

# And Then They Came for Us Is a Timely Panel Discussion

by Pamela Jones

This year we are faced with, among other violations of civil rights, a planned ban of transgender persons from serving in the military; a Muslim registry and travel ban; the rescission of DACA; and the persistent insistence on the construction of the Wall between the United States and Mexico.

Sadly, singling out an entire race, religion or population for exclusion and injustice is not new in this county. Executive Order 9066 was issued by President Franklin D.

incarceration of Japanese Americans during World War II. The film features George Takei, who himself was incarcerated. The film will be followed by a Panel

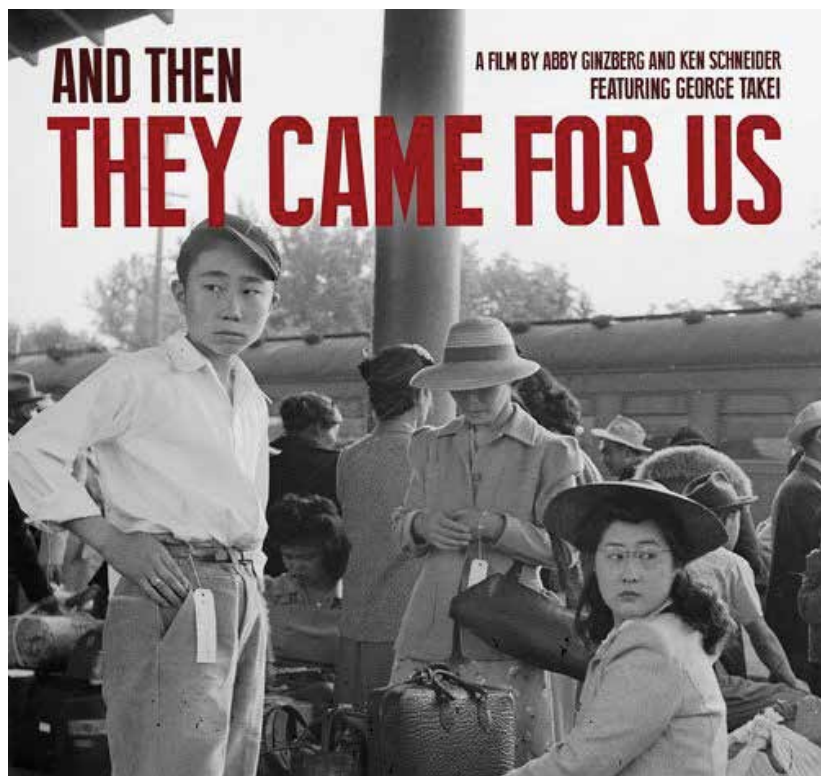
joined the army and served from 1966 to 1968 during the Viet Nam war and was awarded many medals such as the National Defense Service Medal and the Army Commendation Medal.

After serving in the Army she attended UCLA Law School where she co-founded the Asian Pacific Islander Law Student Association. In 1984 she opened her own law practice where she continues to practice criminal defense law today. It wasn't until she opened her own law practice that she decided to transition.

In the face of intolerance Mia's call to action is that we all look beyond our community to learn from other groups and to lend a hand whenever we can. The panel presentation following the screening of *And Then They Came for Us* provides a powerful intersection of groups who are the target of bigotry and who can work together with a unified voice.

The showing of *And Then They Came for Us* will be on Saturday, September 23, at 2 p.m., with the panel following at 3 p.m. and social/action networking at 4 p.m. at the Crest Theater, 1013 K St. Tickets are \$15 (Senior (65+)/student/child \$10) at [www.ticketfly.com/event/1536313](http://www.ticketfly.com/event/1536313). Surcharges apply.

*Pamela Jones is the Co-Chair of SacLEGAL, Sacramento's LGBT Bar Association, which is a member of the screening planning committee led by the ABAS Law Foundation, and an attorney with Cornerstone Estate Law Corporation. She can be reached at [Pam@cornerstoneestatelaw.com](mailto:Pam@cornerstoneestatelaw.com).*



Roosevelt 75 years ago. That order resulted in the forced incarceration of 120,000 Japanese Americans for over two and a half years during World War II.

"It was a failure of American democracy, and yet because most Americans are not aware of that dark chapter of American history, it's about to be repeated," George Takei, Actor and Activist has said of the law.

History does not have to repeat itself. On Saturday, September 23, you can learn more at a screening of *And Then They Came for Us*, a documentary about the

Discussion moderated by newscaster Sharon Ito. Panel members include Justice Cruz Reynoso; child prisoner and transgender activist Mia Yamamoto; Council on Islamic-American Relations (CAIR) director Basim Elkarr; and filmmaker Abby Ginzberg.

Mia Yamamoto is a transgender woman who was born Michael Yamamoto in Poston Relocation Camp, Arizona, in 1943. She notes that she was "born doing time" based on her race.

From a young age Mia struggled with her gender identity. She

September 14, 2017 - September 28, 2017 • No. 584 Outword Magazine 21