

LITTLE TOKYO HISTORICAL SOCIETY (LTHS) IS DEDICATED TO

- 📌 **Preserving** the history, places, people, culture, and stories of LA Little Tokyo;
- 📌 **Protecting** our resources, and the distinction of being the largest of the last three historic Japantowns;
- 📌 **Celebrating** over 130 years of history of Little Tokyo.

Little Tokyo Historical Society was launched in 2006 by people who shared an interest in commemorating the Japanese American (Nikkei) history and heritage through discovered archival collections, vintage photos, family and resident histories; and sharing these finds through exhibits, publications, programs and workshops. Today, LTHS provides a place for those who want to learn more, share family histories, and advocate for the defense of Little Tokyo, the JA community and our legacy.

Past



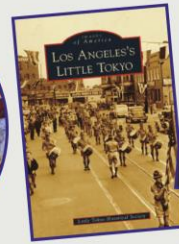
Sei Fujii, Civil Rights Pioneer

WHAT WE DO

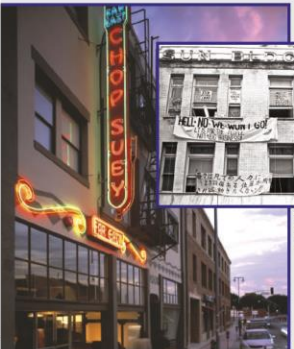
We keep the idea and the history of Little Tokyo alive through our work. We fight to preserve our legacy businesses and cultural sites – past and present – we are committed to sustain the unique status of LT as our cultural and spiritual home.

- 📌 **Dedicating and naming sites** in remembrance of remarkable Nikkei whose lives and works enhanced Little Tokyo and the broader society; and giving voice to their contributions to the public at large.
- 📌 **Fought for** former Japanese Hospital in Boyle Heights to be designated as City Historic-Cultural Monument #113.
- 📌 **Produced *Lil Tokyo Reporter***, multiple award-winning film about Sei Fujii, a civil rights hero and founding publisher of *Kashu Mainichi* newspaper; and who, with attorney J. Marion Wright, overturned the California Alien Land Law in 1952. The film has garnered international recognition.
- 📌 **Publishing *Rebel's Outcry***, a translated and illustrated biography of Sei Fujii.
- 📌 **Produced *Los Angeles's Little Tokyo***, a history of Little Tokyo book which has sold thousands of copies.

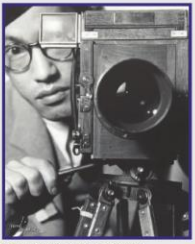
Present



Future



Sun Building forced eviction, Weller St. 1974



Toyo Miyatake, world renowned photographer

- 📌 **Conduct tours** on the history of Little Tokyo.
- 📌 **Sponsored public programs**, seminars and workshops spotlighting sometimes overlooked areas of Japanese American/Little Tokyo history such as: medical care in Little Tokyo before WWII; Nikkei basketball leagues in the 1930s; history of Bronzeville; the JA and Asian American Revolutionary Movement and community activism in 1960-70s; noted architecture in Little Tokyo by Hayahiko Takase; revival showing and discussion of *The Crimson Kimono*, in 1959 the first interracial Asian male-White woman romantic movie; documentaries on Japanese American Redress & Reparations.
- 📌 **Created *Imagine Little Tokyo***, Short Story Writing Contest to provoke interest in Little Tokyo, and which now attracts writers from across the U.S. and internationally.
- 📌 **Designed specialty calendars**, with themes such as *Jumpin' in J-Town: Fun in Little Tokyo*, or *incrEDIBLE Little Tokyo*, to celebrate and bring people to Little Tokyo.
- 📌 **Supported the fight** against the eviction of downtown LA's first Artists-in-Residence, now primarily JA senior citizens, from their historic 800 Traction Street lofts.



Japanese Americans assembled at Hongwanji Buddhist Temple, 1st & Central, for forced removal to concentration camps, 1942.



▲ L.A.'s first nebuza dazzles the Nisei Week parade with its brilliant illumination, 2007. ▼ Dedication of the Go For Broke Monument in 1999 honoring the famed all-Nisei 100th 442nd RCT WWII heroes.



JOIN US!
Your membership support and donations will help Little Tokyo Historical Society to continue its mission to honor, preserve, and share the unique history and culture of Little Tokyo.
www.littletokyohs.org/support



LITTLE TOKYO
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LITTLE TOKYO — OUR LEGACY
The cultural soul of the Japanese American community

- 📌 **Little Tokyo Historical Society** provides a home for and camaraderie with people of all ages who desire to learn, to research history, to share their stories, and the stories of Little Tokyo and the JA community.
- 📌 **LTHS works with** people and organizations who want to be an active part in the continuing efforts in LT to promote justice, survival and quality of life for residents, legacy businesses, and the JA community.
- 📌 **Join us** and become a part of the living narrative ensuring the existence of Little Tokyo as the cultural soul of the Japanese American community.



Little Tokyo Historical Society
Celebrate the over 130 year history and legacy of Little Tokyo

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Little Tokyo Historical Society is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit all-volunteer organization comprised of members from the Little Tokyo community including nonprofit organizations, business owners, activists, residents, researchers, and history buffs.

To become a member please sign up on our website at www.littletokyohs.org

Photos courtesy of: Steve Koyama (cover), Mixed Arare Productions (Osako/Ishimine) (kazan), Michael Okamura; Steve Nagano; Jeff Liu; Alan Miyatake, Toyo Miyatake Archives; Little Tokyo Historical Society Archives; Yukio Kawaratan. Design by Future Studio



Welcome to Little Tokyo ようこそ日本街へ



OFFICES • SHOPS • RESTAURANTS	CIVIC • CULTURAL	RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS	HOUSING
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Little Tokyo Historic District - Koban and Visitor's Center 2 Japanese Village Plaza 3 Miyako Hotel 4 Little Tokyo Mall - Anime Jungle 5 Kajima Building 6 Double Tree Hotel 7 Weller Court Shopping Center 8 Union Bank Building 9 Federal Public Defender 10 Manufacturers Bank 11 Little Tokyo Plaza 12 Brunswick Square 13 Office Depot 14 Honda Plaza Shopping Center 15 Little Tokyo Marketplace 16 Little Tokyo Professional Bldg. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17 Japanese American National Museum 18 Geffen Contemporary at MOCA 19 Go for Broke National Educational Center - National Center for the Preservation of Democracy 20 Go for Broke Monument 21 Union Center for the Arts - East/West Players 22 Japanese American Cultural & Community Center 23 Aratani Theatre 24 Little Tokyo Service Center 25 Little Tokyo Branch Library 26 Paul I. Terasaki Budokan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 27 Koyasan Buddhist Temple 28 Nishi Hongwanji Buddhist Temple 29 Zenshuji Soto Mission 30 St. Francis Xavier Japanese Catholic Church 31 Higashi Honganji Buddhist Temple 32 Union Church of Los Angeles 33 Jodoshu Buddhist Temple 34 Centenary United Methodist Church <p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> M Little Tokyo/Arts District Regional Connector Station P Parking Landscaped Plazas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 35 Hikari 36 Savoy 37 Tokyo Villa 38 Miyako Gardens 39 Little Tokyo Towers 40 Teramachi 41 Casa Heiwa 42 Sakura Crossing 43 Wakaba LA 44 AVA Little Tokyo 45 AVA Little Tokyo 46 STOA 47 Lotus 77

LITTLE TOKYO is a Japanese American ethnic neighborhood in downtown Los Angeles, established over 130 years ago. It is the Japanese American community's cultural, religious, social and commercial center of Southern California. Little Tokyo has many Japanese and other restaurants, Japanese shops and goods, and many civic, cultural and religious facilities.

