



**PORTLAND JACL**  
SUPPORTING CIVIL RIGHTS SINCE 1929

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **George Takei Headlines Civil Rights Event Hosted by Portland JACL Event focuses on parallel civil rights challenges of the Japanese-American and LGBT communities**

Portland, OR – January 31, 2011 – Portland Japanese American Citizens League (JACL) is holding an event featuring actor and civil rights advocate, George Takei. The event called, “**Fighting for Civil Rights: The Japanese-American and LGBT Experience**,” takes place on Sunday, February 20, 2011, from 1:00 to 3:00 at PSU’s George C. Hoffmann Hall, 1833 SW 11th Ave., Portland OR 97201. Admission is free and open to the public.

Inspired by the Day of Remembrance, which commemorates the signing of Executive Order 9066 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt that led to the incarceration of persons of Japanese ancestry in World War II, this educational event will focus on civil rights struggles faced by the Japanese-American and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) communities.

**George Takei**, best known for his portrayal of Mr. Sulu in the television and film series *Star Trek*, is also a dedicated political activist. As a survivor of American Concentration Camps in World War II and a gay Japanese American, Takei will discuss his fight for civil rights over the years.

**Marty Davis**, editor of *Just Out*, and **Jessica Lee** from Basic Rights Oregon, will also speak and participate in the panel discussion with George Takei.

Oregon Nikkei Endowment is co-sponsoring the event.

Portland JACL co-President, Jeff Selby, says, “Portland JACL looks forward to building and fostering a relationship with the LGBT community and I encourage anyone who has an interest in human rights to attend this free event.”

Portland JACL is one of the oldest and most respected civil rights organizations in the U.S. The team has built coalitions with other cultural groups in the past, including the Chinese, Korean, Latino, and Muslim Communities. For more information about this or any other JACL event, please visit [www.pdxjacl.org](http://www.pdxjacl.org) or contact Jeff Selby at 503.819.9679 / e-mail: [jeff@aivcreative.com](mailto:jeff@aivcreative.com).



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