

## BOOK DISCUSSIONS

Most book discussions will be held online via Zoom, unless otherwise noted. Registration is required to receive the Zoom connection information. To register, please call 262-524-3682 or visit [waukeshareads.org/calendar](http://waukeshareads.org/calendar).

***They Called Us Enemy* by George Takei**

**Wednesday, September 16, 7:00 PM**

**Online via Zoom**

Led by a Waukesha Public Library Reference Librarian.

**Tuesday, September 22, 12:00 PM**

**Online via Zoom**

Led by the coordinators of Waukesha Reads.

**Tuesday, September 29, 7:00 PM**

**Online via Zoom**

Led by the Waukesha Public Library Teen Librarian. Open to teens in grades 7-12 only.

***When the Emperor Was Divine*  
by Julie Otsuka**

**Wednesday, October 7, 5:45 PM**

**Online via Zoom**

Hosted by Martha Merrell's Book Discussion Group. To register, email Jean at [jeantrumpy@gmail.com](mailto:jeantrumpy@gmail.com).

**Monday, October 12, 10:30 AM**

**Martha Merrell's Books, 231 W. Main St.**

In person at Martha Merrell's Books! Masks are required.

**Monday, October 19, 12:00 PM**

**Online via Zoom**

Led by Chris Beck, retired educator and Executive Director of Healing Hearts of Waukesha County.

**Tuesday, October 20, 6:30 PM**

**Online via Zoom**

Led by former Waukesha Mayor and County Board Supervisor Larry Nelson.

**Wednesday, October 21, 7:00 PM**

**Online via Zoom**

Led by a Waukesha Public Library Reference Librarian.

**Tuesday, October 27, 7:00 PM**

**Online via Zoom**

Led by the Waukesha Public Library Teen Librarian. Open to teens in grades 7-12 only.



321 Wisconsin Ave.  
Waukesha, WI 53186  
262-524-3682  
[waukeshapubliclibrary.org](http://waukeshapubliclibrary.org)

[WaukeshaReads.org](http://WaukeshaReads.org)

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NEA Big Read is a program of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with Arts Midwest.

SEPTEMBER 15 - OCTOBER 29, 2020

# When the Emperor Was Divine

BY JULIE OTSUKA



WAUKESHA  
*Reads*

FOR THE FULL CALENDAR OF EVENTS AND ANY UPDATES,  
VISIT [WAUKESHAREADS.ORG](http://WAUKESHAREADS.ORG)

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# FEATURED EVENTS

## KICK OFF EVENT

**Lantern Hike**  
 Friday, September 25, 6:30—9:00 PM  
 Retzer Nature Center  
 S14W28167 Madison St.  
 A self-guided lantern hike will be available.



**Japanese Yokai Exploration**  
 Friday, September 25, 7:30 PM

Join us at the bonfire for *Japanese Yokai Exploration* with Professor Daniel Becker of Carroll University. Things that go bump in the night are more common than you think, especially in Japan! Japanese folklore is home to hundreds of creatures, spirits, and unnatural phenomena that impact Japanese culture even today. There's even a pandemic yokai dating back to the mid-1800s who made a resounding return this year! This discussion will be sure to give you a chill down your spine (or at least a smile across your face).

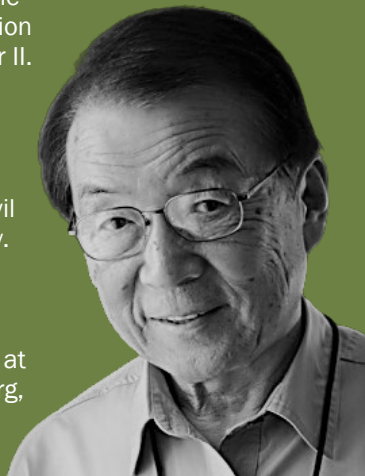


## FEATURED SPEAKER

**Mass Imprisonment in America with Sam Mihara**  
 Tuesday, October 6, 7:00 PM  
 Waukesha Civic Theatre, 264 W. Main St.

Sam Mihara was one of 120,000 Japanese American citizens imprisoned at the Heart Mountain Relocation Center during World War II. Join us as he shares his experiences at the Internment camp and examines why this violation of American civil rights is important today.

Pick up your FREE tickets at the Civic Theatre box office, at [waukeshacivictheatre.org](http://waukeshacivictheatre.org), or at the door.



Most events will be live on the Waukesha Reads YouTube channel. We will follow CDC and local guidelines at all in-person events.

**YouTube**  
[youtube.com/waukeshareads](https://youtube.com/waukeshareads)

Given the current situation, details are subject to change. Visit [waukeshareads.org](http://waukeshareads.org) and follow us on Facebook for updates.

**facebook**  
[facebook.com/waukeshareads](https://facebook.com/waukeshareads)

## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**A Conversation with Julie Otsuka**  
 Thursday, October 29, 7:00 PM  
 Live on YouTube

Julie Otsuka's novel, *When the Emperor Was Divine*, is based on the story of her own family. Join us as she shares her thoughts on the novel, her writing process, and her family history.



Photo © Robert Bessoir

*New this year!*

## WAUKESHA READS VIRTUAL CHALLENGE

Earn points and win prizes for participating in Waukesha Reads by tracking your activities with Beanstack, a reading challenge app. Various activities, like reading the book, attending events, and sharing Waukesha Reads with friends, are worth either 1, 5, or 10 points. Each time you earn 10 points, you'll get a ticket for our prize drawings.

Visit [waukeshareads.org/challenge](http://waukeshareads.org/challenge) for more information and to get started!

For the full list of NEA Big Read - Waukesha Reads events, visit our online calendar:  
[WaukeshaReads.org/calendar](http://WaukeshaReads.org/calendar)

**Waukesha Art Crawl at Almont Gallery**  
 Saturday, October 3, 4:00 - 10:00 PM  
 Almont Gallery, 342 W. Main St.

Local artists will display artwork based on the book *When the Emperor Was Divine*.

**Every Day Is a Bonus: The Honor Flight Story**  
 Thursday, October 8, 6:30 PM  
 Live on YouTube

Learn why and how the Honor Flight program began and understand why it's important for our veterans to take this one last mission. Presented by Amy Luft, former Vice President of the Stars and Stripes Honor Flight Board and participant in more than 40 Honor Flights.

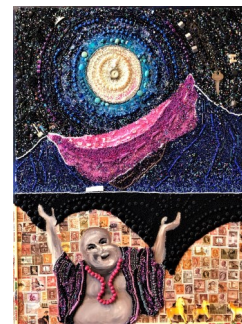
**Brook Hill Farms & Dr. Sobey Okuyama**  
 Tuesday, October 13, 7:00 PM  
 Visit [waukeshacountymuseum.org/events](http://waukeshacountymuseum.org/events) for the livestream information.

Tune in to discover the story of Dr. Sobey Okuyama, veterinarian in residence at Brook Hill Farms, and Japanese immigrant living in Genesee during World War II. His work at Brook Hill and collaborations with UW-Madison veterinary science professors led to several innovations in both herd health and milk quality. Presented by the Waukesha County Historical Society & Museum.



**Preserving Your Family Stories with Oral History**  
 Wednesday, October 14, 6:30 PM  
 Live on YouTube

Oral history empowers us to share the stories of our lives with future generations. Learn about tools, techniques, and tips for recording interviews with your loved ones in this presentation.



## “It Is Better to Bend than to Break”

Original mosaic artwork by Rose Lange

On display during the month of October at Almont Gallery, 342 W. Main St. Visit [waukeshareads.org/artwork](http://waukeshareads.org/artwork) to read the artist's statement about the piece.

*Waukesha Reads artwork inspired by the book*

**The Tradition of Japanese Tea Ceremonies**  
 Thursday, October 15, 7:00 PM  
 Live on YouTube

Join us to learn about the history and method of traditional Japanese Tea Ceremonies. Presented by Asami Iba Sensei, an instructor from the Japanese Culture Center of Chicago.

**Brown Bag Conversation: The Sign of the Time**  
 Wednesday, October 21, 12:00 PM

Frame Park Rotary Building, 1150 Baxter St.

“The sign had appeared overnight... She read the sign... went home and began to pack.” Discover the words of the sign she read. Learn why she reacted as she did. Dessert and beverages will be served. To register, contact Joanie at 262-548-0421. Registration is required.



**Waukesha Reads Cabaret: 1940s American Melody Hour**  
 Thursday, October 22, 6:30 PM  
 Live on YouTube

Join us for a live cabaret, inspired by *When the Emperor Was Divine*. Featuring popular songs from the 1940s and some creative updates. Created and performed by Candace Decker and Phil Smith.

**Waukesha's Professors Read: A Scholar Panel**  
 Tuesday, October 27, 6:30 PM  
 Live on YouTube

Area professors in English, History, Political Science, and Global Studies share insights on the themes of *When the Emperor Was Divine*. Presented in partnership with the Southeast Wisconsin Festival of Books.

