

Civil Liberties and the

A core educational mission of the Minidoka National Historic Site is stated in the park's General Management Plan: "[Minidoka] is a compelling venue for engaging in a dialogue concerning the violation of civil and constitutional rights. . . ." To fulfill this mission the National Park Service, the Friends of Minidoka, and the College of Southern Idaho will present the fifth annual symposium on civil liberties and constitutional rights. This year's event will explore the role that art plays in periods of conflict over civil liberties and will utilize several perspectives, including the long and continuing struggle for civil rights. Japanese Americans in camps like Minidoka used art in various ways to cope with their incarceration and to make statements about that experience and this will be a focus of the conference. Artists have continued to revisit this period and continue to inform us about its significance in the continuing struggle for justice. All facets of artistic expression will be examined, including photography, literature, painting, film, and music. The symposium will feature a presentation by Roger Shimomura, the pre-eminent artist of the Japanese American experience.

~Dr. Bob Sims~

"I hate injustice. I guess that's about the only thing that I really do hate . . . and I hope I will go on hating it all my life." - Artist Ben Shahn (1898-1969)

Registration

Non-credit participants.....\$70

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Professional credit available:
Social Science and Teacher Education.....\$50
Additional \$35 symposium fee covers meals.

For further information, contact Dr. Russ
Tremayne at (208) 732-6885
or email rtremayne@csi.edu

CIVIL LIBERTIES & THE ARTS

Civil Liberties Symposium V

PRESENTED BY:

- Minidoka National
Historic Monument,
- Friends of Minidoka,
- College of Southern Idaho

**Thursday, June 24
&
Friday, June 25
8:30 a.m.—5:00 p.m.
Canyon Crest
Event Center**

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR THIS
SYMPOSIUM IS SUGGESTED

SPEAKERS:

GREG ROBINSON

Dr. Greg Robinson will be lecturing on his book *Mine Okubo: Following her own Road* (University of Washington Press 2008). The book is a wide-range anthology on the life and career of the Nisei artist/writer Mine Okubo, who defied conventional assumptions about women, Japanese Americans and creative artists during a career that spanned nearly seven decades, and it represents a companion volume to Okubo's renowned memoir of her camp experience, *Citizen 13660*. *Mine Okubo* includes selections from Okubo's literary and artistic work in diverse genres and periods, plus scholarly articles and appreciations. He is also the author of *By the Order of the President: FDR and the Internment of Japanese Americans* (Harvard University Press, 2001).

ROGER SHIMOMURA

This 45-minute lecture will feature DVD excerpts from the experimental theatre pieces that were written and directed by Roger Shimomura from 1984 to 2002. During that period he wrote over 60 pieces that dealt with the Japanese American experience. These pieces were performed at venues across the country including the Franklin Furnace, NYC, Walker Art Center, Mpls., and the American History Museum, Smithsonian. Shimomura taught performance arts for 18 years at the University of Kansas, which eventually led into a full major of study called *Expanded Media*.

BOB SIMS

Emeritus Historian, Boise State University

Bob Sims has been at BSU since 1970 and served as Dean of the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs for nine years. He is a contributor to World Book Encyclopedia and the Encyclopedia of Western History. He has served on the Executive Committee of the Idaho Humanities Council and is a board member of the Idaho Humanities Foundation. He has also served as a consultant to the Four River Cultural Center, stationed in Ontario, Oregon, developing a Japanese American museum. He is currently preparing a manuscript on Minidoka, the World War II Japanese American camp located in Idaho.

LARRY MATSUDA

Dr. Larry Matsuda will read from his book *A Cold Wind in Idaho*. He was born in the Minidoka Idaho War Relocation Center during World War II. Matsuda has a Ph.D. in education and was recently a visiting professor at Seattle University. He studied poetry under the late professor Nelson Bentley at the University of Washington and has participated in the Castilla Poetry Reading Series there. He has read his poetry at numerous events in Washington, Oregon, and Idaho, including the famous Kobo at Higo's venue in Seattle's International District with his mentor, Tess Gallagher. His poems appear in *The Raven Chronicles* and the *International Examiner* newspaper.

MEGUMI (GRACE FLEMING)

Megumi (legal name: Grace Fleming) was born in Illinois, but raised in Japan for 7 years. She received her *B.A. in Oriental Languages* at University of California, Berkeley in 1981 and her *M.S. in Clinical Psychology* at San Francisco State University in 1984. She worked as a bilingual counselor and hypnotherapist for 10 years in the United States and Japan before becoming a storyteller. Megumi is passionate about telling World War II Japanese American Internment Camp Stories based on dozens of interviews she has conducted with former internees. She has been presenting the Japanese American Detention Stories of Strength and Hope since 1996 at schools, conferences, theaters, and pilgrimages.

JEANNE WAKATSUKI-HOUSTON

She will be giving a lecture on her experiences in camp and on her book: the acclaimed *Farewell to Manzanar*. Published in 1972, the book is based on what her family went through before, during, and after the war. It has become a part of many school curricula to teach students about the Japanese American experience during WWII. It was made into a made-for-television movie in 1976 that won a Humanities Prize and was nominated for an Emmy in the category of Outstanding Writing in a Drama. She also provides lectures in both university and community settings. In 2006, Jeanne Wakatsuki-Houston received the Award of Excellence for her contributions to society from the Japanese American National Museum.

EMILY HANAKO MOMOHARA

Abstract: *Photographs of the Camps*
Momohara will go through historic and contemporary images of the camps, as well as resources to find useful photographs for educational purposes.

Emily Hanako Momohara grew up near Seattle, Washington and earned her BFA in Photography and her BA in Art History from the University of Washington. She went on to receive her MFA in Expanded Media from the University of Kansas, where she studied under Roger Shimomura. She is currently as Assistant Professor at the Art Academy of Cincinnati where she heads the photography major.

DAVE ADLER

Idaho State University Political Scientist

Dave Adler specializes in the fields of Public Law, The Supreme Court, Presidency, and American Political Thought. He is the author of numerous books and articles and is a former President of the Pacific Northwest Political Science Association. He is currently a member of the Idaho Humanities Council's Speakers Bureau and he has lectured nationally at various universities and to many civic and private organizations.

PORTLAND TAIKO

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