

PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT For Immediate Release

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Preserving Japantowns Reception to Celebrate the Past, Present and Future of California's Japantowns

SAN FRANCISCO (June 5, 2006) – *Celebrating Our Japantowns*, a reception at the Miyako Hotel in San Francisco's Japantown, will be held at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, June 9, 2006. This reception is the culminating event of the *Preserving California's Japantowns Symposium*, which will bring together experts, practitioners and community members to discuss the historic and cultural preservation of Japantowns across California.

The *Celebrating Our Japantowns* reception is an occasion to celebrate the past, present and future of California's Japantown communities through music, food and other festivities. The discussions and outcomes of the one-day *Preserving California's Japantowns Symposium* will shape future directives and priorities for cultural and historic preservation efforts of California's Japantowns. Anyone interested in learning about the unique history, opportunities and challenges of preserving the history and culture of our Japantown communities and how the latest in preservation tools and techniques can be applied to Japantowns, is encouraged to attend the symposium and reception.



Post and Laguna Streets Intersection
Photo credit:
Generations: A Japanese American Community Portrait

The reception will take place from 4:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. in Imperial Ballroom B at the Miyako Hotel in San Francisco's Japantown (1625 Post Street, between Laguna and Buchanan Streets). A buffet reception and entertainment will be provided by a quartet led by Dr. Anthony Brown, an internationally acclaimed percussionist, composer and ethnomusicologist. A San Francisco native of Japanese and African/Native American descent, Dr. Brown brings with him extensive experience as artistic director of the Asian American Jazz Orchestra, a federally-funded national educational touring project about the Japanese American internment experience.

This symposium will address the following goals:

- **Learn** about the unique history, opportunities and challenges of preserving the history and culture of California's Japantown communities
- **Network** with 2004-2005 CCLPEP preservation grant recipients and other preservationists from across California
- **Advance** your own work and ideas by connecting with others who have faced similar preservation issues and concerns, and get a "heads up" on how you can respond when challenges and opportunities come your way
- **Collaborate** in panel discussions and interactive breakout sessions on the latest in preservation tools and techniques

Sponsored by the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP) and the California State Library, this event will also offer 2004-2005 CCLPEP preservation grant recipients an opportunity to present the current progress and outcomes of their cultural and historic preservation work.

The *Preserving California's Japantowns Symposium* is organized by the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCNC) in partnership with the California Japanese American Community Leadership Council (CJACLC) and the support of the California Cultural & Historical Endowment, California Preservation Foundation, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and the Nichi Bei Times.

Join us in engaging our communities to learn about the cultural and historic preservation of our Japantowns. Symposium fees are \$40 general registration, and \$10 student/senior registration. Registration fees include a continental breakfast, box lunch, and the buffet reception as described above.

For general information or questions, contact Naomi Funahashi at nfunahashi@jcccnc.org or (415) 567-5505. For registration, call JCCCNC at (415) 567-5505 or visit www.californiajapantowns.org.

About JCCCNC

Envisioned by the Japanese American community, JCCCNC will be an everlasting foundation of our Japanese American ancestry, cultural heritage, histories and traditions. The JCCCNC strives to meet the evolving needs of the Japanese American community through programs, affordable

services and administrative support and facilities for other local service organizations. The JCCCNC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit community center based in San Francisco.

About CCLPEP

The California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP) was created in 1999 as the result of the passage of the California Civil Liberties Public Education Act (AB1914 and AB1915) sponsored by Assemblymember Mike Honda. The legislation creates the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program, CCLPEP. Its purpose is to provide competitive grants for public educational activities and the development of educational materials to ensure that the events surrounding the exclusion, forced removal and incarceration of civilians and permanent resident aliens of Japanese ancestry will be remembered and so that causes and circumstances of this and similar events may be illuminated and understood. The CCLPEP has funded \$5.5 million over the past six years in more than 160 projects. For more information about the CCLPEP, visit www.library.ca.gov/cclpep.

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