



FRED T.
KOREMATSU

INSTITUTE

Celebrating
15
Years

Media Kit

About the Fred T. Korematsu Institute



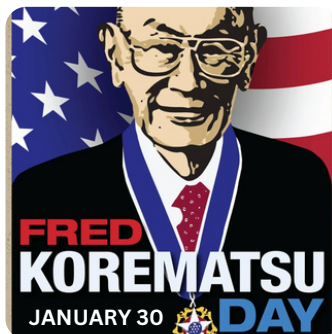
Prejudice is ignorance and our only tool to fight that is education.
—Dr. Karen Korematsu

The Fred T. Korematsu Institute is a national education advocacy organization committed to promoting civic participation and education that advances racial equity, social justice, and human rights for all. Through our educational programs, media and exhibits, and speaking engagements, we inspire people and organizations to, as Fred said, “stand up for what is right.”



What We Do

Since 2009, the Fred T. Korematsu Institute has been educating people across the country about the WWII Japanese American Incarceration and Fred Korematsu's story, making connections to other experiences and advocating for greater civic participation and education.



What We Do : Education

Toolkits & Workshops

We lead and contribute to workshops for educators, guide curriculum development to create lesson plans for K-12 students, and distribute toolkits to educators and parents around the world.

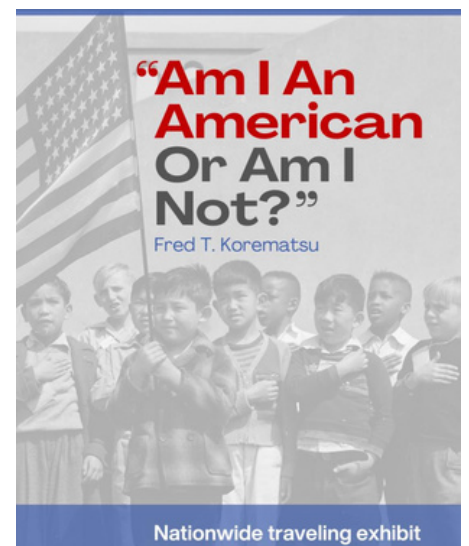
Speaking Engagements

We have addressed thousands of people of all ages, from kindergarteners to judges, at schools, libraries, conferences, companies, and nonprofit organizations across the country.



Media & Exhibits

We collaborate on documentary films, books, articles and exhibits about the Japanese American incarceration and Fred Korematsu. Our documentary film, *Of Civil Wrongs & Rights: the Fred Korematsu Story*, has received two Emmy awards, and is being updated with new interviews. We are also actively developing our own traveling exhibit, *Am I An American Or Am I Not?*, and a companion digital collection.



What We Do : Advocacy

Fred Korematsu Day

Over a dozen cities and states across the country have recognized Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution on January 30. We strive for national recognition for the day to serve as a reminder and inspiration for Americans of all ages to stand up for what is right.



K-12 Ethnic Studies

As a California Education Ambassador, Dr. Karen Korematsu has helped advance ethnic studies requirements in the state. We are committed to advance similar such efforts across the country to develop and require ethnic studies curriculums and professional development at all levels of education.



Where is Fred Korematsu Day Recognized?



In 2010, the Governor of California signed the legislative bill establishing Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution on January 30 in perpetuity. It is the first statewide day in U.S. history named after an Asian American.

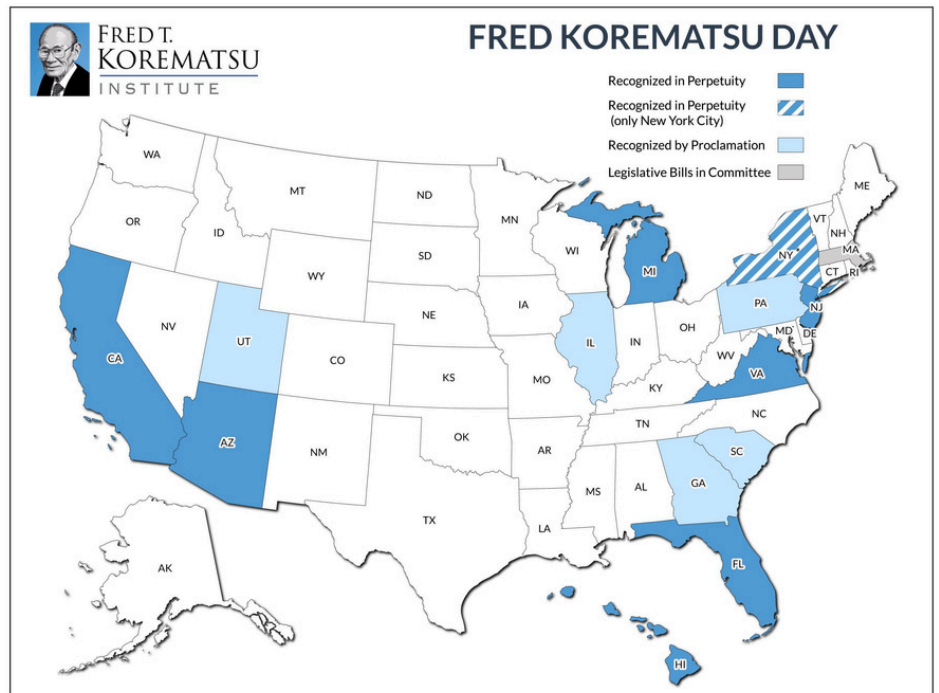
The Fred T. Korematsu Institute is leading efforts to recognize Fred Korematsu in other states and also achieve a national Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution to honor his legacy as a civil rights hero for all Americans.

Recognized in perpetuity:

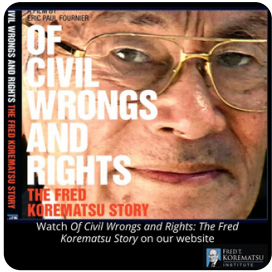
- California – bill signed in 2010
- Hawai'i – bill signed in 2013
- Virginia – bill signed in 2015
- Florida – bill signed in 2015
- New York City – bill signed in 2018
- Arizona – bill signed in 2022
- New Jersey – bill signed in 2023
- Michigan – bill signed in 2023

Recognized by Proclamation:

- Utah – issued 2013
- Illinois – issued 2014
- Georgia – issued 2014
- South Carolina – issued 2015
- Pennsylvania – issued 2014
- Michigan – issued in 2014, 2015



Our Current Projects



Developing "*Am I An American or Am I Not?*," **our national traveling and virtual exhibit** which explores the continued relevance of the WWII Japanese American Incarceration for all Americans today and reinforces the need for informed civic participation



Remastering and updating "*Of Civil Wrongs and Rights: The Fred Korematsu Story*," our two-time Emmy-award-winning **documentary film**, making it available on streaming platforms and adding new interviews connecting it to more current events



Supporting educators with **new curriculum** about the experiences of displaced Japanese American and American Indian communities in Arizona and companion lessons for our updated documentary film

Laying the groundwork for The Fred Korematsu Interpretive Center for Social Justice, our vision for **a new place-based home in the Presidio to carry on the courageous legacy of Fred Korematsu** for generations to come and inspire more people to "stand up for what is right."



Continuing **advocacy for civic responsibility** in our fourth year working with the Asian and Pacific Islander Health Forum (APIAHF) to promote COVID-19 and influenza vaccinations among AANHPI communities

40th Anniversary Celebration Dinner

THE CIVIL RIGHTS *CORAM NOBIS* CASES

OUR DEMOCRACY: THEN & NOW

Saturday, October 21, 2023



Gordon Hirabayashi (1918–2012), Minoru Yasui (1916–1986), and Fred Korematsu (1919–2005), in 1983.

(Photo courtesy of Bob Hsiang)

Our October 21 celebration dinner honoring the 40th anniversary of the *coram nobis* cases was a resounding success!

Assemblymember Phil Ting honored judges in the Korematsu and Hirabayashi cases, the Hon. Marilyn Hall Patel & the Hon. Mary Schroeder. And of course, a special thanks to Neal Katyal, our keynote speaker and recipient of our second Fred Korematsu Social Justice Award, who brought the crowd to their feet after his keynote with both an historical overview of discrimination and the law followed by a powerful call-to-action

for the future. Additionally, we would like to thank the *coram nobis* team members, and our law student volunteers from Asian Pacific American Law Student Association (APALSA) at UC Law-SF and Berkeley Law who helped make our night a success.



Korematsu v. United States



December 18, 1944 - December 18, 2024

"... it is the case of convicting a citizen as a punishment for not submitting to imprisonment in a concentration camp, based on his ancestry, and solely because of his ancestry, without evidence or inquiry concerning his loyalty and good disposition towards the United States."
- Justice Owen J. Roberts,

This year marks the 80th anniversary of the *Korematsu vs. United States* case decided on December 18, 1944. Often cited, the landmark decision by the Supreme Court of the United States upheld the incarceration of Japanese Americans from the West Coast during WWII. We plan to honor this moment in civil rights' history throughout the year.



Lone Pine, California. A young Japanese American arrives by train prior to being transferred by bus to Manzanar concentration camp on April 1, 1942. (Photo by Clem Albers)



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**Thank
You**