

Anaheim Union High School District and Anaheim High School Presents



***The Poston Experience:
Paving The Way for the Next
Generations***

August 24, 2019 11 AM to 1 PM

Anaheim High School Cook Auditorium
811 W. Lincoln Avenue
Anaheim, California

EXPERIENCE AN UNKNOWN CHAPTER OF ANAHEIM HISTORY

The history, of the Japanese pioneers and their descendants in Anaheim before WWII and their education at Anaheim High School, has never been featured in a major educational event here in Anaheim and now you can become part of this time in history. The majority of the Japanese and Japanese American students from the Anaheim High School Classes of 1942 - 1945 were evacuated to a Japanese American incarceration camp in Poston, Arizona and they were not able to complete their education at Anaheim or become part of their school's graduation due to their forced relocation. In 1942, the Anaheim Union High School student body was summoned to an assembly in the Cook Auditorium where they were told that their classmates of Japanese ancestry were being sent away due to their ethnicity. This historic site still remains to reflect on this story of human rights 77 years later.

To preserve the legacy of these Japanese American students, the Anaheim Union High School District and Anaheim High School has created a special two hour program that will feature Orange County leaders who went to Poston during WWII, a special presentation about an Anaheim pioneer family represented by Anaheim High School Class of 1962 graduate Marlene Shigekawa who will talk about the Shigekawa family and her work in preserving the legacy of the Poston, Arizona camp where she was born, and student vocal renditions of original Poston grade school songs and popular tunes from that time. Panelists, who will be part of the panel discussion, will include Don Miyada, Robert M. Wada, Marlene Shigekawa, Tom Leatherman representing the National Park Service Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant Program, and special guest Gania Demaree-Trotter AHS Class of 1944, whose father Dr. Paul H. Demaree was principal of Anaheim Union High School from 1941 to 1954 and Superintendent of the Anaheim Union High School District from 1941 - 1958.

A new and original 10 minute documentary, which is being produced by the AUHSD Summer Film Academy high school students entitled "Remember Us: An Historic Chapter at Anaheim High School, will make its debut at "The Poston Experience" program.

Admission to this event is free and seating is limited and on a First Come, First Served Basis. Carpooling is encouraged.

For further information, please call (714) 392-2013 or go to the AUHSD Facebook Page at **@AnaheimUnion** for event updates.

Special Thanks - Supporters

**Anaheim Elementary School District, Anaheim High School Alumni Association,
Poston Community Alliance, and SELANOCO JACL**