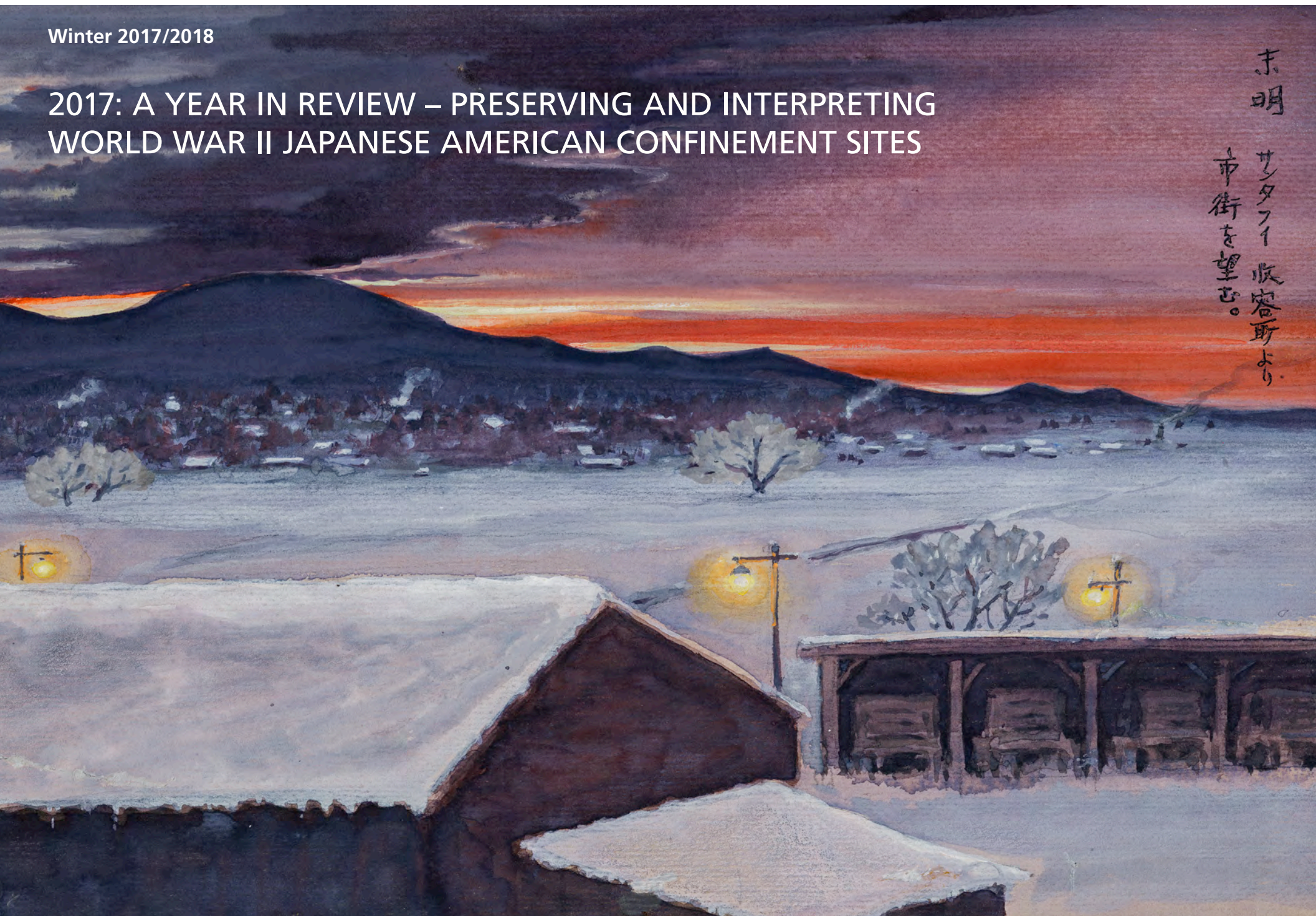




Winter 2017/2018

2017: A YEAR IN REVIEW – PRESERVING AND INTERPRETING WORLD WAR II JAPANESE AMERICAN CONFINEMENT SITES

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

National Park Service Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program Fulfilling Congressional Mission to Preserve and Interpret World War II Incarceration History	1
2017: A Year in Review – Preserving and Interpreting World War II Japanese American Confinement Sites	7
Fiscal Year 2017 Grant Awards	11
Projects Completed During Fiscal Year 2017	27
• The California Museum Produces Oral History Videos Describing Incarceration Experience	28
• The City and Borough of Juneau’s <i>Empty Chair Project</i> Remembers Japanese Americans’ Forced Removal from Alaska	29
• City of Chandler Connects Communities to the Gila River Incarceration Site	30
• Colorado Preservation, Inc., Reconstructs Barrack at Amache to Provide Glimpse into the Past.....	31
• Contra Costa Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League’s Photo Exhibit Educates Bay-Area Travelers	32
• Densho Enhances Online Repository with Addition of New Video Testimonies	33
• Earshot Jazz Society of Seattle’s Panama Hotel Jazz Show Entertains, Educates	34
• Friends of Minidoka Reconstructs Guard Tower and Enhances Interpretation for Visitors	35
• Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation Improves Accessibility, Expands Archival Collection	36

• National Japanese American Historical Society’s New Curriculum Guide Emphasizes Unique Stories, Historic Context of Confinement Sites	37
• San Joaquin County Office of Education and Fred T. Korematsu Institute Train California Teachers	38
• Special Service for Groups and Kizuna Develop Curriculum to Connect Students to Japanese American World War II Incarceration History.....	39
• Topaz Museum Exhibits Preserve History and Create a Legacy	40
• UCLA Asian American Studies Center Preserves Pivotal Aiko and Jack Herzig Archival Collection	41
• United Tribes Technical College Brings Civil Liberties Justice Center One Step Closer to Reality Following Study	42
• University of Arkansas Fayetteville Brings Rohwer Incarceration Site ‘Back to Life’ with 3D Technology Project	43
• University of Arkansas at Little Rock Advances Rohwer Preservation with Cemetery Restoration	44
• University of Central Arkansas Shares Dance Performance to Convey Incarceration Story to Diverse Audiences	45
• Venice Community Housing Corporation Commemorates Forced Removal of Japanese Americans	46

Status of Funding for the Fiscal Year 2018 Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Cycle	47
Grant Funding by State, 2009-2017 (Map and Graph)	48
Contact Information	49

This page: U.S. Fifth Army, 2nd Battalion, 442nd Infantry Regiment, Cecina Area, Italy, July 30, 1944. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-114-82), Courtesy of the Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee and the U.S. Army

Cover: “Dawn in the winter,” painting by Kango Takamura created during his time at Santa Fe Internment Camp in New Mexico, c. 1942. Image courtesy: Densho (ddr-manz-2-23), Courtesy of Manzanar National Historic Site and the Kango Takamura Collection

Opposite: *Liberty and Justice for All*, oil, acrylic and charcoal on tar paper, 48” x 72”, by Nancy Chikaraishi, daughter of Dr. Ben Chikaraishi and Mrs. Kiyo (Chino) Chikaraishi, Rohwer internees. Image courtesy: Nancy Chikaraishi, AIA

National Park Service Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program Fulfilling Congressional Mission to Preserve and Interpret World War II Incarceration History

By Michael Whiteman-Jones, Guest Writer/Editor

If you want to understand the Japanese American Confinement Sites (JACS) Grant Program more fully, you have to travel back in time a decade to the fall of 2007.

That was when the National Park Service (NPS) contacted more than 12,000 people and organizations for written feedback on the new grant program and also held 22 public listening sessions in 19 cities spanning the country. They included two national meetings at the National Center for the Preservation of Democracy in Los Angeles, California, as well as local meetings in cities as diverse as Washington, D.C.; Dumas, Arkansas; and Honolulu, Hawaii.

NPS staff heard from more than 1,000 people, whose feedback was insightful, wide-ranging, and passionate.

Preserving Stories a Priority

Many of those who responded stressed the critical importance of collecting and preserving the stories of the elderly Japanese Americans who were wrongly imprisoned during World War II. It was early 1942 when President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 9066 forcing nearly 120,000 men, women, and children of Japanese ancestry to be taken from their homes and sent to incarceration sites around the country. The majority of internees were United States (US) citizens who stayed in this country after the war. Many of the oldest survivors had died by the start of the new millennium; however, those remaining could lose their memories or pass away before their stories were shared.

Other respondents believed important artifacts such as writings, paintings, and other artwork created by former internees needed curation and conservancy. Some even expressed interest in saving what was left of the incarceration sites themselves.

As one person put it, "...the heart of the internment is the camps themselves, the hallowed places, remote as they are. When people visit the site, they feel the onus of the incarceration. It emanates from the soil, the temperature whether hot or cold, the desolation, and they know the injustice of internment."

The overarching sentiment expressed by many was even more profound. They hoped that by preserving the stories of Japanese American incarceration—some uplifting, many tragic—educators could show how events experienced in the past are still relevant today and use them to teach all Americans how to prevent repeating such civil rights abuses. "I feel strongly that this project...should strive to encourage in the public their responsibility to try to prevent this type of violation of civil and human rights, which undermines the very foundations of a democratic society," said one commenter.





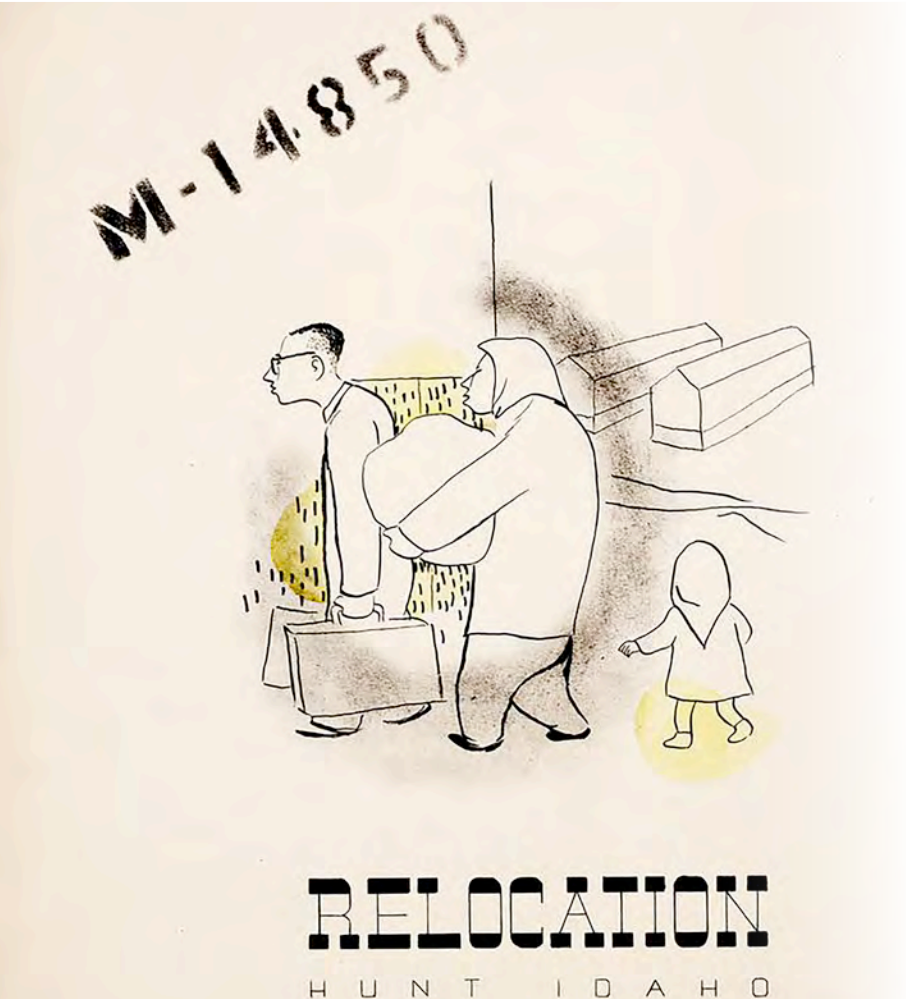
Awareness Raised, Healing Continues

Funding for the work wasn't an issue. Congress had established a \$38 million matching-grant program to identify, collect, and preserve stories, artifacts, and historic sites connected to the World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans. But could the JACS Grant Program fulfill such an ambitious mission to tell the story of the US government's wrongful imprisonment of 120,000 people of Japanese descent during World War II? A decade later, the answer is yes.

"There's no question in my mind that it's been critically important in raising awareness to the world of the World War II Japanese American story," says Ann Burroughs, president and chief executive officer of the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, California. The museum has received numerous JACS grants, and Burroughs says that with their help, the "quantity and quality of that storytelling has increased. It's been very powerful."

Impacts of JACS grants have been both historically and personally significant, adds Tom Ikeda, executive director of Densho, a nonprofit organization started in 1996 to document the oral histories of Japanese Americans incarcerated during World War II. "Densho" is a Japanese term meaning "to pass on to the next generation," or to leave a legacy. Based in Seattle, Washington, Densho's outreach has evolved into a mission to educate, preserve, collaborate, and inspire action for equity.

"The JACS Grant Program has allowed us to capture so many more personal testimonies than if the program weren't there," Ikeda says. "Tens of thousands of documents, artwork, and photos have also been preserved. These are World War II-era materials, and many were deteriorating, getting lost, and being thrown away. But we got out there and said we have the resources to preserve these materials."



RELOCATION
H U N T I D A H O

Top left: A soldier and a man in civilian clothes holding a dog in front of barracks at Minidoka concentration camp, Idaho. Warren Suzuki stands on the right, c. 1940s. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-243-1), Courtesy of the Suzuki Family Collection

Bottom left: Drawing by Art Mayeno while at the Minidoka incarceration site, Idaho, c. 1943. Image courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-166-15), Mayeno Family Collection

The process of collecting artifacts and listening to people also had surprising effects, Ikeda says. “I went in like a historian thinking these materials would be valuable in and of themselves, and they are. But from a Japanese American standpoint, it’s the healing process that was most significant,” he says. “Many of these men and women felt invisible. Collecting and telling their stories has been done with a lot of sensitivity and honor. It’s helped people understand they did nothing wrong. It’s healed them—the process of talking about it.”

Rosalyn Tonai, executive director of the National Japanese American Historical Society in San Francisco, California, agrees. She recalls the story of one camp survivor who was just 8 years old when he and his family were sent to a camp. Nearly 70 years later, he returned to the camp and suddenly remembered burying his marbles under the stoop of his family’s barracks, which was long since gone. But after locating the site and digging in the dirt with the help of friends, he found the marbles and also recovered a sense of the playfulness and happiness he’d experienced even in “that desolate place,” she says.

Stories like this have helped hundreds of thousands of students and adults understand what it feels like to have your rights and dignity stripped away simply on the basis of your nationality or the color of your skin, Tonai says. “We hold workshops for teachers all over the country who are very hungry to inform their kids about what’s going on today. They want to know how to explain these policy proposals that call for religious registration, immigration restrictions, or deportation, for example,” she says. “The Japanese American story allows them to introduce issues that resonate with today’s events without directly raising today’s controversies. It makes students think, and it teaches them respect for differences of opinion. It encourages nuance, discussion and dialogue instead of thinking in black and white, right and wrong. It fosters respect for one another, for different truths and diverse opinions. It’s encouraging and empowering. Critical analysis is very important to building an informed public.”

Remembering the Story, Preventing a Recurrence

Ensuring that “this important chapter in American history is not forgotten” is one of the program’s top priorities, says Tom Leatherman, a superintendent of several NPS units who’s been involved in the JACS Grant Program from the beginning. “Many of the projects are focused on public information to help ensure something like this does not happen again, and it is clear from the breadth of projects undertaken that many groups are working toward this as a guiding principal, which was clearly identified in the enabling legislation for the program,” he says.

Top right: Japanese Americans wait with their belongings to be bused from Oakland, California, to the Tanforan Assembly Center under Civilian Exclusion Order Number 28, May 6, 1942. Photo courtesy: Denso (ddr-densho-151-48), National Archives and Records Administration, photo by Dorothea Lange

Bottom right: Forced relocation from Centerville, California. Photo courtesy: Denso (ddr-densho-151-210), National Archives and Records Administration, photo by Dorothea Lange





It's also important to remember that one of the reasons that the grant program was established was to acknowledge that not all of the sites and stories could be preserved and told by the NPS, says Leatherman.

“Organizations from across the country stepped up to the challenge and have been successful in preserving sites, stories and artifacts without having the NPS assume the long-term preservation responsibility,” according to Leatherman. “In this way, the larger community has embraced the responsibility and importance of preserving these sites and stories for future generations. Good examples of this include the Heart Mountain Wyoming Interpretive Learning Center and the Topaz Museum. These two visitor center facilities were constructed using some grant money, but there was a significant amount of private support as well, including long-term operating funds which are not eligible for grant funds.”

Gerald Yamada, who worked on the enabling legislation for the JACS program, reflected on the bipartisan support generated in the House and Senate, saying “It was important for us to provide the resources to tell our story, to preserve our story...” He further noted, “We started the legislation to preserve the confinement sites, and to encourage young people to get involved in this history and create projects, and that is being accomplished.”

History of Activism Created Change

Prominent Japanese Americans, numerous organizations, and countless stakeholders fought for the preservation and interpretation of Japanese American World War II confinement sites for decades before there was a response. Headway was made in 1988, when President Ronald Reagan signed the Civil Liberties Act to acknowledge the injustices that affected more than 120,000 people of Japanese descent who were incarcerated in confinement sites during World War II. The legislation, which recognized these actions were “. . .motivated largely by racial prejudice, wartime hysteria, and a failure of political leadership,” offered a formal apology and provided \$20,000 in compensation to each surviving victim. The law won congressional approval only after a decade-long campaign by the Japanese American community.

NPS participation in the effort began in the mid-1980s when it started identifying significant sites. Its role was formally recognized in 1992 by Congress when the Manzanar National Historic Site in California became a national park unit. Additional NPS units have been added since that time; including the Minidoka Internment National Monument in Idaho in 2001 (now called Minidoka National Historic Site); Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial (in 2008 as part of Minidoka); Tule Lake Unit in California in 2008 as part of WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument; and Honouliuli National Monument in Hawaii in 2015.

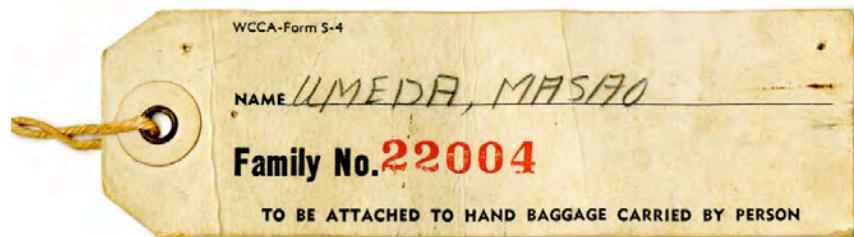
Top left: Fumi Hayashida holding her sleeping daughter, Natalie, as they await mass removal along with other Japanese American families from their homes in Bainbridge Island, Washington, March 30, 1942. Photo courtesy: MOHAI, Seattle Post-Intelligencer Collection, pi28050

Bottom left: Tanforan Assembly Center, San Bruno, California, April 29, 1942. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-151-456), National Archives and Records Administration, photo by Dorothea Lange



All 10 War Relocation Authority sites are recognized under the enabling legislation for the JACS Grant Program, including Gila River, Granada (Amache), Heart Mountain, Jerome, Manzanar, Minidoka, Poston, Rohwer, Topaz, and Tule Lake. Many other associated sites are recognized in the NPS publication, *Confinement and Ethnicity: An Overview of World War II Japanese American Relocation Sites*, and the list continues to grow as additional sites are identified.

In December 2006, President George W. Bush signed Public Law 109-441 authorizing the NPS to create a \$38 million grant program to encourage and support that effort. The program began the following year and started awarding grants in 2009. To date, the JACS Grant Program has awarded 186 grants worth \$23 million in 21 states and the District of Columbia. The value and extent of the work accomplished through these grants, however, far exceeds the amount of funds invested in them.



Above: Luggage tag, with the name Masao Umeda written in ink. Family No. 22004 is adorned in red on the tag. Image courtesy: National Japanese American Historical Society, donated by Masao Umeda

Top right: Waiting in line at the mess hall, 1942, Puyallup Assembly Center, Washington. Photo courtesy: en-denshopd-i37-00868-1, National Archives and Records Administration

Bottom right: Rohwer incarceration site, Arkansas, c. 1943. Photo courtesy: Denho (ddr-densho-167-1), Courtesy of the Kuroishi Family Collection



2017: A YEAR IN REVIEW – PRESERVING AND INTERPRETING WORLD WAR II JAPANESE AMERICAN CONFINEMENT SITES



Elementary school flagpole dedication at the Minidoka incarceration site in Idaho, June 1943.
Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-37-719), National Archives and Records Administration



The National Park Service is pleased to report on the progress of the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program. In 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 nonfederal funds and “in-kind” contributions.

Over the last nine years, the program has awarded 186 grant awards totaling more than \$23 million to private nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, state, local, and tribal governments, and other public entities. The projects involve 21 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 2017 grant awards featured in this report include a symposium and high school curriculum marking the 75th anniversary of President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s signing of Executive Order 9066; restoration plans for an elementary school building at the Poston site in Arizona; and documentation of new oral histories to provide greater insight into the history of the lesser-known Tuna Canyon Detention Station in California.

The 23 grants awarded in 2017 range from \$27,066 to the National Japanese American Memorial Foundation to enlist high school students to develop video apps that provide visitors to the Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism in WWII with a deeper understanding of the incarceration sites commemorated by the memorial to \$294,715 for the Regents of the University of California, Berkeley to enhance its comprehensive digital archive by adding approximately 130,000 scans of War Relocation Authority records to the publicly-accessible Online Archive of California.

Each year, as new projects begin, past JACS-funded projects are completed. Some of those completed this year include the installation of a kiosk at a recreational park in Arizona to connect the history of the Gila River incarceration site to passersby; the reconstruction of an Amache barrack in southeastern Colorado to provide visitors with a glimpse into life behind barbed wire; and an educational program to train more than 500 teachers across California on Japanese American World War II incarceration history.

The National Park Service recognizes the hard work and dedication of those committed to preserving the sites and experiences associated with the Japanese American World War II incarceration history. The wide array of projects funded demonstrates the present-day relevancy of this history, while highlighting the importance of partnerships to build a lasting legacy and ensure that the experiences of former incarcerated are not forgotten.

“These grants tell a more complete history of the home front experience during World War II, highlighting the strength and resilience of Japanese Americans facing incarceration,” said Acting National Park Service Director Michael T. Reynolds. “The National Park Service is excited to work with various partners that use modern, innovative methods to preserve sites and stories for future generations.”

Eligible Sites and Projects

As defined by Public Law 109-441, eligible confinement sites include the 10 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 nonfederal 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).

Top right: War Relocation Authority photo of school at Poston incarceration site in Arizona (Unit 1). Photo courtesy: Japanese American National Museum (2015.100.285)

Bottom right: Harvesting potatoes at Minidoka incarceration site, Idaho, c. 1943-1945. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-156-31), Courtesy of the Bigelow Family Collection





Overview of the 2017 Grant Program Process

For the 2017 grant program, the National Park Service mailed postcards announcing the availability of grant applications and guidelines to nearly 7,000 individuals and organizations. On September 1, 2016, 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 1, 2016, the National Park Service received 31 applications requesting more than \$4.1 million in federal funds. During the week of December 6, 2016, 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 architecture, curation, history, historical architecture, interpretation, and cultural resources. The panel evaluated and ranked each proposal using criteria and guidelines that were established based on public input.

The panel recommended 23 proposals to receive funding, which was awarded in two phases. Continuing resolutions for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Laws 114-223 and 114-254), provided funding authority for the period from October 1, 2017, through April 28, 2017, or 57.37% of the fiscal year's budget. Thus, on June 8, 2017, NPS Acting Director Michael T. Reynolds announced 14 grants totaling more than \$1.6 million in funding. On August 17, 2017, Acting Director Reynolds announced the award of the remaining nine grants totaling more than \$1.2 million, with funding provided through the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2017 (Public Law 115-31).

FISCAL YEAR 2017 GRANT AWARDS

In 2017—the JACS Grant Program’s ninth year—23 grants provided more than \$2.8 million to projects in seven states and the District of Columbia. A list of the funded projects follows.



Baggage is inspected as families arrive at Turlock Assembly Center, May 2, 1942. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-151-220), National Archives and Records Administration, photo by Dorothea Lange



Fiscal Year 2017 Project Descriptions by State

CALIFORNIA

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

Project Title: The Go For Broke Experience: Monument, Exhibition and Oral History

Grant Award: \$60,843

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: The Go For Broke National Education Center will integrate videos from their extensive oral history collection into the *Defining Courage Exhibition*, which opened to the public in May 2016. Video viewing stations will be organized around eight different themes: the aftermath of the attack on Pearl Harbor; racism and discrimination as a citizen and soldier; the Military Intelligence Service and media propaganda-making; the economic and psychological effects of incarceration; combat experience; the Loyalty Questionnaire; the draft and resistance; and exploring courage through the legacy of the Nisei soldier. A kiosk in the center's lobby will enable visitors to search more than 1,200 veteran's oral histories, as well as a list of more than 16,000 names of Japanese American World War II veterans that are engraved on the nearby monument that was established in 1998 as a tribute to Nisei soldiers. A launch event and a scholar panel event will raise awareness of the exhibit.

Two Masaoka brothers, full-length, standing at attention, holding rifles, flank flag bearer at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, April 1944. Photo courtesy: Library of Congress (LC-USW33-57817-ZC), photo by U.S. Army Signal Corps

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

Project Title: Contested Histories: Art and Artifacts from the Allen Hendershott Eaton Collection

Grant Award: \$250,958

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: The Japanese American National Museum (JANM) will conserve 102 three-dimensional artifacts from the Allen Hendershott Eaton collection and produce a traveling exhibition of items collected in the 1940s by folk art expert Eaton. During Eaton's visits to several of the War Relocation Authority camps, he acquired artwork created by Japanese American incarcerated, with the intention of creating an exhibit to honor the artists and raise awareness of the injustices Japanese Americans faced during World War II. Though Eaton did not carry out the exhibition before he died in 1962, JANM acquired the collection in 2015 and assessed the conservation needs of the 455 items with a 2016 JACS grant. The Eaton artifacts will be featured in a traveling exhibit that will visit twelve locations around the country, including former confinement sites, community centers, and libraries.



Above: Sumi ink stone from the Allen Hendershott Eaton Collection. Image courtesy: Japanese American National Museum (2015.100.109)

Right: Carved wood plaque with two cranes from the Allen Hendershott Eaton Collection. Image courtesy: Japanese American National Museum (2015.100.70)





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

Project Title: Digitization and Accessibility of JANM's Moving Image Collection

Grant Award: \$228,622

Site(s): Heart Mountain Relocation Center, Park County, WY; Rohwer Relocation Center, Desha County, AR; Jerome Relocation Center, Chicot and Drew Counties, AR; Granada Relocation Center (Amache), Prowers County, CO

Description: The Japanese American National Museum will digitize and preserve 13 moving image collections, including 45 home movies, from Japanese American families made between the 1920s and the 1950s. These rare and invaluable moving images capture everyday life before, during, and after World War II. Moving images that provide glimpses into life behind barbed wire in different War Relocation Authority incarceration sites are a highlight of the collection. JANM will make the films searchable and available to the general public on its website, and select clips for display online and in JANM's lobby.



Recipient: Los Angeles Conservation Corps (Los Angeles, CA)

Project Title: Los Angeles Conservation Corps Cultural Landscape Stabilization

Grant Award: \$47,341

Site(s): Manzanar Relocation Center, Inyo County, CA

Description: The Los Angeles Conservation Corps (LACC) will lead youth conservation crews in conducting hands-on conservation work at the Manzanar National Historic Site. As part of LACC's mission to provide training opportunities for at-risk youth, participants will learn about Manzanar's historical, cultural, and natural significance, and receive technical training to conduct site work. LACC will work closely with Manzanar National Historic Site to identify conservation projects, such as trail restoration and vegetation clearing, to help preserve the site's cultural landscape.

Top left: Stone pendants from the Allen Hendershott Eaton Collection. Image courtesy: Japanese American National Museum (2015.100.123-128)

Bottom left: Manzanar incarceration site in California, July 1, 1942. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-151-64), National Archives and Records Administration, photo by Dorothea Lange

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

Project Title: Dislocation and Divergence: Causes and Consequences of Executive Order 9066

Grant Award: \$196,200

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: The National Japanese American Historical Society, Inc. (NJAHS) will expand five sections of the permanent exhibit at the Military Intelligence Service Historic Learning Center located at the Presidio. New exhibitions will include content ranging from the Japanese American incarceration experience to service in the armed forces, and to different responses to the “Loyalty Questionnaire.” Visitors will experience the exhibition through diverse media such as tablet “flipbooks,” digital displays of artifacts, and interactive maps. NJAHS will also create a traveling exhibit to recognize the 75th anniversary of President Franklin D. Roosevelt’s signing of Executive Order 9066, which led to the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II.

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

Project Title: From the Camps They Served: Nisei Soldier Digital Collections

Grant Award: \$79,700

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: The National Japanese American Historical Society, Inc., will partner with the University of San Francisco to digitize more than 300 artifacts connected to Japanese Americans who served in the US military while their families remained in incarceration sites. University students will research, catalog, and scan these rare objects, including personal diaries and mementos, military uniforms, and dog tags and POW tags from veterans’ private collections. NJAHS will also develop an online portal to make the objects easily accessible to researchers and the public.

Top right: Military Intelligence Service Language School, Fort Snelling, Minnesota, Winter 1944. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-114-559), Courtesy of the Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee and the U.S. Army

Bottom right: 100th Infantry Battalion troops, Italy, August 9, 1944. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-114-6), Courtesy of the Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee and the U.S. Army





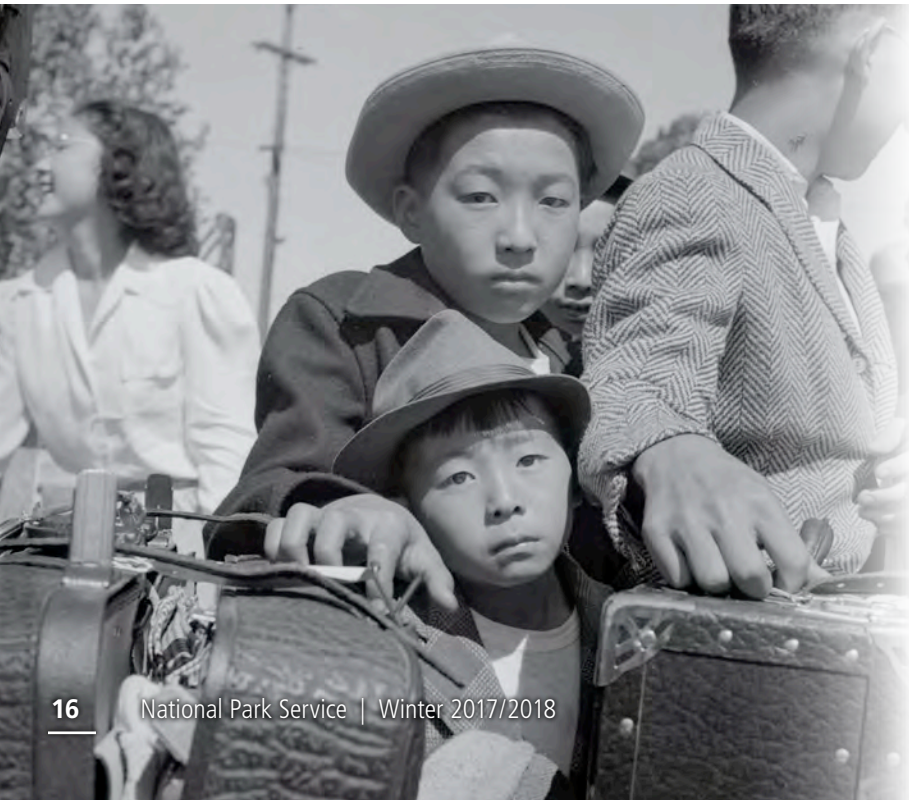
Recipient: Poston Community Alliance (Lafayette, CA)

Project Title: Restoration of the Poston Elementary School Site I Library

Grant Award: \$77,701

Site(s): Colorado River Relocation Center (Poston), La Paz County, AZ

Description: The Poston Community Alliance will produce comprehensive construction documents for the restoration of Building 12 of the Poston Elementary School Site, and will make critical repairs to the roof and canopy of the building to prevent further deterioration of its adobe walls and interior. The restoration of Building 12, used as a school library during the incarceration, will allow for its future use as a visitor center and exhibit space. The Poston Elementary School Site is the only remaining building complex at Poston.



Recipient: The Regents of the University of California (Berkeley, CA)

Project Title: Japanese American Internment Sites: A Digital Archive

Grant Award: \$294,715

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: The Bancroft Library at the University of California, Berkeley, will complete a comprehensive digital archive of its War Relocation Authority (WRA) holdings. The project will add approximately 130,000 scans of WRA records to the publicly-accessible Online Archive of California (OAC). The Bancroft Library has already digitized 100,000 items and is in the process of making an additional 250,000 available online through previous JACS grants. Other than the National Archives, the University of California, Berkeley is the primary depository for WRA records; adding these materials to the OAC will vastly improve accessibility for researchers and all other users.

Top left: Poston Library, 2016. Photo courtesy: Barbara Darden, Scheuber + Darden Architects

Bottom left: Turlock Assembly Center in California, May 2, 1942. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-151-17), National Archives and Records Administration, photo by Dorothea Lange

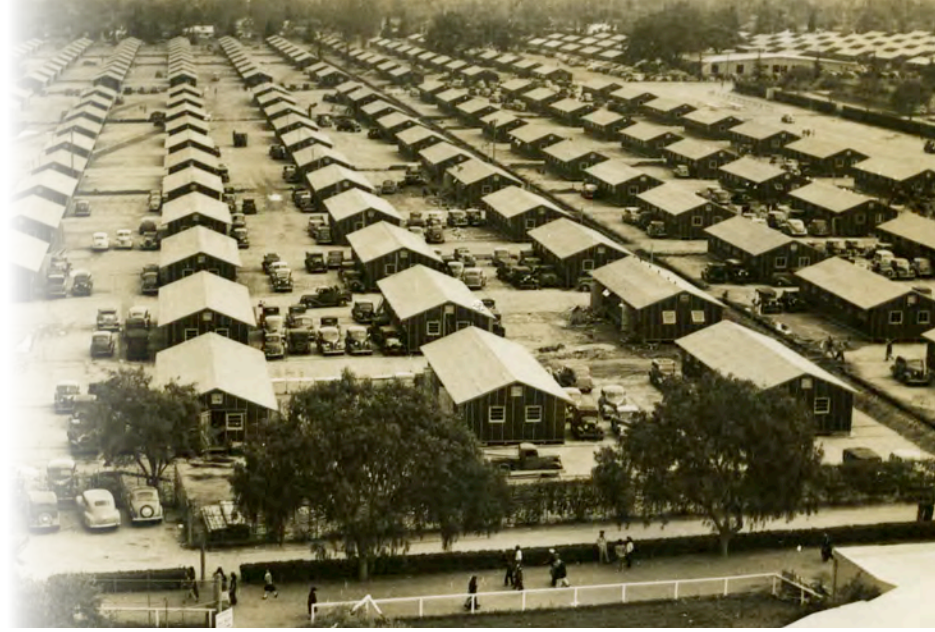
Recipient: San Diego Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League (San Diego, CA)

Project Title: Never Forget—Our Lost Years

Grant Award: \$114,200

Site(s): Colorado River Relocation Center (Poston), La Paz County, AZ

Description: The San Diego Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League will produce a documentary, entitled “Never Forget—Our Lost Years,” focused on the 306 Japanese American families who in 1942 were forced to leave San Diego for California’s Santa Anita Racetrack and then were moved to the Poston incarceration site in Arizona. Interviews with Japanese Americans who lived through incarceration, as well as with younger generations, will illustrate the lasting impacts of incarceration on Japanese American families. The film will also feature the personal stories of many of the 108 men from the community who served in the US Army.



Recipient: The Tides Center, National Veterans Network (San Francisco, CA)

Project Title: Sharing the Lessons of Japanese American WWII Soldiers from WRA Confinement Sites

Grant Award: \$107,708

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: The Tides Center, National Veterans Network (NVN) and the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Center (APAC) will build upon their Nisei Soldier Congressional Gold Medal Digital Exhibition through the development of educational materials to expand the exhibition’s reach across the country. The NVN and APAC will develop middle and high school curriculum highlighting Japanese American veterans of World War II that include soldiers whose families lived behind barbed wire in US confinement sites. The curriculum will be distributed through Teaching Tolerance, the educational arm of the Southern Law Poverty Center.



Top right: Santa Anita Assembly Center, Arcadia, California, April 6, 1942. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-22-438), National Archives and Records Administration and the Saul Collection

Bottom right: In 1945, Terry Toyome Nakanishi was among the first Nisei Women’s Army Corps to be sent to the Military Intelligence Language School in Fort Snelling, Minnesota. Image Courtesy: National Veterans Network



Recipient: Tuna Canyon Detention Station Coalition (Pacoima, CA)
Project Title: Tuna Canyon Detention Station Legacy Project
Grant Award: \$54,000
Site(s): Tuna Canyon Detention Station, Los Angeles County, CA
Description: The Tuna Canyon Detention Station Coalition will conduct at least 25 interviews with descendants of Tuna Canyon detainees and produce a video to enhance viewers' experiences of "Only the Oaks Remain: The Tuna Canyon Detention Station Traveling Exhibit." The video, including full interview transcripts, will be made available to students, researchers, and the general public on the Coalition's website. There are no detainees still living, but their descendants' recollections and reactions to archival materials, including their family's letters and government case files, will provide invaluable oral histories of Tuna Canyon.



Recipient: Visual Communications (Los Angeles, CA)
Project Title: Manzanar, Diverted
Grant Award: \$83,765
Site(s): Manzanar Relocation Center, Inyo County, CA
Description: Visual Communications, working in partnership with filmmaker Ann Kaneko, will complete a one-hour documentary and accompanying website examining the intersections between environmental and political histories of the Manzanar site. The documentary will draw from interviews with American Indians forced from their land, farmers and ranchers whom the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power bought out, and Japanese Americans incarcerated at Manzanar during World War II, as well as historic photographs and other archival materials. The film will also link the history of the site to present-day issues. The accompanying website will include a timeline, a bibliography, video interviews not included in the film, a study guide for the film, and additional resources.

Top left: Barracks interior, Tuna Canyon, 1943. Photo courtesy: David Scott and Family and Little Landers Historical Society

Bottom left: Manzanar incarceration site in California, c. 1942-1943. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-manz-4-2), Courtesy of Manzanar National Historic Site and the Shinjo Nagatomi Collection

Top right: Registration for mass removal, San Francisco, April 25, 1942. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-151-61), National Archives and Records Administration, photo by Dorothea Lange

CONNECTICUT

Recipient: Yale University (New Haven, CT)

Project Title: Out of the Desert: Public Symposium, Comprehensive Curriculum Development, and Immersive Digital Portal

Grant Award: \$76,374

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: Yale University's Center for the Study of Race, Indigeneity, and Transnational Migration will convene a two-day public symposium to mark the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066. The symposium will include workshops on best practices in historic preservation, digitization of archival materials, and online dissemination of content. Yale University also will partner with Brown University to develop a five-day, standards-aligned high school curriculum, which will be released to 8,000 schools around the country in conjunction with the symposium.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Recipient: National Japanese American Memorial Foundation (Washington, DC)

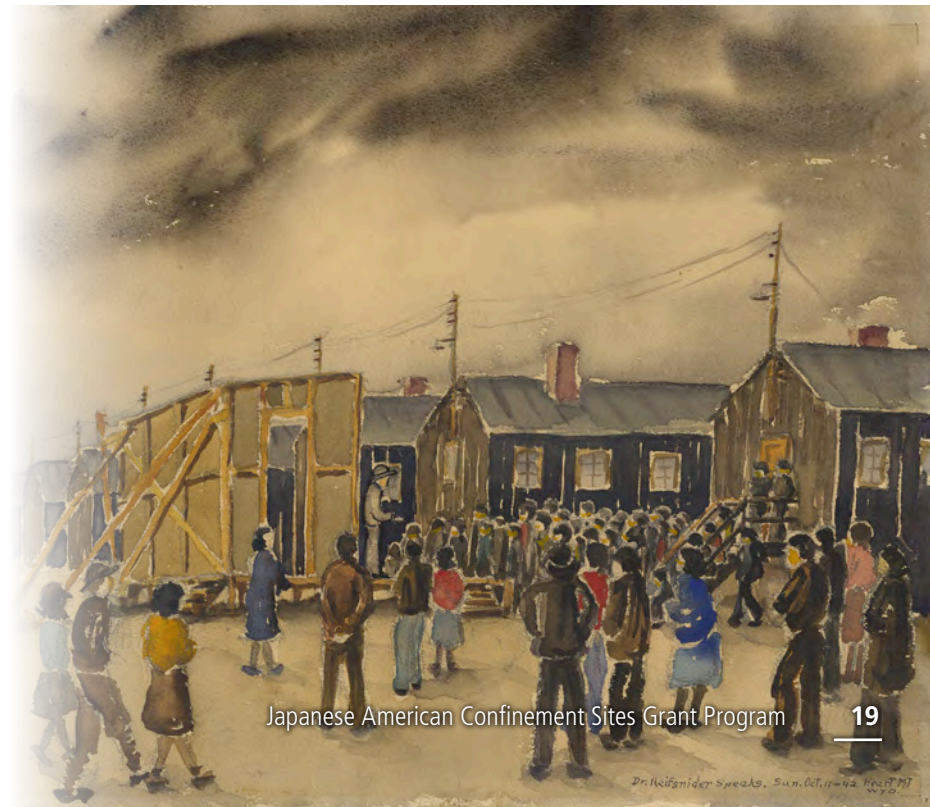
Project Title: National Japanese American Memorial Foundation Digital Storytelling Project

Grant Award: \$27,066

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: The National Japanese American Memorial Foundation (NJAMF) will assist five high school students in creating digital-media presentations of stories related to five confinement sites. Students will learn digital storytelling techniques and connect with Japanese Americans who were incarcerated at the five sites during a two-and-a-half-day workshop. NJAMF will incorporate these stories, along with five stories created during a previous project, into a stand-alone website and mobile app for visitors to the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism in World War II located in Washington, D.C. The final website and mobile app will include all 10 War Relocation Authority sites in a cohesive historical narrative.

Bottom right: Dr. Reifsnider speaks, Sun. Oct. 11-42, Heart Mt. Wyo., written at bottom of watercolor. Image courtesy: Japanese American National Museum (2015.100.2)





HAWAII

Recipient: Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii (Honolulu, HI)

Project Title: Directory of Japanese American Internees of Hawaii

Grant Award: \$45,900

Site(s): Honouliuli Internment Site, Honolulu County, HI, and other internment sites in Hawaii

Description: The Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii will develop an interactive and searchable online database of the 2,263 people of Japanese ancestry who were arrested and detained in Hawaii—then a US Territory—during World War II. Families and researchers will be able to find details on an individual's occupation, family members, place of residence before incarceration, and the confinement site where they were held. Additional materials, such as oral history transcripts, photos and videos, will be linked to the individual's data, and will provide more personal insight into those interned at Honouliuli and other internment sites in Hawaii.



Top left: Honouliuli Internment Camp, ca. 1945-1946. Photo courtesy: Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i, AR 19 Collection, photo by R.H. Lodge

Bottom left: Caption on reverse: "Father 66, Herbert 20, Kenneth 15, Franklin 11, Hawaii, August 1944." Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-22-156), Courtesy of Herbert K. Yanamura and the Saul Collection

Opposite: Memorial service at the Manzanar Cemetery, c. 1942-1946. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-manz-4-145), Courtesy of Manzanar National Historic Site and the Shinjo Nagatomi Collection

Recipient: Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii (Honolulu, HI)
Project Title: Hawaii's Japanese American Wartime Evacuees
Grant Award: \$109,912
Site(s): Honouliuli Internment Site, Honolulu County, HI and Sand Island Detention Camp, Honolulu County, HI
Description: The Japanese Cultural Center of Hawaii (JCCH) will archive and digitize more than 5,000 pages of documents related to the forced evacuation of 1,500 people of Japanese ancestry from 23 areas throughout Hawaii. These individuals were not included in the roughly 2,300 who were imprisoned at Honouliuli, Sand Island, and Hawaii's other internment sites. The history of these "evacuation sites" remained largely unknown until after the passage of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, and is still under-examined. JCCH also will produce a book to document the context and circumstances of this lesser-known history, including the evacuation process, government actions, community responses, and evacuee's personal experiences.

ILLINOIS

Recipient: Chicago Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League (Chicago, IL)
Project Title: The Kansha Project
Grant Award: \$78,956
Site(s): Manzanar Relocation Center, Inyo County, CA
Description: The Chicago Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL Chicago) will engage college-aged students in learning about the impacts of incarceration on Japanese American communities during World War II through educational trips to Los Angeles' Little Tokyo neighborhood and the Manzanar National Historic Site. Through interactive workshops and group discussions, Kansha Project participants will explore the various facets of Japanese American incarceration history and share their educational projects with the Chicago Japanese American community at a culmination event. Program alumni will develop a curriculum and implementation guide for other JACL chapters to replicate the program.



NEW MEXICO

Recipient: New Mexico Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League (Albuquerque, NM)

Project Title: “Confinement in the Land of Enchantment” Traveling Exhibit and Community Presentations

Grant Award: \$85,926

Site(s): Santa Fe Internment Camp (Department of Justice, INS Facility), Santa Fe County, NM; Fort Stanton Internment Camp (Department of Justice, INS Facility), Lincoln County, NM; Camp Lordsburg (US Army Internment Facility), Hidalgo County, NM; and Old Raton Ranch (Department of Justice, INS Facility), Santa Fe County, NM

Description: The New Mexico Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League will produce a traveling exhibit and give community presentations focused on the experiences of Japanese Americans confined at New Mexico sites during World War II. The exhibit and presentations will be based on extensive research conducted during an earlier phase of the “Confinement in the Land of Enchantment” project. Presentations scheduled for the Santa Fe, Lordsburg, and Fort Stanton sites will introduce locals to the exhibit and raise awareness among New Mexico residents of the existence of World War II confinement sites in the state. Presentations will include panel discussions with survivors, descendants of those incarcerated, and scholars.



WASHINGTON

Recipient: Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial Association (Bainbridge Island, WA)

Project Title: Exclusion Departure Deck, Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial

Grant Award: \$187,668

Site(s): Eagledale Ferry Dock, Bainbridge Island, Kitsap County, WA

Description: The Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial Association (BIJAEMA) will build the Exclusion Departure Deck, a representation of the former Eagledale Ferry Dock, where Bainbridge Island Japanese Americans, forced to move from their homes and community, boarded a ferry to Seattle, beginning their transfer to confinement sites. Evoking the power of place, the deck will provide visitors with a glimpse of what it was like for Bainbridge Island men, women, and children, escorted by US Army soldiers, to depart from the former Eagledale ferry landing, leaving their friends and homes behind. The deck will be built at the end of the existing 276-foot memorial story wall, which tells the history of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American community through a series of terracotta panels. BIJAEMA will also replace and enhance nearby landscaping and modify the existing storm water retention and drainage system for the Exclusion Departure Deck.

Opposite: Caption on reverse of image: "Panorama of Santa Fe Internment Center. Drawn on writing paper - with anxiety - during early days when I was not sure that drawings of any kind were permitted," April 26, 1942. Image courtesy: Densho (ddr-manz-2-25, UCLA Coll_433_b2_f8), Courtesy of Manzanar National Historic Site and the Kango Takamura Collection

This page: Mass removal of Japanese Americans from Bainbridge Island, as they walk down the Eagledale ferry dock, March 30, 1942. Photo courtesy: MOHAI, Seattle Post-Intelligencer Collection, pi28055





Recipient: Densho (Seattle, WA)

Project Title: Making Connections with the Japanese American Incarceration II: The Online Teacher Course

Grant Award: \$208,031

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: Densho will develop a six- to eight-hour online course for teachers that connects the Japanese American World War II incarceration history with stories about discrimination faced by other groups during World War II and similar issues that are relevant today. Teacher workshops in Seattle, Washington, and Birmingham, Alabama, will test and refine the course, which will be available free of charge to teachers across the country. The training will increase teachers' understanding and equip them with tools to incorporate this topic into other classroom subjects while appealing to a changing student demographic.

Recipient: Densho (Seattle, WA)

Project Title: Sites of Shame – A Comprehensive Online Resource of the Confinement Sites

Grant Award: \$244,551

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: Densho will make substantial updates to its 2005 Sites of Shame website, which connects online content related to all known War Relocation Authority, Department of Justice, US Army, and Wartime Civil Control Administration sites. Along with new information on many confinement sites, the updated website will include information on additional sites that were not widely known when the website first launched. Updates will include the addition of historical and archaeological research and preservation efforts, enhancements to the website's interactive map, links to other online resources, and improvements in usability and accessibility.



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

Project Title: Inspiring Future Generations: Friends and Supporters Who Helped Those Incarcerated

Grant Award: \$148,764

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

Description: The Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience, in partnership with the Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee Foundation, will produce a third graphic novel aimed at familiarizing middle and high school students with personal stories and critical issues arising from Japanese American confinement. The graphic novel will feature stories of individuals outside of the Japanese American community who spoke out against incarceration, directly assisted Japanese American incarcerated, or provided assistance and comfort following incarceration. School curriculum resources, an animated video short, project website, book launch event, and teacher training will further assist educators and students in broadening their understanding of the confinement of Japanese Americans during World War II.

Top left: Tanforan Assembly Center, California, June 16, 1942. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-151-339), National Archives and Records Administration, photo by Dorothea Lange

Bottom left: Hoshidan members leaving Tule Lake Segregation Center for Department of Justice Santa Fe Internment Camp, June 24, 1945. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-37-197), National Archives and Records Administration Collection

This page: 442nd Regimental Combat Team, Bruyeres Area, France, November 12, 1944. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-114-163), Courtesy of the Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee and the U.S. Army



WYOMING

Recipient: Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation (Powell, WY)

Project Title: Building a Japanese American Confinement Sites Consortium

Grant Award: \$60,599

Site(s): Multiple Sites

Description: The Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation (HMWF), in collaboration with partners representing various confinement sites and national organizations working to preserve Japanese American World War II history, will implement plans to establish and launch the Japanese American World War II Confinement Sites Consortium. The Consortium will develop a communications infrastructure and sustainable framework to facilitate information sharing, encourage collaboration, and increase capacity for outreach and action on issues focused on the preservation and interpretation of Japanese American incarceration history.



PROJECTS COMPLETED DURING FISCAL YEAR 2017

Following is an overview of projects successfully completed during Fiscal Year 2017. 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.



Amache incarceration site, Colorado, c. 1942-1945.
Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-159-4), Courtesy of the George Ochikubo Collection



The California Museum Produces Oral History Videos Describing Incarceration Experience

Thirty short videos featuring the recollections of former incarcerated are now part of The California Museum's *Time of Remembrance* exhibit.

They are organized around themes of the aftermath of Pearl Harbor, life during incarceration, military service, resettlement, and redress. The videos highlight the memories of more than 50 former incarcerated who have served as museum docents since 1999, focusing on their most vivid memories and addressing the most common questions visitors have asked over the years.

Interactive kiosks allow visitors to view each video in connection with photos, a touchscreen map, and other information about the War Relocation Authority and US Department of Justice incarceration sites. These videos ensure that many survivors' memories will be preserved, and that museum visitors will be able to hear firsthand accounts of incarceration far into the future. Further, the videos allow a greater number of students and visitors to learn from the docents at the museum, in classrooms, and online.

Interviewees came from all across the West Coast and were incarcerated in many different locations. Some experienced incarceration as children, others as young adults. The videos emphasize both the unique recollections of the individuals and the commonalities of their experiences, as well as the strong emotions those memories evoke. Artwork and personal and public photographs further enhance interviewees' descriptions of the places and events they remember.

The videos are also available on YouTube through the museum's website, www.californiamuseum.org. The kiosks are integrated with the museum's longest-running exhibit *Uprooted: Japanese Americans during WWII*, which examines racism and discrimination against Japanese Americans prior to and during World War II and also highlights redress efforts in the 1980s.

A 2013 NPS JACS grant of \$103,602 and matching funds allowed the museum to produce the videos and develop programming for the kiosks. The California State Library, the Northern California chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League, and several private partners contributed to the project.

Left: Interactive kiosks in the *Time of Remembrance* exhibition connect visitors with those who directly experienced incarceration. Photo courtesy: The California Museum

Top right: Seattle artist Peter Reiquam designed the Empty Chair memorial. Photo courtesy: KTOO, photo by Jeremy Hsieh

Bottom right: Jeanne Tanaka, widow of John Tanaka, receives a chain of origami cranes. Photo courtesy: KTOO, photo by Jeremy Hsieh

The City and Borough of Juneau's *Empty Chair Project* Remembers Japanese Americans' Forced Removal from Alaska

Though small compared to other West Coast cities, the Japanese American population in Juneau, Alaska, was important to the economic growth and strong social fabric of the town during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Juneau had attracted people of many ethnicities and nationalities, and many residents described it as a welcoming and tolerant place. "Everybody really knew each other, and it was a community in the fullest sense of the word," recalls Alice Tanaka Hikido.

Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, however, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) arrested most of the Issei (first-generation Japanese immigrant) men in Juneau without charges and transported them to the US Department of Justice Lordsburg detention facility in New Mexico. Their families were taken to the Minidoka incarceration site in Idaho. Sam Kito, Jr.'s parents "were told they were going to be together, but they separated them, they got split up for two, three years."

The Empty Chair Project relates these seldom-told stories of Japanese Americans who were forced to leave their homes in and near Juneau during World War II and of the town's response to their absence. The project includes a memorial sculpture in Capital School Park, an exhibit at the Juneau-Douglas Museum, Karleen Grummett's *Quiet Defiance: Alaska's Empty Chair Story*, and additional educational materials. It also inspired a documentary film by Greg Chaney titled *The Empty Chair*, which played on Alaska public television on the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066. The book and documentary feature interviews with several survivors, most of whom were young children when they were incarcerated.

The title of the project refers to John Tanaka, valedictorian of Juneau High School's 1942 class. The school presented his diploma at a special assembly before he and his family were sent to Minidoka. "I don't remember it being a very long ceremony," classmate Marie Hanna Darlin recalls, "but it was a case where nobody was happy about it, for the reason that he was going to be leaving us." Haruo "Ham" Kumasaka, one of John's close friends, also describes a somber, even tearful, atmosphere at the special commencement. During the regular graduation ceremony more than a month later, John's classmates placed an empty chair on the stage to lament his absence and that of all their Japanese American neighbors: "there were no Japanese Americans left in Juneau at that time. It was a moment when this community came together, in an act of quiet disobedience for the injustice of the internment," recalls Mary Lou Spartz.

The memorial sculpture is a larger than life-size bronze chair on a platform that resembles a gymnasium floor. The names of 53 incarcerated are engraved on the memorial. During the dedication of the memorial in 2014, one thousand origami cranes were hanging in strands from the chair. As the chair was unveiled, a strand was given to each honoree. The last strand was placed around the base of the chair. A 2013 NPS JACS grant of \$80,000 and in-kind donations supported the City's project.





City of Chandler Connects Communities to the Gila River Incarceration Site

Nozomi Park in Chandler, Arizona, is now home to a permanent public kiosk about the Gila River incarceration site, which was located on part of the Gila River Indian Community reservation during World War II. One of the five interpretive panels in the new exhibit focuses on baseball's important role in helping Japanese Americans cope with incarceration.

Kenichi Zenimura began working to set up baseball teams and a field shortly after arriving at Gila River. First his sons, and then other internees, helped to build the baseball field and spectator stands. Zenimura is now known as the “Father of Japanese American Baseball” for his contributions. “It was demeaning and humiliating to be incarcerated in your own country. Without baseball, camp life would have been miserable,” says George Omachi. Tets Furukawa recalls, “especially during the three years of confinement . . . [baseball created] joy and normalcy [for] all youngsters and the entire camp’s fans.”

At the dedication ceremony for the kiosk on January 21, 2017, several speakers noted the significance of Nozomi Park’s name—“nozomi” means “hope” in Japanese. Among the speakers was Paul Shorthair, from the Gila River Indian Community Governor’s office, who said, “I hope that this kiosk will not only serve as a reminder of past mistakes, but also a reminder to not repeat history.”

Access to the Gila River incarceration site is limited, so the kiosk’s placement in Chandler’s Nozomi Park, a multi-use recreational park with baseball fields, provides a wider audience with an understanding of the site’s history. A digital version of the exhibit, “Nozomi: Japanese American Incarceration During World War II,” is available at ChandlerpediA.org.

Funded in part by a 2013 NPS JACS grant of \$9,380, the City partnered with the Chandler Museum, the Arizona Japanese American Citizens League, Arizona State University, Densho, the Japanese Americans in Arizona Oral History Project, the Arizona Memory Project, the Arizona Historical Society, and the Nisei Baseball Research Project to develop the exhibit. I-Zone produced the interpretive panels.



Top left: Zenimura’s Gila Junior All-Stars team traveled to the Heart Mountain incarceration site in Wyoming for an inter-camp series in 1944. Photo courtesy: Bill Staples Jr., Nisei Baseball Research Project

Bottom left: Baseball signed by Gila All-Stars and Heart Mountain All-Stars in commemoration of a series of rubber matches between the two teams. Image courtesy: National Japanese American Historical Society, donated by Masao Umeda

Colorado Preservation, Inc., Reconstructs Barrack at Amache to Provide Glimpse into the Past

Colorado Preservation, Inc., (CPI) has re-created a residential barrack building to help visitors envision how the Granada Relocation Center (Amache) looked when Japanese Americans were incarcerated there. The barrack, reconstructed based on historic records and photographs, sits on the original foundation, and provides visitors a sense of the lack of privacy, disruptions to family life, and exposure to the elements that Japanese Americans endured.

As with the other confinement sites, the War Relocation Authority constructed Amache hastily. Some of the residential barracks were still unfinished when Amache opened in August 1942. Upon arrival, the rooms were ‘furnished’ with a bare light bulb, canvas cots and wool blankets, and a coal fired stove. A wooden coal bin was located outside of the door of every unit.

Barracks at Amache were divided into six rooms, each housing four to seven people; the reconstruction gives visitors a visual and physical indication of the crowded conditions. Located near a reconstructed guard tower, the structure reminds visitors that Japanese Americans at Amache were under constant surveillance, although crime was virtually nonexistent. An interpretive sign next to the reconstructed barrack explains the ingenuity of Amache incarcerated who collected scrap wood and other materials to make chairs and tables or add awnings above their doorways to make their new “homes” more habitable.

Following the closure of Amache in 1945, the demolition and sale of the site’s 556 buildings was similarly rapid. Most of the buildings, or pieces of deconstructed buildings, ended up in nearby counties in southeastern Colorado, Oklahoma, and Kansas. The cemetery, roads, and building foundations remain to indicate the layout of the residential, communal, and administrative areas that occupied 650 of Amache’s 10,000 acres.

A 2012 NPS JACS grant of \$241,124 facilitated the reconstruction of the barracks. Partners of CPI on the barrack reconstruction project included Gates Family Foundation, Scheuber Darden Architects, Wattle & Daub Contractors, the Town of Granada (site owners), Amache Preservation Society, Friends of Amache, the Amache Historical Society, the University of Denver, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Reconstructed barrack at the former Amache incarceration site in Colorado. Photo courtesy: NPS photo





Contra Costa Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League's Photo Exhibit Educates Bay-Area Travelers

A permanent exhibit of photographs documenting the incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II is educating travelers at San Bruno's Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) station in San Francisco.

With the help of a 2013 NPS JACS grant of \$67,537, the Contra Costa Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League partnered with Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist Paul Kitagaki Jr., to create this powerful exhibit. The exhibit features some of the 855 images famed photojournalist Dorothea Lange took in 1942 as part of a commission by the War Relocation Authority to document Japanese American incarceration, juxtaposed with contemporary pictures of some of the surviving incarceratedees taken by Kitagaki.

Kitagaki's photos include some of his own family members. "As I started on my path as a photographer, my uncle, Nobuo Kitagaki, an artist in San Francisco, told me that Dorothea Lange had photographed my grandparents, father and aunt in 1942 as they awaited a bus in Oakland, California to begin their journey to detention," Kitagaki says of his work. "Several years later, while looking through hundreds of Lange's photographs at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., I found her original images of my family. As I examined Lange's work I realized that every photograph represented an untold story that was quietly buried in the past."

The BART train station was built on the site of the former Tanforan Assembly Center, one of 17 temporary detention camps established by the Wartime Civil Control Administration to hold Japanese Americans forcibly removed from the West Coast until more permanent incarceration sites could be constructed. Tanforan was built on the site of the Tanforan horse racing track, and some incarceratedees lived in the former horse stalls.

The photographs and accompanying colorful interpretive storyboards are centrally located inside the BART station and easily seen by any of its 1.7 million annual visitors.

Top left: *Gambatte! Legacy of an Enduring Spirit* exhibition on display at the Nikkei Legacy Center in Portland, Oregon. Phil Kitagaki Jr. (left) stands with Jerry Aso, whose picture is featured in the exhibit. Photo courtesy: Paul Kitagaki Jr.

Bottom left: The opening of Kitagaki's exhibition, *Gambatte! Legacy of an Enduring Spirit*, in Sacramento at The California Museum. Photo courtesy: Paul Kitagaki Jr.



A traveling exhibit of 49 subjects from the historical War Relocation Authority photographs, paired with contemporary photographs of the same subjects with their family's stories, has also been displayed in California, Oregon, and Arizona. Venues have included the California Museum in Sacramento, California; Viewpoint Photographic Art Center, Sacramento, California; the Nikkei Legacy Center in Portland, Oregon; the Tucson Desert Art Museum in Tucson, Arizona; the Manzanar National Historic Site visitor center in Inyo County, California; and the visitor center of historic Fort Snelling in St. Paul, Minnesota. Future exhibitions have been planned at the Blue Line Art Center in Roseville, California, and the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles, California.

Densho Enhances Online Repository with Addition of New Video Testimonies

More than 900 oral histories are now available to the public on Densho's digital repository: <http://ddr.densho.org>. With the help of a 2014 NPS JACS grant of \$209,982, Densho expanded and indexed the collection and created a video editing system. Users can search for videos by location, theme, date, the name of the interviewee, and other keywords. Densho produced roughly 475 of the videos, and received the rest from other organizations and filmmakers.

Within the digital collection are firsthand accounts from all 10 War Relocation Authority sites, most "assembly centers," and many of the Department of Justice sites. Topics also include precursors to incarceration; the impacts of incarceration for years and decades afterward; and the long effort to win redress and reparations. Seeing and hearing from those who directly experienced incarceration can be used as a powerful tool in educating students and others about the types of restrictions that they lived under during World War II.

Shig Kaseguma, who was incarcerated at Puyallup and Minidoka and served in the Army, recalls in one interview: "There was a major newspaper for the whole camp, and then they had smaller ones, small local groups for their area. And I was one of the reporters for one of the areas. Block 5-7. . . So we would go once a week to the community center, meet with the bosses, you know, the big, from the WRA. And we would

discuss what's going on, what you can't print, what you could do, you can't do. Don't get too excited about this or that. And said, 'okay.' So we reported the local news, just for the local people . . . Because of that, for the little thing I did like that, it went on my MO [in the] Army."

Teachers, students, filmmakers, website designers, and museum curators have long recognized the value of firsthand historical accounts like this one, but have faced obstacles in finding and securing permission to use video interviews. Now, Densho's digital repository increases accessibility to these videos, while also providing guidelines on using the materials in a manner that is respectful and sensitive to former incarcerated and their families. Densho's teacher professional development programs include training on using these videos in the classroom, which teachers find beneficial in connecting students with primary sources and inspire learning through first-hand accounts.



Densho's digital repository is easily searchable, providing access to different topics. In this oral history segment, Shosuke Sasaki relays his involvement with the "Seattle Plan" for redress. Photo courtesy: Densho



Earshot Jazz Society of Seattle's Panama Hotel Jazz Show Entertains, Educates

Thousands of jazz lovers in the Seattle area have been treated to an entertaining and educational 90-minute program of music and narration highlighting Japanese American incarceration during World War II.

Titled, *Panama Hotel Jazz: Music Made from Memories*, the show tells stories about the war hysteria, prejudice, and lack of political leadership that led to the abrogation of Japanese Americans' civil liberties. It has been presented 36 times in the last two years by the Earshot Jazz Society of Seattle, with most of the performances held at the historic Panama Hotel. The jazz show was supported with a 2014 NPS JACS grant of \$33,419, as well as grants from private organizations that support the arts.

The Panama Hotel stands at the center of Seattle's Japan Town (Nihonmachi) on the corner of 6th Avenue and Main Street. It is the namesake of Jamie Ford's novel, *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*, a 2009 bestselling historical fiction novel about the love and friendship between Henry Lee, a Chinese American boy, and Keiko Okabe, a Japanese American girl, that develops during World War II.

Designed by Saburo Ozasa, Seattle's first Japanese architect, the hotel opened in 1910. Its basement museum houses unclaimed items from Japanese Americans imprisoned during World War II. It is also home to the only intact *senzo*, or Japanese bathhouse, in the country.

The hotel was originally owned by Takashi Hori, who was imprisoned at the Minidoka incarceration site in Idaho during World War II. Currently owned by Jan Johnson, the hotel was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2006 and recognized as a National Treasure in 2015. The hotel is located near Seattle's historic Jackson Street jazz scene.

Top left: The Steve Griggs Ensemble performs "Panama Hotel Jazz" at the Panama Hotel in Seattle. The ensemble includes trumpeter Jay Thomas, saxophonist Steve Griggs, vibraphonist Susan Pascal, guitarist Milo Petersen, and bassist Phil Sparks. Photo courtesy of Steve Griggs, photo by Doris Kogan

Bottom left: Pictured here are members of the Takayoshi family leaving their home in Bainbridge Island, March 30, 1942. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-34-80), Courtesy of the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community, Takayoshi Family Collection



The program features 11 music compositions and 10 narrations created by Steve Griggs through a 4Culture Historic Site Specific grant. One narration comes from Mary Matsuda Gruenewald’s memoir, *Looking Like the Enemy: My Story of Imprisonment in Japanese American Internment Camps*. The score and narrations were published for others to perform, and a studio performance was captured on audio CD while a live performance was recorded on digital video. More information about the show is available at www.panamahoteljazz.blogspot.com.

Friends of Minidoka Reconstructs Guard Tower and Enhances Interpretation for Visitors

When the Minidoka incarceration site opened in September 1942, 208 signs marked the boundary. Although the Japanese Americans incarcerated there did not violate those boundaries, the War Relocation Authority constructed guard towers and a barbed-wire fence later that year. Though protests and petitions led to the eventual removal of the fence, the guard towers became stark reminders of the freedoms that incarcerated had lost. Mariagnes Aya Uenishi Medrud, who arrived after the towers were in place, recalls: “My first impression of Minidoka was a vast desolate wasteland with barracks enclosed by barbed wire and guard towers. Guards were posted with rifles pointed inside the camp.”

The guard towers were dismantled in 1945 along with most of Minidoka’s other structures. With the help of a 2012 JACS grant of \$280,378, the Friends of Minidoka reconstructed the guard tower that stood at the site’s entrance to provide visitors a better understanding of what the landscape looked like when Japanese Americans were incarcerated there. Working in partnership with Boise State University’s Construction Management Program and the Minidoka National Historic Site, the reconstruction team relied on analysis of historic photographs to determine the measurements, materials, and design of the guard tower as no historic records or blueprints could be located.

Through a unique course at Boise State University taught by Dr. Rebecca Mirsky and Dr. Casey Cline, graduate students learned about the history of Japanese American incarceration during World War II. Students also received training in the Secretary of the Interior’s Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, and constructed a small-scale model of the guard tower. The full-scale reconstruction was installed at Minidoka in March 2013. Preservation Idaho selected the project for a 2016 Orchid Award for Cultural Heritage Preservation. The Society for History in the Federal Government presented the John Wesley Powell Prize to the project team in 2016.

Additional components of the grant project focused on enhancing the visitor experience. A free mobile app, “Minidoka NHS,” now provides a self-guided walking tour of the site. Based on newly acquired historic photographs, Friends of Minidoka added names of Japanese Americans who served in the military on Minidoka’s Honor Roll panels.

Project partners also included the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office, Stan Cole and Cole Architects, Axiom Engineering, Procore Construction Management, Materials Testing and Inspection, Edge Construction Supply, and Tates Rents.





Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation Improves Accessibility, Expands Archival Collection

Two projects by the Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation have made its resources and educational programming more accessible. The Heart Mountain Interpretive Center and Setsuko Saito Higuchi Walking Trail exhibits and informational signs are now available in several formats and languages. Researchers can also examine artifacts and documents that were previously uncatalogued. Finding aids and additional resources are available onsite and at <http://www.heartmountain.org/archives.html#collections>.

Opened in 2011, the interpretive center includes temporary and permanent exhibits designed to convey to visitors what life at Heart Mountain was like for the Japanese Americans incarcerated there. With a 2014 NPS JACS grant of \$16,943, the HMWF added subtitles in English, Spanish, and Japanese to *All We Could Carry*, a short documentary film that introduces visitors to the history of Heart Mountain, so that hearing-impaired individuals and those who do not speak English can receive the same information. Similarly, the HMWF created audio tours, translations, and Braille versions of visual exhibits for those who need them.

Among the many invaluable resources housed in the Heart Mountain archives are the recently donated Frank Emi Papers, which the HMWF preserved and catalogued with a 2013 NPS JACS grant of \$97,279. Emi and fellow Heart Mountain incarceratedees established the Fair Play Committee, which advocated nonviolent protests of incarceration and opposed the military draft—a controversial stance within the Japanese American community both during the war and in subsequent years.

Emi was one of six Fair Play Committee members convicted of conspiracy to counsel draft evasion, but a federal appeals court overturned their convictions after the end of World War II. President Truman later pardoned them and 300 other Japanese Americans who resisted the draft. Emi also helped lead efforts in the 1980s to secure redress and reparations for all Japanese Americans who suffered the injustices of incarceration.

The artifacts donated to the HMWF provide remarkable details of Emi's personal life and public activism. By cataloguing the Frank Emi Papers and other collections, making them available to researchers, and conducting outreach events, HMWF has both preserved the artifacts and raised awareness of the many resources that can provide more insight into the history of Japanese American incarceration.

This page: Woman holding baby while sitting on bed in barracks room. Cody, Wyoming. Photo courtesy: Courtesy of Yoshio Okumoto, Heart Mountain Wyoming Foundation, Densho Digital Repository (ddr-hmwf-1-309)

Top right: NJAHS' curriculum encourages students to explore the complexities of Japanese American incarceration history. Image courtesy: National Japanese American Historical Society, Inc.

Bottom right: Seattle teachers visit the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial. Photo courtesy: National Japanese American Historical Society, Inc.

National Japanese American Historical Society's New Curriculum Guide Emphasizes Unique Stories, Historic Context of Confinement Sites

“What role did place have in determining the fate of Japanese Americans before, during, and after incarceration?” This is the central question of a high school-level curriculum developed by the National Japanese American Historical Society with the help of a 2014 NPS JACS grant of \$63,755. The program focuses on the incarceration experience of Japanese Americans on the West Coast and in Hawaii.

The regional focus of the curriculum builds on knowledge about individual confinement sites to help educators and students approach the subject in a way that recognizes the complexity of the history of Japanese American incarceration. The curriculum aims to avoid the pitfalls of oversimplification and providing too little contextual information. Teachers, rangers, and historians at the National Park Service, and others involved in interpreting Japanese American incarceration helped shape the curriculum, and will implement it in the classroom and at former confinement sites.

By working through the questions and activities in the curriculum, students learn both about the events surrounding incarceration and discover deeper ways of thinking about historical patterns. They also learn to analyze causes and effects, appreciate different perspectives, support conclusions with compelling evidence, and recognize nuances in experiences. The curriculum also gives them practice in using different historical tools, including timelines, maps and population statistics, and case studies. The curriculum is designed to meet Common Core standards and is available online at www.njahs.org/seminars.

NJAHS collaborated with Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Manzanar National Historic Site, Minidoka National Historic Site, Volcanoes National Park, WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument, San Francisco State University, and the University of California, Los Angeles, to create and distribute the curriculum. From 2014 to 2016, NJAHS directly trained 139 teachers, who have in turn shared the curriculum with more than 391 teachers across the nation.



*Autul Lopez et to Santand
apel.*

In the Supreme Court

OF THE
United States

OCTOBER TERM, 1944

No. 22

FRED TOYOSABURO KOREMATSU,
Appellant,
VS.
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Appellee.

BRIEF OF THE
STATES OF CALIFORNIA, OREGON, AND WASHINGTON
AS AMICI CURIAE, ON BEHALF OF APPELLEE.

ROBERT W. KENNY,
Attorney General of the State of California,
600 State Building, San Francisco, California,
GEORGE NEUNER,
Attorney General of the State of Oregon,
Salem, Oregon,
SMITH TROY,
Attorney General of the State of Washington,
FRED E. LEWIS,
Acting Attorney General of the State of Washington,
Olympia, Washington,
*Attorneys for said States
as Amici Curiae.*

San Joaquin County Office of Education and Fred T. Korematsu Institute Train California Teachers

More than 500 California teachers have learned about the forced removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II and the work of civil rights leader Fred T. Korematsu as part of a curriculum project funded in part by a 2014 NPS JACS grant of \$180,836 for the California Legacy Voice Network project.

Korematsu was one of thousands of Japanese Americans living in California when the Empire of Japan bombed Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. Following President Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066 issued on February 19, 1942, Korematsu was to report to the Tanforan Detention Assembly Center with his family, but challenged the order and stayed behind. After Korematsu was recognized and arrested on May 30, 1942 in San Leandro, California, the American Civil Liberties Union used his case to test the constitutionality of Executive Order 9066. It was upheld in 1944 by the US Supreme Court in *Korematsu v. United States*, but Korematsu's federal conviction was overturned in November 1983 after the disclosure of new evidence showing the Supreme Court had made its decision based on false evidence and "government misconduct." However, the US Supreme Court case still stands.

Karen Korematsu, Fred Korematsu's daughter and Executive Director of the Fred T. Korematsu Institute, presented at several of the workshops. She recalls his determination vividly: "Stand up for what is right," my father said. "Protest, but not with violence. Don't be afraid to speak up. One person can make a difference, even if it takes 40 years."

The San Joaquin County Office of Education and Fred T. Korematsu Institute implemented the California Legacy Voice Network project and conducted training workshops for teachers from 2015 to 2016. The workshops focused on four key themes: the Japanese American incarceration, California's "assembly centers," Korematsu's story, and the personal accounts of presenters in six regions across California. The workshops and curriculum were designed to make the history of racism, citizenship, and violations of equal justice under the law relevant to teachers and students.

The workshops' primary audience was classroom teachers in the 4th through 12th grades. Organizers hope that the new curriculum and workshops eventually will reach educators in 1,000 school districts and 10,000 schools across California.

Special Service for Groups and Kizuna Develop Curriculum to Connect Students to Japanese American World War II Incarceration History

Hundreds of students around the country are learning about the incarceration of Japanese Americans thanks to a new age-optimized curriculum based on the short documentary film, *A Flicker in Eternity*.

The film is a coming-of-age tale about a gifted teenager who gets caught between his dream of becoming a writer and artist and his duty to his country. It is based on the diary, letters, and cartoons of Stanley Hayami, who was imprisoned in the Heart Mountain incarceration site near Powell, Wyoming, but later paid the ultimate price serving as a soldier in the US 442nd Regimental Combat Team in the waning days of World War II.

With a 2015 NPS JACS grant of \$20,000, the Los Angeles-based organizations Special Service for Groups and Kizuna developed the curriculum in cooperation with *Flicker* director Sharon Yamato.

Kizuna's Director Craig Ishii presented the curriculum last year to representatives from various Japanese American confinement sites and other community leaders at the All Camps Consortium gathering in Washington, D.C. Ishii noted, "The support from the National Park Service's Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program allowed Kizuna to educate, empower, and engage the next generation of community leaders to learn important historical lessons, identify cultural values, and make a commitment to the future of our community." Last summer, the curriculum was used at Kizuna's elementary, middle school, and high school programs, as well as in a workshop during the Tule Lake Pilgrimage at the historic Tule Lake Unit of WWII Valor in the Pacific National Monument near Newell, California. It's also available online for teachers and the public at www.kizuna-la.org/products/flicker-in-eternity.

Opposite page: Amicus Curiae brief filed on behalf of the states of California, Oregon and Washington in the Supreme Court case *Korematsu v. United States of America*. Image courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-35-428)

Right: Students visit the Manzanar National Historic Site in California as part of the *A Flicker in Eternity* project. Photo courtesy: Kizuna





Topaz Museum Exhibits Preserve History and Create a Legacy

More than 500 people attended two days of events in July 2017 to commemorate the completion of the Topaz Museum's permanent exhibits. The summer occasion featured prominent speakers including Senator Orrin Hatch, Congressman Rob Bishop, and Don Tamaki, a civil rights attorney who served on Fred T. Korematsu's legal team. Events in Delta, Utah, included the Grand Opening Ceremony, the "E.O. 9066" play by San Francisco's troupe *Lunatique Fantastique*, tours of the newly installed exhibits in the Topaz Museum, and visits to the Topaz site, located 16 miles from Delta.

The Topaz Museum and Education Center pays tribute to more than 11,000 Japanese Americans who were incarcerated at Topaz and serves as a physical reminder of the injustices they endured and the relevance of the site today. Topaz Museum President Jane Beckwith, reflected, "I would like (museum visitors) to have a quickening of their heart or mind. I would like them to resolve to not treat people this way. We had a board member who would always say that there should be no more perpetrators, no more victims and no more bystanders, and that bystander means you. It means me. It means we need to protect people who are unnecessarily feared or maligned, and if we don't do that, then (Topaz) is what happens."

In 1982, Beckwith began her journey to preserve Topaz. A high school teacher at the time, Beckwith and her students started compiling information and artifacts about Topaz and the people who lived there. In 1996 she formed the Topaz Museum board, and connected with former incarceratedees to preserve the history and the site itself, purchasing 634 acres of the original 640 acres. The board then worked on building the museum, with the help of a 2012 NPS JACS grant of \$714,314, and in 2014 received a NPS JACS grant of \$497,186 to design museum exhibits. Raising more than \$360,000 in matching funds, the Topaz Museum partnered with Saint Paul's Split Rock Studios and worked closely on the interpretive text with community stakeholders and a distinguished Advisory Group, led by Dr. Franklin Odo, Dr. Cherstin Lyon, Dr. Greg Robinson, and Nancy K. Araki. The exhibits were designed by San Francisco's West Office Exhibit Design firm and fabricated by Salt Lake City's Insight Exhibits.

This page: Bobby Hirano points to the barrack where he lived in Topaz as a young boy. The model of Topaz is part of the exhibition highlighted during the grand opening of the Topaz Museum. Photo courtesy: Nathan Biddle

The museum exhibits reflect the experiences and memories of those once incarcerated at Topaz. A barrack replica, based on the recollections of Dr. Frank Kami and his sister Yaeko, is complete with furniture and mattresses original to Topaz. Video interviews and artifacts on display range from “loyalty questionnaires” to jewelry and artwork and furniture created by incarceratedees using materials salvaged from the site. The exhibits provide glimpses of life at Topaz and encourage visitors to reflect on larger historical issues, such as the root causes of the forced removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II and the rights and obligations of a democracy.

For those who were children at the time of incarceration, the exhibits shed light on a time in their family’s life that their parents preferred not to discuss. Ibuki Lee, whose parents created some of the artwork now in the museum, remarked during her visit at the grand opening: “I was too young to understand what we were doing here. . .to see my parents’ works displayed here, it’s very meaningful.”

UCLA Asian American Studies Center Preserves Pivotal Aiko and Jack Herzig Archival Collection

Decades of meticulous research gathered by Aiko Herzig-Yoshinaga and her husband John ‘Jack’ Herzig have been cataloged and preserved by UCLA’s Asian American Studies Center, with the support of a 2013 NPS JACS grant of \$154,960 and matching funds. “The generous funding from the National Park Service allowed us to preserve more than four decades of research and primary materials pertaining to the World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans,” said Professor David K. Yoo, Acting Director of UCLA’s Asian American Studies Center and Vice Provost for the Institute for American Cultures.

The papers, photographs, and other archival materials fill more than 240 boxes and include documents from the National Archives, the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment for Civilians (CWRIC) transcripts, reports and correspondence, and litigation files from the National Council for Japanese American Redress. The collection exposes the governmental decision process to imprison

Japanese Americans and describes the administration of the camps and experiences of their prisoners. Aiko Herzig-Yoshinaga, a former incarceratedee and senior research associate for the CWRIC, with husband Jack spent decades collecting this research. The materials directly aided in gaining redress for thousands of Japanese Americans and helped overturn the Supreme Court *Coram Nobis* cases that vacated wartime convictions of Japanese Americans.

The Jack and Aiko Herzig Papers are now permanently archived at the UCLA Charles E. Young Library Special Collections and are accessible for on-site viewing. UCLA’s Asian American Studies Center also produced an informational video to further promote the project, research, and strengthen public community partnerships. Additional information on the collection is available at: <http://www.aasc.ucla.edu/herzig451/>.

“The collection will not only enhance public knowledge about the unjust mass removal and incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans during World War II, but also offers invaluable lessons to anyone vitally concerned with issues of social justice in America,” says Marjorie Lee, UCLA’s Asian American Studies Center librarian and archivist.





United Tribes Technical College Brings Civil Liberties Justice Center One Step Closer to Reality Following Study

A dream of converting two historic buildings at the former Fort Lincoln Internment Camp near Bismarck, North Dakota, into an interpretive civil liberties justice center is one step closer to becoming a reality thanks to an ambitious project by the United Tribes Technical College.

With a 2013 NPS JACS grant of \$45,100, the College prepared a *Condition and Feasibility Assessment* that provides recommendations to rehabilitate a former hospital and the hospital steward's quarters for preservation and reuse. The recommendations follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation and will make the buildings code-compliant and fully accessible.

Fort Lincoln is historically significant because the site was used by the Department of Justice (DOJ) Alien Enemy Control Program to imprison nearly 4,000 Japanese and Germans between 1941 and 1946. Among the camp's prisoners were about 1,800 Japanese Americans who renounced their US citizenship in the prejudice and confusion surrounding World War II. They were labeled "renunciants" and "no-no boys," and treated as enemies by the government. Some 1,100 of Fort Lincoln's "renunciants" were eventually deported to Japan with devastating consequences for them and their families.

Today, the five federally recognized tribes in North Dakota own and operate the tribal college at the former DOJ camp and want to convert these two buildings into a Civil Liberties and Justice Center. The center would serve as an educational venue and archival repository and house exhibits aimed at improving regional, national, and international understanding of Japanese American imprisonment during World War II.

To reflect the many layers of history at the site, exhibits will also include parallel experiences of American Indians and explore common themes of loss of freedoms and civil rights, confinement, and relocation, while connecting these to contemporary debates about individual rights and national security.



Top left: Watch tower, Fort Lincoln, Bismarck, North Dakota, c. 1941-1946. Photo courtesy: State Historical Society of North Dakota (2003-P-16-02), photo by Ernst Pohlig

Bottom left: Barracks, Fort Lincoln, Bismarck, North Dakota, c. 1941-1946. Photo courtesy: State Historical Society of North Dakota (2003-P-16-07B), photo by Ernst Pohlig

University of Arkansas Fayetteville Brings Rohwer Incarceration Site ‘Back to Life’ with 3D Technology Project

The Rohwer incarceration site near McGehee, Arkansas, is nearly invisible today. Visitors only see farm fields, monuments, a small cemetery, and a few interpretive panels.

With a 2013 NPS JACS grant of \$300,378, the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville’s Center for Advanced Spatial Technologies (CAST) has re-created the historic Rohwer site as a detailed, online virtual 3D experience. The project integrates oral history, photographs, and documents in a visually rich immersive environment.

Available for viewing at <http://risingabove.cast.uark.edu/>, the program features a digital archive, a 3D digital reconstruction of a residential barracks block, interactive maps, and a historic timeline. More than 500 objects from the three Arkansas-based collections are represented in the archive, including artwork, correspondence, 3D camp objects, photos, student autobiographies, and other unique items.

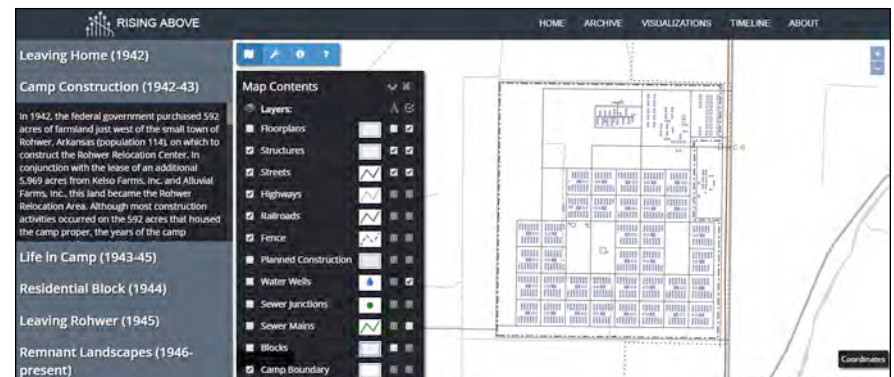
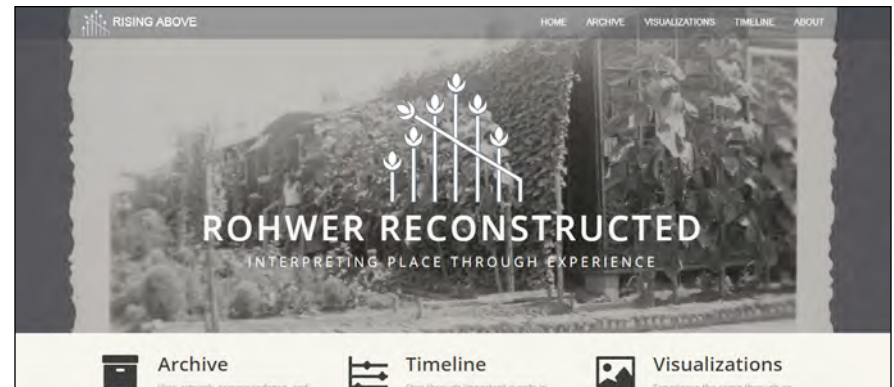
Using the 3D digital reconstruction, viewers can “walk” down the block and even enter a barrack housing unit. The process of creating the digital reconstruction began with a review of primary source material housed in collections across the country, including maps, plans, specifications, photographs, paintings, films, newspapers, correspondence, and reports. The project team then created a two-dimensional plan representing the character of a typical barracks block.

The initial hope was that the digital reconstruction would feature the detailed re-creation of an actual block, however sufficient documentation for a single, specific block was not available. Instead, by combining documentation from a variety of locations, designers captured the character of a representative block. The result is a fully interactive, highly detailed 3D visualization of a barracks block as it may have appeared in the summer of 1944 showing shade arbors, vegetable and flower gardens, and other unique features that depict how the incarcerated lived and adapted to the challenging conditions of the Arkansas Delta.

This page: *Rohwer Reconstructed* website provides visitors with a variety of tools to engage with the history of Rohwer. Image courtesy: University of Arkansas at Fayetteville

The interactive maps help viewers understand the changes that Japanese Americans made to Rohwer following their arrival in late 1942, when Rohwer “was functionally incomplete,” and throughout the period of incarceration. The timeline highlights articles from the *Rohwer Outpost* and other primary sources related to events at Rohwer.

Dr. Fred Limp, principal investigator, and Angie Payne, project manager, directed the *Rohwer Reconstructed* project. Project partners included the Classical Studies Department, Landscape Architecture Department, University of Arkansas Special Collections at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, the Butler Center for Arkansas Studies, and Arkansas State University.





University of Arkansas at Little Rock Advances Rohwer Preservation with Cemetery Restoration

The graves of 24 Japanese Americans who died while incarcerated at the Rohwer confinement site were restored to their original appearance through grant funding provided to the University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UA Little Rock). Not originally planned when Rohwer was constructed, Japanese Americans established the cemetery for friends and family lost while incarcerated. In 1945, a monument was erected calling on Arkansas residents to “keep in beauty and reverence forever this ground where our bodies sleep.”

Because the WRA removed all other structures except for a smokestack where the hospital stood, the cemetery is the only part of Rohwer that remains intact from the incarceration era. Despite active support from nearby towns and advocacy from the Japanese American community for the maintenance of the cemetery, a lack of funds meant that headstones and the cemetery’s other structures deteriorated over the years and suffered vandalism and damage from the elements.

As part of a long-term effort to stabilize and repair the cemetery, Witsell, Evans, and Rasco Architects and Kinco Constructors cleaned and repaired the headstones and flower holders and replaced missing or cracked concrete pathways. Dr. Johanna Miller Lewis, Associate Dean and Professor of History at UA Little Rock, led the project. Restoring the graves out of respect for those buried here and their descendants fulfills the promise that Arkansans will keep and maintain the cemetery forever. The site provides visitors with a place of reflection that leads to greater insight and understanding about what happened at Rohwer and other incarceration sites.

The Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas recognized the work on the cemetery with an Honorable Mention for Excellence in Preservation Through Restoration in 2015. During a spring 2016 course taught by Dr. Lewis, public history graduate students contributed to research investigating how the WRA handled death at incarceration sites.

Top left: Prior to restoration efforts, the cemetery suffered from vandalism and deterioration from the elements. Photo courtesy: J.M. Lewis

Bottom left: Restoration efforts included cleaning and repairing the headstones and flower holders and replacing missing or cracked concrete pathways. Photo courtesy: J.M. Lewis

A 2014 NPS JACS grant provided \$220,706 towards the project, which was matched by contributions from Desha County, Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, the Fred Darragh Foundation, Arkansas State University's Heritage SITES Program, and other partners. An earlier 2011 NPS JACS grant to UA Little Rock supported restoration of the Monument to the Rohwer Deceased and Monument to the 100th Battalion (of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team). With the support of these two JACS grants, UALR also corrected drainage issues to prevent future damage to the cemetery.

University of Central Arkansas Shares Dance Performance to Convey Incarceration Story to Diverse Audiences

During a central moment in *Life Interrupted*, an original dance performance commissioned by the University of Central Arkansas (UCA), a recording of children reciting the Pledge of Allegiance is juxtaposed with a dancer haltingly speaking pieces of the Pledge. The scene echoes a thought from May K. Sasaki, who was incarcerated in Minidoka: "I remember that I learned to say the Pledge of Allegiance while I was there . . . and it makes me a little bit teary-eyed 'cause I think of the irony of learning the Pledge of Allegiance while being behind barbed wire fences in the camps." The performance, alternately titled *Gaman* (roughly translated as "perseverance"), is set to original music, and includes images—paintings and sketches by Nancy Chikaraishi, whose parents met at Rohwer—projected onto the background and onto the dancers' clothes and belongings.

Using a 2015 NPS JACS grant of \$75,908, UCA's Dr. Gayle Seymour worked in partnership with Sue Schroeder of Core Dance/Core Performance Company to create *Life Interrupted* to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the closing of the Rohwer and Jerome incarceration sites in Arkansas. The grant also supported lectures and demonstrations for the public and specifically for middle school, high school, and college students; two art exhibits; a pilgrimage to the Rohwer and Jerome sites, coordinated by the Arkansas Archaeological Survey; a gallery talk by a former Rohwer incarceratee; and other outreach events over a nine-day period in 2015, collectively called *Season of Remembrance*. Producers of these works drew from archival research, examination of other performances, and interviews with Jerome and Rohwer survivors.

Bottom right: Nancy Chikaraishi's visual images, such as this piece titled "Liberty and Justice for All," were projected on stage as part of the *Life Interrupted* performance. Photo courtesy: Lynn Lane

Theatre and the arts have a unique capacity to communicate stories across cultures and to connect past and present. Berlin-based composer Christian Meyer explained that he knew very little about Japanese American incarceration prior to working on *Life Interrupted*, but through the project, he learned details of the history and recognized connections with the Holocaust. A few audience members reported that friends incarcerated during World War II and reluctant to discuss their experiences, opened up and shared some of their memories from during the war following *Life Interrupted*.

A video of the dance performance is available at <https://vimeo.com/166225689>. A behind-the-scenes look at the choreography process, audience feedback, and dance workshops, titled *Excavating the Japanese Internment Experience through Dance*, is available at <https://vimeo.com/170454837>. *Life Interrupted* began a national and international tour in February 2017, marking the 75th anniversary of the signing of Executive Order 9066. Teachers can incorporate *Life Interrupted* into lesson plans developed by UCA through activities that encourage students to think about loyalty, identity, and justice. Enrichment activities and a study guide for teachers are available at <http://coredance.org/life-interrupted/>.



Venice Community Housing Corporation Commemorates Forced Removal of Japanese Americans

In April 1942, more than 1,000 persons of Japanese ancestry from Venice, Santa Monica, and Malibu were forced to gather at the corner of Venice and Lincoln boulevards in Venice, California, where they would be taken by the US government to the Manzanar incarceration site in Inyo County, California.

It was a traumatic day for the men, women and children—the first of many.

Now, a nine-foot-six-inches-tall, solid-black granite obelisk commemorating the event has been placed there by the Venice Community Housing Corporation, fiscal sponsor of the Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument (VJAMM) Committee. Funded with a 2012 NPS JACS grant of \$50,000, and matching funds raised by the Committee, the memorial gives a brief history of the event, explains the historic context of Executive Order 9066 that led to the forced removal and incarceration, and serves as a reminder for today’s Americans to remain vigilant about protecting civil liberties. The memorial also includes a California state map that shows routes from Venice, Santa Monica, and Malibu to Manzanar National Historic Site, located near Lone Pine.

The monument’s most-moving feature, however, may be quotes from former incarcerated, including:

- “As a sixteen-year-old I didn’t realize the injustice fully, but in time we learned how our rights as citizens were ignored. Thanks to the strength and resilience of our Issei parents, we were able to survive,” said Amy Takahoshi Ioki, from Malibu.
- “Instead of being worried about where we were going, I was obsessed with the fact that I had parted with my constant companion, my pet dog, Boy. For a fifteen-year-old, that was unforgettably traumatic,” said Arnold Tadao Maeda from Santa Monica.
- “My family reported to this very corner, before being sent to Manzanar concentration camp with only what they could carry. They, and many other families, lost everything: their homes, their businesses, their liberties,” said Brian Tadashi Maeda, born in Manzanar.

More than 200 people participated in the monument’s dedication ceremony on April 27, 2017. Warren Furutani, community activist and Manzanar Pilgrimage organizer, delivered the keynote address. Other speakers included elected officials from the City of Los Angeles, City of Santa Monica, and Los Angeles County; faculty from the University of California, Los Angeles; and an official from Manzanar National Historic Site. Photos and video of the dedication are available at www.venicejamm.org.

The VJAMM Committee includes Phyllis Hayashibara, long-time US History teacher at Venice High School; Emily Winters and Suzanne Thompson, co-founders of the Venice Arts Council (VAC); Kay Brown of the VAC, former Manzanar incarcerated; Mae Kageyama Kakehashi, Arnold Tadao Maeda, Brian Tadashi Maeda, (the late) Yoshinori Tomita; Alice Stek of the Venice Peace and Freedom Party; and Nikki Gilbert of the Venice High School Alumni Association. Designed to echo the obelisk in the Manzanar cemetery, the monument was produced by Williams Monument Company in Arvin, California.

The grant also supports teacher education and the development of lesson plans for 5th, 8th, 11th, and 12th grades that incorporate the text of the VJAMM in addressing the forced removal and incarceration of Japanese Americans.



Warren Furutani, community activist and Manzanar Pilgrimage pioneer, delivers the keynote at the VJAMM dedication, April 27, 2017. Photo courtesy: Venice Japanese American Memorial Monument Committee

STATUS OF FUNDING FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2018 JAPANESE AMERICAN CONFINEMENT SITES GRANT CYCLE

As a Federal agency, the NPS fiscal year begins on October 1 and ends on September 30. It is funded annually. At the time of this publication, Congress has not yet passed the government's formal operating budget, known as an appropriations bill, for Fiscal Year 2018. In its place, Congress has passed a series of continuing resolutions that have temporarily funded the Federal government with a smaller portion of its annual appropriation. Full federal funding for the NPS and the JACS Grant Program is dependent upon Congress passing an appropriations bill by the end of September.

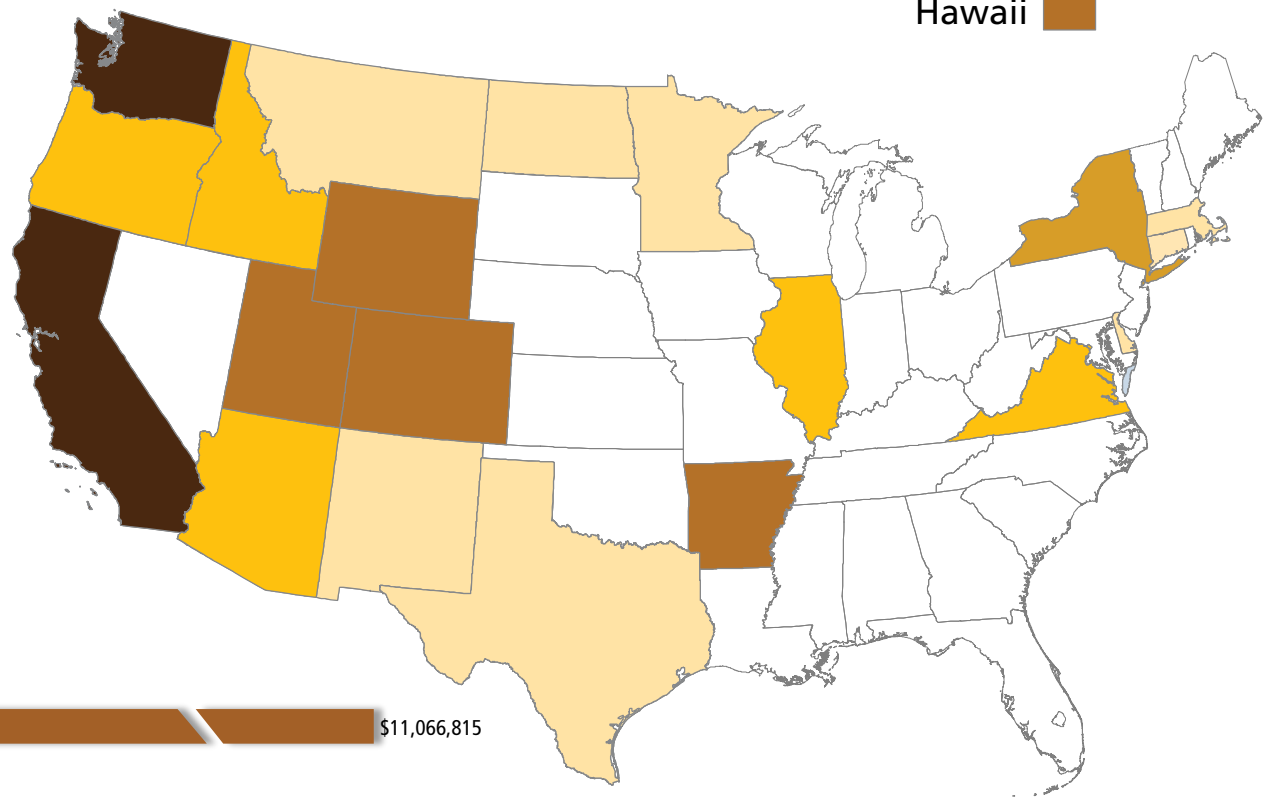
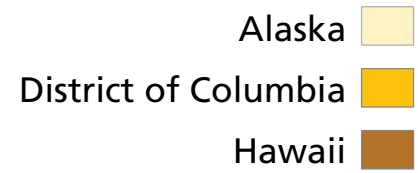
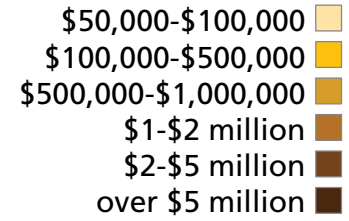
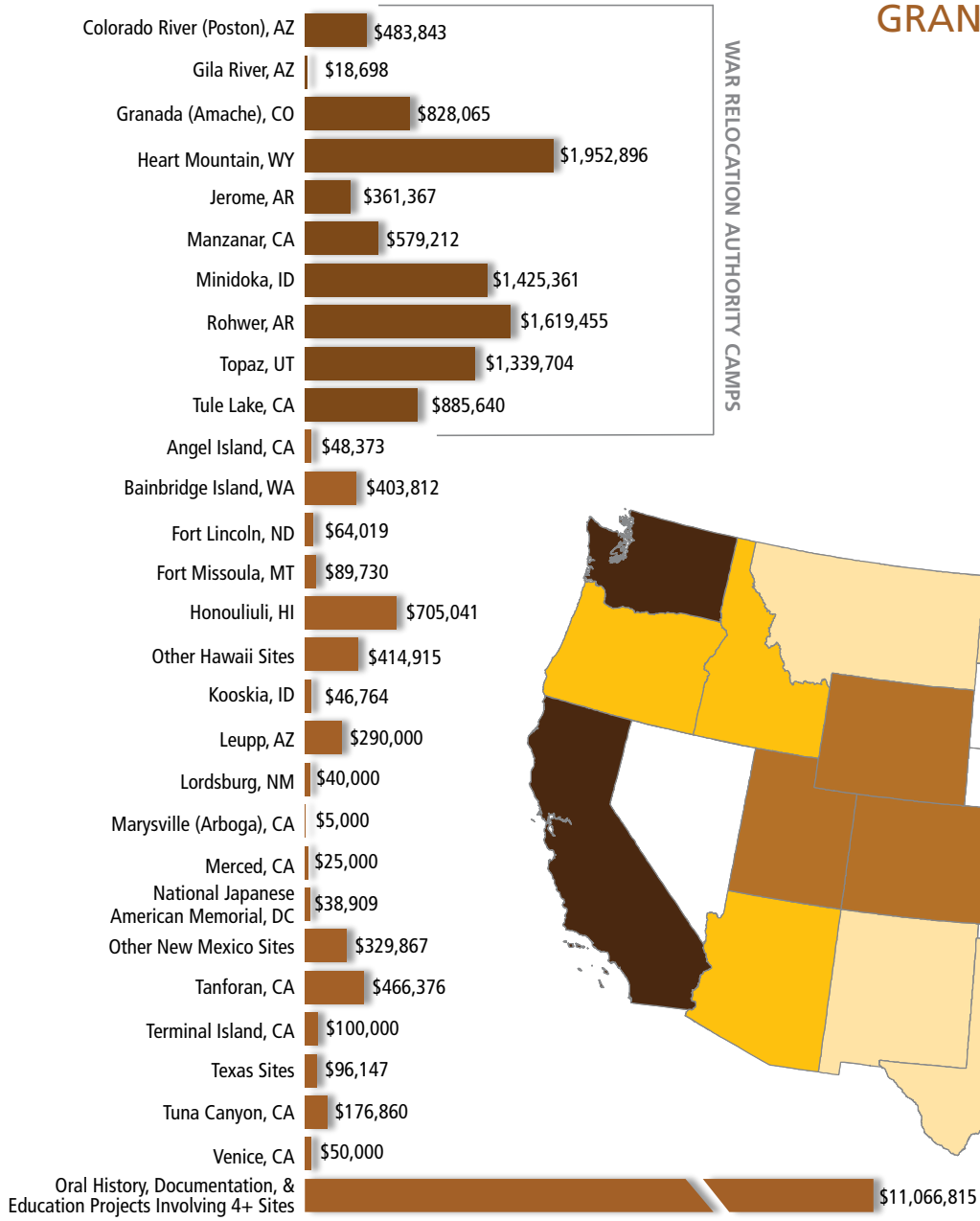
To ensure that the National Park Service can successfully award JACS grants in 2018, the National Park Service announced the availability of applications on September 1, 2017. The deadline for applications was November 1, 2017.

It is anticipated that grant awards will be announced in late spring 2018. As we receive updated information about the grant awards, we will post it on the JACS Grant Program website: www.nps.gov/JACS.



Baseball players in a huddle at Manzanar incarceration site in California, July 2, 1942. Photo courtesy: Densho (ddr-densho-151-394), National Archives and Records Administration, photo by Dorothea Lange

GRANT FUNDING BY STATE, 2009-2017



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

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MIDWEST REGION

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CA, HI, ID, NV, OR, WA, and other states not listed

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HAWAII

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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/



“Like” us on Facebook:
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Thank you for your interest in the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program.

Stockton Assembly Center, California, May 19, 1942.
Photo courtesy: National Archives and Records Administration

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Intermountain Region
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POSTAGE & FEES PAID
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
PERMIT NO. G-83