

INAUGURAL MINORU YASUI DAY MARCH FOR JUSTICE



In celebration of the historic bill passed unanimously by the Oregon Senate and House designating March 28 of each year as Minoru Yasui Day, we invite you to please join us on **March 28, 2016 for the first Minoru Yasui Day** honoring Minoru “Min” Yasui, the human and civil rights American hero who was awarded a 2015 Presidential Medal of Freedom, the highest civilian award in the country.

We will retrace Min’s historic walk by his law office in the Foster Hotel in Old Town Japantown, to the former site of Police Headquarters on SW 2nd Avenue and Oak Street. **Gather at Oregon Nikkei Legacy Center (121 NW 2nd Avenue) at 4:30pm** for the short 6 block walk followed by a program in the foyer and reception in the offices of Stoll Berne at SW Second Avenue and Oak Street.

- **Minoru Yasui** was born 100 years ago in 1916 in Hood River, Oregon, son of Japanese immigrant parents. He was the first Japanese American to graduate from the University of Oregon School of Law, and the first Japanese American member of the Oregon State Bar.
- On **March 28, 1942** in Portland, Oregon, he deliberately violated a military curfew imposed upon all persons of Japanese ancestry under Executive Order 9066 – which led to the incarceration of over 120,000 Japanese Americans during World War II. He challenged the discriminatory curfew in order to initiate a test case in court.
- He spent 9 months in solitary confinement at the Multnomah County Jail as he appealed his case to the U.S. Supreme Court. He was released from jail in 1943, only to be sent to the Minidoka American concentration camp in Idaho.
- After the war, he moved to Denver, Colorado, where he continued to fight for human and civil rights of all people.
- In the 1970s-80s, he spearheaded the national movement for redress: an official apology and reparations for Japanese Americans imprisoned in the World War II camps.
- In 1983, he returned to Portland to reopen his wartime case in the U.S. District Court of Oregon. While his conviction was vacated, the court denied his request for an evidentiary hearing, which he appealed. His case was pending in the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals when he died in 1986.
- **Minoru Yasui** is buried in his beloved hometown of Hood River, Oregon.



Presented by:
Minoru Yasui Tribute Committee
Oregon Nikkei Endowment

**MINORU
YASUI** 
Tribute Project



OREGON NIKKEI ENDOWMENT

With support from:
Stoll Berne
Barry and Jordan Menashe

Questions and information: info@oregonnikkei.org or (503) 224-1458
For more information about Minoru Yasui please see www.minoruyasuitribute.org