

PRESS RELEASE

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FROM
**JAPANESE INTERNMENT
TO THE MUSLIM BAN:**
HISTORY FORGOTTEN & REMEMBERED



UC San Diego, Division of Arts and Humanities—Amidst the current political conditions in the White House, the U.S. courts may play a more crucial role in the checks-and-balances of our democratic system. Universities, too, can contribute as conveners of open and informed public discussion and debate. To that end, the UC San Diego Institute of Arts and Humanities is presenting “From Japanese Internment to the Muslim Ban: History Forgotten & Remembered,” as part of its ongoing “Challenging Conversations” series, Tuesday, Feb. 21, 6 to 8 p.m., in the Multipurpose Room of the Student Services Center on campus.

The event will feature a panel of speakers that include UC San Diego Department of History professors Wendy Matsumura, Simeon Man, Michael Provence, and Wael al-Delaimy, professor and division chief of UC San Diego’s Family Medicine & Public Health. The scholars will discuss President Trump’s recent executive order to ban travelers from seven predominantly Muslim

countries, plus examine previous discriminatory executive orders in American history—e.g., Franklin D. Roosevelt’s order 75 years ago that forcibly removed American citizens and legal residents of Japanese descent from their homes and communities to “relocation centers” throughout the country—in the name of national security.

The Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, ratified in 1868, prohibits discrimination, including by religion, against any person within the jurisdiction of the United States. Yet presidents such as Roosevelt and Trump overrode the amendment to issue executive orders during uncertain times. Additionally, President Trump has promised “a total and complete shutdown of Muslims entering the United States.” He also has conflated the world’s 1.7 billion Muslims with what he calls “radical Islamic terrorism.”

As the series’ name suggests, the conversation that emerges “From Japanese Internment to the Muslim Ban” is sure to challenge some, but engage all. The event is free and open to the public and refreshments will be provided. An [RSVP](#) is requested, but tickets are not required.

The [Institute of Arts and Humanities](#) functions as a hub of interdisciplinary research, teaching and public dialogue in the arts and humanities. It resides within the UC San Diego [Division of Arts and Humanities](#), which ranks #23 in the nation according to U.S. News and World Report’s 2017 Best Global Universities listing.

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