

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – March 18, 2019

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

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

To commemorate the 77th Anniversary of this chapter in American history, the Bainbridge Island Japanese American Community, Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial Association, Bainbridge Island Museum of Art, National Park Service, Bainbridge Island Historical Museum and Eagle Harbor Book Company will host a series of featured events.

Thursday, March 28th

7:00 – 8:00 p.m.: Conversation with historian Art Hansen, author of the new book “Barbed Voices: Oral History, Resistance, and the World War II Japanese American Social Disaster,” covering the resistance movement in American concentration camps by Japanese Americans. Eagle Harbor Book Company, 157 Winslow Way East.

<https://www.eagleharborbooks.com/event/barbed-voices-art-hansen>

Saturday, March 30th

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

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

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

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

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

7:00 – 8:30 p.m. “Sparks and Catalysts: Social Justice and the Role of Book Arts,” a stimulating panel discussion on how the intimate art form and immersive graphic, tactile qualities of artists’ books wrangle with critical and often poignant human issues. Moderated by Jane Carlin, panelists Fred Hagstrom, Carletta Carrington Wilson, Ellen Knudson, and Jeffrey Morin will share their perspectives and approaches to this important work.
<https://www.biartmuseum.org/event/sparks-and-catalysts-social-justice-and-the-role-of-book-arts/>

Sunday, March 31st

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

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

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