

CALENDAR LISTING for August 5th, 6th, and 13th, 2005 attached
(for Religion, Arts, Community, Visual Arts, Music)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***Coming Home to Peace –
Hiroshima Nagasaki 60th Anniversary Commemoration
Public invited to Bay Area cultural and interfaith programs beginning August 5th***

(San Francisco) Beginning with church bells ringing across the city at 4:15 pm on August 5th, marking the dropping of the world's first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, sixty years ago, a consortium of Bay Area community groups will present a series of educational, cultural and interfaith remembrance programs, under the banner of "Coming Home to Peace – Hiroshima Nagasaki 60th Anniversary Commemoration." (See Calendar information below). Visit www.hiroshimanagasakipeace.org or call (415) 567-7599 for information.

2005 marks the sixtieth year since the atomic devastation of Hiroshima and Nagasaki. This unleashing of nuclear weapons upon the world created untold suffering for hundreds of thousands in an instant, and a legacy for all future generations of humanity.

The legacy of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki is a lasting one - too important to forget and too perilous to bury in human history. In the words of the hibakusha (survivors) themselves, "it must never be repeated".

The nuclear threat today is more widespread than ever before. The message of Hiroshima and Nagasaki echoes to us with resounding urgency that it must never happen again.

Coming Home to Peace - A Hiroshima and Nagasaki 60th Anniversary Commemoration is a time for remembrance of the victims and survivors of the atomic bombings during World War II, and an opportunity to learn from the past; a time to understand the nature of the nuclear threat to humanity and to our environment in the face of changing times and to understand what we as individuals can do; and a time to promote the peaceful resolution of conflict, at home and abroad, and to rebuild and renew community ties with one another towards a future of peace.

The 60th Hiroshima-Nagasaki Anniversary Commemoration Committee includes: the Friends of Hibakusha, Committee of Atomic Bomb Survivors, Berkeley Peace Lantern Ceremony 2005, Grace Cathedral, Eth-Noh-Tec, Japanese American Religious Federation, National Japanese American Historical Society, San Francisco Interfaith Council, United Methodist Commission on Religion and Race and the American Friends Service Committee. For information, visit www.hiroshimanagasakipeace.org or call (415) 567-7599.

- *Calendar of Events follows* -

- CALENDAR OF EVENTS -

Coming Home to Peace –
Hiroshima Nagasaki 60th Anniversary Commemoration Events

- All events free and open to the public. -
Visit www.hiroshimanagasakipeace.org -

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5TH

* At Grace Cathedral – 1100 California Street (at Taylor), San Francisco:

4:15 PM - BELL RINGING

In remembrance of the Hiroshima Nagasaki atomic bombing in 1945, houses of worship from all faiths are invited to join Grace Cathedral in ringing their bells across the city. The public is invited to stand outside in silence, to listen to the echoing sounds, remember the lives lost and suffering today, and pray for peace. For information, call: (415) 749-6355.

7:00 PM - TAKASHI'S DREAM –

A performance by **Eth-Noh-Tec**, based on the true and inspiring story of Takashi Tanemori, an atomic bomb survivor -- through spoken word, movement, theatre, song, taiko drum and shakuhachi flute. Artists **Robert Kikuchi-Yngojo** and **Nancy Wang** will lead a dialogue on the issue of non-violence, the current and growing threat of nuclear weapons, and the power of forgiveness following the show. FREE. For reservations and info, call Rebecca at Grace Cathedral at (415) 749-6355 or visit www.ethnohtec.org.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2005

*At the Japantown Peace Plaza in San Francisco Japantown:
Post Street (between Webster and Buchanan)

1:30 PM - COMING HOME TO PEACE –

60th Hiroshima and Nagasaki Anniversary Commemoration – Interfaith Memorial Service
A community remembrance of the victims and survivors of the bombings and a call for peace through music, ritual, testimony, reflection, and prayer. For more information, contact Friends of Hibakusha at (415) 567-7599.

3:00 PM - GHOSTS OF LITTLE BOY: ARTISTS FOR PEACE EXHIBIT

Opening Performances - Performances at the Japantown Peace Plaza, immediately following the Interfaith Memorial Service, will mark the official opening of *Ghosts of Little Boy*, a visual arts exhibit presented by the National Japanese American Historical Society. Music by the **Francis Wong Ensemble, with Mark Chung (violin), Masaru Koga (sax), John Carlos Perea (electric bass), and Kaori Nakano (vocalist); popular Japanese songs by Chorale May; and a Butoh performance by Ledoh Baisang**, will direct audiences to the exhibit at the NJAHS Peace Gallery across from the Plaza.

(Saturday, August 6th – continued)

***At the National Japanese American Historical Society Peace Gallery:**
1684 Post Street across from Japantown Peace Plaza.

5:00 PM - GHOSTS OF LITTLE BOY: ARTISTS FOR PEACE EXHIBIT

Opening Reception & Poetry by Genny Lim “Little Boy” was the name given to the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima, Japan on August 6, 1945. This exhibit brings together “multicultural artists who think globally by addressing the broad concerns of atomic energy, war and peace, and act locally by working together to build a community of peace,” says curator Bob Hanamura. It will be held in two parts: **Part I: August 6, 2005 to October 7th; and Part II: October 15th through January 31, 2006.** Featured artists in Part I include: **Lucy Arai, Marlene Aron, Robert Brady, Sayko Dairiki, Ronald Garrigues, Esther Hernandez, Chiei Ishida, Betty Kano, Betsie Miller-Kusz, Masaru Tanaka, Diana Krevsky, Lucien Kubo, Dawn Nakanishi, Glen Moriwaki, Asuka Ohsawa, Arthur Okamura, Emiko Oye, Jos Sances, Ben Sakoguchi, Lewis Suzuki, Kana Tanaka, Kumiko Tanaka, Scott Tsuchitani and Jeremy Waltman.** For more information, contact NJAHS at (415) 921-5007, or visit www.njahs.org

***At Aquatic Park in Berkeley:**

6:30 to 9:00 - JAPANESE PEACE LANTERN CEREMONY

Join in the fourth annual lantern making and program at 6:30 pm, followed by the Floating of the Lanterns from 8 to 9 p.m. For more information, visit www.ProgressivePortal.org/lanterns or call (510) 595-4626

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13, 2005

***At the Japantown Peace Plaza in San Francisco Japantown:**
At Post Street (between Webster and Buchanan)

3:00 PM - ANTHONY BROWN'S ASIAN AMERICAN ORCHESTRA

In association with the Nihonmachi Street Fair taking place this weekend, the National Japanese American Society presents the Asian American Orchestra, performing “Never Again!” Led by percussionist, composer, ethnomusicologist and Grammy nominee Anthony Brown, featuring the improvisational approaches of jazz and Asian instrumental traditions.

***At the National Japanese American Historical Society Peace Gallery:**
1684 Post Street (between Laguna and Buchanan), across from Japantown Peace Plaza.

5:00 PM - GHOSTS OF LITTLE BOY: ARTISTS FOR PEACE EXHIBIT

Purification Ceremony will take place at the NJAHS Peace Gallery where “Ghosts of Little Boy” exhibit continues. See description on August 6th listing. Visit www.njahs.org for details or call (415) 921-5007. ###