

# When WE were new:

Walking in the Footsteps of our Immigrant Ancestors.

# **JAPANESE HERITAGE RESOURCE LIST**

TIME PERIOD: World War II to Present

## **FILMS / MOVIES:**

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### JAPANESE EXPERIENCE DURING WWII

- Farewell to Manzanar (1976-non fiction): Farewell to Manzanar is a memoir published in 1973 by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston and James D. Houston. The book describes the experiences of Jeanne Wakatsuki and her family before, during and following their imprisonment at the Manzanar concentration camp due to the United States government's internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. It was adapted into a made-for-TV movie in 1976 starring Yuki Shimoda, Nobu McCarthy, Pat Morita and Mako.
- American Past time (2007): American Pastime is a 2007 film set in the Topaz War Relocation Center, a Utah prison camp which held thousands of people during the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. While the film is a dramatic narrative, it is based on true events and depicts life inside the internment camps, where baseball was one of the major diversions from the reality of the internees' lives. Location scenes were filmed in bleak, desolate land, not far from the site of the actual internment camp.
- Come See Paradise (1990): Come See the Paradise is a 1990 film directed by Alan Parker, starring Dennis Quaid and Tamlyn Tomita. Set before and during World War II, the film depicts the treatment of Japanese Americans in America following the attack on Pearl Harbor, and the subsequent loss of civil liberties within the framework of a love story.
- The Manzanar Fishing Club (2012): THE MANZANAR FISHING CLUB is a feature length documentary that chronicles the WWII internment of Japanese-American from a unique perspective: through the eyes of those who defied the armed guards, barbed wire and searchlights to fish for trout in the surrounding waters of the Eastern Sierra. This is the untold story of those who refuse to knuckle under and risked it all to go fishing just like other ordinary Americans.
- Snow Falling on Cedars (1999): Nine years after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, a small town in the Pacific Northwest still struggles with the troubling legacy of U.S. policies against Asian-Americans. In December 1950, just off the shores of San Piedro Island in Washington, a Japanese-American man named Kazuo Miyamoto (Rick Yune) stands accused of murder after his close friend Carl Heine (Eric Thal) is found drowned in icy waters. Snow Falling on Cedars is a film directed by Scott Hicks. It is based on David Guterson's award-winning novel of the same title

Tens of millions of immigrants over four centuries have made the United States what it is today. They came to make new lives and livelihoods in the New World; their hard work benefited themselves and their new home country. (H.Diner, 2008) When WE were New: Walking in the Footsteps of our Immigrant Ancestors is a multi-year program combining literary, visual and performing arts to expand our knowledge and understanding of the trials our ancestors endured and the important contributions each wave of immigrants made to our communities. This project is sponsored by the Dodgeville Public Library and funded in part by the Friends of the Dodgeville Public Library, the United Fund of Iowa County, Grassroots Citizens for Peace and many individual donations.

### JAPANESE AMERICAN MILITARY EXPERIENCE

- Beyond Barbed Wire/Go For Broke starring Pat Morita Go For Broke starring Van Johnson Going For Broke -George Takei, actor and Senator Daniel Inouye Go For Broke: The Nisei Warrior of WWII who conquered Germany, Japan and American Bigotry
- "Go For Broke" The Movie...Japanese American GI's WWII 442nd infantry old film Only The Brave -(2001) War Stories with Oliver North: Friends and Enemies

### **DOCUMENTARIES**

- Days of Waiting (1991)
  - The story of Estelle Ishigo, one of the few Caucasians interned with Japanese Americans during World War II. The wife of a Japanese American, Ishigo refused to be separated from her husband and was interned along with him. Based on the personal papers of Estelle Ishigo and her novel Lone Heart Mountain.
- Time of Fear (2005) PBS
  - O In World War II, more than 110,000 Japanese-Americans were forced into relocation camps across the US. This film traces the lives of the 16,000 people who were sent to two camps in southeast Arkansas, one of the most racially segregated places in America at that time. Through interviews with the internees and local citizens, the program explores how the influx of outsiders overwhelmed and exposed racial tensions within the southern communities.
- Unfinished Business: The Japanese Internment Cases Heart Mountain: An all American town Daniel Inouye: An American Story (2005)
  - Steven Okazaki's Oscar-nominated 1984 film *Unfinished Business* was one of the first documentaries to confront the relocation of Japanese-Americans during World War II. As such it has an emotional immediacy that still rings clear today. Okazaki traces the story of Executive Order 9066, which decreed in the wake of Pearl Harbor that Japanese-American citizens living on the U.S. west coast should be uprooted and placed in relocation camps. In particular, we hear the histories of three men who separately defied the order and were arrested and jailed, each with his own particular story: Gordon Hirabayashi, Minoru Yasui, and Fred Korematsu.

### **ART**

- Topaz Moon: Art of the Internment Chiura Obata
  - He first started an art school at Tanforan, a racetrack which became and assembly center for the evacuees and then at Topaz, and Internment camp that processed 11,212 people from 1942-1945.
- The Art of GAMAN: Arts and Crafts from the Japanese Internment camps 1942-1946 Delphine Hirasuna
  - Shows the art work done with minimal supplies. "They found beauty and admiration of beautiful things even in desolate and inhumane conditions of the prison camps." (Amazon books customer review)

### **PHOTOGRAPHY**

- Born Free and Equal: The Story of loyal Japanese Americans Ansel Adams
  - Wonderful pictures of photos of the camp at Manzanar
- Impounded: Dorthea Lange and the Censored Images of Japanese American Internment Linda Gordon and Gary Y.
  Okihiro
- Colors of Confinement: Rare Kodochrome Photography of Japanese American Incarceration in WWII Eric L. Manbo and Bill Muller