A catalyst for change through cultural awareness by learning from the past and influencing the future

For more information, contact:
National Japanese American Historical Society
1684 Post Street, San Francisco CA 94115
(415) 921-5007 | FAX (415) 921-5087
njahs@njahs.org
www.njahs.org/640/

Military Intelligence Service Historic Learning Center
Building 640

640 Mason Street, Presidio, San Francisco, CA 94129

Connect with us on

[Social media icons]

Instagram njahs1980
Twitter follow @njahs

National Japanese American Historical Society
“This is a special place for everyone to learn, to interact, and to discover ethnic history in a new way...”

Our Mission

Building 640's historic site was the original home of the Fourth Army Intelligence School, which secretly trained Japanese American soldiers in Japanese military language shortly before World War II. They served, while their families were removed from their homes and imprisoned behind barbed wire. Although their top-secret work kept them from full public recognition, these soldiers applied their intellect, language skills, and cultural acumen to achieve victory. They saved countless lives, shortened the war and proved their loyalty to the United States. Their service in the face of racial prejudice, wartime hostility and global conflict can inspire us to face the challenges of being American.

Our mission at the MIS Historic Learning Center is to preserve a vital part of American history as a tribute to the Japanese American experience and as a promise to the MIS legacy of peace and reconciliation.

What We Do

PROGRAMS
Exhibit-driven programs such as film screenings, performances, workshops, and author series. Free unless otherwise noted.

SCHOOL TOURS
Memorable, value-rich and life-affirming hands-on activities your students will never forget. Signup your class trip today.

GROUP VISITS

FAMILY DAY
Inspired by Japanese holidays and seasons—arts and crafts & cultural demonstrations. Check calendar listings.

SPECIAL EVENTS