e-news

September 2013

Densho: The Japanese American Legacy Project

www.densho.org

From the Director: Tom Ikeda

Several years ago a Densho board member asked me to read the article, *The Networked Nonprofit*. This article shifted the thinking at Densho in a fundamental way, changing us from a "bigger is better" way of thinking to, instead, a focus on connecting and collaborating with other organizations and individuals who want to keep the Japanese American story alive. The benefits of this change of thinking can be seen in our encyclopedia with over 75 scholars and writers who created encyclopedia articles, in our teacher training workshops where we partnered with a dozen different organizations in the cities we conducted workshops, and with the preservation of Japanese American historical content where we partnered with dozens of heritage organizations and filmmakers to digitize photographs, documents, and oral history interviews. We have more impact collectively than if we did projects independently.

Using the grant process to create and implement collaborative projects has been successful for Densho and our partners. A grant application requires a project with identified benefits, clear roles, budgets, milestones, and schedules. Defining a collaborative project in detail and then receiving funding to implement the project helps create success. The National Park Service announced last week a \$3 million grant program "to preserve and interpret the U.S. confinement sites and other locations where more than 120,000 Japanese Americans were imprisoned during World War II." Densho is interested in helping other organizations digitize their confinement sites related materials, or conduct and preserve oral histories of Japanese Americans who were incarcerated, or conduct educational training workshops. When you think about applying for a grant, consider partnering with Densho. You can reach me at tom.ikeda@densho.org.



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Archive Spotlight

Tsuguo "Ike" Ikeda: Talking About Democracy in a Camp Classroom

Tsuguo "Ike" Ikeda was a high school student at the Minidoka concentration camp, Idaho. In this clip, he remembers how he and his camp classmates reacted when their teacher brought up the concept of democracy. Tsuguo "Ike" Ikeda's full interview is available in the Densho Digital Archive.

- >> View the interview excerpt
- >> Register for the free Densho Digital Archive

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Densho News

Early-Bird Tickets to Sushi & Sake Fest, Volunteer Opportunities

Please support Densho's only fundraiser of the year. We have about 100 early-bird tickets left at the \$100 price for the Sushi & Sake Festival on October 16, 2013. Join us for great sushi,



premium sake & beer, live music with Deems Tsutakawa, and a fun environment to see old friends and meet new friends. Making it even more interesting, we will be holding the event at the new MOHAI at South Lake Union, and will be offering a private viewing of MOHAI's exhibits for Sushifest participants. Tickets are available online.

We are also looking for volunteers on the day of the event to help with set-up, registration, serving, and clean-up. If you are interested, please fill out the Sushi & Sake volunteer form and email it to sushisake@densho.org.

- >> To purchase tickets
- >> Download the volunteer form

Honolulu Teacher Workshop Filled

Thanks to help from the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i (JCCH), the September 14th Honolulu teacher workshop is at capacity with 70 registrants and a special workshop for the volunteers of JCCH has been added. Executive Director Tom Ikeda, Content Director & Encyclopedia Editor Brian Niiya, and Educational Consultant Janet Hayakawa are looking forward to discussing the Japanese American experience in Hawai'i during World War II.

Other teacher training workshops this fall are listed below:

- Pullman, WA September 25th in partnership with Washington State University
- Olympia, WA October 5th in partnership with Evergreen State College
- Klamath Falls, OR October 19th in partnership with Tule Lake Unit, National Park Service
- Portland, OR November 2nd in partnership with Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center
- Manzanar, CA November 23rd in partnership with Manzanar National Historic Site, National Park Service
- Montgomery County, MD Dec 7th in partnership with National Japanese American Memorial Foundation

These workshops will examine how to use primary source materials to develop analysis and reasoning skills using thinking routines and content about the World War II incarceration of Japanese Americans. Funding for the workshop is provided, in part, by a grant from the Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program, administered by the National Park Service, the Teaching with Primary Sources Program of the Library of Congress, and the National Park Foundation.

>> For more information or to register for a workshop

Nominate Someone with an Oregon and Minidoka Story

Densho is partnering with the Oregon Nikkei Endowment (ONE) to conduct 30 new oral history interviews with Japanese Americans about their World War II experiences in Oregon and Minidoka during the prewar, wartime, and resettlement period. The interviews will be video-recorded, transcribed, and made available from the Densho Digital Archive where 745 interviews are currently available. The majority of Densho's interviews are with Japanese Americans who were born or lived in California and Washington. We are excited for the opportunity with ONE to examine the Oregon story more closely. If you want to nominate a person to be interviewed, please fill out our nomination form.

>> Fill out the interview nomination form







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