

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

Catastrophe of Internment

Exhibit brings voices to injustices of war-time relocation

Coming Home: Voices of Return and Resettlement, 1945-1965 is a locally curated exhibit that traces the re-establishment of the Japanese American community in Oregon after World War II and examines the injustices of war-time relocation.

The Coming Home exhibition has been woven from personal stories of return and resettlement by Nikkei — men, women, and children of Japanese descent — forced from their Oregon farms and homes and incarcerated as “enemies” during World War II.

Most were American citizens. Many had lost everything. Determination and memories of place, family and community guided them home.

On display through March 31 at the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, 121 N.W. Second Ave., the videos, photographs, oral histories, and artifacts gathered for Coming Home feature the unique stories of nine community members.

Modeled after a program at the Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California, their firsthand accounts speak to the uniqueness of being Japanese and living in Oregon, the establishment



A photo from ‘Coming Home,’ an exhibit that traces the re-establishment of the Japanese-American community in Oregon after World War II and examines the injustices of war-time relocation.

of families and livelihoods, the catastrophe of internment, fighting for civil rights and civic engagement.

For those that chose to return, what kind of homecoming did they face? How did they reestablish themselves, their community, homes, families and businesses in a still unwelcoming America?

About the Oregon Nikkei Endowment - The mission of the Oregon Nikkei Endowment is to preserve and honor the history and

culture of Japanese Americans in the Pacific Northwest, to educate the public about the Japanese American experience during World War II, and to advocate for the protection of civil rights for all Americans. Our two projects include the Japanese American Historical Plaza in Waterfront Park, designed by landscape architect Robert Murase, and the Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center, a place to explore the culture

Classic Holiday Favorite



Julianne R. Johnson-Weiss

‘It’s a Wonderful Life’ on downtown stage

Stumptown Stages second production of its 8th musical season is It’s A Wonderful Life, a new musical adaptation of Frank Capra’s classic film with book by Janet Mouser, music and lyrics by Michael Allen Harrison, Alan Berg and Julianne R. Johnson-Weiss.

It’s A Wonderful Life is a holiday favorite for all ages! An angel helps a compassionate but despairingly frustrated businessman by showing what life would have been like if he never existed.

The local production is directed by Tony Award Winner, Corey Brunish, choreographed by Valarie Grudier Edwards, musical direction by Michael Allen Harrison and Jon Quesenberry, and features Seattle’s favorite leading man Jared Michael Brown as George Bailey.

Performances continue through Dec. 23 at Portland Center for the Performing Arts, 1111 S.W. Broadway.

Tickets are \$15 to \$30 and can be purchased by calling 503-946-7272, or visiting ticketswest.com or the PCPA box-office.

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