

PRESS RELEASE

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Press contact:

Dee Simon

Baral Family Executive Director
Dee@HolocaustCenterSeattle.org
206-582-3000

HOLOCAUST
CENTER *for*
HUMANITY

Educate. Inspire. Take Action.

The Henry and Sandra Freidman
Holocaust Center for Humanity
2045 Second Ave
Seattle, WA 98121
206.582.3000
HolocaustCenterSeattle.org

Annual Day of Remembrance Program How Could Concentration Camps Happen? Comparative Jewish and Japanese American Histories

1:00 p.m. Saturday, 18 February 2017
Kane Hall 120, University of Washington Seattle Campus
First in a series of three commemorative programs

All programs are free and open to the public

[Seattle, WA]: How Could Concentration Camps Happen? Comparative Jewish and Japanese American Histories asks how a society comes to allow the mass incarceration of its own people, a question is as urgent today as it was 75 years ago.

The annual Day of Remembrance marks the date President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 75 years ago, authorizing the mass incarceration of Japanese Americans of the American West Coast in concentration camps during World War II, without due process of law.

This year's program will be a panel discussion of conditions that existed in society that enabled governments to order and execute mass incarcerations such as those inflicted on Jews in Europe and Japanese Americans in the United States during World War II.

Presenting these histories and their social backgrounds for comparison are Dee Simon, *Baral Family Executive Director of the Holocaust Center for Humanity*, and Dr. Tetsuden Kashima, *Professor Emeritus of American Ethnic Studies at the University of Washington*. Presenting a comparison between historical cases and potential for mass incarcerations in contemporary society is Professor Lorraine Bannai of Seattle University.

"How Could Concentration Camps Happen" is the first in a series of three events planned by the Holocaust Center for Humanity, the Nisei Veterans Committee, the Consulate General of Japan, and the

Department of American Ethnic Studies of the University of Washington. Co-sponsoring the Day of Remembrance program is the Seattle Japanese American Citizens League.

Upcoming events:

2:00 p.m. Sunday, 9 April, 2017

Blaine Memorial United Methodist Church | 3001 24th Avenue South, Seattle

Conspiracy of Kindness: You've Given Me Life.

Exploring the legacy of Japanese Consul Chiune Sugihara who saved thousands of Jews during the Holocaust. Performance by Alton Takiyama Chung and post-performance panel discussion.

2:00 p.m. Sunday, 30 April 2017

Nisei Veterans Hall | 1212 South King Street

Japanese American Soldiers and the liberation of Dachau

History of the 522nd Field Artillery Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, who in April 1945 liberated Dachau sub-camp. Film "From Hawaii to the Holocaust: A Shared Moment in History". Tours of the Nisei Veterans Museum.

ABOUT THE CENTER: Connecting lessons of the Holocaust to a broad range of relevant themes for our time, from bullying to social justice, the Holocaust Center for Humanity has been teaching students to become engaged citizens and to speak out against bigotry and prejudice since 1989. The Center works directly with teachers, students, and community groups across the Northwest to provide educational materials, curriculum, and interaction with local Holocaust survivors who tell their stories to 20,000 students of all ages each year. In 2015, the Center opened its museum to the public. 15,000 students of all ages have toured the Center's exhibits during the 2015-2016 school year.

The Center's mission is to inspire teaching and learning for humanity in the schools and communities of this region through study of the Holocaust. Find out more at HolocaustCenterSeattle.org.