.”

Marans believes this is complemented by the casting and direction just a few performers. “And Josh Rhodes, our choreographer, has given the dancing a thrilling strength and muscularity and danger—which needs to hang over this show at all times,” he said.
EMBRACING THE HOPES AND ASPIRATIONS OF ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICANS

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