



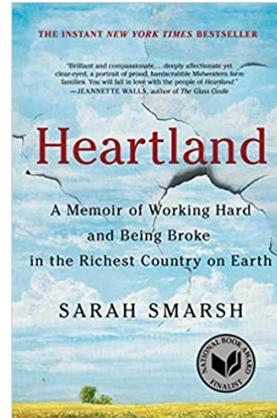
# National Archives at Kansas City Newsletter

## Upcoming Virtual Programs at the National Archives

The National Archives is continuing to offer a full slate of public programs in January. An extensive list can be found [here](#). Below are several highlights on a variety of topics. All programs are scheduled according to either Central or Eastern Standard Time.

### Ike's Book Club

On **Tuesday, January 12 at 7:00 p.m. CT**, the Eisenhower Presidential Library will discuss **Heartland: A Memoir of Working Hard and Being Broke in the Richest Country on Earth** by **Sarah Smarsh**. This **free program** can be joined via [Google Meet](#). Additional bi-monthly book club selections and information is available on the National Archives [Calendar](#).



### Whitman in Washington: Becoming the National Poet in the Federal City

On **Tuesday, January 19 at Noon ET**, the National Archives will host author **Kenneth M. Price** for a lecture on **Whitman in Washington**. Price will analyze Walt Whitman's life, writings, and government work to reevaluate the writer and the nation's capital. Drawing on an expanded Whitman corpus, including nearly 3,000 Whitman documents the author recently identified in the National Archives, Price demonstrates that the power of Whitman's Civil War and Reconstruction writing more fully emerges from his intimate knowledge of the capital city, its bureaucracies, and its tumultuous post-war history. This **free program** is available via live stream on the National Archives [YouTube Channel](#).

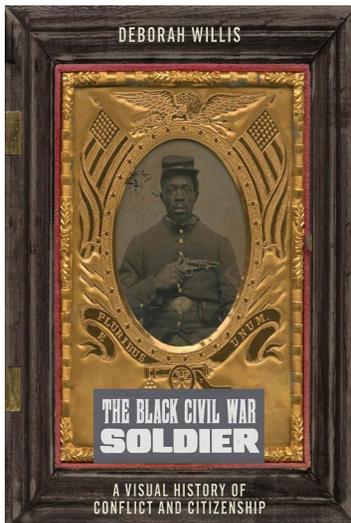
### The Retro Housewife's Guide to Being a First Lady

On **Thursday, January 21 at 6:00 p.m. CT**, the Truman Library and Museum will offer a program discussion with staff archivist **Tammy Williams** on the role of serving as First Lady. In recognition of the Presidential Inauguration, Williams will delve into the history of serving as the First Lady of the United States. What does it take to be successful at a job you never signed up for? What can modern hostesses learn from Bess Truman and other first ladies? [Registration](#) is requested for this **free program**.



### The Black Civil War Soldier: A Visual History of Conflict and Citizenship

On **Wednesday, January 27 at Noon ET**, the National Archives will host professor **Deborah Willis** for a discussion of her book **The Black Civil War Soldier**. Willis offers a kaleidoscopic, yet intimate, portrait of the African American experience from the beginning of the Civil War to 1900. Willis pinpoints the importance of African American communities in the development and prosecution of the war and shows how photography helped construct a national vision of blackness, war, and bondage while unearthing the hidden histories of black Civil War soldiers. This **free program** is available via live stream on the National Archives [YouTube Channel](#).



## January 2021

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### Upcoming Events

Unless noted, all events are held at the National Archives 400 W. Pershing Road Kansas City, MO 64108

NOTE: All in-person public events at National Archives facilities nationwide are cancelled until further notice. This includes in-person public programs, tours, school group visits, public meetings, external conferences, and facility rentals.

# Hidden Treasures from the Stacks

## Caught Between Worlds: Peruvian Japanese Internment during World War II

In the late 1800s, Japanese families began migrating to Peru for opportunities to work on plantations and in mines. By the outbreak of World War II, there were approximately 25,000 Japanese people living in Peru. With racial tensions building as anti-Japanese sentiment spread through communities in Peru, a 1942 request from the United States Government to arrest and turn over Japanese residents for internment in the United States was granted. In total, 2,246 Latin Americans of Japanese descent were deported to the US from 1942 to 1944, around 1800 of these individuals were from Peru.

The experience of Peruvian Japanese merchant Kotoku Yamashiro, as detailed in his Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) Alien File (A-File), provides a snapshot of this unique wartime experience. United States armed forces transported Kotoku from Peru into the United States in February 1943 through the Tahanga Detention Camp in Los Angeles, California. Like many newly deported Peruvian Japanese, Kotoku was processed in Texas through the Kennedy Detention Camp (February 1943 to July 1944) and ultimately detained as an enemy alien at the Crystal City Internment Camp (July 1944 to September 1946). Once transferred to Crystal City, six of Kotoku's sons, ages three to fifteen, travelled from Peru to be voluntarily detained with him at the camp.



Above: Photograph of Kotoku Yamashiro. Record Group 566, Records of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services; Alien Case Files, 1944-2003; Alien Case File for Kotoku Yamashiro. National Archives Identifier 5347114.

Although Kotoku was officially paroled from detainment in April 1946, a warrant for arrest for deportation from the United States was issued simultaneously. According to INS documentation, Kotoku entered the United States as an illegal alien since he did not possess an immigrant visa or proper passport at time of arrival. Kotoku appealed deportation, and in the interim period the Yamashiro family was offered parole relocation with employment at the Seabrook Farms Company in New Jersey (a popular location for Peruvian Japanese parolees) providing farm labor. In February 1947, the Board of Immigration Appeals ordered that Kotoku be deported to Peru. During the post-war era Peru would not allow its expelled Japanese residents to return to their pre-war home. Kotoku submitted multiple requests for suspension of deportation proceedings from 1948 to 1953, ultimately finding success in September 1953. In the years immediately following suspension of proceedings, Kotoku and his youngest sons continued to remain in employment at Seabrook Farms under parolee status. The latest dated document in Kotoku's A-File is from 1956.

There are a number of record series across the National Archives that can provide insight into the Peruvian Japanese internment experience. If names of internees are known, A-Files (National Archives Identifiers [4488912](#) and [6105565](#)) and Class 146-13 Alien Enemy Litigation Case Files (National Archives Identifier [34929642](#)) are the best place to start research. Additional images from Kotoku's A-File are on pages 3 and 4. More information, including how to request a copy of an A-File, can be found on the National Archives [A-Files web page](#).

**WARRANT**  
FOR ARREST OF ALIEN

**United States of America**

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON  
San Antonio, Texas

No. 1400  
To CHIEF, ENTRY, DEPARTURE AND EXPULSION SECTION, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS  
Or to any Immigrant Inspector in the service of the United States.

WHEREAS, from evidence submitted to me, it appears that the alien

**KOTOKU YAMASHIRO**

who entered this country at San Pedro, California  
on -- the 6th day of February, 1943 ha been found in the United States  
in violation of the immigration laws thereof, and is subject to be taken into  
custody and deported pursuant to the following provisions of law, and for the  
following reasons, to wit: The Immigration Act of May 26, 1924, in that, at  
the time of entry, immigrant not in possession of a valid immigra-  
tion visa and not exempted from the presentation thereof by said Act or  
regulations made thereunder; the Passport Act approved May 22, 1918, as amended,  
and the Act of February 5, 1917, in that, at the time of entry, he did not  
present an unexpired passport or official document in the nature of a passport  
issued by the government of the country to which he owes allegiance or other  
travel document showing origin and identity, as required by Executive  
Order in effect at time of entry.

I, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the laws of the  
United States, hereby command you to take into custody the said alien and  
grant him a hearing to enable him to show cause why he should not be deported  
in conformity with law. The expenses of detention hereunder, if necessary,  
are authorized payable from the appropriation "General Expenses, Immigration  
and Naturalization Service, 1946."

For so doing, this shall be your sufficient warrant.  
Witness my hand and seal this 3rd day of April, 1946.

GOVERNMENT EXHIBIT NO. I.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 16-10890

J. W. Holland  
Acting District Director - San Antonio District



# January Virtual Programs for Educators and Students

This month the National Archives has two upcoming virtual learning programs ideal for educators and young learners. More information can be found [here](#).

- **DocsTeach in the Classroom: International Holocaust Remembrance Day on Thursday, January 7 at 8:00 p.m. ET and Wednesday, January 13 at 7:00 pm ET**

Educators, join the National Archives and United States Holocaust Memorial Museum for a webinar on American responses to the refugee crisis and to the Holocaust in the 1930s and 1940s. In preparation for International Holocaust Remembrance Day (January 27), this webinar will include a presentation on the history of Holocaust refugees and American policy; a demonstration using [DocsTeach.org](https://docs.teach.org) to locate primary sources and explore teaching activities; and an examination of three case studies drawing on records from the National Archives and the [Americans and the Holocaust](#) exhibit at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. This professional development webinar, which will cover the same material on two different dates and times, will be particularly valuable to teachers of English and Language Arts and Social Studies. [Registration](#) is requested for this **free webinar**.

- **Young Learners Program - Meet the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Thursday, January 14 at 11:00 a.m. ET**

The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., is portrayed by the **Reverend Dr. John Moore**, an internationally recognized minister and orator who has spoken and portrayed Dr. King at schools, colleges, churches, and organizational gatherings throughout the nation. Dr. King's words that inspired the civil rights movement are brought to life for young learners. A question-and-answer session with Dr. King will follow the presentation. This **free program** is available via live stream on the National Archives [YouTube Channel](#).

## National Archives Facility Information Regarding COVID-19

(updated as of December 31, 2020)

The National Archives is committed to the health and safety of our visitors and staff. We are continuing to monitor the situation regarding COVID-19. National Archives staff will continue to serve the public remotely by responding to emailed requests for records and [History Hub](#) inquiries. While we are closed, we invite the public to explore our online resources by visiting [www.archives.gov](http://www.archives.gov) and viewing our [online exhibits](#) and [educational resources](#) and participating in our [Citizen Archivist Missions](#).

Finally, all in-person public programs and events are suspended until further notice. We will continue to update the public as agency guidance becomes available. Follow the National Archives at Kansas City on [Facebook](#) or on Twitter [@KCArchives](#).



NATIONAL  
ARCHIVES

KANSAS CITY

**GENERAL INFORMATION:** The National Archives is open Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Closed on weekends and Federal holidays. Hours are subject to change due to special programs and weather.

The National Archives is located at 400 West Pershing Road, Kansas City, Missouri, 64108, and is home to historical records dating from the 1820s to the 1990s created or received by Federal agencies in Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

For more information, call 816-268-8000, email [kansascity.educate@nara.gov](mailto:kansascity.educate@nara.gov) or visit [www.archives.gov/kansas-city](http://www.archives.gov/kansas-city). Tweet us [@KCArchives](#). Follow us on Instagram at: [kansascity.archives](https://www.instagram.com/kansascity.archives). Find us on Facebook [www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity](https://www.facebook.com/nationalarchiveskansascity).