



East West Players Theatre for Youth Tour presents



# When Yuri Met Malcolm

Written by Rosie Narasaki

Directed by John Miyasaki

Cast: Miles Burton, Joseph Henderson,  
Claudia Iao, and Alison Minami

Stage Manager: Christina Otarola

Set Design: Sophia Gonzales

Costume Design: Franzetta Dorsey

Sound Design: Nayla Hull

Thank you to our funders:



WarnerMedia

# Cast & Crew



Miles Burton (he/him) - Malcolm X - Miles Burton is a writer and actor, who graduated with a degree in Theater. He has a passion for producing collaborative projects, like his web series "Unprofessionalism", with fellow artists and friends.



Joseph Henderson (he/him) - Malcolm X - is a 2018 graduate of Jackson State University, and majored in Speech Communication with a concentration in Theater. Joseph is currently a candidate to receive his Masters of Fine Arts in Theater from UCLA in June 2022. Joseph resides in Los Angeles, California and serves on the board at Hero Theater, a theater company fighting for inclusivity and diversity in the industry. He is also writing a new work named "Not Another Black Play" as his thesis before he graduates. The play is about a black family who goes on an over 1000 year journey throughout history from 1863-3022, searching for their space in this world. This play will be put up at UCLA in the Melnitz Hall May 28th at 8pm. In his free time, he likes hanging out with family and friends and volunteer work with his Fraternity Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. His first love is acting and one day you will see him on the big screen.



Claudia Iao (she/her) - Yuri Kochiyama - Claudia Iao (she/her/hers) is ecstatic to be a part of her first EWP Production! Hailing from Hong Kong and Texas (Howdy Kong, y'all!), she made her way further into the Midwest (actually only Chicago) before relocating to Los Angeles; She has trained and performed at Second City, iO, The Annoyance, and Raven Theatre. She is also very grateful to be a recipient of the EWP Acting Scholarship, sponsored by NBCUniversal! In her free time, she enjoys eating french fries paired with a milkshake. For more information, please visit [claudiaiao.com](http://claudiaiao.com).



Alison Minami (she/her) Yuri Kochiyama - is a playwright, performer, and educator. She has previously toured in East West Players' Theater for Youth RESIDENCE ELSEWHERE. She wrote and performed SHIZZY'S STORY for Enrichment Works. Her full-length plays have had readings or placed in contests around the country including at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, the Victory Gardens Theater, the Ashland New Play Festival, the Will Geer Theatricum Botanicum, the Torrance Cultural Arts Foundation, Here and Now Theater Company and the Company of Angels. Her storytelling has been featured on the Moth Radio Hour. She is also the creator of the web series ADJUNCT.

John Miyasaki (he/him) - Director - is an LA based actor/director. As an actor, John has been seen at the Mark Taper Forum, East West Players, The Hollywood Bowl, The Alley Theater (Houston), South Coast Rep, The Getty, LATC. He is currently the Artistic Director of hereandnow theatre company and past Associate Artistic Director of Company of Angels, where he directed Wind Chimes and LA Views. John most recently was the assistant director on the Boston Court production of The Golden Dragon. He has also participated as a director in the reading series of the USC Master Playwriting Program. Other directing credits: R & J Pinoy/Pinay Style, Innocent When You Dream (Smithsonian Institution), Circus of Winter Dreams (The Rosenthal Theater), Re-Generation: Taiko Project (The Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts), Letters to a Student Revolution (Keck Theater) Fentor (LA Weekly Pick of the Week), Brahmin and the Tiger (Ovation Award Nominee).

Rosie Narasaki (she/her) - Playwright- is a Los Angeles-based playwright and actor. As an actor, recent highlights include LITTLE WOMEN with Playwright's Arena, and TWO MILE HOLLOW and IN LOVE AND WARCRAFT with Artists at Play, as well as appearances on SHAMELESS, WISDOM OF THE CROWD and FOR THE PEOPLE. As a writer, her play UNRIVALED has been workshopped with EST/LA, Artists at Play, and The Road Theatre Company, and is to have its world premiere with Playwright's Arena. Her other works have been developed and produced by MeetCute LA, Becky & Baldwin, hereandnow theatre company and more. She is a member of the EST/LA's New West Playwrights and holds a BA in Creative Writing from Scripps College. In her spare time, she is the managing editor for TotalBeauty.com

Sophia Gonzales (she/her) Scenic & Props Design- Sophia is thrilled to be working with East West Players for the first time as scenic and prop designer. She is an actress, designer, and Cal Poly Pomona alumni. Previous credits include scenic design for References to Salvador Dali Make me Hot and The Cradle will Rock, as well as costume design for On The Verge. She is so grateful for the opportunity to work with such a wonderful group of people in putting together such a great show.

Franzetta Dorsey (she/her) Costume Design - is excited to be a part of this production. She is currently working on a Spring production of Mr. Burns at Cal Poly Pomona where she received her BA in Theatre Education and Community Engagement last Fall. Franzetta is planning to continue working as a costume designer and teaching artist.

Nayla Hull (she/her) Sound Design - Nayla' Hull is a Sound Designer creating out of Long Beach, CA. She's an Alumna of California State University of Los Angeles. She's an artist of many hats from acting to rapping. The self-taught composer has released original compositions for her first design project on all streaming platforms. She is an award-winning Sound Designer receiving a Legacy Award from the Kennedy Center. She loves music and continues to learn to create, design and share her musical creations with the world.

Christina Otarola (she/her) Stage Manager - is a graduate from Cal Poly Pomona where she earned her B.A in Technical Theatre & Design, with an emphasis in Stage Management. She most recently stage managed for the LA Contemporary Dance Company, On the Verge Repertory, and IAMA Theatre Company. She is so grateful to be stage managing for East West Player's Theater for Youth tour!

Noe Valenzuela (he/him) - Audio Engineer

# Yuri Kochiyama's Life & Legacy

1921



Born Mary Yuriko Nakahara, on May 19, 1921, in San Pedro, California.

1943

Yuri and her family were sent to Jerome Camp in Arkansas. Conditions were swamp-like and the area contained highly poisonous snake. Yuri's father was recently out of surgery when the internment order was put in place. He was arrested in the hospital and died shortly after. Yuri began to see issues with the U.S. government

1944

Yuri met Bill Kochiyama in 1944. He was a U.S. Soldier who fought with the U.S. Army 442nd Regimental Combat Team in order to leave the prisoner life and prove his patriotism

1960

Yuri and Bill moved to the Manhattanville Housing Projects in 1960, where they were exposed to the injustices faced by Black and Puerto Rican communities. Yuri quickly became involved with the Black freedom movement and immersed herself into activism.

1963



Yuri met Malcom X in 1963, which transformed her life and approach to activism. He challenged her views on civil rights and encouraged her to fight for "human rights" instead. They quickly formed a special friendship.

1964

In 1964, Yuri held a reception for the Hiroshima-Nagasaki World Peace Study Mission inside her apartment. She invited Malcom X to meet survivors of the atomic bombs in Hiroshima and Nagasaki. To her surprise, he came and spoke with the survivors. He drew parallels to their experience and that on Black Americans

1965

Malcom X was assassinated in 1965 while giving a speech. Yuri and her son, Bill, witnessed the murder. Yuri was famously photographed holding Malcom's head while a doctor tried to determine the severity of the damage.

1977

Yuri had been working with the Puerto Rican group, "Young Lords Party" who fought for Puerto Rican rights. In 1977 Yuri famously joined them in storming The Statue of Liberty, climbing to the top, and hanging a Puerto Rican Flag

1988

After years of fighting for reparations for Japanese people, President Ronald Reagan finally signed the Civil Liberties Act, granting \$20,000 to Japanese people who were sent to internment camps.

2014

Yuri passed away in 2014 at age 93 of natural causes. She fought for over 50 years to end racism and hate and her legacy continues to live on.



# THE PEOPLE OF YURI KOCHIYAMA

## MALCOLM X

MALCOM WAS A FRIEND WHO YURI LOOKED UP TO DESPITE NOT ALWAYS AGREEING WITH HIS VIEWPOINTS. MALCOM AND YURI SHARED A DEEP, BUT SHORT FRIENDSHIP. YURI WAS FAMOUSLY PHOTOGRAPHED HOLDING MALCOM X'S HEAD AFTER HE WAS ASSASSINATED IN NEW YORK CITY ON FEBRUARY 21ST, 1965



**BILL KOCHIYAMA**

YURI MET BILL KOCHIYAMA, HER HUSBAND, WHEN HE VISITED CAMP JEROME WHERE SHE WAS IMPRISONED. BILL FOUGHT IN THE 442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM, THE MOST HIGHLY DECORATED UNIT IN UNITED STATES HISTORY. BILL ALSO PLAYED A ROLE IN THE REDRESS AND REPARATIONS MOVEMENT, RESEARCHING AND TESTIFYING DURING THE COMMISSION ON WARTIME RELOCATION AND INTERNMENT OF CIVILIANS (CWRIC), WHICH LED TO THE CIVIL LIBERTIES ACT OF 1988.



## BILL AND YURI'S CHILDREN

AFTER MARRYING AND SETTLING DOWN IN NEW YORK, YURI AND BILL WENT ON TO HAVE A TOTAL OF SIX CHILDREN, BILLY, AUDEE, AICHI, EDDIE, JIMMY, AND TOMMY.

## ELIJAH MUHAMMAD

ELIJAH MUHAMMAD WAS THE LEADER OF THE NATION OF ISLAM WHICH WAS A MOVEMENT THAT COMBINED ELEMENTS OF ISLAM WITH BLACK NATIONALISM. HE BECAME MALCOM X'S TEACHER AND MENTOR, BUT EVENTUALLY HAD A FALLING OUT AND WENT SEPARATE WAYS.

## JOHN. F KENNEDY

JOHN F KENNEDY WAS THE 35TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND WAS ASSASSINATED IN 1963. FOLLOWING HIS ASSASSINATION, MALCOM WAS QUOTED TO HAVE SAID " THE CHICKENS HAVE COME HOME TO ROOST" WHICH THE PRESS TWISTED INTO MEANING HE WAS GLAD THE PRESIDENT WAS DEAD.

## MUHAMMED ALI

BORN CASSIUS CLAY, WORLD FAMOUS BOXER CONVERTED TO THE NATION OF ISLAM WITH THE GUIDANCE OF MALCOM X. THEIR FRIENDSHIP ENDED WHEN MALCOM X BEGAN TO DENOUNCE THE TEACHINGS OF ELIJAH MUHAMMAD.



## HIROSHIMA MAIDENS

THE HIROSHIMA MAIDENS WERE A GROUP OF ATOMIC BOMB SURVIVORS WHO TRAVELED TO THE U.S. TO RECEIVE RECONSTRUCTIVE PLASTIC SURGERY AND ADDRESS THE SEVERE BURNS AND DEFORMITIES CAUSED BY THE A-BOMB. TOMOKO WAS A SURVIVOR WHO WAS HOSTED BY YURI. SHE DIED DURING HER THIRD SURGERY DUE TO HEART FAILURE CAUSED BY ANESTHESIA.

# CHARACTER STRENGTHS

Character strengths are positive personality traits that help define the character of an individual. After conferencing with your teacher and classmates, highlight your top 5 character strengths and write about how you demonstrate one of them:



**PERSEVERANCE**



**GRATITUDE**



**KINDNESS**



**ZEST**



**LOVE**



**LOVE OF LEARNING**



**CREATIVITY**



**FAIRNESS**



**TEAMWORK**



**FORGIVENESS**



**HOPE**



**SPIRITUALITY**



**PERSPECTIVE**



**BRAVERY**



**JUDGMENT**



**CURIOSITY**



**HONESTY**



**HUMILITY**



**PRUDENCE**



**HUMOR**



**LEADERSHIP**



**SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE**



**SELF-REGULATION**



**APPRECIATION OF BEAUTY**

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# MALCOM X'S PILGRIMAGE TO MECCA



A pilgrimage journey to the holy city of Mecca is a journey every adult Muslim is expected to make in their lifetime. About 2 million people complete the pilgrimage or "hajj" each year. The pilgrimage/ hajj is the 5th of the 5 pillars of Islam and is believed to wipe away past sins in order to start anew.

Malcom X's pilgrimage to Mecca included trips to Nigeria, Ghana, Liberia, Senegal, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia. During this pilgrimage, Malcom began to change his views about segregation. He began to feel that white people were not all racist, but instead that white Americans were a racist as a product of existing in a racist country.

# WRITE A POSTCARD TO A FRIEND

On his pilgrimage, Malcolm wrote postcards to Yuri and her family. The postcards read in the play were his actual words! Who would you write a postcard to on your trips? Why are they in your thoughts? What do you wish they could see with you? Write to them below with these questions in mind, but keep it short!

*To*



*From*



# EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066

## What was Executive Order 9066?

Executive Order 9066 was issued by President Franklin Roosevelt in 1942 which provided the U.S. military with the power to exclude any residents from several "military" areas. Although no race was mentioned specifically, the order was a response to Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and soon called for the removal and internment of Japanese people from Washington to Arizona . This resulted in roughly 120,000 Japanese people being sent to internment camps. Of these, the majority were American Citizens



## WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY WARTIME CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION

Presidio of San Francisco, California  
May 23, 1942

# INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY

Living in the Following Area:

All of that portion of the County of Santa Clara, State of California, lying generally north and northwest of the following boundary: Beginning at the point on the Santa Cruz-Santa Clara County line, due west of a line drawn through the peak of Loma Prieta; thence due east along said line through said peak to its intersection with Llagas Creek; thence downstream along said creek toward Madrone to the point where it is crossed by Llagas Avenue; thence northeasterly on Llagas Avenue to U. S. Highway No. 101; thence northerly on said Highway No. 101 to Cochran Road; thence northeasterly on Cochran Road to its junction with Steady Road; thence easterly on Steady Road to Madrone Springs; thence along a line projected due east from Madrone Springs to its intersection with the Santa Clara-Stanislau County line; together with all portions of Santa Clara County not previously covered by Exclusion Orders of this Headquarters.

Pursuant to the provisions of Civilian Exclusion Order No. 96, this Headquarters, dated May 23, 1942, all persons of Japanese ancestry, both alien and non-alien, will be evacuated from the above area by 12 o'clock noon, P. W. T., Saturday, May 30, 1942.

No Japanese person will be permitted to move into, or out of, the above area after 12 o'clock noon, P. W. T., Saturday, May 23, 1942, without obtaining special permission from the representative of the Commanding General, Northern California Sector, at the Civil Control Station located at:

Men's Gymnasium,  
San Jose State College,  
4th and San Carlos Streets,  
San Jose, California.

Such permits will only be granted for the purpose of uniting members of a family, or in cases of grave emergency. The Civil Control Station is equipped to assist the Japanese population affected by this evacuation in the following ways:

1. Give advice and instructions on the evacuation.
2. Provide services with respect to the management, leasing, sale, storage or other disposition of most kinds of property, such as real estate, business and professional equipment, household goods, boats, automobiles and livestock.
3. Provide temporary residence elsewhere for all Japanese in family groups.
4. Transport persons and a limited amount of clothing and equipment to their new residence.

## Life inside the internment camps

Life inside the internment camps consisted of poor conditions. The barracks which internees were forced to live in lacked insulation , had only communal bathrooms and food had to be eaten in vast mess halls . Worst of all, they were surrounded by barbed wire and soldiers who were instructed to shoot anyone who tried to leave.



## The Lasting Effects

1,862 Japanese lives were lost during the internment period due to poor health conditions and care. Several were killed by U.S. soldiers for refusing to follow orders.

Huge economic loss was suffered by prisoners of the internment camps. It is estimated that the loss by Japanese people due to the internment camps was roughly 400 million dollars in 1945. Today, that would mean billions of dollars. People lost homes, careers, and special belongings

"The United States of America is a nation where people are not united because of those three glaring frailties: racism, injustices and inequities."

-- Yuri Kochiyama

## The Civil Liberties Act

Yuri and Bill Kochiyama fought hard to make the U.S. government apologize for the internment camps and to give reparations to those affected. In 1988, President Ronald Reagan signed The Civil Liberties Act into law which did just that. Sadly, many of the people entitled to compensation had already passed away because the reparations took so long to obtain.





# REFLECTING ON MY IDENTITY



Our experiences in life affect our identity, which is how we are known to others. But did you know that we are often also identified based on things such as our race or ethnicity? This often creates biases or stereotypes, which are exaggerated generalized beliefs about a person or group. Think of the following questions and answer them as best as you can.

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How would you identify your race or ethnicity? Do others identify you that way as well?

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How and when did you become aware of your racial identity?

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Are there any advantages or benefits of your racial identity?

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Have you had any missed opportunities because of your racial identity?

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# Reflection Questions



*Answer the following questions :*

**WHAT DID YOU LEARN FROM THE PERFORMANCE THAT YOU DID NOT KNOW BEFORE?**

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**JAPANESE PEOPLE WERE FORCED TO MOVE INTO INTERNMENT CAMPS AND TOLD THEY COULD ONLY BRING ONE SUITCASE FULL OF THEIR BELONGINGS. WHAT THINGS WOULD YOU BRING? WHAT WOULD YOU MISS THE MOST ?**

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**WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR YOU TO BE AN ALLY? WHO ARE YOU AN ALLY FOR? WHY?**

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**BOTH YURI AND MALCOLM CHANGED PERSPECTIVES AND OPINIONS OVER THE TWO YEARS OF KNOWING EACH OTHER. SIMILARLY, AS WE GROW UP AND MEET OTHER PEOPLE, WE LEARN MORE ABOUT OURSELVES AND OUR PLACE IN THE WORLD. REFLECT ON SOMETHING THAT YOU'VE LEARNED ABOUT IN THE PAST YEAR THAT YOU DID NOT KNOW BEFORE. HOW DID THIS IMPACT YOU?**

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Ideas to

# CONTINUE THE FIGHT

That You Might Consider



Write a letter  
Visit [letters-of-love.org/](https://www.letters-of-love.org/) and write a letter to a child in a detention center from your computer.



Learn about the history of America through different perspectives.

You seeing a Theatre for Youth show is a step in the right direction!



Join a youth organization that is passionate about different issues!



Pre-register to vote

Register to vote at [registertovote.ca.gov](https://registertovote.ca.gov) when you turn 16. .

You will be automatically registered to vote when you turn 18 and can start participating in all elections ASAP.



Find something you're passionate about through volunteering!

Volunteering with different organizations. Gives you different perspectives on what's needed in the community.




Art is a great way to understand someone's thoughts, ideas, and beliefs! It can also help you understand and formulate your own.


Go to a museum, library, or theatre and ask if they have ways in which you can get involved or see a show for free!

Thank you for attending today's performance!  
Please use the hashtag #YuriMalcolmTFY when  
sharing your experience!

If you'd like to bring the show to your school or  
organization, please contact Director of Arts  
Education, Jade Cagalawan at  
jcagalawan@eastwestplayers.org  
Eligible schools can host the show for FREE!

Follow us on social media!

 ewp\_artseducation

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