

# Film honors Japanese-American combat team

## Tied to 'Art of Survival' exhibit; showing at OIT

By **LEE JUILLERAT**  
H&N Regional Editor

“Honor Bound,” a film on the World War II Japanese American 100th Battalion/442nd Regimental Combat Team, will be shown 7 p.m. Thursday, April 17, at Oregon Tech’s College Union Auditorium.

Hosted by the Shaw Historical Library, the program is a collaboration with the Favell Museum’s traveling exhibit, “Art of Survival: Enduring the Turmoil of Tule Lake,” a traveling exhibit that opens April 4 at the Favell Museum honoring Japanese Americans who were incarcerated at the Tule Lake Segregation Center during WWII.

The movie features members of the 442nd at reunions where they shared their extraordinary memories. It also tells the story of a daughter’s search — by Tamura — to unlock her father’s stories about his wartime experiences as a member of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team.

Following the film, Tamura will tell stories about her father, a member of the 442nd pictured. During a “home visit” to Tule Lake, he was photographed in his uniform. She said her father volunteered for the Army 10 days after the bombing of Pearl Harbor because he believed it was his duty as an American citizen. Tamura lives in Hood River and is professor emerita at Willamette University.

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### Shaw Historical Library

The mission of the Shaw Historical Library is to acquire, preserve and share the history of the Land of Lakes — a region that includes portions of Southern Oregon, far Northern California and Northwestern Nevada — and inspire discovery of the region’s heritage.

The library’s collections, on the second floor of the Resource and Learning Center, or library, at Oregon Tech, include 3,000 books, periodicals and newspapers, more than

2,000 maps, more than 7,000 photographic prints and negatives, more than 700 audio and visual materials and 220 linear feet of archival materials. Specific areas of interest include the timber industry, native peoples, water use in the Klamath River watershed, Crater Lake National Park, Lava Beds National Monument, Japanese American incarceration during World War II and local history.

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The Shaw has published the scholarly Journal of the Shaw Historical Library about the region’s history since 1986.

crimination for their compassion,” said Carole Fisher, a Shaw Library board member helping to organize the screening.

In the introduction to “A Question of Loyalty,” the Shaw’s 2005 Journal, Stephen Mark wrote, “The barbed wire of World War II vintage has largely been replaced with cyclone fence ... but the camp’s physical imprint is still so evident that it hardly seems like six decades have passed since the war ended, Achieving National Historic Landmark status (for Tule Lake) is not solely based on the material integrity of buildings and whether they maintain their association with the surrounding landscape. Such preservation achieves nothing for society without being linked to a ‘community of memory’ based on individual stories.”

“The Tule Lake Confinement Site, and the local as well as national history it represents, has been unsung for too long,” Fisher said. “Art of Survival highlights the everyday and the extraordinary, the human condition and the controversy that haunts this place on the map — the only WWII Japanese American Segregation Center

in the country. It is high time, and a privilege, to honor those Japanese American citizens and the soldiers in their ranks who fought for this country while their families were incarcerated — keeping alive the memory of those who survived a chapter in the history of our nation that must never be forgotten.”

Fisher said Tamura has been instrumental in creating an exhibit about people outside the camps who defended the Japanese Americans — two-thirds were U.S. citizens — and “who did not succumb to the mass hysteria that enveloped much of the nation.” Tamura’s exhibit will be shown at the Klamath County Museum in July.

Tamura is also the author of “Nisei Soldiers Break Their Silence: Coming Home to Hood River,” which tells of Japanese Americans’ wartime service and their return after the war, when Hood River received national notoriety.

The film screening and other Art of Survival events are funded in part by a Preservation of Japanese American Confinement Sites Grant, administered by the National Park Service.