



Welcome to the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial

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Latest News

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – March 18, 2019

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Series of events to commemorate the 77th Anniversary of the first forced removal and exile of Japanese Americans during WWII

On March 30, 1942, Bainbridge Island was historic site of the first forced removal and exile of 120,000 Japanese Americans from the west coast during WWII, the vast majority of which were incarcerated in one of ten American concentration camps

To commemorate the 77th Anniversary of this chapter in American history, the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community, Bainbridge Island

Japanese American Exclusion Memorial Association, Bainbridge Island Museum of Art, National Park Service, Bainbridge Island Historical Museum and Eagle Harbor Book Company will host a series of featured events.

Thursday, March 28th

7:00 – 8:00 p.m.: Conversation with historian Art Hansen, author of the new book *“Barbed Voices: Oral History, Resistance, and the World War II Japanese American Social Disaster,”* covering the resistance movement in American concentration camps by Japanese Americans. Eagle Harbor Book Company, 157 Winslow Way East. <https://www.eagleharborbooks.com/event/barbed-voices-art-hansen>

Saturday, March 30th

10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. First public display of rare and selected WWII era Japanese American community artifacts, shown in tandem with the Bainbridge Island Japanese pioneer village exhibit Yama and Nagaya. <http://bihm.wpengine.com/yama-nagaya/> Free admission, Bainbridge Island Historical Museum, 215 Ericksen Avenue NE.

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. 77th Anniversary Commemoration Ceremony at the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial, 4192 Eagle Harbor Drive NE. Parking is extremely limited at the memorial site, carpooling is strongly requested. www.bijac.org www.bijaema.org

1:30 – 2:30 p.m. World premiere of the National Park Service film “Bearing the Unbearable” documenting the Bainbridge Island Japanese American WWII story, followed by a speakers’ panel featuring representatives of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community, film producers and National Park Service. Bainbridge Island Museum of Art, 550 Madison Avenue East. Free, seating is limited, first come, first served.

The Bainbridge Island Museum of Art will also be hosting three featured Momentum Festival events in their Frank Buxton Auditorium, all of which directly relate to Japanese American history and issues of social justice.

3:00 – 4:30 p.m. “Within the Silence” by Living Voices, a live multi-media play that combines dynamic solo performances with archival film and sound, creating a moving and personal journey of one Japanese American family’s fight to sustain faith in the country that they love, followed by a question and answer session with the play’s cast and producers. Free, seating is limited, first come, first served. <https://www.biartmuseum.org/event/within-the-silence/> <http://www.livingvoices.org/wts/wts.html>

7:00 – 8:30 p.m. “Sparks and Catalysts: Social Justice and the Role of Book Arts,” a stimulating panel discussion on how the intimate art form and

immersive graphic, tactile qualities of artists' books wrangle with critical and often poignant human issues. Moderated by Jane Carlin, panelists Fred Hagstrom, Carletta Carrington Wilson, Ellen Knudson, and Jeffrey Morin will share their perspectives and approaches to this important work.

<https://www.biartmuseum.org/event/sparks-and-catalysts-social-justice-and-the-role-of-book-arts/>

Sunday, March 31st

3:00 – 4:30 p.m. Noted artist Prof. Fred Hagstrom will be discussing his prolific work, highlighting two specific books about the Seattle area and Japanese American history. The Carlton College art professor's work is represented in over 50 collections including the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian Libraries, the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, and Walker Art Center. <https://www.biartmuseum.org/event/art-talks-fred-hagstrom/>

Since 2018, the Momentum Festival – a Cultural Impact Fund Project of the Bainbridge Island Museum of Art - partners with cultural and non-profit groups to offer a wide variety of arts, cultural, and humanities presentations to Kitsap County that spotlight a wide and engaging diversity of issues and talents of artists, poets, musicians, composers, filmmakers, thespians, historians, social activists, and more. Learn more about the exciting upcoming Momentum Festival events and performances <https://www.biartmuseum.org/events/momentum-festival/>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – February 21, 2019

Contact: Clarence Moriwaki (206) 491-2336

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<https://www.facebook.com/events/653904645039605/>

“Service and Community” rescheduled to March 9, 2019

Originally scheduled to be on February 19th - the Day of Remembrance anniversary when President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 on Feb. 19, 1942 - snow and uncertain weather conditions forced the cancellation and rescheduling of “Service and Community” to March 9th, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Inspired by the unique legacy of a community that welcomed their Japanese American friends and neighbors home after World War II, on March 9th from 10 AM – 2 PM, volunteers will gather for “Service and Community” at the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial, offering landscaping maintenance and improvements to the National Historic Site, located at Pritchard Park, 4192 Eagle Harbor Drive, Bainbridge Island.

Hosted by the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community and generous support from the Bainbridge Island Metropolitan Park and Recreation District, everyone is invited and welcome to pitch in and help. Please wear appropriate clothing for work and weather, bring gloves and your own gardening tools.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – March 14, 2018

Contact: Clarence Moriwaki 206.491.2336
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Bainbridge Island commemorates the 76th Anniversary of the first forced removal of Japanese Americans in World War II on March 30th with groundbreaking ceremony of the Exclusion Departure Deck and unveiling of new National Park Service exhibits

The Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community (BIJAC) – in partnership with the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial Association, the Bainbridge Island Museum of Art (BIMA), the Bainbridge Island Historical Museum and the National Park Service – invites all to experience a series of free events to honor the first – and all – of 120,000 Japanese Americans to be forcibly exiled from the West Coast during World War II, and to reflect upon the unique legacy of a community that stood by their Japanese American friends and neighbors and welcomed them home.

“Nidoto Nai Yoni – Let It Not Happen Again” March 30th schedule of events and details:

10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.: 76TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION at the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial, 4192 Eagle Harbor Drive. **Groundbreaking ceremony for the new Exclusion Departure Deck will start promptly at 11 a.m.**

National Park Service representatives will be on-site to present and answer questions about their new outdoor interpretive exhibits, recently installed at the memorial site.

Parking is extremely limited and carpooling is strongly encouraged. Reserved media parking is available on a space available first-come, first-served basis.

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.: FREE ADMISSION TO THE AWARD-WINNING BAINBRIDGE ISLAND HISTORICAL MUSEUM, including the permanent exhibit “Kodomo No Tame Ni – For the sake of the children” covering the first 100 years of history and legacy of the Bainbridge Island

Japanese American community. 215 Ericksen Ave. N.E.

7 p.m.: “THE PINE AND THE CHERRY: JAPANESE AMERICANS IN WASHINGTON” at the Bainbridge Island Museum of Art (BIMA), 550 Winslow Way East, corner of Winslow Way and Highway 305.

In partnership with Humanities WA, BIMA, BIJAC and LibraryU, a very special presentation by artist, author and member of one of Seattle's most important families - Mayumi Tsutakawa – who will share **“The Pine and the Cherry: Japanese Americans in Washington.”** Her presentation tells the story of how our state's Japanese Americans faced the injustice of exclusion and incarceration, and how families who lost everything, including the Tsutakawas, rebuilt their lives and their livelihoods.

Due to limited seating, reservations are strongly recommended. Free tickets for the presentation can be reserved here:

<http://www.biartmuseum.org/events/momentum-festival/>

For more information, please visit the BIMA website at <http://www.biartmuseum.org/> Questions may be directed to Kristin Tollefson, BIMA Education Director, at kristin@biartmuseum.org or 206.451.4004.

More information and event details can be found at www.bijaema.org, www.bijac.org, or on Facebook [facebook.com/BIJAEM/](https://www.facebook.com/BIJAEM/)

What Japanese Internment Taught Us About Standing Up for Our Neighbors

First, we must demand justice for ourselves. Second, those who have privilege and power must intervene for those without.



Tracy Matsue Loeffelholz

I've been feeling particularly Japanese these days. That's not entirely unusual. Being mixed race means I experience my races in sometimes unexpected flareups. And now, as more of white America seems to be trying to rid itself of more of brown America, the murmuring about racism from my Japanese community has intensified. They have something to say about this, and it occurs to me that I do, too....

[YES! Magazine](#)

Annual Volunteer Opportunity at the Memorial

Bainbridge Island will commemorate the 76th anniversary of the signing of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066 with a "Service and Community" volunteer day at the memorial.

From **10 a.m. to 2 p.m. February 19**, volunteers will gather at the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial, offering landscaping maintenance and improvements to the National Historic Site, located at Pritchard Park, 4192 Eagle Harbor Drive, Bainbridge Island.

Everyone is welcome to pitch in. Please wear appropriate work clothing, gloves, and bring your own gardening tools.

For information, contact Clarence Moriwaki at [206-491-2336](tel:206-491-2336) or clarencemoriwaki@gmail.com.

February 18, 2018

2018 Day of Remembrance - Taiko Fundraiser

To benefit the Minidoka Pilgrimage Youth & Elder Scholarship Fund

Executive Order 9066 was signed on February 19, 1942, allowing the incarceration of approximately 120,000 Japanese and Americans of Japanese ancestry living on the West Coast of the United States. Join us in this year's Day of Remembrance, the 76th anniversary of this moment in history to learn, reflect, and support the ongoing efforts of the Minidoka Pilgrimage Planning Committee.

Sunday, February 18

Doors 12:00; Program 1:00-4:00 PM

Seattle University, Pigott Auditorium, 901 12th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98122 Parking available at Broadway Garage

\$20 general; \$10 students w/ID at the door or online at: <https://dor2018.bpt.me>

For more information:

March 15, 2017

Bainbridge Island commemorates the 75th Anniversary of the first forced removal of Japanese Americans in World War II, March 30, 2017

“Nidoto Nai Yoni - Let It Not Happen Again” is the timeless and timely message of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial and the theme for the 75th Anniversary Commemoration on March 30, 2017.

The Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community (BIJAC) – in partnership with the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial Association, the Bainbridge Island Museum of Art (BIMA) and the Bainbridge Island Historical Museum – invites all to experience a day-long series of free events to honor the first – and all – of 120,000 Japanese Americans to be forcibly exiled from the West Coast during World War II, and to reflect upon the unique legacy of a community that stood by their Japanese American friends and neighbors and welcomed them home.

“Nidoto Nai Yoni – Let It Not Happen Again” schedule of events and details:

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.: FREE ADMISSION TO THE AWARD-WINNING BAINBRIDGE ISLAND HISTORICAL MUSEUM, including the permanent exhibit “Kodomo No Tame Ni – For the sake of the children” covering the first 100 years of history and legacy of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American community. 215 Ericksen Ave. N.E.

11 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: 75TH ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATION CEREMONY at the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial, 4192 Eagle Harbor Drive. **Ceremony will start promptly at 11 a.m.**

Washington Governor Jay Inslee and the Japanese Ambassador to the United States Kenichiro Sasae are among the confirmed speakers at the ceremony.

Parking is extremely limited and carpooling is strongly encouraged. Reserved media parking is available on a space available first-come,

first-served basis.

4 – 6 p.m.: BAINBRIDGE ISLAND JAPANESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY FILMS at the Bainbridge Island Museum of Art, 550 Winslow Way East, corner of Winslow Way and Highway 305.

Four award-winning documentary films produced by Bainbridge Island filmmakers will be screened as a series, and each film will be followed by a panel discussion with the filmmakers and participants of the films. See below for full film summaries.

Due to limited seating, reservations are strongly recommended. Free tickets for these films are available at [Brown Paper Tickets](#).

4:00 p.m. THE RED PINES

4:30 p.m. WOMAN BEHIND THE SYMBOL

5:00 p.m. AFTER SILENCE

6:00 p.m. VISIBLE TARGET

7:00 p.m. Join us for a **TALK BY BIJAC PRESIDENT CLARENCE MORIWAKI ENTITLED “HISTORY, HONOR, HEALING AND HOPE”** on the impact of fear, war hysteria, prejudice and failure of political leadership during the Japanese American exclusion. A brief Q&A with Clarence will follow the talk.

Due to limited seating, reservations are strongly recommended. Free tickets for this talk are available at [Brown Paper Tickets](#).

Questions may be directed to Kristin Tollefson, BIMA Education Director, at 206.451.4004.

Into early April, BIMA will feature art related to the Japanese American experience of WWII and the work of noted Japanese American artists.

Film Summaries:

BAINBRIDGE ISLAND JAPANESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY FILMS AT BIMA, 4:00-7:00pm

Join us for a screening of a curated series of short, Bainbridge Islander produced documentary films centered on the subject of the Japanese American exclusion and incarceration. These timeless and timely films promise to resonate with a wide range of audiences. A brief Q&A with filmmakers and participants will follow each film.

4:00pm THE RED PINES

The first-person story of the struggle of Japanese-American immigrants

on Bainbridge Island and the legacy of their culture in the present-day community. From the story of Zenhichi Harui, a Japanese immigrant who came to Bainbridge Island in 1908, to the restoration of the family nursery business by his son, Junkoh, the film traces the obstacles overcome by the Japanese pioneers and their families. Bainbridge Island represented a unique opportunity for the Japanese immigrants, with a multicultural community that tolerated diversity. Even so, from the laws preventing Asians from purchasing land to the exclusion during World War II, the Japanese-Americans had to exert an extraordinary amount of spirit and hard work to prosper. Produced and directed by Lucy Ostrander and Don Sellers of Stourwater Pictures for IslandWood.

4:30pm WOMAN BEHIND THE SYMBOL

Exclusion Order No. 1, authorizing the first forced removal and exclusion during WWII, targeted the 276 Japanese Americans living on Bainbridge Island. One of them was 31-year-old Fumiko Hayashida, a pregnant mother of two. As they waited to be taken off the Island by armed military escorts, Fumiko, holding her 13 month-old daughter Natalie Kayo, was photographed by the Seattle Post-Intelligencer newspaper. This iconic image has become a world-wide symbol of the WWII exclusion and incarceration experience, and the film reveals how that chance photograph became the impetus for Fumiko to publicly lobby against the injustices of the past. Produced and directed by Lucy Ostrander and Don Sellers of Stourwater Pictures for IslandWood.

5:00pm AFTER SILENCE

This film focuses on the forced removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans from Bainbridge Island as recounted through the perspective of Dr. Frank Kitamoto, who was a child during World War II. The story is told through interaction between Kitamoto and a small group of high school students from Bainbridge High School as they develop archival photographs from the incarceration and discuss its relevance to post 9/11 America. The film ends with the 2002 dedication of a memorial and plaque marking the site of the Bainbridge Islanders' departure. AFTER SILENCE was produced by the Bainbridge Island Historical Society as part of an exhibition on the community's World War II experience. Created by filmmaker Lois Shelton.

6:00pm VISIBLE TARGET

The story of the forced removal of Japanese Americans from Bainbridge Island, and the Bainbridge Review publisher/editors Walt and Willy Woodward's lonely fight against it. Cris Anderson and Bainbridge Islander John de Graaf produced VISIBLE TARGET in 1985 for Seattle public television station KCTS, later broadcast around the nation, making it one of the earliest documentaries to tackle the exclusion and incarceration of Japanese Americans. The film also profiles Walt and Milly Woodward of the Bainbridge Review, among the only West Coast

journalists who opposed the treatment of Japanese Americans and features rare interviews with them.

February 21, 2017

Trump travel ban echoes World War II Japanese-Americans' internment order

On March 30, 1942, about four months after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, then-22-year-old Kay Sakai was removed from her home on Bainbridge Island and taken by ferry to Seattle under armed guard.

“Will I ever see my home again? How long are we going to be gone? Where are we going?” Sakai asked herself as she saw the island get smaller and smaller behind her, she said. “It goes through your mind. No answers.”

It was the first leg of a three-day journey to the Manzanar War Relocation Center in Owens Valley, California, one of the camps built to incarcerate Japanese Americans during World War II after President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 on Feb. 19, 1942 — Sunday was its 75th anniversary...

[Bainbridge Island Review](#)

February 19, 2017

Volunteers spruce up exclusion memorial for 75th anniversary event

Lilly Kodama trimmed old fern fronds from a site where 75 years earlier she had boarded a ferry for a trip to a Japanese internment camp. It was an exciting time for a 7-year-old girl.

[Kitsap Sun](#)

February 1, 2017

“Service and Community” – Bainbridge Island commemorates the 75th Anniversary of the signing of President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s

Executive Order 9066

Inspired by the unique legacy of a community that welcomed their Japanese American friends and neighbors home after World War II, on February 19 from 11 AM – 3 PM, volunteers will gather for “Service and Community” at the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial, offering landscaping maintenance and improvements to the National Historic Site, located at Pritchard Park, 4192 Eagle Harbor Drive, Bainbridge Island.

Work on the memorial site will be done in preparation for the upcoming March 30th commemoration of the first Japanese Americans to be forcibly removed and excluded from the west coast during World War II.

Everyone is welcome to pitch in and help, please wear appropriate work clothing, gloves and bring your own gardening tools.

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January 25, 2017

Reflections on Japanese internment, 75 years later

Bill Radke talks with writer and Humanities Washington speaker Mayumi Tsutakawa about the 75th anniversary of the World War II order that led to Japanese internment in America. Tsutakawa explains her own personal connection to internment, and how it can help educate about modern prejudices.

[KUOW](#)

December 19, 2016

Internment camps of WW II should remain a sad memory

Japanese-American residents of Bainbridge Island were among the first to be deported to internment camps under President Franklin Roosevelt’s Executive Order 9066. How many internment camps would be needed today?

[The Seattle Times](#)

November 19, 2016

His Japanese-American parents were held in camps; now historian sees 'same patterns' emerging

A Seattle man who has spent 15 years studying and preserving the history of Japanese-American internment in World War II said he sees the same climate of fear and hate now following Donald Trump's campaign...

[The Seattle Times](#)

August 21, 2016

As National Park Service turns 100, Seattle ranger personifies change

A change agent, Beall is superintendent of Seattle's National Park units, which include Klondike Gold Rush in Pioneer Square, the national-park-affiliated Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience up the street in the Chinatown-International District, and the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial, which reflects as a cautionary tale the imprisonment of people of Japanese descent during World War II...

[The Seattle Times](#)

March 7, 2016

How not to forget the West's past atrocities

When the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial was little more than a clearing in a forest on Puget Sound, among its first visitors was a cacophonous murder of crows...

[High Country News](#)

December 19, 2015

'Let it not happen again': Political talk of discrimination ignites islanders

Mary Woodward looked out across the crowd that packed the Japanese American Exclusion Memorial, their many faces illuminated in the flickering candles of the frigid night air, and was impressed...

[Bainbridge Review](#)



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Japanese
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Exclusion
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*A NATIONAL PARKS HISTORIC
SITE*



*A unit of Minidoka National Historic Site (U.S.
National Park Service)*

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