

# OPB releases schedule of shows airing during Asian Heritage Month

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In an era of exclusion, new immigrants arrived in the U.S. from China, India, Japan, the Philippines, and elsewhere. Eventually barred by anti-Asian laws, the first show in the epic five-part *Asian Americans* series — “Breaking Ground” — tells how the newcomers became America’s first “undocumented immigrants” even as they built railroads and dazzled on the silver screen. They also took the fight for equality to the U.S. Supreme Court.

**Mr. Tornado**

May 11, 8:00pm, OPB Plus

*Mr. Tornado* is a documentary about Tetsuya Theodore “Ted” Fujita, a Japanese-American scientist who devoted his life to unlocking the mysteries of severe storms.

**“Bloodline”**

May 13, 7:00pm, OPB Plus

“Bloodline” is a profile of Vietnamese-American chef Tu David Phu and the evolution of his culinary aesthetic. The program follows Tu as he returns home to Oakland, California, after competing on the cooking series “Top Chef.” From the son of refugees growing up in West Oakland to a professional chef, Tu’s acclaimed culinary creations are heralded as the next wave of Asian fusion representing Vietnamese culture.

**Kam Wah Chung**

May 13, 7:30pm, OPB Plus

*Kam Wah Chung*, an episode of *Oregon Experience*, tells the story of herbal doctor Ing Hay and businessman Lung On, who practiced medicine and operated a general store at Kam Wah Chung & Co. in John Day, Oregon.

**“Loimata, the Sweetest Tears”**

May 15, 8:00pm, OPB Plus

“Loimata, the Sweetest Tears,” an episode of *Pacific Heartbeat*, follows a family returning to their Samoan homeland.

**The Chinese Exclusion Act**

May 15, 9:00pm, OPB Plus

*The Chinese Exclusion Act*, a documentary screening as part of *American Experience*, explores the history of Chinese immigration to the United States and its significance to issues of globalization, immigration, labor, and civil rights today through powerful and illuminating visuals, historical documents, testimonies, and the insight of scholars and experts.

**Massacre at Hells Canyon**

May 16, 9:00pm, OPB

*Massacre at Hells Canyon*, an episode of *Oregon Experience*, details an 1887 incident in which as many as 34 Chinese gold miners were massacred on the Oregon side of Hells Canyon in what was likely the nation’s worst massacre of Chinese people. Though the culprits were well known, no one was ever convicted and the crime was largely forgotten.

**Tyrus Wong**

May 17, 10:00pm, OPB

*Tyrus Wong*, by *American Masters*, tells the story of the renowned Chinese-American painter.

**Asian Americans: “A Question of Loyalty”**

May 18, 7:00pm, OPB Plus

An American-born generation straddles their country of birth and the homelands of their parents in “A Question of Loyalty,” an episode of the five-part series, *Asian Americans*. Those loyalties are tested during World War II when families are imprisoned in detention camps and brothers find themselves on opposite sides of the battle lines.

**Norman Mineta and His Legacy: An American Story**

May 20, 9:00pm, OPB Plus

*Norman Mineta and His Legacy: An American Story* is a documentary that follows the history of the Mineta family and the hardships they endured, including incarceration during World War II, blatant and systemic racism, and more.



**COMPELLING STORIES.** *The Immigrant Story* is presenting events and highlighting its work in observance of Asian Heritage Month. Pictured is Priti Ghandi (top photo), whose story is told as part of “I Am an American.” The photo on the bottom shows handwritten testimony by Ghandi about the objects next to it — gold jewelry — and an explanation about the Indian tradition behind the gifts. (Photos courtesy of *The Immigrant Story*)

## The Immigrant Story highlights “I Am an American” events and more during Asian Heritage Month

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bracing and Exploring Identity,” about Qasim Syed; and “Evading Stigmas and Stereotypes,” about Emery Thanathiti.

Many Roads to Here (MRH) is a podcast produced entirely by volunteers that tells the stories of newcomers in their own words, bringing the voices of immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers to the national conversation about migration and iden-

tity. It aims to advance our country’s dialogue around race and identity and dispel the myths, stereotypes, and preconceptions that haunt immigrants. The goal of MRH is to provide information and empathy. Interviews produced by MRH are archived at the Oregon Historical Society.

To read the compelling stories, or to subscribe to the Many Roads to Here podcast, visit [www.theimmigrantstory.org](http://www.theimmigrantstory.org).

## Lan Su Chinese Garden to celebrate Asian heritage with a month full of performances and events

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*Saturday, May 14*

2:00pm: Takohachi taiko

3:00pm: Ka Lei Hali’a O Ka Lokelani

4:00pm: Vancouver Jasmine Dance Troupe

*Saturday, May 21*

1:00pm: Kalabharathi School of Dance

3:00pm: Cambodian Dance Troupe

*Saturday, May 28*

1:00pm: Filipino American Friendship Club of Oregon

3:00pm: Team Japoneseque

Additional events include “Learn How to Play Mahjong” on Sunday, May 15 at 1:00pm; an *erhu* demonstration on Saturday, May 21 from 11:00am to noon; a talk about the kimono on Saturday, May 28 from 11:00am to noon; and more.

“Lan Su wants to provide a stage for the community to share their cultures and experiences with the public,” said the garden’s Venus Sun. “We have so much to share, and our stories deserve not just to be told, but celebrated.”

Lan Su Chinese Garden is located at 239 N.W. Everett Street in Portland. It is open daily from 10:00am to 6:00pm. For more information, call (503) 228-8131. To learn more, or to view a schedule of events, visit [www.lansugarden.org/CelebrateOurStories](http://www.lansugarden.org/CelebrateOurStories).



**HONORING ASIAN HERITAGE.** *Kam Wah Chung*, an episode of *Oregon Experience*, tells the story of herbal doctor Ing Hay and businessman Lung On, who practiced medicine and operated a general store at Kam Wah Chung & Co. in John Day, Oregon. The show is airing May 13 on OPB Plus. Pictured is Kam Wah Chung & Co., circa 1930. (Photo courtesy of the Kam Wah Chung & Co. Museum)

**“Touching the Sound”**

May 21, 7:00pm, OPB Plus

“Touching the Sound” traces the artistic development of young pianist Nobuyuki Tsujii, from his early ability to play piano by ear, undeterred by his lifelong blindness, to his gold medal triumph in the 2009 Van Cliburn International Piano Competition, to his debut at Carnegie Hall. Highlighting the power of music in overcoming hardship, Tsujii performs his own uplifting compositions, alongside those of Chopin, Beethoven, Rachmaninoff, and Liszt, while touring the 2011 tsunami-devastated coastline of Japan.

**The Donut King**

May 21, 8:00pm, OPB Plus

*The Donut King*, an episode of *Independent Lens*, tells the story of a Cambodian refugee who built a multi-million-dollar donut empire.

**“The Healer Stones of Kapaemahu”**

May 22, 8:00pm, OPB Plus

“The Healer Stones of Kapaemahu,” an episode of *Pacific Heartbeat*, explores Honolulu’s symbolic stones.

**American Revolutionary: The Evolution of Grace Lee Boggs**

May 22, 9:00pm, OPB Plus

*American Revolutionary: The Evolution of Grace Lee Boggs*, from POV, tells viewers about Grace Lee Boggs, a Chinese-American philosopher, writer, and activist in Detroit with a thick FBI file and a surprising vision of what an American revolution can be. Rooted in 75 years of the labor, civil rights, and Black Power movements, she continually challenges a new generation to throw off old assumptions, think creatively, and redefine revolution for our times.

**Asian Americans: “Good Americans”**

May 25, 7:00pm, OPB Plus

Part of the five-part series *Asian Americans*, “Good Americans” addresses the Cold War years, when Asian Americans are simultaneously heralded as a model minority and targeted as a perpetual foreigner. Bold ambition also emerges, as Asian Americans aspire for the first time to national political office and a coming culture-quake simmers beneath the surface.

**“The World of the May’s Photo Studio”**

May 28, 9:30pm, OPB Plus

“The World of the May’s Photo Studio,” an episode of *Vanishing Chinatown*, chronicles San Francisco’s Chinatown during the 1900s.

**Canefield Songs: Holehole Bushi**

May 29, 9:30pm, OPB Plus

*Canefield Songs: Holehole Bushi* is a film that tells the story of music teacher Harry Urata and his efforts to record, preserve, and perpetuate the musical oral histories of Japanese immigrants who worked in Hawaii’s sugarcane fields in the late 19th- and early 20th-centuries. Through their canefield songs, or holehole bushi, the women sang about their joys and sorrows of trying to start life in a new world.

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**Happy Mother's Day!**