

THE JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE

★ -PRESENTS- ★

Play Ball

THE JAPANESE AMERICAN
EXPERIENCE AND THE
NATIONAL PASTIME



SPEAKERS BOOK

SATURDAY, MAY 7TH, 2022

WEBINAR

START TIME: 2:00 PM EST/11:00 AM PST

END TIME: 3:30 PM EST/ 12:30 PM PST

EVENT LINK: bit.ly/3MbZ8DP





Japanese American Citizens League

WHO WE ARE

- About -

Founded in 1929, the JACL is the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization in the United States. The JACL monitors and responds to issues that enhance or threaten the civil and human rights of all Americans and implements strategies to effect positive social change, particularly to the Asian Pacific American Community. The JACL and the Japanese American community are continuously affected by changes in the political environment and in demographics. The JACL looks for opportunities to embrace our increasingly multicultural, multi-ethnic community, while simultaneously preserving our immigrant legacy.



- Vision -

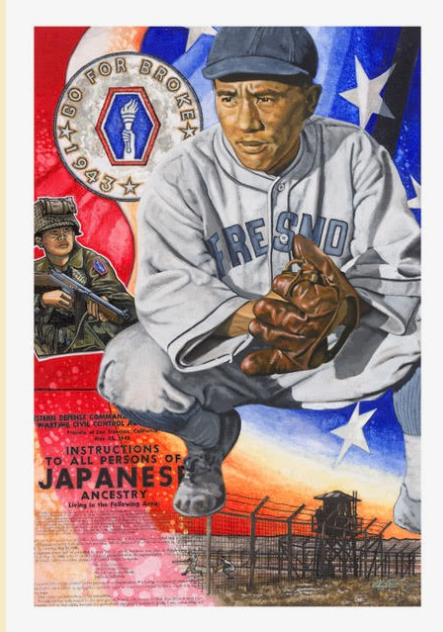
Aware of our responsibilities as the oldest and largest Asian Pacific American civil rights organization, JACL strives to promote a world that honors diversity by respecting values of fairness, equality and social justice.



- Mission -

The Japanese American Citizens League is a national organization whose ongoing mission is to secure and maintain the civil rights of Japanese Americans and all others who are victimized by injustice and bigotry. The leaders and members of the JACL also work to promote cultural, educational and social values and preserve the heritage and legacy of the Japanese American community.

Kenichi Zenimura "Go For Broke" Portrait



Artist Chris Felix is generously offering to donate 50% of all
"Go For Broke" proceeds to the JACL!

- Option 1 -

Dimensions: 18x24"

Format: Limited Edition Giclee on fine art paper
#1 out of 100 and signed by the artist

Total Cost: \$200

Shipping Cost: \$25

- Option 2 -

Dimensions: 13x19"

Format: Digital Prints on paper

Total Cost: \$75

Shipping Cost: Free!

To place an order*, please email Chris Felix at: ChrisFelixFineArt@gmail.com

*Venmo, Zelle, PayPal, or Credit Card over the phone are accepted!



Saki Mori

- KEYNOTE SPEAKER -

JACL National Board Member & Interim President of
the JACL New York Chapter

Saki Mori has over 15 years of experience in the New York City nonprofit sector. Her career has developed within New York City's youth development and workforce development programs which include direct service, program management, fundraising, organizational operations, and executive management. Currently, she serves as the Vice President of Membership for the National Board of the Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) and the Interim President of the JACL-New York chapter. She also serves on the Alumnae Board and Alumnae Council on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging for Convent of Sacred Heart in New York City. Although Saki resides in Queens, NY, her loyalties are to the Yankees. She is a graduate of Trinity College (Hartford, CT) with a dual degree in Political Science (International Relations) and French Language & Literature. She is also an alumna of Columbia Business School's Executive Education - Developing Leaders Program for nonprofit professionals.

Bill Staples Jr.

- MODERATOR -

Award-Winning Baseball Historian, Author, Nisei Baseball Research Project Board Member, and Civil Rights Activist

Bill Staples Jr. is a member of the Society for American Baseball Research (SABR) in Arizona with a passion for researching and telling the untold stories of the "international pastime." His areas of expertise include Japanese American and Negro Leagues baseball history as a context for exploring the themes of civil rights, cross-cultural relations, and globalization. He is a board member for both the Nisei Baseball Research Project and Japanese American Citizens League-Arizona Chapter, chairman of the SABR Asian Baseball Committee, and research contributor to the Negro Leagues Baseball Museum in Kansas City. Bill lives in Chandler, Arizona, with his wife and two children, where he proudly served on the City of Chandler Parks & (cont'd to page 4)





Recreation Board. In 2006 his proposal to name Nozomi Park was approved by the Chandler City Council. "Nozomi" is the Japanese word for "hope" and was selected to honor Japanese Americans interned in Arizona during WWII and the role baseball played in helping to create a sense of normalcy behind barbed wire. At the state-wide level, he secured two proclamations from the Arizona Governor's Office (Kenichi Zenimura Day, 2005; Spirit of Sportsmanship Day, 2006), while his Zenimura biography was named an official Arizona Centennial Legacy Project by the Arizona Historical Advisory Commission in 2012. This accolade designates Zenimura's time at the Gila River internment camp during WWII as one of the most significant events in Arizona history in the past 100 years. Staples holds an MBA from Arizona State University, a BA in advertising/ journalism from the University of North Texas, and is a marketing and communications professional with over 20 years of experience with non-profit and for-profit companies in healthcare, health and fitness, education, and information technology industries.



Don Wakamatsu

- PANELIST -

Former Professional Baseball Player,
Scout, Coach, and Manager

Don Wakamatsu (born February 22, 1963) is a Japanese-American former professional baseball player, scout, coach, and manager. Wakamatsu was drafted in the 11th round of the 1985 Major League Baseball draft by the Cincinnati Reds. His career spanned a total of 36 years in professional baseball with 15 different Major League Organizations as both a player and coach. Wakamatsu has the sole distinction of being the first Asian American to be named manager of a major league club when hired prior to the 2009 season. Wakamatsu's distinguished career highlights include being named to coach in three American League All-Star Games (2009, 2015, 2016) and winning two World Series Championships with the Los Angeles Angels (2002) and the Kansas City Royals (2015).





Kerry Yo Nakagawa

- PANELIST -

Author, Filmmaker, Historian, and Director
of Nisei Baseball Research Project

Kerry is the author of 'Through a Diamond, 100 Years of Japanese American Baseball' and 'A History of Japanese American Baseball in California.' He is the project director of the non-profit Nisei Baseball Research Project, (NBRP), founding curator of the 'Diamonds in the Rough' international exhibit, and produced curriculums with SPICE at Stanford University. He also produced/directed 'Diamonds in

the Rough' documentary with his Godpapa Noriyuki 'Pat' Morita and multiple documentaries. He produced the dramatic narrative award-winning film 'American Pastime.' He was a consultant to the NBHF exhibit 'Baseball As America' with Buck O'Neil and the 'Chasing Dreams' exhibit with the National Museum of American Jewish History.



Brandon Zenimura

- PANELIST -

Educator, Former Collegiate Player, Former High School Baseball Coach, and Great-Grandson of Kenichi Zenimura

Brandon Zenimura is the great-grandson of Kenichi Zenimura and a teacher of 12 years in Fresno, California. He played collegiately at Fresno City College and Sonoma State University, coached at the high school level, and now plays dad for his two young children.



Today's Event Is Brought to You By:



JACL

Japanese American Citizens League

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