



*City of Arts & Innovation*

# Metropolitan Museum Board

**TO: METROPOLITAN MUSEUM BOARD      DATE: NOVEMBER 30, 2017**

**FROM: MUSEUM DEPARTMENT**

**SUBJECT: LOAN OF HARADA FAMILY OBJECTS FROM THE RIVERSIDE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM COLLECTION TO THE RIVERSIDE ART MUSEUM TO COMPLEMENT RAM'S FEBRUARY 2018 WENDY MARUYAMA EXHIBITS "E.O. 9066" AND "THE TAG PROJECT"**

## **ISSUE:**

Loan of Harada family objects from the Riverside Metropolitan Museum (RMM) collection to the Riverside Art Museum (RAM) to complement RAM's February 2018 Wendy Maruyama exhibits "E.O. 9066" and "The Tag Project"

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approve the loan of Harada family objects from the RMM collection to RAM to complement their February 22018 Wendy Maruyama exhibits "E.O 9066" and "The Tag Project".

## **BACKGROUND:**

The National Historic Landmark Harada House on Lemon Street and its associated Harada Family Collection embodies the Japanese American experience in California from 1905 when the family arrived in Riverside through World War II when the 1942 Executive Order 9066 ordered the forced removal of Japanese Americans to incarceration camps. The Haradas joined over 120,000 Japanese Americans in incarceration camps. While incarcerated family members continued to fight for their civil liberties, including the right to serve in the United States Armed Forces. Jukichi Harada's sons Harold and Yoshizo both served in the highly decorated Nisei 442 Regimental Combat Team.

In 2004 Harold Harada's children, in accordance with their Father's wishes, transferred the property of the Harada House to the City of Riverside under the stewardship of the Riverside Metropolitan Museum. Then in 2005 they donated the letters, legal papers,

photographs, clothing, furniture and ephemera that documented the Haradas' lives when they lived on Lemon Street and were incarcerated.

At the November 8, 2017 Museum Collections Committee motioned for approval the outgoing loan of objects from RMM to be on display in the February 2018 Wendy Maruyama exhibits "E.O. 9066" and "The Tag Project".

The Museum's Collections Management Policy (2015) states on page 14, Out-Going Loan: The request for loans from the permanent collection must be made in writing and approved by the Collections Committee and the Metropolitan Museum Board.

Page 15 states, the loaned Museum object/ specimen from the permanent or teaching collections may not be used for any commercial purpose whatsoever without specific written permission and approval from the Collections Committee and Metropolitan Museum Board.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The RMM Harada collection is one of the few Japanese American family collections with objects and archives from the time of incarceration. The Harada collection includes a list of what to bring to the incarceration camp, Mine Harada Kido's personal and baggage tags to the incarceration camp and Sumi Harada's "Welcome to Topaz Guidebook". Family friend and Harada House caretaker sent Sumi Harada her Mother Ken's tea set and wash basins to Sumi's address at the Central Utah incarceration camp. These objects document Riverside's Harada family as they lived in a turbulent and tragic time in American history.

The RAM exhibits Wendy Maruyama's powerful art with "E. O. 9066" and "The Tag Project". "E. O. 9066" refers to an executive order of President Roosevelt in 1942 which gave the United States military the power to ban any individuals of Japanese descent from a 50 - 60-mile-wide coastal area from Washington state to California and extending inland to southern Arizona. The exhibition includes wall-mounted cabinets and sculptures with themes common in the incarceration camps. Maruyama integrates the photographs of Dorothea Lange and Toyo Miyatake in association with materials such as barbed wire, tarpaper and domestic objects.

"The Tag Project" includes 120,000 replica tags which bear the name, identification number and incarceration camps of each individual. The tags are brought together in sculptural bundles to represent each of the incarceration camps Tule Lake (Newell, CA), Manzanar (Manzanar, CA), Colorado River (Poston, AZ), Gila River (Rivers, AZ), Central Utah (Topaz, UT), Heart Mountain (Heart Mountain, WY), Minidoka (Hunt, ID), Granada (Amache, CO), Rohwer (Rohwer, AR) and Jerome (Denison, AR). Objects from the Harada family collection and the National Historic Landmark Harada House provide a powerful local connection for Wendy Maruyama's "E.O. 9066" and "The Tag Project". Artist Wendy Maruyama is a third generation Japanese American whose family was incarcerated.

This Riverside Art Museum exhibition provides the Riverside Metropolitan Museum with an opportunity to feature its collection during the shuttering of the Museum. It also draws public attention to the National Historic Landmark Harada House as a preservation plan is being developed for the site and a 501(c)3 Harada House Foundation is being founded. 2018 is the Centennial for the 1918 Riverside Superior Court Case of California vs. Harada. Judge Hugh Craig upheld the Alien Land Law but ruled that American born children of aliens were entitled to all the constitutional guarantees of citizenship including land tenure under the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment. This exhibition provides the visitors with this important local and national story.

Per RMM Collections Management Policy, the following items are necessary to provide the loan:

RMM responsibilities:

1. Collections Committee: Loan request decision (approved 11/8/17)
2. Museum Board approval – (pending 11/30/17)
3. Prepare Outgoing Loan form
4. Prepare ARGUS Museum database report for each object
5. Prepare Condition Form for each object
6. Outgoing Loan Form -signatures
7. Update ARGUS records
8. Pack objects
9. Transport objects
10. Pack objects
11. Return objects
12. Complete return Condition Report
13. Return to collections
14. Update ARGUS records

RAM responsibilities:

1. Written request; received by email (10/17/17) from Todd Wingate Curator/Designer requesting a loan of Harada collections objects for RAM exhibition “E.O. 9066” and “The Tag Project”.
2. General Facility Report: updated report pending
3. Insurance  
“Objects shall be insured at the borrower’s expense for the value stated on the loan agreement under an all-risk wall-to-wall policy subject to the following standard exclusions: wear and tear, insects, vermin, gradual deterioration or inherent vice; repairing, restoration or retouching processes; hostile or warlike action, insurrection, or rebellion; nuclear reaction, nuclear radiation or radioactive contamination. The Museum shall determine whether the borrower insures the objects or whether the Museum insures them and bills the borrower for the premium. If the borrower is insuring the objects, the Museum must be furnished with a certificate of insurance or a copy of the policy made out in favor of the RMM prior to shipment of the loan. The Museum must be notified in writing at least 30 days prior to any cancellation or meaningful change in the borrower’s

policy. Any lapses in coverage, any failure to secure insurance and/or inaction by the Museum will not release the borrower from liability for loss or damage.” (Collections Management Policy, 2015 pp.15-16)

Certificate of Insurance to be issued by RAM to RMM for \$39,000

4. Restrictions for Loan:

Loans may not be used for commercial purposes

Loans may not be altered

Loans may not be transferred to other institutions

5. Loan fee: None

4. Loan Time period: 1/28/18 - 6/6/18

Exhibition period: 2/2/18 – 5/31/18

5. Outgoing Loan Form – return signature

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no General Fund fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by: Dr. Brenda Focht, Museum Curator

Approved by: Alexander T. Nguyen, Assistant City Manager/Acting Museum &  
Cultural Affairs Director

Attachment: ARGUS records for objects