

Japanese American Incarceration during World War II: Could This Happen Again?



Speakers: Sam Mihara and Madeline Sugimoto

Thursday, February 23, 2017

6:00-8:00pm

JAA Community Center

49 West 45th Street, 11th Floor

New York, NY 10036

Sam Mihara is a distinguished speaker on Japanese American culture and history. He is a second-generation Japanese American whose family was forced to move to an "American-style" concentration camp at Heart Mountain in northern Wyoming after the United States entered World War II. When they were released, the Miharas returned to San Francisco, where Sam had a very successful career as an aerospace engineer with Boeing. Mr. Mihara has lectured extensively, accompanied by a highly researched collection of photographs from both government and private collections, including several images that have been impounded from public viewing.

Madeline Sugimoto is the daughter of renowned Japanese American artist Henry Sugimoto. Madeline and her family were incarcerated at the Jerome and Rohwer Camps in Arkansas. After the war ended, Madeline moved to New York City with her family, where she worked for many years as a nurse educator at Cornell Medical Center. In addition to sharing her story, Madeline will discuss several of her father's paintings, which were created in the camps.

Recent actions taken by the Trump administration make this a timely and important discussion. In conjunction with the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9066, which authorized the US Government to mass-incarcerate Japanese Americans, this event will give attendees the opportunity to learn how discrimination and intolerance directly affected the lives of Japanese Americans, and why this experience must never be repeated.

This event is co-sponsored by:

- JACL-NY (Japanese American Citizens League - New York Chapter)
- JAA (Japanese American Association of New York)
- JAJA (Japanese Americans, Japanese in America)
- NY Day of Remembrance Committee