

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Jonathan Logan Family Foundation Presents:

***Then They Came For Me: Incarceration of Japanese Americans During WWII and the Demise of Civil Liberties***



Image: Dorothea Lange, *San Francisco, California*, April 25, 1942. National Archives.

**January 18 - May 27, 2019**

Public Reception: January 18, 2018, 7-9 PM  
Visiting hours: Wednesday - Sunday, 10 AM-6 PM  
Admission is free and open to the public

**Press Preview:**

Friday, January 18, 4:30-5:30 PM  
RSVP to [info@frameworksf.com](mailto:info@frameworksf.com)

**Location:**

100 Montgomery Street  
The Presidio, San Francisco  
Located at Futures Without Violence

[www.ThenTheyCame.org](http://www.ThenTheyCame.org)  
[info@thentheycame.org](mailto:info@thentheycame.org)  
(415) 923-9795

[Media Kit](#)

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January 10, 2019—San Francisco, CA—***Then They Came for Me: Incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII and the Demise of Civil Liberties*** examines the terrifying period in U.S. history when the government scapegoated and imprisoned thousands of people of Japanese ancestry. This multimedia exhibition draws parallels to tactics chillingly resurgent today featuring imagery by noted American photographers **Dorothea Lange** and **Ansel Adams**, alongside works by incarcerated Japanese American artists **Toyo Miyatake** and **Miné Okubo**.

Presented by the **Jonathan Logan Family Foundation** in partnership with the **National Japanese American Historical Society** and **J-Sei**, the exhibition tells the story of the forced removal of 120,000 Japanese American citizens and legal residents from their homes during World War II without due process or other constitutional protections.

On February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066, which set in motion the incarceration of all Americans of Japanese ancestry living on or near the West Coast. More than 75 years later, this dark chapter illuminates new challenges brought on by fear-mongering and racism at the highest levels of the U.S. government. The exhibition's venue at San Francisco's Presidio holds deep significance, because in 1942 the military proclamations and Civilian Eviction Orders leading to the mass removal and incarceration were issued from the Presidio-based Western Defense Command.

*Then They Came for Me* presents this historical event from multiple perspectives. Drawing upon the powerful images uncovered from the National Archives for the book *Un-American: The Incarceration of Japanese Americans During World War II* by Chicago photo historians Richard Cahan and Michael Williams, the exhibition features works documenting the eviction of Japanese Americans from their homes and their lives in the incarceration camps. The exhibition also presents images of daily life in the camps by artists and inmates **Toyo Miyatake, Miné Okubo and Mitsu Sato**. Also included are photographs by contemporary photographer **Paul Kitagaki Jr.**, whose work on this subject was recently published in *National Geographic*.

Combined with additional artifacts made by camp survivors, historical documents, videos and a rich array of cultural, historical, curatorial and political programs, the exhibition illuminates this historical event from several vantage points. Topics explored include the rise of state-sanctioned anti-Japanese sentiment beginning in the late 19th century, conditions within the camps, the irreplaceable loss of many Japanese Americans' homes and personal property, the resettlement process, and Japanese American postwar activism fueled by the experience of wartime incarceration.

Of the decision to underwrite and produce this important exhibition at this moment in history, Jonathan Logan, President and CEO of the Jonathan Logan Family Foundation, states:

“My parents taught me at an early age that each of us has a responsibility to perform good works that make the world a better place for all. In my family's Jewish tradition, it's called “tikkun olam”. *Then They Came For Me* is a perfect fit for the Jonathan Logan Family Foundation, whose mission is to advance social justice by empowering world-changing work in investigative journalism, documentary film and arts and culture. With this exhibition, we want to shed a light on the past so that we don't repeat it.”

*Then They Came for Me* travels from its second showing at The International Center of Photography in New York (2017-18) following its debut at Alphawood Gallery in Chicago (2017). The new show offers an expanded focus on the experiences of those returning to Northern California following the closing of the incarceration camps at the end of the war.

The exhibition is designed by [Tomomi Itakura of i-k design](#), formerly the Director of Exhibition Design at the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco and the Senior Designer at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.

*Then They Came for Me* is presented by the [Jonathan Logan Family Foundation](#) and is curated in partnership with nationwide and Bay Area-based Japanese American community organizations.

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## SELECT PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

Additional details and programming updates: [thentheycame.org/program-events](http://thentheycame.org/program-events)

- January 20, 2019  
11 AM
- Film Screening: *And Then They Came For Us***, a film directed by Abby Ginzberg and Ken Schneider, brings history into the present, retells the story of Executive Order 9066 and the violation of constitutional rights for Japanese Americans during WWII, and follows Japanese Americans today as they stand up against the Muslim registry and travel ban.
- January 20, 2019  
2 PM
- Captured History**, a focus on the power of photos and lens of wartime photographers on display in the exhibit *Then They Came For Me*. Hear an engaging conversation with author Richard Cahan of *Un-American*, Dorothea Lange biographer Elizabeth Partridge and former World War II prisoner Sam Mihara. Book sales and signing.
- January 27, 2019  
11 AM-1 PM
- Korematsu Family Day: Reading of *Fred Korematsu Speaks Up*** with co-authors Stan Yogi and Laura Atkins. Fred Korematsu challenged the mass incarceration of Japanese Americans during WWII when few others did. The story of his fight against discrimination explores the life of one courageous person who made the United States a fairer place for all Americans. It encourages all of us to speak up for justice. Learn how to share the story in schools with the Fred T. Korematsu Institute and participate in an interactive activity with illustrator Yutaka Houlette. Book sales and signing.
- January 31, 2019  
6-8 PM
- Then They Came for Me: Immigration Abuses and Detention Centers**—KALW's *Your Call* host Rose Aguilar will moderate a discussion with civil rights attorney Julia Harumi Mas, immigration reporter Laura Morel of *Reveal*, the Center for Investigative Reporting, and a member of Freedom for Immigrants.
- February 9, 2019  
7-9 PM
- Hold These Truths**—A special theater reading of the one-person play by Jeanne Sakata, performed by Joel de la Fuente of Amazon's hit show *The Man in the High Castle*. The play tells the story of unsung American hero Gordon Hirabayashi, who fought passionately for the Constitution against an unexpected adversary: his own country. During World War II, he refused to report to a detention center, launching a 50-year journey from college to courtroom and eventually a Presidential Medal of Freedom.
- February 24, 2019  
11-2 PM
- American Sutra: Interactive Activity**—See and hear the story of the sutra rocks of Heart Mountain detention center uncovered by a farmer after WWII. Paint your own sutra rock. Book sales and signing of *American Sutra* with Duncan Ryuken Williams. Family friendly event.
- February 24, 2019  
2-4 PM
- American Sutra: Multimedia performance by No-No Boy and Duncan Ryuken Williams** takes a look at the WWII Japanese American incarceration from the inside out, highlighting how Buddhists behind barbed wire drew on their spiritual traditions to survive dislocation, loss and uncertainty, and maintained their faith in the Constitutional guarantee of religious freedom.
- March 2, 2019  
5 - 8 PM
- The Realities of Othering: Islamophobia and the Legacy of Japanese American Incarceration** is a conversation between Zahra Billoo, Executive Director of Council on American Islamic Relations, Bay Area Chapter, and Dr. Suzanne Barakat of Our Three Winners. Introduction by Don Tamaki. 5 PM Gallery Tour; 6 PM Program; 7 PM Community Networking.
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## **About the Jonathan Logan Family Foundation**

The Jonathan Logan Family Foundation supports organizations that advance social justice by promoting world-changing work in investigative journalism, documentary film, and arts and culture. This project is the latest in our efforts to shed light on the incarceration of Japanese Americans and its relevance today, and has supported the book *Un-American*, Abby Ginzberg's film *And Then They Came for Us, Stop Repeating History* and other related projects.

### **Advisory Committee:**

**Judy Appel**, Jonathan Logan Family Foundation, TTCFM Project Director  
**Melissa Ayumi Bailey**, National Japanese American Historical Society  
**Michael Butler Painting**  
**Richard Cahan**, Journalist, co-author of *Un-American*  
**Brian Fong**, Facing History  
**Abby Ginzberg**, Filmmaker  
**Donna Graves**, Curatorial Advisor  
**Anthony Hirschel**, Curatorial Consultant and TTCFM Project Advisor  
**Satsuki Ina**, Psychotherapist  
**Mindy Iwanaka**, Futures Without Violence  
**Dana Kawano**, Contributing Artist  
**Paul Kitagaki Jr.**, Photojournalist  
**Karen Korematsu**, Fred T. Korematsu Institute  
**Debbie Lee**, Futures Without Violence  
**Jonathan Logan**, Jonathan Logan Family Foundation  
**Grace Morizawa**, National Japanese American Historical Society  
**Max Nihei**, National Japanese American Historical Society  
**Chizu Omori**, Nikkei Resisters  
**Courtney Peagler**, Educational Technology Advisor  
**Amber Akemi Piatt**, Racial Justice Advocate  
**Jill Shiraki**, J-Sei, TTCFM Program Director  
**Miya Sommers**, TTCFM Programs and Gallery Manager  
**Don Tamaki**, Attorney, Stop Repeating History  
**Rosalyn Tonai**, National Japanese American Historical Society, Contributing Curator  
**Nancy Ukai**, 50 Objects  
**Alice Yang**, Ph.D., University California Santa Cruz  
**Susanne Zuerbig**, Jonathan Logan Family Foundation

Special thanks to the [Alphawood Foundation](#) and the [Japanese American Service Committee of Chicago](#), where this project originated; [Densho: The Japanese American Legacy Project](#), and to all the individuals and community organizations that have contributed to the exhibition.

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