



ROBERT H.
JACKSON
CENTER

NEWSLETTER

Summer 2019

KOREMATSU'S LEGACY: THE COURAGE TO FIGHT FOR JUSTICE

"The Fight for Justice," a two-day event commemorating Justice Robert H. Jackson's dissent from the majority's decision in Korematsu v. U.S., 323 U.S. 214 (1944), highlighted how relevant his voice remains today. The petitioner in the case, Fred Korematsu, challenged the constitutionality of President Franklin Roosevelt's Executive order 9066 authorizing the imprisonment of U.S. citizens based on nationality. The majority Court upheld Korematsu's conviction for violating the exclusion order in a 6-3 ruling, but Justice Jackson criticized the order's reliance on nationality as a basis upon which to imprison U.S. citizens.

On May 14, 2019, Karen Korematsu, Founder and Executive Director of the Fred T. Korematsu Institute in San Francisco and daughter of Fred Korematsu, spoke stirringly about her father's charge to her, five months before his death, to continue educating the public on issues of civil liberties. If her father were present, Ms. Korematsu believes he would remind everyone that prejudice is ignorance of others countered best by education. She emphasized that the next generation of ordinary citizens, like her father, should "stand up for what is right."

U.S. Second Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Denny Chin wrote the powerful play, "Korematsu v. U.S.: Justice Denied," that members of the Bar and Jackson Center staff read aloud following Karen Korematsu's remarks. Judge Chin and his wife, Kathy Chin, Esq., narrated the play, interspersed with dialogue recreated from the court cases and the historic events surrounding it. The play revealed the United States' policies leading up to the executive order, the aftermath of the Korematsu decision and Karen Korematsu's plea to recognize the promise of the Constitution for all U.S. citizens.



Participants of the "Justice Denied" play read: Standing (from left to right): Randy Elf, Richard J. Marinaccio, Alan J. Bozer, Edward S. Bloomberg, Elizabeth Bove, Lindsey E. Haubenreich, Pauline T. Muto, Michael Borrello, Carol Drake, and Marion Beckerink. Seated (from left to right): Anna Mercado Clark, Judge Denny Chin, Kathy Hirata Chin, Thomas Loftus, John Q. Barrett, Kristan McMahon.



(from left to right) Alan J. Bozer, Esq., Tom Loftus, grandson of Robert H. Jackson, and Koya Choi, Esq.

Justice Jackson's grandson, Thomas Loftus, III, delivered part of Justice Jackson's eloquent dissenting opinion during the play read.

The two-day event concluded with the Honorable Joseph Gerace Lecture by St. John's Law School Professor and Elizabeth Lenna Fellow, John Q. Barrett. Professor Barrett addressed the legacy of the Korematsu decision, its related cases and the Supreme Court's recent decision in Trump v. Hawaii, 138 S. Ct. 2392 (2018) and whether it substantively overruled Korematsu.

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A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear New Friends,

First, I need to start with gratitude. Thank you to Tom Schmidt and Deke Kathman who ran the Jackson Center on an interim basis. They provided me a good foundation. Thank you to each of you who have visited, emailed, or called, told me your stories, and welcomed me with good wishes and high hopes. I am honored to begin my service to the Jackson Center.

As you'll see from what follows in this newsletter, we have had a busy Spring; and my first six weeks have been a wonderful capsule of the programs, events, exhibits, and resources the Jackson Center offers. We broke ground on the construction project that is funded by a Downtown Revitalization Initiative grant. Most of the current work is in non-public spaces as they work on removing some pipes and conduits to make room for the elevator access to the second floor of the mansion. This construction is a big step toward making the Jackson Center more accessible and dynamic.

We could not do what we do without our donors, sponsors, educators, communities, staff and Board. Your support of the Jackson Center through our Annual Fund and Endowment enables us to continue and expand our outreach to inspire a global society where the universal principals of equality, fairness and justice prevail.

Warm regards,



Kristan McMahon, President
Robert H. Jackson Center



Kristan McMahon, RHJC President with Karen Korematsu, Director of the Fred T. Korematsu Institute and Daughter of Fred T. Korematsu.

SPEER INTERROGATION: A FIRST-HAND ACCOUNT

In the fall of 2018, Vanessa Wassenar deeded the document, "Speer on the Last Days of the Third Reich, dated June 1, 1945," as a gift to the Jackson Center. The twelve-page document is the summary of a 5-hour interrogation of Reich Minister Albert Speer transcribed by Ms. Wassenar's father, Lt. Commander Walter Wilds. As a representative of the U.S. Strategic Bombing Survey, Lt. Cmdr. Wilds's duties

included the interrogation of prisoners of war and members of the civilian population. This document, marked "Secret," supplemented an earlier more exhaustive interrogation on the technical aspects of the conflict. The Center is grateful to Ms. Wassenar for donating this first-hand account of what was "designed to develop the political backdrop for the late wartime economy of the Reich."

KOREMATSU'S LEGACY: THE COURAGE TO FIGHT FOR JUSTICE CONTINUED

The evening before the program, the Center collaborated with the Reg Lenna Center for the Arts to present the documentary film "Of Civil Wrongs and Rights: The Fred Korematsu Story," which included interviews with Fred Korematsu and his attorneys in their effort to have his conviction overturned. Karen Korematsu introduced the film, explained the challenges in making it, and affirmed how important telling his story was to her father. The film was followed by the Oscar nominated movie "Snow Falling on Cedars," based on the novel by David Guterson.

Jackson Center donors and the following sponsors made this two-day event possible: Ahlstrom Schaeffer, Allegheny College M & T Charitable Foundation and The Honorable Joseph Gerace Fund held at the Chautauqua Region Community Foundation.

SILENT NO MORE

One hallmark of programming for students at the Jackson Center is to educate them about the importance of historical events using innovative tools. Audiences need a keen grasp of accurate facts and the attendant issues to truly understand the lessons of history. Over the past four years, the Center has benefited from the incredible talents of the Seattle-based *Living Voices* program, part of TheatreWorks USA, to deeply engage our local grade school students.

In recognition of the 75th anniversary of Justice Robert H. Jackson's dissent in the *Korematsu v. U.S.* decision, the Center hosted the *Living Voices* performance of "Within the Silence" on April 18, 2019. Actress Melissa Slaughter played Emi Yamada, an American girl of Japanese descent whose family is forced to sell or give away their possessions and home after President Roosevelt signs Executive Order 9066. The U.S. army rounds up Emi's community of Japanese Americans to imprison them at a place called "Camp Harmony" on the site of the Washington State Fair. The FBI removes Emi's father to a special camp in Montana.

Before becoming Emi, Ms. Slaughter began with a lively question and answer exchange with the students. This assured their understanding of immigration to the U.S. in the 1940s, the treatment of Asians during the early 20th century, and, the factors that led to the eventual imprisonment of U.S. citizens in 1941. Once her performance as Emi started, vintage video footage played behind her showing Japanese Americans living in the U.S, leaving their homes and businesses and living in camps throughout the 1940s. At the conclusion, Ms. Slaughter asked students to discuss what they witnessed, address what they are currently studying and why it is relevant today.

Through one Japanese American family's fight to sustain faith and love in the only country they knew, students were able to explore a deeper understanding of an otherwise

silent chapter in history. The program was made possible by Erie-2 BOCES Cooperative Services Program.

Hands On Jamestown Group



RHJC Staff and volunteers beautified the outside of the Center during Hands On Jamestown on Saturday, May 18. A big thank you to everyone who came out to make our landscaping look even better!

Volunteer Spotlight: Don Nelson

Don Nelson has volunteered as a docent at the Robert H. Jackson Center for three years. In addition to volunteering here, Don also volunteers at the Chautauqua County Sports Hall of Fame and the National Comedy Center. Don learned about the Jackson Center docent opportunity through the RSVP Program, part of a national service program that fosters civic engagement through volunteerism.

Don is a native of Jamestown and has lived in the area all of his life except for his two years in the army. Through the Jackson Center he has given tours at the Buffalo and Erie County Naval Museum for veterans groups. He appreciates those opportunities in light of his own military service. He worked for SKF for 38 years in sales and customer service, and is a former board member of the Chautauqua Children's Safety Education Village in Ashville. He is married and has three adult children.

Don's favorite part about volunteering at the Jackson Center is meeting the people that come for tours. When he first came to visit the Center to discuss volunteering, he spoke with the staff and recalled from the experience that "this is a really interesting, good place." Don's favorite part of the Center is the Timeline Room. Stop by on a Monday between 10am-2pm to say hello to Don and have him give you a tour.



Don Nelson

DR. BLACK CAST HER SPELL

The Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry was in full session on Friday, May 17, 2019 in Jamestown, NY. Dr. Allida Black presided over an enthusiastic, live, and simulcast crowd of more than 1,000 grade school students from New York and Pennsylvania as speaker for the Jackson Center's 15th annual Young Readers program. Even for those unfamiliar with author J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter series, the transformative power of the books' message was inescapable. Human rights are universal and inalienable, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated.

"The Real Magic of Harry Potter: A Tale of Human Rights," was the theme for the Center's 2019 program. Dr. Black, a former professor at The George Washington University and an Eleanor Roosevelt scholar, vividly illustrated the relationship between the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the work of groups such as Amnesty International, and J. K. Rowling's Harry Potter series. The purpose of the Young Readers Program is to use literature to engage young people with their world by inspiring them to read and hone their analytical skills and writing ability. These skills were the bedrock for Robert H. Jackson's success as an eloquent writer and his engagement with the world around him.

Part of the Young Readers program includes an essay contest open to students in New York and Pennsylvania. This year, the students addressed the critical question: "How is denying another human being's basic human rights damaging to both the oppressed and the oppressor?" The Jackson Center selected two middle school and two high school students for their winning essays and invited them to a dinner reception with Dr. Black at the Jackson Center on May 16, 2019. The contest winners were: Abrielle Monaghan, Grade Seven, Persell Middle School; Olivia G. Beach, Grade Six, Persell Middle School; Branden Dutchess, Senior, Warren Area High School; and Kaide Anderson, Senior, Warren Area



Dr. Allida Black interacts with students during the Young Readers program at the Reg Lenna Center for the Arts.



(from left to right) Kristan McMahon, President, Young Reader Essay Contest Winner Kaide Anderson, Senior, Warren Area High School, and Dr. Allida Black.



Young Reader Essay Contest winners (from left to right): Abrielle Monaghan, Grade Seven, Persell Middle School; Branden Dutchess, Senior, Warren Area High School, Dr. Black, and Olivia G. Beach, Grade Six, Persell Middle School.

High School. Each winner received a cash prize, a certificate, and signed copies of Eleanor Roosevelt's book "Tomorrow Is Now: It is Today That We Must Create the World of the Future." The book, published in 1960, was re-released to include an introduction by Allida Black and foreword by President William Clinton.

The program was made possible through the generosity of our donors and the Jamestown Public Schools, Erie-2 Chautauqua-Cattaraugus BOCES, Ahlstrom Schaeffer, The Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, The Randy Sweeney Educational Fund, M & T Charitable Foundation, Double A Vineyards, Hope's Windows, Evans Discount Wine and Liquor, Inc. and Serta Mattress.

PARDON OUR DUST-CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

RHJC has started its long awaited DRI construction project. While it's just the beginning, we're excited! Although there will be times when we will need to reroute the traditional paths and customary entrances, we're open for business!

Come for a tour, rent one of our spaces and see what's happening at the Center!

Rental information: <https://www.roberthjackson.org/visit/#rentals> Or call: 716-483-6646

TRUMAN'S PERSPECTIVE ON JACKSON



Kurt Graham speaks to audience members during an interview with RHJC co-founder and board member, Gregory Peterson.

Justice Robert H. Jackson's Washington D.C. career and his relationship with President Franklin Roosevelt are linked so closely that many do not know President Harry S. Truman appointed Jackson Chief Prosecutor at the first Nuremberg trial in May 1945. With Roosevelt's sudden death in April 1945, President Truman's decision was one of many pressing issues he faced at the end of World War II.

The Center was pleased to examine this period in history with Kurt Graham, Director of the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum. On May 15, 2019, Gregory Peterson, Jackson Center co-founder and board member, interviewed Graham in the Center's Cappa Theatre. The program started with the exclusive screening of a 1964 televised interview (owned by the Truman Library) of President Truman speaking about Robert H. Jackson.

Graham discussed why President Truman appointed Robert H. Jackson as U.S. Chief of Counsel for the Nuremberg Trials in May of 1945. At the time, Jackson was an associate justice of the United States Supreme Court, but

took a leave of absence to create a structure to put the Nazis on trial for atrocities committed during the war. In August of 1945, Justice Jackson helped draft the London Charter of the International Military Tribunal, which laid the legal groundwork for the Nuremberg Trials. Justice Jackson gave the opening and closing statements for the U.S. prosecution at the first Nuremberg Trial, and prosecuted twenty-one defendants. Footage of his opening and closing statements are available on the Jackson Center's YouTube channel.

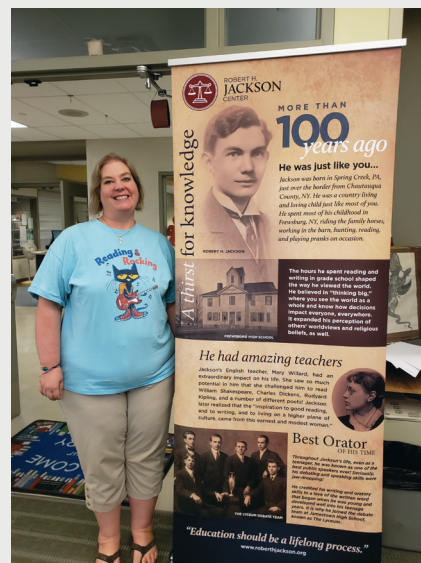
This program was made possible through the generosity of our donors and The Buffalo Jewish Federation.

ROBERT H. JACKSON CENTER RECEIVES GRANT FOR LIBRARY BANNERS FEATURING JACKSON'S LOVE OF LEARNING

Justice Jackson believed that "education should be a lifelong process, the formal period serving as a foundation on which life's structure may rest and rise." In that spirit, the Jackson Center developed and distributed nearly 40 banners to elementary and middle school libraries in Chautauqua and Warren Counties.

The free-standing banners highlight Justice Jackson's fondness for the written word and oratory and explain how important his high school teacher Mary Willard was to him. The banner inspires late-elementary and middle school-aged children to see themselves following his path to help change the world for the better.

The Chautauqua Region Community Foundation provided a grant to the Jackson Center for the project.



Melissa Woods, Eisenhower Elementary School Librarian, poses with the Jackson Library banner.

GOING PAPERLESS?

Have you (or are you) considering going paperless to reduce your carbon footprint or for organizational purposes? If you would like to receive our newsletter by email only, please contact our office at 716-483-6646 or email Nicole Gustafson, Communications and Program Administration Manager at ngustafson@roberthjackson.org and we will update your information in our system. **Thank you in advance!**

THE FALL OF THE BUFFALO MOB



Panelists and presenters for the Mob CLE: Standing (left to right): Matthew Robinson, Neil Robinson, Esq., Alan Bozer, Esq., Judge Lynn Hartley, Gregory L. Peterson, Esq. Seated (left to right): Judge Salvatore Martoche, Lee Coppola, Anthony M. Bruce, Esq.

The whispers started weeks in advance. Members of the public crept into the Jackson Center to ask ‘Will they name names?’ Not a surprising question, when you consider the topic of the Continuing Legal Education seminar – The Fall of the Buffalo Mob.

The Jackson Center gathered an august group of the key players in that downfall to hear their stories. The Honorable Salvatore Martoche, who represented Tom Leonard, on whom the film “Hide in Plain Sight” is based; Anthony Bruce, a former Assistant U.S. Attorney and a member of a Strike Force tasked with finding any legal reason to incarcerate the members of the mob; and Lee Coppola, former Dean of the Jandoli School of Journalism at St. Bonaventure University, who wrote extensively on organized crime and the

Witness Protection Program for The Buffalo News. Greg Peterson, Jackson Center co-founder and attorney with Phillips-Lytle, gently guided the conversation with his questions.

The morning started with a fascinating discourse on the Holland Land Company – its origins and impact on western New York and northwestern Pennsylvania. Neil Robinson, Esq. illuminated the history and Matthew Robinson provided insight into surveying, including his own discovery of early boundary markers.

The learning continued through lunch. Alan Bozer, Esq., a partner at Phillips Lytle, traced the history of the Black Hand from Palermo, Sicily to Niagara Falls, NY. His presentation provided some additional context to the earlier panel discussion and helped the audience understand how the Mob became entrenched in western New York.

More than 60 people attended. We could not have done this program without our sponsors: The Chautauqua Abstract Company, Lake Shore Savings, PNC Bank, Andreozi Bluestein, LLP, Chautauqua Region Community Foundation, Colecraft, Fessenden, Laumer & DeAngelo, PLLC, Forecon, Greater Chautauqua Region Estate Planning Council, Great Lakes Consulting Group-UBS, Hall & Lee Yaw LLP, Jamestown Bar Association, Key Bank, Lawley Insurance, Safety Compliance, Inc., Sandhill Investment Management and Senior Life Matters.

IN PURSUIT OF SCIENCE: SOME BRIGHTER DISTANCE?

Fifty years ago, the historic Apollo II lunar landing opened the door to future space exploration and boundless curiosity and discovery. What few knew then, or even today, is the story behind the scientists who helped the U.S. advance in its race to land on the moon.

On April 6, 2019, Dr. James Ivey, Professor of Theater at SUNY Fredonia and six of his talented students from SUNY Fredonia’s Department of Theatre and Dance performed a dramatic reading of Keith Reddin’s play “Some Brighter Distance.” The play told the compelling story of German rocket engineer Arthur Rudolph who was the project director of the Saturn V rocket program in 1963. Rudolph later developed the requirements for the rocket system and the mission plan for the Apollo program.

Rudolph immigrated to the U.S. as part of President Truman’s “Operation Paperclip,” in which almost 1500 scientists were recruited from Germany during the Cold

War to help the U.S. compete in the space race. Through the diligence of the Office of Special Investigations (OSI) attorney Eli Rosenbaum, the evidence was uncovered connecting Rudolph to the German lab that produced the V-2 rocket in World War II and worked thousands of slave laborers to death. Reddin’s play dramatically revealed the story of Rudolph’s work at NASA, his relationship with Werner von Braun and his efforts to conceal his past.

The play read provided an opportunity for the Center to collaborate with SUNY Fredonia and peel back a fascinating period in history. The time-bending play explored not only the true, untold story of President Truman’s “Operation Paperclip,” but questioned the cost of burying the past in pursuit of the future.

This program was made possible through the generosity of our donors.

A NEW GENERATION OF ORATORS CELEBRATED

The Robert H. Jackson Center was pleased to host the 2019 Final Chautauqua County Mock Trial competition on Saturday, March 30, 2019. The Mock Trial finals are part of the New York Statewide High School Mock Trial Program, a joint venture of the New York Bar Foundation, the New York State Bar Association, and the Law, Youth & Citizenship (LYC) Program. Chautauqua County has participated in the New York State Mock Trial competition for the past 26 years.

The Jackson Center proudly hosted this event to advance its mission, which includes a special emphasis on educating youth on issues of justice and the rule of law. The Arthur N. Bailey Courtroom Suite was set up for Chautauqua County Family Court Judge Michael Sullivan to preside over the final County competition. The fictional case before the court, Harley Davidson v. Gotham City Department of Housing Preservation and Development, involved a housing dispute.

Frewsburg Central High School's team represented the defendant and included: Veronica Nowak, Ian Clark, Everina Bennett, Austin Anderson, Jordan Clark, Brad Nelson and History and Government teacher Thomas Nelson as coach. Jamestown High School's (JHS) team represented the plaintiff and included: Sophia Simons, Alayne Schobey, Grace McMillan, Taylor Lee, Micaela Cleveland, Ayah Qadrii and Social Studies teacher James Krause as coach.

Both the Frewsburg and Jamestown High School teams displayed a remarkable awareness of the rules of trial procedure and an impressive grasp of the relevant legal issues. Ultimately, the Frewsburg team prevailed as the 2019 winners of the Chautauqua County Mock Trial competition. Wegmans Food Market provided refreshments for the teams after the event.

On May 14, 2019, the Jamestown Bar Association (JBA) presented the engraved Robert H. Jackson Cup to the Frewsburg team during the JBA's annual meeting. This competition not only teaches students ethics, civility and professionalism, but furthers their understanding of the law, court procedures and the legal system. The competition benefits all students by improving proficiency in basic life skills, such as listening, speaking, reading and reasoning; promotes better communication and cooperation among the school community; heightens appreciation for academic studies; and, ultimately, stimulates interest in law-related careers.



Frewsburg Mock Trial team with the Robert H. Jackson Cup.

RHJC Intern Rose Pregler Unearths Jackson Farmstead

Rose Pregler, a senior at Mercyhurst University and former intern at the Jackson Center had a jam-packed graduation weekend. The double major in Anthropology/Archaeology and History received the President's Award for Excellence at Mercyhurst's 91st commencement, and then presented her senior thesis project on Robert H. Jackson's farmstead on May 11, at the Spring Creek Fire Hall in Spring Creek, PA.

Rose's work on the project began in July 2018 with an agreement between Mercyhurst University and the Robert H. Jackson Center to launch an archeological history of the site, as well as collect oral history pertaining to the farmstead. In her presentation, Rose focused on the remains of the homestead's foundation, including discoveries of porcelain and metal materials. She also interviewed two of Robert H. Jackson's grandchildren, Julia Craighill and Tom Loftus, as well as others who lived in the area and had memories of the Jackson home before it was demolished. Through the interviews, Rose found that the Jackson farmstead was a retreat for Justice Jackson and his family, a place to "get away from the madness of Washington" and to camp and ride their horses.

The presentation stirred emotions for both Rose and Julia, who serves as a board member of the Jackson Center. Following Rose's presentation, Julia remarked, "As I look back on this...how much he accomplished in such a short amount of time, I can say one thing absolutely for certain...Robert H. Jackson loved Spring Creek."

Following the presentation and luncheon, Robert H. Jackson board members and interested parties visited the site of the Jackson farmstead. Mercyhurst students will continue to survey the area, specifically the remains of the farmhouse and barn.

This program was made possible through the generosity of our donors, Mercyhurst University and Kafferlin & Associates.



Rose Pregler, Mercyhurst graduating Senior and former RHJC intern, presents her senior thesis on the Jackson Farmstead.

JAMES OTIS LECTURE SERIES WINS LIBERTY BELL AWARD

In celebration of Law Day on May 3, 2019, the Bar Association of Erie County bestowed the Liberty Bell Award, its highest honor, to the James Otis Lecture Series. The Robert H. Jackson Center, Michael Perley, and U.S. District Judge William Skretny received the award.

The James Otis Lecture Series is designed to allow schools to comply with the requirements of the federal statute creating Constitution Day. This law requires all federally-assisted schools, both public and private, to provide educational programs each year around the anniversary of the signing of the Constitution. The most recent James Otis Lecture, entitled Freedom of Expression 'Just Do It?' was held on October 2, 2018 in the Robert H. Jackson Courthouse in Buffalo.

Law Day celebrates the rule of law, promotes justice and provides legal education to Americans across the country. The purpose of the Liberty Bell Award is to recognize the community service that has strengthened the American system of freedom under the law and to provide public recognition for outstanding service in one of these areas:

- Promoting a better understanding of our Constitution and the Bill of Rights;
- Encourage a greater respect for law and the courts;
- Stimulate a deeper sense of individual responsibility so that citizens recognize their duties as well as their rights;
- Contribute to the effective functioning of our institutions of government; and
- Foster a better understanding and appreciation of the rule of law.



Douglas Hopkins (Buffalo Seminary), Michael Perley (Hurwitz & Fine P.C.), U.S. District Judge, William Skretny (Western District of New York), and Greg Peterson (Phillips Lytle, LLC.)



2019 Liberty Bell Award

WAYS TO GIVE



For more information contact Marion Beckerink, Director of Development 716.483.6646, tmbeckerink@roberthjackson.org

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