



## CHENG YU TUNG EAST ASIAN LIBRARY

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**Bryce Kanbara fonds  
Accession 2024.01**

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## Biographical note

Bryce Kanbara was born in 1947 in Ontario. He attended McMaster University, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in English literature and Art History in 1971. He was a pivotal figure in the arts community in Hamilton, and a founding member and first administrator of Hamilton Artists Inc. He is currently the curator and proprietor of You Me Gallery in Hamilton. Throughout his career as a visual artist, he has held many curatorial positions, including those at Burlington Art Centre, Art Gallery of Hamilton, Glenhyrst Art Gallery of Brant, JC Gallery at the Japanese Canadian Cultural Centre. He has been the Visual Arts, Crafts & Design Officer at the Ontario Arts Council, and Co-chair of the Board of Directors, Workers Arts & Heritage Centre. In 2021, he received the Governor General's Award in Visual and Media Arts for outstanding contribution.

Kanbara has also been an active member of the Japanese Canadian community. He has been the Executive Director of the Toronto Chapter of the National Association of Japanese Canadians, Chair of the NAJC Endowment Fund and National Executive member.

## References:

Japanese Canadian Artist's Directory. "Bryce Kanbara." Accessed March 18, 2024, <https://japanesecanadianartists.com/artist/bryce-kanbara/>

Kanbara, Bryce. "Bryce Kanbara: Radical Community Building." Interview by Aaron Murphy. Building Cultural Legacies Hamilton, August 23, 2018. <https://buildingculturallegacies.ca/artist/bryce-kanbara/>

Kanbara, Bryce. "Interview with Bryce Kanbara." Interview by David Fujino. Greater Toronto Chapter of the National Association of Japanese Canadians, August 21, 2012. <https://torontonajc.ca/bryce-kanbara/>

Kanbara, Bryce. "Interview with Bryce Kanbara." Interview by the Royal Ontario Museum. March 25, 2021. <https://www.rom.on.ca/en/collections-research/magazine/interview-with-bryce-kanbara>

## Scope and Content

Dates range: 1944-2013

Extent: 5 boxes (1.8 linear meters)

The collection consists of material collected by Kanbara during his time as an active member of the Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association (later the National Association of Japanese Canadians) and the various off-shoot organizations. Many of the records are from the period of the Japanese Canadian Centennial, and continue from the many organizations it inspired.

Records relating to Japanese Canadian Redress are also included, including material from Sodan Kai. Later records from the NAJC's art events where Kanbara played a significant role are present, like the AI symposium.

**Note:** Titles, unless given in square brackets, have been taken from the original material / containers.

**Arrangement:** Material was packed by the donor and arranged into loose series when packed. The series have been respected when it was clear where the record could be placed.

**Access:** No restrictions.

**Boxes:** 5 boxes

**Related material:**

### **Series 1: National Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association**

Dates range: 1944-2013

Extent: 34 folders of textual records + 6 photographs : colour.

Primarily textual material created by the National Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association (later the National Association of Japanese Canadians) and collected by Kanbara as he participated in the organization. Meeting minutes, agendas, notes, and correspondence between Kanbara and others from the organization are included, almost all with marginalia by Kanbara. Records date from around the Japanese Canadian centennial and then later in the early 1990s.

**Note:**

**Arrangement:** Material gathered under the title NJCCA by the donor.

**Access:** No restrictions.

**Boxes:** Box 1

### **Series 2: Hamilton Chapter, NAJC**

Dates range: 1985-1997

Extent: 16 folders of textual records + 45 negatives : 35mm + 39 photographs + 3 contact sheets

Material created by the Hamilton Chapter of the NAJC regarding the Redress movement, the constitution of the Hamilton Chapter, and some events organized by the chapter.

**Note:**

**Arrangement:** Material gathered under the title Hamilton by the donor.

**Access:** No restrictions.

**Boxes:** Box 1, Box 2, Box 5

### **Series 3: Toronto Chapter, JCCA**

Dates range: 1977-2013

Extent: 7 folders of textual records + 19 photographs : colour + 25 negatives : 35mm

Records from various events that took place in Toronto. Some records relate to the Japanese Canadian Cultural Center.

**Note:**

**Arrangement:** Material gathered under the title Toronto by the donor.

**Access:** No restrictions.

**Boxes:** Box 2

### **Series 4: AI Symposium**

Dates range: 1994

Extent: 10 folders of textual records.

Planning material, notes taken at the conference, and information about a similar conference held in Vancouver. The symposium focused on Japanese Canadians in the arts.

**Note:**

**Arrangement:** Some records were already grouped under the title AI Symposium by the donor. Other records donated that came from the event were added by the Archivist.

**Access:** No restrictions.

**Boxes:** Box 2

### **Series 5: Redress**

Dates range: 1978-1988

Extent: 17 folders of textual records + 19 photographs + 18 negatives : 35mm

Records created during the organization and fight for Japanese Canadian Redress. Records include NAJC agendas, media reports, and correspondence. Many of the meeting minutes and notes contain marginalia by Kanbara.

**Note:**

**Arrangement:** Material gathered under the title Redress by the donor.

**Access:** No restrictions.

**Boxes:** Box 2, Box 3

### **Series 6: Annex**

Dates range: 1977-1979

Extent: 5 folders of textual records

Information about the youth organization in Toronto, serving the Japanese Canadian community. Meeting minutes, agendas, flyers for events, and notes are collected by Kanbara.

**Note:**

**Arrangement:** Material gathered under the title Annex by the donor.

**Access:** No restrictions.

**Boxes:** Box 3

### **Series 7: Japanese Canadian Centennial**

Dates range: 1967-1990

Extent: 14 folders of textual records + 18 photographs + 20 negatives + 1 poster

Planning material with notes for the various events organized by the Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Manzo Nagano, the first Japanese to settle in Canada. Most records were created in 1977, the year of the centennial.

**Note:**

**Arrangement:** Some records were already grouped under the title Centennial by the donor. Other records donated that came from the event were added by the Archivist.

**Access:** No restrictions.

**Boxes:** Box 3, Box 5

### **Series 8: Art Exhibit**

Dates range: 1977-1978

Extent: 8 folders of textual records

Planning material, including budgeting, correspondence, and event information for the Ontario Japanese Canadian Centennial Art Exhibition.

**Note:**

**Arrangement:** Records grouped together by Archivist.

**Access:** No restrictions.

**Boxes:** Box 4

## Appendix

### Series 1: National Japanese Canadian Citizens' Association

File number	File title	Date range
2024.01.001	Strategy Committee	April 1988
2024.01.002	Letters to Nikkei Voice	1983-1985
2024.01.003	Redress Meetings NAJC 1988	October 1988 – November 1988
2024.01.004	NAJC Winnipeg May 1989	April 1989 – May 1989
2024.01.005	Calgary Council Mtg Oct 789 1989	October 1989
2024.01.006	Montreal Symposium June 9/90, Future Directions NAJC	March 1990 – June 1990
2024.01.007	Eastern Bloc NAJC Sept 8/90 Hamilton	April 1990 – September 1991
2024.01.008	Lethbridge Oct 1991	September – October 1991
2024.01.009	Homecoming '92	July 1991 – October 1992
2024.01.010	Human RTS	July – September 1991
2024.01.011	4th Annual General Meeting of the Members	November 1992
2024.01.012	Winnipeg NAJC Council Mtg Nov 1992	November 1992
2024.01.013	25th Redress Anniversary Banquet	September 2013
2024.01.014	[Nikkei Heritage in Transition Symposium]	October 1994
2024.01.015	Nikkei Heritage in Transition Conference: Montreal 1994	1993 – 1994
2024.01.016	Gender Sensitivity March/94 Toronto	1994
2024.01.017	Culture in Struggle: Japan-Canada Minority Forum Vancouver Nov/95	1995
2024.01.018	J.C.C.C.	1987
2024.01.019	Napponia Home/99	September 1989 – February 2000
2024.01.020	National JCCA	1976 – 1978
2024.01.021	NJCCA Conf. Winnipeg Oct 10/77	1977
2024.01.022	[NJCCA]	1976 – 1979
2024.01.023	National Conference May 1976	1976
2024.01.024	Asian CDN Council	April – November 1978
2024.01.025	[NJCCA restructuring]	1976 – 1978
2024.01.026	[Charter of Rights]	1980
2024.01.027	Reparations	1978
2024.01.028	[NAJC information]	1986 – 1988
2024.01.029	[NAJC 11th conference]	1986
2024.01.030	[NAJC Conference 'Back to the Future']	1987
2024.01.031	[Kokikai Reunion]	August 1989
2024.01.032	[Planning notes]	1987
2024.01.033	[Newsletters]	March 1985 – June 1987

File number	File title	Date range
2024.01.034	Report of The Administration of Japanese Affairs in Canada	August 1944

**Series 2: Hamilton Chapter, NAJC**

File number	File title	Date range
2024.01.035	Hamilton NAJC Redress Committee Redress Report 1985	February 1985
2024.01.036	Reorganizing of Hamilton JCCA Oct 1988	1988 – 1989
2024.01.037	Hamilton J.C. Community Focus Groups	March – May 1990
2024.01.038	Steering Committee /91 for new JC. Centre building	January 1990 – January 1992
2024.01.039	Mixed Blessings Symposium Mar/97	March 1997
2024.01.040	Oriental Mix Sept/97, Hamilton NAJC & Hamilton Region Arts Council	1997
2024.01.041	Talkin' Bout my g-g-generation Forum for Sansei Views on JC Community	April – June 1991
2024.01.042	Symposium '90, Sept 22 1990	August – September 1990
2024.01.043	Hamilton NAJC Miscellaneous	1989 – 1998
2024.01.044	Hamilton Chapter NAJC formation	1988
2024.01.045	Symposium '90' Hamilton NAJC	1990
2024.01.046	Shikata Ga Nai 1986-89	1987 – 1990
2024.01.047	S.G.N. 8 photos	1989
2024.01.048	Community JC/Stuff	1988 – 1989
2024.01.049	[Hamilton Mailing lists]	
2024.01.050	[Newsletter]	January 1989 – June 1990
2024.01.051	[Fine Art Photographs]	[1989]

**Series 3: Toronto Chapter, JCCA**

File number	File title	Date range
2024.01.052	[University of Toronto Libraries]	May 2013
2024.01.053	Focus on Change Symposium '91 May/91 Toronto	April – May 1991
2024.01.054	Tor. NAJC 1995	1994 – 1995
2024.01.055	[NJCCA Vice-President's Report]	November 1979
2024.01.056	[Culture Committee]	[after 1977]
2024.01.057	J.C. Stuff	1977 - 1995

**Series 4: AI Symposium**

File number	File title	Date range
2024.01.058	AI Symposium report	April 1994



File number	File title	Date range
2024.01.059	AI Meetings, etc.	November 1992 – April 1994
2024.01.060	AI Meetings etc Nov/93	December 1993 – March 1994
2024.01.061	Ai Bios/Presentations	April 1994
2024.01.062	AI Report copy	1994
2024.01.063	Report	April – May 1994
2024.01.064	Post-symposium letters, correspondence	April – May 1994
2024.01.065	AI \$	April – June 1994
2024.01.066	Vancouver version of Ai symposium	July – October 1994
2024.01.067	Evaluation Sheets	April 1994

**Series 5: Series title**

File number	File title	Date range
2024.01.068	[Redress news and notes]	1985 – 1987
2024.01.069	Redress Strategy Committee	1986 – 1988
2024.01.070	NAJC 1983	1979 – 1983
2024.01.071	Pre-Conference Meeting on Redress: NAJC	1978 – 1983
2024.01.072	[Concern from Hamilton NAJC]	1983
2024.01.073	NAJC ad	[1983]
2024.01.074	[Reports from the National Redress Coordinator]	1984 – 1986
2024.01.075	[JCCA Redress Steering Committee]	1984
2024.01.076	[Pamphlet mock-up]	1986
2024.01.077	[Press kit]	1985 – 1986
2024.01.078	[Reasons for Redress]	1984
2024.01.079	Sodan Kai	1983 – 1984
2024.01.080	Redress Proposal	February 1986
2024.01.081	[Redress and War Measures Act]	1961 - 1988
2024.01.082	<i>The Case for Redress Information</i>	1984

**Series 6: Annex**

File number	File title	Date range
2024.01.083	[Annex Newsletters]	January 1978 – June 1981
2024.01.084	[Annex meetings]	November 1977 – September 1979
2024.01.085	[Annex events]	1978 – 1979
2024.01.086	[Other groups]	1977 - 1979

**Series 7: Japanese Canadian Centennial**

File number	File title	Date range
2024.01.087	Shin Boku-Kai	1977
2024.01.088	[War Measures Act Conference]	1977
2024.01.089	[Japanese Canadian Centennial Society]	1967 – 1977
2024.01.090	Centennial Budget Expenses	1977
2024.01.091	[Japanese Canadian Citizens Association]	1975 – 1977
2024.01.092	Sansei	1977
2024.01.093	<i>Proceedings of the Japanese Canadian Centennial Youth Conference</i>	July 1977
2024.01.094	Centennial Youth Conference Seminar Reports	1977
2024.01.095	Jamboree Aug 1977	1977
2024.01.096	Sansei	1977 – 1978
2024.01.097	Notes J.C.	
2024.01.098	[Arts Workshop]	July 1977
2024.01.099	Misc	1967 - 1990
2024.01.100	War Measures Act Committee	
2024.01.101	[War Measures Act poster]	1977

**Series 8: Art Exhibition**

File number	File title	Date range
2024.01.102	OAAG Presentation	April - May 1977
2024.01.103	Correspondence from Galleries Art Exhibit	1977 - 1978
2024.01.104	Art Exhibition/Artists	1977
2024.01.105	Correspondence Centennial Art Exhibition	1977
2024.01.106	Centennial Art Exhibit	
2024.01.107	Mailing List J.C. Centennial Art Exhibition (Ont)	[1977]
2024.01.108	[Call for proposals]	1977
2024.01.109	[List of works]	1977