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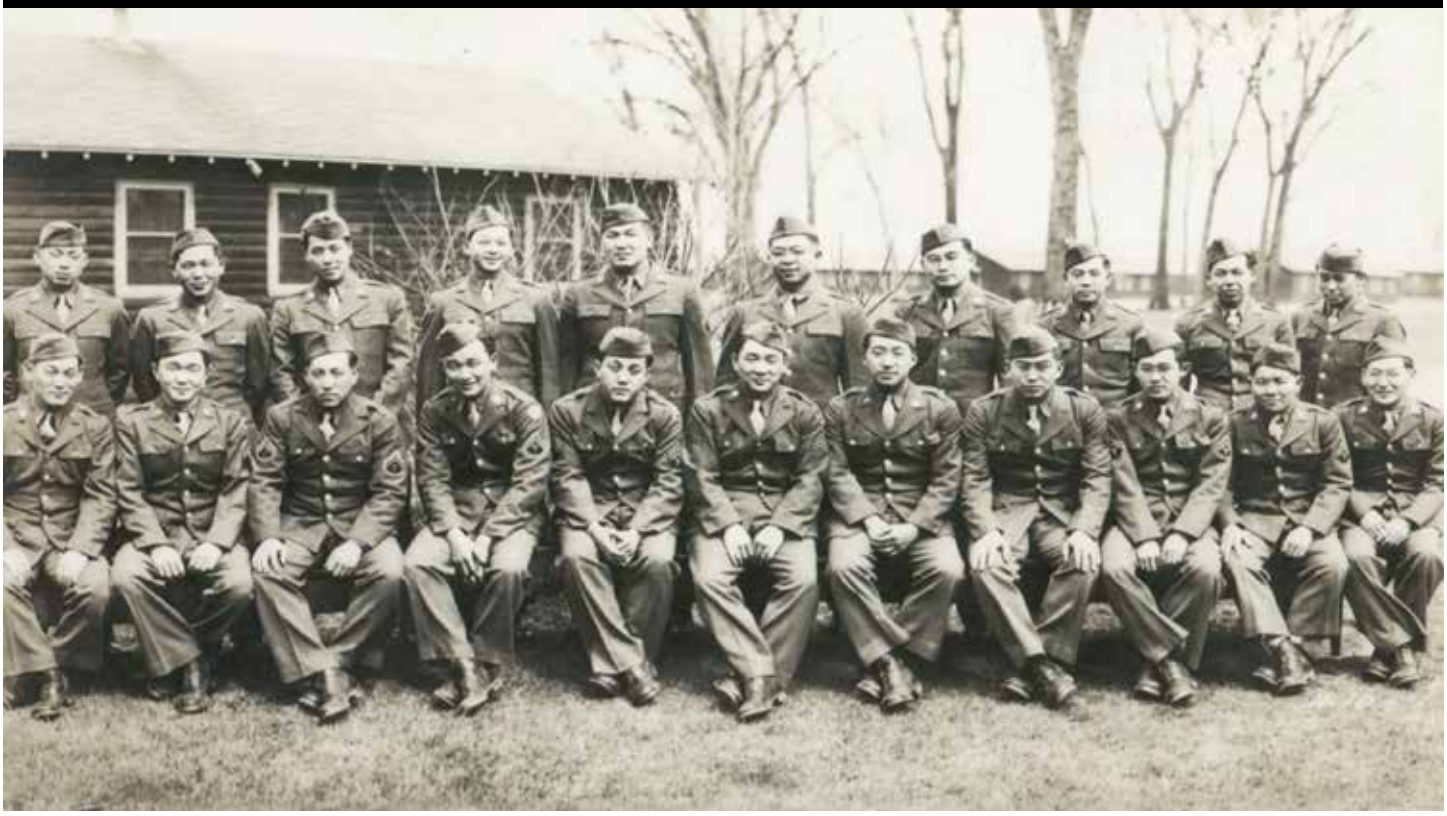
CONTACT INFORMATION

Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program

National Park Service
US Department of the Interior

Spring 2017



Asian Media Access' documentary highlights the stories of Japanese Americans who served in the Military Intelligence Service during World War II. This project was funded, in part, by a Japanese American Confinement Sites grant, featured on page 15. Photo courtesy: Grant Ichikawa

Notation on back of photo: Barrack F, Camp Savage, Minnesota, Gila Boys. In photo (left to right)- front row: CPL Ted Soyeshima, CPL Grant Ichikawa, CPL Frank Mori, CPL Ace Fukai, SGT Hoichi Kubo, SGT Yoshiki Miyazaki, CPL Hiro Nishimura, CPL Kiyoshi Yamibe, CPL Hank Kuwabara, CPL George Nakamura, CPL Ray Otake; back row: CPL John Fujimoto, CPL Mas Inoshita, CPL Ben Sugeta, CPL Tomochi Tsuruda, CPL Bud Mukaye, CPL Shiz Kunihiro, CPL Ben Obata, CPL Jim Tanaka, CPL Sho Nomura, CPL Tom Moriguchi

2016: A YEAR IN REVIEW – PRESERVING AND INTERPRETING WORLD WAR II JAPANESE AMERICAN CONFINEMENT SITES

The National Park Service (NPS) is pleased to report on the progress of the Japanese American Confinement Sites (JACS) Grant Program. On December 21, 2006, President George W. Bush signed Public Law 109-441 (120 STAT 3288), which authorized the National Park Service to create a grant program to encourage and support the preservation and interpretation of historic confinement sites where Japanese Americans were detained. The law authorized up to $38 million for the life of the grant program. Congress first appropriated funding for the program in 2009. JACS grants are awarded through a competitive process in which $2 of federal money matches every $1 in non-federal funds and "in-kind" contributions.

Over the past eight years, the program has made 163 grant awards totaling more than $21 million to private nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, state, local, and tribal governments, and other public entities. The projects involve 20 states and the District of Columbia and include oral histories, preservation of camp artifacts and buildings, documentaries and educational curricula, and exhibits and memorials that preserve what remains of the confinement sites and honor the people who were incarcerated there by sharing their experiences.

The Fiscal Year 2016 grant awards featured in this report include a memorial to honor nearly 8,000 Japanese Americans who were imprisoned at the Tanforan Assembly Center, which was built on a former horse racing track in California; exhibitions about the Rohwer and Jerome camps in Arkansas; and the development of high school curriculum to teach students about the lesser-known

continued on page 2

2016: A YEAR IN REVIEW

continued from page 1

Department of Justice camps, such as Fort Lincoln in North Dakota and Fort Stanton in New Mexico.

The 15 grants awarded in 2016 range from $22,800 to California's Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation to create a permanent exhibit about the wartime internment of Japanese Americans on Angel Island to $421,941 for Seattle nonprofit Densho to develop a database listing the names of everyone held at the various incarceration sites and a standard subject list and thesaurus to link scattered resources connected to the Japanese American experience during World War II, all of which will be made available to others on Densho's website.

Each year, as new projects begin, past JACS-funded projects are completed. Some of those completed this year include a documentary film exploring the lesser-known stories of the Leupp Citizen Isolation Center on the Navajo Reservation in Leupp, Arizona; an exhibit that explores the divergent choices made by incarcerated Japanese Americans including service in the military, resistance, and renunciation of US citizenship; and teacher training workshops for middle and high school educators to increase understanding of the Japanese American World War II confinement site experience.

The National Park Service is honored to support the efforts of those working to preserve these sites and tell their stories. The wide range of funded grant projects demonstrates the importance of sharing the lessons of Japanese American World War II incarceration history with the public and how those lessons remain relevant today more than 70 years later.

Former NPS Director Jonathan B. Jarvis announced the grants at a reception for the All Camps Consortium hosted by the Embassy of Japan in Washington, D.C., on May 12, 2016.

"The National Park Service is dedicated to preserving the memory of Japanese Americans who were incarcerated during World War II," Jarvis said. "The inclusion of sites like Honouliuli, Manzanar, Minidoka, and Tule Lake in the National Park System and the support for the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program reflect our nation's commitment to remember and learn from this shameful episode in our past."

General view of "assembly center" being constructed on Pomona Fairgrounds, California, April 8, 1942. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-37-390), National Archives and Records Administration Collection, photo by Clem Albers

Eligible Sites and Projects

As defined by Public Law 109-441, eligible confinement sites include the ten War Relocation Authority camps: Gila River (AZ), Amache (Granada) (CO), Heart Mountain (WY), Jerome (AR), Manzanar (CA), Minidoka (ID), Poston (AZ), Rohwer (AR), Topaz (UT), and Tule Lake (CA), as well as other sites – including "assembly," "relocation," and "isolation" centers – identified in the NPS report *Confinement and Ethnicity* and as determined by the Secretary of the Interior, where Japanese Americans were imprisoned during World War II.

Seven major categories of activities are eligible for JACS grants: capital projects (such as the construction of new interpretive centers); documentation (such as archeological surveys); oral history interviews; interpretation and education related to historic confinement sites (such as wayside exhibits or educational curricula); preservation of confinement sites and related historic resources (such as restoration of historic buildings or collections conservation); planning projects (such as resource management plans); and non-federal real property acquisition (allowed only at Heart Mountain (WY), Honouliuli (HI), Jerome (AR), Rohwer (AR), and Topaz (UT), per stipulations of Public Laws 109-441 and 111-88).

Overview of the 2016 Grant Program Process

For the 2016 grant program, the National Park Service mailed postcards announcing the availability of grant applications and guidelines to approximately 7,300 individuals and organizations. On September 10, 2015, the National Park Service also announced the availability of application materials through a national press release, the grant program website, and other correspondence.

By the application deadline of November 10, 2015, the National Park Service received 29 applications requesting more than $6.2 million in federal funds. During the week of December 8, 2015, the JACS grant review panel convened at the NPS Intermountain Regional Office in Lakewood, Colorado, to evaluate the proposals. The panel was composed of NPS staff from the Intermountain, Midwest, and Pacific West regions. Appointed by NPS regional directors, the six panel members represented a variety of backgrounds and disciplines, including expertise in archeology, curation, history, historical architecture, interpretive media, and social sciences. The panel evaluated and ranked each proposal using criteria and guidelines that were established based on public input.

The panel recommended 15 proposals to receive funding. Former Director Jarvis announced the 15 grant awards on May 12, 2016.

Following the signing of Executive Order 9066, Japanese Americans, forced to move from their West Coast homes, wait with their luggage at the old Santa Fe station for a train to take them from Los Angeles to Owens Valley, April 1942. Photo courtesy: Library of Congress (LC-DIG-fsa-8a31168), photo by Russell Lee, Farm Security Administration

Original Ansel Adams caption: Manzanar street scene, winter, Manzanar Relocation Center, 1943. Photograph by Ansel Adams. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-93-23), Courtesy of the Library of Congress

FISCAL YEAR 2016 GRANT AWARDS

In 2016 – the JACS Grant Program's eighth year – 15 awards provided more than $2.8 million to projects in five states and the District of Columbia. A list of the winning projects follows.

Fiscal Year 2016 Project Descriptions by State

ARKANSAS

Recipient: **Central Arkansas Library System (Little Rock, AR)**

Project Title: **Exhibitions and Educational Outreach on the Confinement Camps at Rohwer and Jerome, Arkansas**

Grant Award: $153,699

Site(s): Rohwer Relocation Center, Desha County, AR; Jerome Relocation Center, Chicot and Drew counties, AR

Description: The Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, a department of the Central Arkansas Library System, will produce four major exhibitions to tell the story of Japanese Americans incarcerated at Rohwer and Jerome during World War II. The exhibits will showcase thousands of historic documents and hundreds of pieces of recently acquired artwork created by incarcerees in the Arkansas camps. Lesson plans, a brochure, and a special webpage with links to the Encyclopedia of Arkansas database that tie in to the exhibits will be produced and made accessible to the public. An interpretive specialist will be hired to staff the exhibits and a field-trip program established to share the artwork and history with school groups.

Closing of the War Relocation Authority-administered Jerome incarceration site in Denson, Arkansas, June 18, 1944. Photo courtesy: National Archives and Records Administration, photo by Charles E. Mace

CALIFORNIA

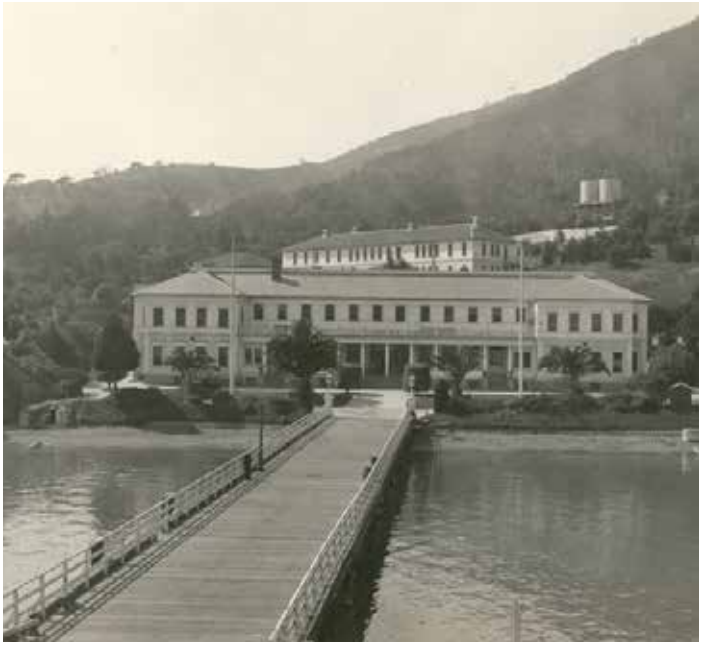
Recipient: **Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation (San Francisco, CA)**

Project Title: **Developing Permanent Exhibits about Japanese Internment on Angel Island for its Pacific Coast Immigration Center**

Grant Award: $22,800

Site(s): Angel Island, North Garrison of Fort McDowell (INS and US Army), Marin County, CA

Description: The Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation will create an exhibit to share the experiences of Japanese American detainees held at Angel Island during World War II. This permanent exhibit will be part of the new, multimillion-dollar, Angel Island State Park Pacific Coast Immigration Center, which is scheduled to open in 2017. The Center will teach about Pacific Coast immigration and detention before, during, and after the Angel Island immigration period, which extended from 1910 to 1940. The grant also will be used to update the foundation's website (www.aiisf.org).



View of Angel Island Immigration Station Administration Building, detention barracks and pier, c. 1916. Photo courtesy: National Archives and Records Administration, Pacific Sierra Region, San Bruno, CA

Recipient: **Go For Broke National Education Center (Los Angeles, CA)**

Project Title: **Communities of Compassion and Courage**

Grant Award: $378,937

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: The Go For Broke National Education Center will develop a traveling exhibit in partnership with 10 communities in seven states to share the unique stories of communities that demonstrated compassion and courage by helping Japanese Americans during World War II. As part of the exhibit, each community will research and tell its own story through oral histories, graphics, audio/visual diplays and artifacts. Middle and high school curriculum also will be developed and the exhibits showcased during a lecture series at the Japanese American National Museum's Center for Democracy in Los Angeles and at other venues.

Japanese Americans wait at the old Santa Fe station in Los Angeles for a train to take them to the Owens Valley detention facility, which would later become the Manzanar War Relocation Center. Photo courtesy: Library of Congress (LC-DIG-fsa-8a31154), photo by Russell Lee, Farm Security Administration

Recipient: **Japanese American Citizens League, Pacific Southwest District (Los Angeles, CA)**

Project Title: **Bridging Communities Fellowship Program**

Grant Award: $41,340

Site(s): Manzanar Relocation Center, Inyo County, CA; and Tuna Canyon Detention Station (INS), Los Angeles County, CA

Description: The Japanese American Citizens League, Pacific Southwest District, will engage college students from the Muslim American and Japanese American communities in the Bridging Communities Fellowship Program, which draws on the history of Japanese American incarceration during World War II and the experiences of Muslim Americans in the wake of the 9/11 terrorist attacks to better understand history, community, and self-identity. During field trips to Manzanar National Historic Site, mosques, and the Tuna Canyon Detention Station, students will participate in workshops, develop leadership skills, and express themselves through art. The program will culminate with the Bridging Communities Capstone Art Exhibit, where students will showcase their artwork.

The Japanese American Citizens League will engage students through educational workshops and visits to sites including the Manzanar National Historic Site, to learn about Japanese American World War II incarceration history. Photo courtesy: Marisa Fujinaka

Recipient: **Japanese American National Museum (Los Angeles, CA)**

Project Title: **The Eaton Collection Project, Phase I**

Grant Award: $41,485

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: The Japanese American National Museum, which acquired the 455-item Eaton Collection, will conserve, catalog, and digitize 40 paintings and assess the condition of 102 objects that require treatment. These objects were originally obtained by Allen Hendershott Eaton, a folk art expert, who visited various Japanese American incarceration sites and acquired pieces of art created by incarcerees. Eaton promised to one day make an exhibition to honor the artists but died before fulfilling this promise. As Phase I, this project will lay the groundwork for a future on-site and traveling exhibition of the Eaton Collection.

The Japanese American National Museum will conserve objects, such as these, from the Allen Hendershott Eaton Collection. Image courtesy: Japanese American National Museum

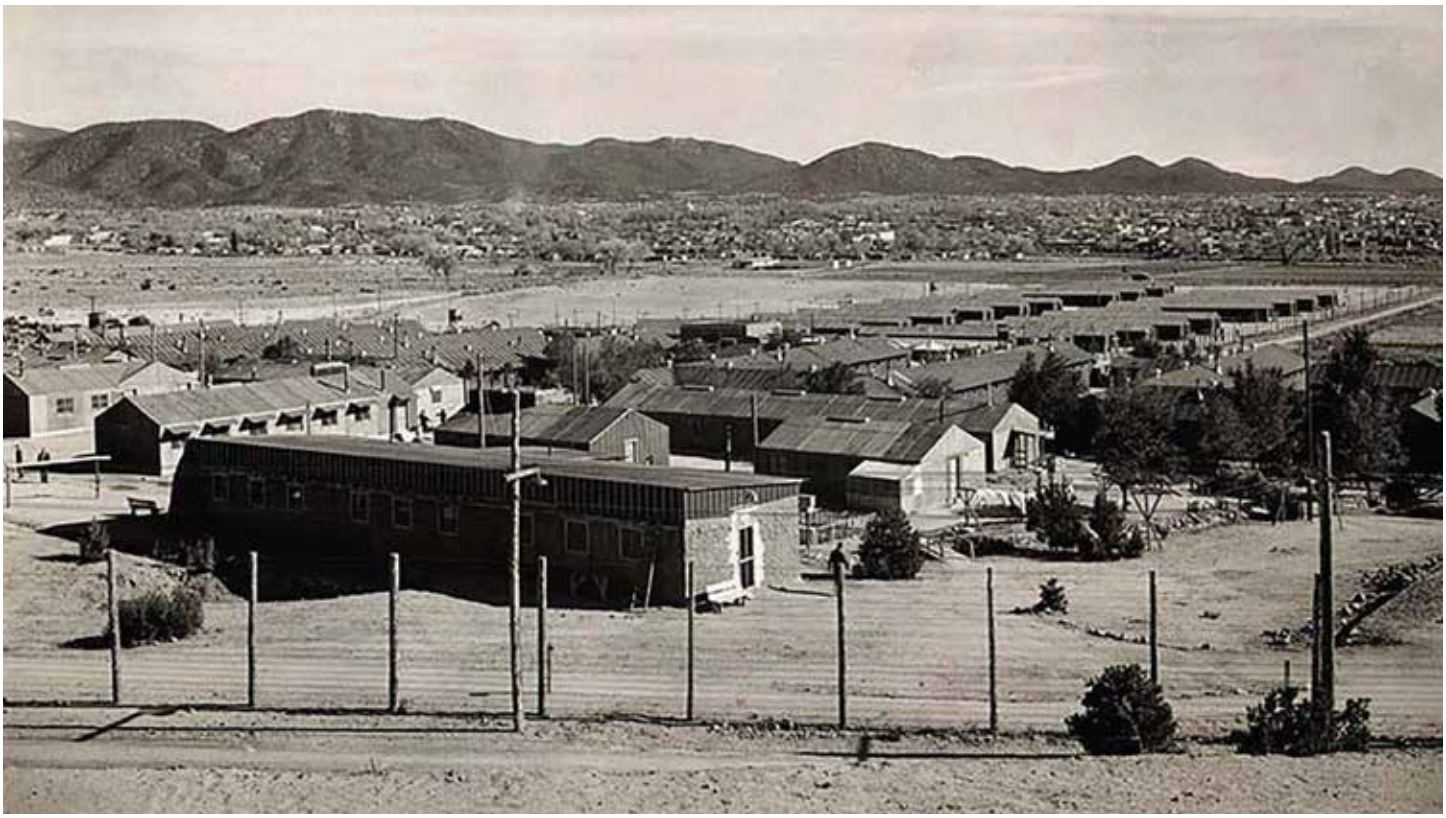
Recipient: **Japanese American National Museum (Los Angeles, CA)**

Project Title: **Meet the Yamashitas: An Interactive Website**

Grant Award: $74,275

Site(s): Multiple Sites, including Rohwer Relocation Center, Desha County, AR; Fort Missoula Internment Camp (INS), Missoula County, MT; Santa Fe Internment Camp (INS), Santa Fe County, NM; and Camp Livingston (US Army), Rapides Parish and Grand Parish, LA

Description: The Japanese American National Museum will translate and digitize the Yamashita family's collection of letters, photographs, crafts, and home movies, which document the family's life during World War II. On December 8, 1941, Gihachi Yamashita was arrested and incarcerated in a series of jails and confinement sites far from his wife and two daughters, who were sent to the Rohwer incarceration site in Arkansas. The family did its best to stay connected through letters and the exchange of small gifts. The collection, including a journal kept by Mr. Yamashita during his incarceration, will be made accessible on an interactive website, providing educators, students, and the general public a better understanding of Japanese American experiences during World War II.



Santa Fe Internment Camp, New Mexico. Photo courtesy: manymountains.org, photo by T. Harmon Parkhurst

Recipient: **National Japanese American Historical Society, Inc. (San Francisco, CA)**

Project Title: **The Untold Stories: The Department of Justice Internment Teacher Education Project**

Grant Award: $139,605

Site(s): Multiple Sites, including Crystal City Internment Camp (INS), Zavala County, TX; Fort Lincoln Internment Camp (INS), Burleigh County, ND; Kooskia Internment Camp (INS), Idaho County, ID; and Santa Fe Internment Camp (INS), Santa Fe County, NM

Decription: The National Japanese American Historical Society, Inc., (NJAHS) will work with experts and organizations within the Japanese American and academic communities to develop secondary school curriculum focused on the history of the Department of Justice and US Army internment sites. Two-day workshops will be held to train 160 teachers on how to implement the curriculum in their classrooms. The curriculum and resources will be posted on the NJAHS website, and an education coordinator will present the curriculum at professional conferences and other educational events.

Kooskia Internment Camp Anniversary Picnic, May 25, 1944. Photo courtesy: Mickey Barton and the Asian American Comparative Collection, University of Idaho, Moscow, photographer unknown

Recipient: **Midpeninsula Community Media Center, Inc. (Palo Alto, CA)**

Project Title: **50 Objects/50 Stories of the Japanese American Incarceration**

Grant Award: $143,482

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: The Midpeninsula Community Media Center, Inc., will identify 50 objects – including a family piano, toolbox, and a father's letter – to tell 50 stories about the wartime experience of Japanese Americans. Images of the artifacts and their accompanying stories will be posted on a dedicated website and the stories shared through short films, text and still photos, audio narrations, and social media. A DVD also will be produced and distributed to cable stations.

Midpeninsula Community Media Center, Inc., will connect objects, such as this corsage pin, with personal histories of World War II incarceration, through their 2016 JACS grant project. Peggie Yorita made this pin using shells from an old lake bed at the Tule Lake Segregation Center, c. 1943. Image courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-2-49), Courtesy of the Bain Family Collection

Recipient: **Tanforan Assembly Center Memorial Committee (Richmond, CA)**

Project Title: **Tanforan Assembly Center Memorial**

Grant Award: $363,839

Site(s): Tanforan WCCA Assembly Center, San Mateo County, CA

Description: The Tanforan Assembly Center Memorial Committee will design and install a memorial honoring nearly 8,000 Japanese Americans who were sent to the Tanforan Assembly Center in 1942. The memorial will include a bronze statue inspired by a Dorothea Lange photograph showing two girls on their way to Tanforan; interpretive panels; a memorial wall listing the names of those held there; and replica horse stalls demonstrating living conditions for some at the former thoroughbred racetrack. The memorial will be located on the former "assembly center" site, now a shopping mall in the exterior plaza at the Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) station in San Bruno.

The Mochida family awaiting a bus in Hayward, California, that will take them to the Tanforan "assembly center," May 8, 1942. Photo courtesy: National Archives and Records Administration, photo by Dorothea Lange

Recipient: **Valley Public Television, Inc. dba Valley PBS (Fresno, CA)**

Project Title: **Silent Sacrifice: The Story of Japanese American Incarceration and Beyond in California's San Joaquin Valley**

Grant Award: $373,716

Site(s): Merced WCCA Assembly Center, Merced County, CA; Fresno WCCA Assembly Center, Fresno County, CA; Pinedale WCCA Assembly Center, Fresno County, CA; and Tulare WCCA Assembly Center, Tulare County, CA

Description: Valley Public Television, Inc., will create and air a documentary film chronicling lives of Japanese Americans from the San Joaquin Valley before, during, and after the incarceration. The 90- to 120-minute film will focus on their exodus to the Merced, Tulare, Fresno, or Pinedale "assembly centers," and then to various War Relocation Authority incarceration sites, ending with their return home to the San Joaquin Valley. Eight video and printed lesson plans will also be created for 7th to 12th graders and be made available to teachers across the nation through the PBS LearningMedia website.

Japanese American women, detainees at Pinedale "assembly center" in California, wash clothes in large galvanized washtubs, c. 1942. Photo courtesy: Library of Congress (9CA-42-2880-PSF), photo by United States Army, Signal Corps, photographer

IDAHO

Recipient: **Friends of Minidoka (Twin Falls, ID)**

Project Title: **Minidoka Legacy Memorial Interpretive Exhibit Project**

Grant Award: $78,000

Site(s): Minidoka Relocation Center, Jerome County, ID

Description: Friends of Minidoka will design and fabricate an interpretive exhibit that honors the Issei (first-generation Japanese Americans), Nisei (second-generation Japanese Americans), and Sansei (third-generation Japanese Americans) who were incarcerated at Minidoka during World War II. The approximately 400-square-foot, mobile exhibit will be temporarily housed at the Minidoka National Historic Site until a new visitor center is built. Friends of Minidoka will work with park staff to identify artifacts and archival materials to accompany the exhibit.

Family on the steps of their barracks at the Minidoka incarceration site, Idaho, c. 1943-1945. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-156-21), Courtesy of the Bigelow Family Collection

WASHINGTON

Recipient: **Densho (Seattle, WA)**

Project Title: **Names Registry and Thesaurus of the Japanese American Experience**

Grant Award: $421,941

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: Densho will develop an online biographical database of the more than 120,000 individuals held at the various World War II incarceration sites, as well as a standard subject list and thesaurus to link scattered resources pertaining to the Japanese American experience during World War II. The names registry and thesaurus will be used to tag and index the oral histories, photographs, correspondence, newspapers and other digitized content offered by Densho and its partners in the online Densho Digital Repository and Encyclopedia.

Molly Maeda's indefinite leave card giving permission for her to travel from Minidoka incarceration site in Idaho to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1943. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-287-3), Courtesy of the Molly Kageyama Maeda Collection

Recipient: **Densho (Seattle, WA)**

Project Title: **Saving and Preserving Confinement Sites Materials from Personal Collections**

Grant Award: $344,204

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: Densho will seek out, preserve, and post to its online repository 40,000 digital images of historic photographs, letters, diaries, and publications related to the World War II Japanese American confinement sites. The documents will come primarily from at-risk personal collections from across the United States. Priority will be given to collections from rural communities, towns, and smaller cities on the West Coast and locations away from the West Coast. Densho will conduct research trips to assess the materials offered, make arrangements for packing and shipping materials, and either return them to owners after they are scanned or place them in an appropriate respository.

Matahichi Iseri received this deportation tag when he was sent to Fort Missoula, Montana, a Department of Justice internment camp for enemy aliens, 1942. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-25-32), Courtesy of the Yamada Family Collection

Recipient: **Wing Luke Memorial Foundation dba Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience (Seattle, WA)**

Project Title: **Inspiring Future Generations: Challenging the Forced Incarceration through Acts of Resistance**

Grant Award: $151,639

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: The Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience will create a graphic novel based on the experiences of five Japanese Americans who resisted forced incarceration or the military draft and were then sent to the Tule Lake Segregation Center or to federal prison. The graphic novel will engage high school and middle school students and explore the broader concepts of loyalty, patriotism, courage, and bravery. A school curriculum guide and animated short video also will be created, as well as a website to provide access to the novel and curriculum.

Original WRA caption: Search of persons departing for Santa Fe Internment Camp inside stockade at Tule Lake Segregation Center, June 24, 1945. Photo by R.H. Ross. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-37-191), National Archives and Records Administration Collection

WYOMING

Recipient: **Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation (Powell, WY)**

Project Title: **The History of the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee and Resister Movement Project**

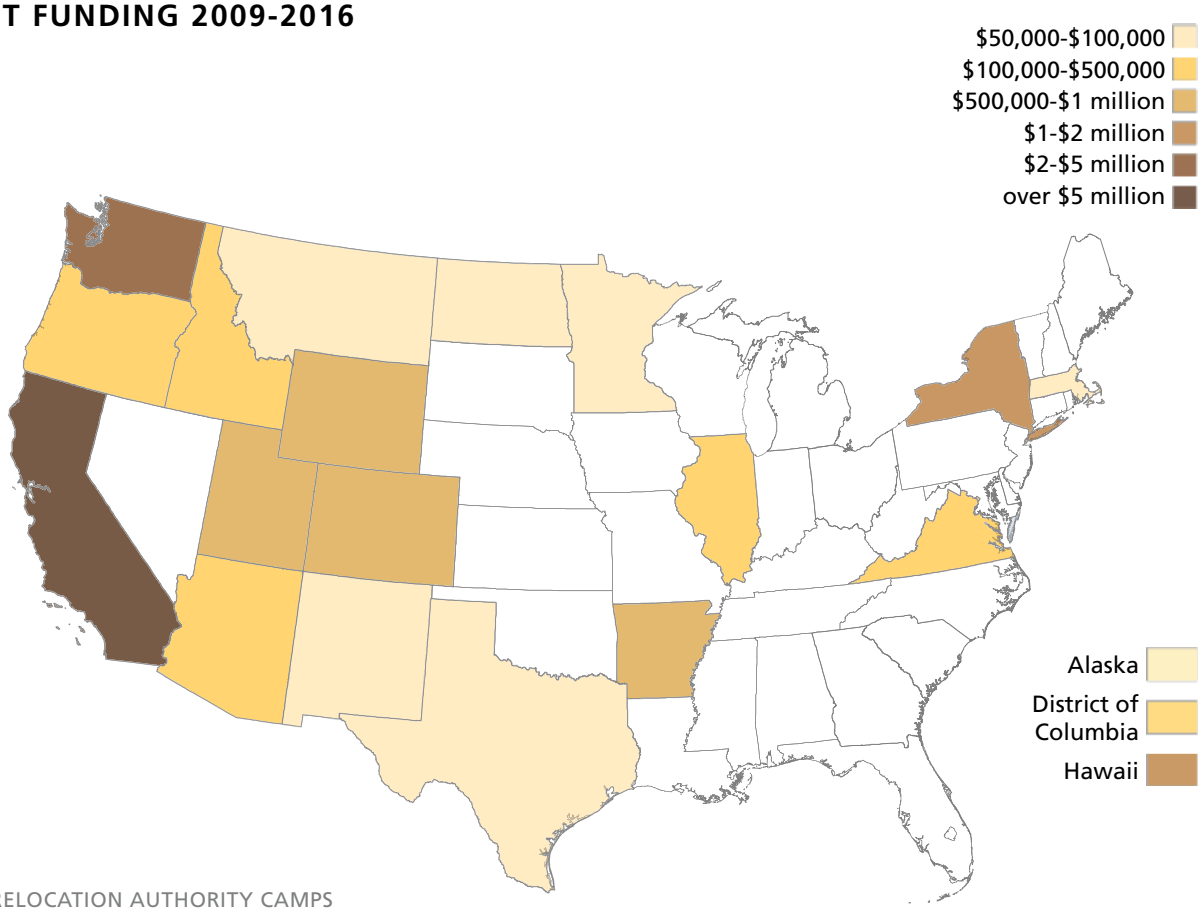
Grant Award: $116,038

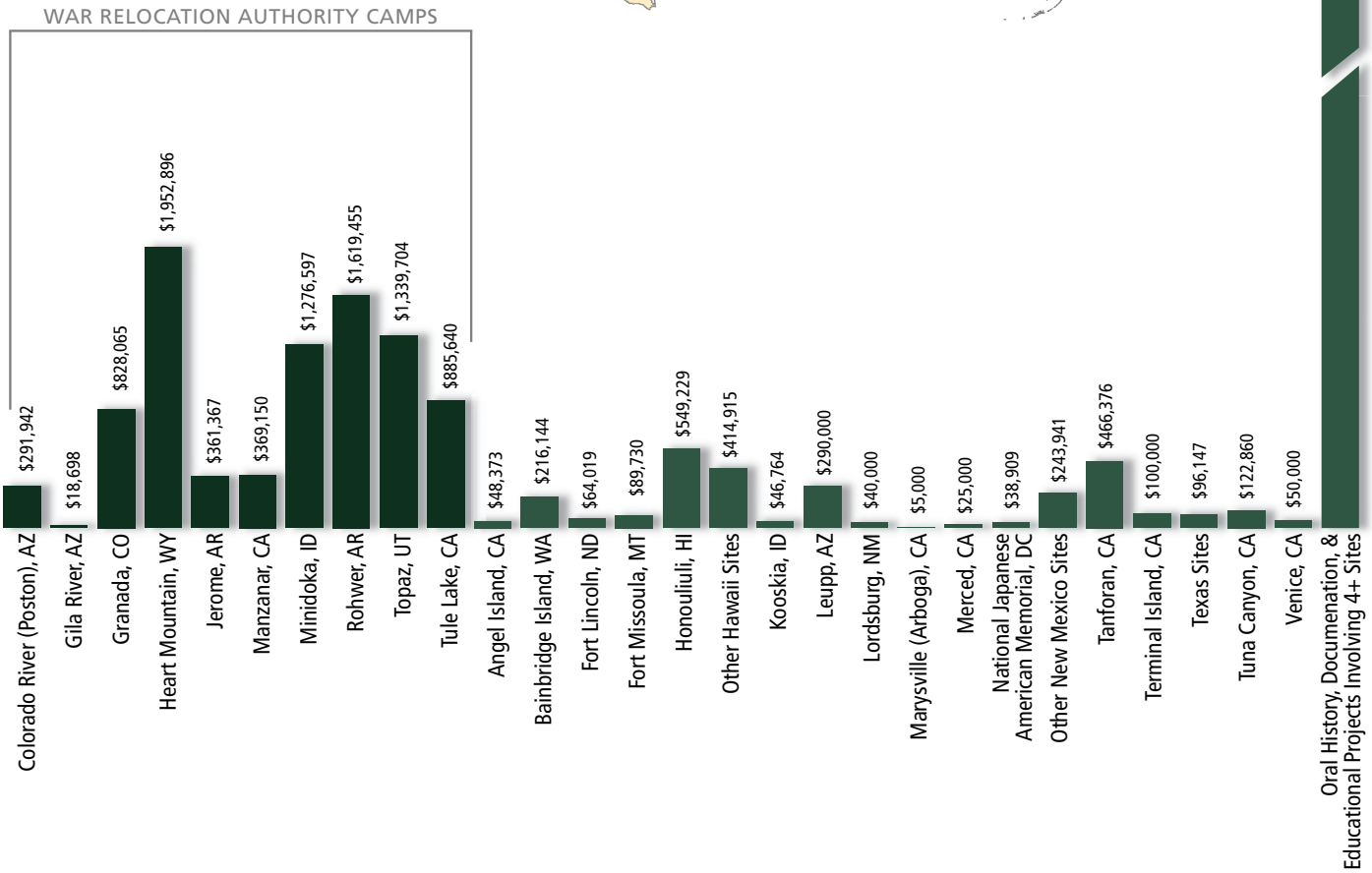
Site(s): Heart Mountain Relocation Center, Park County, WY

Description: The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation will preserve existing documents and facilitate the discovery of new materials related to the Heart Mountain Fair Play Committee and Resister movement. During World War II, seven Issei and Nisei incarcerated at Heart Mountain formed and led a draft resistance movement known as the Fair Play Committee. Ultimately, members of the group, as well as Selective Service "Resisters," were arrested and sentenced to prison. Primary and secondary source materials will be accessible on the foundation's website, specialized user guides will be developed, and a fellowship established to encourage widespread use of the collection.

The first day of the trial of the 63 Heart Mountain draft resisters in Federal District Court, Cheyenne, Wyoming, June 12, 1944. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-122-1), Courtesy of Frank Abe

GRANT FUNDING 2009-2016





COMPLETED PROJECTS HIGHLIGHTED DURING FISCAL YEAR 2016

Following is an overview of projects successfully completed during Fiscal Year 2016. These stories reflect the dedicated commitment and hard work of numerous groups to preserve, interpret, and disseminate the history of Japanese American incarceration during World War II.

From L to R: Donna Cheung (JACL Arizona Chapter President), Karen Leong and Karen Kuo (both of ASU, Asian Pacific American Studies), share information from the oral history projects with the public at Arizona's *matsuri* in Phoenix. Photo courtesy: Japanese Americans in Arizona (JAAZ), Arizona State University

Tracy Tang, a high school community member, traveled with Arizona State University to the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles to conduct interviews with former incarcerees, including Ben Tonooka (pictured left) and Hy Shishino (pictured right), who were incarcerated at Gila River during WWII. Photo courtesy: Japanese Americans in Arizona (JAAZ), Arizona State University

Arizona State University Preserves Japanese American Oral Histories on Educational Websites

Oral histories are often wonderful but easily lost to time as elderly family members pass away and details are forgotten and confused. Now dozens of videotaped interviews with 59 Japanese Americans and others are preserved on two educational Arizona State University (ASU) websites, funded with a 2011 NPS JACS grant of $18,252.

ASU recorded the interviews as part of a collaborative effort between the University's Japanese Americans in Arizona Oral History Project, coordinated by Dr. Karen J. Leong, the Japanese American Citizens League Arizona chapter, Japanese Americans in Arizona (JAAZ), and the Enduring Communities (EC) project.

The interviews help address gaps in Japanese American history by documenting the experiences of Japanese Americans who resided in Arizona prior to World War II and those forced to move to one of Arizona's two incarceration camps and their subsequent post-World War II resettlement. Arranged by interviewees, many of whom have since passed away, the video clips are also categorized by subject matter and transcribed to give easy access to students, teachers, researchers, and the public.

Most of those interviewed are Japanese Americans who were incarcerated inside military zones at Arizona's Poston or Gila River camps. Others shared their experiences about living in nonmilitary zones in Arizona before and during World War II. For example, there are interviews with the Nisei who played in the Gila River baseball league organized by baseball star Kenichi Zenimura (also known as the "Father of Japanese American Baseball"). There is also an interview with Arlene Johns, an Akimel O'Otham Native American woman who fished with Issei, and another with John Nelson, who lived in Poston as a child while his father worked for the Office of Indian Affairs, which administered the camp in its early years.

Significant but under-documented details about the role Japanese Americans residing in Arizona's nonmilitary zones played by bringing food and other goods to incarcerees in Poston and Gila River are revealed in the interviews. These Japanese Americans also describe how their lives were restricted by not being allowed to attend high school, sell produce, and conduct other ordinary activities in Phoenix, Arizona, which was inside the military zone.

The interview collection is maintained by the Asian Pacific American Studies Program at ASU in Tempe, Arizona, and can be viewed at http://jaaz.sst.asu.edu/node/1 and http://ec.sst.asu.edu/node/2.

The ASU websites have already been used for student projects, a Manzanar incarceration site history project, and an exchange student's thesis for the University of Leicester in England.

Asian Media Access' Film, *The Registry,* Profiles Unheralded Military Unit That Helped Shorten US War Against Japan

In *The Registry*, Mas Inoshita shares his memories of working as a translator in the Military Intelligence Service while his family remained incarcerated in Gila River. Photo courtesy: Bill Kubota and Steve Ozone

While the 442nd Infantry Regiment and 100th Infantry Battalion are well-known to those familiar with the role of Japanese Americans in World War II, less known is the Military Intelligence Service (MIS), a group of more than 7,000 Japanese American soldiers who served in the Pacific as interpreters, translators, and interrogators to help the US Army defeat Japan. Although the MIS has received little attention, the men who served in it are credited with shortening the war by about two years.

Their story is told in *The Registry*, a new one-hour documentary for public television in Minnesota and nationally. The film was produced and directed by Bill Kubota, who completed the award-winning 2007 PBS documentary, *Most Honorable Son*, and Steve Ozone, in cooperation with Asian Media Access using a 2011 NPS JACS grant of $75,000. The film focuses on the lives of a few former MIS soldiers, their families, friends, and fellow servicemen. Its title refers to the challenges faced by MIS veterans who are working to compile a registry of everybody who served in the MIS—a database the military failed to put together, perhaps through neglect and indifference. MIS soldiers patriotically fought for the United States even though their families and friends were often subjected to racism or imprisoned in one of the incarceration sites established by the US government during the war.

"They did everything that was ever asked of them and more," says Senator John McCain, R-Arizona, who is shown in the film speaking at a Congressional Gold Medal ceremony honoring the accomplishments of Japanese American soldiers. "What is most remarkable is that they did so despite the fact that our nation at times fell short."

Much MIS work didn't require combat. Mas Inoshita, for example, was an MIS interrogator who told the filmmakers he experienced more success extracting information from prisoners than most of his peers because he ignored military protocol and treated his subjects with respect.

Roy Matsumoto, who was 100 years old when he was interviewed for the documentary and died before filming finished, fought with the Merrill's Marauders, a special operations jungle warfare unit lauded for its fierce battles behind enemy lines, often outnumbered. Asked if he credits his survival to God, Matsumoto says, "I'm not a religious guy, but I believe in God. Any God, really. . .I say A, B, C and D, see? Allah, Buddha, Christ and the Devil. Even the Devil helped me, that's why I survived and still here, see?"

Asian Media Access joined hands with the Saint Paul-Nagasaki Sister City Committee to premiere *The Registry* at the "Wishes for Peace" exhibition at the Union Depot on October 15, 2016. More screenings will be arranged with area high schools to engage the broader community in recognition of Japanese American contributions during World War II. Asian Media Access will also partner with the Minnesota Historical Society to create a depository to house materials compiled through the creation of the film.

The Registry follows the journeys of World War II veterans, such as Roy Matsumoto who fought with the Merril's Marauders during World War II. Photo courtesy: Bill Kubota and Steve Ozone

Central Arkansas Library System Preserves Fragile Rohwer Artwork

The Butler Center hosted an exhibit to share the newly conserved textiles with the public. Photo courtesy: Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, Central Arkansas Library System, Little Rock, Arkansas

Many Japanese Americans imprisoned at the confinement site in Rohwer, Arkansas, during World War II befriended camp art teacher Mabel "Jamie" Jamison Vogel, giving her much of their artwork to show their appreciation for her help.

Vogel later willed the collection to Rosalie Santine Gould, who championed the preservation of the camp's history and displayed the collection in her home, sharing it with thousands of visitors over many years. Gould in turn donated it to the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, the Arkansas history department of the Central Arkansas Library System (CALS), saying it truly belonged to the people whose experience it represents.

The collection includes materials dealing with everyday camp life, the operation of its schools, its "town" government, and many of the people who lived there. Most of these materials, including carvings, paintings, posters, rope work, and jewelry, were conserved with a previous JACS grant, and are stored in archival facilities of the library's Arkansas Studies Institute building at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. The building is the largest free-standing facility devoted to the study of Arkansas history and culture; it is located in downtown Little Rock on President Clinton Avenue. It includes four art galleries and a research room.

With a 2014 NPS JACS grant of $26,827, the Butler Center focused on conserving 30 textiles from this collection, which required expert attention. These delicate textiles, most of them artworks painted on fabric, were cleaned, stabilized, and framed to prevent further deterioration. Gouache paintings show patterns of flowers or "singing birds," and oil pastel paintings depict the artists' surroundings at Rohwer.

An exhibition of the newly conserved works, "Weaving Stories and Hope: Textile Arts from the Japanese Internment Camp at Rohwer, Arkansas," took place last fall. The works can also be viewed online at http://www.butlercenter.org/rohwer/.

Restoration and conservation of this "camp scene" on suede leather, created by an incarceree at Rohwer (artist unknown), on March 21, 1945, was funded, in part, by an NPS JACS grant. Image courtesy: Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, Mabel Rose Jamison Vogel/Rosalie Santine Gould Collection

Colorado Preservation Inc.'s New Signs Enhance Visitor Experience at Historic Amache Incarceration Site

This wayside tells how the Amache water tank, a regional landmark, was brought back to the site and restored at its original location.
Photo courtesy: Colorado Preservation, Inc.

Visitors will find it easier to understand the history of the Granada Relocation Center National Historic Landmark thanks to the installation of 10 new wayfinding signs by Colorado Preservation, Inc. (CPI).

Granada, better known as Amache, was a World War II Japanese American incarceration site that once housed more than 7,300 prisoners in the high plains near Granada, Colorado. The site consists of a monument, building foundations, landscaping, and a cemetery. For several years it underwent restoration and archeological investigation and now includes a water tower, guard tower, and barrack, which were reconstructed with prior JACS support.

Using a 2013 NPS JACS grant of $29,060, CPI – working in partnership with the Town of Granada (site owners), key stakeholders, and former incarcerees – designed and installed new educational signs to help explain to visitors what daily life was like at the camp.

One sign, for instance, points out that Japanese American gardeners transformed the dry, dusty landscape by creating traditional Japanese-style ponds and planting vegetable and flower gardens, as well as Chinese elm trees. Some of the trees survive today.

Another sign reveals that more than half of those incarcerated at Amache came from rural California, where many had worked in agriculture. While at Amache, they farmed more than 10,000 acres at the camp and also ran a dairy, slaughterhouse, canning plant, and root cellar. Workers earned $16 a month, produced nearly 3 million pounds of vegetables in 1943, and not only made the camp's food supply self-sufficient but shipped surpluses to the US Army and other War Relocation Authority-administered centers.

A sign installed near the cemetery notes that some of the 107 people who died while incarcerated at Amache were cremated, their ashes placed in urns. Others were buried, but because many of the remains were relocated to new resting places after the war, only nine marked burial sites are visible. Still, Japanese Americans and area residents make a pilgrimage to Amache every spring where a memorial service is held at the cemetery to honor former Amache incarcerees. The cemetery includes an *ireito* memorial (honoring the 31 soldiers killed in combat while their families remained behind barbed wire), in addition to sod, trees, and benches installed by the Denver Central Optimist Club and cared for by the students of the Amache Preservation Society.

Accompanying educational materials at the Granada Relocation Center National Historic Landmark include brochures and iPods that visitors can borrow from Granada's Amache Museum to listen to previously recorded podcasts while taking a driving tour of the historic site.

CyArk Engages Mid-Pacific Institute High School Students in Digitally Surveying Honouliuli Internment Camp

Mid-Pacific Institute high school students share what they learned about Honouliuli at a community event held in the spring of 2016. Photo courtesy: CyArk

With the assistance of a 2014 NPS JACS grant totaling $39,200, a team of high school students learned valuable lessons about the use of digital documentation and the history of Japanese American confinement sites through a unique project led by CyArk, a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating a three-dimensional, online library of the world's cultural heritage sites.

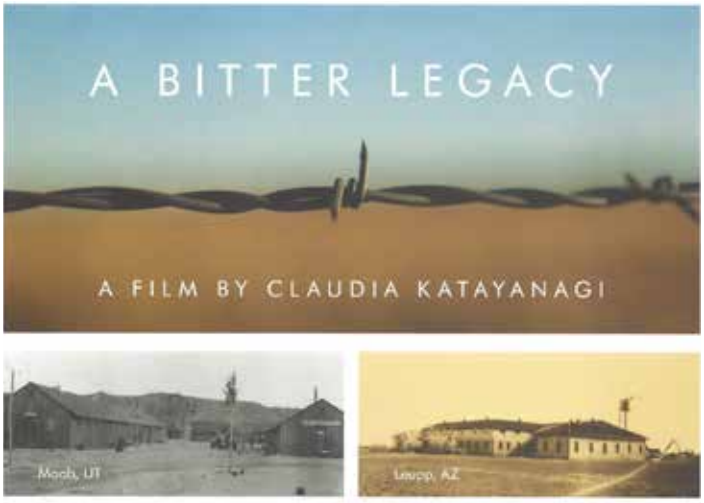
Under CyArk's supervision, students from the Mid-Pacific Institute in Honolulu, Hawaii, used 3D laser scanners and mapping skills to collect and record data at Oahu's Honouliuli Internment Camp. The data included what archaeologists believe to be the internment site's fire station, aqueduct, latrine foundations, and boundary fences. Students studied the camp's history as part of the project, adding their personal insights about it by recording video logs and making informational graphics. Students also worked with their teachers and members of the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii (JCCH) to perform additional research. The students' hands-on work at Honouliuli allowed them to experience the site's history in ways not typically offered in the classroom. In turn, the project made a lasting impression on the students.

"To know how huge the Japanese internment camp was in Honouliuli and seeing its remains after decades, I had to sit quiet for a few minutes. Getting the opportunity to see an extremely significant historical site is something a person doesn't just forget or overlook," said student Mikael Hurst.

In the spring of 2016, more than 60 people also attended a presentation at Mid-Pacific to hear the students talk about their experiences and reactions. Attendees included Hawaii's First Lady, Dawn Amano-Ige; JCCH members; NPS employees; and many community members, teachers and students.

Some of the results of the student's work, along with 3D scans, animations, and renderings, can be viewed on CyArk's website at http://cyark.org/projects/honouliuli-internment-camp/overview.

Developing Innovations in Navajo Education, Inc. Supports New Documentary that Tells the Story of Arizona's Leupp Citizen Isolation Center



Claudia Katayanagi's powerful film shares the lesser known stories of Leupp with the public. Courtesy: Claudia Katayanagi

As additional research is conducted on the history of Japanese American World War II incarceration, more information has emerged on lesser known sites such as the Moab and Leupp isolation centers in Utah and Arizona. Incarcerees who had been held at other facilities were singled out by government officials because they stood up for their civil liberties and were sent to places such as Leupp. They were sent to these isolation centers without the opportunity for a trial and under harsh conditions that included being transported in a small wooden crate on a flatbed truck across hundreds of miles of hot desert. Many were tricked into relinquishing their citizenship by the Department of Justice working with the administrators at the Tule Lake Segregation Center. Regaining their citizenship took years after the war ended.

With the assistance of a 2012 NPS JACS grant of $290,000, Developing Innovations in Navajo Education, Inc., worked with filmmaker Claudia Katayanagi who produced and directed *A Bitter Legacy,* a new feature documentary film that looks at those Citizen Isolation Centers, now considered to be precursors to Guantanamo and Abu Ghraib. The film focuses on the history of the Leupp Isolation Center, which was located in a former federal Navajo boarding school on the Navajo Reservation. Administered by the War Relocation Authority, the center held 83 inmates, most of whom were transferred to the Tule Lake Segregation Center when the Leupp Isolation Center closed. *A Bitter Legacy* also explores the similarities to contemporary issues such as racism, immigration restrictions, and the denigration of broad groups of people based on their race, religion and ethnic background.

A Bitter Legacy points out how government officials waged a careful propaganda campaign to bolster support for Japanese American incarceration sites during World War II. For example, legislation authorizing the imprisonment of Japanese Americans called them "non-aliens" rather than citizens. Incarceration sites housing about 120,000 people of Japanese descent, most of them US citizens, were called "relocation camps," and the Citizen Isolation Centers, such as Leupp, were called "rehabilitation centers" rather than maximum-security prisons where dozens of men who protested their treatment were isolated from their friends and families.

"They were already using psychological warfare and wouldn't even refer to us as citizens," Norman Mineta, former US Congressman and Secretary of Commerce and Transportation, points out in the film. Adds Tetsuden Kashima, University of Washington emeritus and one of the foremost scholars on this history, "If you change the vocabulary, you change the perspective of what's going on."

A Bitter Legacy has won awards and has been shown at many film festivals. It will also be made available to public television, schools, colleges, and organizations. More information on the film, including upcoming screenings, is available at: http://www.abitterlegacy.com/.

Leupp Citizen Isolation Center, 1943. Photo courtesy: Martha Nakagawa, UCLA Asian American Studies Center

Go For Broke National Education Center's New Museum Exhibit and Website Explores Divergent World War II Choices

Interactive exhibits encourage visitors to explore the difficult choices that Japanese Americans were confronted with during WWII. Photo courtesy: Go For Broke National Education Center

The *Defining Courage Exhibition* on display at the Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple in Los Angeles, California. Photo courtesy: Go For Broke National Education Center

Not all Japanese Americans were sent to incarceration camps during World War II. Some resisted Executive Order 9066, which led to the mass forced removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans from the West Coast. Others served in special US military units defending the United States. Others renounced their citizenship.

Now, teachers, students and the public can explore the lives and history of the people who made those divergent choices at the *Defining Courage Exhibition*, a new, state-of-the-art exhibition, accompanying website and curriculum. Funded with a 2013 NPS JACS grant of $369,731, the Go For Broke National Education Center (GFBNEC) undertook the project, working in partnership with Japanese American National Museum (JANM) and exhibit design firm Quatrefoil Associates. The exhibition opened in May 2016 at the Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple in the Little Tokyo Historic District of Los Angeles, California. The website and curriculum can be accessed at www.goforbroke.org/visit/exhibit/index.php.

Public involvement played a big role in the project's startup. The Go For Broke National Education Center hosted seven facilitated meetings with stakeholders in Honolulu; Washington, D.C.; Houston; San Francisco; Los Angeles; and Portland. GFBNEC's Exhibit Advisory Council of scholars and historians also worked with high school and college teachers and students to ensure the exhibition and website serve their target audience, young adults.

The *Defining Courage Exhibition* was modeled after cutting-edge exhibit practices and technologies at the National Civil Rights Museum, the National WWII Museum, and the National Center for Civil Rights and Human Rights. The 3,800-square-foot permanent exhibition examines this chapter of history from a contemporary perspective that incorporates issues facing many communities and the nation today.

The website was developed concurrently with the exhibit. Focused on historical content, the site features more than 60 webpages describing the history of the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Military Intelligence Service, and individual stories. It includes enhanced glossary and timeline sections and a collection of oral history videos. A classroom portal for teachers and students features a quick Boot Camp of key facts and figures, links to primary sources, historical timeline, GFBNEC's Hanashi Oral History archives, and classroom curriculum for students who can't visit in person. There is also a virtual tour explaining the design, and the site will soon feature a Global Theater that allows viewers to interact with more than 100 locations on a world map to learn about World War II history.

The exhibit and website "encourage thoughtful discussion and the recognition that if we are indeed a nation that respects individual freedom, we should expect divergent responses to exceedingly complex questions and circumstances," said then GFBNEC President Donald Nose, who oversaw the project through completion.

The Historical Museum at Fort Missoula Shares Important Lessons for Contemporary America in New Documentary and Interpretive Signage

Sixteen-year-old Masuo Yasui immigrated to the United States in 1903 with his family and eventually settled in Hood River, Oregon, where he became a successful businessman and respected member of the local community. But when Japan bombed Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, and drew the United States into World War II, he was among the thousand influential Japanese men from around the country taken prisoner and held at Fort Missoula, Montana.

The Fort was converted into an internment camp mainly for Italian and Japanese aliens, and Yasui was soon deemed "potentially dangerous to the public peace and safety of the United States" at a US Department of Justice "loyalty hearing." The main evidence against him included awards he had received from the Japanese government and the Japanese Industrial Society and a map of the Panama Canal drawn by one of his children for schoolwork that was falsely called a potential attack plan.

Yasui was tried at Fort Missoula and remained imprisoned at various camps for four years. He never returned to live in Hood River or recovered emotionally from the prejudice and hatred he experienced during and after the war from former neighbors. He committed suicide in 1957, a few years after attaining US citizenship.

Now, his moving story is one of the highlights of a new, award-winning documentary film, *An Alien Place*. The film was produced as part of a series of projects undertaken by The Historical Museum at Fort Missoula using a 2013 NPS JACS grant of $39,730. Other work included upgrades to the Museum's exhibits such as an interactive touchscreen computer kiosk that quizzes viewers about clips of the documentary and the installation of 12 educational trail signs placed throughout the site that tell the story of more than 2,000 Italian and Japanese men imprisoned at the camp.

The Museum's efforts to design the interpretive signs involved several partners, including the University of Montana, Northern Rockies Heritage Center, Western Montana Mental Health Clinic, the Lolo National Forest, Western Cultural Incorporated, Missoula County, Montana State Historic Preservation Office, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Historic Preservation Office, and others.

Interpretive signs at Fort Missoula share the history with visitors of what was once there. Photo courtesy: The Historical Museum at Fort Missoula

The Museum also partnered with North by Northwest Productions and MT PBS respectively, to produce and broadcast the project's capstone film, which connects Fort Missoula's past to current events.

"The history of Fort Missoula helps current people to understand something of what happens to us as a people when we are faced with threat and how we often react in ways that are really cruel, illegal, immoral," Carol Van Valkenburg explains in the film. She is a former University of Montana journalism professor and author of a book about Fort Missoula with the same title as the film. "We did it to Native Americans, we've done it to Asians, and we've done it to Arab Americans. I mean, it is part of the history of this country and it is something I think we need to always be aware of and be on guard against. So, did we learn anything? I hope so—when there's a period when people are calmer and have more time to reflect. But in times of crisis, I think people revert to giving in to their fears and sometimes those are stereotypes about people and where they came from, or what they look like, and I think that's the lesson of Fort Missoula. But whether it's a lesson we've learned, I really can't say."

Japanese American Citizens League Establishes Teacher Workshops to Examine Civil Liberties in Times of Crisis

The JACL hosted 10 workshops, including this one held in Minneapolis, Minnesota to provide teachers with resources to incorporate lessons of World War II Japanese American incarceration into their classrooms. Photo courtesy: Randy Kirihara

Nearly 300 teachers learned about the hardships of Japanese American World War II incarceration sites and the importance of maintaining civil liberties in wartime at teacher workshops conducted in 2014 and 2015 by the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL). With a 2013 NPS JACS grant of $62,845, the league hosted 10 workshops in Arizona, California, Massachusetts, Minnesota, New Mexico, Texas, Utah, and Washington.

At each workshop, JACL facilitators explained events leading up to Executive Order 9066, which led to the forced removal of Japanese Americans to incarceration sites. They also described conditions in the camps, responses to incarceration, and the hardships many families faced for years after they were freed. Examples of learning activities to help teachers incorporate the history of incarceration and violations of civil liberties into their lesson plans were also provided.

Guest speakers also shared their personal experiences, telling stories about the incarceration sites, their military service, living in Hawaii under martial law, and living "outside" but near incarceration centers. One workshop included panelists from the Muslim American community, who discussed similarities and differences between attitudes and actions following Pearl Harbor and 9/11, and the significance of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

To further aid the participants in spreading awareness among students and the public, teachers received copies of the JACL Curriculum Guide and *Power of Words* handbook and a DVD copy of "Civil Liberties in Times of Crisis." The packet also included excerpts of an oral history collection on DVD from Densho, a nonprofit organization dedicated to documenting and sharing the history of Japanese American incarceration during World War II.

Teachers also learned about nearby incarceration sites during many of the workshops. The Twin Cities workshop featured the Military Intelligence Service Language School at Fort Snelling—the existence of which was classified until the 1990s. The Santa Fe workshop included discussions about the use of facilities at Fort Stanton, Santa Fe, and Camp Lordsburg to imprison smaller numbers of Japanese Americans.

Japanese American Museum of San Jose Completes Major Incarceration Exhibit Renovations

New digital exhibits at JAMsj provide an interactive learning environment to engage different generations of visitors in learning about the World War II incarceration history. Photo courtesy: Japanese American Museum of San Jose

Photo courtesy: Japanese American Museum of San Jose

With the assistance of a 2011 NPS JACS grant of $132,900, the Japanese American Museum of San Jose (JAMsj) has revamped their incarceration exhibits and added numerous multimedia components. This has enhanced the visitor experience and now powerfully engages students in the history of the World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans.

The Japanese American Museum of San Jose was established in 1987 in San Jose's Japantown. This Japantown is one of three surviving in the United States and is over 125 years old. Housed in a building designed to resemble a traditional Japanese farmhouse, the museum's incarceration exhibits needed to be updated to "better inform the public, particularly students, about the massive violation of civil rights that the internment represents and its implications for contemporary society," Project Director Dr. Joe Yasutake explained.

Museum staff first used the JACS grant to create focus groups of teachers, students, former incarcerees, subject-matter experts, and media developers. The groups recommended ways to best enrich students' thinking about World War II incarceration in the US Army, War Relocation Authority, and Department of Justice sites.

The subsequent enhancements included improving visitor flow by changing the sequencing of the incarceration exhibits and adding new audio/visual displays, maps, and signs. Nineteen custom display cases, platforms, and pedestals were built, and a larger, more dramatic forced removal exhibit was created. The 442nd Regimental Combat Team and MIS displays were expanded with new timelines, maps, and displays.

Learning has also been enriched by developing an interactive tablet application that has students explore the museum through a scavenger hunt; creating a curriculum guide for teachers which is available on the JAMsj website: http://www.jamsj.org/japanese-american-history-museum-san-jose/teacher-curriculum-guide; and, in general, by making the museum's website more informative.

A major highlight of the incarceration exhibits is an authentic barracks room. As visitors enter it, they hear sounds of camp life, including wind, a dust storm, and a baby crying. Visible through a window is the barren landscape of the Tule Lake Segregation Center, the largest and most controversial of the World War II incarceration sites.

Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Washington Develops New Exhibitions and Book to Share History of Seattle's Hunt Hotel

Thousands of Japanese Americans imprisoned in incarceration centers during World War II by the US government returned to their communities jobless, homeless, and facing isolating discrimination.

In Seattle, Washington, however, more than 30 families found affordable temporary housing at the Hunt Hotel and a path to rebuilding their lives. Their story is now being told in a traveling exhibition and book, *Unsettled/ Resettled: Seattle's Hunt Hotel*, produced by the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Washington with the help of a 2013 NPS JACS grant of $102,810. The traveling exhibition features 10 original paper cut artworks by award-winning artist Aki Sogabe, each depicting the resettlement experience of Japanese Americans in Seattle based off of oral histories collected during the life of the project. The Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Washington also used the grant to produce a permanent exhibition, historical marker highlighting the significance of the site, and an artwork installation built in the courtyard.

About 7,000 Japanese Americans living in Seattle were sent to incarceration centers following their forced removal under Executive Order 9066. When they returned after the war, they found their homes and businesses in Seattle's once-thriving *Nihonmachi*, or Japantown, had been sold for pennies on the dollar, boarded up, abandoned, or vandalized.

Many found help in temporary housing like the Hunt Hotel. The layout of the hotel was less like a hotel but instead a collection of buildings formerly occupied by the US Army Air Corps and used as a Japanese Language School prior to World War II. It had enough rooms to house dozens of people and had sinks, a kitchen, and restrooms, as well. Using War Relocation Authority beds and other basic furnishings—the same ones used in the incarceration centers—the space was converted into living quarters under the management of community leader Genji Mihara. He named it, somewhat ironically, the Hunt Hotel because many of its residents had been imprisoned at the Minidoka Incarceration Camp in Hunt, Idaho.

Conditions weren't ideal. Families lived in rooms partitioned by sheets, slept on cots, and shared a communal kitchen, for example. "It was like an extension of camp," said Louise Matsumoto, a former hotel resident.

Image courtesy: Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Washington

The residents made the best of it, however, creating a playground and a communal garden and sharing resources to help each other move on to more permanent housing. Strangers at first, two of the families who shared one small room divided by a curtain became life-long friends after leaving the Hunt Hotel.

Most residents lived at the hotel for only a few years or less until they could find permanent homes. Others stayed into the 1950s, when the hotel transitioned back to the Seattle Japanese Language School. The hotel's last resident, a Japanese Issei bachelor, lived there until he died in 1959.

Today, the buildings are home to the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Washington, which provides a range of services to the local community. After more than a decade of research, it now shares the stories and memories of those who once lived at the Hunt Hotel. Additional information about the project is available online at http://jcccw.org/hunthotel.

Poston Community Alliance's New Film Shares Impacts of Incarceration on Japanese American Families

For the Sake of the Children explores lasting impacts of World War II incarceration on those who were imprisoned and their descendants. In the film, Amy Tsubokawa, Stephanie Gillman, and Patricia Tsubokawa Reeves (pictured from left to right) share their stories. Photo courtesy: Poston Community Alliance

For the Sake of the Children, a new, one-hour documentary film, explores the legacy of the Japanese American World War II incarceration and its lasting impacts on multiple generations. The film, rich with interviews of mothers who gave birth and raised children while imprisoned, also includes reflections from their children and grandchildren, which shed light on the complex interplay of culture, racial prejudice, and history.

The filmmakers, producer Marlene Shigekawa of the Poston Community Alliance and Joe Fox and James Nubile of Fly on the Wall Productions, initially interviewed four women ranging in age from 92 to 103 about being pregnant, giving birth, and raising families in the prison camp. Because of the elderly mothers' cultural reluctance to express negativity, the filmmakers expanded their interviews to include the children and grandchildren of incarcerees. These interviews gave them deeper insight into the camp's long-term impacts on former incarcerees, such as the trauma and shame many experienced and their reluctance to share this part of their lives with their children and grandchildren.

Japanese Americans were expected to "never, never talk about the camp" because "we were all flag-waving, you know, enthusiastic supporters of, we thought, our country," says Kitako Izumizaki, who was a mother at Poston. Many mothers tried to make the best of living in the camp and hid their pain from their families despite facing years of upheaval and racial prejudice after being freed. "I think they wanted to spare us," says Mary Higuchi, whose mother was in Poston. "Everything is for the sake of the children. They don't want to burden us with all the sad things that went on in their lives… The consequence is there's an emptiness and part of me I wish I knew."

Alan Nishio, born in Manzanar, speaks of how he used the experience of being incarcerated to overcome shame, "When you understand that you have been wronged, you can change and you can change the trajectory of your life and make a difference."

For the Sake of the Children was produced by the Poston Community Alliance with a 2011 NPS JACS grant of $61,880, as well as grants and donations from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Poston Monument Memorial Committee, and private individuals. The film will be made available to schools, film festivals, museums, and other national venues.

Smithsonian's Nisei Soldier Congressional Gold Medal Digital Exhibition Reveals Lesser Known Stories of Japanese American Military Service

On November 2, 2010, 2,500 veterans and their families attended a celebration in Washington, D.C. where Congress and President Obama awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the nation's highest civilian award, to Japanese American veterans for their service in the military. For many veterans, in their 80s and 90s, this moment was historic, marking not only the US government's formal recognition of their service, but also the first time Asian Americans had received the Congressional Gold Medal.

With the help of a 2014 NPS JACS grant of $238,090, the Smithsonian Institution and National Veterans Network have helped draw attention to their courageous stories with the recent creation of an interactive digital exhibition about Nisei soldiers who served in the Pacific and Europe with the 100th Infantry Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and the Military Intelligence Service. Many Japanese American soldiers volunteered for combat and support service even as many of their friends and families remained imprisoned in incarceration sites nationwide—acts that led President Truman to note that, "You fought not only the enemy. . . you fought prejudice and won."

The *Nisei Soldier Congressional Gold Medal Digital Exhibition* opened in May 2016 at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C., alongside a permanent display of the Nisei Congressional Gold Medal. The digital exhibition, hosted by the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center, is also available online at http://cgm.smithsonianapa.org/.

The digital exhibition focuses on the stories of 12 Nisei soldiers and some of their belongings, which shed light on their personal experiences during World War II. Among the featured artifacts are letters Ted Fujioka, a 442nd Regimental Combat Team soldier serving in Europe, wrote to his family in the Heart Mountain incarceration site in Wyoming; a scrapbook MIS soldier George Hara used to detail his service as a Nisei linguist in the Philippines and Japan Occupation; and photos by Terry Nakanishi, a Women's Army Corps veteran, showing the contributions Japanese American women made during World War II.

Community leaders gather at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C. alongside a permanent display of the Nisei Congressional Gold Medal at a special event commemorating the completion of the digital exhibition. Image courtesy: National Veterans Network

The digital exhibition highlights 12 Nisei soldiers who served in the US Armed Forces in World War II. Image courtesy: Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center

"This new digital exhibit will allow the public, students, and researchers to explore some of the stories of 33,000 Japanese Americans who served and fought for American ideals during World War II, while many had families who lived behind barbed wire in American concentration camps," said Jennifer Jones, curator of armed forces history at the museum. "These narratives demonstrate Japanese American patriotism, citizenship, courage, compassion, perseverance and humility, and embody the values for which Congress awarded the Nisei Congressional Gold Medal."

Wing Luke Museum Brings Soldiers' Firsthand Experiences to Life for Students and Adults

Japanese American troops climb into a truck as they prepare to move their bivouac area. 2nd Battalion, 442nd Combat Team, Chambois Sector, France. 10/14/44. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-114-1), Courtesy of the Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee and the US Army

Thousands of young Japanese American men and women served in combat, intelligence, and medical roles during World War II even though many of their families and friends were confined in incarceration sites.

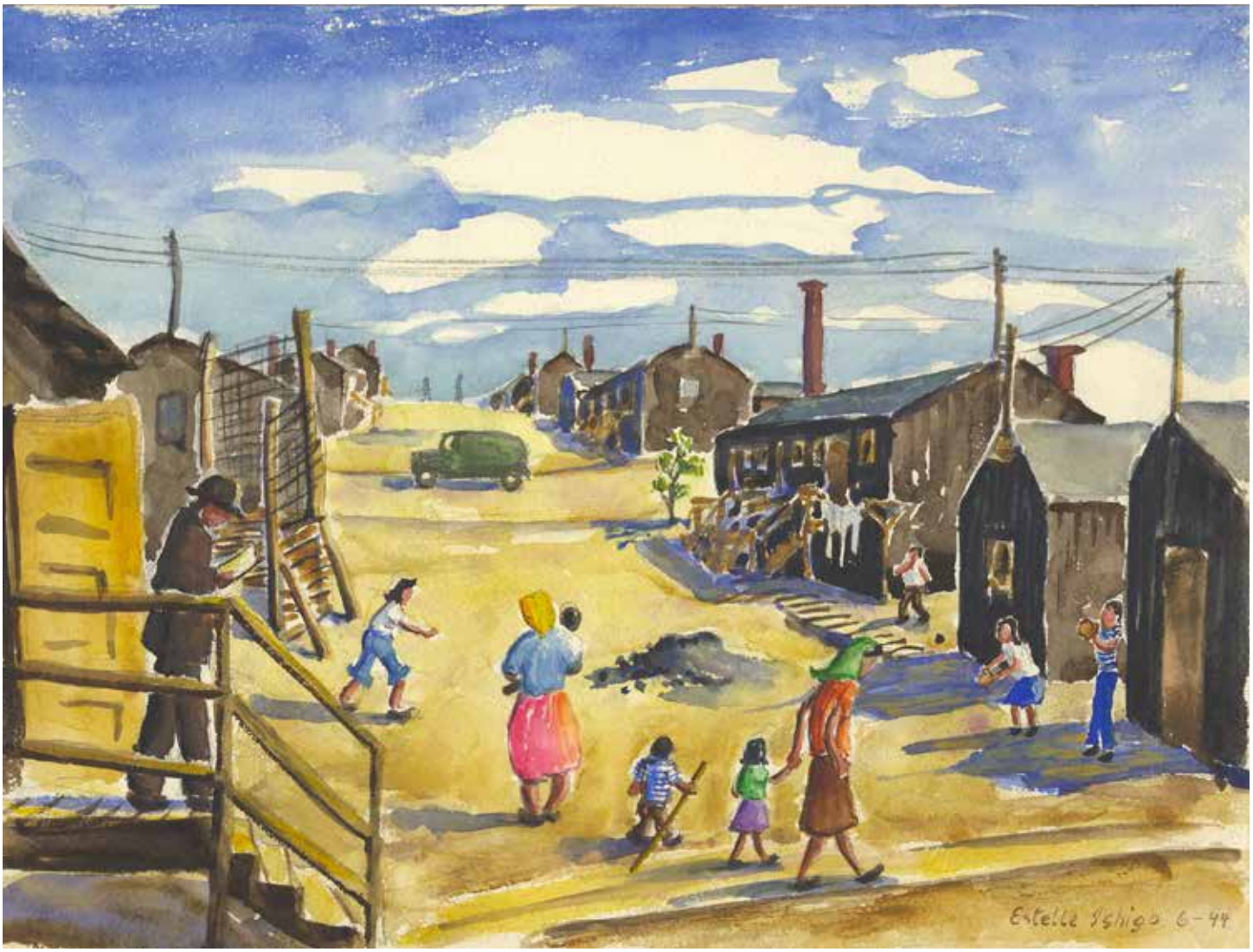
Now their stories are told in a graphic novel, an accompanying curriculum guide, and a short video, *Fighting for America: Nisei Soldiers*. With an $111,600 NPS JACS grant, the Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience in Seattle, Washington, worked in close partnership with the Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee Foundation, and individual veterans and their families on the project. The Museum hired writer Lawrence Matsuda and illustrator Matt Sasaki to produce the graphic novel, and the project also included a workshop with curriculum training for 22 middle and high school teachers and librarians.

The graphic novel recounts the stories of six Japanese Americans who served in the segregated 442nd Regimental Combat Team in Europe and the Military Intelligence Service in the Pacific. By the end of the novel, readers develop deeper understandings of constitutional rights, racial discrimination, and loyalty.

One chapter, *An American Hero: Shiro Kashino*, highlights the Seattle native who served in the 442nd and became a decorated Nisei veteran. This chapter, along with the curriculum guide and animated video are available on the Museum's website:
http://www.wingluke.org/fighting-for-america.

Presenting the six men's stories in graphic novel form—an engaging and widely used format similar to a comic book, but printed and bound on high-quality paper—means that readers engage with powerful images in addition to the words of the story. The injustice of incarceration and the soldiers' courage, both on United States soil and abroad, thereby become more tangible to readers.

"There is great bravery in the honesty within the pages of this book," Toshiko Hasegawa of the Japanese American Citizens League says. "This same courage affords us the benefit of yesterday's lessons, today's blessings and the hope we harbor for still a better tomorrow."



Through a 2016 JACS grant, the Japanese American National Museum will conserve and digitize paintings and other objects acquired from the Allen Hendershott Eaton Collection, which they plan to share with the public through future exhibits. See page 4 to learn more about the new 2016 grant awards. Image courtesy: Japanese American National Museum

STATUS OF FUNDING FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2017 JAPANESE AMERICAN CONFINEMENT SITES GRANT CYCLE

As a federal agency, the NPS fiscal year begins on October 1 and ends on September 30. At the time of this publication, Congress had not yet passed the government's formal operating budget, known as an appropriations bill, for Fiscal Year 2017.

To ensure that the National Park Service can successfully award JACS grants in 2017, the agency announced the availability of applications on September 1, 2016. The deadline for applications was November 1, 2016.

It is anticipated that grant awards will be announced in late spring 2017. As we receive updated information about the grant awards, we will post it on the JACS Grant Program website: www.nps.gov/JACS.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact one of the NPS regional representatives if you have any questions about the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program.

Intermountain Region

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Midwest Region

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Pacific West Region

CA, HI, ID, NV, OR, WA, and other states not listed
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Japanese American Confinement Sites
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Please visit the NPS Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program website for more information, including a list of eligible sites and projects, grant program guidelines, funded projects, and past newsletters:

Website: www.nps.gov/JACS/

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www.facebook.com/jacsgrant

Thank you for your interest in the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program.

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program
Spring 2017