

Fiscal Year 2008-2009 CCLPEP GRANT RECIPIENTS

California Japanese American Community Leadership Council

Alan Nishio

Project: Remembering Historic Japantowns in the East Bay, Delta, and Central Valley

\$25,000

Description: The California Japanese American Community Leadership Council will record the first-hand memories of residents of Japantowns in the Delta and Central Valley of California. They will then be transcribed and made available on the web. Focus will be on building awareness of the historic districts of Alameda, Walnut Grove, Isleton, and Fresno.

Central California District Council - Japanese American Citizens League

Dale Ikeda

Project: Fresno Assembly Center Memorial Project Upgrade

\$25,000

Description: Approximately 5,000 Japanese Americans were detained at the Fresno Assembly Center, which is the current site for the Fresno Fair Grounds. In conjunction with the Fresno Fair Board of Directors, the Pinedale Assembly Center Memorial Committee will repair and remodel the historical site of the Fresno Assembly Center. Elements will be added to provide the historic significance of the site.

Council on American-Islamic Relations – Los Angeles Chapter

Affad Shaikh

Project: Legacy-Internment and Civil Rights Revisited – Los Angeles

\$6,575

Description: Working with the Japanese American Citizens League, the Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress, and Muslim Student Association West Coast and Southern California, Council on American-Islamic Relations will visit southern California campuses to present programs that include Japanese American internees and Muslims as speakers. The Japanese American internment and redress will be used as a beginning point in discussing Muslims in a post-9/11 world. The project will culminate in a day-long Manzanar pilgrimage.

Council on American-Islamic Relations – Sacramento Valley Chapter

Basim Elkarra

Project: Legacy-Internment and Civil Rights Revisited – Sacramento Valley

\$6,575

Description: Working with the Japanese American Citizens League, the Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress, and the Council of Sacramento Valley Islamic Organizations, Council on American-Islamic Relations will visit Sacramento Valley and Central Valley campuses to present programs that include Japanese American internees and Muslims as speakers. The Japanese American internment and redress will be used as a beginning point in discussing Muslims in a post-9/11 world. The project will culminate in a day-long Manzanar pilgrimage.

Densho: Japanese American Legacy Project

Tom Ikeda

Project: Voices Less Heard: Nisei Women's Life Stories

\$22,000

Description: Densho will interview and video record the life stories of 12 Nisei women with diverse experiences and perspectives interned during World War II and who live in the greater Los Angeles area. The interviews and transcriptions will be made available on the internet.

East West Players

Tim Dang

Project: Theatre for Youth Touring Production of *Dawn's Light: The Story of Gordon Hirabayashi*

\$25,000

Description: *Dawn's Light* will be performed at Southern California middle and high schools, nonprofit organizations, libraries, and community centers to inform audiences about the conviction of Gordon Hirabayashi for refusing to be interned during World War II and his successful overturn of the conviction.

Philip Kan Gotanda

Project: *Living J-Town*

\$25,000

Description: Mr. Gotanda will research and write a screenplay about fictional occupants of a Japantown boarding house, including early immigrants, picture brides, the 442nd Infantry soldiers, and no-no boys and how internment disrupted their lives. The project will include a public reading of the screenplay.

Grateful Crane Ensemble

Soji Kashiwagi

Project: *The Betrayed*, a Play by Hiroshi Kashiwagi

\$15,000

Description: Soji Hashiwagi will produce his father's play, *The Betrayed*, which is intended to give audiences a better understanding of the loyalty controversy during World War II. The performance will be followed by a panel presentation comprised Hiroshi Kashiwagi, a no-no-boy, and a veteran of the 442nd Infantry. The panel will discuss their experiences and how their choices affected their lives.

Carol Izumi, Margaret Chon, Jerry Kang, Frank Wu, Eric Yamamoto

Project: *Race, Rights, and Reparation*, Second Edition

\$25,000

Description: The authors will revise *Race, Rights, and Reparation* and its accompanying teacher's manual to incorporate the further developments in scholarly research and public policy, including activity related to 9/11. *Race, Rights, and Reparation* is the only law school casebook about the Japanese American internment and the only set of teaching materials for the graduate/ professional school level on Asian Americans and the law.

Japanese American Citizens League – Pacific Southwest District

Craig Ishii

Project: 2010 Bridging Communities for Civil Rights Program

\$5,000

Description: Through a series of five all-day sessions, this project will bring together youth of the Japanese American community with the Muslim American community. Participants will look at the strengths and differences that help to bind us as a community and discuss topics that include community identity, culture and religion, activism. The project will include a Manzanar pilgrimage and the development of a culminating media project. Alumni from the previous year will be encouraged to assist in planning.

Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California
Courtney Okuhara
Project: California Nisei College Diploma Project
\$25,000

Description: Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California will work with the University of California, California State University, and California Community College systems to coordinate a program to confer honorary degrees to Nisei students who were removed to internment camps during World War II before they were able to complete their college educations. The project will include development of an informational website and other outreach activities to ensure distribution of information about the honorary degree program.

Nancy Kapitanoff
Project: Michi Nishiura Weglyn Research Project
\$13,950

Description: Kapitanoff will catalog and provide web access to the archive materials from Michi Nishiura Weglyn. Weglyn is the author of *Years of Infamy*. The website will also include information about Weglyn's husband, Walter Weglyn, who was a German Jewish Holocaust survivor. Weglyn's archives include government documents, photographs and thousands of letters detailing her research into the causes and implications of the Japanese American internment.

Lewis Kawahara
Project: College of San Mateo Asian Pacific American Film Festival: An Afternoon Matinee with CCLPEP Films
\$7,550

Description: The College of San Mateo will screen CCLPEP-funded films in conjunction with the College's Asian Pacific American Film Festival in March 2010. Filmmakers will be invited to address the audience in question-and-answer session after each screening.

Alice Kim
Project: *A Crossroad Called Manzanar* – a Short Narrative Film
\$15,000

Description: Kim will produce a short fictional film to explore how anti-Japanese bigotry might have affected other Asian Americans and their relationships with their Japanese counterparts. Informational materials that can be used by educators and organizations as part of their teaching modules will be developed to accompany the film. The film will be distributed via DVD and digital download from the grant recipient's website.

Little Tokyo Service Center
Bill Watanabe
Project: Asian Pacific Islander Historic Preservation National Conference & New Strategies Related to Japantowns and Camps
\$20,000

Description: A Nikkei track will be developed as a major portion of the National Asian Pacific Islander Preservation Conference in 2010. Conference participants active in local Nikkei preservation efforts and will share best practices and technical assistance to those interested in historic and cultural preservation.

Lodestone Theatre Ensemble

Tim Lounibos

Project: Living in Silence: Toraichi Kono – Oral History & Archival Collection

\$15,000

Description: Toraichi Kono was a personal assistant to Charlie Chaplin and was the target of FBI and Department of Justice espionage investigations in the early Hollywood years. This phase of the project will continue and complete the archival research and oral histories of Kono's family members, friends, acquaintances, and experts. Future phases will lead to the completion of a documentary film about Kono's life in during and following World War II.

Ken Narasaki

Project: *No No Boy*: A stage play based on the novel *No No Boy* by John Okada

\$20,000

Description: A stage play developed from the novel by the same name will be developed, and a workshop production of the play will be presented to an audience of playwrights and others involved in theatrical production as well as members of the community. The completed play will be produced in Los Angeles for four-week run, opening in conjunction with The Day of Remembrance.

National Japanese American Historical Society

Rosalyn Tonai

Project: Objects of Memory Project

\$15,000

Description: The National Japanese American Historical Society (NJAHS) will create a community-accessible archive collection of photos, documents, art, clothing, and household items related to Japanese American World War II experience. The collection will be preserved and will also serve as vehicles of memory. NJAHS will conduct a series of community collection days and genealogy workshops, catalog the objects collected, and make them accessible through an exhibit, an online database, and a physical archive.

National Japanese American Historical Society

Rosalyn Tonai

Project: Tule Lake Committee Oral History Project

\$16,000

Description: The National Japanese American Historical Society (NJAHS) will collect 30 oral histories on video and audio of Japanese Americans who were interned at the Tule Lake Camp, editing eight of these for presentation for presentation on the web and on computer kiosks located at Tule Lake and Manzanar Historic Sites, the NJAHS Gallery in San Francisco's Japantown, the Western Addition Branch Library in San Francisco, and the Asian Branch Library in Oakland.

Wayne Yoshito Osaki

Project: *My Dog Teny*

\$25,000

Description: Mr. Osaki will create an illustrated children's book based on his personal experience as a high school student forced to leave his home to go to an internment camp, leaving behind his dog, Teny. An audio CD will be created to accompany the book. The book and CD will be distributed to 500 selected libraries and schools.

Pacific Citizen Newspaper
Caroline Aoyagi-Stom
Project: Preserving Our Legacy: Digitizing the *Pacific Citizen* Archives
\$15,000

Description: The *Pacific Citizen* is the oldest continuously published English language chronicle of the Japanese experience in America. The grant will be used to digitize the newspaper from 1936 to 1943 to preserve its contents and make it available as a searchable database on the internet.

Purple Moon Dance Project
Jill Togawa
Project: *When Dreams Are Interrupted*
\$12,000

Description: The grant recipient will gather stories from a South Berkeley community, where a formerly thriving Japanese American community lived prior to the World War II internment, and create a performance incorporating dance, music, and visual art. Public performances will be held in the Fall of 2009, including at least one public discussion of the work to include scholars and artists. A DVD of the project, including the performances, will be created.

Riverside Community College District
Dr. Irving Hendrick
Project: Mine Okubo Riverside Archive Collection
\$20,000

Description: The Riverside Community College District was the recipient of a portion of Mine Okubo's estate, which may be the largest, single collection of the papers, art works, and memorabilia of the most significant Japanese American female artist of the 20th century. The project will complete the descriptive inventory and catalog of Okubo's papers and art to define the breadth and depth of her career for the first time, adding significantly to the body of knowledge about her.

Tule Lake Committee
Hiroshi Shimizu
Project: Saving an American Treasure: The Tule Lake Segregation Center
\$25,000

Description: The Tule Lake Committee received a Save America's Treasures grant to stabilize and preserve one of the few remaining buildings from the Tule Lake Segregation center. The Tule Lake Segregation Center is a National Historic Landmark and was recently designated as a National Monument. This grant will assist with the first phase of the preservation project, which is the preparation of the architectural and engineering plans.

Tule Lake Committee
Hiroshi Shimizu
Project: Tule Lake Segregation Center National Monument On-Line
\$10,000

Description: The Tule Lake Committee will develop a Tule Lake Segregation Center website to create an online presence to educate and inform the public about the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument and provide a "virtual visit" to the Center, which was a high-security camp. The website will incorporate instructional materials, photos, and other documents.

Stan Yogi

Project: "Wherever There's a Fight" California Civil Liberties Website

\$15,350

Description: This website will be both a stand-alone resource and a supplement to the book *Wherever There's a Fight: How Runaway Slaves, Suffragists, Immigrants, Strikers, and Poets Shaped Civil Liberties in California*, which is scheduled to be published October 2009. The website will highlight the Japanese American internment and other civil liberties struggles. It will include high school curriculum, timelines, book excerpts, stories edited from the book, news about current civil liberties issues, and links to California Civil Liberties Public Education Program projects and civil rights organizations.

For more information on any of these projects or about CCLPEP, please contact Linda Springer at 916-651-6509 or CivilLiberties.library.ca.gov.