

03.28.2026 MINORU YASUI DAY

WHAT WOULD MIN DO?

“WHAT IS DONE TO THE LEAST OF US CAN BE DONE TO ALL OF US.”

Saturday, March 28, 2026
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Oregon Historical Society
1200 SW Park Ave, 97205

THANK YOU FOR
JOINING US!

The year 2026 marks two significant milestones: the 10th anniversary of Oregon’s designation in perpetuity of March 28 as Minoru Yasui Day, honoring the day Minoru Yasui courageously stood against unjust government orders and the legacy of Oregon’s only Presidential Medal of Freedom recipient; and the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, rooted in the principle of no kings and the belief that power belongs to the people.

Together, we will honor these anniversaries and explore contested narratives in history, education, and politics – standing with the voices of the past and present as we recommit to preserving democracy, freedom, civil rights, civil liberties, and justice for all.



PRESENTED BY



Minoru Yasui
LEGACY PROJECT



HOSTED BY



THE OREGON
HISTORICAL
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PILLARS OF JUSTICE



Chop Yasui Fund, Gorge
Community Foundation



Families of Masuo
& Shidzuyo Yasui

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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Welcome

Kerry Tymchuk | Boyle Family Executive Director, Oregon Historical Society

Remarks from Governor Kate Brown

Kate Brown | Willamette Falls Trust President

Establishing Minoru Yasui Day

The History of the Minoru Yasui

Legacy Project

Peggy Nagae | MYLP Co-Founder, Peggy Nagae Consulting

Inspiring Action and Igniting Justice: MYLP Across the Decade

Emcee: Chani Hawkins | Granddaughter of Minoru Yasui, MYLP Executive Committee Vice-Chair

Reflections and highlights on a decade of the MYLP's Impact.

Inspiring the Next Generation of Civic Leaders: 2026 Minoru Yasui Student Art Contest Winners

Emily Thackray | Minoru Yasui Student Contest Planning Committee Chair

Elissa Dingus | Minoru Yasui Student Contest Planning Committee Co-Chair, JAMO Director of Education & Engagement

Minoru Yasui Student Contest history and announcement of the 2026 winners: *Upholding the Rule of Law: What does seeking justice for all look like?*

Keynote, Panel Discussion, Q&A Contested Narratives: History, Politics, and Community Action

As we approach America's 250th anniversary, fights over who gets to tell our country's story have never been more important. Across the nation, politicians are banning books, changing school curriculums, and battling over how history is taught — and these changes affect whose stories get told and whose get left out. This panel looks at how current political movements are changing the way we teach and talk about immigration, race, and American identity, and discusses what educators, advocates, and community

members can do to fight back and support immigrant communities. Join us to talk about keeping history truthful, making sure everyone's stories are included, and working together to honor the contributions immigrants have made to our shared history. The Minoru Yasui Legacy Project supports this important conversation in the spirit of Minoru Yasui himself — a Japanese American civil rights leader who fought against injustice and would surely oppose any attempts to erase or twist the stories of marginalized communities from the historical record.

Keynote & Panel Moderator

Cherstin M. Lyon | Southern Oregon University Honors College Director and Professor

Panelists:

Eliza E. Canty-Jones | Chief Program Officer & Editor, Oregon Historical Quarterly

Kevin Hatfield | University of Oregon Assistant Vice Provost for Undergraduate Research and Distinguished Scholarships, and Director of Academic Residential and Research Initiatives

Erica Naito-Campbell | Author

Frank So | Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon Executive Director

Special Performance: Slam Poetry

Kurt Ikeda | Poet by Passion, Go For Broke National Education Center Director of Programs & Engagement

Acknowledgments and Thank You

Emcee: Chani Hawkins

Closing Remarks

Barbara Yasui | MYLP Education Committee Chair

Megan Lallier-Barron | Curator of Exhibitions, Oregon Historical Society

Join Us in the Exhibition | 3:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Please join Yasui family members and OHS Curator of Exhibitions Megan Lallier-Barron in OHS's exhibition "*The Yasui Family: An American Story*" after the program.

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