

PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT For Immediate Release

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Call For Entries REEL NIKKEI STORIES Community Film Screening

San Francisco (July 7, 2009) – The Japanese Cultural and Community Center of Northern California (JCCCNC) is now collecting short video submissions of Japanese American oral histories for the REEL NIKKEI STORIES Community Film Screening on Saturday, August 15, 2009.



Although many documentaries, books and oral histories have been produced to preserve and teach the Japanese American experience during World War II and in internment camps, each family has a personal story that may still remain untold and undocumented. REEL NIKKEI STORIES aims to help youth start a dialogue in their families and learn first-hand accounts of the Japanese American experience.

The REEL NIKKEI STORIES Community Film Screening will feature short documentaries of Japanese Americans made by youth. Video submissions should not exceed 10 minutes and can be focused on any aspect of the Japanese American experience including stories of immigration, Japanese American Internment, serving in the 100th Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team, Japanese American redress and more. Prizes will be awarded to best documentary as voted on by event attendants.

The event is a part of REEL NIKKEI STORIES, a project designed to teach young people and all generations about Japanese American history through the stories of their own family members, and empower participants with the confidence, skills and resources to interview and video document their oral family history.

REEL NIKKEI STORIES teamed with Japanese American professionals in the media industry, including Dianne Fukami and Jan Yanehiro, and film professionals from Urban Voice, a nonprofit video production company, including its Executive Director Boku Kodama, to develop a series of hands-on training workshops and downloadable training toolkits to help youth get started on creating a family legacy project. The project is made possible through a generous grant from the California Civil Liberties Public Education Program (CCLPEP), Best Buy, and the Henri and Tomoye Takahashi Charitable Foundation.

All are welcome to submit their documentaries. Videos should be submitted in DVD format by August 3, 2009. REEL NIKKEI STORIES will screen all video submissions and select up to ten videos to be shown at the festival. To submit your video, visit www.jcccnc.org to download the video submission form and instructions. For more information on how to complete your video or about the event please contact Ali at Ali@jcccnc.org.

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About the 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 facility usage. The JCCCNC is a non-profit community center based in San Francisco.