LOCATION & PARKING
West Los Angeles College – Fine Arts Theater
9000 Overland Avenue – between Slauson & Jefferson
Culver City, CA 90230

If entering from Overland, stay on Freshman past the baseball field. Turn right into Parking Lot #5. You will need $2.00 exact change or single dollars for the parking permit machine.

If entering from Jefferson, turn right when you reach the intersection at the football field. Follow the road around the corner. Turn left into Parking Lot #5. You will need $2.00 exact change or single dollars for the parking permit machine.

Disabled parking is available in Parking Lot #4 near the gym. View campus map at http://www.wlac.edu/wlac2phone/employees/ShowEmployeesmap.aspx

From Lot #5, walk up the stairs. If attending the Asian American Pacific Islander event, walk to your right. If attending the Global Indigenous Cultures Event, walk to you left.
Distinguished Speakers at WLAC Include
STATE CONTROLLER, JAPAN CONSULATE GENERAL
AND PALESTINIAN MEDIA COMMENTATOR / AUTHOR
WEDNESDAY, MAY 15 @ 7:00 – 9:30PM

ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

GUEST SPEAKERS:
John Chiang - California State Controller
Kuniko Nakamura - Consulate General of Japan in LA
Mike Eng - LACCD Trustee-Elect & Former Assemblyman

TOPICS:  About AAPIH Month; Why World History Matters

LOCATION:  General Classroom Building (GC), Room 160
WLAC | 9000 Overland Ave | Culver City, CA 90230

PARKING:  Lot #5 - $2.00

GLOBAL INDIGENOUS CULTURES AND HISTORY: NORTH AMERICA & PALESTINE

GUEST SPEAKERS:
Alan Tafoya - is an accomplished actor, musician and martial artist who is a member of the Jicarilla Apache Nation and a descendant of Apache Chief Mangus Colorado, a renowned knife fighter.

TOPIC:  Global Indigenous Cultures and History: North America & Palestine

PERFORMANCE BY:  The Elliott Caine Jazz Ensemble

LOCATION:  Aviation Technology Complex (AT-A), Lecture Hall
WLAC | 9000 Overland Ave | Culver City, CA 90230

PARKING:  Lot #5 - $2.00

West Los Angeles College is an accredited community college offering university transfer and career training programs.

SPEAKER BIOs PROVIDED ON NEXT 2 PAGES
ASIAN AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

CALIFORNIA STATE CONTROLLER
John Chiang

California State Controller John Chiang has been serving as California’s Chief Fiscal Officer since 2007. Upon taking office, he took immediate action to weed out waste, fraud and abuse of public funds and make the State’s finances more transparent and accountable to the public. He has proposed reforms to the State’s public pension systems, helped local governments during difficult economic times, protected California’s environment, and launched California Strong financial and tax assistance seminars for families, seniors, small businesses and non-profit organizations. As the son of immigrant parents, Chiang strongly believes that every child deserves a quality education and their success is key to California’s future. Chiang received a B.A. with Honors in finance from the University of South Florida and a J.D. from Georgetown University. Chiang and his wife, Terry Chi, live in Torrance, California.

CONSULATE GENERAL OF JAPAN
Consul Kuniko Nakamura

Kuniko Nakamura covers cultural and political affairs as a consul at the Consulate General of Japan in Los Angeles. She is also responsible for the JET (Japan Exchange Teaching) Program in the California/Azizona area, which recruits young college graduates to assist with language instruction in Japanese schools, with the additional purpose of fostering internationalization. Previously, she served at the Embassy of Japan in Pakistan and at the Consulate in Honolulu. She obtained a B.A. in Political Science from Waseda University and her Master’s in International Public Policy at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) at Johns Hopkins. She speaks Japanese, English, German, Indonesian and some Urdu.

LACCD TRUSTEE-ELECT & FORMER ASSEMBLYMAN
Mike Eng

On March 5, Mike Eng was elected to the Board of Trustees, of the LACCD, the largest community college district in the U.S. spread out over 800 square miles serving over 250,000 students from 40 cities populated by 5 million residents. Mike previously served 6 years in the State Assembly during which time he chaired 3 of the Legislature’s important policy committees and was a member of the Education committee for 3 terms. Prior to that, Mike served as Mayor and Councilman for the City of Monterey Park, and the City Library Board of Trustees for 10 years. Mike Eng has taught labor studies, immigration and civil rights at LA Trade Technical College, UCLA, and University of the West. He earned his Law Degree at UCLA and founded the immigration law firm of Eng and Nishimura. He also earned his B.A. in political science and M.A. in American Studies from the University of Hawaii.
GLOBAL INDIGENOUS CULTURES AND HISTORY: NORTH AMERICA & PALESTINE

DR. SAREE MAKDISHI is a Professor of English and Comparative Literature at UCLA whose scholarship focuses on the culture of modernity and empire in late eighteenth- and early nineteenth-century Britain as well as the consequences and afterlives of modernity and empire in the contemporary Arab world, especially Lebanon and Palestine.

He is the author of Romantic Imperialism, William Blake and the Impossible History of the 1790s, Palestine Inside Out: An Everyday Occupation, and Making England Western: Occidentalism, Race and Imperial Culture. The later explores the cultural and political processes through which England turned itself into a recognizably Western country in the nineteenth century, and includes chapters on Wordsworth, Austen, Byron, Southey, Macaulay, and Dickens as well a reading of the “civilization” of London through the nineteenth century.


ALAN TAFOYA is a member of the Jicarilla Apache Nation. He is a descendant of Apache Chief Mangus Colorado, known as Red Sleeves, a knife fighter who wore long sleeves to cover the scars on his arms. Alan’s grandmother was Red Sleeve’s granddaughter. Because of his ancestry, Alan feels that he has inherited an instinctual skill as a knife fighter. Although Tafoya has been perfecting his martial arts skills since the age of 11, he feels that his expertise in knife fighting is rooted in instinct. Tafoya speaks of martial arts as an art form, not as a tool for violence. ”It is an art of self-discovery. It is a combative art; it is the warrior’s way of art.” His incredible skill was evidenced by his wins at both the 1999 & 2000 Soldier of Fortune Combat Knife Fighting Tournaments. The film, Dancing on the Edge, documents his experiences preparing for and winning the tournaments. He remains undefeated as champion.

The versatile Tafoya is now working with production companies to attract more films to his home state of New Mexico. As an actor, Tafoya has appeared in Unspeakeable, as a prison guard; Arrest and Trial, as a DEA agent; and in Groom Lake, Maniacts and The Ghost of Mars.

Tafoya also writes music and performs his own songs. He is preparing to release a compact disc with the working title of Moments Locked in Time.

ELLIOTT CAINE As a trumpet player, composer, bandleader and sideman, he has been involved, through performance and/or recording with artists such as, Teddy Edwards, Ernie Andrews, Larance Marable, Barbara Morrison, Tierra, Bobby Matos, Jump with Joey and Roland Alphonso. He is a jazz festival favorite and has performed at The Playboy Festival, Jazz at Drew Festival, Idyllwild Jazz Festival, Temecula International Jazz Festival, Equinox Jazz Festival (Corsica, Fr.), Atlas Music Festival (Istanbul, Turkey), LA County Museums of Art, and others. His quintet/sextet has recorded and released 3 CD’s, all of which have gotten national and international airplay and enthusiastic reviews from prominent media sources. Many of his compositions have been used for film and television.

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