

ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL 2008: YOUNG IN JAPAN

Wings of Defeat:
A Teacher Workshop on Japanese Kamikaze Pilots in World War II
Monday, Sept. 29, 2008, 4:00pm - 7:00pm
Champaign Central High School Library Lecture Hall



The Asian Educational Media Service (AEMS) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is pleased to offer an opportunity for local educators to engage with documentary film as a tool to teach about Japanese and World War II history. This workshop will introduce and contextualize the 2007 documentary film *Wings Of Defeat*, by Risa Morimoto and Linda Hoaglund. It is best suited for **secondary educators**, although educators of all levels (K-12 and undergraduate) are invited to attend.

The Asian Film Festival is hosted each year by the U of I's Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies (EAPS) and AEMS. Six films speaking to the theme **Young in Japan** will be shown at **Boardman's Art Theatre** in downtown Champaign on Friday, October 3, through Sunday, October 5. The 90-minute, feature-length version of the *Wings of Defeat* will be screened Saturday, October 4, at 3:30 pm. All films showings are **free and open to the public** (donations appreciated). For a complete schedule with film descriptions, please visit our website at: <http://www.aems.uiuc.edu/events/filmfestival/>



For more information about *Wings of Defeat* (including a trailer) see:
www.edgewoodpictures.com/wingsofdefeat/

The Asian Educational Media Service (AEMS) helps educators find and evaluate multimedia resources for teaching about Asia, in order to promote understanding of Asian cultures and peoples.

The Workshop

Wings of Defeat is a remarkable film re-evaluating the experiences and legacy of Japan's suicide pilots of World War II, the legendary kamikaze, featuring intimate interviews with surviving kamikaze. Upon learning of her uncle's secret past as a surviving kamikaze pilot, Japanese American director Risa Morimoto was inspired to track down former kamikaze pilots—now in their 80s—who thoughtfully recall and share their fears, their ambivalence, their patriotism and their guilt as survivors, when thousands of their comrades perished during Japan's most desperate hour at the end of World War II. Co-produced by Japanese-born writer Linda Hoaglund, the documentary is a rare opportunity to hear the perspectives of those who trained for, flew, and survived suicide missions, as well as Americans who survived such attacks.

The workshop will begin with a presentation by **Roger Purdy** placing the kamikaze in historical context by looking at the conduct of Japan's war in China and the Pacific, and the strains it put on the Japanese people. Purdy will also look at the origin of the suicide squads in Japan, and the military government's affirmative presentation of this strategy for "certain victory" to the Japanese people.

We will then watch the shorter, **56-minute version of the film**.

Following the film screening, **Gary Mukai** will introduce a teacher's guide that he recently developed for *Wings of Defeat*. The guide helps to contextualize the film and to make it accessible to secondary school students through small-group activities and the examination of quotes from the film.

We will then share a **Japanese meal**, with time for **discussions and questions**.

General information and materials on Japan will also be provided.

CPDU credit is available to teachers.

Presenters:

Roger W. Purdy is associate professor of history and coordinator of East Asian studies at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio. He received his BA in History and Asian Studies from Brigham Young University and his Ph.D. in History from the University of California, Santa Barbara. He is currently doing research on Japan's wartime news media with special focus on Japanese wartime newsreels.

Gary Mukai is the director of the Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education (SPICE). Before joining SPICE in 1988, Gary was a teacher in Japan and in California for ten years. He is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, and Stanford University.

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Monday, Sept. 29, 2008

Registration Deadline: Monday, September 22, 2008

Registration Fee: FREE

To Register: Please complete and send the attached **Registration Form** to the Asian Educational Media Service at:

WW II Teacher Workshop Registration
Attn: Jason Finkelman
Asian Educational Media Service
805 West Pennsylvania Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801
FAX: (217) 265-0641
Tel: 217-265-0640; email: finkelma@illinois.edu

Schedule:

3:50 - 4:00pm	Check in
4:00 - 4:30pm	Roger Purdy's presentation
4:30 - 5:30pm	Film screening (broadcast version, 56-minutes)
5:30 - 6:00pm	Gary Mukai's presentation
6:00 - 7:00pm	Questions and discussions over dinner

Meals: All registered workshop participants receive a Japanese dinner.

Location: Champaign Central High School, Library Lecture Hall, 610 W. University Ave, Champaign.

Parking: Off-street parking is available near the high school.

Special Needs: If you have any special dietary or access needs, please fill out the relevant section of the attached registration form.

CPDU: 3 CPDUs are available for teachers.



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Registration Form
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm, Monday, Sept. 29, 2008
Film screening included

Name _____

Title/Position _____

School Name _____

School District _____

Information you want to appear on your name tag:

Name _____

Title _____

School Name _____

Subject Taught _____

Grade level Taught _____

School Address _____

Home Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

City, State, Zip _____

School Telephone _____

Home Telephone _____

School Fax # _____

Email _____

CPDU credit desired? Yes No

SPECIAL NEEDS: Please indicate any special dietary or access needs (feel free to use additional space or to attach a letter):

MAIL to: **WW II Teacher Workshop Registration**
Asian Educational Media Service, attn: Jason Finkelman
805 West Pennsylvania Avenue
Urbana, IL 61801.

FAX to: (217) 265-0641.

Registration Information: Jason Finkelman
(217)265-0640
finkelma@illinois.edu

Program Information: Susan Norris,
(217) 333-9597
aems@illinois.edu