

Japanese American Leadership Symposium

Reflections from Japanese Americans on today's drive for diversity and inclusion

Thursday, March 9, 2023

4:30 to 6:00pm (Doors open at 4:00pm)

Simultaneous interpreting (J-E)

Program

4:00pm Doors open

4:30pm Opening

4:45pm Part I **Keynote Speaker**

Curtiss Takada Rooks, Ph.D.

(Program Coordinator and Assistant Professor, Asian Pacific American Studies, Loyola Marymount University)

5:05pm Part II **Panel Discussion**

Moderator

Frederick Katayama (Executive Vice President, U.S.-Japan Council)

Panelists

Lori Teranishi (CEO & Founder iQ360)

Jeffrey Maloney (Chief Counsel of Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Member of City Council/ Former Mayor of Alhambra, California)

Audrey Yamamoto (Chief Operating Officer, The Asian American Foundation)

6:00pm Closing

Venue

**Iwasaki Koyata Memorial Hall
International House of Japan**

5-11-16 Roppongi, Minato-ku, Tokyo 106-0032

Azabu-juban Station, Toei Oedo Line/Tokyo Metro Namboku Line

Roppongi Station, Tokyo Metro Hibiya Line

Admission free.

Capacity 100 people on a first-come-first-served-basis.

Please use the QR code to apply.



Contact

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The Japanese American Leadership Delegation Program (JALD), has been organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan since 2000 to promote mutual understanding between the Japanese American community in the United States and Japan, and to strengthen long-term relationships between the two countries. In 2023, 10 Japanese Americans active in various parts of the United States will be invited to Japan for one week, to visit Tokyo and Shizuoka Prefecture to interact with a wide range of intellectuals from the political, public, and private sectors. As part of this program, the Japan Foundation holds this symposium jointly with the US-Japan Council to promote understanding between the Japanese American community in Japan and to promote US-Japan dialogue on diversity and social inclusion.

In the first part of the program, Dr. Curtis Takada Rooks of Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, California, who specializes in race and ethnic studies, will give the keynote speech about solidarity between Japanese-Americans and other minority communities and their roles, referring to case studies of research projects on diversity, equity, and inclusion in civic engagement.

Part II will be a panel discussion moderated by, Mr. Frederick Katayama, a journalist who is also known as a former business news anchor for Reuters Television. Three panelists, all of whom are Japanese Americans who contribute to society in various ways while exercising leadership in the political and business worlds, will discuss the current state of American society threatened by increasing division despite calls for diversity, and the experiences, contributions, and future of the Japanese American community in such a society.

Keynote Speaker

Curtiss Takada Rooks, Ph.D. (Program Coordinator and Assistant Professor, Asian Pacific American Studies, Loyola Marymount University)



Dr. Curtiss Takada Rooks, a critical race and ethnic studies scholar in Asian and Asian American Studies at Loyola Marymount University (LMU), is currently serving in a yearlong teaching fellowship at Sophia University. His scholarship encompasses multiracial & transpacific identity; APIA community based participatory evaluation; and diversity, equity & inclusion with research projects.

Outside the academy, Dr. Rooks brings experience as a diversity specialist for a civil rights law firm, diversity facilitator for the United Methodist Church Japanese American Clergy Caucus & UMC Los Angeles West District.

Dr. Rooks holds a doctorate in Comparative Culture from the University of California, Irvine, a master's degree in Public Policy from Trinity College in CT. Born to an African-American father and Japanese mother.

Panelists

Lori Teranishi (CEO & Founder iQ360)

iQ360 is a certified woman- and minority-owned business communications consultancy that provides support for corporate crisis management, market strategy, public relations, and more. The company is comprised of a diverse group of consultants headquartered in Honolulu with teams in San Francisco, New York and Washington, DC. Lori's work is recognized with a number of awards from the industry, as she shares her expertise in marketing communications as a regular lecturer at the national level. While she serves as CEO, she actively supports her community. She is a Trustee with the University of Hawaii Foundation, and Board Chair of the Girl Scouts of Hawaii. She was named a Ragan's PR Daily Top Women in Communication in 2020. Ancestral roots: Paternal – Yamaguchi and Hiroshima, Maternal – Kumamoto and Niigata



Jeffrey Maloney (Chief Counsel of Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Member of City Council/ Former Mayor of Alhambra, California)

Jeffrey Koji Maloney is Chief Counsel of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, dedicating to preserving Southern California region's natural environment and he also belongs to various community and political groups. He is also a councilmember and former mayor (2018-2019, 2022) of the City of Alhambra, east of Los Angeles. In civic activities, he keeps himself busy in the Los Angeles area Japanese community and has a particularly strong presence in the Japanese American Bar Association (JABA) and the Go For Broke National Education Center. He is committed to maintaining strong ties with Kirishima, Alhambra's sister city in Kagoshima Prefecture. Ancestral roots: Kumamoto



Audrey Yamamoto (Chief Operating Officer, The Asian American Foundation)

Audrey Yamamoto currently serves as the Chief Operating Officer of The Asian American Foundation (TAAF), a national foundation that was launched in 2021 with a commitment to accelerating opportunity and building prosperity and belonging for all AAPI communities. She has more than twenty years of executive leadership experience in the philanthropic and nonprofit sectors where she has consistently helped organizations maximize their impact while building a collaborative, team-oriented culture. Prior to joining TAAF, Audrey served as the President and Executive Director of the Asian Pacific Fund and the Executive Director of the Children's Creativity Museum in San Francisco. She also serves on the board of the Asian Health Services Foundation. Ancestral roots: Paternal – Tokushima, Maternal – Hiroshima and Okayama



Moderator

Frederick Katayama (Executive Vice President, U.S.-Japan Council)



Active in U.S.-Japan affairs, Fred Katayama leads development as the Executive Vice President of the U.S.-Japan Council. He also serves on the boards of Japan Society and John Manjiro-Whitfield Commemorative Center for International Exchange. He is an award-winning business news anchor and former producer at Reuters Television in New York. Previously at CNN, he anchored the show, *Business Asia* and served as a correspondent for *The Moneyline Newshour*. He was also a general assignment reporter at Seattle's KIRO-TV. Earlier, he worked in Tokyo as a reporter of *Japan Business Today* at NHK, correspondent at Fortune magazine and reporter at the Associated Press.

Ancestral roots: Paternal – Fukuoka, Maternal – Hokkaido and Niigata