

Asian Film Festival 2008: Young in Japan

***Wings of Defeat: A Teacher Workshop on Japanese  
Kamikaze Pilots in World War II***

**Monday, September 29, 2008**

**4:00 - 7:00 pm**

**FREE - Pre-registration required**

**Champaign Central High School, Library Lecture Hall**

**610 W. University Ave, Champaign, IL**

**Gary Mukai**, SPICE, Stanford University

**Rodger Purdy**, History, John Carroll University



This workshop will introduce and contextualize the 2007 documentary film *Wings Of Defeat* as a tool to teach about Japanese and World War II history. More information on the film, including a trailer, is available here:  
<http://www.edgewoodpictures.com/wingsofdefeat/>

It is best suited for secondary educators, although educators of all levels (K-12 and

undergraduate) are invited to attend.

### **The Workshop:**

*Wings of Defeat* is a remarkable film re-evaluating the experiences and legacy of Japan's suicide pilots of World War II, the legendary kamikaze, featuring intimate interviews with surviving kamikaze. Upon learning of her uncle's secret past as a surviving kamikaze pilot, Japanese American director Risa Morimoto was inspired to track down former kamikaze pilots—now in their 80s—who thoughtfully recall and share their fears, their ambivalence, their patriotism and their guilt as survivors, when thousands of their comrades perished during Japan's most desperate hour at the end of World War II. Co-produced by Japanese-born writer Linda Hoaglund, the documentary is a rare opportunity to hear the perspectives of those who trained for, flew, and survived suicide missions, as well as Americans who survived such attacks.

The workshop will begin with a presentation by **Roger Purdy** placing the kamikaze in historical context by looking at the conduct of Japan's war in China and the Pacific, and the strains it put on the Japanese people. Purdy will also look at the origin of the suicide squads in Japan, and the military government's affirmative presentation of this strategy for "certain victory" to the Japanese people.

We will then watch the shorter, 56-minute version of **the film**. The longer, 90-minute version, will be screened on Saturday, October 4, at the [Asian Film Festival](#).

Following the film screening, **Gary Mukai** will introduce a teacher's guide that he recently developed for *Wings of Defeat*. The guide helps to contextualize the film and to make it accessible to secondary school students through small-group activities and the examination of quotes from the film.

We will then share a Japanese meal, with time for **discussions and questions**.

**General information and materials on Japan** will also be provided.

**CPDU credit** is available to teachers.

### **Presenters:**

**Roger W. Purdy** is associate professor of history and coordinator of East Asian studies at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio. He received his BA in History and Asian Studies from Brigham Young University and his Ph.D. in History from the University of California, Santa Barbara. He is currently doing research on Japan's wartime news media with special focus on Japanese wartime newsreels.

**Gary Mukai** is the director of the Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education (SPICE). Before joining SPICE in 1988, Gary was a teacher in Japan and in California for ten years. He is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, and Stanford University.

### **Registration:**



[Download registration form](#)

**Registration Deadline:** Monday, September 22, 2008

**Registration Fee:** FREE

Please complete and send the registration form to the Asian Educational Media Service:

WW II Teacher Workshop Registration

Attn: Jason Finkelman

Asian Educational Media Service


805 West Pennsylvania Avenue

Urbana, IL 61801  
FAX: (217) 265-0641  
Tel: 217-265-0640  
email: [finkelma@illinois.edu](mailto:finkelma@illinois.edu)

[More information on the film \*Wings of Defeat\*, including a trailer](#)

[More information on Asian Film Festival 2008: Young in Japan](#)

*Last Updated July 27, 2012*

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**Asian Educational Media Service**

**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign**

**105 S. Gregory, 2nd Floor  
Urbana, Illinois 61801**

**Phone: (217) 333-9597  
[aems@illinois.edu](mailto:aems@illinois.edu)**



ASIAN FILM FESTIVAL 2008: YOUNG IN JAPAN

*Wings of Defeat:*  
*A Teacher Workshop on Japanese Kamikaze Pilots in World War II*  
Monday, Sept. 29, 2008, 4:00pm - 7:00pm  
Champaign Central High School Library Lecture Hall

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The Asian Educational Media Service (AEMS) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is pleased to offer an opportunity for local educators to engage with documentary film as a tool to teach about Japanese and World War II history. This workshop will introduce and contextualize the 2007 documentary film *Wings Of Defeat*, by Risa Morimoto and Linda Hoaglund. It is best suited for **secondary educators**, although educators of all levels (K-12 and undergraduate) are invited to attend.

The Asian Film Festival is hosted each year by the U of I's Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies (EAPS) and AEMS. Six films speaking to the theme **Young in Japan** will be shown at **Boardman's Art Theatre** in downtown Champaign on Friday, October 3, through Sunday, October 5. The 90-minute, feature-length version of the *Wings of Defeat* will be screened Saturday, October 4, at 3:30 pm. All films showings are **free and open to the public** (donations appreciated). For a complete schedule with film descriptions, please visit our website at: <http://www.aems.uiuc.edu/events/filmfestival/>



For more information about *Wings of Defeat* (including a trailer) see:  
[www.edgewoodpictures.com/wingsofdefeat/](http://www.edgewoodpictures.com/wingsofdefeat/)

*The Asian Educational Media Service (AEMS) helps educators find and evaluate multimedia resources for teaching about Asia, in order to promote understanding of Asian cultures and peoples.*

## The Workshop

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*Wings of Defeat:  
A Teacher Workshop on Japanese Kamikaze Pilots in World War II*

Monday, Sept. 29, 2008

**Registration Deadline:** Monday, September 22, 2008

**Registration Fee:** FREE

**To Register:** Please complete and send the attached **Registration Form** to the Asian Educational Media Service at:

**WW II Teacher Workshop Registration**  
**Attn: Jason Finkelman**  
Asian Educational Media Service  
805 West Pennsylvania Avenue  
Urbana, IL 61801  
FAX: (217) 265-0641  
Tel: 217-265-0640; email: finkelma@illinois.edu

**Schedule:**

3:50 - 4:00pm	Check in
4:00 - 4:30pm	Roger Purdy's presentation
4:30 - 5:30pm	Film screening (broadcast version, 56-minutes)
5:30 - 6:00pm	Gary Mukai's presentation
6:00 - 7:00pm	Questions and discussions over dinner

**Meals:** All registered workshop participants receive a Japanese dinner.

**Location:** Champaign Central High School, Library Lecture Hall, 610 W. University Ave, Champaign.

**Parking:** Off-street parking is available near the high school.

**Special Needs:** If you have any special dietary or access needs, please fill out the relevant section of the attached registration form.

**CPDU:** 3 CPDUs are available for teachers.



*Wings of Defeat:  
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**Registration Form**  
4:00 pm - 7:00 pm, Monday, Sept. 29, 2008  
Film screening included

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title/Position \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

School District \_\_\_\_\_

Information you want to appear on your name tag:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

Subject Taught \_\_\_\_\_

Grade level Taught \_\_\_\_\_

School Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

School Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

School Fax # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

CPDU credit desired? ☐ Yes ☐ No

**SPECIAL NEEDS:** Please indicate any special dietary or access needs (feel free to use additional space or to attach a letter):

**MAIL to:**      **WW II Teacher Workshop Registration**  
Asian Educational Media Service, attn: Jason Finkelman  
805 West Pennsylvania Avenue  
Urbana, IL 61801.

**FAX to:** (217) 265-0641.

**Registration Information:** Jason Finkelman  
(217)265-0640  
[finkelma@illinois.edu](mailto:finkelma@illinois.edu)

**Program Information:** Susan Norris,  
(217) 333-9597  
[aems@illinois.edu](mailto:aems@illinois.edu)