

MaineStreamers

Hidden Memory: An American Story

Presenter: Anne Shimojima

Tuesday, February 16, 2021
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.



Anne Shimojima, a professional storyteller for over thirty-five years, has performed literary stories and folk and fairy tales from her Asian heritage and around the world at festivals, schools, libraries, museums, and senior communities across the United States. Anne was a New Voice Teller at the National Storytelling Festival in 2017 and has twice been Teller-in-Residence at the International Storytelling Center. In 2019 the Japanese government invited her to tell the story of her family in World War II in three Tokyo high schools.

World War II was a very different experience for Japanese Americans. Racial prejudice, wartime hysteria, and a failure of political leadership resulted in over 120,000 imprisoned for the crime of looking like the enemy. Join storyteller Anne Shimojima as she shares the inspiring story of her family's journey from Japan and through the incarceration camps. Anne illustrates her talk with photos from her family and the National Archives, showing a difficult journey that ended in triumph and strength. Come and learn how this story informs our perceptions of events today.

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