



## Guide to the Gene Noboru Nakanishi oral history interview

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository:</b>	University of Nevada, Las Vegas. University Libraries. Special Collections and Archives.
<b>Creator:</b>	Nakanishi, Gene Noboru, 1960-
<b>Contributor:</b>	Reflections: the Las Vegas Asian American and Pacific Islander Oral History Project
<b>Title:</b>	Gene Noboru Nakanishi oral history interview
<b>ID:</b>	OH-03758
<b>Date:</b>	2021 April 02
<b>Physical Description:</b>	2 Digital Files (0.156 GB) MP3, PDF/A
<b>Language of the Material:</b>	English
<b>Abstract:</b>	Oral history interview with Gene Noboru Nakanishi conducted by Ayrton Yamaguchi, Cecilia Winchell, and Stefani Evans on April 2, 2021 for Reflections: The Las Vegas Asian American and Pacific Islander Oral History Project. Gene Nakanishi shares his detailed family history from both his father's and his mother's families. He discusses his paternal grandfather's work on the Union Pacific Railroad, the family's internment in Wyoming during World War II, and his father's release from the camp by joining the United States Army Signal Corps. Nakanishi also talks of his maternal grandfather who was of the Bushido ("warrior") class in Osaka, Japan, and his grandfather's work with Christian missionaries. He shares details of his mother's restaurant employment in Los Angeles and her opening of Osaka Japanese Bistro in Las Vegas in 1969. Nakanishi also talks about being born and raised in Las Vegas, his musical schooling at Berklee College of Music in Boston, and his graduate education at Harvard University. He discusses his work as a band teacher for the Clark County School District, his involvement in the Idyllwild Arts Summer Program band camp, and his interests in jazz music.

### Preferred Citation

Gene Noboru Nakanishi oral history interview, 2021 April 02. OH-03758. [Cite format consulted: Audio recording or Transcript.] Oral History Research Center, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Las Vegas, Nevada.

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## Scope and Contents Note

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Oral history interview with Gene Noboru Nakanishi conducted by Ayrton Yamaguchi, Cecilia Winchell, and Stefani Evans on April 2, 2021 for Reflections: The Las Vegas Asian American and Pacific Islander Oral History Project. Gene Nakanishi shares his detailed family history from both his father's and his mother's families. He discusses his paternal grandfather's work on the Union Pacific Railroad, the family's internment in Wyoming during World War II, and his father's release from the camp by joining the United States Army Signal Corps. Nakanishi also talks of his maternal grandfather who was of the Bushido ("warrior") class in Osaka, Japan, and his grandfather's work with Christian missionaries. He shares details of his mother's restaurant employment in Los Angeles and her opening of Osaka Japanese Bistro in Las Vegas in 1969. Nakanishi also talks about being born and raised in Las Vegas, his musical schooling at Berklee College of Music in Boston, and his graduate education at Harvard University. He discusses his work as a band teacher for the Clark County School District, his involvement in the Idyllwild Arts Summer Program band camp, and his interests in jazz music. Digital audio available; digital transcript available.

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## Administrative Information

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### Access Note

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### Acquisition Note

This interview was conducted by the Oral History Research Center (OHRC) which is part of the UNLV University Libraries Special Collections and Archives Division.

## Processing Note

Interview materials were processed by UNLV Libraries Special Collections and Archives in 2022. Kelsey Mazmnyan wrote the collection description. Access copies were created for born-digital audio files.

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## Names and Subjects

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- Oral histories (document genres)
- Las Vegas (Nev.)
- Osaka (Japan)
- Japanese Americans
- World War, 1939-1945
- Internment camp inmates
- Race discrimination
- Bushido
- Christianity
- Missionaries
- Education
- Music
- Music teachers
- Jazz musicians
- Marching bands
- Union Pacific Railroad Company
- United States. Army. Signal Corps
- Berklee College of Music
- Harvard University
- Clark County School District (Nev.)